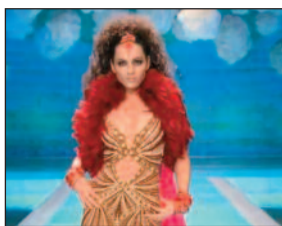


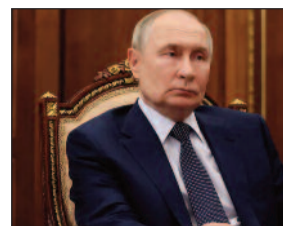
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Massive Crackdown on Illegal Immigration in West Bengal: Suwendu Adhikari Claims 4,800 Bangladeshi Infiltrators Deported, 836 More Await Repatriation

Kolkata, 8 June : West Bengal has once again become the center of a heated national debate over illegal immigration after Leader of the Opposition Suwendu Adhikari claimed that approximately 4,800 Bangladeshi infiltrators have been deported from the state, while another 836 individuals are currently awaiting repatriation. The statement has reignited discussions over border security, demographic changes, national security, and the implementation of immigration laws in one of India's most sensitive border states. According to Adhikari, the deportation drive reflects increasing coordination between security agencies and administrative authorities in identifying foreign nationals allegedly residing illegally within the state. He argued that stronger border management and stricter verification mechanisms are essential to protect national interests and maintain internal security. The remarks come amid a politically charged atmosphere, with immigration once again emerging as a major electoral issue in eastern India. Political parties across the spectrum have long accused one another of either ignoring or exaggerating the issue for electoral gains, making the subject one of the most contentious in West Bengal politics. Border Security Back in Focus Sharing one of the longest international borders with Bangladesh, West Bengal has historically witnessed significant cross-border movement driven by economic opportunities, family ties, and geographical proximity. Security experts note that distinguishing between legal migration, undocumented migration, and organized infiltration often requires extensive verification processes involving multiple agencies. Officials familiar with border management have repeatedly emphasized that India's eastern frontier presents unique challenges due to rivers, agricultural land,



densely populated villages, and porous stretches that complicate surveillance efforts. The reported deportations, if confirmed through official government records, would represent one of the more significant recent actions aimed at addressing illegal immigration in the state. Political Reactions Intensify The issue has quickly evolved into a political flashpoint. Leaders aligned with the BJP have argued that illegal immigration poses long-term security and economic challenges, alleging that undocumented migrants place additional pressure on public resources while potentially influencing electoral demographics. On the other hand, opposition parties have accused the BJP of politicizing migration issues and creating fear among minority communities. They contend that citizenship verification and deportation procedures must strictly follow constitutional safeguards and humanitarian principles to avoid wrongful detention of genuine Indian citizens. Political analysts believe immigration will remain a major campaign issue as parties prepare for future elections, with both national security and humanitarian concerns likely to dominate public discourse. Administrative and Legal Processes

Under Indian law, the identification and deportation of foreign nationals involve multiple stages, including document verification, police investigations, judicial proceedings where applicable, and diplomatic coordination with neighboring countries. Experts note that repatriation requires confirmation of nationality by the receiving country, making the process complex and time-consuming. Individuals awaiting deportation are often housed in designated detention facilities until necessary legal and diplomatic formalities are completed. The reported figure of 836 people awaiting repatriation suggests that administrative procedures remain ongoing and dependent on bilateral coordination between Indian and Bangladeshi authorities. Impact on National Security Debate Illegal immigration has long featured prominently in India's national security discussions. Successive governments have maintained that effective border management is essential for preventing unauthorized entry, cross-border crime, human trafficking, and other security threats. Security analysts argue that technological surveillance, fencing projects, biometric identification systems, and intelligence-sharing between agencies have significantly strengthened border monitoring over the past decade. However, they also acknowledge that the vast and varied terrain continues to present operational challenges. The latest deportation claims are therefore likely to renew calls for enhanced border infrastructure and stricter enforcement mechanisms. Human Rights and Humanitarian Considerations While governments emphasize the need to enforce immigration laws, human rights organizations have consistently stressed that deportation procedures should respect due process and international humanitarian standards.

