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## NEWS CAPSULE

### Ultras nabbed

GUWAHATI, June 23: Based on intelligence inputs, six suspected militants – five from NDFB(S) and one from ULFA(I) – were arrested by a team of Assam Police and Meghalaya Police early today from near the India-Bangladesh border at Dawki in Meghalaya. – Staff Reporter

### Bail rejected

GUWAHATI, June 23: The petition filed by liquor trader Rajesh Jalan, a prime accused in the excise scam, seeking declaration of his judicial custody as illegal and his release on bail, was today rejected by Gauhati High Court. – Staff Reporter

### Major catch

GUWAHATI, June 23: Security forces on Wednesday apprehended United Peoples Liberation Front chairman Garang Gajau along with others and Jamuna Singh Laibong of East Karbi Anglong district. – Staff Reporter

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## Presidential poll Kovind files nomination papers

NEW DELHI, June 23: NDA's presidential candidate Ram Nath Kovind today filed his nomination papers, surrounded by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, 15 chief ministers and many union ministers, as the BJP put up a formidable show of strength to mark the occasion.

With more than 60 per cent of voters of the electoral college, which will elect President Pranab Mukherjee's successor, having already pledged their support to him, Kovind's election is virtually certain. But the BJP pulled out all the stops to make the occasion count.

This will be the first time that a BJP leader will occupy the Rashtrapati Bhawan – if all goes according to plan – as the party's previous victorious presidential candidate APJ Abdul Kalam did not have a party background.

Representatives of 28 parties were there, too, while BJP sources said, but its ally Shiv Sena was absent.

While Sena claimed it was not invited, BJP leaders blamed it on a "miscommunication".

Sen leaders are among the proposers of Kovind's nomination.

BJP veterans LK Advani and Murli Manohar Joshi, both of whom were seen as probable candidates for the high profile post, were also present. – PTI



Prof CNR Rao with a topper during the 19th convocation of the Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Friday. UB Photos

## China says no to India's NSG membership

BEIJING, June 23: China today reaffirmed that there is no change in its stance on the admission of non-NPT states into the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), marring India's chances of entering the elite club during its crucial meeting in Bern.

He was replying to a question whether there is any change in China's stand at the plenary meeting currently taking place in the Swiss capital, Bern.

"As for non-NPT countries being admitted to the group, I can tell you there is no change

to China's position," Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang told a media briefing.

(See page 15)

## PSLV-C38 puts Cartosat-2 in orbit

SRIHARIKOTA (AP), June 23: India today successfully put into orbit a satellite that will give a boost to its military surveillance capabilities along with 30 other tiny satellites – all but one of them foreign – from a single rocket in yet another milestone for its low-cost space programme.

The Polar Satellite Launch

Vehicle of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in its 40th flight (PSLV-C38) lifted off majestically from the first launch pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre here at 9.29 am and injected the 31 satellites into orbit about 27 minutes after lift off, amid applause from scientists.

Dubbed as a 'smart eye in the sky', the 712-kg Cartosat-2 series earth observation spacecraft launched by the 44.4-metre-tall rocket as its primary payload is an advanced remote sensing satellite that is expected to give defence surveillance a leg up. The 31 satellites together weighed 955 kg.

Today's mission was the second highest number of satellites to be launched by the ISRO using a single rocket.

On February 15, the PSLV-C37 mission launched 104 satellites into orbit at one go, scripting history. Of this, 101 satellites were from foreign countries. – PTI

## Punjab boy tops NEET

NEW DELHI, June 23: Navdeep Singh from Punjab has topped the prestigious National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) for admission to MBBS and BDS courses, results of which were declared by CBSE today.

The second and third ranks were shared by Madhya Pradesh's Archit Gupta and Manish Mulchandani, respectively. Archit had also topped the AIIMS entrance examination.

Girls outnumbered boys in qualifying the test with a total of 3,45,313 girls clearing it against 2,66,221 boys. A total of 11,38,890 students had appeared for the exam. Of these, 6,11,539 passed the test which was held on May 7. – PTI

## IIT only brand India created after freedom: CNR Rao

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 23: Asserting that IIT is the only brand created by India post-independence, noted scientist and Bharat Ratna awardee Prof CNR Rao today underscored of the role of the institutes in taking the country forward.

"IIT is the only brand created by India after freedom. Don't shake it off. Use it and be proud of it. It is a wonderful family to belong to. Had all IITians worked for the good of the country, India would have been different today. But unfortunately, some did other things,"

the National Research Professor told the students while delivering the 19th convocation address of IIT Guwahati.

Praising the strides made by IITG, Rao called upon the graduates to "decide what they want to be" and not to move like a "wanderer".

"If you ask me what message I have for the students... I would say you all should de-

cide what you want to be. Do not move like a wanderer. Decide your mission and success is assured in India," Rao, who is also the Linus Pauling Research Professor and Honorary President of the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bengaluru, told the students, also emphasizing the importance of dedication, doggedness and tenacity for success.

He said as the future de-

pends on science and technol-

ogy, countries like China and Korea are making huge in-

vestments in education.

"In China, unbelievable amount of money is being in-

vested in education. They are pro-

ducing 23,000 PhDs every year.

A country's prosperity is not determined by the size of its ar-

my," he said.

Speaking about himself,

Prof Rao said, "For 58 years I have been a professor. I have

(See page 15)

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## Poachers have adopted new tactics: Brahma

MAYUKH GOSWAMI

ORANG, June 23: State Forest Minister Pramila Rani Brahma has admitted apathy of the government towards the Orang National Park and Tiger Reserve regarding necessary security measures for rhino and other wildlife in the park in comparison to the Kaziranga National Park.

The minister on Thursday night visited the Orang National Park following the poaching of a male rhino and chopping of its horn earlier on the day from the Gupsa forest camp area of the park.

Talking to *The Assam Tribune* at the Santsimalu forest camp campus, the minister observed that due to this apathy poachers were able to kill a rhino and cut away its horn in broad daylight.

"I thought Orang is well

(See page 15)

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06 N / 07 D (EX-KOLKATA)  
France, Switzerland, Liechtenstein & Austria

Highlights: Euro Disney, Eiffel Tower, Glacier 3000, Swarovski Crystal World



### EUROPE ON BUDGET

10 N / 11 D (EX-KOLKATA)  
United Kingdom, France, Switzerland & Italy

Highlights: Madame Tussauds Wax Museum, Louvre Museum, Eiffel Tower (3rd level), Glacier 3000



### EUROPEAN TRAILS

08 N / 09 D (EX-KOLKATA)  
France, Switzerland & Italy

Highlights: Louvre Museum, Eiffel Tower (3rd level), Glacier 3000



### EUROPEAN HIGHLIGHTS

07 N / 08 D (EX-KOLKATA)  
Germany, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia & Austria

Highlights: Prague Castle, Schönbrunn Palace, Mauthausen Concentration Camp



### SCANDINAVIAN DELIGHTS

10 N / 11 D (EX-KOLKATA)  
Denmark, Norway, Sweden & Finland

Highlights: Rosenborg Castle, Kon-Tiki Museum, Viking Ship Museum, Ice bar, Norway in a Nutshell, Funicular ride to Mt. Fliegen, Vasa Ship Museum & Skansen Open Air Museum



### SPANISH SPLENDOURS

10 N / 11 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Madrid, Fatima, Lisbon, Seville, Cordoba, Granada, Valencia & Barcelona

Highlights: Las Ventas Bull ring, Shrine of Fatima, Jeronimos Monastery, The Alhambra and the Generalife Garden, FC Barcelona football stadium, Flamenco Show, Montserrat



### JEWELS OF CROWN

07 N / 08 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Manchester, Lake District, Edinburgh, York & London

Highlights: Manchester United FC, Windermere Lake Cruises, Whisky Distillery, York Minster, Tower of London



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### SOUTH AFRICAN SOJOURN

07 N / 08 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Johannesburg, Sun City, Garden Route, Cape Town

Highlights: Game Drive at Pilanesberg Game Drive, Sunset Cruise on Knysna Lagoon, Cape of Good Hope, Two Ocean's Aquarium, Seal's Colony, Penguins at Boulder's beach



### KENYAN SOJOURN

06 N / 07 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Nairobi, Aberdare, Lake Elementaita, Masai Mara

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Highlights: Mummies Room, Nubian Village, Abu Simbel & Hot Air Balloon



### HIGHLIGHTS OF CHINA

09 N / 10 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Xian, Beijing, Shanghai & Kunming

Highlights: Great Wall of China By Cabin Car, Tang Dynasty Show, Kung Fu Show, Acrobatic Show, Entry to Oriental Pearl Tower, Hi-Speed Maglev Train Ride



### DUBAI ADVENTURE

04 N / 05 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Dubai

Highlights: Entry to Burj Khalifa, Entry to latest attraction - Bollywood Parks Dubai



### WONDERS OF SRI LANKA

04 N / 05 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Bentota, Kandy, Colombo

Highlights: Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage, Temple of Tooth Relic, Madu River Boat Ride



### MYSTERIOUS JORDAN WITH ISRAEL

07 N / 08 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Amman, Petra, Agaba, Bethlehem, Dead Sea

Highlights: Visit Wadi Rum, Madaba, Petra, Dead Sea, Mt. Nebo, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv



### JAPANESE GETAWAY

06 N / 7 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Tokyo, Nagoya, Kyoto, Hiroshima, Osaka

Highlights: Sumida River Cruise, Lake Ashi Cruise, Kimono Show, Okura Castle, Historic Hiroshima, Mt. Fuji

## MEMORABLE HOLIDAYS TO FAR EAST

### BUMPER FAR EAST

09 N / 10 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Bangkok, Pattaya, Singapore & Kuala Lumpur

Highlights: Chao Phraya Dinner Cruise, Colosseum Show, Universal Studio, Night Safari, Garden By The Bay, Madame Tussauds, Sunway Lagoon, Entry Kuala Lumpur Tower



### SUNNY BEACHES

07 N / 08 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Krabi, Phuket, Pattaya & Bangkok

Highlights: 4 Island Tour in Krabi, Phi-Phi Island Tour, Colosseum Show, Safari World



### DELUXE HONG-KONG, MACAU WITH DISNEYLAND

06 N / 07 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Macau, Shenzhen, Disneyland & Hong-Kong

Highlights: Madame Tussauds In Hong-Kong, Sky Terrace, Ocean Park, Stay in Venetian Hotel & Stay In Disneyland



### MESMERISING MALAYSIA & SINGAPORE

05 N / 06 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Kuala Lumpur & Singapore

Highlights: Sunway Lagoon, Entry Kuala Lumpur Tower, Putrajaya, Night Safari, Garden By The Bay, Sentosa Island



### FUN FILLED THAILAND

04 N / 05 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Pattaya & Bangkok

Highlights: Colosseum Show, Safari World



### SPLENDOURS OF THAILAND

06 N / 07 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Phuket, Pattaya & Bangkok

Highlights: Phi-Phi Island Tour, Colosseum Show, Safari World, Chaopraya Dinner Cruise



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### AUSTRALIAN DISCOVERY

10 N / 11 D (EX-KOLKATA)

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Highlights: Seaworld, Movie World, Helicopter Ride, Melbourne Cricket Ground, Army Duck Tour In Cairns, Kuranda Rain Forest With Skyrail, Hot Air Balloon In Cairns, Entry To Opera, Sealife Aquarium, Sydney Tower, Lunch In Revolving Restaurant, Showboat Dinner Cruise



### SPirit OF AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

15 N / 16 D (EX-KOLKATA)

Gold Coast, Cairns, Melbourne, Sydney, Christchurch, Queenstown, Rotorua & Auckland

Highlights: Seaworld, Movie World, Helicopter Ride, Melbourne Cricket Ground, Army Duck Tour In Cairns, Kuranda Rain Forest With Skyrail, Hot Air Balloon In Cairns, Entry To Opera, Sealife Aquarium, Sydney Tower, Lunch In Revolving Restaurant, Showboat Dinner Cruise, Waitomo Caves



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4 Commerce ST (H) & (P) Date & Time of Interview 04-07-2017 at 10.00 am

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**AIR programme**

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 23: The Regional News Unit of AIR Guwahati will hold a live talk show 'Drishpati' at 8.30 pm tomorrow featuring PWD, Excise and Fishery Minister Parimal Suklabaidya as resource person. Manas Pratim Sarma will host the show.

