

Congress-DMK Divorce Raises BJP's Hopes Of New Delhi Affair

-Pg: 2



Maa Behen Director Suresh Triveni Spills The Beans On A Madhuri Dixit-Anil Kapoor Reunion

-Pg: 5



"Days Of Abusing H-1B Visas Are Over": US Highlights Trump's Policies' 'Success'

Pg: 6



Punjab Seek Dramatic Turnaround To Keep Playoff Hopes Alive Against Struggling LSG

-Pg: 8



Bengal's New Power Equation

WBCM Suvendu Adhikari Meets PM Modi in Delhi After Taking Charge as Chief Minister

New Delhi, 22 May : In a politically significant development that could reshape the future of West Bengal and redefine Centre-State relations, newly sworn-in West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari arrived at the official residence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi for his first formal meeting after assuming office as the state's new administrative head. The high-profile meeting, held at the Prime Minister's residence in the national capital, is being viewed by political observers as far more than a ceremonial courtesy call. It marks the beginning of what many within the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) are calling a "new governance partnership" between the Centre and one of India's most politically sensitive states. The meeting comes at a time when Bengal is witnessing a dramatic political transition after years of intense confrontation between the BJP and the previous Trinamool Congress-led administration. Suvendu Adhikari's elevation to the post of Chief Minister has already triggered major political realignments across the state, with both supporters and critics closely watching how the new government will function. A Meeting Packed With Political Symbolism According to senior party insiders, the discussion between Prime Minister Modi and Chief Minister Adhikari focused on a wide range of strategic and developmental issues, including infrastructure expansion, industrial investment, border security, law and order, employment generation, and central assistance for Bengal's pending projects. Sources suggest that the Prime Minister congratulated the Bengal Chief Minister on his new role and assured full cooperation from the Union Government in accelerating the state's devel-



opment agenda. Political analysts say the optics of the meeting are extremely important. For years, relations between New Delhi and the Bengal government were marked by sharp political clashes, administrative disputes, and accusations of non-cooperation. The Modi-Adhikari meeting, however, projects a dramatically different image — one of coordination, alignment, and administrative synchronization between the state and the Centre. BJP Attempts to Build "New Bengal Narrative" Inside BJP circles, the Delhi meeting is being projected as the symbolic launch of a "New Bengal" political narrative — one focused on governance, infrastructure, investment, and stronger integration with national development policies. Party strategists believe Bengal could now become one of the BJP's most strategically important governance models ahead of future national elections. Senior leaders have already begun emphasizing themes such as: Faster industrial

clearancesExpansion of highways and rail connectivityRevival of manufacturing clustersStrengthening internal security along border regionsIncreased central funding for urban infrastructureEmployment-focused economic reformsAdministrative transparency and anti-corruption measuresOfficials close to the Chief Minister indicated that Suvendu Adhikari is expected to seek accelerated approval for multiple pending infrastructure projects, including logistics corridors, river-port modernization, smart city expansion, and energy investments. Opposition Watches CloselyMeanwhile, opposition parties in Bengal have reacted cautiously to the development. Leaders from the Trinamool Congress accused the BJP of attempting to centralize Bengal's political structure and warned against what they described as "overdependence on Delhi." Left parties also criticized the meeting, alleging that the BJP is trying to convert Bengal into a "laboratory of aggressive national politics." However, BJP supporters argue that smoother Centre-State coordination could finally unlock stalled projects and improve administrative efficiency in Bengal. Political observers note that the coming months will determine whether the new government can convert political momentum into visible governance outcomes. National Implications Beyond BengalThe Modi-Adhikari meeting is also being interpreted through a broader national lens. With West Bengal holding immense political significance because of its population size, strategic geography, ports, international borders, and economic potential, the state has long remained central to the BJP's long-term expansion strategy in eastern India.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Backs CM Suvendu Adhikari After Key Delhi Meeting

