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NEWS CAPSULE

Body recovered

NORTH LAKHIMPUR, June 24: The body of Pallavi Saikia, who was drowned on May 31 in a boat mishap on Rangamati river, was recovered near Ujani Khamti Baligan today. Her three-year-old daughter Mumni is still missing. - Correspondent

Road mishap

TINSUKIA, June 24: Robin Patra, a class X student of Bipin Bora High School here and Ramesh Thakur (40) died in a road mishap on the NH-37 at Haldi underdivisions this afternoon when a bus hit them from behind. - Correspondent

The Assam Tribune on Internet
<http://www.assamttribune.com> &
<http://epepper.assamttribune.com>

Sunday

The ruins of Angkor
Bhaswati K. Goswami

■ UP CLOSE:
Pitch perfect
Manik Banerjee

The crescent festivities
Saikhi Md. Sabah Ali-Ahmed

■ WOMEN PLUS:
Drapless shamed...
Manisha Samra

■ BEAUTY:
Paint your nails
Zarin Saleh Hussain

■ FICTION:
Minerva Cabin
Indrani Redhu

■ MY SPACE:
Bitter story of sweet cum
Brigadier R. Borthakur (Retd.)

■ FROM THE MARGINS:
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Kunchok Tempa of Baksa district flashes a photograph of Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal atop Mt Everest which he scaled for second time recently without oxygen. - UB Photo

Modi begins 3-nation tour

Holds talks with Portugal PM

LISBON, June 24: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today held talks with his Portuguese counterpart Antonio Costa and discussed ways to further intensify bilateral relations.

Modi, who arrived here on the first leg of his three-nation tour, said his brief visit will further strengthen relations between India and Portugal.

"Advancing bilateral engagements. PM @narendramodi & PM @antonioecosta discuss ways to further intensify bilateral relations," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Gopal Bagay tweet along with some photographs.

The two sides are expected to sign some agreements. The new pact on taxation, science, youth affairs and sports outline the expanding scope of India's ties with Portugal, Modi said.

In the day, departing from protocol, Portuguese Foreign Minister Augusto Santos Silva received Modi at the airport. Modi is the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Portugal on a bilateral trip, Bagay said.

Before leaving for Lisbon, Modi had said that during his meeting with Costa, the two leaders will build on their recent discussions and review the progress of various joint initiatives and decisions.

The highlight of Modi's four-day three-nation visit will be the US leg as Modi will meet President Donald Trump for the first time on June 26 in Washington. Modi will also be meeting some prominent American CEOs there.

After the US visit, Modi will travel to the Netherlands on June 27 where he will have a meeting with the Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte and call on King Willem-Alexander and meet Queen Maxima. - PTI

EC disqualifies MP minister for 3 years

NEW DELHI, June 24: The Election Commission (EC) today disqualified senior Madhya Pradesh minister Narottam Mishra for filing wrong accounts of election expenditure. An EC spokesperson confirmed that Mishra had been disqualified for three years from today. His election from the Dantia Assembly constituency stand void.

Rajendra Bharti of the Congress had alleged that Mishra, a close aide of Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, had not filed certain details in his election expenditure in the 2008 polls.

The EC had served notice to Mishra on January 15, 2013. Mishra had moved the Madhya Pradesh High Court and the Supreme Court against the EC notice, but did not get any relief.

Finally, the EC came out with its verdict today Mishra told reporters here, "I am going to move the Madhya Pradesh High Court against the Election Commission's order." - PTI

6 'arrested' ultras were pushed back by Bangla

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 24: The six militants – five from the NDFB(S) and one from the ULFA(D), who were arrested from the Indian side of the Indo-Bangla border on Friday, were reportedly pushed back by Bangladesh authorities, despite the existence of an extradition treaty between the two countries, sources said.

However, the official version of the Assam Police remains that they were arrested based on an intelligence tip-off.

The six ultras were pushed back after the expiry of their jail term in Bangladesh, sources claimed. Sources went on

militant groups do not have bases in Bangladesh and Bhutan, but they still have strong bases in Myanmar and it is vital that the police forces of the States of the region has become vital and as such efforts will be made in the ensuing meeting of the police heads of the region, to ensure real time sharing of information on movement of militants.

Highly placed security sources told *The Assam Tribune* that apart from improving coordination among the police forces, other challenges faced by the police in the region would also be discussed in the meeting to be held in Guwahati on June 29 and 30.

Sources said that after the militant groups of the region joined hands, it is vital for the police forces of the region to improve coordination and share information. At present, these

militant groups do not have bases in Bangladesh and Bhutan, but they still have strong bases in Myanmar and it is vital that the police forces of the States of the region has become vital and as such efforts will be made in the ensuing meeting of the police heads of the region, to ensure real time sharing of information on movement of militants.

The militants sneak into India through Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland and there have been instances where the militants caused trouble in Assam and retreated to their hideouts in Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland. Only better sharing of intelligence among the States could deal with such problems effectively, the sources said.

It may be mentioned here that during the last meeting of the heads of police chiefs of the country, the Prime Minister and the Union Home Minister had a separate meeting with the heads of police forces of the Northeast and stressed the need for better coordination to effectively deal with insurgency in the region.

Management of the borders

is also a major challenge as the NE States need to improve policing along the international border areas, while trying their best to ensure that the inter-State border areas remain peaceful. Through garrisoning of the international borders is the prime responsibility of the Central government, the States also have to play a better policing role along the international border areas to check movement of militants and other anti-national forces.

Cyber crime is another major issue which is not only affecting the Northeast but the entire world, more so in the advanced countries. The militant groups are also frequently using the cyber space to lure youths to their fold and the heads of police chief of the Northeast will have to chalk out strategies to deal with the problem effectively, sources added.

The meeting will also be attended by senior officers of the Intelligence Bureau.

Monsoon Session of Parliament from July 17

MONSOON SESSION OF PARLIAMENT
FROM JULY 17
NEW DELHI, June 24: The Monsoon Session of Parliament will commence from July 17, the day voting for the presidential election is slated to take place.

The Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs (CCPA) has recommended holding the session from July 17 to August 11. The CCPA meet, chaired by Home Minister Rajnath Singh, was held last evening after the NDA's presidential nominee, Ram Nath Kovind, filed his nomination papers. - PTI

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PWD to use new road construction tech

RITURAJ BORTAKUR



before the commencement of the road construction will increase the strength of the roads, reduce the time of construction, make the soil water resistant and prevents damage to road foundations, a senior PWD official told *The Tribune*

Application of the material

GUWAHATI, June 24: Grappling with a shortage of construction materials, the Public Works Department (PWD) has decided to use a new technology to cut down the requirement of materials as well as build roads which are more durable and need less maintenance.

