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Require Senior Civil Supervisors for an ongoing Construction Project at Guwahati, minimum experience required 8-10 years. Contact No.: 9854024355, Email ID: upliftime@gmail.com SW/P99384/5

Aluminum foil based manufacturing Company at Amaninga urgently require 1) Accounts Manager/Executive 2) Quality Executive 3) Electrical Fitter 4) Printing Operator 5) Slitting Operator. Min. 3 years of experience in respective function. Experience in IMS/ ISO is desirable. Walk-in interview between 11.00 am to 1.00 pm on 15.5.2017 i.e. Monday at Ganpati Enclave, Ground floor, G.S. Road, Opp. Bora Service Station, Guwahati. Ph. No. 70026-83611, SW/P942/6

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CDS/V/A104/1

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1. Principal-1 post (as per NOTC Norms).

2. Assistant Teacher-1 post. E.O.- M.A. in Education with minimum 55% & B.Ed. with minimum 55% marks.

3. Pedagogy-2 posts, (Assamese-1, English-1) E.O.- M.A. in Assamese & English with minimum 55% marks and M.Ed. with minimum 55% marks.

Application must be received three days before the date of publication of this advertisement. Salary- State Govt. scale of pay. Call letters for the interview will be issued later on. No TA/DA will be paid to the candidates called for interview.

**Sd/- President, G.B. S.D.P. College of Teacher Education, Timu, P.O. Tihu, Dist. Nagaon (Assam), PIN-781371**

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CD/SV/655/1

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The person should be a graduate from English medium. E-mail: bhaktapratautomotors@gmail.com, Contact: No. 8638244052, SV/P9509/1

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SV/P/A1037/1

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SV/P9598/1

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**Police search for Justice Karnan continues**

CHENNAI, May 13: A team of West Bengal police personnel continued their search for Justice CS Karnan for the fourth day today, but the Calcutta High Court judge still remained untraceable. The search is continuing with the assistance of the local police to comply with a Supreme Court order which sentenced the court's former judge to six months' imprisonment for contempt.

The visiting team, with the

aid of the local police, has already questioned several persons including the kin of Justice Karnan, to trace his whereabouts. Police sources said: "We are providing all assistance needed by our

West Bengal counterparts to execute the court's order sentencing the judge to six months' imprisonment for contempt."

However, the efforts of the police to locate the judge

have not yielded any result so far. A seven-judge bench of the apex court had on May 9 held Karnan guilty of contempt of court and sentenced him to six months' imprisonment.

Justice Karnan, who has been on the warpath with the Supreme Court for the last several months, is the first sitting judge of a High Court to be sentenced. He is due to

retire next month.

Yesterday, the apex court had said that "conscious decision" was taken by seven of its judges to sentence Justice Karnan to six months' imprisonment by holding him guilty of contempt.

The seven judges assembled to take a "conscious decision," a bench headed by Chief Justice JS Khehar had

to sentence him. It is due to

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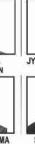
RUPUNJAY MEHDI

MARKS 181 GEN



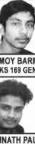
TEJAS PATEL

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QC	RM/PM, Calibration, Stability, Wet Analysis	MSc/B.Pharm
Microbiology	Analysis	MSc. Micro Biology
Engineering	Electrical/HVAC/ Instrumentation/Water Plant	IT/Diploma/B.Tech
Ware House	Dispatching, Packing, Invoicing, Inventory	Any Degree/P.G
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## IN MEMORIAM



In Loving Memory of  
Col. Dr. D.M.B. Barua  
(Retd.)

DOB: 08.12.1944

DDO: 14.05.2016

One year gone by, but you are sadly missed along life's way, quietly remembered everyday....

No longer in our life to share, but in our hearts, You are always there....

May your soul rest in peace.

-Jyoti Barua  
Bipasha Barua (Daughter)  
Biswajit Deka  
(Son-in-Law)

Priyanka Barua (Daughter)  
Mirah (Grand daughter)  
and host of other relatives.

CD/InMem/P9740/1



**Prophat Chandra  
Borgohain**

13.07.1937 - 15.04.2017  
It has been a month since you left for heavenly abode. Remembering you with heavy hearts and pray to Almighty for your eternal peace.

**Heemo Prova Borgohain  
(Wife)**

Rupani, Bhaskar, Suka, Catherine, Spondita and Kamakshi  
14, Kanaklata Path,  
Lachit Nagar, Guwahati-7

CD/InMem/9553/1



Late Tarini Prasad  
Khakhlary  
Today on this auspicious day of one monthly Tithi, we remember him and his good deeds and pray the Almighty for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

Bereaved family members

**Thandabala Khakhlary  
Nalin Kumar Khakhlary  
Dr. Panchanan Khakhlary**

CD/InMem/P/3039/1

**ADYA SHRADDDHA**



Dr. Ranendra Mohan Shome, Retired Director Dairy Development Board (Government of Assam) left for his heavenly abode on 2nd May 2017. Shradddha ceremony will be held today 14th May 2017 at Bengal Club premises Shivaaji Park Mumbai.

**Deeply missed by**

**Mrs. Pranati Shome (Wife)  
Mr. Sanjoy Shome (Son)**

**Mrs. Shalini Shome  
(daughter in law)**

And the entire family  
Res: 022-26434944,

**Mob: 9875008085**

CD/Ady Shradddha/PAP36/51

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**100% GUARANTEED BY  
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HOME TUTOR (VII-XII)  
PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY,  
MATHEMATICS, MOTION-  
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Group Tuition for Science and Mathematics at Ajanta Path, Survey, Belota, Engineering faculty. Contact : No.: 9957794263, 8820238236. Tuition/P/9463/1

Genome - Tutorial, Experienced Male/Female Home Tutors, (Science/Arts/Commerce). (V-XII) Mo. 9401027335, Tuition/P/8873/15

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HOME TUITION (CBSE/  
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Home Tuition: Male/Female Teachers 4 all subjects of class I-XII. SEBA/CBSE. Ph: 763889516. Tuition/P/AP350/1

Class 6 to 10 (Maths & Science) also 11th and 12th Physics. Ph: 9678176191. Tuition/P/PA183/1

Physics, Chemistry, Maths (Boards & Entrance) IX, X, XI, XII @ Intellectuals, Belota Bazaar. 9706495883. Estd. (2009). Tuition/P/AC506/20

Experience of Teaching in Delhi, provides Home Tuitions, Science (9,10,11), Physics (11, 12), 7002546494, 961382880. Tuition/P/9695/1

Hindi Tuition given by an experienced teacher. Teaching experience: 5 yrs. 7896518460. Tuition/P/9696/1

**COACHING**

Intensive Coaching for Mathematics, Classes: H.S., B.Sc., MCA, BCA, MBA, Ph: 9435013225, 7002570154. Near Rajdhani Majid. Coaching/P/8594/9

Coaching in Accountancy & Business Studies for H.S./CBSE/AIHCSE). Contact: 9854743342, Coaching/P953/2

Hindi Coaching from class VI to Graduation Sanskar Coach Up. Dispur. 9864539761, 9854233038. Coaching/P/9973/01

**TO-LET**

Rent for 2 BHK flat (2nd floor) at Panjorai, Bagharbari preferably for Bank/Company executives. Ph: 9954914545. Tuition/P/9540/1

3 rooms (Rs. 8000) and 2 rooms (Rs. 7000) both with attached bathrooms available on 2nd floor at Baikuntha Path via Raigarh 11th bylane. Call: 9435558926.

2nd floor two room flat with all amenities at Hedayatpur. 9707111757. Tuition/P/9557/1

Academic Tutorial classes for (VII-XII) all subjects. Survey, Belota. Ph: 9864178596, 7896074685. Tuition/P/AC406/15

100% guaranteed by experience Home Tutor (ICSE/CBSE/SEBA) #Wisdom #9085585203 #638265622. Tuition/P/PO37/30

Mathematics Tuition: X - XII (JEE)/Bank/Railway/SSC/CAT/ MCA @ Bhagtarup. 94350-4049/ Tuition/P/5680/15

Ancillary/Sanskrit Home Tuition by experienced Teachers (CBSE/ ICSE) (I-X). 9678707294, 9706453712. Tuition/P/7450/10

Home Tuition for Mathematics (CBSE/SEBA/CISCE),conception problem More than 90% guaranteed, Ph. 94351-07776. Tuition/P/9025/4

Coaching group/Individual & Home Tuition (I-XII & Entrance). All subjects. Transportation available. Dispur. # 8486692583. Tuition/P/A106/230

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BHK RCC 2ND FLOOR AT  
HATIGAON PIPELINE,  
BANK/PSUS/DOCTORS/  
COMPANY/SECURED  
COMPOUND, 9864107954.**

Experienced Home Tutor for class (I-XII). All subjects/classes. Conception. 9126177076. Tuition/P/9684/10

Home Tutor V-X (All subjects) XI-XII (PCMB) SEBA/CBSE Ph. 70533-51652, 98544-47750. Tuition/P/9626/1

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COMPANY/SECURED  
COMPOUND, 9864107954.**

Experienced Home Tutor for class (I-XII). All subjects/classes. Conception. 9126177076. Tuition/P/9684/10

1100 sq.ft. 3 BHK at Jatia, Kalihari Rd near Dipi Gas Agency is available for rent of Rs. 15000/- (fixed) plus Rs. 1000 sofy fees. Only for Bank Officials. Contact: 09717300310. Tuition/P/9632/1

1800 sq.ft. hall space, Medicine/courier Company Office, G.S. Road, Jayanta, 7870878787. Tuition/P/9541/3

3 BHK 24/7 water supply at Yotu Nagar Guwahati-21 Rent rupees ten thousand. Contact: 9435521845, 967834874. Tuition/P/9539/1

1 BHK near Zoo Road Tinali, 9864056326, Rent Rs. 9,000/- fixed. Tuition/P/9533/1

Spacious 2 BHK unit at Ground floor near Kharana Central School with open space & garage Rent 12000. M. 9435009746. Tuition/P/9531/1

3 BHK semi-furnished flat for rent in Belpara with covered parking, security 2 months. Contact: 7002633940. Tuition/P/9530/1

3 rooms with attached bath spacious drawing dining in second floor with one garage at Sanak Path opposite Medicity Guwahati. Dispur. available for rent for office or residential purpose at Last Gate Dispur. For details contact: 9435022417. Tuition/P/9529/1

Furnished 3 room apartment (2188 sqft) with open area 904 sqft. at North Guwahati near IOC boating pool. Industries/warehouse purposes. Ph: 9864027063. Tuition/P/9528/1

Ground floor RCC house with all required facilities is available for rent for office or residential purpose at Last Gate Dispur. For details contact: 9435022417. Tuition/P/9527/1

Full furnished, three bedrooms, two halls car parking at ground floor. Rs. 18000.00 Chinkali Path, Narikelbari, Guwahati. 9435016552, 9864067668. Tuition/P/9526/1

Furnished RCC house with all required facilities is available for rent for office or residential purpose at Last Gate Dispur. For details contact: 9435022417. Tuition/P/9525/1

Ground floor RCC house with all required facilities is available for rent for office or residential purpose at Last Gate Dispur. For details contact: 9435022417. Tuition/P/9524/1

Three bedroom flat at Anusuya Auktala, NH-37, Khanumukh, 2 km from Gauhati University, 7 km from Airport. Rent Rs. 13000. Contact: 9435548445. Tuition/P/9523/1

Two bedroom flat at Anusuya Auktala, NH-37, Khanumukh, 2 km from Gauhati University, 7 km from Airport. Rent Rs. 16000. Contact: 9435548445. Tuition/P/9522/1

Two bedroom semi-furnished apartment, 2nd floor at Sarania, Guwahati. Rent Rs. 16000. Contact: 9435548445. Tuition/P/9521/3

Two bedroom flat at Baikuntha Path via Raigarh 11th bylane. Call: 9435558926.

Two bedroom flat at Baikuntha Path via Raigarh 11th bylane. Call: 9435558926.

New independent building having 3 flats (BHK) at Lakhra Chariali, preferably for employees of CPSU/Banks/ Institutions or Corporate GH. 787891254, 9435339777. Tuition/P/9520/1

A newly constructed 3-BHK house with dining room, kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9519/0

2 bed room with kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9518/1

2 bed room with kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9517/1

2 bed room with kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9516/1

2 bed room with kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9515/1

2 bed room with kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9514/1

2 bed room with kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9513/1

2 bed room with kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9512/1

2 bed room with kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9511/1

2 bed room with kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9510/1

2 bed room with kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9509/1

2 bed room with kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9508/1

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2 bed room with kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9506/1

2 bed room with kitchen & bathroom. Located at Gitanagar, near Arundon Path, Belota. Rent Rs. 15000/- per month. Preferred Residence/Office. Contact: 9435145761, 9127433256. Tuition/P/9505/1

**TO-LET**  
**Office space of 3000sqft.  
(Ground Floor) and 500sqft.  
(1st floor) available near  
Ulubari Flyover, near  
Beltola.**

Royal Tutorials provides Home Group Tuition. Board (XI-XII/ Entrance, CBSE/SEBA). Contact: 09717300310. Tuition/P/9632/1

1800 sqft. hall space, Medicine/courier Company Office, G.S. Road, Jayanta, 7870878787. Tuition/P/9541/3

3 BHK 24/7 water supply at Yotu Nagar Guwahati-21 Rent rupees ten thousand. Contact: 9435521845, 967834874. Tuition/P/9539/1

1 BHK near


**WEATHER  
GUWAHATI**

LOCAL FORECAST:  
Partly cloudy sky to  
partly cloudy sky. Rain/  
Thundershower likely to  
occur. Maximum temperature is most likely to  
be 36°C on Sunday.

TEMPERATURE:  
Max 36.2°C  
Min 23.4°C

**Spl lecture  
today**

**GUWAHATI:** May 13: The Assam Academy for Cultural Relations is arranging a special lecture on the topic, "The crisis and prospects of Assamee Cinema" tomorrow at the Pundit Tirthanath Sarma Sahaghar, Chandmari here at 4.30 pm.

The lecture will be delivered by Swarna Kamal Sward winning film critic Manoj Borpuji, said a press release.

## Culvert, guard wall inaugurated Succour to suffering public

**STAFF REPORTER**

**GUWAHATI:** May 13: Addressing a long-standing demand of nearly 3,000 people of Panjabari Kalash Nagar hillside, a culvert along with a guard wall was today inaugurated by Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA) Chairman Dhiren Baruah.

Making the road accessible to the inhabitants of at least three villages of the area, the culvert has been constructed by the GMDA at a total project cost of Rs 10 lakh.

For years together, the people of Panjabari Kalash Nagar have suffered immensely due to lack of a proper road. The steep and slippery hilly road, further dilapidated by the runoff from the hills during the rainy season was a death trap for the people.

"During rains, we used to carry our kids to school on our back due to the worst road conditions. Especially the point where the culvert has been constructed was the most difficult sloopy part of the road, where many people fell down due to constant flow of run-off from the hill," said Yamang Doley a local of the area. "The locals are immensely benefited from the widening of the road and a proper culvert which has a scientifically designed water exit," she added.

Inaugurating the new structure, GMDA

Chairman Baruah said that the decision to construct the culvert was taken after a field visit of the place. "The villages are mostly inhabited by indigenous people and during rains the road remained off limits for the children and elderly. Moreover, the patients had to be carried on stretchers or on chairs due to the pathetic road condition," Baruah said.

"Along with Kailash Nagar, people of Doinpolo village, mostly inhabited by my Misings people, Kankan Nagar and Madhab Nagar would also be benefited by the project. With the water supply scheme's reservoir being constructed in the area, we are hopeful about the construction of the entire Kailash Nagar Somanway Path, which will be a major succour for the locals," said president of the local development committee Dhameswar Bhuyan.

Social activist Ajoy Dutta, who along with the locals, played an active role in demanding government intervention to address the problem in the area, thanked the authorities for a pro-active role in construction of the culvert. GMDA Chief Engineer Debojit Das stated that the project was constructed in four month's time after the necessary financial sanction.

GMDA Project Engineer Pukul Kalita, Public Relation Officer Sanatan Das and Biswajit Shom were also present on the occasion.

**Workshop on digital transaction**

**GUWAHATI:** May 13: A workshop on digital transaction using BHIM App was organised today by the Department of Education, Bhetola College in collaboration with the Teaching Learning Cell of the college.

Dr Nazrul Haque, Joint Director of Technical Education who was the resource person, emphasised the use of digital transaction in day-to-day life including the admission process in institutions.

The programme was presided over by Dr Ajit Borkotoky, Principal of Bhetola College. The inaugural speech was delivered by Mridendra Nath Sarma, Assistant Professor Deptt of Assamese. It was coordinated by Mofida Begum, HoD, Deptt of Education. The vote of thanks was delivered by Lina Deka, IQAC coordinator, Bhetola College. An interactive session was held between the resource person and the faculty members and office staff of the college.

**Bhimbor Deuri birth anniversary**

**GUWAHATI:** May 13: The Janagothyo Lokakrishti Samachar, Assam - 2017 will celebrate the 114th birth anniversary of Jananeta Bhimbor Deuri on May 16 at the Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra, Panjbari here. A seminar will also be held on Deuri's philosophy of life, said a press release.

**Chivet cubs rescued**


One of the rescued cubs.

**CORRESPONDENT**

**JALUKBARI:** May 13: Four one-and-a-half-month-old chivet cubs, separated from their mother, were rescued from the premises of Model School, Gauhati University yesterday.

After some residents of the area who spotted the cubs, informed Jalukbari Police Outpost, a joint team of forest officials and police personnel reached the spot and rescued the four cubs. Later the cubs were handed over to the State Zoo.

**City needs proper zebra crossings**

**T**he zebra crossings are meant for pedestrians and vehicles are supposed to stop seeing a pedestrian cross the road or about to cross it so as to let him/her reach the other side safely.

But, in Guwahati, it is seen that there are no zebra crossings of most roads, which puts pedestrians in great danger of getting knocked down by vehicles, particularly two-wheelers.

In most cases, the drivers do not seem to have any knowledge about the very purpose of these markings. Some traffic police personnel are also ignorant about the purpose. In some places, the police themselves block the zebra crossing, making it difficult for senior citizens, children and women.

Through this column, I request the Guwahati Police

Commissioner to take immediate steps on the matter, instead of waiting for an accident to take place.

**A pedestrian**

I illegal fares

I citizens' voice

I Citizens are requested to express their Guwahati-specific views within 100 words and mail the same to citizensvoice@gmail.com

I with regard to the issue he raised in his letter captioned 'Trekker fares' (A.T. April 25, 2017) regarding illegal hike in

I Tridiv Mohan Das,

I Guwahati

I nuisance caused by this market are beyond imagination and is quite contrary to the Swach Bharat Abhiyan.

I The present government speaks about maintaining transparency in administration, about its stand against illegal occupation and corruption.

I Since Trekker run on longer routes, and, being more efficient, have a higher running cost, it would not be long before autorickshaws also start

I demanding higher base fares in contravention of the rates fixed by the local authorities.