New Delhi, 22 May : In a major political development that could redefine the future trajectory of West Bengal, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh reportedly expressed strong confidence in newly appointed West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari following a high-level meeting in New Delhi, stating that "only Chief Minister Suvendu can truly accelerate Bengal's development." The statement, coming shortly after Suvendu Adhikari's crucial round of meetings with top central leadership in the national capital, has triggered intense political discussions across both state and national circles. Analysts believe the message reflects not only personal confidence in the new Bengal Chief Minister but also a broader strategic shift toward deeper cooperation between the Centre and West Bengal after years of political confrontation. According to sources familiar with the discussions, the Delhi meeting focused heavily on infrastructure expansion, industrial investment, border security coordination, logistics modernization, defence-linked manufacturing opportunities, and faster implementation of central development schemes



in Bengal. Political observers say the symbolism of the meeting is highly significant. For years, relations between the Union government and the Bengal administration were often marked by sharp disagreements over governance, administrative control, financial allocation, and implementation of welfare projects. However, the latest developments indicate the possibility of a more synchronized administrative relationship under Suvendu Adhikari's leadership. Speaking after the interaction, Rajnath Singh is believed to have praised Suvendu's administrative understanding, organizational discipline, and knowledge of Bengal's regional challenges. He reportedly emphasized that

Bengal possesses enormous economic and strategic potential but requires "stable governance, transparent administration, and rapid decision-making" to unlock that growth. The Defence Minister also highlighted Bengal's importance in India's eastern security architecture. With its proximity to international borders, major ports, defence logistics routes, and industrial corridors, the state occupies a strategically sensitive position in India's national planning framework. Sources suggest discussions included strengthening infrastructure in border districts, improving transport connectivity, and attracting defence manufacturing investment under the "Make in India" initiative.



An earthmover passes by as members of the West Bengal Railway Hawkers' Union (CITU) take part in a protest rally against the alleged forcible eviction of hawkers and 'bulldozer culture' by the BJP in West Bengal, near Sealdah Railway Station, in Kolkata, Friday.

Iran Rebuilds Its War Machine at Record Speed, Massive Drone Fleet Signals Military Warning to the United States

New Delhi, 22 May: In a dramatic escalation of regional military preparedness, Iran has reportedly intensified the rebuilding of its defense infrastructure and expanded its advanced drone program following recent conflict-related damages. The rapid recovery effort, driven by the country's powerful military establishment and defense engineers, is being viewed as a strong signal to both regional rivals and the United States that Tehran is preparing for any future confrontation with renewed force and technological capability. According to strategic analysts and regional observers, Iran has significantly increased the production and deployment of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), commonly known as drones, which have become a central pillar of the nation's modern warfare strategy. Iranian military commanders have repeatedly emphasized that the country's drone fleet is now capable of carrying out long-range surveillance, pre-

cision strikes, and coordinated battlefield operations across multiple fronts. The development comes amid rising tensions in the Middle East and growing concerns over possible military escalation involving Iran, Israel, and



Western powers. Iranian defense officials have reportedly accelerated reconstruction work at damaged military facilities while simultaneously upgrading missile systems, air defense networks, and drone command centers. Experts believe Tehran's focus on drone warfare reflects lessons learned from recent global conflicts, where unmanned systems have transformed modern combat. Iranian-

made drones are considered relatively low-cost but highly effective, allowing the country to project military influence without relying entirely on traditional air power. Several regional armed groups allied with Iran are also

provoked militarily in the region. Security experts warn that the expanding drone arsenal could reshape military calculations across the Middle East. With drone technology becoming increasingly sophisticated, concerns are rising over potential attacks on military bases, oil infrastructure, shipping routes, and strategic installations in the Gulf region. Meanwhile, Western intelligence agencies are closely monitoring Iran's military activity, especially the movement of drone units and missile platforms near key strategic zones. Diplomatic efforts to ease tensions continue, but analysts say the rapid militarization on both sides is creating an increasingly fragile security environment. As Iran pushes ahead with rebuilding and strengthening its defense capabilities, the country's growing drone force is emerging as a powerful symbol of its military ambitions — and a direct warning that Tehran intends to remain a major force in

Suvendu Adhikari Gifts Bankim Chandra Portrait to PM Modi in Delhi, PM Reaffirms Vision of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas"