The department has zeroed in on a soil stabilizer and pavement material, which will be used in some projects of the newly sanctioned 4,000 km of PMGSY roads.

Application of the material

GUWAHATI, June 24: Parricidal deaths (killing of parents, children or close relatives) are no longer a rare form of crime in Assam!

While a logical and convincing explanation leading to such killing continues to elude the society at large, the Assam Police has recorded an alarming and unprecedented increase in such cases in the last five years, especially those related to children killing their biological parents and vice versa.

A never-before published compilation of statistics accessed from the Assam Police has revealed that every week nearly four cases of parricidal deaths are being recorded

reported in 33 districts of Assam between 2012 and 2016. The cases mostly relates to wards killing their parents and vice versa.

Significantly, of these 885 cases, most cases were believed to have been solved without much ado as the parricidal offenders on most occasions tend to confess to have committed the crime unlike in other forms of homicides, which mental health experts believe leaves enough scope for research.

Meanwhile, records further show that police has filed chargesheets in more than 771 cases (of 885 cases) in the last five years or so. The number of persons arrested in those connections since 2012 to 2016 stood at 945.

Asked to comment on the trend, Special Director General of Police (Law and Order) Kula Saikia, who has done his PhD on issues

(See page 13)

Parricides on the rise in State

SANJOY RAY

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(See page 13)



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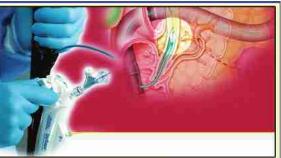
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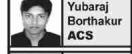
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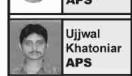
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CORRESPONDENT

JALUKBARI, June 24: Sahabuddin Ali, an eleven-year-old boy from Jagiroad, who had come to the city in search of some form of livelihood and took up ragpickaging as a profession, was rescued by the police near the Kamakhya Railway Station this morning.

Sahabuddin, whose widowed mother lives in Jagiroad, was later shifted to the Government Children Home for boys at Fatasai Ambari.

On the other hand, 14-year-old Montu Biswas who had come to the Ambubachi Mela from Nadia in West Bengal with his grandmother, was rescued by the police from the Kamakhya temple premises after he got separated from his grandmother. He was later reunited with his grandmothers.

Drug dealers arrested

GUWAHATI, June 24: Customs sleuths appreched two persons - Lalremkium Hmar and Sanjhi Deka - with 20,000 pills of Methamphetamine drug valued at Rs 2 crore from Lakshmi Path in Beltopia last night. - Staff Reporter

Puppet drama

GUWAHATI, June 24: A programme of puppet drama and puppet dance will be presented by the Directorate of Cultural Affairs in collaboration with Surojit Academy at Rabindra Bhawan on July 5 from 5 pm.

The drama *Tezima* and *Sonor Koni Pora Haah* and dance items *Bagurumba* and *Tina Naas* will be directed by Binita Devi, stated a press release.

A million people have visited Kamakhya from June 15 Better facilities at Ambubachi drawing huge crowds

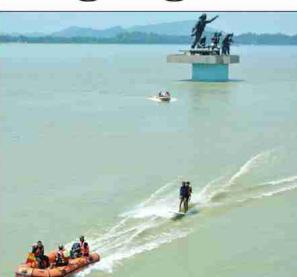
STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 24: With better facilities on offer, the Ambubachi festival is drawing huge numbers of pilgrims from all over the country and abroad. Till date, at least a million people have visited Kamakhya from the 15th of this month.

In view of the growing popularity of the fest, the administration has made some special arrangements for the devotees, which has resulted in an increased footfall. The district administration today also claimed that even the number of international pilgrims has gone up.

Meanwhile, in view of the heavy rush of pilgrims this evening, the administration has stopped ferrying of pilgrims by vehicles up to the Kamakhya temple.

From within the country the maximum number of pilgrims are coming from West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand, Ut-



As part of the Ambubachi Mela, a water sports demonstration being conducted at Kusumari Ghat in Guwahati on Saturday. - UB Photos

tarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana, apart from local pilgrims from different corners of Assam and other north-eastern states.

"We have eight designated camps for the pilgrims and at

district administration said. Efforts put in for crowd management, effective disaster management protocol, volunteer management plan, circular transportation facilities, lighting and illumination of the entire Nilachal Hill are considered as positive steps taken by the administration and appreciated by the pilgrims.

This time the district administration has also made elaborate arrangements to keep footwear and luggage safely at various locations. The 1998 childline service to trace missing children and special arrangements to handle elderly pilgrims, physically challenged, women and children with a comprehensive network of ferry transport services and reception facilities are also being admired.

The district administration has also made elaborate arrangements at the Basistha, Umananda, Sukeswar and Panu Nath Mandir areas for the pilgrims.

Health risk linked to mishandling of e-waste can't be ignored: Minister

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 24: Expressing concern at the growing volume of electronic waste and the health hazards associated with it due to absence of a scientific mechanism to handle such waste, State Minister of Science and Technology Keshab Mahanta has asked AMTRON to submit a proposal for establishing a formal e-waste recycling unit in or around Guwahati city, under the Digital India Initiative.

Inaugurating a workshop organised by Enviro - a group promoting environmental management - at the AMTRON office on Thursday, the Minister stated that the health risk associated with the mishandling of electronic waste cannot be ignored in view of the growing usage of electronic items.

Guwahati is one of the ten cities selected by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) for creating awareness about environmental

hazards of electronic waste. As a ground level implementation partner of the programme, Enviro has organised several such sessions at educational institutions and among other stakeholders.

MK Yadava, MD, AMTRON also stressed the need to start the practice of

Call for recycling centres to streamline electronic waste management

careful handling of electronic waste to avoid future complications.

Elaborating on the theme of the workshop, Dr Amaryoti Kashyap, president of Enviro said that with the growing use of devices and electronic items, environmental risk is also increasing.

"Unlike in the metros, our recycling units are not well equipped to segregate the plastic and heavy metals in a scientific way to avoid hazards. This is creating a

great environmental risk gradually. As we dump the electronic items with municipal solid waste, most of the time the circuit boards and batteries are left untreated on the garbage dumping grounds. Such items emit a toxic metal that gets mixed with the soil. Moreover, due to a craze among people to use latest equipment without a proper mechanism to dispose of old devices, we are piling up such waste in our homes, offices etc," he added.