I – Tridiv Mohan Das,

I Guwahati

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## MESSAGE FORTODAY

If you want to test a man's character; give him power.  
— ABRAHAM LINCOLN

**The Assam Tribune**

**Meaningless exercise**

Reportedly, the Assam Government is contemplating the lifting of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) from certain districts of the State, such as Jorhat, Golaghat, Nagaon, Majuli, Dibrugarh etc., which are not affected by insurgency. On the other hand it might continue to remain in force in districts in which militant groups like the ULFA (I) and NDFB (Songbijit) are active. Hint of such a development was given when the Centre, for the very first time, extended AFSPA for the entire State for just three months with effect from May 3rd rather than at least six months as is normally the case with such extensions. The fact that this draconian Act, imposed since November 27, 1990 in Assam, contradicts the basic tenets of democracy has been observed by various courts of the land, including the Supreme Court of India. In neighbouring Manipur, which had witnessed spate of killings by security forces though not all of the victims were insurgents, individuals like from Sharmila had waged an over a decade long battle for the revocation of this draconian law. Because it bestows extraordinary powers on our security forces often misuse of its provisions are witnessed, and innocents are sacrificed, a reality also acknowledged by the highest court of the land.

Thus a meaningful course of action would have been to fully revoke AFSPA from the entire State and prevent misuse of its provisions. Partial revoking would not merely be a meaningless exercise, but also, in fact, might lead to the spread of insurgency in regions now free of it, with militants taking advantage since provisions of the AFSPA do not operate there. It needs to be kept in mind that a draconian law like the AFSPA is often self-defeating since it tends to alienate the common people. There is widespread belief amongst the civil population that a vast majority of the extra-judicial killings have been of innocent civilians which the army has been able to cover up due to the AFSPA shield. There is also anger against such injustice, serving to fuel disaffection and resulting in continuation of insurgency and other law and order issues. That most of the recent recruits to militant groups like the ULFA (I) have been made from the districts where the Act will not be revoked highlights this aspect. While deliberating on the extra-judicial killings allegedly taking place in Manipur with the security forces being shielded by the AFSPA, India's Supreme Court has observed that even under that Act these forces have to follow procedures and account for their actions. If this indeed is so, having an act like AFSPA is futile and the sooner it is revoked from entire Assam the better.

**Assam-Bangla ties**

The few years have seen a marked improvement in Indo-Bangla relations, with governments in both sides exhibiting goodwill to build on their shared history and boost bilateral ties. While the previous Congress-led UPA Government had done some spade work for facilitating healthier Indo-Bangla relations, the present BJP-led NDA Government has done well to seize the initiative and carry forward the momentum with more vigour. First, it had the historic land-swap deal ratified, enabling in the process the two neighbours to settle the contentious border issue. This also bestowed upon some 50,000 stateless people living in 162 border enclaves a much-needed national identity after decades. Boundary settlement apart, a number of pacts were inked – the most significant being the one allowing Indian cargo vessels to access the Chittagong and Mongla ports, thereby reducing the travel time for Indian cargo by more than a month. As for Assam, the much-anticipated Guwahati-Dhaka bus service, too, materialized, paving the way for direct surface transportation between the two neighbours. This is bound to enhance people-to-people connection, tourism, and trade and commerce. The latest among such bilateral initiatives happens to be the inauguration of the Bangladeshi Consular office headed by an Assistant High Commissioner at Guwahati. The office will cater to the needs of the six northeastern States barring Tripura. Given the growing bilateral interactions between the North-east and Bangladesh, the office was an urgent necessity. Getting a visa to Bangladesh will no longer entail any travel to Kolkata, Delhi or Tripura, and this facility is bound to give further boost to bilateral tourism. Last but not the least, the Assam Government can also communicate with the consular office about its concerns over large-scale illegal migration from Bangladesh to Assam, which now threatens to effect demographic changes in the latter. The Government of India has so far shown a strange reluctance in raising the matter of cross-border infiltration before its Bangladeshi counterpart. As it goes without saying that resolving the influx issue will be central to a healthy relationship between Bangladesh and the North-east, the Assam Government can convey its apprehensions vis-à-vis infiltration to the consular office. It has also been reported that thousands of Bangladeshis who had entered India with valid documents in recent years never returned to their homeland. The consular office can keep a tab on such disturbing developments.

**The Assam Tribune**

**From THE PAST**

**Zakir Hussain Takes Over As President****PLEDGE TO WORK FOR PEOPLE'S PROGRESS AND WELFARE**

NEW DELHI, May 13: Dr Zakir Hussain today entered office as President of the Indian Union and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces "in a spirit of humility and total dedication." The 70-year-old Dr Hussain took the oath for the highest office of the land administered by the Chief Justice of India, Sri KN Wanchoo, at a ceremony marked by dignified grandeur in the historic Central Hall of Parliament.

A distinguished gathering of invitees watched the retiring President, Dr Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, and his successor in office Dr Zakir Hussain interchange their seats signifying the change-over.

The high-domed hall reverberated with prolonged cheers which mingled with the boom of the 31-gun salute fired from Rashtrapati Bhawan to herald assumption of office by Dr Hussain. A little later, Dr Hussain administered the oath of office to the 73-year-old Venkata Giriraju as the new Vice-President.

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 1967

# Great earthquakes in Himalayan region

■ Dr B Pathak

**E**arthquakes are natural processes which are directly related to the active tectonics or geodynamics of an area or movements along some active faults that have evolved through geological time. The nature of such movement may be a seismic slip or brittle failure. Brittle failure along such dislocation or rupture produces earthquakes. The greater being the dislocation surface larger is the size of the earthquake. Earthquakes are most disastrous of all the natural calamities as they affect large areas as causing deaths, injuries and destruction of physical resources on a massive scale. Ninety per cent of the destruction and death on the globe are created only by earthquakes alone.

After the major earthquake in Nepal on April 25, 2015 along with a number of aftershocks, geo-scientific community is assessing the seismicity of the Himalayan region about a critical and unsolved question, "whether a great earthquake can visit the Himalayan region again with more disastrous effect in the Ganga-Brahmaputra valley?"

The entire northern part of Indian Peninsula including Nepal is very fragile and always been affected by devastating earthquakes in the past. During the period from 1897–2015 fifteen major earthquakes of magnitude  $>= 7.5$  including five great earthquakes of magnitude  $>= 8.0$  have occurred in the Himalayan region from

the entire northeastern states including the Brahmaputra valley are within the highest seismic risk (Zone V). Therefore, all the major cities of Brahmaputra valley including Guwahati are definitely very vulnerable.

The first recorded earthquake in the history of Himalayan region is the northern part of peninsular India including Nepal was in the year 1255 AD. The devastating earthquake on the fatal day of

According to the seismic zoning map of India, the entire northeastern states including the Brahmaputra valley are within the highest seismic risk (Zone V). Therefore, all the major cities of Brahmaputra valley including Guwahati are definitely very vulnerable.

June 7 in 1255 wrecked the Nepalese capital, wiped out one third of the population of Kathmandu Valley and killed the country's monarch, King Abhaya Malla with an epicentre right below the city. Based on the degree of damage, researchers now have assigned the maximum intensity of shaking is about X in the Modified Mercalli (MM scale) and magnitude to be around 7.7 in Richter scale. Significant earthquakes also have occurred in 1260 AD during the reign of Jayadeva Malla. Devastating earthquake also rocked the Kingdom of Nepal during the month of August-September in 1408 AD when King

Shyam Singh was the ruler of kingdom of Nepal. Significant earthquakes also have been reported during 1681, 1767, 1810 and 1823. However, there is no detailed information about damage and destructions due to these earthquakes. In the year 1713, a major earthquake rocked the Bhutan Himalaya.

During the Bihar-Nepal earthquake of 1934, more than 17,000 people were killed in Nepal and northern part of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Among the dead were two of King Tribhuban's daughters and a daughter of Juddha Shumshere. The famous Darahara tower or Bhimsen tower constructed at the instance of Queen Lalit Tripuri Sundari was totally destroyed during the 1934 earthquake. The tower was

reconstructed during 1956, but was again destroyed during April 25, 2015 Nepal earthquake. The Indo-China border earthquake of August 15, 1950 another significant and devastating earthquake that has caused widespread destructions in the northeastern part of India, particularly upper Assam valley and Arunachal Pradesh.

Seismologists now-a-days use a term "Seismic Gap". A seismic gap is a type of seismic region within a major seismic belt of the world or section of a fault that has produced earthquakes in the past but is now quiet for few tens or hundred of years. Due to the absence of large

historical rupture for the past few hundred years, makes these gaps more potential places for very great earthquake. Scientists on the basis of plate-motion information or strain measurements now believe that though in some seismic gaps, no earthquakes have been observed historically, however such fault segment is capable to produce a significant earthquake in future. Geoscientists of different countries have acquired multidisciplinary data over the last 10 to 15 years. The analysis of multidisciplinary geoscientific dataset has revealed that everywhere along the Himalayan arc, the Main Himalayan Thrust fault line is locked or a kind of asperity have been developed from the surface to beneath the Himalayas over a distance of about 100 to 120 km. If this is true then definitely it is not a very encouraging report because faults often move or 'creep' without posing any danger at the surface of the earth. In the central, Himalaya tectonic belt, however, there is no such 'creep' observed along the faults, which means that strain-energy is being building up with the passage of time. During the "Gorkha-Nepal Earthquake" of April 25, 2015, only a fraction of the strain energy has been released with the rupture of about 135 km within 3-4 seconds. Analysis also reveal that if the accumulated strain energy is released instantaneously, then Himalayan region is still capable to produce a great earthquake of magnitude more than eight in the Richter scale.

## Philosophy and Science

■ Dr Jyotsna Bhattacharjee

**P**hilosophy and science are generally held to be widely different. Philosophy attempts to give us the knowledge of the whole universe, while science gives us sectional knowledge of the phenomenal world. For science the phenomenal world is real, while for philosophy the phenomenal world is an appearance of the Reality. Aristotle said that a philosopher is a "spectator of all times and existence." Hence it is obvious that the scope of philosophy is much wider than that of science and it includes all kinds of knowledge which human minds may be concerned. Scientific outlook is objective and phenomenistic. Science observes things and confines itself to collecting, arranging and classifying all types of phenomena which come under the range of experimental observation and experiment.

For the convenience of scientific inquiry the universe has been artificially divided into physical, biological and mental states. Hence, there are three divisions of science and they are physical, biological and mental. Because sciences are confined to phenomena they cannot provide us with complete and concrete knowledge of the universe. The noumenal principle of the universe remains unapproachable to the sciences. Therefore the scientific knowledge is always empirical. Hence, it is obvious that scientific knowledge is that while the science is abstract in its results, philosophy is concrete in its explanation. Scientific inquiry is abstract, because it considers the objects of the world from purely phenomenal point of view in isolation from their concrete position, constituted by both its phenomenal aspect and the noumenal aspect, which cannot be separated. Secondly, science considers them objectively and externally, as if the mind is wholly passive. Science always ignores the mind and it is left in the background. Finally, science does not relate the particular knowledge to the whole of the knowledge system. Philosophy never wants to interpret any object in isolation from its really inseparable elements, that is, its noumenal background, its subjective reference and its place in the whole scheme of knowledge. Scientific knowledge again has been made more abstract by the tendency of the present-day

tendencies to reduce the scientific findings to mathematical formulae. When reduced to mathematical formulae the facts of growth and evolution will be merely the skeleton of existence, devoid of their concrete character. Philosophy does not accept the scientific view, which rules the world of its concrete character.

However, there is some similarity between science and philosophy in respect of their aim. Both science and philosophy aim at the common goal of explanation. To explain something is to unify knowledge and unification of knowledge means bringing particular factors under a general law or universal. Though both philosophy and science want to explain things, science stops at bringing facts and law under the highest general law it can attain with observation and experiment. But philosophy goes beyond the general law to reality or the concrete universal. Laws are at best the laws of phenomena, but since philosophy includes and explains phenomenal knowledge by reference to noumenal reality, the work of explanation carried on by philosophy necessarily goes beyond phenomena and their laws. In fact, while science is satisfied with departmental explanations, philosophy is in search of a final explanation. So in the context of explanation too science is different from philosophy. There have been some scientific philosophers like Spencer, Wundt and some others who state that philosophy is only continuation of sciences, so where science stops, the work of philosophy begins. Philosophy is supposed to extend the unification of knowledge beyond the limits of science. But the continuity of science with philosophy can be accepted only if philosophy can be said to be equally same with science, in so far as its subject matter is concerned.

Spencer, for instance, has defined philosophy as completely unified, knowledge as contrasted with science and popular knowledge, which refer respectively to partially unified knowledge and completely unified knowledge. But the problem is that knowledge, even if it is completely unified, but confined within the range of phenomena, cannot become proper philosophical knowledge, if it ignores the noumenal sphere with reason as the means of knowing it.

## Voices of the WEEK



"The State Government has increased the retirement age of Vice-Chancellors of Universities to 70 years... But a similar guidelines for college teachers has not been implemented." — TULSI DAS, General Secretary, ACTA

★★★

"One just cannot set up shop and give nothing back, one has to create local opportunity." — SATYNADELLA, chief, Microsoft

★★★

"The Madrasa Board will be dissolved and the Board of Secondary Education will be looking after Madrasa education." — HIMANTA BISWA SARMA, Education Minister

★★★

"This (SEBA marking) is completely baseless. I am not a 420. I demand a CBI inquiry to probe the matter raised by Sarna (Himanta Biswa)." — TARUN GOGOI, ex-Chief Minister, Assam

★★★

"The statement given by the Education Minister... has raised question marks over the performance of brilliant students who have excelled in the board exams over the years. AASU will not tolerate such recklessness." — DIPANKAR KUMAR NATH, president, AASU

★★★

"Despite being in power for such a long period, the Congress did not solve the problem of doubtful voters, updating the NRC.... Now the Congress' out of power, is shedding crocodile's tears on the foreigners' issue." — MAMUM IMADADUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY, President, AIUDF's youth wing

★★★

"There is intolerance in the whole country in the name of religion. It is only Bengal that can fight against this communal politics..." — MAMATA BANERJEE, Chief Minister, West Bengal

★★★

"They (BJP) play politics in the name of martyrs, Vandemataram and nationalism." — AKHILESH YADAV, chief, Samajwadi Party

★★★

"I do not have to keep the players happy. We must win." — ANTONIO CONTE, Chelsea coach

★★★

"If the ICI asks Pakistan anything about Jadhav, it will respond to it at an appropriate level. The process is continuing within the army." — ASIF GAFOOR, Pakistan Army Major General

## A busy year ahead

■ The last word

■ RAGHUNATH

Mr Tamta Prasad is an Officer on Special Duty in the Prime Minister's Office and he exudes power and influence. He has the key task of fine tuning and orchestrating the Indian PM's image make over summits and he was in town recently to unwind from the hectic tensions of NAM, SAARC, CHOGM, ASEAN and G-8 and I caught up with him for a brief chat. I began by asking him about the country's prospects by way of summits in 2018.

"We've a busy year ahead," he said. "the series of summits we've successfully hosted have led to a glorious exposure of the country's heritage and cul-

ture, ancient, yet refreshingly modern."

"Not to mention its impressive strides in industry and science and technology," I added.

"In January next India is all set to host a summit of Women Heads of Govt."

"Women Heads of Govt!" I exclaimed,

"but there are just a few of them, search for them how you will, Mrs Angela Merkel of Germany and Begum Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh."

"No matter," insisted Mr Tamta Prasad, "Women Heads of Govt need to urgently get together for a one-to-

one interaction on pressing global concerns like rising oil prices, trans border terrorism, tensions in West Asia and on the Korean Peninsula and new mouth watering recipes of three layer paprika cake."

"What will the summit of Women Heads of Govt cost the hard pressed Indian tax payer?" I asked.

"Well," said Mr Tamta Prasad, "the

summit will cost about Rs 60 crore and that includes the creation of infrastructure assets like boutiques, shopping malls and beauty parlour and dress shops."

"With East-West talks bogged down and the North-South dialogue stalled and getting nowhere, New Delhi is slated to host a three-way North-East, South-West summit."

"What'll it discuss?" I asked.

"Oh, this and that," said Mr Tamta Prasad.

"Of course," I said, "this and that are pressing global concerns needing the urgent attention of world leaders."

"In March, 2018 New Delhi will be hosting a summit of non-aligned countries that kowtow to the US followed by a summit of neutral countries that toe the Russian line."



**Seminar on biodiversity and its conservation**

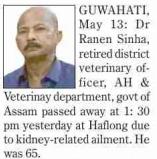
**CORRESPONDENT**

KAZIRANGA, May 13: Kaziranga Study Centre at JDSG College, Bolehat, which was set up with an objective to enhance conservation of biodiversity as well as protection of environment and forest, is organising a national-level seminar on 'Emerging Issues of Biodiversity and its Conservation' on June 29 and 30. The seminar will be held in association with Kaziranga National Park authority, Wildlife Trust of India, Aaranyak and The Corbett Foundation, where deliberations and presentations of different issues like biodiversity conservation – management system and approaches; modernisation, urbanisation and industrialisation; impact on biodiversity and conservation; biodiversity – demography economy; Corporate Social Responsibility and biodiversity conservation; Sustainable development and biodiversity in the North-east etc., is expected to take place.

JDSG College sources informed that interested academics, researchers, NGO activists, social workers and students may submit their paper abstract on or before June 5. Full paper should be submitted on or before June 15 (not exceeding 3000 words). Sources said that interested participants may contact the college principal for any information.

**OBITUARY**

**Dr Ranen Sinha**



GUWAHATI, May 13: Dr Ranen Sinha, retired district veterinarian of Assam passed away at 1:30 pm yesterday at Haflong due to kidney-related ailment. He was 62.

A resident of Nagerik Path, Chidian Nagar, Bhetpara here, Sinha was known for his amiable disposition and caring nature. His death has been widely mourned.

Son of Late Ram Gopal Singh of Milanpur Nagaon, his mortal remains were consigned to flames at the Navagraha crematorium this morning.

He leaves behind his wife, a son, daughter-in-law and a host of relatives.

**Dwijen Chalihia**

**CORRESPONDENT**

MANGALDAI, May 13: Dwijen Chalihia (Bubul), an eminent actor, craft artist, sports organiser, music arranger and a resident of Tengabari, Mangaldoi passed away on Friday afternoon after his residence after prolonged illness. He was 64.

Many local socio-cultural and literary organisations have expressed their condolences on Chalihia's demise. He leaves behind his wife along with a host of relatives and friends.

**Tarani Mohan Sarma**

**CORRESPONDENT**

NALBARI, May 13: Tarani Mohan Sarma, a retired headmaster of Bagurhati High School in Nalbari district passed away at a private hospital here on May 9. He was 77. Sarma, who joined as a Sanskrit teacher in 1967, retired in 2001 as a headmaster from the same school.

He was associated with the Nalbari District Academic Council for a long time. Sarma was also associated with various socio-religious organisations of his locality.

He leaves behind his wife, two sons and three daughters. His death has been widely mourned.



Nurses of Demow Model Hospital paying homage to Florence Nightingale on the occasion of her birth anniversary, which is celebrated as International Nurses Day, at Demow on Friday. - UB Photos

## Govt move over Tagore's birth anniversary flayed

**CORRESPONDENT**

SILCHAR, May 13: Reacting to the imbroglio over observance of holidays on May 9 on the occasion of birth anniversary of poet and Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore and the alleged deletion of the event from the State Government's holiday list, Silchar MP Sumitra Dev has slammed the Bharatiya Janata Party and Chief Minister Barbananda Sonowal.

Taking a jibe at the Chief Minister, the Congress MP from Silchar said, "The tributes paid by the Chief Minister in the form of huge advertisements on newspapers is

actually a hollow tribute to Tagore, who is not just a poet but a nationalist as well."

Dev went on to say that for a party which boasts of its nationalist spirits, it should make arrangements for observance of Tagore's birth anniversary across the State. She also criticised the move by the Government for deleting the event from the State Government's holiday list, Silchar MP Sumitra Dev has slammed the Bharatiya Janata Party and Chief Minister Barbananda Sonowal.