**OBITUARY****Jagot Ch Sarma**

GUWAHATI, June 23: Jagot Chandra Sarma, retired examiner, Local Accounts of Assam



sam (Director of Audit) expired today at his Gandhabasti residence. He was 95.

Born in 1922, he had a brilliant academic career and started his services initially in Cotton College and later joined as Professor of Economics at Gauhati University. Finally he was recruited by the Govt of Assam to serve as Under-Secretary in the finance department.

He is survived by his wife Renu Sarma, third daughter of Radha Govinda Baruah, two sons, two daughters and three grandchildren.

# People asked to be on guard against online fraud

MAMATA MISHRA

**LOCAL FORECAST:** Generally cloudy sky. Rain/thundershower is likely to occur. Maximum temperature is most likely to be 33°C on Saturday.

**TEMPERATURE:**

Max 35.4°C

Min 24.4°C

Rain/thundershower is likely to occur. Maximum temperature is most likely to be 33°C on Saturday.

Receiving complaints about online fraud by web portals and Facebook pages promising to offer puja inside the temple during Ambubachi, the shrine's management committee has asked people to stay alert.

With growing cases of online fraud, even the religious practices are not spared. While the festival is getting more popular among the people in different parts of the country, some gullible devotees are also falling prey to tricks of swindlers in the name of religion.

"There are no such services provided from Devalaya like offering online

puja or *prasad*. Moreover, the sanctum sanctorum remains off limits to everyone during the four days, so, the question of offering puja inside the temple does not arise. People must not fall for such fraudulent activities," Kamakhya

**Ambubachi**

head priest Kabindra Sarma told *The Assam Tribune*.

The temple authorities would seek help from police to nab the culprits and monitor the mushrooming of such sites, which not only spread lies about Kamakhya but also dent the image of the State.

Last year, the police took action against two such Facebook pages that were making false promises in the name of Ambubachi.

"This time also, we have come to know

about such online activities of either promising special puja or spreading some lies about Kamakhya," sources in the Kamakhya Devalaya Managing Committee said, adding that the committee would go to the police if such practices are not stopped.

"Suddenly, the Internet is filled up with a number of false, objectionable and fictitious images of Maa Kamakhya. Some websites are also spreading wrong information about the rituals at Kamakhya without verifying it. A Facebook page had also copied the design of the official web page of Kamakhya Devalaya, which was later closed down."

Operating mostly from outside the State, such websites and web pages trap unsuspecting people. Along with spreading lies, such activities also dent the image of the State, which is not acceptable," the sources added.

Guwahati, June 23: An art exhibition on the theme of the Kamakhya temple during the auspicious occasion of Ambubachi Mela was inaugurated today by Jayanta Malla Baruah, Chairman, the Assam Tourism Development Corporation Limited (ATDCL) at the ITA Machukhola here, said a press release.

The first of its kind art exhibition, titled 'Drops of Divinity', features 51 works of paintings and sculptures by 30 local artists on the theme of the Kamakhya temple.

The exhibition, organised by Hastaikshar and supported by ATDCL, will depict devotion to Goddess Kamakhya during Ambubachi in the form of intriguing visual art.

The 3-day exhibition will feature

**3-day art exhibition on Ambubachi begins**

works of veteran as well as emerging artists of the region.

"This is the first time that an art exhibition is being organised on the occasion of Ambubachi. It can be a rare and exciting opportunity for the visitors to trigger their experience of the festival through the paintings. We are thrilled

to organise such an event and delighted that the people will be able to travel through the artist's imagination of the Goddess," said Bidisha Das of Hastaikshar Arts & Crafts.

The art works will be exhibited till the evening hours of June 25 at the art gallery of ITA Machukhola.

## Joint initiatives to tackle waterlogging

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 23: The artificial flood that left Guwahati paralyzed twice within ten days and claimed six lives has made the administration take some joint initiatives to tackle various issues that aggravate the problem of water logging in the city.

Noticing a sudden reduction in the quantum of water carrying capacity of the Bharali, the district administration along with the Water Resources Department and the Guwahati Municipal Corporation (GMC) is examining the situation that has led to a reduced flow of the rivulet.

"We had a meeting today with the officials of the Water Resources Department and the Soil Conservation Department regarding the artificial flood problem in Guwahati. I have also deplored an official to examine the flow of the Bharali (volume and speed of flow) and the causes leading to its reduced carrying capacity," Kamijo (Metro) DC Dr M Angamithu told *The Assam Tribune*.

"The reason might be the silt accumulation in Bharali or the Brahmaputra river flowing close to the danger mark. Along with the GMC and the Water Resources Department, we would examine how the silt is taken out on a regular basis to maintain its free flow," he added.

As directed by Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, a joint control room has been set up in the DC's office with representatives from city police, GMC, district administration, AP-DCL, SDRF, Water Resources Department and PWD.

The joint team would be coordinat-

ing with the ward councillors, area members, ward-wise NGOs and also the civil society organizations for smooth and speedy response during disaster situation.



Meanwhile, the NGO Save Guwahati Build Guwahati (SGBG) has asked the State Government to deal with the problem of water logging by addressing some of the key issues related to the city's geographical condition.

"The wetlands working as the city's natural water reservoirs have been filled without any planning. Now, the

few beels remaining in the vicinity of the city must be preserved, removing all encroachments. Given the geographical condition of the city, surrounded by hills, it is impossible to find a solution without maintaining the water reservoirs," the NGO stated in a communication to the administration.

It further added that digging of water exit channels must be completed on time.

President of the NGK Krishna K Barooah and secretary Satyen Doley further said the department concerned must look into the matter of gap between the rising road level and the sinking plinth level of old houses in the city. "If one compares the plinth and road levels, and the level of drains in the city, it will give anyone a fair idea about the slowly development works so far being carried out in the city," the communication further added.

Stressing the need of better coordination among different government departments like GDD, PWD, Water Resources and APDCL, it said the management of municipal solid waste must also be done in a proper manner to keep the drains unclogged.

## AGSU demands solution to flash flood

GUWAHATI, June 23: Hundreds of students today staged a demonstration at the Digaliapukharpur under the banner of the All Guwahati Students' Union in protest against the State government's failure to find a solution to the perennial flash flood problem in Guwahati. Demanding a permanent solution of the problem, the protesters criticised the State government for not making sufficient efforts to address the problem.

Holding placards against the GMC, GMDA and other departments, the students said that the present government was voted to power, with expectations for some change, which did not occur despite one year of the present government.

"All the government departments concerned are shifting the blame to one another. There is a clear lack of initiative on the part of the administration to solve the problem," AGSU president Rajnil Ali and general secretary Raifuddin Ahmed said. — Staff Reporter

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## GU to felicitate environmentalists

CORRESPONDENT

JALUKBARI, June 23: The Gauhati University Wing for International Relations in association with the Zoological Society of Assam (ZSA), Gauhati University Workmen's Union (GUWU), Gauhati University Research Scholars' Association (GURSA) and Alumni Association of Zoology Department, GU will felicitate noted personalities as well as GU alumna Purimima Devi Barman and Dr Bibutri Prasad Lahkar at a function to be held on June 30 in the PD Seminar Hall, GU, with Vice Chancellor Dr Mridul Hazarika as the chief guest.

While Barman was recently awarded the prestigious Whitley Award, 2017 (also known as Green Oscar) for her efforts towards protection of the globally endangered greater adjutant storks in Assam, Dr Lahkar was awarded the prestigious IUCN Heritage Hero Award in 2016 at the World Conservation Congress in Honolulu, Hawaii for his enormous contributions towards conservation of Nature and natural resources and his commendable work on conservation of biodiversity.

## HC rejects Roy's bail petition

GUWAHATI, June 23: The Gauhati High Court today rejected the bail petition of Ambika Roy, Delhi-based advocate and a functionary of the Nikhil Bharat Bangla Udbastu Sammanay Samity (NBUSS). Roy is accused in the Paltan Bazar police station case in which CID SSP Dr N Rajaraman was arrested and subsequently released on bail. The bail petition of Roy was rejected after perusal of the case diary wherein ample materials have been reportedly found against the accused. — Staff Reporter

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Issued in public interest by: **Commissionerate of Taxes, Government of Assam**

Janasanayog/4/199/17

## MESSAGE FOR TODAY

*Our doubts are traitors, and make us lose the good we oft might win, by fearing to attempt.*

— WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

## The Assam Tribune

### Shocking callousness

Time and again our government authorities continue to get exposed over their various acts of omission and commission that hit at the very core of governance. The recurring electrocution-induced tragic deaths of citizens in the city flash floods is shocking to say the least. It lays bare the reality that the life of a common man matters little for our insensitive Government and its thick-skinned functionaries. Utterly avoidable tragedies such as these have now become the norm precisely due to the apathy and callousness of the electricity authorities, the APDCL in particular. No less deplorable has been the role of the district administration that has been turning a blind eye to the recurring electrocution cases and failed to make the electricity authorities responsive to situations that pose a grave danger to people's lives. For quite a few years now, city's roads and streets have been transformed into death traps during artificial floods and water-logging, with people routinely losing their lives from electrocution besides drowning in open drains and manholes. As if the woes stemming from the complete disruption of the people's routine life during water-logging were not enough, the city is now witnessing a spurt in electrocution fatalities due to the sheer negligence of the authorities.

An inquiry has now been ordered and two electricity officials have been suspended but much more needs to be done to ensure that there is no recurrence of such avoidable tragedies. It's more than apparent that the electricity authorities have made a complete dereliction of their duties concerning periodical maintenance of high-tension power lines besides failing to adopt the required safety measures, especially those warranted by the frequent deluges that hit the city. Periodical maintenance apart, routine monitoring of power lines and transformers and replacement of defective or worn-out wires or parts are rarely done. This is surely a recipe for disaster. The shocking carelessness and complacency of the APDCL also stands exposed by the fact that its staff are not trained for these tasks and it has been outsourcing its responsibilities by engaging cheap and unskilled labour. This amounts to playing with the lives of the citizens and is criminal to say the least. The Power Minister's role, too, has been most uninspiring in this regard. It's time the Chief Minister took serious note of the aggravating situation and intervened for injecting a sense of professionalism in the electricity authorities' functioning. Merely suspending one or two officials is unlikely to bring in any lasting change unless the department as a whole is made to function accountably. It's a common sight to see a tangled mess of power lines as well as other cables hanging precariously over city streets. A foolproof arrangement of power lines with all the necessary safety measures and their regular monitoring and maintenance is a must. If the Government is not in a position to do this much, it has no moral right to be in power, let alone talking about public welfare.

### Reassessing feasibility

A few years back, when a demand was made in regional forums as well as Parliament to have a different time-zone for the North-east, the Centre had emphatically rejected implementation of such a step as being not worth the hassle. In December 2014, Jitendra Singh, then Union Minister of State for DONER, had stated in Parliament that the Centre was not planning a separate time-zone for the region, despite the significant time difference with other parts of India. Apparently, a 'scientific' study, carried out by the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru, had indicated that there would only be a saving of power of 1.5% of the total usage in the North-east! That a nation like Bangladesh has set a timeline earlier than India, and many countries of the world have multiple time-zones in order to bring about greater efficiency in time management, were not taken into account. Concerned opinion at that time had pointed out that the rationale for making the demand transcended mere concern of power-saving, and that there were physical, social and psychological aspects which needed to be factored in. Because they are acclimatized to a uniform time frame with the rest of India, that the sun in summer in places like Arunachal dawns as early as 4.30 am, a difference of an hour-and-a-half from Gujarat, the people of the North-east confront numerous problems.