India is the fifth largest generator of electronic waste producing 1.7 million tonnes electronic waste annually.

AMTRON Vice chairman Rituparna Sarma, while lauding the role of Enviro in creating awareness on the issue, said that electronic recycling centres must be started in Guwahati to streamline the process of e-waste management. Additional manager AMTRON, HN Patgau gave a presentation on the theme of the workshop. General manager AMTRON, Sanjeev Kumar Sarma also spoke on the occasion.

Firm to be blacklisted

GUWAHATI, June 24: The PWD has decided to file an FIR against Simplex Infrastructure for the poor progress in the works carried out by the company.

The department has also decided to blacklist the company so that no further work is given to the firm in Assam, official sources said.

The decision was taken at a review meeting yesterday.

Simplex Infrastructure has undertaken many infrastructure projects across Assam, including the new Legislative Assembly building at Dispur.

"The performance of the company is not up to the mark and they have failed to deliver and complete most of the projects within the permitted time. Most of the projects remain incomplete even after five-six years of allotment," the official noted. - Staff Reporter

Does the city have a Deputy Commissioner?

Does Guwahati have a Deputy Commissioner? Perhaps not! How else do you explain the tremendous disruption to civic life by these so-called activists of different organisations in the name of protests and dharnas!

Almost every other day, bus-loads of protesters/activists are brought to the city by these organisations and 'discharged' onto the banks of Diphulgarh from where they start their march towards the botany department of Cotton University.

Their protest march doesn't end with a review meeting yesterday. Simplex Infrastructure has undertaken many infrastructure projects across Assam, including the new Legislative Assembly building at Dispur.

"The performance of the company is not up to the mark and they have failed to deliver and complete most of the projects within the permitted time. Most of the projects remain incomplete even after five-six years of allotment," the official noted. - Staff Reporter

fic congestion. In view of this, a permanent market, preferably an RCC structure, may be built near the GMC.

- Kamal Das, Rupnagar Garbage collection

The GMC should instruct the agencies involved in the collection and disposal of garbage to do their work at proper hours. The work should be done before 7 am or after 8 pm. Can the garbage collection work not be done from 5 am as in other cities and metros?

Let the workers operate in shifts. The garbage collectors load the trash on trucks haphazardly and that too between 9.30 am and 5.30 pm, causing inconvenience to office-goers and other commuters.

Also, the workers are not provided any masks, gloves and boots for better hygiene. The Government should address these issues.

- Mrinal Bhuyan, Guwahati

Flood warning site

In view of the recurring artificial floods and resultant causalities in Guwahati city, I would like to appeal to the government authorities to launch a flood warning social site immediately which will be available to all when it rains. It should be like road traffic warning, suggesting alternate routes. Or else there would be many more deaths due to flash flood in the city. They should also automatically close down the educational institutions and offices in the flood-affected areas till the situation improves since the students and office-goers fear penalty if they remain absent.

- Commodore (retd) Kamalesh Ch Choudhury

Patients' rights day today

GUWAHATI, June 24: With a view to raising awareness among the patients about their rights and responsibilities and to build a strong and healthy doctor-patient relationship, the Dr Anamika Ray Memorial Trust has decided to observe the Patients' Rights Day tomorrow for the second year in a row under the theme 'Stop medical terrorism', according to a press release issued here today.

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The district administration has also made elaborate arrangements at the Basistha, Umananda, Sukeswar and Panu Nath Mandir areas for the pilgrims.

Efforts put in for crowd management, effective disaster management protocol, volunteer management plan, circular transportation facilities, lighting and illumination of the entire Nilachal Hill are considered as positive steps taken by the administration and appreciated by the pilgrims.

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MESSAGE FORTODAY

The result of education is tolerance.
— HELLER KELLER

The Assam Tribune**Steeped in uncertainty**

The intensification of the spat between tiny Qatar and other Sunni neighbours including Saudi Arabia, UAE and Egypt has introduced another element of uncertainty into the currently turbulent Arab World. Perhaps it is no coincidence that the gradual hardening of attitude of these countries towards Qatar has come at a time when King Salman of Saudi Arabia startled the international community by suddenly removing the incumbent heir to the throne, Mohammad bin Nayef, and replacing him with his own son Mohammed bin Salman and making the latter the new crown prince. The young heir is known as a hardliner as far as issues such as the fight against terrorism or Saudi Arabia's stances against Shia rival Iran are concerned. As the Defence Minister he has been the strategist behind Saudi Arabia's intervention in Yemen, where it is leading a coalition of Arab allies in a bombing campaign against Houthi rebels in order to prop up the Government. Thus it is no surprise that the country and its allies have taken the dispute with Qatar one step further by giving it an ultimatum, whereby it has to agree to 13 conditions within a ten day span before the economic blockade will be lifted, including withdrawal of support to the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt and the anti-Assad rebels in Syria.

One of the most significant demands made by Qatar's neighbours is the shutting down of the liberal news network Al Jazeera which has for long been a thorn in Saudi flesh, not afraid as it had been to criticize the latter's autocratic regime. Another demand is cutting off of ties with Iran and realignment of these with Turkey, which has come in a big way to Qatar's aid after imposition of the blockade. Clearly, the Saudi coalition is employing bullying tactics to force Qatar which has always displayed an independent mindset often discordant with its bigger neighbours, into humiliating capitulation. It is unlikely that the small but oil-rich nation, which houses one of the biggest American bases in the Arab World, would agree to the demands, thereby creating a situation that is steeped in uncertainty. Nations like US and Turkey, which had displayed a tendency to run with the hare while hunting with the hounds, will now have to stop sitting on the fence in the guise of mediators, and choose sides. Unless the Saudi alliance is persuaded into withdrawing the ultimatum and settling for dialogue, something countries like Kuwait are attempting, the world is set for a rough ride. Not only will the uncertainty currently gripping Arab nations due to the Qatar imbroglio create volatility in the crude oil market, it might debilitate the fight against ISIS at a crucial point of time.

Science and technology

Over the centuries science and technology have played a key role in uplifting human civilisations, with the pace getting more pronounced following the industrial revolution. Indeed, there exists an undeniable link between a progressive, equitable economy, and proper application of science and technology. Economic progress and technological advancement generally go hand in hand, which implies an urgent need for integration of technology and economy. The paradox in India has been that despite the remarkable growth of science and technology, a vast majority continues to remain deprived of the fruits of development. This is evident by the appalling living conditions of a sizeable section of the populace. This brings us to the all-important question of how to apply science and technology for the greatest good of the greatest number – something that has not yet taken place in the country.