Asked about the stance of the local BJP leaders including Deputy Speaker Dilip Kumar Paul and PWD Minister Parimal Suklabaidya, Sumitra Dev said both are a part of this controversy. The par-

liamentarian informed that when a Congress delegation met the Chief Minister and raised the issue, he had assured that things would be looked into. But his words and actions have unfortunately been fallacious, she added. Deveriorated that memorandum has been submitted to the Chief Minister through the Cachar Deputy Commissioner to intervene in the matter and to hold a discussion with all the stakeholders in a democratic manner, to order him on May 19, to increase Durga Puja holidays and declare holidays on Shab-e-Barat and birth anniversary of Bir Tikendrajit Singh.

The family of Nazmin filed a case at Morigaon PS against PS P.Cheating one Nazmin Sultan (25) of Saptari village under Morigaon PS and taking away Rs 2 lakh in a fraudulent manner after living together for her seven months.

The family of Nazmin filed a case at Morigaon PS and drew the attention of DLSA, Morigaon to the incident. From the mobile phone records, the absconder's involvement in kidney business racket was ascertained. Police investigation is on.

**Blood donation camp:** A son was enticed by Rupam Das who told her that he was a soldier in the Indian Army and

would marry her. As such, Rupam converted to Islam and declared himself as Arif Khan. After living together for seven months, Rupam demanded Rs 2 lakh from Nazmin for his personal problems. Taking the money, Rupam deserted Nazmin a month ago and his whereabouts are not known.

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**Blood donation camp:** A

son was enticed by Rupam Das who told her that he was a soldier in the Indian Army and

## Woman cheated at Morigaon, case registered

**CORRESPONDENT**

MORIGAON, May 13: A criminal case no. CR 465/17 was registered in Morigaon district judicial court against a person in charge of fraud and cheating. The District Legal Service Authority (DLSA), Morigaon detected a case that a woman Rupam Das alias Arif Khan (41) of Medhi Chowk village under Jajori PS cheating one Nazmin Sultan (25) of Saptari village under Morigaon PS and taking away Rs 2 lakh in a fraudulent manner after living together for her seven months.

According to Nazmin, she was enticed by Rupam Das who told her that he was a soldier in the Indian Army and

would marry her. As such, Rupam converted to Islam and declared himself as Arif Khan. After living together for seven months, Rupam demanded Rs 2 lakh from Nazmin for his personal problems. Taking the money, Rupam deserted Nazmin a month ago and his whereabouts are not known.

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son was enticed by Rupam Das who told her that he was a soldier in the Indian Army and

## Nandeswar Bora: a tribute



Nandeswar Bora, an educationist, a litterateur and a social worker of Lohing region of Jorhat district passed away on May 4 last at the age of 80.

Born to Durgawor Bora and Gandheswari Bora of Noisiporia gao of Lohing region on March 20, 1937, he contributed a lot for the educational development of the region. The contribution of Late Bora towards social and cultural development of the agriculturally-important Lohing region was unlimited.

Starting his service life as an Assistant Teacher of Teok High School, he later on shifted to Lohing ME School and finally retired as the Principal of Lohing Higher Secondary School. After retirement, he joined as Principal of Nakachari College where he worked for more than five years. Being a founder teacher of Lohing High and Higher Secondary School, he was very closely associated with many educational

institutions and social institutions of this region. He played a significant role in starting of HSLC and HSSLC examination centre at Lohing, establishment of Lakshmi Gaonla Bank, Nabakanta Vidyapeeth etc., in the Lohing region. He was also a life member of Srimanta Sankaradev Sangha. 'Simple living and high

thinking' was the greatest ideology of his life. He had a strong determination and uncompromising attitude. His demise is a great loss not only for the Lohing region but for the whole of Assam, which has lost a great educationist and a real social worker. May his departed soul rest in eternal peace.

- Dr Gobin Chandra Bora

**Manoj Kumar Mahanta**

Manoj Kumar Mahanta, son of Late Durga Mahanta, a resident of Srimanta Sankaradev Sangha, Lohing region, died on May 6.

Sankaradev Path, ward no. 6 of Kokrajhar town breathed his last on May 4 last at the age of 69.

Born on May 9, 1949, he served Indian Air Force for 20 years and the Indian Railways for 18 years after passing 11th class from Kokrajhar Higher Secondary School. After retirement he lived a simple and active life by engaging himself in different cultural organisations and cultural bodies. He was the president of local

body of Kokrajhar BPF, Ward Commissioner of Ward no. 6 of Kokrajhar Town Committee and an active member of Kokrajhar Assam Sahitya Sabha, Srimanta Sankaradev Sangha, Kokrajhar Raas Committee etc.

He leaves behind his wife, one son and daughter-in-law, a grand daughter, one brother, two sisters and a host of relatives and admirers. His sudden demise was widely mourned by various local organisations. Today on his *adyashradha*, we along with his family pray to the Almighty for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

- Pradip Kumar Patowary

## CM urged to expedite devp works in Biswanath district

**CORRESPONDENT**

BISWANATH CHARiali, May 13: A delegation representing Biswanath District Development Committee led by Minister Ranjit Dutta met Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal recently at the Janata Bhawan and submitted a memorandum urging to expedite the process of developmental works in Biswanath district. The demands included setting

up of all the district head quarters of government offices including education, health, PWD and transport. The delegation also demanded release of required funds for the town area development of Biswanath Chariali and Golpur towns, eviction of encroachments in government and forest lands, solution to the flood and erosion problems, setting up of a cultural museum at the district head quarter etc., among others. The Chief Minister assured all possible help to the team for fulfilment of the demands. The team comprising Biswanath MLA Pramod Borthakur, Golpur MLA Utpal Borah, Hiranya Hazarika, Dr Madhab Borah, Kamal Ch Bhuyan, Prafull Singh, Bilek Durash and Kanai Saikia also met Transport Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary and PWD Minister Parimal Shukla Vaidya in this respect.

## Mass crying prog by ABSU

**CORRESPONDENT**

KOKRAJHAR, May 13: The ABSU Bodoland Students' Union (ABSU) and its allied groups staged a two-hour mass crying programme at the Children's Park near the Kokrajhar DC's Office demanding a separate State for the community and to ensure political rights for the Bodos living outside the proposed Bodoland State.

A good number of activists of the ABSU, the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (P) and the People's Joint Action Committee for Bodoland Movement (PJACBM) from different corners of Kokrajhar district joined the programme which started from 10 am.

Later, they also submitted a memorandum to the Union Home Minister through the DC, Kokrajhar demanding to

resolve the Bodo people's long-standing demand for creation of Bodoland State on the northern bank of the Brahmaputra from the Sankosh to Sadiya, to ensure constitutional safeguards for protection of the land and political rights of the Bodo people living outside the proposed Bodoland and grant ST (Hill) status to the Bodo people living in Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao districts.

## Business establishments must report cash transaction exceeding Rs 2 lakh'

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

DIBRUGARH, May 13: Vikram Sahay, Director of Income Tax (Intelligence & Criminal Investigation), Northeast Region, has asked all jewellers, car dealers, banks and companies etc., to report to the Income Tax Department details of all persons who have made cash transactions of more than Rs 2 lakh during the financial year 2016-17. This reporting will be done in a Statement of Financial Transactions (SFT) which has to be filed by the May 31, 2017, he said.

In a workshop conducted by the Directorate of Income Tax (Intelligence & Criminal Investigation), here on Friday, the Director said that chartered accountants, banks, Income Tax practitioners and traders must not try to protect their clients who have made

transactions of high value. "In an information technology driven period you cannot escape. There are several routes through which, a defaulter or deregulation can be detected," he said.

Vikram Sahay, gave a detailed presentation on the procedure of filing SFT and its significance for widening and deepening the tax base. He stated that there are over 32,000 audited cases in the region who may have to file this Statement if they have received cash payment exceeding Rs 2 lakh from any person against sale of good or service during FY 2016-17. Similarly, over around 30 Foreign Exchange Dealers have to furnish the SFT of respect of persons who have made payments exceeding Rs 10 lakh for purchase of foreign currency, etc.

He also mentioned that the Income Tax Department is already having information about all persons in NER

who have made huge cash deposits in their Bank accounts during 2016-17. The Income Tax Department would link such accounts with persons furnishing SFT regarding cash deposits of more than Rs 2 lakh.

The workshop was also addressed by Imokaba Jamir, Additional Commissioner of Income Tax. Earlier, the welcome address was delivered by Satyakam Dutta, Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax, Dibrugarh. NL Sherpa, Assistant Director, (Intelligence & Criminal Investigation), Dibrugarh and Santanu Sonar, Income Tax Officer (Intelligence & Criminal Investigation), Dibrugarh were also present at the workshop.

Some 125 persons consisting of chartered accountants, income tax practitioners, jewellers, car dealers and various traders and their representatives from Dibrugarh and Tinsukia participated in the seminar.

## City of Joy pulsates with Rongali Bihu beats



GUWAHATI, May 13: It was a wonderful evening when Kolkata went colourful and melodious with traditional Rongali Bihu performances by Assamese singers and dancers and the sounds of *dhol*, *pepa* and *gagana* made Kolkata a real 'City of Joy.'

Agarwal, patron Deepakananda Bharali and president Atul Kumar Bharali followed by the launch of the trilingual annual magazine *Srishti*, Ratul Bebarbar, editor of the 9th issue of the magazine, published by the organisation concluded the inauguration ceremony after the guests were gifted with a sapling of a plant in a tree occasionally. Jaya Seal Ghosh, gave a wonderful beginning by her short performance of Bihu dance. Also present were Dr Ratan Bhattacharjee, who is known as Olean-der Poet and an academician practising trilingual poetic creativity, Manisha Hazarika, Manjula Hazarika and Sunil Nath from Assam with other invited dignitaries.

The show concluded with a vote of thanks by vice-president Hiten Hathkhowa. He also mentioned about the upcoming mega event to be organised celebrating the 91st birth anniversary of legend Bhupen Hazarika in Kolkata jointly with the Bhupen Hazarika Cultural Trust in September. Sanjib Bishaya, publicity secretary KACA showed hospitality to all the guests present for the function.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT

## MATRIMONIAL

'Sanjyog Matrimony' choose your life partner. Any Caste Assamese/ Bengali/ Nepali Muslim/ Bodro/ Marowari Bihari Govt/ PSU/ MNC/ Businessman. Contact: Bride/ Groom- Assamee & outsider of Assam/India. Guwahati, Uhabur @970636644/ 8638153087. Mat/GP/A1004/1

A reliable Matrimonial centre Sandhani, Guwahati (ADC), Jorhat (Ninam Bhawan), Dibrugarh (Chirang Chapari), Golaghat (Near Court), Nagaon (JD) Nursing Home, 9707107771, 8011363087. www.sandhani.in. Mat/GP/9666/1

## GROOM WANTED

Suitable groom wanted for a Bengali Hindu girl 27 yrs. (Sylhet), 5'3". B.Tech, MBA working in MNC Bangalore and also holding Diploma in Music. Contact : 9435040476. Mat/GP/9106/3

For Ahom 33 years, Graduate looking for suitable Guwahati based boy upto 35-40 years. Contact : 9864132466. Mat/GP/9548/1

Required suitable match for a Bengali girl (1978 born), height 5 ft. Mithun Rashi Naragon. Practicing in Guwahati High Court. Contact No. 9859201063. Mat/GP/9556/1

Wanted bride groom for a girl aged 34 years, working in Govt. with qualification/ Masters degree in Anthropology. Interested person may contact directly. Ph. : 9805307917 943501171. Mat/GP/9527/1

Ahom girl, 29, working in reputed CBSE School in Guwahati. Graduate in English with B.Ed and pursuing Masters at present. Father retired Govt. Office. Direct Ph. : +919435114617. Mat/GP/AP360/1

Suitible alliance invited for a Hindu/Bengali/Kayastha 37 yrs. divorcee and based in New Delhi working as a PR professional in an MNC. Contact directly @ 757696900 from 06.00 PM to 10.00 PM on week days. Anything on Sunday. Mat/GP/9504/1

Kalita 29, 5'5", slim, very fair & pretty girl. B.Tech, MBA, working MNC Delhi. Seeks suitable match working any Metrocity. Contact (M) 9401469135. Mat/GP/9574/1

Kalita 25+, B.Tech Engineer MNC Metrocity (2) Assamee Hindu 27, B.Tech, Engineer MNC, Bangalore (3) Kalita 29, B.Tech, MNC, Bangalore "MATCHMAKER" (M) 9854203706. Mat/GP/9575/1

(1) Kalita 27, MBA, working American Bank of India (Delhi) (2) Kalita 27, 5'4", MBA/ MNC Bangalore (3) Kalita 29, MCA, working in Bangalore. "MATCHMAKER" (M) 9854203706. Mat/GP/9576/1

(1) Kalita 28, M.Tech, Asstt. Professor Jorhat (2) Assamee Hindu SIC 5'3", MA (ET) qualified, only daughter (3) Kalita 31, MBA, Manager Nationalised Bank. "MATCHMAKER" (M) 9854063196. Mat/GP/9577/1

Assamese Hindu girl 27, 5'5", B.Tech from IIT & MBA, working MNC. Seeks suitable match working in Indian Metro or Abroad. Contact (M) 9401469135. Mat/GP/9579/1

Brahmin Assamee 25+, 5'5", fair & good looking B.Tech (NIT- Silchar) M.Tech seeks suitable match working in Assam or Indian Metrocity. Contact (M) 9854203706. Mat/GP/9580/1

Age 38 Kalita/ M.A/ M.Ed, Central School Teacher, Ghy (divorcee) (2) 28, Brahmin, M.BA, MNC, Ghy (divorcee) (3) 32, General, Graduate, Artist (divorcee), Ghy, Sandhani, 8011630847. Mat/GP/9660/1

Kalita/ Assamee/ 26/ 5'4" Engineer/ Govt. service. 9613435785. Mat/GP/A1019/1

Hindu/ Assamee/ Kalita/ 28/ yrs/ MBBS, MD/ lives in Guwahati. Contact : 8822243823. Mat/GP/A1012/1

Hindu/ Assamee/ Kalita/ 26/ yrs/ Master in Commerce/ working in a Govt. sector/ lives in Guwahati. Contact 8253960545. Mat/GP/A1011/1

Alliance invited for Assamee Brahmin girl 35+, double MA, she suitable match. 88110-96012. Mat/GP/9623/1

Bengali, Saha (Kundu), 35, 5'2"%, B.Ed, School Teacher, Rajshahi Dist. Seeking suitable groom residing in Guwahati. Contact No. 943558809, 8011488735. Mat/GP/9628/1

Assamese Hindu 33, OBC, 5'2", M.Sc, Officer in a Central Govt. PSU (Metro). Ph. : 8811834121 (Direct), divorcee. Mat/GP/AP36/1

Bengali/ Kayastha/ slim/ beautiful 29/53% (MA) English, Working Asstt. Professor, Early marriage. @8638153087. 9781251520. Mat/GP/9971/

Assamese/ Kalita/ beautiful 26/ 5'4" M.Com (Finance), working reputed company. Early marriage. @9864809793/ 9706036644. Mat/GP/9981/

Beautiful/ Assamee/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" B.Tech (JEC) MBA, Engineer at Metro. Ghy residency. 8011641568. Mat/GP/9991/

Beautiful/ Assamee/ Aleom/ 30/ 5'4" MBBS, MD, Doctor in reputed Hospital. Ghy residency. 9706036644/ 7399475723. Mat/GP/A0001/

Good looking/ Bengal/ Kayastha/ 27/ 5'3" B.Sc, visara in Rabindra Sangat, Casto no bar. 8822230669/ 757626601. Mat/GP/A0001/

Beautiful/ Assamee/ Kalita/ 37/ 5'4" B.Tech, Engineer at Metro. Early marriage. Contact direct : 94350-46976. Mat/BP/9903/2

Bangalore/ Chennai based girl wanted for a Hindu boy, 30 yrs., caste no bar, early marriage. Contact direct : 8720957065/ 878676563. Mat/B/BC006/3

SON/ 28+/ 5'9" BE/ WORKING SR. ENGINEER/ SEEAKME ASSAMEE GOSWAMI, BRAHMIN FAMILY, CONTACT FATHER DIRECTLY : 9864981471. Mat/BP/9935/1

Assamese/ Brahmin/ good looking/ 24/53% Master Degree, working ptvt. service at Guwahati. Contact : 8822230669/ 757626601. Mat/GP/A1002/1

Beautiful/ Kalita/ 27/ 5'3" Master, Divorcee, good looking/ 24/53% Master Degree, working ptvt. service at Guwahati. Contact : 8739497523/ 9706036644. Mat/GP/A1002/1

Wanted suitable groom for a Bengali, Kalyana, 34 years, M.Com, MBA. Contact : 94355-9864/ 33153. Mat/GP/9968/1

Beautiful Bengali, General, 30/ 5'4" B.Tech (JEC) MBA, Engineer at Metro. Early marriage. Contact : 9854059693. Mat/GP/9971/

Assamese/ Brahmin/ good looking/ 24/53% Master Degree, working ptvt. service at Guwahati. Contact : 8739497523/ 9706036644. Mat/GP/A1002/1

Wanted suitable groom for a Bengali, Kalyana, 34 years, M.Com, MBA. Contact : 94355-9864/ 33153. Mat/GP/9968/1

Beautiful Bengali, General, 30/ 5'4" B.Tech (GU), Assistant Professor in Govt. University Assam. 98054059693. Mat/GP/9971/

Bengali, Kulin, Kayastha, Ghosh, BA passed, Computer, 26, 5'6", handsome, B.Tech (Engineering) well established business own Hotel & Market Complex in Guwahati. Good family background. "ADAMS" 9854063196. Mat/BP/9956/1

Muslim Assamee, 31, 5'9", handsome, B.Tech (Engineering) well established business own Hotel & Market Complex in Guwahati. Good family background. "ADAMS" 9854063196. Mat/BP/9956/1

Assamese Hindu (OBC), 30/ 58%, BE (Civil), Assam Engineering College Asstt. Engineer Govt. Department in Guwahati. Caste no bar, \*ADAMS\* 9854063196. Mat/BP/9956/1

Assamese Hindu (OBC), 30/ 58%, BE (Civil), Assam Engineering College Asstt. Engineer Govt. Department in Guwahati. Caste no bar, \*ADAMS\* 9854063196. Mat/BP/9956/1

Age 28, Ahom, B.Tech, MNC, Bangalore. (2) 30 Ahom, B.Tech/MBA, MNC, Bangalore. (3) 28 Koch, M.Tech, MNC, DELHI (4) 25, Kalita/ BE/ MBA, MNC, Mumbai (5) 30, Kalita/ BE/ M.S, service, Germany (6) 28, General, B.Tech/ MS, MNC, USA (7) 28, Koch, M.Tech, Lecturer, Jalandhar. Sandhani, 8011630847. Mat/GP/9657/1

Age 25 Brahmin, M.Sc, Delhi (Ph.D) ITI Mumbai (2) 25, Brahmin, B.Sc, Animation IITC, Mumbai (3) 30, Brahmin, M.BA, Bank Executive, Ghy (4) 24 Brahmin, doing Masscom, Ghy (2) 28 Brahmin, B.Tech/ MS, USA, Metro (6) 25 Brahmin, LLB, Bongaigaon, Sandhani, 8011630847. Mat/GP/9658/1

Age 30 Kalita LLB, Advocate, Ghy (Mangolik) (2) 28 Kalita Masters, persuing Ph.D, Ghy (3) 28, OBC, Masters, NET ... conducting Ph.D, Ghy (4) 30, Kalita, Graduate, Govt, job, Ghy (5) 32, General, B.Sc, SBI employee (6) 28, Ahom, M.BA, employee, Ghy, Sandhani, 8011630847. Mat/GP/9659/1

Alliance invited for Kalita boy 31, 5'8", BE/ MBA, working in Guwahati. Father Rd. Enginner. Contact : \*ADAMS\* (M) 9854063196. Mat/BP/9956/1

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Alliance invited for Kalita boy 3



**CAPSULE****Titan net up**

BENGALURU, May 13: Titan Company Ltd on Friday reported a Rs 201 crore net profit for the fourth quarter (Q4) of fiscal 2016-17, registering 7.5 per cent year-on-year (YoY) growth from Rs 187 crore in the same period of the previous fiscal. In a regulatory filing on the BSE, the city-based watches and leather goods maker's net profit for the fiscal under review (FY 2017) grew 9.2 per cent YoY to Rs 762 crore from Rs 698 crore in FY 2016. – IANS

**Idea Cellular**

NEW DELHI, May 13: Backed by a severe tariff war, telecom operator Idea Cellular today reported a consolidated loss of Rs 325.6 crore in the three-month period ended March 31, 2017. The company had posted a profit of Rs 449.2 crore in the same period a year ago. – PTI

**NBCC bags contract**

NEW DELHI, May 13: State-owned construction firm NBCC India has bagged Rs 315-crore contract in April. In a BSE filing, NBCC informed that "NBCC has secured the total business of Rs 315.24 crore in April 2017." – PTI

**Coffee Day**

NEW DELHI, May 13: Coffee Day Enterprises, which runs coffee chain under the brand name Cafe Coffee Day, today said its subsidiary Sclar Logistics will acquire majority stakes in two small-sized companies involved in logistics, and warehousing and distribution business. – PTI

**Charge on SBI mobile wallet use****Bank employees' body demands withdrawal of plan**

CHENNAI, May 13: The Bank Employees Federation of India has demanded that State Bank of India, the country's largest public sector bank, withdraw the proposed plan to levy charges on transactions made through bank's mobile wallet.

