

Police register case after posters target Congress leaders in Wayanad

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Suvendu Adhikari visits North Bengal for the first time since becoming Chief Minister; holds administrative meeting at Uttar Kanya

Kolkata, 17 May : Suvendu Adhikari is set to embark on a tour of North Bengal. According to sources within the State Secretariat, Suvendu Adhikari will hold an administrative meeting with officials from all districts of North Bengal on May 20. As per the information received, the District Magistrates, Superintendents of Police, and the Police Commissioner of Siliguri—covering the districts of Darjeeling, Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri, and Alipurduar—have been directed to attend this meeting. This marks Suvendu Adhikari's first visit to North Bengal since assuming the office of Chief Minister. State Secretariat sources confirm that, on May 20, Suvendu Adhikari will conduct an administrative review with officials representing every district in the region. Specifically, the District Magistrates, Superintendents of Police, the Siliguri Police Commissioner, and other relevant officials from Darjeeling, Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri, and Alipurduar have been instructed to participate in this session. On May 21, the Chief Minister will hold an administrative meeting in Durgapur with officials from five districts. Officials from the districts of Purulia, Bankura, Paschim Bardhaman, Birbhum, and Purba Bardhaman are scheduled to attend this administrative gathering in Durgapur. The Chief



Minister's Secretariat has formally notified the administrations of these five districts regarding the upcoming meeting. Sources indicate that senior officials of the state administration have already commenced preparations; a planning process is currently underway to formulate the framework for this event. Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari is introducing a 'Janata Darbar' (public audience session) to hear the grievances of the citizens. Sources within Nabanna (the State Secretariat) have stated that this Janata Darbar will be held for a duration of two hours, either once or twice a week. No formal announcement regarding this has yet been issued by the administration. However, Nabanna sources further reveal that one or two bureaucrats will be present alongside

the Chief Minister during these Janata Darbar sessions. The initiative is expected to commence on June 1. The first administrative meeting of the BJP government in Bengal was held at Diamond Harbour in the South 24 Parganas district. Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari was present at this meeting. Following the session, the Chief Minister delivered a clear message: the police must discharge their duties in strict compliance with the *Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita*. He unequivocally declared that there would be no tolerance for political violence or extortion rackets (*tolabazi*) in Bengal. Furthermore, he emphasized that there would be absolutely no compromise regarding the safety and security of women. He directed the police to take stringent action against

anyone found to have demanded or accepted "cut-money" (illegal commissions) in exchange for facilitating access to government welfare schemes. He stipulated that evidence of such transactions—specifically records of online payments or documents proving bank account transfers—must be submitted as proof. The accused will be arrested once the relevant documents are received. However, the Chief Minister simultaneously issued a reminder that no one should make any false allegations. The Chief Minister also conveyed the message that government property must not be damaged in any way, nor should any physical harm be inflicted upon any police personnel. He is a man who harbors no desire for any political office. Today, Mithunda is the true architect behind the BJP's rise to power in Bengal. Suvendu Adhikari further revealed that it was Mithun Chakraborty who had initially expressed a desire to meet him. However, Suvendu had replied, "Mithunda, the Chief Minister you helped create will personally come to you to seek a meeting." On this occasion, the Chief Minister also respectfully recalled Mithun Chakraborty's tireless efforts over the past six years to bring about change in Bengal, as well as his immense popularity across the nation.

"I do not want to hear reports of police being assaulted"—Chief Minister's message to the police in Diamond Harbour

Kolkata, 17 May : This marks the Chief Minister's first district tour since assuming office. During this inaugural visit, Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari held a meeting with senior police officials in Diamond Harbour, South 24 Parganas. With the change of guard in the state, the new Chief Minister delivered a clear message to the police force: the manner in which operations were conducted until now will no longer be acceptable. He instructed the police to maintain cordial relations with central agencies. Additionally, the Chief Minister issued a series of directives. Under the previous administration, there were frequent allegations that the police acted at the behest of political leaders. During his meeting with the police, the Chief Minister made it unequivocally clear that this practice must change. The key points he emphasized during the meeting were: 1) Operations will no longer be conducted in the manner they have been until now. 2) Everything must be digitized in a systematic and proper manner. 3) The provisions of the BNS (Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita) must be imple-



mented correctly. 4) Verify and ensure that the documentation for your vehicles (police vehicles) is in order. 5) CCTV systems must be of high quality. 6) Good relations must be maintained with central agencies. 7) The sound levels of loudspeakers at temples and mosques must be kept within permissible limits. 8) Old, pending, and unsolved cases must be reopened and investigated. 9) (It is my desire—even if the force is currently understaffed—that) a dedicated Women's Help Desk be established in every police station. 10) There should be one dedicated Women's Police Station in each division. 11) The Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS) must be fully implemented. 12) Incidents sim-

ilar to those in Amdanga and Asansol must not be allowed to recur; should such an incident occur, I (the Chief Minister) will personally visit the police station, sit there, and demonstrate exactly how the work ought to be done. 13) Those who instigate acts of violence will face one form of punishment, while those who obstruct the path of peace will face a distinct form of punishment. 14) I do not wish to hear reports that police personnel are being subjected to physical assault or violence. Jahangir's name featured on that list. Action will be taken." Allegations of EVM manipulation had surfaced across multiple polling booths within the Falta Assembly constituency. After assessing the entire situation, the Election Commission.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets people with his Swedish counterpart Ulf Kristersson after his arrival in Gothenburg, Sweden.