It is in this context that one needs to view the observations made by the eminent scientist, Prof. CNR Rao while addressing the IIT Guwahati convocation on Friday. The noted scientist – also a recipient of the country's highest civilian honour Bharat Ratna – was bang on target when he lauded the IIT as the only brand India created after independence but lamented in the same breath that not all the IITians worked for the good of the country, India would have been different today. He was also critical of the brain drain from India, as he exhorted the students to decide their mission, saying that "success was assured in India." It's disturbing to see that technological advancements have fallen well short of fulfilling the collective, national need of making India a better place to live for the citizens. Here is the crucial imperative of ensuring that science and technology are applied for sustainable and optimum utilization of our natural as well as human resources and transform India into a developed nation. Prof Rao also pointed out how countries desirous of making a mark globally – such as China and South Korea – were investing heavily in education. His blunt assertion that a country's prosperity is not determined by the size of its Army should be an eye-opener for the Government of India whose allocations for sectors like education and healthcare have been well short of the desired target.

The Assam Tribune**From THE PAST****AICC Discusses More Economic Proposals**

NEW DELHI, June 24: Greater social control of banks, extension of State trading and abolition of princely privileges were among the proposals two Senior Congressmen placed before the All-India Congress Committee when it debated the working committee's economic resolution here this morning. Both food and agriculture Minister Jagjivan Ram, who moved for consideration of the resolution and Sri UV Dhebar, who seconded him spoke lengthily on banking controls. While the mover made it clear that the control sought to be exercised would achieve the same objectives as outright nationalisation, the seconder said the working committee had not thought in terms of regimentation of banking when advocating control of their activities but of rationalising the distribution of their credit resources.

The AICC today accepted an amendment of Sri Mohan Dharla of Maharashtra recommending that privileges and privy purses of former rulers be abolished. In his 45-minute speech, Sri Jagjivan Ram argued forcefully in favour of doing away with the special rights of the former princes. Even if their privy purses were not taken away, there was no reason why they should enjoy such privileges as immunity from legal procedures denied to the common people.

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 1967

Selection of Vice Chancellors**■ Prof Srinath Baruah**

The growth with quality of higher education centres around the role played by the Vice Chancellor, who leads a team of teachers, researchers and administrators dedicated to fulfilling the objectives and vision of the University as enshrined in its Act and Statutes by creating a dynamic learning and work environment. The quality of higher education imparted by a University is primarily judged by its updated curriculum, vibrant teaching-learning process, research activities use of ICT and transparent examination and evaluation system, the employability of its passed out students. The Vice Chancellor being the academic and administrative head is supposed to possess all the qualities to give a dynamic academic leadership. In an affiliating University, the Vice Chancellor besides supervising, monitoring and guiding the academic and administrative activities at the University level, also monitors and guides the academic activities at the college level to ensure maintenance and improvement of their qualities. Hence, the person appointed as Vice Chancellor needs to have adequate experience as a teacher, researcher and academic administrator in the University system or research institution of repute. These are not desirable but essential qualifications.

The selection and appointment of a Vice Chancellor is guided by the Act, Statutes of the University concerned and the Regulations of University

Grants Commission (UGC). Unfortunately, the provisions of Act, Statutes of the University and the Regulations of the UGC are more violated than observed in selection and appointment of certain Vice Chancellors in a few State Universities of Assam.

The University Grants Commission by a Notification dated 30th June, 2010, issued the mandatory "UGC Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and Other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standard in Higher Education, 2010". The section 7.3.0 of the said UGC Regulations, inter alia, prescribes constitution of the Search Committee by persons of eminence in the sphere of higher education and that members of the Search Committee shall not be connected in any manner with the University concerned.

In the pre-2010(June) period when the said UGC Regulations were not in vogue, a few IAS and IPS officers, who were not eminent persons of the field of higher education, were made members of Search Committees for the selection of Vice Chancellors. But in the post-2010 period too, unfortunately, the constitution of Search Committee on several occasions blatantly violated the above UGC norms. The Chairman of the Search Committee for selection of Vice Chan-

cellor of GU in 2013 was an IPS officer who was no doubt a litterateur of repute, but not an eminent person in the field of higher education. The UGC Regulation was blatantly violated when the Search Committee for the selection of Vice Chancellor of Krishna Kanta Handique State Open University was constituted in 2015 with an entrepreneur and businessman as one of its member. With no disrespect, he could be described as anything but a "person of eminence in the sphere of higher education".

The person appointed as Vice Chancellor needs to have adequate experience as a teacher, researcher and academic administrator in the University system or research institution of repute. These are not desirable but essential qualifications.

The second mandatory requirement of UGC Regulation that the members of the Search Committee shall not be connected in any manner with the University concerned, was also violated in post-2010(June) period. For example, one of the members of each of the Search Committees for selection of Vice Chancellor of Gauhati University as well as Dibrugarh University in 2013 was member of the Executive Council of the respective University.

The Section 7.3.0 of UGC Regulations specifies that the Vice Chancellor should be a distinguished academician with highest level of competence,

integrity, morals and institutional commitment beside having a minimum of ten years of experience as Professor in a University system or in an equivalent position in a reputed research / academic administrative organisation. Further, the person needs to have adequate experience in academic and administrative governance and must have exposure to the higher education system abroad.

The above qualifications of the Vice Chancellor specified by UGC Regulations, 2010, appear to have been blatantly violated in the appointment of two Vice

Chancellors in certain State Universities of Assam in post 2010 period. None of them is a distinguished academician by any stretch. One was a bureaucrat and it is learnt that during his five year tenure, only two academic programmes were introduced and on his completion of term in 2016, there were only 47 students in the whole University! Most surprisingly, the other Vice Chancellor appointed by the Governor of Assam has such a miserable academic record that not only did he take eight years to pass BA after HSLC, but also failed once in Pre-University and twice in the B.A. examinations. At the time of his appointment, he did not have even a single research paper published to his credit. What level of academic leadership can be expected from such Vice Chancellors?

The mandatory requirement of 10

years of experience as a Professor in the University system or equivalent position was given a complete go-by in the above two cases. Neither, they had the required teaching experience, not to speak of as Professor but even as Assistant Professor in any University system. One was a bureaucrat and the other had only the administrative experience of less than two years in the University system without any teaching experience in the University, even for a single day. These two are unparalleled instances in the history of the Universities of the State.

