

CAPF on campus, CU defers exams

SUBHANKAR CHOWDHURY

Calcutta: Calcutta University has deferred its undergraduate first-semester theory exams scheduled after April 13.

The decision follows reports from several affiliated colleges that they are unable to host exams, as their campuses have been requisitioned to accommodate central security forces deployed for the Assembly elections.

Officials said the number of personnel stationed on campuses has exceeded expectations, leaving insufficient space to conduct exams. In light of these constraints, the university has decided to pause the exam schedule. Fresh dates will be announced in due course.

Around one lakh students were to write the exams between April 10 and 25. The elections in Bengal will take place on April 23 and 29.

"This is to notify that the theoretical examinations of Four/Three Year B.A./B.Sc./B.Com, Semester I and Four Year B.A./B.Sc./B.Com, Semester I (Honors/Gen./Major) Examinations, 2025 (under CBCS), scheduled after 13th April 2026, have been postponed due to the West Bengal Legislative Assembly Elections, 2026," says a notice signed by Jayanta Sinha, the university's controller of exams, issued on Monday.

"The rescheduled dates of the above-mentioned postponed exams will be notified in due course," says the notice. A CU official said the dates will be rescheduled after May 4, the day the election results will be declared.

"Colleges are saying they can hold the exams of the additional papers of their own students even in their laboratories, despite the CAPF presence following our request. But the difficulty is arising in holding exams of the major (formerly known as honours papers) and minor papers (formerly known as pass papers) at away centres scheduled after April 13," VC Ashutosh Ghosh said.

According to him, the colleges earmarked as away centres are refusing to host the exams scheduled to start after April 13 because of the presence of central forces.

There is no clarity on the central forces will vacate colleges.

HC bar

Calcutta: The high court bar association on Monday suspended its member Moinul Hossain, the advocate arrested by the CID on Friday in connection with the confinement of seven judicial officers in Malda on Wednesday.

The Nandigram puzzle: When 26% become 95%

DEBRAJ MITRA

Calcutta: A fourth of the electorate. Ninety-five per cent of deleted voters.

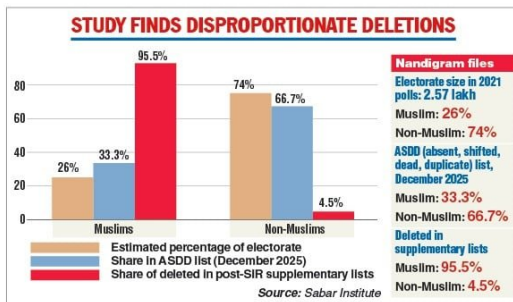
A study has flagged an alarming disproportionality between the Muslim share of the electorate and the community's share among deleted voters in Nandigram, the East Midnapore Assembly seat represented by BJP leader Suvenudh Adhikari.

The Election Commission published the first post-SIR supplementary list on March 23. Ten such lists have been released until Sunday, identifying both deletions and approved voters. A total of 2,826 names have been deleted from the electoral rolls in Nandigram in the supplementary lists. Of these, 2,700 are Muslims — a staggering 95.5% of deletions.

Muslims made up about 26% of the electorate in the constituency during the 2021 Assembly elections.

In the post-SIR rolls published on February 28, more than 10,500 cases in the Nandigram Assembly segment were marked "under adjudication".

"The staggering rate of deletion of Muslim voters raises serious concerns about the SIR process and its impact," said Sabir Ahmed of the Sabir Institute, a Calcutta-based research organisation studying religion and gender patterns in the ongoing revision of voter



rolls in poll-bound Bengal. This analysis suggests the SIR process was conducted with a political agenda — to purge Muslim names to secure electoral advantage for one party. The deleted voters are unlikely to be able to vote this time, as the appeals process will take time," he said.

The SIR exercise began on

October 27, 2025, when the EC announced a special revision of electoral rolls in nine states, including Bengal, and three Union territories.

In Bengal, draft rolls published on December 16 excluded over 58 lakh registered voters marked as dead, duplicate, shifted or absent (ASDD).

