

Caught using AI during exam

SUBHANKAR CHOWDHURY

Calcutta: A student writing the just-concluded Madhyamik examinations allegedly used an artificial intelligence (AI) app to solve a mathematics question on his smartphone, a senior official of the state secondary education board said on Saturday.

the official said. The student was one hour into writing the examination when he was caught.

Usually, students entering the exam centre with phones capture the image of the question paper and WhatsApp the same to their tutors, the official said.

The tutors enrolled with coaching centres provide the solutions and send them back to the examinees on the same social media platform, said a board official.

"But the case in a Calcutta school stands out because here the student did not send a grab of the question to any outsider seeking help. He tried to solve the problem with an AI-enabled app loaded on his mobile. This seems new,"

Such instances of students entering the examination centres with banned devices have triggered a debate on whether the board should think of using metal detectors to scan examinees.

The board had earlier rejected the proposal because many felt subjecting children to such scrutiny would be unfair.

The state higher secondary council has decided to use

metal detectors in all the 2,100 examination centres from this year.

The move by the council aims to prevent students from entering the HS examination centres with their phones, smart watches or any other banned device.

"There is also an implementation hazard at the secondary level, considering that more than 10 lakh write Madhyamik. The number is less than half at the higher secondary level. If we start scanning Madhyamik examinees with metal detectors, we have to open the centres at 6am, at least five hours before the start of examination," board president Ramanuj Ganguly told Metro.



Naseeruddin Shah (centre) inaugurates the second French Film Festival at Nandan, organised by Alliance Francaise du Bengale, on Saturday. With him on stage are (from left) Rukmini Mitra, Pritimoy Chakraborty, Anasuya Sengupta, Goutam Ghose, Didier Talpain, Nicolas Facino, Rituparna Sengupta and Anubhav Sinha. The festival will continue till March 1. Picture by B Halder

KINSUK BASU

Realtor shot at in Liluah

Calcutta: A real estate developer with an alleged criminal background was shot at in Howrah's Liluah on Friday night outside a multi-storeyed building on Netaji Subhas Road moments after he stepped out of a birthday party.

Rajesh Singh fell after being hit in the abdomen. He was first rushed to a hospital in Howrah and later shifted to a private facility in Calcutta.

On Saturday, doctors told police his condition was critical.

Eyewitnesses told cops Rajesh was standing outside "Indradhanush apartment" in Liluah when two bike-borne men came down Netaji Subhas Road and fired at him from a close range.

As Rajesh slumped on the road, the men with helmets covering their faces sped away on the two-wheeler.

This was around 10.30pm when a birthday party was underway on the ground floor of the apartment building and Rajesh had just stepped out. A section of residents in Liluah

said Rajesh lived alone in the building outside which he was shot at.

An erstwhile industrial hub with iron and steel rolling mills, Liluah began witnessing a change after the factories started closing down. Residential and commercial buildings began replacing the industrial units. Shopping malls, schools and markets sprang up.

The change in the landscape also saw a shift in the type of crime in Liluah, senior police officers said.

Rajesh's brother Nitesh said he wasn't sure why the men targeted his brother. A section aware of Rajesh's alleged criminal past said the attack could be retaliation from a Howrah-based gang who have been following his movements closely for some time.

Senior officers in the Howrah police commissionerate, who went to the spot on Friday night, said Rajesh was allegedly involved in a murder in Howrah in 2011 and was jailed as well. After his release, Rajesh began developing real estate in and around Liluah using his network, they said.

"We have collected CCTV images of the attack and are going through them. The men on two-wheeler will be identified. The motive behind the

murder attempt is not clear," said Bishop Sarkar, the deputy commissioner of police, Howrah North division.

The attack on the developer by bike-borne men in Liluah on Friday came two days after an inspector of police was found near a car with a gun-shot injury on his left arm in Howrah's Ghoshpara in Shibpur.

The inspector, Jayanata Pal, who was admitted to a private hospital on Andul Road, was discharged on Saturday. He has been relieved of his responsibilities as the inspector-in-charge of Chanditala police station.

Held for fake job promise

OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

New Town: A man who allegedly promised a bank job to his house help's physically challenged husband and collected nearly ₹8 lakh from her was arrested in New Town on Saturday.

Saurav Kumar was arrested after Dipali Mondal lodged a complaint with New Town police station alleging that he took the amount promising a job for her husband and refused to return the money.

The police said Mondal worked as a domestic help at Kumar's Jatragachhi flat since 2022.

Cops said they seized an SUV belonging to Kumar that had "Govt. of India" written on its rear and front.

Dey brothers

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Ruby sources said that in keeping with discharge protocol, hospital officials had contacted a relative of the Deys and an acquaintance who had visited the hospital on the morning of the crash and initially said he would take all responsibility.

"But no one is now willing to come forward. The relative has told the hospital he does not want to get involved while the other person told the hospital not to disturb him any more," a source said.

Prasun is being treated for a rib fracture and Pranay has a right acetabular (hip bone socket) fracture. Pranay's son underwent multiple operations on Wednesday for fractures to his left humerus and right wrist.

Hospital officials said Prasun remained in need of hospitalisation.

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