The UGC's requirement that the prospective Vice Chancellor needs to have exposure to the higher education system abroad at least for a year is very desirable to give a distinct academic guidance at par with similar Universities abroad in terms of (i) teaching-learning process, (ii) academic infrastructure, (iii) curriculum development, (iv) academic administration (v) use of technology etc. There is instance that even the Search Committee, while interviewing bio-data from prospective candidates, did not only deliberately ignored the UGC norms but set new norms to suit the eligibility of certain preferred candidate. This is a disservice to the cause of higher education in the State.

The world's a stage**■ Prof SP Bhattacharyya**

This famous comedy 'As you like it' Shakespeare said that people should come to see her in flesh and blood in the election meetings instead of crowding the cinema halls to see her image only and that too for a price.

Politicians are, in general, crafty people. What actors do in stage or film, the politicians do in public platforms. They make speeches such as 'Why Calcutta should become a London' or 'Why North Bengal should not become a Switzerland' with all the dramatic postures and gestures without knowing or understanding anything of the historical background of how London became London. In a country, where 25% of the people are illiterate and the majority of the remaining 75% are capable of reading and writing one or two simple sentences only in their mother tongue, most of the citizens are carried away by the rhetoric and dramatics of the speaker and vote for the party he/she represents. Not surprisingly, politicians with a gift of the gab are in high demand in all political parties (As I am writing these lines I can hear a firebrand politician who only recently changed side after his party lost in the election, spitting fire in a TV channel against his erstwhile party chief).

The main aim of all political parties is to win the election by hook or by crook. For this a basketful of possible and impossible promises are brought out in the name of election manifesto which have no legal validity and therefore none to be held responsible for their non-fulfilment. Catchy slogans like 'Garibi Hatao' or 'Sabhi Saath Sabha Bishoi' often create a tsunami effect which can draw the tallest of the opponents and wash ashore the flotsam and jetsam of the winning party. Once in the saddle every political party knows how to share the spoils of power by diverting people's attention from real issues to non-issues and give all sorts of excuses for non-performance.

India is a democracy where supposedly government is 'of the people, by the people, for the people'. Let us take the case of the professionals of the silver screen first. Mind loves to live in a world of fantasy where money grows in trees and beautiful girl of a rich father instantly falls in love with an unknown *pardesi* taxi driver. This is what makes most of us fall in love with an real life however absurd these may be in real life. And actors of directors of films like 'Babubali', 'Dabang', etc earn crores of rupees by creating an illusion of reality which mesmerises the viewers. No wonder, a successful actor of the stage or screen is able to etch out an unforgettable image of his or her in our minds which people in other walks of life fail to do in spite of their life long contributions and sacrifices for the betterment of the society. A film star of the fair sex who was never in politics till the end of her acting career but made an MP by a certain

political party boastfully announced that people should come to see her in flesh and blood in the election meetings instead of crowding the cinema halls to see her image only and that too for a price.

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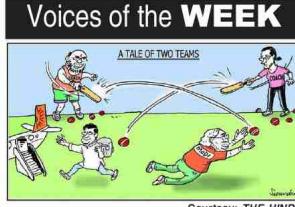
India is a democracy where suppos-

edly government is 'of the people, by the people, for the people'. However, the multi-party parliamentary system, the British model our country follows, has in a large measure installed a new feudalism with trappings of democracy. The tyranny of the erstwhile landlords has been replaced by the tyranny of the ruling party (the recent episode involving an MP at Delhi Airport shows how power has gone into the head of these elected or selected representatives of the people).

Next is in order where acting matters most is in the profession of the so-called godmen. India, which ranks high in both population and backwardness has more than a fair share of this class of actors. In the name of religion these people masquerade as Messiahs and by their words and antics cast a spell over their unsuspecting followers. The net result is that while these charlatans come to acquire a lot of power and pelf, their victims end up worse off than before. Because of these parasites, the society becomes even more backward and superstitious and the breeding ground of more of their ilk.

There seems to be an uncanny link, a symbiotic relationship between religion and politics which appear to be only modified versions of the same human urge — the urge to dupe and dominate the majority. Any political party which lays too much stress on secularism or socialism and do not play the communal card from time to time has to pay for it in the elections (the left parties do not seem to have learnt their lesson yet). In other words, reason and faith has to be mixed in right proportion in these professions and the way to do it is slowly has been demonstrated only recently in a million TV talk by Syed Aslam Meiani of Jamiat Ul-Ulema-E-Hind. He said that even though the majority of the Muslims do not want Pakistan and wanted India to remain unfied, yet it happened because 'Allah's marji' was otherwise.

After labouring so much to establish that 'All the world's a stage' in politics as well as religion, it remains to be told as to who are directing the shows from behind the curtain. Sorry to say that in regard the reader's guess is as good as mine.



"Kovind will make an exceptional president while continuing to be a strong voice for the poor." — NARENDRA MODI, PM, India

"Our team was a super power in world cricket then, but this team has the potential to be even better than a super power." — IMRAN KHAN, former Pakistan Captain

"Yoga is not political and it is not religious. It is a traditional Indian art and has been practised in the country from times immemorial." — M VENKAIAH NAIDU, Union Minister

"We have one doctor for 1700 people in our country." — PRANAB MUKHERJEE, President, India, lamenting the lack of healthcare infrastructure in India

"Enforcement would not be harsh during the initial period of GST implementation." — RITA TEAOA, Commerce Secretary

"I am extremely happy with the video assistance refereeing in the Confederation Cup so far." — GIANNI INFANTINO, FIFA President

"I believe 90% of urban citizens are on Facebook and can get necessary information on a department's programmes, policies and schemes through the social media site rather than through press releases or meetings, seminars, workshop..." — PEMA KHANDU, CM, Arunachal Pradesh

"Terrorism that emanates from there (Pakistan) affects not only India, but other countries in South Asia and the world over." — GOPAL BAGLAY, MEA Spokesperson

"There is no hope that it (city flood) will be solved in the next two years. If it rains, there will be floods... it was I who introduced several flood free schemes, but I was never involved in the planning." — BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY, MP, Guwahati

Horse play**The last word**

S RAGHUNATH

Caught in a financial logjam following the note ban, I am unable to indulge in the King of Sports-horse racing.

I want to go to the swank Bangalore Turf Club, saunter over to the senior stipendiaries' stand and skin a boodie or two by placing a wager at 33-to-3 odds in the Colts Trial Stakes over a mile, but I cannot manage to peep dimly through the turnstile gate opposite the totalizator before being shooed away by an imposing durwan.