Muslims accounted for

around 33% of those on the ASDD list, closer to their share in the electorate. When the preliminary post-SIR list was published on February 28, around 60 lakh more names were added under adjudication.

The share of Muslims among those marked "under adjudication" is not yet available. "Each name under scrutiny carries an 'under adjudication' watermark. We are using a machine learning tool. If it cannot read a name properly, it cannot be analysed further," said Ashin Chakraborty, a member of the research team.

Nandigram was the most high-profile case in the 2021 Assembly elections, between Mamata Banerjee and Suvenudh Adhikari.



Voters at a polling station in Nandigram in 2021

Adhikari. The BJP leader led a campaign that mostly relied on religious polarisation. Suvenudh won by a margin of just under 2,400 votes. Mamata alleged irregularities. A legal challenge is pending before Calcutta High Court.

In 2021, Nandigram had over 68,000 Muslim voters, about 26% of the electorate. The total electorate stood at about 2.57 lakh then, rising to 2,68,378 after the publication of draft rolls in December.

Jafar Hussain, 39, from Nandigram, is among those whose names have been removed. Hussain has filed an online appeal seeking restoration of his voting rights. "No one can say if my case will be decided in time for me to vote," said Hussain, a farm labourer. A previous study by the Sabir Institute found that Muslim-identifiable names were overrepresented in "logical discrepancy" lists in four Assembly constituencies — Ballygunge, Bhabanipur, Kolkata Port and Metiabruz — relative to their baseline population share.

CM's plan for plural Bhabanipur

SUBHAJOY ROY

Calcutta: Visiting each home at least thrice, separate meetings with the communities and large rallies closer to the day of polling — that is the Trinamool Congress campaign plan for Bhabanipur in a nutshell.

Party insiders said the objective was to make the campaign intimate and reaffirm the party's base among several communities in Bhabanipur.

Chief minister Mamata Banerjee is likely to file her nomination as a Trinamool candidate from Bhabanipur on Wednesday. Party sources said its leaders and workers have been asked to gather at Hazra from 10am that day. Mamata is likely to file her nomination around noon.

Union home minister Amit Shah, who has been part of the Bhabanipur campaign since, will file his nomination from Bhabanipur last week.

Over the past two weeks, Trinamool's campaign in Bhabanipur has focused on door-to-door visits.

Apart from meeting party workers and councillors of her constituency at Ahindra Mancha in Chetla on March 22, Mamata has not held any rallies or meetings in Bhabanipur yet.

"We have planned a rally from Hazra to Gopnagar on Wednesday, when Mamata Banerjee will file her nomination papers. If the police stop us before that, we will stop, but thousands of people will be there cheering for her," a party leader told Metro.

Mamata is expected to leave her home a little before noon on Wednesday. The Bhabanipur candidates have to file their nominations with the returning officer at the



Mayor Firhad Hakim greets constituents at the Agri Horticultural Society in Alipore last week. (Below) Poll posters (in picture by Bishwarup Dutta) in Bhabanipur



Survey Building in Alipore.

A local councillor, who has been part of the Bhabanipur campaign said: "We are trying to visit every home three times. It can be different teams calling them on. We are also trying to organise meetings with residents of housing complexes where many are coming to meet us,"

he said the councillor. Separate meetings with influential community members are being conducted simultaneously.

Often called a mini-India, Bhabanipur has a large number of Gujaratis, Marwaris, Sikhs, Biharis and Bangalis living together for decades.

The Bhabanipur Assembly

constituency includes seven wards of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation — 63, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 77 and 82. Its boundary stretches from Bhabanipur-Chakraborty in the east to Alipore-Ekbalpore-Kidderpore in the west, Chetla in the south, and Maldan in the north.

On Thursday, Calcutta's mayor Firhad Hakim, Ward 74 councillor Debajit Biswas and other Trinamool leaders met members of the Marwari community at Alipore's Agri Horticultural Society.