For instance, school children here have lesser outdoor playing hours and office workers lesser time for leisure activity because darkness sets in very soon after school or office ends. Similarly, because of the time difference, people here have to retire for the night immediately after their meal, which is detrimental to health. There can be no doubt that a separate time-zone giving scope for efficient utilization of daylight hours would increase the cumulative productivity of the region. A proper study of the benefits of a switch would surely prove that having a separate time-zone would benefit the North-east! This is why the news that, in response to a demand by Arunachal Chief Minister Pema Khandu for a separate time-zone for the North-east, the Centre has ordered a reassessment of feasibility, this time by the Department of Science and Technology, is so welcome. It may be noted that a similar time-zone switch is applicable to the archipelagoes of the Andaman and Nicobar and the Lakshadweep where two sunrise and sunsets are different from the mainland. However, any new assessment should go beyond aspects like amount of power saved, and embrace social and psychological aspects too. It may be noted that the British had introduced 'tea garden standard time' one hour ahead of the rest of the country so that tea workers could make greater use of daylight hours, and the Centre might do well to take a leaf out of their book!

# A minor miracle!

## PLAIN-SPEAK

Arup Kumar Dutta

**O**ne of the most moving stories I had read when I was a youth had been O'Henry's 'The Gift of the Magi'. Now that I have grown older though not necessarily wiser, I discovered that it was a maudlin tale with a typical O'Henry twist and oozing with sufficient sentiments to move youthful imaginations.

However, that story taught me early on what I have discovered to be a constant factor – life, indeed, is filled with minor miracles! Some years back I and my daughter experienced such a minor miracle. However, since it was a minor miracle it would not take long in narrating. Thus, suffice it to say that to digress somewhat in order to pad up this piece!

On another occasion, during an interaction with parents of a reputed school in Guwahati, a distraught mother complained to me that her son refused to take interest in any other extracurricular activities than playing video games. He would return to bus from school and go straight to his room and start playing video games. She and her husband had tried their best to get him to read books, or indulge in outdoor activities, but to no avail. What on earth, she had asked, was she to do, since she had been told that excessive addiction to video games impeded learning abilities in children?

Rather than attempt to answer her question, I merely asked her if she herself did much reading. Had her son ever returned from school

to find her deeply absorbed in a literary work? No, was her reply. With so much to do around the house, where could she find the time to read? Oh yes, she did thumb occasionally through a magazine, while her husband read the newspaper in the morning. But for intellectual sustenance as well as news and information, she depended mostly on the television!

I followed my first questions with another. When her son was just a toddler, did she ever read aloud to him? Later, as he grew up, did she include book-reading as a shared activity? The answers, expectedly, were in the negative. As for outdoor games, what with her husband being busy from morn till eve in his office, there was nothing much to offer on that front. So whatever outdoor activities were performed by her son, these were done at school. Oh, when he was young she had played a game or two of Ludo or Monopoly with him, but now that he was into video games, that too had ended.

Her plight (as perhaps that of her son) was the result of a phenomenon typical to modern parenting, the paucity of time that parents have to devote to their children. It is my belief that the most important gift a parent can give to children is neither love nor material comforts; rather, it is 'time'. Child psychologists avow that parents are the first and best 'teachers' of any child, and children tend to emulate from a

very young age the actions of their parents. In this particular case, (a) the mother was not an avid book reader whom the son could emulate; (b) she had not spent time with her son in storytelling or book reading and (c) she had not created an environment in the house which might attract her child to books.

As for outdoor activities, the father too did not have time to share with his son. Little wonder that the child found comfort in the world of

This scarcity of time, with in many cases both parents working, has brought about another deleterious change to parenting nowadays – their total dependence on schools and teachers for 'education' of their children. Thus, mostly out of compulsion, the concept of the parents as the first and best teachers too has vanished into thin air; the evolution of the so-called 'pre-school' phenomenon has even ensured that such a transfer of responsibility is made for a child as young as two years!

At the same time, it is in many cases the lack of time which has brought about the 'tuition' culture in our society, with parents invariably seeking outside help with subjects their children were 'weak' in.

Being someone who has (as far as feasible) tried to practise what I preach, I had always attempted to devote as much 'time' I could to my children. I had never sent them to tuition and instead tried to regularly sit

together with them to help out with any difficulties they might have in their studies – which led to the minor miracle I had talked about at the very beginning!

My daughter was excellent in her studies, but Mathematics had been proving to be her Achilles heel as she grew older. As the time of matriculation examinations arrived, rather than sending her for private tuition, the two of us together worked hard to get her to have a better grasp on maths. Finally, on

the night before the examination, I selected 10 sums from her textbook and tested her skill in solving them.

She 'passed' almost with flying colours, successfully solving nine out of the 10 sums. However, there was one sum which she could not solve, and we wracked our brains to work out this mathematical conundrum. But it proved beyond my capabilities and finally we decided that we shall have to send an SOS to someone better equipped than I in solving such uncrackable riddles!

At around 10 pm that night, I rang up a mathematician friend of mine and asked for his help in solving a matriculation level question. It took him but a few minutes to explain how to do so and, following his advice, we were finally able to work it out before she retired to bed.

The next morning the minor miracle occurred! The first question on the question paper was the very same one which we had not been able to work out the previous night and had to take outside help to do so!

It was like a booster shot in the arm, my daughter later told me. Whatever pre-exam jitters she had been feeling about her bête noire subject disappeared into thin air; she was filled with confidence and breezed through the entire paper, completing it much ahead of the scheduled time!

Later, when the results were out, she had passed her matriculation with flying colours even as she set a personal record in securing 'letter-marks in mathematics. Yes, there indeed are minor miracles occurring at various points of our lives – we simply need to recognize them!

## Female foeticide, law and our duty

■ Dr Karuna Hazarika

**R**ecently we came across a news report that a radiologist was convicted for violating the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, 1994 (PC-PNDT Act) in Assam. Probably it's the first case reported in Assam. This is a strong Act to ban and punish prenatal sex screening and female foeticide. It is currently illegal in India to determine or disclose the sex of the fetus to anyone. The child sex ratio (0-6 years) is alarmingly low in some States like Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, J&K and Uttar Pradesh. The Government has taken various steps to educate people. We have seen big hoardings, newspaper and electronic media advertisements to make people aware about the PC-PNDT Act.

The PC-PNDT Act, 1994 was enacted in 1994, amended and effectively implemented in 2003 and amended again in 2011. The implementation of this Act was slow and almost non-existent. The level of management of the Act includes central-level and state-level supervisory board, an appropriate authority and supporting advisory committee. Now, the supervisory board is to observe, moni-

tor and make amendments to the provisions of the Act. The appropriate authority provides registration and conducts the administrative work including penalization of non-compliance. The advisory committee provides expert and technical support to the appropriate authority. It is mandatory to have a licence to conduct such type of test in hospitals, diagnostic and genetic clinics. The person conducting the test has to follow strict code of conduct laid by the Act and have to report to the appropriate authority, in time. The violation of the Act in any form will have to face legal procedure, sealing of machine, cancellation of registration and penalization by jail term up to three years and fine of Rs 10,000; any subsequent violation will invite jail term for five years and fine of Rs 50,000. If the attendant/patient urges the doctor to carry out such test, they will also face the penalty with fine of Rs 50,000 and jail term for three years. The Act also specifies who and where such test can be done for the benefit of patients.

Female foeticide is a grave social problem of India. This is a process to terminate female foetus from the womb of mother before birth fol-

lowing sex determination tests like ultrasound scan, amniocentesis, chorionic villus biopsy, blood and urine test. In many parts of India, the female child is considered as a social and economic burden to their parents. It was estimated that 10 million female foetuses were killed before birth since 1990 with the help of diagnostic tools. Daughters are not given proper respect and priority than sons in the Indian society. They do not get the same treatment like boys in education, health care, nutrition, sports, etc. Mostly, illiteracy, insensitivity and poverty were considered as the main reason of the female foeticide. However, the rate of incidence is more in the affluent States where dowry is considered as one of the root causes. As Bibapur in Haryana, a small township, the child sex ratio (CSR) is 871 to 1,000 males, compared with the national average of 914/1000 according to the 2011 census. In a study in 2011, the British medical journal *Lancet* found that up to 12 million female foetuses had been aborted in the last three decades in India. Women and Child Welfare Minister of India Maneka Gandhi says sex selective abortion is a "problem of affluence". Every day around 2,000 girls are killed in the womb or immediately after birth in

India, although a UN reports says the daily number is around 7,000. The recent Census 2011 revealed that there is no improvement of CSR (914 : 1000) in the highly focused States despite stringent law under implementation since 2003 and hundreds of prosecution being launched and doctors being sent to jail. The CSR is within in the natural range of eastern and southern States of India, but higher in Maharashtra (118), Haryana (120), Jammu & Kashmir (116) as of 2011. In Maharashtra and Rajasthan, the 2011 census found a CSR of 114 and 113, Gujarat 113, Haryana 119, Jammu & Kashmir 128 and UP 111. Mizoram, Kerala and Puducherry have 101, 102, and 102 respectively. Assam is having a ratio of 104.

The PC-PNDT Act 1994 and the MTP Act of 1971 go side by side making abortion legal in most of the States, but for specified legally acceptable reasons for abortion. The MTP Act has specified who can legally provide the procedure and the facilities where abortions can be performed, but did not anticipate female foeticide based on advanced technology. Here lies the lacuna and the evil takes the upper hand. The media and a major cross-section of the people give opinion and blame

sonographer to a great extent while forgetting that the main act, the female foeticide, is being done elsewhere. The recent judgments also indicate that the Judiciary believes that the sonographers and their machines need to be monitored strictly.

The Government of India has taken steps like 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' for uplifting female child. The *sarpanch* from Bibapur in Haryana started with a 'selfie with daughter' campaign. The initiative was lauded by Prime Minister Modi in his 'Mann ki Baat'. But there are a lot of things to be done as a recent study in 2013 argues that the Act may have had a small impact by preventing 106,000 female foeticides over one decade.

The problem is deep-rooted in the society and not just within the medical community. The society needs to be warned that trying to detect the sex of a foetus is a crime. Awareness programmes like articles, interviews in media, publicity in cinema and television should percolate deep down the society. A multi-cornered approach with co-operation between doctors, the government and non-government organizations (NGO) is the way to save the society from this man-made catastrophe.

## Letters to the EDITOR

Sir – This is with reference to your editorial, 'Government schools' (June 20). A lot of reports and editorials have been published in the newspapers; talk shows were held in the television news channels on the falling standards of government-run school education in the State. The Government was also apparently taking a lot of steps to improve the standard. Unfortunately, the Government actions were showing no positive results. You have rightly mentioned that "the ominous trend has been conspicuous since the 1990s".

Since 1990, India steered

## Plight of Government schools

teachers, *et al.*, when they too preferred the English-medium schools for their own children. As their children were no longer pursuing education in the government schools, unlike earlier, they shirked their responsibilities towards the government schools.

Last year, there was a judgment of the Allahabad High Court that the government employees must send their children to the government schools. I think this is the only remedy. If an inspector of schools, a government officer, admits his own children in a private English-medium school, he will certainly ignore his duty towards the government schools. Yours etc., INDRA MOHAN DUTTA, Hojai, ST scholarship

submitted to the Chief Minister of the State and the authority concerned regarding this, but without any concrete action. I had written a complaint letter to the Prime Minister of India through the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) portal on June 7, 2017, regarding the pending ST scholarships and the negligence shown by the State Government. Surprisingly, my letter was forwarded by the PMO on the same day to Dr Anwaruddin Choudhury, State Nodal Officer, Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam, Pension and Public Grievances Department, Secretariat, Dispur. However, one only wonders whether any action has been taken by the authority concerned. Yours etc., MITHINGA NARZARY, Udaguri.

Electronic media

Sir – I would like to draw the attention of the authorities

concerned to the issue of scholar-ship to the Scheduled Tribe (ST) students of Assam. From 2005 to 2016, the ST scholarship had been a long-pending issue in Assam. In fact several protests relating to the irregularity of scholarship were organized in different places by the students and memorandums

submitted to the Chief Minister of the State and the authority concerned regarding this, but without any concrete action. As the media is considered to be the fourth pillar of democracy, it has to make certain that the news broadcast has a positive impact on the society or for the greater interest of the society. News focused basically to generate TRP which has no authenticity, can never be accepted by the public. This is not only the case of the State media houses, but some of the national media houses too are seen to have been neglecting the same. This issue has been a matter of concern for years; nevertheless, we hope that the State electronic media houses will consider this as urgent; else the day is not far when the common public will lose trust on the electronic media.