I long to fly away to England to have a flutter in the summer races at Ascot, nonchalantly rubbing shoulders with the Royals and pull off a double parlay on

Queen Mother's thoroughbred Arkle, but I have to be content with striking a friendship with a superannuated a friend.

I desire to own a string of chestnut yearlings out of the Agha Khan stable in the South of Ireland to race at Kentucky Derby, but I cannot rustle up enough cash even to buy a spavined pony.

Being philosophical by nature, I have

avid interest in the names of horses taking part in races all over the country. I warn the cockles of my heart that a colt named *Keep Whistling* is fancied by punters in the 3 o'clock races and keep whistling (in the dark, of course) that I will hit the treble jackpot and take home my loot in a gunny sack.

I am pleased to read that a yearling named *Mao's Advice* has odds on favourite in the racecourse betting and I instantly recall my mom's advice— "Son, don't become a race course habitue."

I am delighted to read that a filly named *Dad's Opinion* has been "noticed" on the outer sand track during morning exercise and I immediately remember my dad's opinion— "Son, remember that horse sense is the sense that keeps horses away from betting on people."

But I regret that Bengaluru, boasting a posh turf club and home to the first Janata Dal govt in the country does not have a chestnut yearling named *HorseTrading*, trained by H D Deve Gowda and Siddaramiah up running in the HD Kumaraswamy Handicap Stakes.

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ARAMBAGH ■ BOLPUR ■ HABRA ■ BANGAON ■ BARRACKPORE ■ KANCHRAPARA ■ BASIRHAT ■ KHARAGPUR ■ DURGAPUR ■ BERAHAMPORE ■ MALDA ■ SILIGURI



Meritorious students felicitated by the Barama Students' Union at Barama, on Friday. — UB Photos

Seuj Konwar Parag Chaliha remembered

ANN Service

SIVASAGAR, June 24: Seuj Konwar Parag Chaliha's 18th death anniversary was observed with solemnity by the Parag Chaliha Smriti Rakhyam Samiti and Sibasagar College recently with various programmes.

Parag Chaliha's status was graced by Dipali Chaliha, his wife and the ceremonial lamp was lit by Kashyap Joshipura, GM, Corporate Communi-

tions, ONGC, Nazira and Lakhi Kanta Mahanta, the Satradhikar, Sri Sri Ujjaini Satra on the premises of Chaholong Sapapha Indoor Stadium in the afternoon. The programme was moderated by Sourov Chaliha, the youngest son of Parag Chaliha and Pradip Gohain.

Addressing the memorial meeting at Sivasagar Nitya Mandir in the evening, Subodh Sonowal, SP, Sivasagar said that Parag Chaliha was a lion in the social life of Assam and had the

courage as well as honesty to go ahead with his mission to rejuvenate the Assamese society. Manoj Borthakur, Subject Teacher, Fuleswar Girls HS School said that Chaliha had a multi-faceted personality and was acutely conscious about time in transforming his dreams into reality. Among others, Dr Puspila Kalita, Principal, Sibasagar College, Silpika Rognuru, Hironmoyee Dutta, Brojen Bora, Makham Bora, Pronoti Gohain recited the days

they spent with the iconic figure in the educational and cultural world in Assam.

The children of Mou Mel enacted two episodes of *Charhazar boser Asom*, the famous dance drama written by Parag Chaliha. The chorus was sung by a group of artists all above the age of 50. Six poor but meritorious students Dipankar Bhunya, Gitarni Das, Satyabrata Hazarika, Ritam Gogoi, Manjilijyoti Mohan and Nilam Das were given financial help.

Road repair urged

CORRESPONDENT

KALAIKONA, June 24: The dilapidated state of Tengnath-Kathalguri-Harisinga PWD road has been decried by the people of the area. The road has been a vital link between Tengnath and Harisinga since long time back. But non-completion of the road by PWD has made it near impossible to travel on it. Students, teachers and officials use this short road to visit Harisinga and Udalguri. But people suffer a lot as when there is a rainfall.

During rainfall, water-filled potholes play the role of death traps for the people on bicycle, motorcycles and four-wheelers. Construction work

LPG connections distributed

CORRESPONDENT

of the road had started a decade back, but due to reason known only to the department concerned, the construction works have been left undone.

Protesting against the dilapidated state of the road and demanding its early completion, ABSU anchalik committees of Tengnath, Harisinga and Kabulis unit staged a road blockade programme today. Uniraj Boro, president of Udalguri district ABSU attending the programme said that local MLA and Minister Rihon Daimari had assured early completion of the road before the State election last year. He requested Daimari to keep his words given to people.

Addressing the event that was graced by the Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, Manoj Kumar Deka and the TOC area manager Gajen Pathak, Ex-MLA Rajen Borthakur among other officials, the Parliamentarian said that in Sonitpur, altogether 44,000 poor families have been will be provided LPG connections this year under the scheme.

Reiterating that the Union Government's primary focus has been the welfare of the poor, specially the women, he also said that by the next two years the project will cover five more crore people living below the poverty line.

TOC area manager Gajen Pathak said that the verification process is still going on and 16,000 beneficiaries have been selected and they will get the connection through the respective dealers.

JN Sarma: a tribute

Jitendra Nath Sarma left for his heavenly abode at his Patacharkuchi residence on June 15 last.

He was 85.

Born on March 28, 1931, Sarma completed his ISc from Cotton College and joined Patacharkuchi Vidhyapith in 1954 and retired from service in 1992. He was an ideal teacher, a voracious reader and an efficient organiser.

Sarma was awarded the best teacher award in 1989 by the State Government. He was also a recipient of the literary pension from the Government for his literary contributions.

Sarma was associated with various organisations of Patacharkuchi area. He was the

NZ award for Assam engineer

GUWAHATI, June 24: Dr Bibhab Priyo Das was awarded the New Zealand Young Engineer Award 2017 in the annual conference of the Electricity Engineers Association (EEA), New Zealand held at Wellington on June 21, 2017, a press release stated.

This award recognised Dr Das's outstanding contribution to the electricity industry and showcased his excellence and innovation. As part of this award he, will be representing New Zealand at the International Electrotechnical

Commission's IEC Young Professionals' Workshop, which is being held in October in Vladivostok, Russia

Das, is currently employed in ETEL Transformers Ltd, Auckland, New Zealand as the Research and Innovation Engineer.

Das is an alumnus of Assam Engineering College, having completed his undergraduate in Electrical Engineering in 2005. He is the younger son of Tara Prasanna Das and Gitika Das of Mathura Nagar, Guwahati.