Last week, SBI had it would introduce a new facility through which every withdrawal of cash through ATMs using the bank's mobile wallet would attract a charge of Rs 25. BEFI Tamil Nadu unit general secretary CP Krishnan said the association wanted SBI to withdraw the plan "forthwith".

He pointed out that SBI which has already in control of 25 per cent of the total business in the banking industry, had increased it to 33 per cent, following the merger of five subsidiary banks from April 1, 2017.

Stating that SBI had changed its earlier stand from charging for transactions made through ATM to levying a charge for transactions through e-wallet, he said SBI had also planned to impose charges on exchange of soiled notes. – PTI

**Innovation fundamental for India to become digital economy: Intel**

NEW DELHI, May 13: Innovation is fundamental for India to become a successful digital economy, a top executive from Intel said here on Friday.

He was speaking at an event organised by Intel India, in association with the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF) to felicitate 29 Student Innovators who are to represent India at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) 2017 – the world's largest pre-college Science and Engineering Fair – in Los Angeles, US.

"As we stand today, we look at how the world is changing in terms of innovation. Skills of yesterday and skills of tomorrow are very different. The question is do we want our future generations to be mere users of the technology or become innovators?" Kishore Balaji, Director of Corporate Affairs Intel South Asia, told IANS on the sidelines of the event.



Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region (i/c), Prime Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh addressing the Annual Tourism Awards - 2017 function of 'Holiday IQ', in New Delhi on Friday. – UNI

**CERT-In alerts RBI, bourses against global ransomware attack**

NEW DELHI, May 13: Government's cyber security arm CERT-In has alerted vital institutions including RBI, stock markets and NPCI against the latest cyber attack that has infected thousands of systems globally.

It has issued a list of dos and don'ts to these agencies and advised installation of relevant "patches" to protect against any data breaches.

According to official sources, the government has made necessary arrangements to handle the situation.

No major incident of cyber attack has been brought to the notice of Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) yet," they added.

Reports suggest that nearly 100 countries, including India, were hit by the massive cyber attack.

A new ransomware named "Wannacry" is spreading globally that encrypts files on the infected Windows PCs. Once infected, users are asked to pay \$300 worth of cryptocurrency Bitcoin to retrieve their files.

As per the advisory issued, the ransomware infects other computers on the same network and is also spreading through malicious attachments to e-mails.

The cyber attack was first reported from Sweden, Britain and France, the US media outlets reported.

An increase in activity of the malware was noticed yesterday, secu-

rity software company Avast reported, adding that it "quickly escalated into a massive spreading."

Within hours, over 75,000 attacks have been detected worldwide, the company said. Meanwhile, the MalwareTech tracker detected over 100,000 infected systems over the past 24 hours.

In Spain, major companies including telecommunications firm Telefonica were infected. The most disruptive attacks were reported in the UK, where hospitals and clinics were forced to turn away patients after losing access to computers. Security firms have suggested that users immediately disconnect the infected device from the local network to contain the infection. – PTI

**Himanta urges trader community to migrate to GST regime without delay**

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 13: State Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma today urged the trader community to migrate quickly to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) fold to avoid any kind of hassles post-July 1, when the one-taxed regime will be implemented.

The migration of taxpayers to the GST regime through registration has been slow in Assam compared to some of the other States in the country, said the Minister.

Sarma while addressing a conference titled "GST Manthan" said that no one should remain under any kind of illusion about the need in GST rollout as the new tax regime is going to be a reality from July 1. The conference was organised by the Commissionerate of Taxes.

The Minister opined that the GST is not only the biggest reform ever from the taxation point of view, but also from the general administration point of view.

"The GST will virtually do away with any kind of human interface in tax collection and the

taxpayer will be exposed to a seamless tax regime," the Minister added, adding that the States like Assam has been ensured 14 per cent growth in the first five years of the GST Council.

Earlier speaking on the occasion, Dr Hasmukh Adhia, Revenue Secretary, Govt of India termed the GST as the biggest ever tax reform after independence and urged the taxpayers to migrate quickly to the GST regime by getting themselves enrolled.

"There are States where 85 per cent migration process has been recorded," he revealed.

**Immense scope for new airports in NE: Sinha**

NEW DELHI, May 13: There are immense possibilities for building new airports in the north-eastern States, Minister of State for Civil Aviation Jayant Sinha said on Friday.

In an interview to Zee News, the minister said there were immense possibilities for new airports in the North-east and that a new multimodal airport would come up in Guwahati, Assam, soon.

He also said that a new airport would be built in his constituency Hazaribagh in Jharkhand, according to a statement issued here by Zee Media Corporation Ltd. The first-time Member of Parliament also said that the Opposition should not think of coming to power before 2034. On the financial condition of Air India, he said a transformation plan for Air India was ready and while the company was ensuring operational benefits, the loan burden was a matter of worry.

Answering a question on fare hikes, Sinha said rise in fuel price and security expenses were the major reasons behind such hikes, the statement said. To a question on traffic congestion at Delhi and Mumbai airports, the minister replied that the pressure was on the whole network in Mumbai due to its only runway.

Considering the rising pressure on Delhi airport, he recognised the necessity of a new airport in western Uttar Pradesh and said it would not only decrease congestion in Delhi, but also benefit the industries of this region. – IANS

**No mass layoffs by Indian IT cos: Nasscom**

NEW DELHI, May 13: Industry body Nasscom on Friday sought to allay fears of mass layoffs in the Indian IT sector and claimed the industry continues to be a "net hirer" with over 1.5 lakh people being employed on net basis every year.

Stating that the reports of mass layoffs were incorrect, it said workforce realignment, linked to performance appraisal processes, is a regular feature every year.

"Skilling and workforce realignment are essential to remain competitive in international markets. It needs to be appreciated that such workforce realignment is a normal part of the internal processes of companies based on their own operational imperatives," Nasscom said in a statement.

It pointed out that no significant changes have been reported or observed this year.

"Such reports are incorrect. In fact the industry continues to be a net hirer with over 1.5 lakh people being employed on a net basis each year, though the focus is shifting from scale to skill," it said. Over the last few weeks, reports of layoffs across the sector have been making headlines. – PTI

**High NPA****RBI begins 'corrective action' against UCO Bank**

NEW DELHI, May 13: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has initiated a 'Prompt Corrective Action' against UCO Bank for high bad loans and negative return on assets.

The move will place various restrictions on the public sector lender including on fresh loans and dividend distribution.

"Reserve Bank of India (through a letter dated May 5) has initiated Prompt Corrective Action for UCO Bank in view of high net NPA and negative RoA (return on assets)," UCO Bank said in a regulatory filing.

The gross non-performing assets (NPAs) or bad loans of the bank grew to 17.12 per cent of gross advances at the end of 2016-17, from the earlier 15.43 per cent.

Earlier this week, the RBI had initiated a similar action in the case of IDBI Bank.

The UCO Bank further said these measures "aim at improving" performance of the bank and strengthening internal controls of the Bank. "These measures will not adversely impact performance of the bank," it said in the filing. – PTI

**Amul a bigger brand than other FMCGs: Sodhi**

KOLKATA, May 13: Amul is a bigger brand than others in the FMCG segment including transnationals, Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) Ltd Managing Director RS Sodhi claimed here today.

Sodhi, who was here to announce the official sponsorship of the New Zealand cricket team, said that Amul, a brand wholly owned by GCMMF, is also sold by 18,000 village cooperative societies outside the formal distribution channel in Gujarat.

"If that is taken into account, the sales turnover of Amul is over Rs 38,000 crore, including the GCMMF revenue of Rs 27,000 crore, which is the highest in the FMCG segment," Sodhi told reporters here. In its latest initiative Amul is planning to expand its chocolate production capacity by five times involving a cost of Rs 150 crore, he said.

GCMMF is also coming up with five new integrated plants in Gujarat, Mumbai, Pune and West Bengal, Sodhi said, adding that the annual capital expenditure was Rs 800 crore. Sodhi said there were also plans to enter the markets of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. – PTI

**Indian standards likely to be ready by 2018: TEC official**

BUSINESS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 13: Buoyed by a healthy total premium collection of Rs 6285 crore from Assam in FY 2016-17, which marks an over 50 per cent jump in total premium collection over the previous fiscal's figures, SBI General Insurance Company Ltd has announced its plans to create a strong presence in Assam and the rest of the North-east by offering varied insurance products customised to suit both personal and business needs of customers.

In the total premium collection of Rs 6285 crore for the State, motor insurance contributed 38 per cent, health 22 per cent, fire 21 per cent and personal accident insurance accounted for 18 per cent contribution.

Announcing this at a press meet here on Friday, Pushan Mahapatra, MD & CEO, SBI General Insur-

ance Company Ltd, said, "Insurance penetration is low in our country owing to lack of awareness and inaccessibility to insurance products. At SBI General Insurance, we are constantly bridging this gap by reaching out to our customers through our branches and the State Bank of India network."

A question on the company's plans for Assam and other north-eastern States, Mahapatra said, "We are focused on creating a strong presence in Assam and rest of the North-east by offering varied insurance products customised to suit both the personal and business needs of our customers in the region."

Some of the company's major products include Simple Health Policy, Individual Personal Accident Insurance Policy, Long-Term Two-wheeler Policy, Aranya Premier Policy, and Aranya Plus Policy.

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"India is getting future-ready

and has started serious work on identifying and formalising the standards for the rollout of 5G.

The standards are likely to be ready by 2018," said DP De,

Senior Deputy Director

General of Telecommunication

Engineering Centre (TEC), at

the 5G India 2017 Conference here.

"5G will be an overarching

umbrella of networks rather than

a replacement technology and will usher in significant economic, political and environmental benefits," observed Adrian Scrase, Chief Technical Officer, ETSI (European Telecommunications Standards Institute) and Head of 3GPP MCC (Mobile Competence Core).

According to industry representatives and sectoral experts, the key drivers for 5G rollout and adoption will be a massively anticipated increase in data consumption, fast increasing digitised life and services, growth of smart cities and the need to have an all-encompass-

ing network architecture which can utilise all available spectrum band rather than replace the existing networks, said an official on Friday.

"Connected devices, digitised lifestyle where almost every

voice phase to video consumption and the next phase will be virtuality which will demand humongous data availability and networks have to evolve to keep pace. This will be a real challenge."

Rajan S Mathews, Director General, Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), said: "Consumers side demand, resource deployment and commercial viability will be the main drivers for the operators for 5G rollout."

"It may be easy to rollout 5G in a country like Japan or South Korea, but India is a fundamen-

tally different market with diverse needs. There would be huge financial and structural challenges. We have to make an India-specific case for 5G," advised Mathews.

The statement said experts across the board agreed that the telecommunication services will migrate to 5G architecture sooner or later, and time has come to start serious preparation for standardisation and network upgrading.

"Making 5G India 2017 a truly global platform to conduct business, global players such as

Huawei, VMWare, Keysight

Technologies, Juniper, RedHat, Rohde & Schwarz, RV Solutions and TrustInSoft showcased and presented their innovative and cutting-edge technologies to 500-plus industry audience at the event," the statement added.

TEC is the nodal agency of the Department of Telecommunications in the Ministry of Communications, and is responsible for drawing up of standards, generic requirements, interface requirements, service requirements and specifications for telecom products, services and networks. – IANS

Riju unfurls  
107-foot-tall  
Tricolour at  
Wagah border

ATTARI (Amritsar), May 13: Union minister Kiren Riju today unfurled a 107-foot-tall Tricolour near the Indo-Pak border at Attari-Wagah here today.

After unfurling the flag at the integrated checkpoint here, the Minister of State for Home told reporters he was here to take stock of security arrangements, besides inspecting the checkpoint and meeting with BSF officers. The minister said he would also interact with traders engaged in the import and export business with Pakistan and hear out their trade-related problems.

To a query on frequent incidents of stone-pelting incidents in Jammu and Kashmir, Riju blamed "some elements sitting in Pakistan" which have created WhatsApp groups to create trouble. "Indian intelligence agencies are monitoring them very closely and will shortly do the needful in this regard," said Riju.

On the killing and mutilation of two soldiers, he said the Government would always extend support to their families. Riju said a scamer would be installed at the checkpoints to scan goods being imported from Pakistan. - PTI

### Shahi Imam of Bengal mosque removes red beacon

KOLKATA, May 13: The Shahi Imam of Tipu Sultan Masjid here today removed the red beacon from his vehicle, two days after asserting that it was his "right" to use it.

"No, there was no political pressure on me to remove the red light. How will political parties put pressure on me? I am the Shahi Imam and will follow the law," Matlina Noor-ul Rehman Barkati said.

A senior officer of Kolkata Traffic Police said that the Imam had removed the red beacon of his own volition. On Thursday, the clergyman had said: "I am a religious leader and I have been using the red beacon for decades. I do not follow the orders of the Centre. Who are they to order me? In Bengal, only the orders of the State Government are effective. I will use the red beacon."

The Centre, seeking to put an end to the 'VIP culture,' had decided that red beacons would be removed from all vehicles, including that of the Prime Minister, from May 1.

A police complaint was filed on Wednesday against Barkati for defying the Central Government's order. State Library and Mass Education Minister Maulana Siddiqui Chaudhury criticised Barkati for defying the order, saying that a Shahi Imam does not require a beacon. "Such an act is against Islam as it does not support violation of law," he said. - PTI

## India reiterates political support to Palestinian cause

NEW DELHI, May 13: On the eve of the visit of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to New Delhi, India today reiterated its "political support" to the Palestinian cause and said it continued to assist developmental projects there.

The External Affairs Ministry said the visit, during which Abbas would hold extensive talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, would provide an opportunity for reviewing the entire gamut of bilateral relations, the Middle East peace process, and regional and international issues.

The statement assumes sig-

nificance given that there have been commentaries on the increasing proximity between the Modi Government and Israel which may have a bearing on New Delhi's relations with Palestine. In July, Modi will travel to Israel, the first Indian Prime Minister to do so.

During his visit to India, Abbas will visit C-DAC (the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing) in Noida on May 15 to forge cooperation between the Palestine and Indian IT industry for the Palestine-India Techno Park being built by India. - PTI

## 2 civilians die in Pak shelling

JAMMU, May 13: Two civilians were killed and three injured in heavy shelling by the Pakistan Army along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district today. It is the third incident of ceasefire violation by Pakistan since May 10 and so far, three persons have died and six have been injured.

Schools along the LoC in Rajouri were today shut for an indefinite period as a precautionary measure and steps have been taken to evacuate residents of border villages, officials said. The Indian Army was retaliating "strongly and effectively," PRO Ministry of Defence (MoD), Jammu, Lt Col Man-

ish Mehta said. He said the Pakistani Army initiated indiscriminate firing of small arms, automatic weapons and 82 mm and 120 mm mortars from 7.15 am along the LoC in Nowshera sector.

"Two persons have been killed and three others injured in the firing and shelling by Pakistani Army in Nowshera," Deputy Commissioner of Rajouri Shahid Iqbal Choudhary told PTI. People have migrated to safer places from five flats near the LoC which have been targeted, the DC said.

Pakistani troops are targeting Jangarh, Bhawani, Laam belts, officials said. All schools situated along the LoC in Ra-

jouri district were closed on May 11 for two days after a woman was killed and two others, including her husband, were injured in Pakistani shellings on the intervening night of May 10-11.

"We have now closed the schools along the LoC in Rajouri district for an indefinite period," Choudhary said. Schools have also been shut along the LoC in Balakote sector in Poonch and people have been asked not to move out in border areas.

A BSF man had also suffered minor injuries when Pakistani Rangers yesterday violated the ceasefire along the International Border. An evacuation plan has

been activated for shifting over 1,500 people from various border hamlets to safer places.

The Government had last month said that Pakistani security forces had violated the ceasefire 268 times in the last one year. Nine persons were killed in these incidents. Replying to a question in the Rajya Sabha, Minister of State for Defence Subhash Bamhe had said that between April 2016 and March 2017, the maximum of 88 violations was witnessed in November 2016, followed by 78 in October 2016 and 22 in March this year.

The ceasefire between India and Pakistan came into force in November 2003. - PTI

## NCERT to replace map depicting Aksai Chin as disputed area

NEW DELHI, May 13: The NCERT has decided to replace a map of East and South East Asia in a Class XII Political Science textbook which depicted Aksai Chin as a disputed area.

The decision was taken following several news on the social media, highlighting the issue in the textbook titled *Contemporary World Politics*, which was published in 2007, and has not been revised since then, but only reprinted.

According to the NCERT (National Council of Educational Research and Training),

the map was prepared by the University of Texas and comes with a disclaimer that the boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative.

"Later in this chapter, the topic under the heading 'India-China Relations' refers to competing territorial claims in Arunachal Pradesh and Aksai Chin. Aksai Chin is shown as an integral part of India in the map of India and its neighbours on page 149. However, the map on page 56 will be replaced with a map of South-East Asia in the reprint edition," the NCERT added in a statement. - PTI

Actor Vivek Oberoi donates 25 flats to kin of slain CRPF men

NEW DELHI, May 13: Actor Vivek Oberoi has donated 25 flats to the families of CRPF jawans killed in the line of duty. The flats are located in a residential real estate project owned by the actor in Thane, Maharashtra.

A senior Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) officer said that while four flats have already been allotted to the families of slain jawans, including three killed in a Naxal attack in Sukma, Chhattisgarh on March 11, the remaining 21 would be handed over to the paramilitary force soon. He added that preference would be given to jawans from Maharashtra as the flats were in that State. The CRPF thanked the actor for the gesture its official Twitter handle.