Yours etc., GAURAV GAUTAM SAHA, MG Road, Nagaon.

Unfortunate indeed

Sir – This refers to the letter 'Exam date clash' (June 21). It is really unfortunate that all the recruitment exams, i.e. junior assistant of Inspectorate of Boilers, junior account assistant of Karmup Treasury and junior assistant of

Forest Department are going to be held on the same date, i.e., July 9, 2017. Hence, the departments concerned should consider the issue as soon as possible and modify the exam dates for the benefit of the unemployed youths of the State. Yours etc., SUSMITA SINGH, Guwahati.

(II)

Sir – I and some of my friends have applied for the posts of junior assistant under the Department of Environment and Forest and junior account assistant, under the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup Metre District. Most inconveniently, the dates for the qualifying exams for both the posts are the same, July 9, 2017. Therefore, I want to draw the attention of the aforementioned authorities concerned to change the dates so that the candidates will be benefited. In these difficult days of lack of employment, we cannot afford to lose the opportunity of appearing for both the exams. Yours etc., A. CHOUDHURY, Guwahati.

Articles (within 1000-1100 words) and Letters to the Editor for publication in the editorial page may be sent to the email ID: [editor@assamtribune.com](mailto:editor@assamtribune.com).

**Idd-Ul-Fitr namaz on June 27**

GUWAHATI, June 23: The name of Idd-Ul-Fitr will be held on June 27 next at Guwahati Idd-Gah Field at Maichukhowa here at 9 am. The namaz will be conducted by Hafiz Qari Moulna Mohammad Iqbal Qasimi Sahab of Ustad Jamia Arabia Riyazul Uloom based in Uttar Pradesh's Deoband, stated a press release here today. - Staff Reporter

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**ADMISSION NOTICE**

Adc (33)MPC Admision/2017-18 20/06/2017  
Applications are invited for admission to 2 - year MPE (Master of Physical Education) and 1 - year PGDHM (Post Graduate Diploma in Health and Fitness Management) at LNCPE, Trivandrum for the academic year 2017-18. Interested candidates may apply in prescribed application form which is available on our website ([www.lnape.gov.in](http://www.lnape.gov.in)) or approach the academic section at the college. Completed application in all respects have to be submitted to the Secretary, LNCPE, Trivandrum, the 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2017. Details are available on the College website.

(D.K.V.K.REDDY)  
I/C, ACADEMICS

**WALK-IN-INTERVIEW****RECRUITMENT FOR MyGov Assam**

Eligible candidates are requested to attend a walk-in-interview for MyGov Assam resource recruitment for the below mentioned posts as specified and date.

Post	Date of interview	Venue & time
1. Social Media Analytics Expert	28-06-2017	ANTRON, Industrial Estate, Bamunmadan, Guwahati-21 Time: 11:00 AM
2. Project Manager		

For eligibility criteria and other details, please log on to [www.assam.gov.in](http://www.assam.gov.in) Sd/- Managing Director  
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**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

NIT No: FAS/PNGRB/2017/IIU/30 dated: 21.06.2017  
Assam Gas Company Limited, Duljalia, G.O.M. of Assam undertaking, invites bids for Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for Intelligent Analog Addressable Fire Detection, Alarm System (FAS), & Suppression System and SITC of FM-200 Fire Suppression & Conventional Detection Systems. Tender documents are available at Assam e-procurement portal <https://assamtenders.gov.in> and should be submitted ONLINE only. For NIT, the parties may visit our website [www.assangas.org](http://www.assangas.org).  
Managing Director

**TENDER NOTICE**

CIT/KO/Hotel Mess/1516/2017/31 Dated: 22.06.2017  
Sealed tenders for Hostel Catering Services of CIT Kokrajhar are invited in prescribed format under Two-Bid system i.e. Technical Bid and Financial Bid from reputed agencies/catere possessing valid registration and license under the relevant statutes, for a period of one year and extendable on mutual consent and the terms and conditions agreed upon. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Institute website [www.citc.ac.in](http://www.citc.ac.in). The downloaded tender shall be submitted along with tender fee of Rs. 1,00/- in the shape of DD of a scheduled bank in favour of "CIT Kokrajhar" payable at Kokrajhar. Last date for submission of tender is 10.07.2017 up to 2.00 p.m. For further details visit [www.citc.ac.in](http://www.citc.ac.in)

Sd/- Registrar, CIT Kokrajhar

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It is hereby informed to the residents of greater Guwahati that they may lodge emergency electrical complaints and give suggestions over the following numbers and e-mail.

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Public Relations Officer  
APDCL, Bijulee Bhawan, Ghy-01  
APS/2017/47

**National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.**  
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

Regional Office: 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Agniphanti Business Park, Opp. AGP Office, GNB Road, Ambari, Guwahati-781001, India. Expression of interest from Advocate on Record/Law Firms for High Courts and members of Bar Association of India is invited for North East Region for seeking Status Quo Non Petition, Legal Notice, Drafting of Petitions, Drafting of Replies / Written Statement, Application of Direction, Stay etc. Response / Replication / Conference / Meeting with Senior Advocate (Client(s)), Appearance advocate with 15 years of practice) and allied legal matters. The details can be obtained from our website [www.nhidcl.com](http://www.nhidcl.com). The AOR/Firm/Advocates fulfilling the required criteria should send their proposal in Sealed Cover (hard copies) with all the supporting documents duly attested, as detailed in the EOI document, to the "Executive Director (P), RC-NE, NHIDCL". The last date of receipt of proposal is 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

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Australian researchers Dr Graham Walker and Dr Stuart Kohlhagen perform experiments during a programme 'Science Circus' at the Regional Science Centre, in Guwahati on Friday. - AT photo

**APCC asks Govt to make stand clear**

STAFF REPORTER

directive to telecom operators in the country asking them to re-verify all phone numbers with Aadhar and if they are found to be not linked to Aadhar by February 2018, then these phone numbers will be deactivated.

As a pilot project, the process of giving Aadhar cards was started in the urban areas of the three districts of Nagaon, Sonitpur and Golaghat. But it was stopped as it was sought to be done after update of NRC (National Register of Citizens) all over Assam so that no illegal immigrants can get Aadhar card and avail government benefits.

In May this year, State Minister of Affairs Minster Charu Mohan Patowary had informed the State Assembly that the government would restart the process of giving Aadhar cards in the State and that there was no need to wait for completion of NRC update since Aadhar is not proof of citizenship.

But the question is, how will they stop any 'illegal or fake' enrolment of Aadhar card as there is a list of 29 documents, which will make it very easy for anyone to get an Aadhar card, said the APCC in a statement signed jointly by senior spokespersons Abdul Kader and Bobbeeta Sarma.

Press Council panel to meet scribes on June 30  
STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 23: The Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) has demanded of the BJP government to make it stand public on the issue of the Aadhar cards vis-a-vis the State, as the Union government has made it mandatory for taxpayers to link their Aadhar number to their PAN cards with effect from July 1, 2017 in order to be able to file their income tax (IT) returns.

Moreover, Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has introduced a new Section 139 AA in the Income Tax Act of 1961 which makes it mandatory to link the Aadhar number to PAN cards. The new provision also states that the existing PAN card holders who fail to link their Aadhar numbers will have their PAN cards revoked and those cards will be invalid for all purposes.

Aadhar card has also been made mandatory for opening any bank accounts and linking the Aadhar number with bank accounts by December 31, 2017. Quoting Aadhar number in case of transactions worth Rs 50,000 and above has also been mandatory.

The Union government had also issued a

directive to telecom operators in the country

asking them to re-verify all phone numbers

with Aadhar and if they are found to be not

linked to Aadhar by February 2018, then these

phone numbers will be deactivated.

All the working journalists are invited to interact and depose before the members of the said committee on June 30 and apprise the committee of their grievances, according to an official press release here.

**NF Railway's electrification works reviewed**

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 23: The status of the ongoing electrification works of NF Railway was reviewed by the member (traction) of the Railway Board Ganashaym Singh in a meeting held at Maligaon today.

NF Railway's General Manager Chahet Ram, who headed the high level team of NF Railway, was present in the meeting where the level of preparedness of the Railways for switching over to electric traction and planning for solar power utilization to cut energy costs were also discussed.

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ADVERTISEMENT NO. 06 / 2017

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(S. K. SHARMA)  
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## ■ River as a potential route and its strategic importance

# British Army prepared report on Brahmaputra in 1913

AJIT PATORWARY

GUWAHATI, June 23: The British colonial power viewed the Brahmaputra as a potential river route. The strategic importance of the river was also in the hindsight of the colonial rulers. It engaged its Army to study the river's potential in these respects. The British General Staff of India prepared a report on the river in the eventful year of 1913. It was published in another eventful year of 1914. This report is called, "The Military Report on the Brahmaputra River System."

It needs mention here that 1913 was the year when the second Balkan war led to the prelude for a bigger war and on July 28, 1914, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia and this marked the begin-

ning of the First World War.

The 'Military Report on the Brahmaputra River System' deals with the Brahmaputra system within the British territory, together with the river system which is known as the Padma (Ganga) and Meghna (after the Brahmaputra and the Ganga met together), respectively before Goalundo.

However, the phenomenon of flood is absent in the report, even as, on some occasions, it refers to the oscillating nature of the river.

The report has stated that the river was of the oscillating nature. "Between the main banks there (near Dibrugarh) is a wide strait, in which the river oscillates from side to side, throwing out here and there divergent channels which after

a time rejoin the parent stream."

Besides, it has stated, "The waters of the river are heavily laden with suspended matter (in its upper stretch), and the smallest obstruction in the current is liable to give rise to a (sic) almond-shaped sandbank. The next flood may wash this bank away or may only increase its size by fresh deposits of sand and the 'bars' or islands, thus formed, soon become covered with dense growth of reeds."

Further, it has maintained that in its upper reaches, the river was always navigable by country boats between Sambora, about 16 miles by road from Sadiya, and Dibrugarh. During the rainy season, it is navigable by feeder steamers as far as Sadiya. The small steamers were used "occasionally when required for the pas-

sage of troops or stores." However, it maintains that the breadth of the navigable channel was from 20 to 50 yards in this stretch.

In the 206-mile-long stretch between Dibrugarh and Tezpur, "Owing to changes in the current and the extreme width of the river bed, the main channel does not remain the same, but changes very considerably from year to year. These constant changes in the course of the main channel do not, however, affect its navigability."

"Throughout the year the largest class of river steamers can proceed up and down the river, but the changes in the current frequently cause sandbanks to be formed in the old channels. During the cold weather, when the water is low,

these sandbanks often cause steamers to run aground, and delays of 25 hours or more may take place before they can be towed off and proceed on their way along the freshly-found channel," states the report.

In the 236-mile-long stretch between Tezpur and Dhubri, "The Brahmaputra displays in a pronounced degree the special characteristics by which it is distinguished in Assam. It oscillates from side to side in the sandy strath or valley through which it makes its way, and, except in a few places where rocks and hills give prominence to the channel, seldom follows the same course for two years in succession."

"At Panu near Gauhati, the river is confined by rocks and hills to a compara-

tively narrow channel, but even here the breadth (sic) of the telegraph wire across the river measured from post to post is 1.45 miles," the report states.

It further states, "The main channel of the river (in this stretch) is navigable by steamers at all time of the year, but the changes that constantly and even daily take place are of such a nature that the river is often deflected entirely from one bank over to the other. As a result, landing places or ghats are often entirely silted up and unapproachable even by country boats."

It also provides a thorough account of the ferry, feeder ferry services etc., running in the above stretches of the river, besides the details of its tributaries and the chief towns and villages situated by it.

## Girl rescued from Itanagar

CORRESPONDENT

BISWANATH CHARIALI, June 23: A teenager of Jamuanvi village of Bedeti under Behali police station in Biswanath district, who was allegedly sold to a rich family of Ganga near Itanagar was rescued by one Chandan Saikia on Wednesday at Itanagar. Later, she was handed over to Itanagar police station.