Temple in the Name, Politics in the Selection? Suwendu Adhikari Alleges TMC Excluded Beneficiaries as Ayushman Bharat Expands Across Bengal

Kolkata, 8 June : A fresh political controversy has emerged in West Bengal after Leader of the Opposition Suwendu Adhikari alleged that individuals and institutions bearing the word "Mandir" (temple) in their names were previously excluded from certain state welfare schemes due to political considerations. The claim has reignited debate over the neutrality of government welfare policies and the role of identity in administrative decision-making. Adding another dimension to the political discourse, Adhikari has asserted that with a change in governance, the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) is now being implemented more broadly across the state, promising expanded healthcare access to eligible families regardless of social or religious identity. The allegations have triggered strong reactions across the political spectrum, with supporters calling for greater transparency in welfare distribution while critics demand evidence to substantiate the claims. Welfare Politics Takes Center Stage Healthcare and welfare schemes have long



been central issues in West Bengal's political landscape. Over the years, both the state government and the Centre have promoted separate health insurance initiatives, often leading to political disagreements over implementation, branding, and financial responsibility. The latest controversy has shifted attention to whether public welfare benefits should be administered strictly on objective eligibility criteria without any influence from political or cultural considerations. Political analysts argue that allegations of selective exclusion, if proven, could raise serious questions about administrative fairness. At the same time, they caution that such claims require independent verification and documentary evidence before definitive conclusions can be drawn. Ayushman Bharat Be-

comes a Major Political Talking Point Ayushman Bharat is among India's largest publicly funded health insurance programs, offering financial protection for secondary and tertiary medical treatment to eligible families. Supporters of broader implementation argue that integrating the scheme across West Bengal could reduce out-of-pocket healthcare expenses and provide relief to economically weaker sections. The program allows beneficiaries to receive cashless treatment at empanelled hospitals for a wide range of medical procedures. Observers believe that expanding access to national healthcare schemes could significantly improve health outcomes, particularly in rural and underserved regions where medical costs often push families into financial distress.



Private jets are parked at Rome Ciampino airport, as aviation operators monitor higher jet fuel costs and supply concerns amid the Iran war, in Ciampino, Italy.

Donald Trump Reportedly Distances Himself from Iran Strike as Nuclear Deal Questions Resurface

New Delhi, 8 June : A fresh wave of geopolitical uncertainty has emerged after former U.S. President Donald Trump reportedly asserted that decisions regarding America's Iran policy were his alone, insisting that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu played "no role" in shaping his administration's strategy. The remarks have reignited debate over U.S.-Israel relations, military action against Iran, and the future of any potential diplomatic engagement with Tehran. According to political observers, Trump's comments appear to be a direct response to renewed speculation surrounding previous military operations and strategic planning involving Iran. By emphasizing that he alone determined U.S. policy, Trump sought to project an image of independent leadership while rejecting suggestions that Israeli interests dictated American foreign policy decisions. The statement comes at a time when tensions across the Middle

East remain elevated, with questions once again surfacing over whether diplomatic negotiations or military deterrence will define the next phase of relations between Washington and Tehran. Analysts believe Trump's remarks could have implications not only for domestic political discourse but also for international perceptions of U.S. decision-making in regional conflicts. Trump has long maintained a hardline stance against Iran, withdrawing the United States from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) during his presidency and imposing

extensive economic sanctions under a "maximum pressure" campaign. Supporters argued that the policy constrained Iran's regional ambitions, while critics contended that it accelerated nuclear tensions without delivering a sustainable diplomatic solution. By publicly stating that Netanyahu had no influence over key decisions, Trump appears to be reinforcing his narrative that American strategic interests remained the primary driver of his administration's actions. The comments may also be intended to counter longstanding criticism that U.S. Middle East policy was

excessively shaped by close allies rather than independent national security assessments. Meanwhile, international observers continue to debate whether renewed negotiations with Iran remain feasible amid persistent mistrust and regional instability. Diplomatic experts suggest that any future agreement would require extensive confidence-building measures, verification mechanisms, and cooperation among major global powers, making the path to a comprehensive deal increasingly complex. The latest remarks have also fueled political discussion over the balance between military preparedness and diplomatic engagement. While some policymakers argue that maintaining pressure on Iran is essential to regional security, others believe that sustained dialogue offers the best opportunity to prevent further escalation and reduce the risk of broader conflict. As political leaders across multiple countries assess evolving security dynamics,



INDIA Bloc Writes to Chief Justice Over SIR Exercise, Demands Transparency and Accountability Amid Fresh Electoral Row