The officer said the names of 21 more slain jawans from Maharashtra would soon be given to Oberoi's company for final allotment of the flats. The flats are located in two buildings – Karm Residency and Karm Panchatva – in Thane district, near Mumbai. - PTI

lined to indicate the dispute. The Indian claim over the area is mentioned.

"Later in this chapter, the topic under the heading 'India-China Relations' refers to competing territorial claims in Arunachal Pradesh and Aksai Chin. Aksai Chin is shown as an integral part of India in the map of India and its neighbours on page 149. However, the map on page 56 will be replaced with a map of South-East Asia in the reprint edition," the NCERT added in a statement. - PTI

## J&K Police busts LeT module

JAMMU, May 13: The Jammu and Kashmir Police today claimed to have busted a module of terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), which had been trying to revive militancy in the Chenab valley, with the arrest of seven persons, including an SPV and a former Territorial Army personnel.

The module was trying to revive militancy in the Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban region of Jammu and Kashmir. Inspector General of Police (IGP) of

Jammu Zone SDS Jamwal told reporters here that the arrests were made by a special investigation team (SIT) formed after the attack on a police post in Doda on May 8, in which one special police officer (SPSO) was killed and another injured.

Based on intelligence details, the SIT had picked up some suspects and subsequently apprehended Abdul Rashid Harga alias Abdullah, a resi-

dent of Tanta.

Rashid had been an active member of LeT between 2001 and 2008 and had later surrendered. He was again arrested in 2013 and was released on bail in 2016.

"After sustained interrogation, Rashid confessed to his involvement in the (Doda) fire incident and disclosed the names of his two associates – his younger brother Showket Ali and Akbar Magayat of Tanta," the IGP said. - PTI

He added that the names

of 20 more slain jawans from

Maharashtra would soon be

given to Oberoi's company

for final allotment of the

flats. The flats are located in

two buildings – Karm Resi-

dency and Karm Panchatva – in Thane

district, near Mumbai. - PTI

## SC constitution bench to examine WhatsApp privacy policy from tomorrow



of law which were required to be dealt with in the matter.

Referring to the WhatsApp's new privacy policy, Salve had said that someone could snoop into the messages, videos and photos which a user shares or circulates on the instant messaging platform. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, representing WhatsApp, had countered the submissions, saying they were protecting privacy of users as they have an end-to-end encryption technology which cannot be looked at by a third person.

Senior advocate KK Venugopal, representing Facebook, had also filed an application raising the preliminary issues on the maintainability of the plea.

During the hearing, Salve had read

out the questions of law submitted by him, which included "whether Article 21 read with Articles 14, 19 and 25 confer upon all persons the right to privacy in respect of communications which are private in nature, irrespective of the medium of communication and confidentiality."

"Whether Article 19, read with Articles 14, 19 and 25 confer upon all persons the right to privacy in respect of all personal communications as well as personal data – financial and otherwise," he had asked.

While Article 14 relates to equality before the law, Article 19 pertains to freedom of speech and expression. Similarly, Article 21 and 25 relates to right to life and freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion respectively. Salve had said if the answer to the two questions were in the affirmative, the court would have to deliberate on whether any unauthorised access to such communications or personal matters or particulars by any agency without legal authority violated Article 21 read with Articles 14, 19 and 25.

The other questions suggested by

Salve were "whether the right to privacy, in Article 21 read with Articles 14, 19 and 25, extends not merely to the state and its agencies, but also to private agencies who, in the course of their business, have access to such information made available to them on condition of secrecy and confidentiality."

"Whether service providers, particularly monopolies and quasi monopolies, who operate services incidental and ancillary to telecommunications and in the course of which they carry messages of private persons, or have access to particulars of private persons, are under a constitutional duty to protect and preserve the privacy of private persons."

He had also said if the answer to these two questions were in the affirmative, the court has to deal with the issue "whether the state is under an obligation to protect the constitutional rights of persons, to frame appropriate rules and regulations to ensure that those agencies who operate telecommunications and allied services function in a manner that sufficiently protects and safeguards the constitutional rights to privacy of private persons." - PTI

## Woman gang-raped, killed in Haryana

SONIPAT (Haryana), May 13: A 23-year-old woman was abducted, gang-raped and her brutally mutilated body dumped at a place where dogs bit off the lower portion of her body, police officials said.

The woman, learnt to be a divorcee, had been kidnapped from Sonipat on May 9 and taken to Rohtak in a car, the police said. The victim's parents had lodged a missing complaint at the Sonipat Police Station.

The horrifying crime, which occurred just days after the Supreme Court held that the culprits in the Nirbhaya case will hang, prompted Sonipat Police sub-inspector Ajay Malik, it appeared that the victim had been raped first and then the suspect hit her with a brick, smashing her face. She had grievous head injuries, the police official added.

"Two persons Sumit and Vikas, have been arrested in

hasten off the face and the lower portion of her body, police officials said.

The woman, learnt to be a

divorcee, had been kidnapped

from Sonipat on May 9 and taken

to Rohtak in a car, the police

said. The victim's parents had

lodged a missing complaint at

the Sonipat Police Station.

The sheen brutality of the

crime is reminiscent of the

Nirbhaya incident in Delhi,

which triggered a nationwide

outrage. In a recent order, the

Supreme Court had held that

the Nirbhaya killers would

hang to death.

Following the incident in Haryana, Congress president Sonia Gandhi today expressed deep shock and outrage over the brutal gang-rape and murder of the young woman in Rohtak and highlighted the need for "revisting" the issue of women safety.

"This savage and bone-chilling incident has shocked the conscience of the nation, reminding each one of us of the crying need for revisiting the important issue of women's safety and security," Gandhi said in a statement.

Haryana, the State where the incident took place, is ruled by the Manohar Lal Khattar-led BJP Government. - PTI

## Bhumi pujan performed for ONGC super-specialty hospital

ANN SERVICE

SIVASAGAR, May 13: Setting aside all speculations regarding the ONGC Multi-specialty Hospital at Rajibbari near here, Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Union Minister for Defence Subhash Bhamre had said that between April 2016 and March 2017, the maximum of 88 violations was witnessed in November 2016, followed by 78 in October 2016 and 22 in March this year.

The sheen brutality of the crime is reminiscent of the Nirbhaya incident in Delhi, which triggered a nationwide outrage. In a recent order, the Supreme Court had held that the Nirbhaya killers would hang to death.

It was attended among others by Dinesh K Sarai, Chairman & Managing Director,

government at the Centre is committed to bring in the much-needed changes for equality, equity and social justice.

Sonowal, in his speech, said that the Narendra Modi-led government has shown earnest interest in developing the NE and Assam in particular. He thanked the Central Minister on behalf of the people of the district and urged all to cooperate with the government to root out corruption and rebuild Assam.

It may be mentioned here that the foundation stone for the super-specialty hospital was laid by the then Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources Veerappa Moily in presence of the then Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi on November 17, 2013.

## Oil industry ...

(Contd from page 1)  
Numaligarh Refinery from 3 million tonnes to 9 million tonnes and supply oil from the region to the neighbouring countries. Asked about Digboi Refinery, the oldest in Asia, the minister said that the refinery will continue to run.

On LPG connections, the Union Minister said out of 70 lakh LPL families in Assam only some 30 lakh families were connected with LPG. He said that in the next two years no household would remain unconnected with LPG.

The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUJ) was launched by Chief Minister Narendra Modi on March 13. The scheme aims to provide subsidised LPG connections to BPL households. It provides subsidy of Rs 1,600 to the women beneficiaries, comprising security deposit for 14.2kg cylinder, domestic pressure regulator, Suraksha pipe, domestic gas consumer card and administration charges. The Government of Assam has come forward to contribute Rs 1,000 per PMUJ connection to the beneficiaries.

Sonowal said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is laying special emphasis on the advancement of the Northeast region. "Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Assam will soon get five bridges over the Brahmaputra, besides Express Highways on both sides of the river.

"Effort is being made to put

the region at par with the rest of the developed States in the country," said the Chief Minister.

Sonowal also criticised former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh for neglecting the State despite being a representative of Assam. Assam was deprived of oil royalty during the Congress-led government, but Modi ensured that Assam received the royalty it deserved and released over Rs 7,000 crore as royalty to the State, he said. He also thanked the Prime Minister for sanctioning funds for the railway track doubling and electrification works.

Rajen Gohain, Union Minister of State for Railways, Riron Daimary, Minister for Food and Civil Supply and Consumer Affairs and PHE, Rameswar Teli, Dibrugarh MP and MLAs of Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts attended the function.

## NABARD ...

(Contd from page 1)  
vulnerable areas of the interstate borders to prevent free movement of militants. He said the cooperation with the neighbouring states has been improved to deal with militancy.

Salah said though the Songbijit faction of the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) is lying low for some time after the security forces managed to neutralise and nab most of its members, the forces cannot lower their guard till the outfit is completely wiped out.

A few senior leaders of the NDFB(S), including G Bidai, are still at large and it is reported that they are constantly on the move along the Assam-Bhutan border areas. Though a number of militants of the outfit are still in the camps in Myanmar, the leaders have not been able to push the militants into Assam due to constant pressure maintained by security forces.

Five different teams of Assam Police are believed to be on the job to locate the four miscreants who broke into the jewellery shop and decamped with the looted ornaments.

**Drug kingpin ...**  
(Contd from page 1)

From Manipur and is facing charges of some serious offences. Although police have sought a five-day police remand for both the arrested accused, the court remanded them to judicial custody. Meanwhile, even after four days have passed, police is yet to recover the looted ornaments although it has arrested two persons in connection with the case.

Five different teams of Assam Police are believed to be on the job to locate the four miscreants who broke into the jewellery shop and decamped with the looted ornaments.

**Paul, others ...**  
(Contd from page 1)  
Other arrested members of the APSC, Samedur Rahman and Basanta Kumar Doley were also questioned in similar fashion with the ACS officials for several hours.

The accused members of the APSC reportedly confessed to

have received money from the three ACS officials during questioning and accordingly statements of all the accused were recorded. This is the second time that Paul and other accused who are presently in judicial custody were jointly questioned alongside the three ACS officials (presently in police custody) by the Gauhati Court on May 11.

The arrested ACS officials are Circle Officer Sipajhar Amit Jyoti Sarma, Circle Officer Haleem, Bhaskar Chandra Deba Sarma and Circle Officer, Nalbari, Bhaskar Dutta Das. NABARD launched the water campaign on March 22 coinciding with the World Water Day to cover one lakh villages in water-stressed areas where groundwater is over-exploited. The campaign will reach out to 200 districts in 21 states across the country. The whole campaign has been designed and is being implemented by NABARD in collaboration with the Centre for Environment Education.



## Organic advantage

One should opt for organic soaps and shampoos which do not take away the natural elements from the skin, suggest experts

**S**ave your skin and body from the harmful chemical based daily care products. Opt for organic soaps and shampoos which do not take away the natural elements from your skin but enhance it in a safe way, say experts.

Amit Sarda, Managing Director, Soulflower and Anupama Malhotra, Founder, Vert (both brands produce natural formula skincare products) have pointed out the pros of using organic soaps and shampoos:

\* Organic shampoos and soaps are manufactured in a smoke-free environment and are 100 percent vegetarian that contain no animal fat.

Organic products are made from the derivatives of plants, its fruits or even flowers and they're completely free from SLS or other chemical preservatives. So there is zero chance that someone would suffer because of using a natural product.

Conventional soaps and shampoos may feel effective but an understanding of the ingredients list on the packaging may inform you that they are in fact more harmful than good. The most common of these chemicals that do a lot of harm to the body is sodium lauryl sulfate or sodium lauryl sulfate (SLS).

You may also find on the list other chemicals

like triclosan which is essentially a harmful pesticide and dioxane which is a carcinogen and which really are causing a slow and permanent damage to your skin.

\* They are not tested on animals.

In general quality is the primary difference between organic and conventional products. Organic products gently infuse your hair follicles and skin cells with natural minerals, herbal extracts, and oils.

Natural ingredients such as organic tea tree can help address skin conditions such as dandruff and scalp irritation.

\* When you use organic shampoos and conditioners, you're also helping the environment by letting biodegradable substances go down the drain instead of harsh chemicals.

\* Chemical-based products have a strong tendency to scrape out the natural oil from the scalp and cause damage by making hair strands dry, dull and fall-prone. A natural shampoo will never rid the scalp of its oils that are inherently necessary for providing nutrition to the hair.

It will only enhance the texture of the hair and where deficient, it will provide the required nourishment for a strong hair and a healthy scalp.—IANS

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### Kids

CN

Teen Titans Go

Ben 10

Dragon Ball Z

HOGO

Chhota Bheem

Mighty Raju

Barbie

Barbie

Cool Soddy Doo

Chhota Bheem

Tinku's Castle

Teenage Mutant Ninja

Des the Explorer

MAO

nick

Ninja Hattie

Mousi Maa

Mousi Maa

OGG & the

Shark

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

# Scores of countries hit by cyber attack using stolen NSA bug

SEATTLE, May 13: Nearly hundred countries, including India, were hit by a massive cyber attack which experts said was carried out with the help of "cyber weapons" stolen from the US' National Security Agency.

The cyber attack was first reported from Sweden, Britain and France, US media outlets reported.

An increase in activity of the malware was noted yesterday, security software company Avast reported, adding that it "quickly escalated into a massive spreading".

Within hours, over 75,000 attacks have been detected worldwide, the company said. Meanwhile, the MalwareTech tracker detected over 100,000 infected systems over the past 24 hours.

Security researchers with Kaspersky Lab have recorded more than 45,000 attacks in 99 countries, including the UK, Russia, Ukraine, India, China,



Italy, and Egypt. In Spain, major companies including telecommunications firm Telefónica were infected.

The most disruptive attacks were reported in the UK, where hospitals and clinics were forced to turn away patients after losing access to computers.

The US Computer Emergency Readiness Team (USCERT) under the Department of Homeland Security said it has received multiple reports of WannaCry ransomware infections in many countries around the world.

The ransomware is a type of malicious software that infects a computer and restricts users' access to it until a ransom is paid to unlock it. It demands users pay USD 300 worth of cryptocurrency Bitcoin to retrieve their files, though it warns that the payment will be raised after a certain amount of time. The malware spreads through email.

Individuals and organisations are discouraged from paying the ransom, as this does not guarantee access will be restored,

the USCERT said. According to it, ransomware spreads easily when it encounters unpatched or outdated software.

A Microsoft spokeswoman said that the company was aware of the reports and was looking into the situation.

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, the malware believed to be behind the attacks encrypts data on infected computers and essentially holds it for ransom. "Known as WannaCry or Wanna Decryptor, the so-called ransomware programme homes in on vulnerabilities in Microsoft Windows systems," the daily said.

In a statement, international shipper FedEx said it had been badly hit by the cyber attack.

"Like many other companies, FedEx is experiencing interference with some of our Windows-based systems caused by malware. We are implementing remediation steps as quickly as possible," it said. - PTI

## G7 FMs talk cyber security in wake of attacks

BARI, May 13: G7 finance ministers turned their focus Saturday to combating cyber crime in what Italy's Pier Carlo Padoa described as an "unfortunately very timely" discussion.

The ministers were expected to commit to stepping up international cooperation on the issue after a global onslaught that hit computer systems in nearly 100 countries yesterday.

The ministers from the group of seven wealthy democracies will say that cyber incidents represent a growing threat to their economies and that tackling them should be a priority, Italian officials said.

The talks, scheduled before Friday's events, focused particularly on the potential threat to the global financial system in the event of hackers being able to infiltrate the computer systems that run the global banking system, capital and equity markets. - AFP

## Russian banks, ministries hit by viral attacks

MOSCOW, May 13: Russia's central bank said today the country's banking system was hit by a mass cyberattack, as several ministries and the railway system also reported attempted breaches.

The central bank's IT attack monitoring centre "detected mass distribution of harmful software of the first and second type," according to a central bank statement quoted by Russian news agencies.

"It did not detect instances of compromise," of the systems of the country's banks, the central bank added.

Yesterday, attacks were reported by various Russian government agencies, including the interior ministry, which said 1,000 of its computers were hit by a virus, which was then localised.

Around the world, computers were affected in dozens of countries by the spreading WannaCry ransomware which locks users' files and demands money to restore them.

Russian health ministry aide Nikita Odintsov said on Twitter that the ministry had "quickly thwarted" the attempted attacks.

Russia's largest bank Sberbank said in a statement carried by news agencies that its systems "detected in time attempts to penetrate bank infrastructure".

"The bank's network has provisions for defending from such attacks. There was no penetration of the system by viruses," the statement said.

The Russian energy ministry said it had "blocked all attempts of viral attacks on its computers," news agencies reported.

Russia's state railway monopoly Russian Railways said it had also "localised" an attack, without elaborating on the extent of damage. "Passenger and cargo transportation is carried on as usual," it said. - AFP

Europol says cyberattack is of 'unprecedented level'

THE HAGUE, May 13: The wave of cyberattacks wreaking havoc across the globe is "at an unprecedented level," European Union's law enforcement agency Europol said today.

The attacks will require a complex international investigation to identify the culprits, the agency, which is working with countries and companies hit by the attacks, said in a statement.

Europol teams are seeking to mitigate the threat and assist victims", it said.

Computer networks were struck at hospitals in Britain, Russia's interior ministry, the Spanish telecom giant Telefónica and the US delivery firm FedEx along with many other organisations.

Friday's wave of cyberattacks apparently exploited a flaw exposed in documents leaked from the US National Security Agency. - AFP

## 20 killed in Turkey bus crash

ISTANBUL, May 13: At least 20 people died and 11 were injured today when a bus carrying Turkish tourists plunged off a road near the southwestern sea resort of Marmaris.

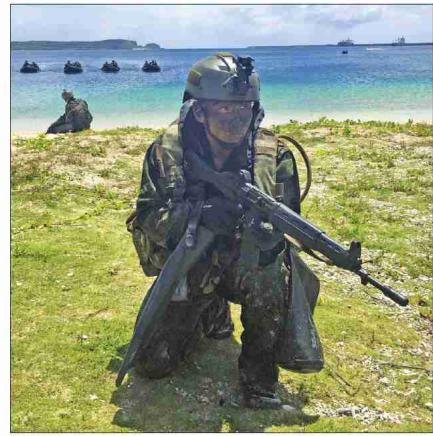
"Sadly, we have had 20 fatalities and 11 other seriously injured," said Amir Cicek, the governor of Mugla province, who said the bus was carrying about 40 people, many of whom were women.

The accident occurred in a hilly road and the bus plunged into a precipice after smashing through the crash barrier.

Television reports showed that the bus landed on a lower section of the road, and Cicek told NTV television that an investigation was underway.

"The bus's brakes may have malfunctioned," he said.

The Hurriyet newspaper quoted Marmaris mayor Ali Acar as indicating an "error by the driver", without giving further details. - AFP



Japanese Self Defence Force troops conduct a landing drill as a part of a joint amphibious exercise with US, British and French forces in Guam, Western Pacific on Saturday. - UNI

## Osama's son bent on avenging his father's death: ex-FBI agent

WASHINGTON, May 13: Osama bin Laden's son Hamza is poised to lead a stronger, larger al Qaeda and is "bent on avenging" his father's death, according to a former FBI agent familiar with the personal letters seized in a dramatic US raid that killed the al Qaeda leader in Pakistan's Abbottabad.

Hamza, about 25, now wrote those letters when he was 22 and had not seen his father bin Laden in several years. Ali Soufan, the former FBI agent who was the bureau's lead investigator of al Qaeda after the 9/11 attacks, told CBS News the letters reveal Hamza to be a young man who adores his father and wants to carry on his murderous ideology.