"We reached the Horticultural Society at 6.30am. A large number of people go to the park for a morning walk, many of them community elders who have a lot of respect and influence among the community members," said a party leader.

There were some top industrialists in the gathering. We told the community members that they may have voted for the BJP in the Lok Sabha elections, but Mamata Banerjee is one of their own; they should vote for her in the Assembly elections. It seemed they were happy with her, but some of them flagged the absence of more industries in the state," a party leader said.

A meeting with the members of the Gujarati community at Swaminarayan Mandir on Chakraborty Road north of the on the cards. "The date is being worked out," said a party leader.

Party sources said the chief minister will herself hit the streets in Bhabanipur at a later stage of the campaigning. She is now campaigning in the districts.

On Monday, she addressed public meetings in East Bardhaman's Purbasthal and in Nadia's Bethuadahari and Santipur.

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I, Sujit Kumar Saha Roy, S/o Suresh Chandra Saha Roy, 224, Nakrala Road, Kolkata-700047, hereby declare that my name appears as Sujit Saha Roy in Voter ID and as Sujit Kumar Saha Roy in Aadhaar Card. Both names refer to one and the same person, i.e., myself. I view an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Alipore Police Court, dated 06.04.26.

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Glued to screens? School flags risks

JHINUK MAZUMDAR

Calcutta: South Point High School issued a circular on Monday, warning parents that unregulated social media use creates distractions, harms academic focus and exposes students to cyber risks.

The circular from the principal urged parents to prioritise offline hobbies and mindful tech and follow reliable news.

The circular was sent to around 5,000 parents of kids from Classes VI to XII.

"Excessive and unregulated use of social media platforms can often lead to distractions, reduced academic focus, cyber risks, and exposure to inappropriate or misleading content. As educators and caregivers, we share a collective responsibility to ensure that our children develop healthy digital habits that support their overall well-being and personal growth," Jaidev Ghosh, the principal, wrote.

He urged parents to encourage their kids to step away from the screen, often losing themselves in a mindless loop of "30-second reels"



"We urge you to kindly..."

engage in open conversations with your children about the content they consume online and the importance of digital safety and responsible use. Lead by example by practising mindful use of technology within the household. Try and follow the conventional and reliable media, digital and print, and ignore rumours spread by the different social media platforms," the principal wrote.

It's not just a student problem; adults are equally hooked. Many grown-ups find it just as difficult to step away from the screen, often losing themselves in a mindless loop of "30-second reels"

across different social media platforms.

"The children are increasingly glued to various social media platforms, like gaming sites, which change their attitude and approach. It is the responsibility of adults to contain the misuse of digital platforms," Ghosh told Metro.

Across schools, teachers find children, especially in middle and senior schools, who struggle to concentrate in class because of sleep deprivation.

"In today's rapidly evolving digital world, our adolescents and young adults are growing up surrounded by technology that offers immense opportunities for learning, creativity, and connection. However, it is equally important to guide them towards using these tools in a meaningful and balanced manner," states the circular.

"As a school, we continue to integrate technology in a purposeful way to enrich learning while also educating students about responsible digital citizenship. Your cooperation at home will greatly reinforce these efforts," read the message to parents.

New era for Behala College

SUBHANKAR CHOWDHURY

Calcutta: Behala College, which gained autonomous status last year, will admit students at the undergraduate level independently from the 2026-27 academic year, stepping away from the state-run centralised admission portal.

The college could not admit students independently last year because undergraduate admissions had already begun by the time the college gained autonomy from the UGC, despite alleged resistance from the XUV.

"Like St Xavier's College and the autonomous colleges under RKM, we will start our admission process once the Plus II board results are out," principal Sudip Kumar Chakraborty said.

Behala College is campaigning on social media platforms such as YouTube and Instagram, announcing that it is embarking on its autonomous journey. It plans to put up placards outside schools so that students who have written their school-leaving examinations are aware that the college will now admit students on its own.