Meritorious students of remote villages under Doomdooma LAC feted

CORRESPONDENT

DOOMDOOMA, June 24: Baghjan Dighalbarang, an interior area of no. 125 Doomdooma LAC is plagued with hundreds of problems. The area is still backward in the field of education, which is very essential for the progress of an area. But, this year 41 students of this area were able to overcome all these hazards and came out successful in HSLC and HSSLC examinations. Out of these successful candidates, 23 cleared HSLC while 18 cleared HSSLC examination.

Baghjan Dighalbarang High School recently to congratulate these successful students. The meeting was chaired by a retired headmaster of Dighalbarang LP School, Suresh Baruah and the meeting was addressed by the headmaster of Kordoi Guri Girls'

ME School, Pradip Kumar Moran and the secretary of Doomdooma Press Club, Abhijit Khatani as guests.

The meeting was also addressed by the gaonburha of Baghjan village, Rajani Hazarika, the principal of Rupkomwar Jatiya Vidyalaya, Hemanta Moran, the president of Doomdooma regional committee of All Moran Students' Union, Niranta Moran and the president of Baghjan-Dighalbarang Regional Committee of Moran Jatiya Mohila Parishad, Labanya Moran.

BMYS greeted the 41 successful students with a phulam gamosa, a citation, a pen and a book each. Two successful students shared their feelings in the meeting.

Earlier, BMYS secretary Jantu Moran welcomed the guests and explained the objectives of the meeting. The president of BMYS Barun Moran offered the vote of thanks. Students Jikimoni Hazarika and Karnali Saikia presented songs

while Rabimon Moran and Sujita Moran presented a dance.

A large number of students of the local schools, teachers, guardians and village people attended the meeting.

Bishnu Rabha Divas: The All Assam Students' Union (AASU) in association with its Tinsukia district and Sadiya regional committees observed the Bishnu Rabha Divas centrally at Chapakhowa public playground with a two-day programme on June 19 and 20.

On the first day, various cultural competitions were held which were inaugurated by the principal of Sadiya Government Higher Secondary School, Jatin Gogoi. Earlier, the SDO (Civil) of Sadiya subdivision, Biswajit Phukan inaugurated the book fair cum exhibition. In the evening, a cultural function was held.

On the second day morning, AASU president Dipankar Nath hoisted the AASU flag while the

general secretary of AASU Lurinjyoti Gogoi initiated the swahid tarpan.

The retired principal of Ujani Sadiya HS School, Agam Chandra Gogoi garlanded the portrait of Kalaguru Bishnu Prasad Rabha. The ethnic cultural meet was inaugurated by the president of Tinsukia District Sahitya Sabha, Prabin Bora. Cultural troops of various ethnic tribes of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh displayed their rich cultural heritage in this meet. Later, an open quiz competition was also held.

The open session held in the evening was chaired by AASU president, Dipankar Nath and it was inaugurated by eminent Assamese writer Punya Saikia, AASU general secretary, Lurinjyoti Gogoi explained the objectives of the meeting. Professor of Morigaon College, Pradip Saikia, AJCP general secretary Palash Changma, AMSU president Arunjoyti Moran, AACSU president, Jyoti Prakash Chutia, AAGSU president,

Prem Tamang, AATASU working president, Durga Konwar and several others attended the open session as guests. The souvenir titled Sadiya Surabhi published on the occasion was inaugurated by Pradip Saikia.

The Everest conqueror, Tina Menra, folk artist Gajen Narah and Aditya Burhagohain were accorded a warm felicitation by AASU in the open session. The cultural function held at night was inaugurated by the principal of Sadiya College, Haragovinda Kakoti. Doomdooma Regional Committee of Asom Jatiyatathodi Yuva Chakra Parishad also observed the Bishnu Rabha Divas at Doomdooma Bangiya Durgabari hall with a day-long programme. Doomdooma Sahka Sahitya Sabha also recalled the contributions of Kalaguru Bishnu Prasad Rabha towards Assamese culture and the society on his death anniversary at Doomdooma Sahka Sahitya Sabha Bhawan.

No end in sight to Dergaon citizens' civic woes

CORRESPONDENT

DERGAON, June 24: The normal life of citizens of Dergaon town is becoming miserable day by day due to the mismanagement of civic issues by the Dergaon Municipality Board. Though the Dergaon Town Committee, at present Dergaon Municipal Board (DMB), was established way back in 1960 but the drainage system is yet to be implemented completely and maintained properly.

After a little rainfall, the roads of the town at several places like Chakialchuk, Nathang, Kumargaon, Chauhatta, Milamang, Padmapur, College road, Narikalguri etc., are invariably submerged.

Though the Municipality Board constructed drains but due to the unscientific works the drainage system has become faulty. Some of the drains were constructed partially and the present authority is trying to complete them. The Board has now constructed a few roads of the town only.

The parking of vehicles has not yet been controlled in the town. Due to disorder in the parking, an unwanted traffic jam is created and the pedestrians have to suffer a lot. The parking of vehicles on the NH-37

and PHCG road at Dergaon Chariali in a disorderly manner creates problem to the vehicles movement on the roads. Although the municipality and the police had assured the Citizens' Forum to do something about it but nothing has been done in reality so far. "The parking problem has not yet been solved by the Municipality Board," said the president of AASHRAY, Biren Chandra Saikia.

Moreover, the stray cattle on NH-37 and PHCG road are creating a major problem for the vehicular movement. In this regard, the nature organisation AASHRAY submitted a petition to the Chairman of DMB to control the stray cattle. But no result has been seen till date. Talking to this correspondent, the vice-president of AASHRAY said that the Municipality Board is indifferent on our petition. He further reiterated the demand for controlling the stray cattle because of several accidents have taken place.

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The other vital civic issue that has disturbed the citizens is the fact that there is no public urinal in the greater town.

Due to the lack of a urinal, the citizens as well as other people, who go to the town, face an awkward situation. The male

members generally use the roadside drains but there is no alternative for the women. The problem was brought to the notice of the chairman. Though new chairman had assured to construct such urinals earlier but now he has become indifferent on this issue. "Though we were waiting for the response of the Municipality Board but no answer was given. So we had to go out to the street to protest," said the owner of Dutta Book Stall, Prasanta Dutta.

The garbage of the town is also not treated scientifically. Though the garbage of the town is picked up by the cleaners of the Board but it is poured in the open field near the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) complex.

And this leads creates a new source of pollution. AASHRAY had demanded treatment of the garbage scientifically by starting a recycling plant. But no practical step has been taken by the Board till date. It is pertinent to mention that the citizens of the town have great expectations from the new chairman Arunav Kalita, who is a master of management study. The citizens are hopeful that the chairman will do something drastic for the town and address its civic issues.