The letters collected in the raid by helicopter-borne US Navy SEALs at a secure high-walled compound in Abbottabad, a garrison town north of the Pakistani capital, Islamabad, in May 2011 have now been declassified.

Only a handful of US military and senior officials around then US President Barack Obama knew of the raid that was reportedly in the planning for months.

Hamza also wrote this: "I consider myself to be forged in steel. The path of jihad for the sake of God is what we live."

Soufan said Hamza's potential as a leader was recognised years ago when he was still a boy. He was used in propaganda videos, sometimes holding a gun.

"He was a poster kid for the al Qaeda... And for members of al Qaeda, who were indoctrinated with these propaganda videos, he means a lot to them," Soufan said. - PTI



Pope Francis waves as he boards a plane for his pastoral trip to Portugal at the Leonardo da Vinci-Fiumicino Airport in Rome, on Friday. - UNI

## Pope makes Fatima child shepherds saints

FATIMA, May 13: Two young, barely-literate shepherds who had visions of the Virgin Mary 100 years ago in Fatima, a Portuguese site now a global draw for pilgrims, were declared saints today by Pope Francis.

In an emotional outdoor service on a packed, 400,000-capacity esplanade at the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Fatima, Catholic worshippers from all over the world sang and looked on, some crying, while many more watched the canonisation on giant screens from adjacent streets.

"We declare the blissful Francisco Marto and Jacinta Santos," the Argentine pontiff said in front of the white basilica where the siblings are buried, two giant portraits of the little shepherds hanging in the background. When the two impoverished siblings first reportedly had visions of the Virgin Mary 100 years ago on the spot where the sanctuary now lies, they were likely far from

imaging they would one day join the ranks of prominent saints like Mother Teresa.

The Virgin Mary is said to have appeared six times between May and October 1917 to Jacinta, then 7, Francisco, 9 and their cousin Lucia, 10.

She apparently shared three prophecies with the trio at a period marked by the ravages of World War I, which the Church believes included a vision of hell and a warning of a second major conflict.

The third secret, which was only made public by the Vatican in 2000, foretold the attempted assassination in Rome of Pope John Paul II on May 13, 1981, the anniversary of the first apparition in Fatima.

Pope Benedict XVI later gave an updated interpretation of this third prophecy, saying it could include the suffering of the Church following sexual abuse scandals that shook the Vatican.

Francisco died in 1919 and his sister Jacinta the following year in the Spanish Influenza. - AFP

'Syria army seizes airbase from ISIS'

BEIRUT, May 13: Syria's army captured an airbase from the ISIS group today, after more than two months of fierce clashes, a military source and monitor said.

The Jarrah airbase had been under ISIS control since January 2014, when the jihadists seized it from rebels who had captured it a year earlier.

"Regime forces took control of the Jarrah military airport after heavy fighting," said Rami Abdel Rahman, director of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitor.

"The majority of the jihadists have withdrawn, and regime forces are carrying out clearing operations in the airport and engaged in limited clashes with remaining ISIS elements," he added.

Syria's army launched an offensive against ISIS in eastern Aleppo province in mid-January, backed by Russia. So far it has taken control of more than 170 villages and towns in the area, according to the Britain-based monitor. - AFP

## LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT



### Parliament Museum

Experience The Spirit of India's Democratic Heritage

Parliament Museum is a unique experience which interacts, speaks and involves the visitors through period settings, sound-light-video synchronization, large screen interactive multi-media and immersive visualization with multi-screen panoramic projections, virtual reality and animatronics.



#### Entry Regulated

Timings: 11.00 AM to 5.00 PM

Last Admission: 4.30 PM

(Sundays, Mondays and Public Holidays closed)

1. Entry Ticket '10/- per head

2. Entry free for school children

(Groups with prior booking)

3. Cameras, mobiles, bags, etc. not allowed.

Information in Braille available for the visually challenged

For further details and guided tours please contact: Tel: 2335318/5225/5236

Parliament Museum, Parliament Library Building, Pandit Pant Marg (Opposite Gurudwara Rakab Ganj) New Delhi -110 001

Email: museum-ls@sanads.nic.in Website: www.parlimentmuseum.org



\* Parking for Parliament Officers (Leave in Front of Gurudwara Rakab Ganj)

\*\* Bus Stop No. 10 (Opposite Gurudwara Rakab Ganj) is the gate of every building for visitors.



Chelsea striker Michy Batshuayi scores the winning goal against West Bromwich Albion during their English Premier League match at The Hawthorns Stadium in West Bromwich, on Friday.

## Batshuayi delivers Chelsea Premier League title

WEST BROMWICH (United Kingdom), May 13: Substitute Michy Batshuayi's dramatic 82nd-minute winner gave Chelsea the Premier League title following a hard-earned 1-0 victory at West Bromwich Albion on Friday.

The Belgian striker's late goal at The Hawthorns took Antonio Conte's side 10 points clear of second-place Tottenham Hotspur, who have only nine points left to play for.

It is Chelsea's second title win in three seasons, their sixth in total, and comes at the end of former Juventus and Italy coach Conte's first season as manager.

"This is a great achievement for the players," Conte told Sky Sports in a pitch-side interview after breaking away from his players' jubilant celebrations.

"I thank them for their commitment and work-rate. They showed me a great attitude to try to do something great this season. After this win we must be happy; we must be pleased."

"It wasn't easy for me to arrive in

England and try different habits, a different language and inherit players after a bad season."

Batshuayi, the understudy to Diego Costa, had only been on the pitch for seven minutes when he scored the winning goal – his first in the league since August.

"It's good. It's the best day for Chelsea today," said Batshuayi, who arrived from Marseille last year at €33.2 million (£24.8 million), 39.1 million euros) transferred.

"Everybody is happy. It's great to take the trophy."

Chelsea midfielder Cesc Fabregas said: "It thought it was going to be one of those days. We had so many chances there and then we got a bit nervous."

The beauty of football: a player who didn't play a lot scores the winning goal for the championship."

Conte, who claimed three Serie A titles as Juventus coach, has restored Chelsea to the winners' circle by rebuilding

from the chaotic end of Jose Mourinho's second reign.

Two years after Mourinho led Chelsea to the title, Conte has stitched the London club back together after dressing-room unity unravelled under Mourinho during a horrendous title defence last season.

The Italian's side finally broke through West Brom's stubborn resistance with eight minutes remaining and will now chase the double when they face Arsenal in the FA Cup final on May 27.

Chelsea were almost stunned inside 30 seconds as West Brom created the game's first chance.

Darren Fletcher's lofted pass found Salomon Rondon and his flicked header drew a smart save from Thibaut Courtois.

Chelsea quickly began applying pressure, but West Brom had a huge chance on the counter-attack when James McClean seized on a loose pass and raced 50 yards into Chelsea territory. – AFP

## Windies crawl to 218/5 against Pakistan

ROSEAU (Dominica), May 13: West Indies replicated their opponents' dour batting effort in crawling to 218 for five off 100 overs in reply to Pakistan's first innings total of 376 at stumps on day three of the third and final Test at Windsor Park in Dominica on Friday.

Leg-spinner Yasir Shah lifted his series-leading wicket tally to 20 with three victims in the morning session but the home side then showed resolve with all-rounders Roston Chase leading the defiance in a topscore of 60 before being forced to retire hurt in the final session.

Struck painfully on the right elbow attempting a pull at Mohammad Amir operating with the second new ball, the lanky right-hander's departure after 190 minutes at the crease gave Pakistan a measure of optimism which was heightened when Vishal Singh fell leg-over to Mohammad Abbas to make the score 189 for five.

However captain Jason Holder, despite sustaining a painful blow as well on his left shoulder, held firm with Shane Dowrich and the pair will resume on the fourth morning heartened by the prospect of Chase returning at the fall of the next wicket to continue his innings. For all of Shah's perseverance and the efforts of the fast-medium bowlers it was Azhar Ali's part-time leg-spin which broke a stubborn 55-run fourth-wicket partnership between Chase and Shoaib Hope in mid-afternoon.

Having batted gamely for almost three hours, Hope misjudged a drive off the very last ball of the post-lunch session to be caught for 29. He was a model of correctness and discipline until his critical error of judgement.

In contrast, Chase played more positively. Nevertheless both found run-scoring difficult and had moments of good fortune.

**SCORECARD**

**Pakistan 1st Innings:** 376  
**West Indies 1st Innings: (overnight 14/0)**  
K Brathwaite c wkpr Ahmed b Shah 29, K Powell c Ali b Shah 31, S Hameem c/wkpr Ahmed b Shah 17, T Hope c Miskhan b Azhar Ali 29, R Chand b Shah 60, V Singh b Abbas 1, S Dowrich not out 20, J Holder not out 60, 2-2, 3-2, 4-2 Total (For 5 wkt, 100 overs) 218. Fall of wicket: 1-43, 2-69, 3-97, 4-152, 5-189. **Bowling:** M Amir 23-11-24-0 (1w), M Abbas 21-6-43-1, Y Shah 33-4-108-3, H Ali 17-2-42-0 (1nb, 1w). **Aff:** A Ali 6-1-5-1, – AFP

## Bajrang, Sarita enter gold medal round

NEW DELHI, May 13: Bajrang Punia and Sarita entered the gold medal rounds of their respective weight categories after posting impressive victories on the penultimate day of the Asian Wrestling Championship, here today.

Both Bajrang (men's 65kg) and Sarita (women's 58kg) have ensured at least a silver medal each for the country.

The Indian women wrestlers have registered their best ever performance in the Asian Championship in this edition with five medals, including three silver so far.

In the 2003 edition, India had won a total of five medals that included two silver and three bronze.

En route the final of women's 58kg, Sarita put up a dominating show and outplayed Uzbekistan's Asem Seylametova (405 runs), this year's biggest buy Ben Stokes (316 runs and 12 wickets) and former India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni (240 runs), in their ranks. – PTI

## IPL Points Table

Teams	P	W	L	Rts	Net RR
Mumbai Indians	13	9	4	18	+0.610
Sunrisers Hyderabad	14	8	5	17	+0.599
Kolkata Knight Riders	13	8	5	16	+0.572
Rising Pune Supergiant	13	6	5	16	-0.983
Kings XI Punjab	13	7	6	14	+0.296
Delhi Daredevils	13	6	7	12	-0.514
Gujarat Lions	14	4	10	8	-0.412
Royal Challengers Bangalore	13	2	10	5	-1.454

(Till the 1st match of May 13)

## SRH seal play-offs spot

KANPUR, May 13: Captain and opener David Warner carried his bat through the innings with an unbeaten 69 as Sunrisers Hyderabad thrashed Gujarat Lions by eight wickets to seal a play-offs berth in the Indian Premier League here today.

Warner shared 133 runs with Vijay Shankar (63 not out) for the unbroken third wicket stand as the Sunrisers chased down the target of 155 with 11 balls to spare by reaching 158 for 2 in 18.1 overs at the Green Park here.

With the win in their last league match, the Sunrisers collected 17 points from 14 matches to seal a knock-out stage berth. This was their eighth win in the tournament. Gujarat Lions have already been eliminated from the race of a play-offs berth.

Gujarat Lions have already been eliminated from the race of a play-offs berth. Rising pacer Mohammed Siraj and Afghan wonder kid Rashid Khan effected a bat-toss collapse to skittle out Gujarat Lions for 154 in 19.2 overs after being put into bat.

Siraj (4/32 in 4 overs) and Rashid (3/34 in 4 overs) were brilliant in the back-10 as Lions were down in the dumps after a 111-run opening stand between Ishan Kishan (61 off 40 balls) and Dwayne Smith (54 off 33 balls).

Bhuvneshwar Kumar (225) and Siddhart Kaul (1/30) polished off the tail.

But in a baffling collapse, Lions lost all 10 wickets for an addition 49 runs in the last 10 overs after a whopping 105 in the front.

## SCORECARD

Gujarat Lions:		Bowling: Bhuvneshwar Kumar 3.2-0-25-2	
Dwayne Smith lbw b Rashid	54	Mohammed Siraj 4-0-30-1	Siddarth Kaul
Ishan Kishan c Jha b Siraj	61	Mohammad Nabi 3-0-17-10	Rashid Khan c Dinesh Karthik b Siraj
Suresh Raina c Dinesh Karthik b Siraj	0	Mohamed Siraj 4-0-25-2	Mohammed Siraj 4-0-31-2
Dinesh Karthik c Hooper b Rashid	2	Sunrisers Hyderabad:	
Aaron Finch b Rashid	2	D Warner not out	69
Ravindra Jadeja not out	20	S Bhawani c Faulkner b Kumar	18
James Faulkner c Siraj	8	M Hemrajani c Karthik b Kumar	4
Rishabh Pant c Siraj b Siraj	0	V Srinivasan not out	63
Ankit Solani c Kaul	0	0 Extras: (LB-3W-1)	4
Prajeet Kumar b Siraj	1	Total: (For 2 wkts in 18.1 overs)	158
Extr: (LB-3W-1)	1	Fall of wickets: 1/29, 2/53	
Total: (All out for 18.2 overs)	154	6 Bonus: Praveen Kumar 4-0-22-0, Pradeep Sangwan 4-0-37-2, James Faulkner 3-0-24-0, Munaf Patel 3-0-22-0, Ravindra Jadeja 3-0-19-0, Ankit Solani 2-0-31-0. – PTI	
Fall of wickets: 1/11, 2/120, 3/120, 4/120, 5/123, 6/142, 7/142, 8/153, 9/154			

## Kings XI Punjab face Pune Supergiant in 'do-or-die' clash

PUNE, May 13: Kings XI Punjab will be aiming to continue their late surge against Rising Pune Supergiant in a "winner takes it all" Indian Premier League encounter tomorrow.

The final weekend of the league stage couldn't have been more enticing with only Mumbai Indians assured of a play-off berth with 18 points.

Supergiant fluffed their lines in what seemed to be an easy run-chase against out-of-contention Delhi Daredevils only to keep the race of final four open till the last game.

Supergiant are currently 16 points from 13 games with a net run-rate -0.083 while Kings XI Punjab are on 14 points from equal number of matches but have a comparatively better run-rate of +0.296.

When the two teams square off tomorrow, the equation is pretty simple for Glenn Maxwell's team. A win is all that they need to qualify as it will take them to 16 points with a superior net run rate. The Punjab outfit doesn't have to look at any other results.

For Supergiant, a defeat will be dangerous if Sunrisers Hyderabad happen to win their game against Gujarat Lions and clinch their play-off place with 17 points. In case Sunrisers lose today then Supergiant can still make it to the play-offs despite defeat. It will be a challenge facing KXIP, whose campaign gained momentum during the business end of the tournament.

On paper, Supergiant are a better team, with players like skipper Steven Smith (405 runs), this year's biggest buy Ben Stokes (316 runs and 12 wickets) and former India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni (240 runs), in their ranks. – PTI

Match Starts at 4 pm

## Upbeat Daredevils meet disjoined RCB

NEW DELHI, May 13: Only pride will be at stake when Delhi Daredevils host embattled Royal Challengers Bangalore in an inconsequential IPL game here tomorrow with both teams seeking an end to their misfiring campaign on a positive note.

Both franchises are already out of reckoning for play-offs berths following a forgettable season. While inconsistency has been the Delhi Daredevils bane, Royal Challengers Bangalore endured a run riot in the landmark 10th edition of the cash-rich T20 extravaganza.

Even as the Daredevils shocked Rising Pune Supergiants by seven runs in their last match, at the Feroz Shah Kotla, Royal Challengers Bangalore were made to bite the dust by Kolkata Knight Riders in their last game.

RCB are languishing at the bottom of the table with just two wins and 10 defeats after 14 matches, Daredevils are placed a shade better at sixth position with six victories and seven losses in as many games as their beleaguered opponents.

Star-studded RCB's captain Virat Kohli has "embraced" what has been a disastrous season, saying his team would learn from the mistakes and move on. – PTI

Match Starts at 8 pm

## SU DO KU



### Solution of last problem

2	3	5	4	6	7	8	9	
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10	11	2	6	1	4	3	5	9
6	10	4	9	7	5	3	2	11

## IOC delegates to examine Paris 2024 bid

PARIS, May 13: After three days in Los Angeles, International Olympic Committee (IOC) delegates head for Paris to inspect the city's bid for the 2024 Games against a backdrop of a handover of power to French president-elect Emmanuel Macron.

With just four months to go until the vote in Lima, the 11-member IOC Evaluation Commission will on Sunday begin their three-day inspection of the French capital on the day Macron takes over from Francois Hollande.

Macron, elected last Sunday, has already taken the initiative and reaffirmed his backing for the Paris bid in talks with IOC chief Thomas Bach.

He spoke to Bach by phone and expressed his "attachment to the Paris 2024 project and emphasised France's longstanding commitment to the Olympic movement", the bid committee said in a statement.

"We are delighted that even before his inauguration as new president of France he has already found time to speak to the IOC president to reaffirm his full and complete support for Paris 2024," the co-chairman of the committee, Tony Estanguet, said.

During Sunday's opening presentation, Paris officials will highlight the virtues of a project which, from its inception, has focused on legacy.

With just one swimming pool and an Olympic Village to build, the renovation of the transport system being planned for 2022, Paris 2024 claims they are 95 percent equipped to host a third Games after 1900 and 1924.

The IOC will also be looking at the environmental and social impact and how a Paris Games would promote sport to a wider audience, such as women, senior citizens and the disabled.

The Paris Games would be centred in this area situated to the northeast of the city with the Olympic Village there to be transformed afterwards into social housing.



The Games are also touted as a golden opportunity to shape Greater Paris through the regeneration of numerous sites including Seine-Saint-Denis, one of the poorest regions of France with high youth unemployment.

The Paris Games would be centred in this area situated to the northeast of the city with the Olympic Village there to be transformed afterwards into social housing.

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## Kohli will come good in Champions Trophy: Southee

KOLKATA, May 13: New Zealand pacer Tim Southee today backed Indian skipper Virat Kohli, who has struggled in the ongoing Indian Premier League, to come good in next month's Champions Trophy in England.

Kohli, the Royal Challengers Bangalore skipper, had a lean

patch in the IPL as the last year's runners-up side became the first team to be eliminated from the play-offs race of the T20 league.

But Kohli will come good as a player as well as captain in the 50-over Champions Trophy.

"I'm sure he will adjust to

a reason why they are such good players and they don't stay out of form for too long. I'm sure he's working extremely hard with such a big tournament round the corner," Southee said.

"He is a class player. There's

son why he is the best batsman in the world. He will step up as the Indian captain as well," said the Mumbai Indians pacer at a promotional programme where Amul partnered with the New Zealand cricket team.

New Zealand are clubbed with Bangladesh, Australia and

hosts England in Group A. "I don't think any group is easy, that's the beauty of Champions Trophy which is played among top eight teams in the world. There's no easy game, that makes Champions Trophy such a great tournament to be a part of. Any side

can beat the other on a given day. It's an exciting tournament," Southee said.

As most of the cricketers we always try to find ways to deceive the batsmen with slow balls, going over and round the wickets. It's about trying to sharpen those skills.

There's room to use the skills of Twenty20 in one-day cricket."

The English conditions no more give an edge to the bowlers and Southee said both batsmen and bowlers would get fair amount of chance. - PTI

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### Udit claims double crown

SPORTS REPORTER



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### Pranit leading in city chess meet

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 13: Pranit Malhotra is leading the table with 2 points after completion of the 3rd round in the Young Masters Chess Classic, organised by the Guwahati Chess Academy at their RG Baruah Road premises here.