SBI, STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH, SILIGURI E-Auction Notice

Authorised Officer's Details: Name: Rajnath Prakash, e-mail ID: sbi.10137@sbi.co.in, Mobile No. 7260842268

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF MOVABLE/IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

(See Proviso to Rule 6(2) and Rule 6(3) to be read with Rule 9(1))

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of movable/Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6(2) and Rule 6(3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION: DATE: 29.04.2026

TIME: FROM 11.00 AM TO 4.00 PM WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSIONS OF 10 MINUTES FOR EACH BID

Last Date and Time of EMD Submission: Date: 29.04.2026, Time: up to 3.55 PM.

PROPERTY INSPECTION DATE 20.04.2026 TIME: 11.00 A.M. TO 3.00 P.M.

Intending Bidders can bid Plant & Machinery. However, Priority will be given for purchase of Land and building along with plant & machinery together. Only land and building, not to be bid.

Notice is hereby given to the Public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) by the Authorised Officer that the below described movable and immovable properties Charged/ mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical Possession which have been taken by the Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor, will be sold through auction on the basis of "As is Where is" on 29.04.2026, for recovery of Rs. 1,18,39,269/- (Rupees One Crore Eighteen Lacs Thirty Nine Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Nine only) on or 04.04.2026 and further interest from 05.04.2026 at the contractual rate & other charges after netting off recoveries, due to the secured creditor from M/s. Khushi Industries, Proprietor: Md. Intekhab Alam Sarker, VII+Post-Daulatpur, PS-Harsandrapur, Dist.-Malda-732125.

(Short description of the movable/immovable property with known encumbrances)

(i) Property No. (i) Plant & Machinery in the name of M/s Khushi Industries situated at Survey No. 8889, situated at Mouza-Daulatpur, PS-Harsandrapur, Dist.-Malda-732125.

PROPERTY ID: SBN10137114 (Only Plant & Machinery)

The reserve price will be Rs. 5,00,000/- for Plant & Machinery and the earnest money deposit will be Rs. 50,000/- Bid Increment: Rs. 25,000/-

(ii) Property No. (ii) All that piece of Land and Commercial Building bearing Survey Number: 8889, situated at Mouza-Daulatpur, Dist.-Malda, Pin-732125, measuring Total area: 27.02 decimal, The property belonging to: Md. Intekhab Alam Sarker through Title Deed No. 5397, registered on 29/04/2013 at Malda, West Bengal, Title Deed No. 7832, registered on 19/12/2004 at Malda, West Bengal, Title Deed No. 8885, registered on 10/11/2014 at Malda, West Bengal, Title Deed No. 14051, registered on 14/12/2013 at Malda, West Bengal, Batted & Bounded By: On the North: Lo Sarfaraj Nawaz Sarker, On the South: PMWSY 15 to Road, On the East: Lo Sarfaraj Nawaz Sarker, On the West: Lo Shamsul Hoque and Sarfaraj Das.

Property ID: SBN10137115

The reserve price will be Rs. 85,00,000/- (Rs. 80,00,000/- + Rs. 5,00,000/- for Land and Building and Plant & Machinery together) and the earnest money deposit will be Rs. 8,50,000/-

Bid Increment: Rs. 50,000/-

Cash payment: SA/139/2025 is pending at DRT Siliguri. However there is no stay awarded by the court.

(i) For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor's website <https://sbi.co.in> and specific link created for the particular Auction: <https://banknet.com>

(ii) Intending bidders should transfer his/her bid amount by means of challan generated on his/her bidder account maintained with BANKNET-PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. (e-mail ID: support.BANKNET@psballiance.com) at <https://banknet.com> by means of NEFT/RTGS transfer from his/her bank account well before the auction date/time.

NOTE: (i) In case of refusal of the Bid/Auction amount due to any reason, successful Bid/Auction Purchaser will not be entitled to claim the interest on the Bid/Auction amount.

(ii) The above mentioned property is in Physical possession of the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India, SARB Siliguri Branch.

Place: Siliguri

Date: 04.04.2026

AUTHORISED OFFICER

(Sri Rajnath Prakash)

Mob: 7260842268 / Mail: sbi.10137@sbi.co.in