New Delhi, 8 June : A fresh political confrontation has emerged after leaders of the INDIA bloc reportedly addressed a letter to the Chief Justice of India, expressing concerns over the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and alleging that the exercise could adversely affect the integrity of the electoral process. The move marks another escalation in the opposition alliance's campaign against the voter verification exercise, which it claims could result in the exclusion of legitimate voters ahead of upcoming elections. The latest development comes amid an already heated political climate, with opposition parties accusing the Election Commission's revision process of creating uncertainty among voters. The INDIA alliance has argued that the implementation of the SIR exercise requires greater transparency, judicial scrutiny, and safeguards to ensure that no eligible citizen is denied the constitutional right to vote. Opposition Questions the Revision Process Ac-

ording to opposition leaders, the voter list revision process should be conducted in a manner that guarantees fairness and avoids administrative errors that could potentially disenfranchise genuine voters. They contend that any large-scale revision exercise undertaken close to an



election must be backed by clear guidelines, public awareness campaigns, and adequate opportunities for citizens to verify or correct their records. The INDIA bloc has reportedly urged the judiciary to examine whether sufficient procedural protections are in place and whether the revision process aligns with constitu-

tional principles governing free and fair elections. Opposition representatives maintain that electoral rolls form the foundation of democracy, and any perceived irregularity or lack of transparency could undermine public confidence in the voting process. Demand for the Education Minister's Resignation- Alongside concerns over the electoral revision exercise, opposition parties have also intensified demands for the resignation of the state's Education Minister over separate controversies linked to the education sector. The alliance argues that accountability in public office is essential for maintaining institutional credibility and has called for an impartial investigation into allegations surrounding administrative decisions in the department. Political leaders from the opposition have stated that resignation pending inquiry would help ensure transparency and restore public trust, while allowing investigations to proceed without political influence.

Chief Minister Says Corruption Cases May Need a "Jail at Brigade Parade Ground," Escalating Political Attack on TMC

Kolkata, 8 June : West Bengal's political landscape witnessed another dramatic escalation after the Chief Minister launched a blistering attack on the Trinamool Congress (TMC), alleging that widespread corruption has surfaced across multiple sectors and suggesting that the scale of the alleged wrongdoing is so vast that "a jail may have to be built at Brigade Parade Ground." The statement, delivered during a public address, quickly became one of the most discussed political remarks in the state, triggering sharp reactions from both the ruling and opposition camps. The comments underline how corruption allegations continue to dominate Bengal's political discourse and are expected to remain a central issue in the months ahead. Allegations of "Systemic Corruption" During the speech, the Chief Minister remarked that "wherever we are looking, we are finding decay and a foul smell," using the metaphor to describe what was claimed to be deep-rooted corruption inherited from previous administrative practices. The statement suggested that investigations into various departments and public institutions are allegedly uncovering irregularities that extend beyond isolated incidents, portraying corruption as a structural problem rather than a series of individual cases. Although no fresh official inves-



tigative findings were announced during the speech, the remarks were widely interpreted as a political message aimed at reinforcing the government's anti-corruption narrative. Brigade Parade Ground Reference Draws Attention Perhaps the most striking part of the speech was the suggestion that the sheer number of individuals allegedly linked to corruption could require constructing a jail at Kolkata's iconic Brigade Parade Ground. The remark, while rhetorical, immediately attracted widespread media attention due to the symbolic importance of the venue, traditionally associated with massive political rallies and historic public gatherings. Political observers viewed the statement as an attempt to communicate the government's determination to pursue accountability while also energizing party supporters through a powerful political metaphor. Corrup-

tion Remains a Key Political Issue Allegations of corruption have repeatedly shaped political debates in West Bengal over recent years. Recruitment controversies, financial irregularity investigations, and allegations involving public welfare schemes have frequently become flashpoints between the state's major political parties. The opposition has consistently accused the ruling establishment of institutional corruption, while the ruling party has argued that many investigations are politically motivated and intended to weaken its electoral position. As legal proceedings continue in several high-profile cases, both sides have sought to frame the issue in ways that support their broader political narratives. Opposition Renews Pressure Following the Chief Minister's remarks, opposition leaders renewed calls for stricter accountability, transparent governance, and faster investigations into alleged financial misconduct. They argued that corruption has affected public confidence in institutions and that decisive administrative reforms are necessary to restore trust in government systems. Several opposition spokespersons also claimed that anti-corruption measures should extend across all levels of governance without political bias. TMC Yet to Accept Allegations Leaders associated with the Trinamool.