In the 3rd round top seed Arunabh Gohain beat Pranit Malhotra to record his first win in the tournament but still could not dis-

### Silpukhuri karatekas shine

GUWAHATI, May 13: The karatekas of the Silpukhuri Karate Do-Academy performed creditably in the recently concluded Kamrup Metro Karate Championship, held at the Rudra Singha Sports Complex, Dispur.

Sadlamanda Limbu (gold in kumite), Bhim Kumar Limbu (gold in kumite), Niharika Ba-

logue Pranit from the top spot. Pran Govinda Parasar Kashyap moved in to sole second position with a draw against Ashvin Sharma. He has now 1.5 points from 3 rounds. Arunabh and Manthan scored 1 point each and shared third position after completion of 3 rounds.

Results of the 3rd round: Pranit Malhotra (2) lost to Arunabh Gohain (1). Pran Govinda Parasar Kashyap (1.5) drew with Ashvin Sama (1.5). Man-

than Kashyap Datta (1) got bye.

### Young cricketer dies in road mishap

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 13: Subham Jha, a regular player of the Guwahati district U-19 team, died in a road mishap at the Noonma area here yesterday.

Registered player of the River Rine Club, Subham was travelling on his motor bike when

he was hit by a city bus. He died on the spot. His last rites were performed this afternoon.

The cricketing fraternity condoled the death of the young cricketer informed Ranjit Sarma, cricket secretary of the Guwahati Sports Association who is also the secretary of the River Rine Club.

can beat the other on a given day. It's an exciting tournament," Southee said.

As most of the cricketers we always try to find ways to deceive the batsmen with slow balls, going over and round the wickets. It's about trying to sharpen those skills.

There's room to use the skills of Twenty20 in one-day cricket."

The English conditions no more give an edge to the bowlers and Southee said both batsmen and bowlers would get fair amount of chance. - PTI

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**3** FICTION  
Behind closed doors...- II

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Ties that bind

# The Assam Tribune Sunday READING



## Homage to a river

DR. MANASH P. GOSWAMI revels in the glory of the sacred Narmada.

The Sanskrit sloka *Ganga Cha Yamuna Chaiva Godavari Saraswati, Narmada Sindhuv Kaveri Ilesmin San-nidhim Kuni*, recited usually during a holy bath, indicates the divine nature of the waters of the seven holy rivers. The devotees from different parts of the country visit Amarkantak to take a bath in the Narmada, one among the seven sacred rivers in Hindu faith, to wash away their sins.

The devotees end the Narmada-Parakrama, a very austere voyage of Hindu pilgrimage, at Amarkantak, where the river meets the sea. They often visit several pilgrimage sites situated on the banks of this river while on the Narmada-Parikrama, from the place of its origin to the place of meeting of the Arabian Sea. Some of the sacred places on the banks of the Narmada include Maheshwar, Omkareshwar and Nemawar.

The religious significance of the holy river Narmada can be understood from its reference in the numerous Sanskrit *slokas* and stories in Hindu books, such as the *Puranas*, the *Ramayana*, the *Mahabharata*, etc., frequently mentioning the sacredness of this river. *Rewa Khand* of both the *Vayu Purana* and *Skanda Purana* describe the birth and holiness of the Narmada. History suggests that Ptolemy, a Greek philosopher, mentioned this river as Nama in the second century AD.

The river Narmada is regarded as holy as Ganga, as a legend states that when Ganga was polluted due to the removal of sins of devotees, she turned into a black cow. The holy



Ganga had to take a dip in the Narmada to cleanse herself. Legends also claim that the Narmada River is older than the Ganga.

There are a few myths about the origin of the holy river Narmada. According to one of the myths, once Lord Shiva, the Destroyer of the Universe, meditated so hard that He started perspiring. The sweat of Shiva got accumulated in a tank and started flowing as a river called the Narmada. Another fable describes the origin of the Narmada from two teardrops that fell from the eyes of Lord Brahma, the Creator of the universe, and formed two rivers - the Narmada and Sone.

Both the Narmada and Sone begin their journey from two pools of water situated at Amarkantak. The place of origin of the Narmada and Sone is surrounded by three mountain ranges - Vindhya, Satpuras and Maikal.

The people living in this small town of Amarkantak, consisting of both tribal and non-tribals, consider the holy river Narmada as their mother. The lives of the people of this small town depend on the flow of devotees to offer prayers to Narmada.

Of the two temples dedicated to

Narmada in Amarkantak, one is known as the Narmada Udgam Temple and other as the Narmada Mai Temple. Both the temples have one female deity each. The devotees offer prayers to the pool of water, called the Narmada Udgam as it is believed to be the origin of the Narmada River. Although there are several temples such as the Narmada and Shiva Temple, Kartikey Temple, Shri Ram Janki Temple, Annapurna Temple, Guru Gorakhnath Temple, Sri Surya Narayan Temple, Vangeshwar Mahadev Temple, Durga Temple, Shiv Parivar, Siddheswar Mahadev Temple, Sri Radha Krishna Temple. Eleven Rudra Temples etc., but for the devotees, the Narmada Udgam and Narmada Mai are the two temples of prime importance at Amarkantak.

According to a popular legend, Goddess Narmada once appeared in the dream of Rewa Nayak, a *banjara* or nomad. He worked day and night to locate the origin of the river. He eventually found the spot covered by a dense mass of bamboo trees. He cleared the site and installed an image of Narmada to worship her.

If someone visits Amarkantak, he/

(mpgswami@gmail.com)

she will certainly hear the popular legend behind the Narmada flowing towards the west. According to the legend, the Narmada and Sone were supposed to get married. But Sone rebuffed Narmada and married Juhila, another river that originates a few kilometres away from the Narmada Udgam site. The spurned Narmada was so hurt that she decided to change her direction and started flowing towards the west. Even today, if someone visits Amarkantak, he can see both the rivers flowing in opposite directions.

*Mai Ki Bagua*, located nearly one kilometre away from the Narmada Kund, is an orchard that devotees do not miss out on during their pilgrimage to the Narmada Temple. This grove of trees in dense forest is believed to be the playground of the Narmada River. Popular myths suggest that Mother Narmada used to pluck flowers from this garden. This natural garden of mango, banana and other fruit trees, along with *Gulbabali*, roses and other flowers has a scenic beauty.

From the small pool of the Narma-



UP CLOSE

Tridib Borah

## Ode to a beloved teacher

**PROFESSOR DILIP KR. BARUA**  
*was a role model for generations of youth in the region.*

**W**hy in Assam, is opium called *Kari*? Who was the captain of Mohan Bagar in 1946? Rhino is the symbol of Assam; but what is Rhinology? These are a few of the questions that enthralled the quizzing scene of the 1980s. *Kari* came from the word *phota kari*, meaning a small piece of cloth used to make a pouch (*tupula*) for tying opium seeds. Over a period of time, the *phota kari* pupula came to be just called *kari*. Thus, opium and *kari* became synonymous in Assam. The second question, though seems like a drab one, has an interesting answer – Sarat Das – who hailed from Assam, led the Mohan Bagar team in 1946. And the third one prompted many to give the wrong answer as – Rhinology is the study of rhinos in Assam. Actually, Rhinology is the study of nasal disorder. An avid quizzer can easily see that each of the above three questions are linked to Assam.

Indeed, such thrilling questions cannot be framed by anyone else other than Professor Dilip Kumar Barua – the father of quizzing in Assam. We all endearingly called him DKB. He belonged to an era when Bill Gates had not launched any version of the Windows. He did not have the luxury of a laptop to project his questions through PowerPoint. Yet, we came down all the way from AEC to participate or simply watch DKB Sir conduct an exciting quiz at the Cotton College Union Hall. Those were also the times when the dividing line between a General Knowledge (GK) test and a quiz contest was hazy. Credit, indeed, goes to DKB Sir for making this grey line prominent in defining the distinction between a quiz and a GK test. Many felt that a quiz was the test of information. A mother few acknowledged it as an entertaining way of knowing the unknown. DKB Sir was the pioneer to change the general perception and successfully ingrained in us the word infotainment, which so aptly describes a quiz contest.

His well-researched quizzes, sans Google and Wikipedia, were awe-inspiring. The methodological way he conducted the quizzes is an emulating feat for today's quizzmasters. Many of the modern quizzes tend to have more of entertainment and less of information, so much so that the infotainment show becomes a circus. Indeed, striking a balance between information and entertainment was an art perfected by DKB Sir.

I first encountered DKB Sir as a quizmaster, in 1981, when we won the second prize at the Cotton College College Week. Thereafter, innumerable quizzes all over Assam-AEC, Gauhati University (Youth festival), GMC, JEC, *The Sentinel News Quiz*, Doordarshan and many more quizzes were graced by him. In those days, it was difficult to imagine a quizzing arena without DKB Sir as the quizmaster. I fondly remember the day when Jayanta Barua and I (as a team) were selected for the written prelims to represent Assam in Siddhartha Bassi's *Quiztime*, and we both met him to seek his blessings and to take tips for the big event that was to be telecast nationally, in 1988. When we travelled back to our hostel after meeting him, I remember discussing in the bus how much we have learnt from this great man in all these years of quizzing. It was immaterial whether you got a prize or not in DKB's quiz, but it was an enriching experience just to participate. You always came back knowing something new from this great quizmaster. Later on, after joining Oil India Ltd., I kept my association alive by inviting DKB Sir to conduct the quizzes that were held in Dullajan. As usual, his quizzes were all superhits, whether it was at the State level or at a club level event.

Indeed, DKB Sir was not only the frontrunner in popularising quizzes in educational institutions, but also in taking this wonderful mind sport into the television world of Assam.



## Whiff from the West

**Surangama Guha**

**D**ivine music by geniuses like Bach, Beethoven, Mozart, etc., has enthralled the world for generations. But in India somehow, Western classical music has remained at an esoteric level, perceived as confined to the elite 'westernised' gentry for appreciation, right or wrong?

But are things changing? First, a peek into its sporadic history.

In fact, Western classical music began touching lives as early as in 1542. Catechism, i.e., religious conversion, through music, was prevalent in Goa, Bombay (Mumbai) in the Middle Ages, particularly after Vasco da Gama opened the sea route to the country from Europe. However, it was only in 1922 – after the British gained a strong

toehold that the first permanent symphony orchestra of the country arrived in Bombay.

The Calcutta School of Music (CSM) was set up in 1915, one of the first of its kind in India. The Bombay Chamber Orchestra was established in 1962. In 2006, the Mumbai-based National Centre for Performing Arts (NCPA) started the Symphony Orchestra of India.

Currently, there are just a few schools of music with dedicated Western classical music courses in Kolkata, Bengaluru, New Delhi and Shimoga. In Chennai, maestro A.R. Rahman founded the KM College of Music and Technology (#KMMC), a one-of-a-kind music conservatoire offering higher education in instrumental music, music theory and technology, that includes both Hindustani and West-

ern classical music. KM is affiliated to Middlesex University, UK.

St. Anthony's College, the Northeast Hill University, and Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong, provide Bachelor's degree and diploma level courses in Western classical music. In 2013, Goa University added Western music to its syllabus. In Nagaland, the Patkai Christian College offers courses focussing on the theory and performance of Western classical, among others.

The International Classical Guitar Festival in Kolkata, the Goa Monte and Ketevan World Sacred Music Festival, Con Brio Piano Competition in Mumbai, etc., keep the Western classical appeal alive across the country.

In 2015, the country got *Serafode Magazine*, the first online portal on Western classical music, a venture that is both imaginative and optimistic.

Says Adam Greig, academic co-ordinator at KM Conservatory, "Students do tend to be very enthusiastic but they usually have very poor knowledge of what formal music study entails. They seem to

think that they will be trained to be the next superstars. The reality of having to study on a degree-style course complete with theory, history, writing, etc., comes as quite a shock to them."

The preparatory Pre-degree Foundation course at KM attracts about 70 to 100 applicants per year in which applicants have little prior training in formal music. Greig also pointed out a large predisposition amongst students towards popular genres, even within Western music, such as towards Indian film music, with a majority of entrants harbouring the ambition of landing up in the commercial film industry.

So, is Western classical music growing in India simply as an accessory to the popular music industry, with most students of music treating it as a necessary evil to become the next A.R. Rahman?

Samarjit Guha, CEO, Calcutta School of Music, feels that students cannot be blamed for trying to make inroads into the popular music industry. "The growth of Western classical in India is a slow process. Students have to find opportunities to perform."

According to him, they tend to automatically look towards commercial music platforms to showcase themselves.

It seems then, that opportunities to flourish solely as an educationist and practitioner of Western classical music in the country are still few and far between. So, what does the future look like?

Abraham Mazumdar, Principal-founder of the Kolkata Music Academy, and a leading proponent of Western classical music in this part of the country, appears pessimistic. "There can be no future for Western classical music in our country without help from the government."

While that possibility still seems far-fetched, Mazumdar feels that the standard of music education in the country could also be improved. "The foundation for this kind of music cannot be strong unless we produce highly qualified teachers, who specialise in Western instruments, and can inculcate correct techniques as well as interest in harmony music among children."

*Trans World Features (TWF)*



## FICTION

Devyashree Dutta

**A**s soon as sense prevailed, the first thing I looked for was my bump. I was frantically searching for it, but it seemed not to be there and it was followed by loud walls. My baby, I had lost it before it arrived. I went into a state of delirium and he had a tough time pacifying me, though I knew the bereavement he suffered was no less than mine.

This incident had a remarkable impact on me – all my dreams being shattered. I went into a shell of my own, alienating myself from this world which seemed so foreign that our baby had refused to step into it. He stood by me all through and it was his love that instilled in me a seed of hope. We decided to try once again and this time around, I was all the more careful to commit no blunders. However, the inevitable happened and I miscarried for the second time.

This was the last straw. The hope that I had gathered came tumbling down and it fragmented into pieces so small that it was irretrievable. This time, I began shrinking into a cocoon so deep that no one could find me a way out. My interaction with the society, including family members reduced. I became like a living machinery, drawing my breath for the sake of it. He tried endlessly to draw me out of this, but in vain. He offered to take me out for vacations, tried reading my favourite books to me, played my favourite songs but I seemed to be far away, my body was there but my soul was not. Many a times I would wake up at night and start crying my heart out, and then after this upsurge of emotions, calm would seem to prevail. I could sense that the distance that had crept between us was widening but I made no effort to bridge the gap, as if something was holding me back in my shell. I noticed that he too had kind of given up. He started travelling a lot for work and spent long hours away from home.



Thus, the drudgery of our lives went on until I met her. She came to my life like a blessing in disguise. I still remember the first day I met her. It was raining heavily and she stood at the steps leading to the house, her pigtails drenched in the rain and her skirt dripping down rainwater. I saw this seven-year-old girl and I fell in love with her instantly. She seemed to be abandoned by her kith and kin and I took her in with open arms. From that day onwards, my life took a new turn. I felt like I had found my lost children in her. We recited nursery rhymes, read bedtime stories, sang lullabies and played scrabble. I used to buy her new toys and gifts. I still remember the day I heard the word Ma from her lips. It was music to my ears, my dreams of motherhood suddenly blooming with this little girl in my life.

Everyone noticed this change in me. The colour was returning to my cheeks and I was found humming a song often. But when asked, I could not state the reason. This was what she asked of me, to keep this a secret between the two of us. And she would stay with me as long as I did not speak to anyone of her. I did not see why I should not keep her request. And thus, I kept

her shut in that room. Behind closed doors lay my pretty little secret, safe from this alien world.

Thus, I spent hours inside the room, talking and laughing animatedly, leaving the entire household perplexed.

Now, he had been away for a few months and thought I talked to him over the phone, I spoke not a word about him and I fell in love with her instantly. She seemed to be abandoned by her kith and kin and I took her in with open arms. From that day onwards, my life

delay in telling him that I was talking about behind closed doors all to myself. This came as a shock to him and he refused to believe it initially. When asked, I denied everything. But now with him around, I hardly had time to meet her and this reflected in my behaviour. It caught his attention that my voice had again lost its tinkle. So one day he caught me by my hips and looked straight into my eyes, asking me if I was hiding anything from him. I could not escape that look in his eyes that was searching my soul for the truth. The truth rolled off my mouth, every bit of it.

I felt the disbelief in his eyes and he insisted on meeting her. I tried to persuade him not to do this. I begged, but he insisted and I pointed towards the room.

I observed him carefully as he walked to the door. I knew that time was running out but suppressed the urge to check my watch. I took a deep breath. I knew I had to stop him somehow. I knew I could lose her forever now.

He opened the door to find no one there.

I went in and began searching frantically. The room was full of toys, books and gifts, but no trace of her.

She was gone. I sobbed uncontrollably. He took me in his arms and said it was all my imagination. She never existed. But I disagreed. For me, she was very much alive.

After this, the family tried to talk sense into me. And my relationship with him soured. I took to seeing him as a culprit for taking her away from me. He thought I was getting mentally weak and I resisted all his attempts to go to a psychologist. And so one day, I left his place and came to where I belong.

"And did she come back?" she asked with a started expression on her face.

The wall clock chimed. Ten o'clock. I could hear the clouds rumbling and very soon the patter of raindrops on the parched earth.

"You should rush home, dear. Your mother must be waiting for you. The rest of the story is for some other day."

She went away to her house across the road.

And just as soon, I heard a knock on the door.

I opened it to find her standing there, her hair wet in the rain, water dripping from her skirt, my little girl. She has grown to be a beautiful maiden. I hug her and take her in. Unable to hide the excitement in my voice, I burst out with moist eyes:

"They told me you are nothing but a figment of my imagination. But I know you are for real and so you have come back to me."

She smiled back reassuringly.

(Concluded)

## HEALTHWISE

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## Saving lives



**T**he prevention of death, and improving life expectancy as a whole, through vaccination, is a well-established fact. Vaccination prevents an estimated 30 lakh deaths worldwide, annually. It led to the eradication of small pox from the world in 1977, near eradication of polio (Polio is still prevalent, in very small numbers), 80 per cent reduction of death due to measles, near elimination of the deadly neonatal tetanus, drastic reduction in the number of cases of diphtheria, whooping cough, etc. There are at least 27 causative agents against which vaccines are available and many more agents are targeted for the development of vaccines.

Despite this, an estimated 230 lakh children, worldwide, did not receive any vaccination in the year 2012 alone, reasons being – lack of accessibility to health care, poor knowledge, unscientific beliefs and the constant pressure from the non-vaccine lobbies, etc.

We know that "health is wealth". But only recently, health economists, worldwide, have relentlessly proven the instrumental value of health for economic development. Healthy children perform better at school, and healthy adults are more productive at work. Directly, a healthy society may be a strong magnet for foreign, direct investment and tourism, than a society where disease poses a constant threat.

Despite the knowledge, vaccination remains a far cry for some, especially in the developing countries. Children of these countries remain vulnerable to death from vaccine-preventable diseases. Even in the developed world, universal vaccination coverage face obstacles. The rise of a well-organised lobby there, persuades parents not to vaccinate their children.

Vaccination started in India in 1802, with the small pox vaccine. The uptake of small pox vaccination in the general public was very low for years due to several reasons, including a need to pay a small fee for vaccination, and the belief in the practice of inoculation and that the disease was due to the wrath of a goddess, and many other such misconceptions. The Compulsory Vaccination Act was passed in India in 1892, to ensure higher coverage with small pox and reduce the epidemic. The act largely remained on paper, except during the time of epidemics. Ultimately, after years of effort, the vaccination got momentum – from 1967-68, and the last small pox case was reported in India in 1975. The world was declared free of small pox by the World Health Organization in 1980.

Let me emphasise that the priority of vaccinations and health care delivery is different in the public sector. The government gives importance to killer diseases and those which can cause menace in the health of the society. Eradication and elimination of such disease and other factors also come into play, whereas, in the private sector, the health care provider pays importance to each and every individual. If a particular vaccine or medicine can save a particular life, without benefiting the health status of the society as a whole, then they go for it.