According to information, the 14-year-old girl was taken there by a woman named Shanti on the pretext of providing her a job. Then she had left the girl in the house of that particular family.

However, the girl had managed to flee and arrived at Itanagar, where Saikia met her. People opined that the incident had again brought to light the ongoing trafficking of poverty-stricken girls from interior places of the district to the neighbouring State of Arunachal Pradesh.

**Torchlight rally by ABSU, AGSU**

CORRESPONDENT

KOKRAJHAR, June 23: The All Bodoland Students' Union (ABSU) and All Assam Gorkha Students' Union (AGSU) on Thursday evening took out a huge torchlight rally in Kokrajhar town demanding immediate creation of Bodoland and Gorkhaland States.

The rally jointly organised by ABSU and AGSU, was supported by other groups like NDFB (P) and PJACBM.

A large number of ABSU, AGSU and other group supporters joined the rally with different posters, banners and shouting slogans on their demands. The rally started from Bodol Children Park and ended at Pragati Bhawan in Kokrajhar town.

Kwrrwmdao Wary, general secretary of ABSU, UPPB president UG Brahma, deputy chief censor of PJACBM, Gorjan Musahary, AGSU leaders Kiron Chetry, Rabu Pradhan, among others, also joined the rally.

## OBITUARY

### Shibanath Gogoi

CORRESPONDENT

 D O O M A - D O O M A , June 23: Retired teacher and a popular citizen of Doomdooma Shibanath Gogoi breathed his last at his residence at Azad Road of Doomdooma town on Wednesday afternoon. He was 82.

He joined as a teacher at Doomdooma Balak Prathamik Vidyalaya in 1954 and retired from Manirani Dewan Prathamik Vidyalaya in 1997. As a teacher he was very popular among his students. He is survived by his only son, three daughters and a host of relatives.

His death was widely mourned in the tea town.



Local people busy in buying jackfruits at Barama market in Baksa district, on Thursday. - UB Photos

**27,200 saplings to be planted on July 1 on Kaliabor-Bokakhat stretch of NH-37**

CORRESPONDENT

KAZIRANGA, June 23: As per the desire of Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, a massive plantation drive would be undertaken on July 1 in areas adjacent to the Kaziranga National Park, where about 27,200 saplings would be planted at a stretch of 68 km on both sides of the National Highway 37 from Kaliabor to Bokakhat.

The actual distance between these two destinations is 82 km, but a stretch of 68 km would be covered. The programme would be inaugurated by the Chief Minister at Kaliabor and exactly at the same time all the saplings would be planted up to Bokakhat area by different stakeholders, said the authority of Golaghat Social Forestry on Thursday during a meeting with stakeholders including different NGOs held at Forest Convention Center, Kaziranga. School children of Kaziranga will also participate in the programme.

Sources added that 400 saplings would be planted per km stretch of the National Highway 37 where about two km or so had been allocated to each organisation to complete the planting of the saplings. The Forest department would make all kinds of logistical arrangements like making the pits, supplying of plant saplings like

even though the elephant was released some eight days back by the veterinary doctors, the owner of this private elephant did not pay attention to the suggestions made by the team of doctors, who advised that the elephant must be shifted to Agartala range camp of Kaziranga National Park for better food and medicines, but the owner did not do that. It was rather kept in a village at Panbari area with the mahout who, the sources added did not take care of the required food and medicines. Now the condition of the elephant is very bad, said the veterinary doctors, adding that elephant during its stay at Panbari village might have indirectly consumed chemical pesticides which were being used to get rid of pests in the surrounding tea gardens. The elephant is now not in a position to move around. Now question is if the elephant was brought by Forest department for its work then why was proper care after medical treatment not provided? Will any action be taken against the owner of the elephant for his utter negligence towards the advice given by veterinary doctors?

There must be action against these owners who always prefer monetary benefits at the cost of a living and healthy elephant, sources said.

Sources further went on to add that

even though the elephant was released some eight days back by the veterinary doctors, the owner of this private elephant did not pay attention to the suggestions made by the team of doctors, who advised that the elephant must be shifted to Agartala range camp of Kaziranga National Park for better food and medicines, but the owner did not do that. It was rather kept in a village at Panbari area with the mahout who, the sources added did not take care of the required food and medicines. Now the condition of the elephant is very bad, said the veterinary doctors, adding that elephant during its stay at Panbari village might have indirectly consumed chemical pesticides which were being used to get rid of pests in the surrounding tea gardens. The elephant is now not in a position to move around. Now question is if the elephant was brought by Forest department for its work then why was proper care after medical treatment not provided? Will any action be taken against the owner of the elephant for his utter negligence towards the advice given by veterinary doctors?

There must be action against these owners who always prefer monetary benefits at the cost of a living and healthy elephant, sources said.

## New committee of Sammilito Sanskritik Vikash Mancha formed

CORRESPONDENT

HAILAKANDI, June 23: The new executive committee of Sammilito Sanskritik Vikash Mancha was constituted for the next year in its annual general meeting held here under the chairmanship of Hirakijyoti Chakraborty.

After three-hour discussion, the meeting unanimously selected Hirakijyoti Chakraborty and Bijoyjani Bhattacharjee Choudhury as president and general secretary of the new committee respectively. Sudanta Mohan Chattapadhyay and

Sudipta Biswas were selected as vice presidents, Dipanskar Paul and Dipanjan Bhattacharjee as assistant secretaries, Biswaroop Sarma and Tanmoy Acharjee as cultural secretaries, Rita Chanda and Tirthankar Chakraborty as literary secretaries, Sagar Dhar as treasurer, Santanu Bhattacharjee as publicity secretary, Santanu Banerjee and Aryan Paul as office secretaries while former general secretary of the mancha, Sankar Choudhury as organizational secretary of the new committee.

Nine executive members

were also selected in the new committee. The members include Rupali Bhattacharjee, Sudhana Bhattacharjee, Abhijit Mitra, Shirabani Bhattacharjee, Manashyoti Deb, Gargi Deb, Dipashree Goswami, Subhajit Dasgupta and Biplob Das.

The advisors selected in the committee include Sudarshan Bhattacharjee, Shripriya Mohanta, Debdas Purkayasha, Sandhya Roy, Madhavi Sarma, Manik Chakraborty and Sushanta Purkayasha.

The meeting also discussed about the various programmes to be organised by the mancha.

## Felicitation programme organised

CORRESPONDENT

GOALPARA, June 23: The Oasis Academy, Nayapara organised a felicitation programme recently for the meritorious students who excelled in the HSLC examination, 2017.

A meeting was held to celebrate the occasion and to honour the meritorious students. It was attended by several local educationists, trustees and teachers.

Speaking on the occasion, Hazrat Ali Ahmed, principal, Government BT College, Goalpara while congratulating the students for their academic achievement said that students should aspire to become responsible citizens and imbibe good moral principles so that they can become role models for others. He urged the students to uphold the traditional and cultural values of our

country. Dr AR Ahmed, Coordinator of Oasis Junior College, urged the students to work hard and strive for betterment of the society through their contributions in the future and praised the students for bringing laurels to the educational institutions as well as to their parents.

According to MA Kasheswar, Coordinator, Oasis Academy, the institution has been able to achieve a significant position due to devotion and dedication of the teachers and students alike. He emphasized the role of the academy for moulding the basic foundation of these students. Ruhul Amin, Trustee mem-

SIVASAGAR, June 23: Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Magistrate Sivasagar, through an order on June 21, cancelled the licences of firearms of two persons as there is no report of any threat to them. The licence holders may appeal to the district authority in case of any complaint regarding the matter within 30 days of issuance of the order.

Through another order on June 19, Sivasagar district administration had clamped IPC 141 in the district keeping an eye on the law-and-order situation before the Independence Day. It has banned pillion riding on two-wheelers, gathering in public places of more than five persons, bringing out a procession, holding of rallies, construction of *swoyid bedi*, wall writing, raising funds from business establishments etc. However, persons above 60 years and below 12 are exempted from the purview of the order for pillion riding.

The administration has also banned the use of tobacco and other drugs harmful for human health and the use of polythene below 50 microns, plastic carry bags, gutkha, Sikho etc., for an indefinite period through the same order with comes into effect immediately, an official press release stated.

## Eight held in Excise dept raid

CORRESPONDENT

## Memo submitted

A CORRESPONDENT

SILCHAR, June 23: Eight persons were arrested by Excise officials during a raid against country-made liquor in the city. During the raid at Teen Foot area in Ghungoor GP and at Fakirtila near NIT Silchar, the Excise officials destroyed over 90 litres of locally-made liquor. Also the materials which could have produced another 1400 litres of liquor were crushed during the raid.

Excise Inspector Sudip Deb who was a part of the team said that along with the operations by the enforcement agencies, community participation against such illegal activities in the society is necessary. "More than 250 such cases have been registered in the past two years. But a stronger vigil by the people can help a great deal in curbing down the spread of liquor manufacturing huts," the official maintained.

## Dacoits arrested

CORRESPONDENT

RANGIYA, June 23: Rangiya police on Wednesday night apprehended two persons — Khaisel Ali and Karim Ali of Kachari Solmari in connection with a number of dacoity cases in Rangiya and other places including at Hirakata. Police is investigating the matter to nab other culprits.



Mariani Primary School waterlogged after a heavy shower, on Thursday. - UB Photos

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By Order of the Tribunal,  
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Debs Recovery Tribunal,  
Guwahati

CD/LN/1312/1



# FINER seeks focussed industrial policy

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 23: The Federation of Industry and Commerce of North Eastern Region (FINER) has moved both the Centre and the State Government in its persistent efforts to push for a better and focused industrial policy as well as highlighting issues regarding GST and its impact on industrialisation in the region.

Addressing a press conference today, Bajrang Lohia, Vice-President of FINER said that any dilution in benefits to industrial units under the old industrial policy would be detrimental to the cause of industries in the North East and that the benefits must be retained for industrialisation and investment in the region.

Over the past few weeks, FINER has submitted representations before Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, DoNER Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh and Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju in New Delhi and discussed issues related to NEIIPP and GST.

The team sought a focussed industrial policy for the North East and sought certainty on how the Central excise duty rates, currently eligible for industries so up pursuant to NEIIPP, would continue under the GST regime.

Under the NEIIPP-2007, the units



Bajrang Lohia (L), Vice President of FINER along with former Vice Chairman Amit Kumar Jain, addressing mediapersons in Guwahati, on Friday - UNI

that have come up in the North East were promised 100 per cent refund of excise duty paid (i.e., net of Cents Credit).

"With the announcement of GST, apparently the refunds would be restricted to 58 per cent by the Central Government. The fate of the balance 42 per cent of the refunds according is unknown," Lohia said.

Amit Kumar Jain, past vice-chairman

of FINER said that the draft of the new industrial policy was ready but with the GST being rolled out next month, the policy might get a little delayed.

It transpired during the meetings FINER had with Central ministers and bureaucrats that the new industrial policy being drafted will be for three years, while the benefits to industrial units in the region will be for five years.

"The issue of how the Central ex-

change business from idea generation to start-up companies.

The department would soon notify a start-up policy for the Government of Assam, but prior to its adoption, the consultative meet was held to gather feedback from the stakeholders on the upcoming start-up policy of the State. The Assam Administrative Staff College at Khanpara here today, said an official press release.

## Interactive meet on start-up policy held

STAFF REPORTER



# When colours come alive

The National Award winning film director-critic Ranjit Das, who started his career with noted filmmakers D'bon Barua and Jahnmu Barua, has made a fascinating documentary on the traditional *Deud* or *Doul Utsav*, titled *Holi – The Spirit of Colours*, which was recently selected for the 9th Jaipur International Film Festival 2017 and the 7th Dada Saheb Phalke Film Festival 2017, New Delhi. Das's achievements in cinema have been familiar to some extent to critics and audiences alike, with films like *Pratyavartan* (1993) and *Samskar* (1997) to his name. The latter premiered at the Kolkata Film Festival, received three State Awards in 1999. But the film that earned him a well-deserved reputation came in the way of the aesthetically vivid *All Alone If Need Be*, a documentary film that received the National Award for 'The First Non-Fiction Film of a Director', in 1996. The film had been selected for various film festivals in India and abroad. Another documentary – *Return of the Dead Bird*, was screened at the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) in 2008. He has also served on the National Film Awards Jury twice.