17 Agreements Signed in Hours-Long Talks — What India Stands to Gain

New Delhi, 17 May: Political tensions have flared up once again in the Kerala by-election constituency of Wayanad. This time, signs of public outrage directed squarely against the Congress leadership have come to the fore. Controversial posters have been spotted at multiple locations across the area, containing scathing criticism aimed at Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi. Local sources indicate that discontent had been mounting regarding the recent political climate and decisions made at both the central and state levels. This pent-up frustration has now manifested publicly through these posters. Political observers claim that the posters question the Congress party's governance and the role of its leadership, reflecting a sense of disillusionment among a section of the electorate. In Wayanad—long recognized as a Congress stronghold—such an occurrence is consid-

ered politically significant. According to experts, this is not merely a localized protest but carries a broader political message. Meanwhile, the Congress party has yet to issue an official response regarding this matter. However, party sources suggest that this could be a smear campaign



instigated by rival political forces. Political circles believe that this incident could potentially influence future electoral dynamics, particularly in a sensitive constituency like Wayanad. The

Congress party has recently formed a government following its electoral victory. Yet, in this very state of Kerala, posters targeting Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi have now appeared—specifically on the doorstep of the Congress party office in Wayanad, Priyanka's Lok

Sabha constituency. These posters boldly assert that the people of Kerala will not forgive the Gandhi siblings. They also issue a stern warning that the Gandhis are destined to face defeat even in

Wayanad—a traditional bastion of the Congress party. The police have, for the time being, registered a complaint regarding the entire incident. On May 4, the results of the assembly elections across four states and one Union Territory were declared. Within just ten days, Chief Ministers in all these states and the Union Territory had taken their oaths of office and commenced full-scale administrative operations. Kerala, however, remained an exception. Plagued by internal party strife and various political twists and turns, the party's High Command struggled to finalize a name for the Chief Minister's post. Finally, after ten days of intense drama and political maneuvering, V.D. Satheesan was selected as the Chief Minister. At one point, reports had circulated that the Congress Legislative Party had proposed the name of K.C. Venugopal for the position of Chief Minister of Kerala.

Congress faces public backlash despite forming government; posters mocking Rahul-Priyanka surface Wayanad stronghold

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Policy Blueprint Ready To Revive West Bengal's Industrial Fortunes: NITI Aayog Focuses On Four Key Sectors

Kolkata, 17 May : A New Direction for West Bengal's Industry: NITI Aayog Outlines a Revival Strategy Emphasizing Four Key Sectors. NITI Aayog—the central government's policy think tank—has unveiled a new roadmap aimed at transforming West Bengal, a state that has long lagged in industrial development, back into a hub for production, investment, and employment. To breathe new life into the state's stagnant industrial landscape, the report recommends placing special emphasis on four strategic sectors. NITI Aayog's assessment notes that West Bengal's geographical location, its access to seaports, its skilled human resources, and its potential as the gateway to Eastern and Northeastern India remain exceptionally strong assets. However, due to policy instability, infrastructural constraints, and a prolonged reluctance toward investment, this potential has not been fully realized. Which four sectors are the primary focus? 1.



Production and Manufacturing Industries: Special emphasis has been placed on establishing new manufacturing hubs within the state. Specifically, recommendations have been made to formulate strategies for attracting investment in electronics, light engineering, textiles, and MSME-based industries. The report also highlights the need to restructure the Durgapur-Asansol industrial belt into a modern, technology-driven production hub. 2. Logistics and Port-Based Economy: Priority has been assigned to developing a new logistics network centered

around the Kolkata Port and the commercial corridors of the eastern region. A framework has been outlined to position West Bengal as the "Gateway Economy" of Eastern India by leveraging its trade linkages with Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and the Northeastern states. 3. Information Technology and Digital Services: To establish Kolkata as a Tier-II IT powerhouse, NITI Aayog has recommended attracting fresh investments into the startup, fintech, AI, and digital services sectors. The report also calls for an expansion of skill

development and technical training centers to enhance the proficiency of the state's young workforce. 4. Green Energy and Future Industries: Recommendations have been put forward to position West Bengal as a premier investment destination in the fields of green energy, electric vehicles (EVs), battery manufacturing, and renewable energy. According to experts, eco-friendly production will emerge as the primary arena for competition in the industrial policies of the future. Why is this roadmap significant? According to experts, West Bengal was once one of India's leading industrial powerhouses. However, decades of political and economic shifts led to stagnation within the industrial sector. Now, these policy recommendations at the central level could unlock new avenues of opportunity for the state. According to economists, if concrete measures are taken regarding issues such as infrastructure development, administrative transparency,