As soon as India was declared a small pox-free country in 1977, it was decided to launch a National Immunisation Programme called the Expanded Programme of Immunisation (EPI) in 1978, with the introduction of BCG (to reduce burden of severe form of TB), OPV (to eradicate polio), DPT (to protect from diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus) and typhoid-paratyphoid vaccines. Asias, at present, is using PENTA (DPT, Hemophilus Influenzae B and Hep B combined in one injection), OPV, IPV, BCG, measles and Japanese Encephalitis vaccines in selected districts. Most likely, pneumococcal, rotavirus vaccines shall also be introduced in the State programme in the coming years.

Though vaccine history in India dates back to the 19th century, the reluctance, opposition and slow acceptance of the masses have been common. We are one of the last countries in the world to eliminate polio. The operational challenges keep the coverage inequitable in the country. Antibiotic resistance is already causing serious concerns worldwide. Thus, immunisation and vaccinations may be the only answer for survival against all infections.



## MONEY SMART

Dipankar Jakharia

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In my last column, I had explained how a mutual fund is a collective journey for a group of investors with the help of an expert. Let us recap a few points before we proceed.

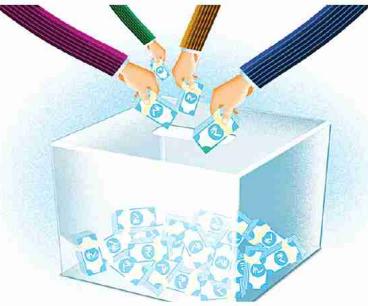
Like a flight journey, the path of every mutual fund is pre-determined.

Again, like a flight journey, it is the duty of the expert to steer it into the right direction.

In a flight, he is called the captain and in mutual fund, he is known as the fund manager.

By now, I believe that you must have developed some idea of mutual fund. Also, there are several types of mutual funds available in the market. To make things simple, let us divide mutual funds into two distinctive groups – Equity and Debt. The mutual funds that buy shares of someone's business are called Equity Mutual Funds. And the mutual funds that invest in lending money are called Debt Mutual Funds. The businesses where they invest are directly responsible to give them the return on their investments and the risks they undertake.

Let us learn with an example. Suppose, a mutual fund company decides to build a new fund and this



## Time to invest

new fund will invest only in large Indian companies with a market capital of 10,000 crore rupees and above. Once they decide the build or structure of the fund, then they will disclose it in their offer document. The next step is to ask the public to start investing in the fund. Let us assume, in the initial period, thousands of investors invest in the fund and they accumulate a total corpus of 5,000 crore rupees. From that five thousand crore rupees, each

ten rupees will form a unit and each investor will be distributed units according to his or her invested amount. If Jayanta has invested one lakh, he will get ten thousand units, so on and so forth.

Now, it is the job of the fund manager to manage the fund. Since he can invest only in companies having market capital of ten thousand crore and above, he is bound by the rule to do that and will identify such companies and will start investing

in such companies. Say, he identified 50 such companies with potential and invested his entire five thousand crore in them. Now his fund will be dependent on the performance of each of the 50 companies collectively. And all this will start happening on a day-to-day basis. If the performance of his companies is good and its prices in the stock market goes up, his fund value will also go up. Say, his investment of five thousand crore becomes six thousand crore after a year, which is a growth of 20 per cent, the unit at which it is calculated will also increase. Therefore, one unit which was valued at ten will become 12 and the total amount invested by Jayanta will become one lakh and twenty thousand.

This unit price in mutual fund is calculated every day and is called the net asset value (NAV). The mutual fund investors normally compare and calculate the mutual fund returns by the calculation of the NAV of each mutual fund, which is disclosed every day.

To sum up, when a mutual fund manager is given the task of managing a fund, where and how the investments will be made is predefined to the extent of the composition of the fund, but not to the extent of dictating the actual selection. This can be compared to the job of the captain of our flight from Guwahati to Goa.

## MY SPACE

Madhumita Barkataki

Happiest Mother's Day to my most wonderful mother (Swarna Bordoloi)... no one is like you; you are irreplaceable. We often write obituaries when our parents take their last journey to another world. We remember or rediscover many amazing things they did for us mostly when they are no more. But why not say 'thank you' to them when they are still around? Don't you think they will feel appreciated and loved? After all, we need to appreciate the sacrifices and difficulties they go through while raising us.

I am glad that the concept of Mother's Day/Father's Day is beginning to get recognition in our society, too, though it is mostly a western concept! This gives us an opportunity to express our gratitude

towards our parents, which, otherwise, we tend to overlook or take for granted.

I refer to my mother as 'Ma' because it is such an endearing term! From a brilliant student to a homemaker, Ma's journey has been full of challenges and sacrifices. She had to raise four children in the absence of my father, who was working in Arunachal Pradesh, then called NEFA. If she could pursue her studies, believe me, she would have either been a corporate honcho or a top bureaucrat! In spite of scoring a rank in the Matriculation exams, she was married off at the tender age of 18. How unfair life could be! She is one of the six children of my grandfather, who lost his wife early. From a nuclear family, she came into a joint family, where she, along with her sisters-in-law, had to

## Mommy dearest

So, this is for you, Ma. I, along with my siblings, are indebted to you for all the sacrifices you have made for us.

cook for 25 people every day. But Ma adjusted herself to her new surroundings and got on well with everybody.

After 60 years... Ma today is in her early eighties and I am proud to see her zest for life. She inspires me to move ahead, against all odds. Her fine eye for detail, her tastefully done up living room, her beautiful collection of linens, her colourful flower garden, her love for good perfume, her collection of some of the most beautiful mekhela chador (in my dad's family, the daughters-in-law never wore saris, not even make-up!) ... the list goes on!

Ma has always been a very compassionate and kind lady. That also makes her a great Human Resource Manager! Today, the way she manages her life all by herself,

her nurse, her cook and her helper assistant Nath, is inspiring!

Ma reads the newspaper daily, and is particularly interested in political news and sports. She has a very sound opinion of her own. She can carry on a conversation with anyone and is capable of discussing world politics, history, sports, etc., with much ease. She wants to buy a smartphone and also download Uber and Ola Apps, so that she too can avail of the services, at times, of

red roses and perfume. My eyes welled up with tears as she is battling with many health issues and has become frail and weak. She is mostly confined to the house, nowadays. Yet, her zest for life is amazing and her spirit is indomitable. She regrets that she cannot visit the annual book fair in Guwahati any more, as her health does not permit. She also misses going to the International Trade Fair, which, otherwise, she would not miss at any cost, even just a few years back. She is a movie buff, but cannot go to the movie theatres any more. Ravages of time!

So, this is for you, Ma. I, along with my siblings, are indebted to you for all the sacrifices you have made for us. To sum it up – to me and my siblings, you are a loving mother, and I attribute all our success to you. Love you, Ma, till the end of time. Happy Mother's Day!

## Ties that bind

**W**e are in the car, squashed together in the dark, driving home from dinner at a restaurant in the pelting spring rain. Apropos of something, nobody remembers what, a shy, girlish voice pipes out from the back seat.

"Isn't Caracas the capital of Venezuela?"

We all laugh. It is our mother reminding us, without preamble, how high she had scored in her high school geography class. She beams with delight (it is too dark to see) as the rest of the family make appreciative noises. The thing is, our mother does not forget anything. This was rather inconvenient when we were children... our crimes and misdemeanours could never ever be deleted, and now we are just happy she remains sharp and agile even as the years roll by.

When my mother names a capital of the world, it took me a long while to figure out that it was a wistful hint of the road not taken, of wings clipped at an age when one was meant to soar and discover and revel in freedom - not tend to cloying babies and cook and keep a household running. And yet I cannot remember her ever express even the faintest trace of resentment, only perfect caramel puddings, plum blossoms in vases all around the house in Shillong and an infinite patience to listen to our daily convoluted sagas of schoolyard triumphs and heartbreaks.

Things seem so much clearer on hindsight. I was about fourteen. Having a certain way with words even then, the good nuns at school took me to an institution far away in the city to take part in an on the spot essay contest. May I be forgiven for boasting that I won the first prize. When I launtily reached home it was almost dark. My mother stood on the porch, quite beside herself with worry. Inside, she motioned me to put down my trophy on a table, swung her arm and delivered a stinging slap that knocked the wind

out of me. I was, of course, full of injured indignation. Is that how one treated a winner? That was the first and last time my mother hit me. I brooded over it a long time. Then I understood. The world did not allow mothers not to worry about their daughters. And things are infinitely worse today. And yes, you also worry about your sons if they don't answer after three rings. Ask me.

### THIRD EYE

**Indrani Raimedhi**  
indrani.raimedhi@gmail.com



We all laugh. It is our mother reminding us, without preamble, how high she had scored in her high school geography class. She beams with delight (it is too dark to see) as the rest of the family make appreciative noises. The thing is, our mother does not forget anything. This was rather inconvenient when we were children... our crimes and misdemeanours could never ever be deleted, and now we are just happy she remains sharp and agile even as the years roll by.

Here's the thing. I have an aversion to turning this piece into a cutesy, nostalgic piece conjured up by a clever mining of memories. Some of the most harrowing evocations of motherhood come from William Styron's *Sophie's Choice* and

Cynthia Ozick's *The Shawl*. Styron's tale is holocaust experience at its bleakest. The gist of it is that survivor Sophie reveals to a character her deepest, darkest secret on the night she arrived at Auschwitz. A camp doctor made her choose which of her two children would die immediately by gassing and which would continue to live. Sophie chose to sacrifice her seven-year-old daughter Eva, leaving her with a grief that finally overwhelms her.

In Ozick's *The Shawl*, Rosa, her baby Magda and little Stella painfully make their way to a Nazi concentration camp in the dead of winter. The baby Magda succumbs on the shawl she is wrapped in. Rosa hides the baby as much as she can, but ultimately, Nazi guards find out and fling her against an electric fence.

All of you must remember the Columbine shooting that killed 13 students and injured scores. The masterminds were schoolboys Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris, who then killed themselves - Sue Klebold, mother of one of the killers, spoke out in public about the horror and regret she felt about what her son had done. She had entirely missed any signs of abnormal behaviour on his part. Without seeking sympathy she spoke of her depression, panic attacks and cancer in the aftermath of the horrific tragedy. She ended with an appeal for more access to mental health facilities for young people.

Since the last several years I have sent a cake and flowers on Mother's Day to her home on the other side of town. This year, we just laughed and decided there was a limit to being silly and sentimental. The gift we share is the assurance... we can call each other at any time of the day and night, urge each other to stay away from crazy diet fads, argue about things we later laugh and concur are too trivial. They say when a son grows up his shadow is taller than his father's. Not so with mothers and daughters. Their shadows become mysteriously of the same height. And that is just one of the wonders of this beautiful bond.

## FORECAST

MAY 15 – 21, 2017



**ARIES**  
(MAR 21 – APR 19)

This week you shall plan projects which are of a creative nature and provide you satisfaction. Relationships have extra intensity. Pay attention to the finish.



**TAURUS**  
(APR 20 – MAY 19)

You can form strong bonds with older, or more experienced individuals, which will prove advantageous as time goes by. Avoid accepting unnecessary assistance from strangers.



**GEMINI**  
(MAY 20 – JUN 18)

Imagine that it is soaring above the clouds as you guide your kite through the air; what sort of freedom you would have if you could fly! While you are at it, don't be afraid to dream of a better future for yourself.



**CANCER**  
(JUN 19 – JUL 22)

Try to take things slowly and enjoy time with your family; there's no need to start the day off by fighting. You might have to give more than you receive; try to do so with a smile.



**LEO**  
(AUG 23 – SEP 22)

Stars awaken your goals and aspirations. Of course there's always more to life, but you have to be willing to see it in simple terms. Start to look for miracles.



**VIRGO**  
(SEP 23 – OCT 22)

All eyes are on you. Family, co-workers and members of the community seem to expect you to hold everything together, and for the most part, you do. Are you under too much pressure?



**LIBRA**  
(OCT 23 – NOV 21)

Slow down a bit, take your time, and go easy on yourself. Avoid going out, unless you absolutely must; it's better to spend time alone over the next few days.



**SCORPIO**  
(NOV 22 – DEC 20)

Relationships at work are quite a lot better and imaginative ideas can inspire your career prospects. Be proud that people believe in you. This is not the time to be resentful.



**SAGITTARIUS**  
(DEC 21 – JAN 19)

Invest time and energy to handle your domestic responsibilities. Spend quality time with loved ones to balance the delicate equation between domestic and professional commitments.



**CAPRICORN**  
(JAN 20 – FEB 18)

Some domestic disharmony is probably unavoidable, as the general feeling is somewhat disenchanted. On the business front, serious ideas will be applied to speculative activities.



**AQUARIUS**  
(FEB 19 – MAR 20)

This is the time for romance, but sensual encounters may involve more ego-gratification than emotional commitment. Your talents will be expressed with ease.



**PISCES**  
(MAR 21 – APR 19)

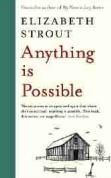
This is the sort of week that can have quite fulfilling outcomes. Spending time with your love, enjoying the crossword puzzle, can be just the thing to do.

### PAGE TURNER

The following are books to look out for this month when you need reading material for those quiet weekends.

#### Anything is Possible

*Anything is Possible* by Elizabeth Strout beautifully conveys what it is to live in a quiet Illinois town. The protagonist Laura Barton daringly reveals the abuse that went on during her childhood. As the townspeople read this horrific account, the author deftly steers clear of being pessimistic and affirms her faith in human nature.

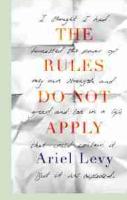


#### Rudravam

Rahul Rajan's book *Rudravam* unfolds the mystery of the greatest villain Ravan. The Truth of Ravan's life, and his death by a God in mortal flesh is a story of immense ramifications. Many philosophical aspects are explored and Ravan even makes a tour of the macabre. Ravan appears in an avatar we have never seen before.

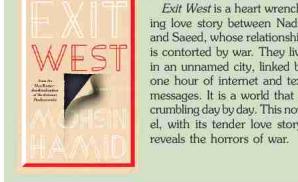
#### The Rules Do Not Apply

*The Rules Do Not Apply* by Ariel Levy is a gem of a book. Levy defines herself as adventurous, and rejoices in encountering new people and out of the way places. She has crisscrossed the globe in search of new adventures and now sets up exploring herself. The result is a stunning exploration of human concerns at their most complicated.



#### Exit West

*Exit West* is a heart-wrenching love story between Nadia and Saeed, whose relationship is contorted by war. They live in an unnamed city, linked by one hour of internet and text messages. It is a world that is crumbling day by day. This novel, with its tender love story, reveals the horrors of war.



### 5 THINGS/ Scribe scores

## "Skepticism is always better than sloppily drawn conclusions."

Media personality **KARISMA HASNAT** views her profession.

#### 1 Ethical reporting

Indeed, people's confidence in media is falling – and it's no wonder – a sorry picture of the ethical behaviour of reporters has affected the standards of journalism in the region. The frustration is palpable, but some are trying to restore the trust. Untrained, uncontrolled 'amateurs' having an appetite for free facts and following their own personal ethical codes have made it harder for people to believe what they see and read in news reports.



not always reliable or error-free. Skepticism is always better than sloppily drawn conclusions.

#### 2 Accuracy and impartiality

It is not surprising for reporters to make mistakes – but factual errors combined with plagiarism, lies and concocted quotes can damage the overall credibility of the media house in the long-term. Through applied rhetoric, gullible public might accept whatever you have to offer. And settling for such journalism is a dangerous proposition. A reporter might be tempted to help a friend or sympathise with anyone who called with a story idea, but without being absolutely certain of facts, they end up letting others get their viewpoint expressed – and getting a story 'they' want in news.

#### 3 Inquisitiveness

Some reporters show a lack of interest in certain subjects – if you like politics, you cannot be excused for not knowing animal rights and economics. It's an arduous task for reporters from the North-East to learn about different ethnicities and differing cultures, but a good reporter will have the desire to do so – and get the story right. Having conversations or chats with your counterparts might be satisfying, but

#### 4 Flexibility and positive attitude

If you are a broadcast journalist, you cannot complain about erratic timings – or hope to work for a 10 to 6 desk job. There might be an instant change in plans, last-minute travelling to do – sometimes alone, with no routine meal or sleep timings. Chasing deadlines and battling stress might take a toll on your health, make you edgy – but at the end of the day, you can only let it go!

#### 5 Common sense

This rare commodity is actually a strong requirement for good journalists. Expressing opinion on media platforms or social media accounts requires mature judgement and the use of common sense. It is not always inappropriate to offer opinions, as long as you are not influenced, remain impartial and respect sensitivities.

(As told to Indrani Raimedhi)

### FILM INTERVIEW

**Mohnish Singh**

## The half boyfriend

Arun Kapoor began his career as an assistant director on Dharma Productions' *Kal Ho Naa Ho* (2003), and entered filmdom as an actor with Yash Raj Films' *Ishqzaade* (2012). In conversation, with the actor, ahead of the release of *Half Girlfriend*, which is an official adaption of Chetan Bhagat's hit novel of the same name.



#### ■ What is Half Girlfriend all about?

We come across a few relationships in our lives, but we fall prey to a number of situations and somehow that relationship remains unfinished and fails to reach its destination. Also, at times, we have to take practical decisions in life because of many unavoidable circumstances.

Life throws us in a fix and we share every small thing with that special person in life, but, all of a sudden, you get a job offer in another part of the world which you cannot reject and thus, that relationship doesn't complete. The film is not about making a half girlfriend. It is a bond of emotion which is nameless.

#### ■ People already know about your character Madhav from the novel. What kind of pressure did you have while you were delivering it?

I never made an attempt to understand or ask people their opinions about the character. It creates confusion for you. I have interpreted it in my own way. It remains to be seen whether our thought process matches or varies.

#### ■ You speak a different dialect in the movie. How difficult was it to bring that on screen?

You have to understand the place that you are representing in the movie. Sridhar was my dialect coach, who was with Vicky Kaushal in *Masaan* (2015). I used to interact a lot with him during the film. I had spent three months to get that dialect correct. It was difficult and I have put in a lot of effort to get it right.

#### ■ A regional film like Baahubali 2: The Conclusion smashed all previous Box Office records with its Hindi-dubbed version alone on its opening day, while some of our Hindi films fail to earn that amount in their lifetime. What would you like to say about it?

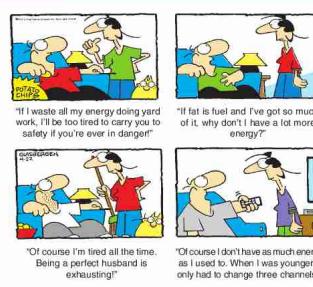
I am impressed that the film (*Baahubali 2: The Conclusion*) experienced humongous success at the Box Office. I believe, as actors or members of the film fraternity need to appreciate good work, rather than critics and compare. The idea of releasing the movie worldwide has to be applauded.

It's high time we bring in the required positivity, rather than whine over it. It should inspire us, instead of putting us down.

#### ■ What are your upcoming projects?

After *Half Girlfriend*, I have *Mubarakan*, releasing in July, this year.

- IBNS-TWF



"I outsourced your rap to one of our neighbours. Now you'll have time to help me around the house."

"If fat is fuel and I've got so much of it, why don't I have a lot more energy?"

"Of course I'm tired all the time. Being a perfect husband is exhausting!"

"I only had to change three channels!"