The vitality and radiance of Holi

**Prantik Deka**

**Doul Utsav**, locally known as *Deud*, the enormously popular and colourful festival, celebrated with tremendous pomp and joy every year during Springtime, truly represents a unique part of the Barpara Satra, one of the most revered Vaishnavite centres of Assam. There has, of course, always been an enormous inflow of devotees to the Barpara Satra, which amply manifests the Vaishnava character. More than the Satra's religious manuscripts are valued as aids to cognitive learning, while its cultural activities are seen as a levelling and unifying force.

It was *Mahapurush Srimanta Sankaradeva*'s most trusted disciple Madhabaddev who established the Barpara Satra in 1583 AD. Sri Sri Mathura Das *Burha Ata* took charge as its chief monk of Barpara Satra in 1595. And in 1596, he started the *Doul Utsav* within the *satra* precincts. Under the guidance of Mathura Das *Burha Ata*, the *Vrindavan Vstra* was intricately woven by a host of disciples of this *satra*, depicting scenes from Sri Krishna Leela, which had been designed by Srimanta Sankaradeva.

Though present in most Vaishnava *satras* of Assam, Barpara Satra's *Deud* surpasses them all with its uniqueness

and grandeur. In the month of *Chot*, *Deud* is celebrated for three days, which is called *Burha Deud*, and the *Deud* that is observed for four to five days, in the month of *Phagun* is called *Deka Deud*.

The first day of the *Deud*, called *Gandha* or *Bahundesar*, which is referred to as the 'festival of bonfires', starts with a *Namprasanga* in the morning. The idols of the *satra* – Dol-Gobinda and Kaliya Thakur, are immaculately dressed with new costumes and ornaments, and brought out from the *Monikut* to the courtyard. Devotees celebrate the occasion by playing the *khol* and by lighting locally made fire-crackers.

The second day of *Deud* is known as *Bhor Deud* – meaning main *Deud*. *Bhor Deud* is celebrated for just one day in the month of *Chot* and for two to three days in the month of *Phagun*. The idols are coloured with *faku* on this day.

The last day of the *Deud* is called *Suweri* or *Fukawa*. On this special day, the idol of *Ghanashyam* also makes an appearance from the nearby Baradi Satra, and gets to meet Dol-Gobinda and Kaliya Thakur. Devotees of every age and gender, irrespective of caste, creed and community celebrate with a spontaneous expression of joy by playing with coloured powder and singing *Holi* songs in *Holi*. Holi songs are a unique literary and musical contribution of the cultural heritage of the

Barpara *Deudjatra*. Written in a religious lyrical style, the *Holi* songs generally focus on the natural beauty of the Spring season, while at the same time, it also depicts the legend of Radha-Krishna, and their enduring love affair. But Barpara's *Deudjatra* is mostly Krishna-centric, as the Assamese Vaishnavite Movement does not give that much importance to the character of Radha.

This is all colourfully and authentically projected in *Holi – The Spirit of Colours* by director Ranjit Das, who was awed by Barpara Satra's cultural vitality. The unique traditional *Deud* performed with sacred rituals and distinct local flavours will, perhaps, acquaint audiences with our rich and colourful tradition in other parts of the country and abroad, through this documentary. *Holi – The Spirit of Colours* has been produced by Debajit Kalita under the banner of UCK Production. Besides directing, Ranjit Das has also designed and written the script. The film's cinematography has been done by Himanshu Barman, Pranab Medhi and Phulan Das. The film's research has been done by Ranjit Das and Mantur Das, while the narration has been penned by eminent writer Munin Banerjee, and narrated by actor Bibhuti Bhushan Hazarika.



## Dance for a cause

**I**t was, indeed, a splendid, colourful, cultural evening titled *Majuli*, presented by the Vassundhara Kala Niketan, in collaboration with the Directorate of Cultural Affairs, on May 26, at the Rabindra Bhawan, Guwahati. The programme began with a *Mati Akhara*, the basic Sattriya dance unit and exercise developed by Srimanta Sankaradeva. Altogether, about 30 child artistes of Kala Niketan performed confidently, making it an impressive show. The *Dusshawar* performance by the students bore testimony to their expertise. The presentation was off the beaten track, unlike what is generally seen on stage. It was unusually synchronised with perfect accompaniment of instrumental music.

The solo dance *Krishna Katha Varnanam*, by the celebrated Sattriya dancer Ramkrishna Talukdar, with a distinct style of his own, was, without doubt, the biggest highlight of the event. Equally good was the per-

**Apurba Kumar Das**

formance of *Raghunath Charanam* by popular young dancing-duo of Dipjoyoti Das and Dipankar Adhikari.

Above all, the main attraction was a dance titled *Majuli* by Baby Bhuyan, which was based on her own poem, and was composed and choreographed in Sattriya style by Dipjoyoti and Dipankar. It was an innovative endeavour on the part of the dancer as such poetic experiments with the Sattriya style are rarely seen. Baby Bhuyan, Principal of the Vassundhara Kala Niketan, an accomplished dancer and singer and researcher of Goapariya folk culture and a writer in her own right. Incidentally, Kala Niketan, a centre for training and research of Sattriya and folk music, dance art and culture, was founded by Baby Bhuyan with the sole aim of projecting and popularising Sattriya and other folk forms of Assam across the globe. The centre has been emphasising on proper training under the guidance of veteran gurus like Ramkrishna Talukdar, Dimbeswar Bhuyan and Bhadrakrishna Goswami.

The dancer Majuli, who has carved a niche for herself as a *Sattradhara*, resplendent in her fine costume and her graceful expressions. Her poem speaks about Majuli and how we need to save it. Through her expressions and exquisite movements, she depicted the river island's scenic beauty, its assimilation with all and the co-existence of different communities and tribes, the pre-historic attributes of the biggest river island, the creations and contributions of Sankaradeva and Madhabdev; and eventually, the agony and ecstasy of Majuli. She concluded the dance performance with an appeal to save Majuli and its cultural significance. Baby Bhuyan was ably supported in her performance by as many as 30 students, maintaining fine form and teamwork. Co-dancers Dipjoyoti and Dipankar also added grace to the totality of the performance. The performance was heart-warming in its presentation, as in its inherent message.



### prelude

Newscell is the compilation of recent news items related to Assam and its people. Now, some contemporary events were recorded on motion picture film from the beginning of cinema and these were assembled for exhibition in various ways. The first regular series of short films of news items compiled into a fixed form on one film reel, and generally released as such, were produced by Pathé France in 1910. This first newscell was given the title *Pathé Journal*, and a new edition was distributed each week. When special versions were produced in the United Kingdom and the United States from 1910 and 1911, respectively, the title used there was *Pathé Gazette*. Other editions of the type were in France, the United Kingdom, and the USA. Later they then produced their own competing news reels. With the coming of sound, after a short period when many items in newscells were filmed with direct synchronous sound, it became the usual practice to film most events silent, and then to add music, sound effects, and commentary after the picture had been edited. Small "newscell theatres" were established in all big cities, which showed a continuously repeated programme of newscells, other factual programmes, and animated newsreels. Newsreels took several days after filming to get into the cinemas, so with the coming of

television they soon died out, being replaced by television news programmes.

E-mail your questions with answers at: [coloseum@assamttribune.com](mailto:coloseum@assamttribune.com).

### harmonisers

From Adish Agarwalla, Morarhat –

- Which sage was the founder of the system of *Somayaj*, one of the six schools of Vedic philosophy?
- Which concept of Hindu philosophy, derived from a Sanskrit word implies 'illusion'?
- Which Hindu philosopher founded the devotional sect also known as the *Pushtimarg*?
- How was Zahir-ud-Din Muhammad, the Mughal ruler, popularly known as?

### unities

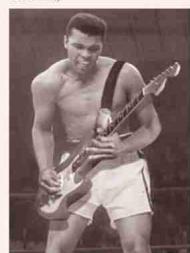
- From Hirak Lahan, Gohpur –
- In the film *Dongol*, directed by Nitesh Tiwari, Aamir Khan plays the role of a former Indian amateur wrestler and senior Olympics coach. Name this wrestler.
- Name the Assamese film that had won the following awards and recognitions: National Award for Best Screenplay to the director, National Award 'Rajat Kamal' for Best Regional Film in 1985, selected for the Indian Panorama, selected for the Nantes Film Festival (France), selected for the Pyongyang Film

### the colosseum

**■ Neelopal Deka**

#### side screen

- Picture Cue:* With which sportsman would you associate the phrase "floats like a butterfly, stings like a bee"? (Adish Agarwalla, Morarhat)



Festival (North Korea), selected for the Dhaka Film Festival.

- Lewis G. Wilson, Robert Lowry, Adam West, Michael Keaton, Val Kilmer, George Clooney, Christian Bale, Will Arnett, Ben Affleck – how can we connect these actors?

#### do-re-me

- "Since childhood I do not remember writing to anything else except drawing." Which cartoonist, illustrator, or caricaturist wrote this in his article 'The Thread of Time'? (Mridusmita Talukdar, Tangla College)

- Thus character, according to the Hindu mythology, is said to have offered himself/himself as food to a lion in order to prevent it from attacking a cow. Name him. (Shajid Khan, Tangla)

- The National Muslim University in Aligarh was established as a result of which movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi? (Bilhush Deva Nath, Rangia)

- A classic fairy tale written by French writer

- Muhammad Ali 2) Kapila 3) Maya 4) Vallabhacharya 5) Babar 6) Mahavir Singh

- Phogat, who taught wrestling to his daughters Babita Kumari and Geeta Phogat

- Agnisam*, directed by Bharendra Nath Saikia 8) These are the actors who have played the role of Batman 9) RK Laxman 10) Dilipca, ancestor of Rama, as recounted in Kalidas's *Raghuvansha*

- 11) The Non Cooperation Movement 12) *Beauty and the Beast* 13) Benazir Bhutto 14) Arup Patangia 15) Ahom King Swargadeo Sutamila alias Jayadwaj Singha.



## Appreciating cinema

**Bhaskar Phukan**

**D**r Bhupendranarayan Bhattacharyya is an eminent man in the Assamese literary world – with quite a number of novels, short story collections and plays to his credit. Basically a man of prose and also an artist, his lone venture into the sphere of films is through this book under review. The book – *Chalachitro Darshan, Kabitai aru Rupak*, is his endeavour at relating philosophy, poetry and imagery with films – an approach, which, without doubt, is a novel one.

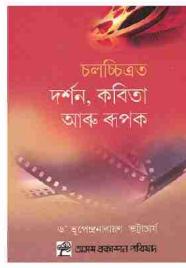
The author, though not involved in the trade of filmmaking or in any slot of activities that go into the filmmaking exercise, took a condensed course in FTII, Pune, in order to learn about film appreciation. The book deals with films as a subject in relation to philosophy and art and then goes on to discuss the essentiality of philosophical and poetic streaks, along with the use of metaphor in films.

Films, according to him, should have direct relevance to reality and hard truths of life or else it becomes a soulless exercise. It is in relation to this point of realisation where he brings in *Jyotiprasad Agarwala* and the first Assamese talkie *Jyoti*, where the filmmaker has put forth his reflections on the thinking of a woman in relation to her sacrifice for the sake of her husband and her country.

The author also tries to illustrate the use of metaphors in some famous films of the world. One such scene is from the film *Gold Rush*, where Charlie Chaplin is shown eating his shoes after boiling them in desperation of hunger. The eating of shoes is the metaphor that has been used to drive home the intensity of hunger.

The author has taken pains to collect the images of a number of scenes from classics like *Gold Rush* and also from Assamese films like *Halodhia Sonai Baodhan Khai* by Juhu Barua and a number of famous films from home and abroad.

Bhattacharyya has been able to do proper justice in his attempt at a new approach to film appreciation and his analytical approach has been successful, it seems.