New Delhi, 22 May: In a symbolic and politically significant gesture during his high-profile visit to New Delhi, West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari presented Prime Minister Narendra Modi with a specially curated portrait of legendary Bengali literary icon Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, highlighting Bengal's deep cultural heritage and its historical contribution to India's nationalist movement. The meeting, held at the Prime Minister's official residence in New Delhi, quickly drew national attention not only for its political importance but also for the powerful symbolism attached to the gift. Bankim Chandra, revered as one of the architects of modern Indian nationalism and the creator of "Vande Mataram," remains a towering figure in India's intellectual and patriotic history. By presenting his portrait to the Prime Minister, Suvendu Adhikari appeared to send a broader message of cultural pride, national unity, and Bengal's renewed engagement with the national mainstream. According to sources familiar with the discussions, the meeting

between the two leaders focused on a wide range of issues concerning West Bengal's development, infrastructure expansion, industrial growth, border security, and Centre-State coordination. The interaction is being viewed as one of the most important political meetings since Suvendu Adhikari assumed office as Chief Minister. During



the meeting, Prime Minister Narendra Modi reportedly reiterated his government's guiding philosophy of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas," emphasizing inclusive development, cooperative federalism, and equal opportunities for every region and community. The Prime Minister is understood to have

stressed the importance of accelerating development projects in eastern India, particularly in West Bengal, which holds strategic and economic significance for the country. Political observers believe the exchange of the Bankim Chandra portrait carried strong ideological and cultural significance. It represented not only Bengal's literary and nationalist legacy but also an attempt to project a deeper emotional connection between Bengal's intellectual heritage and the broader national vision championed by the Modi government. Officials indicated that several key development initiatives were discussed during the meeting, including modernization of infrastructure, expansion of highways and rail connectivity, industrial investment corridors, strengthening port-linked trade, and boosting employment opportunities for Bengal's youth. Discussions also reportedly touched upon law and order coordination, disaster management support, and enhancing Centre-backed welfare implementation in the state.

West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari's Power-Packed Delhi Visit

New Delhi, 22 May : In a politically significant and closely watched development, newly appointed West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari undertook a packed and high-profile visit to New Delhi, holding a series of important meetings with the country's top constitutional and political leadership, including President Droupadi Murmu, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. The tightly scheduled Delhi tour has generated intense political discussion across both state and national circles, with many observers viewing it as a strong signal of deepening coordination between the Centre and the newly formed Bengal administration under Suvendu Adhikari. According to political insiders, the meetings focused on a wide range of issues including Bengal's infrastructure expansion, industrial investment, border security, defence-linked manufacturing opportunities, railway modernization, disaster management support, and central assistance for large-scale development projects across the state. The Chief Minister's meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi is believed to have centered on accelerating pending infrastructure projects and im-

proving Centre-State cooperation after years of political confrontation. Sources indicated that discussions included highway expansion, logistics corridors, smart port development, rural connectivity, and new employment-oriented industrial zones aimed at reviving Bengal's economic momentum. During his interaction



with President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan, Suvendu Adhikari reportedly briefed the President on the administrative priorities of the new Bengal government and its roadmap for governance reforms, institutional transparency, and faster delivery of public services. The meeting with Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar carried additional political significance given Dhankhar's long association with Bengal

politics and constitutional affairs related to the state. Discussions reportedly touched upon democratic institutions, legislative functioning, and strengthening cooperative federalism. One of the most closely watched engagements of the visit was Suvendu Adhikari's discussion with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. Political observers believe the conversation may open the door for major defence and strategic manufacturing investments in eastern India, especially in sectors linked to defence corridors, military logistics, shipbuilding, aerospace components, and security infrastructure. Sources within political circles claim that Rajnath Singh expressed confidence in Bengal's future development trajectory under the new leadership and emphasized the importance of stability, governance efficiency, and faster implementation of national development projects in the state. The Delhi visit also carried strong symbolic value. From being one of the fiercest opposition leaders in Bengal politics to now attending high-level constitutional meetings as Chief Minister, Suvendu Adhikari's rapid political rise has become one of the most discussed transformations in contemporary Indian politics.