Chalachitro Darshan, Kabitai aru Rupak  
Dr Bhupendranarayan Bhattacharyya,  
Publications Board, Assam.  
Price: Rs 110/-

## Water: Endings and beginnings

**Dr Kamal Kumar Tanti**

**P**oetry from a particular geography (not political but cultural) seeks to highlight the contours of the land, what makes it tick, its hidden mysteries, its storied histories. Everything else, the references to its terrains, rivers, vegetation, and people, are incidental, tools to achieve the ultimate goal – to define the land. And there are poets who have worked ceaselessly to this end – to bring back the emotions and attachments of a folk existence to a modern life.

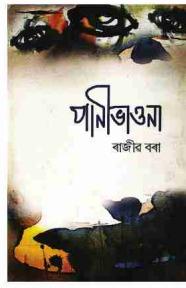
Rajib Borah is one such contemporary Assamese poet, who, in poem after poem, has demonstrated a distinctive voice, through his spectral imagery and syncronic tones, a powerful language with lyrical appeal, and, of course, an honest heart for poetry. As he writes passionately about the bygone folk lives, and suddenly comes back to cosmopolitan world, he brings back to the reader a chance to carry the soul with the flow of words and true emotions.

This predominantly makes Rajib Borah's poetry distinct from other contemporary Assamese poets. At the same time, a cautionary notice can be released to the poet that this won't take him much further as a poet to be remembered, until he explores the varieties of human emotions, slices of complexities of modern lives and chaotic experiments in poetry in the contemporary literary world.

After *Totin Teer Kholai and Dhou, Panibaona* is Rajib Borah's third collection of poetry. This body of poems is interestingly divided into seven sections, comprising 41 poems. The titles of these sections carry different motifs of water and the world of water.

These poems express the poet's experiences, cutting across different cross-sections of his past and present surroundings; his home-island Majuli, tracing back its spatial and temporal changes; folk-myths and folk-lives of ethnicities and untold stories of the poet's times.

The poet's emotions are expressed with his words in such a way that sometimes, modern-day people will find it difficult to understand the modesty and honesty of the folk-ways of Assam. Although, I feel, Borah is capable of creating magic through his poems and ignite our minds, I guess he is yet to reach his true potential. As we wait for more from him, one thing is certain, Borah has raised the bar for young Assamese poets.



Panibaona  
Rajib Borah,  
Bonamala Prakashan, Jorhat,  
Price: Rs 80/-

Gabrielle-Suzanne Barbot de Villeneuve was published in the name of *La Belle et La Bete*, in 1740. It was first adapted as a Disney movie in 1991 and was recently remade in 2017. Name this famous fairy tale. (Barnali Devi, Guwahati)

13) *Daughter of the East* is the autobiography of which Asian folk hero leader? (Dwaiyapani Karwan, Quality High School)

14) English translation works of leading writer from North-East India, who writes extensively on themes of women and society. (Mridusmita Talukdar, Tangla College)

15) During his reign, the Mughal viceroy at Bengal – Mir Jumla II, invaded and occupied his capital Garhson, as a result of which he had to retreat to the Namrup area, and because of this flight he is also known as the *Bhagoria Raja* in the history of Ahoms. Whom are we referring to? (Shajid Khan, Tangla)

**crescendo**  
15) During his reign, the Mughal viceroy at Bengal – Mir Jumla II, invaded and occupied his capital Garhson, as a result of which he had to retreat to the Namrup area, and because of this flight he is also known as the *Bhagoria Raja* in the history of Ahoms. Whom are we referring to? (Shajid Khan, Tangla)

**ANSWERS** 1) Muhammad Ali 2) Kapila 3) Maya 4) Vallabhacharya 5) Babar 6) Mahavir Singh

7) Agnisam, directed by Bharendra Nath Saikia 8) These are the actors who have played the role of Batman 9) RK Laxman 10) Dilipca, ancestor of Rama, as recounted in Kalidas's *Raghuvansha*

11) The Non Cooperation Movement 12) *Beauty and the Beast* 13) Benazir Bhutto 14) Arup Patangia

15) Ahom King Swargadeo Sutamila alias Jayadwaj Singha.



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## DSP lynched by mob in Srinagar

**THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT AT GUWAHATI**  
 (THE HIGH COURT OF ASSAM, NAGALAND, MEGHALAYA, MANIPUR & ARUNACHAL PRADESH)

**SHORT TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed quotations are invited from the tenders of Rs. 8.25 (Non-refundable) are invited from specified dealers/suppliers of Laptops and iPad situated at Guwahati for supply of 2 nos. of Apple Laptop and 2 nos. of Apple iPad to the Gauhati High Court with latest configurations. The quotations should reach the undersigned, on or before 3rd July, 2017 during office hours. Details may be had from the Gauhati High Court website [www.ghconline.gov.in](http://www.ghconline.gov.in).

By Order  
Sd/- K.C. Bhattacharyya  
DY.REGISTRAR (FINANCE)

**CORRIGENDUM NOTICE**

Corrigendum to notice inviting tender for sale of Minor Minerals vide this office notice No. 725, dated 22.06.2017, published in Assam Tribune and Akmomi Khabor dated 23.06.2017, the contents of page 6 & 7 are hereby corrected. In the said advertisement, it is mentioned that "Sand and Gravel - Mahali under Nagara South Division, Haili should please be read as minimum stipulated quantity for 5 years for Sand- 5,000 m<sup>3</sup> and Gravel- 15,000 m<sup>3</sup>" instead of 10,000 m<sup>3</sup> and 40,000 m<sup>3</sup> respectively and earnest money @ 10% on reserved price as Rs. 3,70,000.00 instead of Rs. 9,40,000.00.

The other terms and condition contained in the Principle Sale Notice O.O No. 725, dated 22.06.2017 remain unaltered.

Sd/- Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & Head of Forest Force, Assam,  
Janasanyog/1423/17 Aranya Bhawan, Panjabi,Guwahati - 37.

**NOTICE**  
**THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT**  
 (THE HIGH COURT OF ASSAM, NAGALAND, MIZORAM AND ARUNACHAL PRADESH)

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for filling up 13 (thirteen) vacant posts in Grade-I of Assam Judicial Service (unreserved). Details are available in the website of the High Court at [www.ghconline.gov.in](http://www.ghconline.gov.in).

Sd/- Registrar (Vigilance)-cum-in charge, Recruitment cell  
Gauhati High Court, Guwahati.  
Janasanyog/4172/17

**TENDER NOTICE**

No. ASDM.47/2017/16: The Mission Director, Assam Skill Development Mission, 5th Floor, Nayanta Building, Sixmile Guwahati-22, invite Bids for "Renovation/Construction of building of Assam Skill Development Mission at Rehabari, Guwahati" amounting to INR. 68,98,682.00 (Rupees sixty eight lakh ninety eight thousand six hundred eighty two only) (approximate value) from the registered Contractor Class I & II Category Assam PWD (Building).

Details can be seen at website [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in) also at the office of the undersigned during office hours from 03.07.2017 to 10.07.2017.

Sd/-  
Mission Director  
Assam Skill Development Mission  
Sixmile, Guwahati-781022  
Janasanyog/740/17

**Recruitment Notice**  
**THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT**  
 (THE HIGH COURT OF ASSAM, NAGALAND, MIZORAM AND ARUNACHAL PRADESH)

Advertisement has been published in the official website and Notice Board of Gauhati High Court inviting applications from the experienced Advocates for filling up vacant posts of Members, Foreigners Tribunal, Assam. Detailed advertisement can be seen in the Notice Board of Gauhati High Court as well as official website of Gauhati High Court viz [www.ghconline.gov.in](http://www.ghconline.gov.in)

Sd/- Registrar (Judicial),  
Gauhati High Court  
Janasanyog/4170/17

No. ASACS/SBTC/BB/Register/2015/810/67  
Dated: 21.06.2017

**Notice Inviting Tender**

Sealed quotation in single bid system affixing non-refundable court fees Stamp worth of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight and twenty five paise) only and payable to the court for supply of one set of each of the Water Purifier (Batch RO and Gravity UV type) at different Blocks of Jaintia Bawan. The tenders will be received by the S.A./N.I. Deptt upto 2:00 PM of 14/7/2017 and will be opened at 2:10 PM on the same day. The tenders should be submitted in Two Bid (Technical Bid & Financial Bid) system, in two separate envelopes and both the envelops should be superscribed as "Tender for Supply of Aquatic Water Purifier in Jaintia Bawan".

Sd/- Director cum Member Secretary  
Assam State Blood Transfusion Council  
Khanapara, Guwahati - 22,  
Janasanyog/742/17

No. S(N)46/2017/39  
**SHORT RE-TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed short tenders affixing court fees stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight and twenty five paise) only and payable to the court for supply of one set of each of the Water Purifier (Batch RO and Gravity UV type) at different Blocks of Jaintia Bawan. The tenders will be received by the S.A./N.I. Deptt upto 2:00 PM of 14/7/2017 and will be opened at 2:10 PM on the same day. The tenders should be submitted in Two Bid (Technical Bid & Financial Bid) system, in two separate envelopes and both the envelops should be superscribed as "Tender for Supply of Aquatic Water Purifier in Jaintia Bawan".

The **Financial Bid** of each tender should contain the following :

- Forwarding letter on the 'letter head' of the bidder with seal & signature affixing court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight and twenty five paise) only on the top.
- Certificates of Past Experience, if any, having undertaken such work in the past, in the form of General GST.
- An amount of Rs. 2000/- (Rupees two thousand) only as Earnest Money Deposit in the form of NSC/Bank Draft to be pledged in favour of Joint Secretary, Secretariat Administration (Nazrast) Department.
- Firm Registration Certificate.
- Valid Registration Certificate.
- Trade License.

The **Financial Bid** of each tender should contain the following :

The Model No. and Technical Specification of each model proposed to be supplied.

Tenders will be summarily rejected in the absence of the above. Tenders submitted, not in conformity with the above terms and conditions and having erases, overwriting etc. will also be rejected.

Further, Secretariat Administration (Nazrast) Department reserves the right to (a) accept or reject any/all the tenders submitted by the parties, and (b)cancel the process at any time without any liability and assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/- Shri A. Hussain, IAS  
Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam  
Secretariat Administration Department,  
Janasanyog/1425/17

for the security of whom he had been deployed there, lynched him," Director General of Police Vaibhav said terming the incident as "very unfortunate".

Quoting preliminary investigation, the police chief said the mob attacked the DSP when he was coming out of the mosque after checking the access control.

"When the DSP was coming out after checking the access control of the mosque, some miscreants caught hold of him while raising slogans and started beating him up," he said. The mob then went on a rampage, targeting empty vessels and pickets in the area.

Police reinforcements were rushed to restore normalcy in

the area.

Vaid said two persons have

been arrested so far and a third

has been identified.

"All of them involved in the lynching will face the law,"

the DGP told reporters on

the sidelines of the wreath-

laying ceremony for the slain

officer at district police lines

He said an investigation into

the case is on.

Asked whether the slain of-

ficer was there for the secu-

rity of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, chair-

man of moderate Hurriyat Con-

ference, the DGP said, "Mir-

waiz does come there. It was a

sacred occasion yesterday and

thousands of people were ex-

pected at the mosque and secu-

rity was made for them," - PTI

sources said.

Gurung said, "The agitation

for Gorkhaland will continue.

We have resigned from the

GTA. Our one point demand

is Gorkhaland." The Gorkha

Janmukti Morcha (GJM) lead-

er, who was not seen in public

for the past several days, ap-

peared before the media at

the hills on June 17.

Gurung said,

"Our fight will continue and

I will fight till the end," he said.

Alleging that the police had

opened fire in the hills on June

17 in which three GJM activi-

sts were killed, Gurung said,

"We (the GJM) have the vid-

eo footage of the incident. I

demand a CBI inquiry."

- PTI

## Gurung threatens to intensify stir

DARJEELING, June 23: Pathebas in Darjeeling, a party stronghold.

"I am not Kishenji (Maoist leader) who can be eliminated in a police encounter. I have not taken up arms against the country. I am fighting for the identity of the Gorkhas and in a democracy I have every right to do that," he said.

"Our fight will continue and I will fight till the end," he said.

Alleging that the police had opened fire in the hills on June 17 in which three GJM activists were killed, Gurung said, "We (the GJM) have the video footage of the incident. I demand a CBI inquiry."



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GST coming from 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2017

## Registration process for new taxpayers and migration of existing taxpayers to commence from 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2017



### REGISTRATION OF NEW TAXPAYERS UNDER GST:

- Application for new registration under GST can be filed beginning from June 25, 2017.
- The application for registration can be submitted within a month of the date of liability to get registered.
- Taxpayers liable for registration on July 1, 2017 can submit registration application till July 31, 2017 on GST portal.
- There is ample time period for applying for fresh registration.

### MIGRATION OF EXISTING VAT, SERVICE TAX AND CENTRAL EXCISE TAXPAYERS:

- Provisional ID which can't be used to migrate as they are showing 'RC cancelled', are being reactivated. Please use these to enroll on GST portal beginning June 25, 2017. Once enrolled, you get three months to submit your registration form.
- Migrating taxpayers can use enrolled provisional ID as their GSTIN for conducting their business from July 1, 2017 for three months without waiting for issue of certificate of registration (GSTIN).
- Taxpayers who have obtained Central Excise and Service tax registration in the month of June, 2017 would be issued provisional ID in the first week of July, 2017.

Date: 15/02/17/13/05/30/17/18



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Central Board of Excise and Customs &  
Commercial Taxes Departments of States/Union Territories  
[www.cbec.gov.in](http://www.cbec.gov.in)



## 25 killed, 100 injured in Pakistan blasts

ISLAMABAD, June 23: At least 25 persons were killed and over 100 others injured as twin blasts ripped through a market on Friday in Pakistan's north-west tribal area of Kurram Agency, Geo News reported.

The attack took place at about 5.30 pm, when a hand-grenade was hurled into the crowd of people busy with shopping at a downtown market in Parachinar city for the coming Eid, a holiday which marks the end of the fasting month of Ramadan.

The second blast happened a few minutes after people gathered at the first blast site for rescue, local media quoted eyewitnesses as saying.

The second blast seems to be of suicide nature, said local media. But there was no official confirmation about it yet.



Union Defence Minister Arun Jaitley co-chairing the 17th IRIGC-MTC meeting with the Russian Defence Minister General Sergei Shoigu in Moscow on Friday. – PIB

## Jaitley, Shoigu sign Indo-Russian military cooperation roadmap

MOSCOW, June 23 : Defence Minister Arun Jaitley and his Russian counterpart General Sergey Shoigu today signed a roadmap for boosting bilateral military cooperation, Russia's official media reported.

"We are determined to go ahead with building up cooperation in order to enhance the combat readiness of both countries' armed forces and to exchange experience in various defence-related matters," Shoigu said.

Shoigu said at the 17th meeting of the Russian-Indian inter-Governmental commission for military-technical cooperation.

He said that the experts of the two countries have drafted a roadmap for the development of military cooperation between Russia and India, which is to become the basic document in planning bilateral contacts.

At the end of the session Shoigu and Jaitley signed a corresponding document, the official Tass news agency reported without providing details of the roadmap.

Ahead of the visit, the Defence Ministry in New Delhi had said the meeting will review the entire range of military and military-technical cooperation issues between India and Russia within the framework of the Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership of the two countries.

The meeting took place nearly three weeks after Prime Minister Narendra Modi invited Russian companies to come forward with proposals for technology transfer to Indian companies and facilitate joint manufacturing of advanced military platforms.

"Invite Russian companies to come forward with proposals for technology transfer to Indian companies and facilitate manufacturing of more advanced components/parts and sub-systems. This can start with platforms of Russian origin where the requirement is in large numbers and is recurring in nature," he said. – PTI



অসম চৰকাৰ  
ৰাইজৰ  
যোগাযোগ প্রতিক্ৰিয়া  
অসমৰ স্বাস্থ্যথণৰ উন্নয়নৰ  
বাবে অতি গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ

**১০৮**

মেয়ে ডায়েল কৰক



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## Inauguration of Water Sports Demo

on the mighty Brahmaputra

by Jayanta Malla Baruah  
Chairman, Assam Tourism Development Corporation

in presence of  
Nabadeep Kalita  
Vice Chairman, Assam Tourism Development Corporation

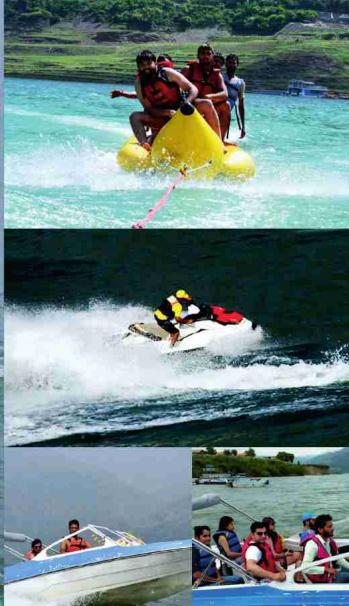
on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2017, 11:00 AM  
at Kachamari Ghat, Fancy Bazar, Guwahati

**Banana Ride**  
**Boat Riding**  
**Jet Skiing**  
**Speed Boating**  
**Surfing**  
**Water Boating**  
and many more!

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ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

## Krish bags double crown, Lenien champ

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 23: Gujarat boy Krish Patel clinched double crowns in the AITA Championship Series Tennis Tournament which concluded today at the All Assam Tennis Association (ATAA) Complex in Chachal here.

Krish won the boys U-16 and U-18 titles. In the U-16 final, he defeated Udit Gogoi of Assam 7-6(4), 6-1 while in the U-18 singles final he trounced Kader Hans of Odisha in straight sets 6-3, 6-1.

In the girls U-18 singles category, Assam girl Lenien Jamir lifted the title by thrashing Maharashtra's Paavani Pathak 6-3, 6-1.

Kristi Boro of Assam, pairing with Shatavisha Ghosh of West Bengal won the girls' U-18 doubles title defeating Koyena Sircar (WB)/Ishika Chakma (AS) 7-6(4), 6-2.

ATAA secretary Ankush Dutta congratulated the Assam players for their good performance in both the AITA Championship Series Tennis Tournaments held during the last two weeks.

**Final results:** Boys U-16 (Group 1) Krish Patel (GLJ) bt Udit Gogoi (AS) 7-6(4), 6-1; Girls U-16 (Group 1) Lenien Jamir (ODI) bt Paavani Pathak (MH) 6-3, 6-1; Boys U-18 (Krish Patel (GLJ) bt Kader Hans (ODI) 6-2, 7-5; Boys U-18 (Doubles) Ananta K Patel (ODI) bt Krish Patel (GLJ)/Rishi Krishnath (TN) 6-2, 6-1; Girls U-18 (Kristi Boro (AS)/Shatavisha Ghosh (WB) bt Koyena Sircar (WB)/Ishika Chakma (AS) 7-6(4), 6-2.

## Young Masters Chess Classic begins

GUWAHATI, June 23: The second edition of the Young Masters Chess Classic organised by Guwahati Chess Academy got underway today at its RG Baruah Road premises here.

Altogether 20 players of different age group of Guwahati are taking part in this tournament which is being played in Swiss League system for six rounds in classical time control, stated a release.

**First round results:** Mahanav Deka (1) bt Asesha Talukdar (O), Sajal Saroj Lahkar (O) lost to Swapnil Das (1), Anubhab Goswami (1) of Mymensingh, Bangladesh, Abhiram Basumatary (1) lost to Arunima Bhattacharya (1), Rupenwar (1) Alsheen Afza (Zanjan) (0), Balthazar Benoit (0) lost to Arshav Dubey (1), Pran Govinda Pancharash Kashyap (1) bt Hridika Das (0), Ishita Barman (0) lost to Gurjan K Basista (1), Nihad Islam Hazizkina (1) bt Keeran Kalita (0), Kuvam Kumar Kashyap (0) lost to Mayank Chakrabarty (1).



Rob Van Nes, chief of the One Million Hockey Legs (IMHL), addressing the media in Guwahati, on Friday.

## Ambitious scheme by Assam Hockey

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 23: In a bid to develop the standard of hockey in the State, Assam Hockey is planning to take the game to the rural areas and set up state of the art training centres.

Coinciding with the Olympic Day, Assam Hockey today hosted Rob Van Nes, the chief of the One Million Hockey Legs (IMHL).

Arriving here after visiting Manipur, Nes went to Tezpur and Amlingam to take stock of the situation there for setting up hockey centre.

Nes, while interacting with the media, informed that the Indian and Dutch government have signed an MoU in which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands will offer support in sports development at the grassroots level in India.

The prime objective of the IMHL is to increase the number of children and adult to play hockey.

The ultimate goal of the scheme is to attract 5,00,000 boys, girls, men, women and veterans towards the game before the 2018 World Cup Hockey which will be held in Olsida.

Nes informed that they have already started their scheme in States like Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, among others. He further revealed that he was very much impressed with the way Manipur is organising the game. "Manipur is a State with sports culture and that is the reason why Manipur has produced several international hockey players along with other events," Nes said.

Minister Keshab Mahanta who is also the adviser of the Assam Hockey welcomed the IMHL official and hoped that his visit to the State will inspire the youngsters.

Assam Hockey secretary Tapan Das informed that they are trying to take the game to all nook and corners of the State in order to spot talent. Other Assam Hockey officials present on the occasion were Brajendri Singh and Kishore Jayanta Madhab.

## ID basketball begins

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 23: The Dinesh Saikia Memorial 3rd Youth Inter District Basketball Championship got off to a colourful start at the Basketball Association of Assam's court in the RG Baruah Sports Complex here today.

State Sports Minister Naba Kumar Doley formally inaugurated the championship where a total of 12 boys and 9 girls teams are taking part.

Bina Saikia, wife of Dinesh Saikia was present in the opening ceremony as guest.

In the thrilling inaugural match Morigaon boys edged past Sonitpur 36-31. In another keenly contested match Kamrup pipped NC Hills 52-50.

The final match is slated for June 25 at 4 PM.

## Squash coaching camp

GUWAHATI, June 23: The Guwahati Squash Racket Association (GSRA) will hold a 15-day coaching camp for school and college students from July 10 to 25 at the squash court in the RG Baruah Sports Complex here, informed Dhruba Jyoti Kataki, secretary GSRA in a release.

Interested players may confirm their participation by July 8.

## Sanchez breaks scoring record in Germany draw

KAZAN, June 23: Arsenal's Alexis Sanchez became Chile's all-time top-scorer with his 38th international goal in Thursday's 1-1 draw with Germany at the Confederations Cup.

The Gunners' star, the man of the match, wrote himself into the record books by capitalising on an early mistake in the German defence.

"Very happy to be Chile's top-scorer now, our dream is to win this tournament and we need to have a chance," said Sanchez, who refused to be drawn about his Arsenal future.

"We played well in the first half, but Germany play Cameroon on Sunday in Moscow while Chile face the Socceros in Moscow. Despite leaving all his World Cup-winning stars at home, Germany's head coach Joachim Loew still managed to name four of his first-choice team.

He started with wing-backs Jonas Hector and Joshua Kimmich with Liverpool's Emre Can and Paris St-Germain's Julian Draxler, who all impressed in Monday's 3-2 win over Australia.

"Overall, I am very happy," said Loew.

Lars Stindl netted his second goal of the tournament to equalise for the world champions just before the break.

"We knew they would come at us with a lot of pressure and power," said goal-scorer Stindl.

"But the result is not undeserved. We now know we can stand well against great opponents."

The result leaves South American champions Chile top of Group B on goal difference from World Cup winners Germany. With both teams on four points, three ahead of Australia and Cameroon who drew 1-1 earlier, they

are in pole position to reach next week's semifinals.

Germany play Cameroon on Sunday in Moscow while Chile face the Socceros in Moscow. Despite leaving all his World Cup-winning stars at home, Germany's head coach Joachim Loew still managed to name four of his first-choice team.

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