State entrepreneur attends G20 Summit

GUWAHATI, June 24: The 9th G20 Young Entrepreneurs Alliance (YE) was held on June 15-17 at Berlin, Germany. North East India's part of the Indian delegation at this prestigious summit, Kaushik Barua is the director of Lynchpin Exhibitions—a company which has promoted the concept of career education exhibitions in NE India. The G20 Young Entrepreneurs' Alliance (G20 YE) is a global network of approximately 500,000 young entrepreneurs and the organisations that support them, a release stated.

Swachhata mela held at Goreswar

ANN Service

neer, Baksa Division (PHE).

Addressing the huge gathering, Sujit Bagoly, SDO(Civil) of Tamulpur subdivision said that each and every person should follow sanitation to make the society healthy. He also advised the gathering on cleanliness. A traditional Sananya Kachari dance was performed here on Thursday.

Sujit Bagoly, SDO(Civil) of Tamulpur subdivision inaugurated the main gate of the swachhata mela and the swachhata flag was hoisted by Ratul Pathak, ADC, Baksa district at the Bishnu Rabha Bhawan here on Thursday.

Addressing the huge gathering, Ratul Pathak, ADC, Baksa district asked the gathering to take the sanitation message to the rural areas so that Baksa district can become 'swachhi' within 2017. He asked the public to use dustbins to keep their own campus and public places clean.

Maheswar Basumatary, Executive Member, BTC, took part in the swachhata mela and said in the meeting that the PHE Department was working on the water and sanitation system for the last few years. "We should help them to make the cleanliness campaign a success in both urban and rural areas."

Army conducts medical camp near Bhutan border

CORRESPONDENT

KALAIKONA, June 24: The continuous effort of the Army to serve the people living in remote villages near Indo-Bhutan border areas was recently reflected with the arrangement

of a medical camp at Garujiha, Noniapara in Udalguri district on Thursday.

Army camp Borongajui of Red Horse Division under Garoja Regiment conducted the medical camp at Garujiha village. Kamali Basumatary,

chief doctors including a pediatrician, a gynaecologist and an ENT specialist from the Civil Hospital provided medical assistance to the village people. The medical check-up was totally free and free medicines were also distributed.



Excise officials burning nearly 2467 kgs of ganja, which was seized recently, at Tezpur Nurbari Tea Garden, on Friday. — UB Photos



Members of ABSU along with local people during a symbolic protest against prolonged non-repair of the water-logged and pot-holed Horisingha-Tangla PWD Road, at Tangla on Saturday. — UBT Photos

Village attacked by miscreants

CORRESPONDENT

DIPHU June 24: A group of miscreants from Nagaland border attacked Karbi Anglong Morigaon village situated in Lahorjan locality yesterday at around 12.30 pm. In all, 8 houses were torched. The area is close to Lahorjan Border Post of Assam Police.

The miscreants reportedly came in a police jeep. However, the villagers could detain a person named Nangshima Longkumar of Burma Camp, Dimapur, who was later handed over to Dillai police and a case No. 12/17 SUS 447/448/295(A) 435/436/506 of IPB was registered.

Longkumar mentioned that Sanjamir and TN Manei of Dimapur instigated him to commit the crime. He also admitted that he had torched the same village twice before.

Domestic property worth approximately Rs 10 lakh was damaged in yesterday's arson, as per official sources. The village is inhabited by Karbi, Naga and Bodoland tribes.

Prohibitory order in Sonitpur dist

TEZPUR, June 24: In a bid to maintain law and order in the district, the ADC of Sonitpur, Kishan Kumar Sarma issued a prohibitory order under Section 144 in Sonitpur district.

Through the order, the district administration has prohibited gathering of five or more persons at any public place or entry into public place, playground, cinema hall, theatre etc. with weapons, etc., including moving on two-wheeler with pillion-rider. Moreover, forced collection of donation, gift coupon or lottery are also prohibited without prior permission. Conducting meetings in public places, taking out of procession, shouting slogan etc. are also prohibited without prior permission of the authority concerned.

The order further stated that no loudspeakers causing sound pollution shall be played from 10 pm to 6 am at any place. Incidentally, though pillion-riding on two-wheelers is prohibited, ladies, children, security personnel and Government officials are exempted from this prohibition. This order has been enforced in the entire district with immediate effect and will continue until further orders. — Correspondent

Two drug peddlers arrested

DIBURGARH, June 24: In yet another major crackdown, Dibrugarh Police arrested two alleged drug peddlers, namely Nazir Ali and his partner Anwar Hussain alias Bablu and seized 200 grams of brown sugar from them. Police conducted raids in the rented houses of Nazir Ali at Shantipura and Laluka following a tip-off. The banned substance was reportedly kept buried inside a heap of salt in the house in Laluka. The police team was led by the OC of Sadar PS Sideswar Bora and Town Sub-Inspector Bhaskar Jyoti Phukan. The police IC of Gabharupather and Amolapatty outposts were also part of the team. — Staff Correspondent

Tinsukia AJCPY stages dharma

TINSUKIA, June 24: The Tinsukia district committee of Asom Jyatiyabadi Yuba Chatra Parishad staged a three-hour sit-in dharna near its office at GNB Road here today in protest against the policies adopted by both the State and Central governments favouring construction of big river dams, especially the Lower Subansiri Hydro Electric Project. The protesters condemned the attitude of the government that it threatened not to sit idle if construction of big river dams was not abandoned forthwith. — Correspondent

Prabanchana Birodi Divas

NORTH LAKHIMPUR, June 24: The Lakhimpur District Congress Committee organised Prabanchana Birodi Divas here on Thursday. A meeting in this connection was held in the District Library auditorium where many senior leaders of the Congress party like Rupin Bora, Bismita Gogoi and Bolu Kuli, among others, were present. The work and activities of the present BJP Government in State was criticised by these former ministers of the Congress party. The Pradesh Congress President Rupin Bora slammed Himanta Biswa Sarma for betraying the Congress party. He also criticised the BJP for not fulfilling their poll promises. — Correspondent

66th KAAC foundation day celebrated

DIPHU, June 24: The 66th foundation day of Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC) was celebrated on Friday at the KAAC Secretariat Complex here. The celebration began with different programmes starting from 7 am with garlanding of the statue of Semson Sing Ingil, the founder of Karbi Anglong district at Semson Sing Ingil Memorial Park near the Member Hostel and Council Lake respectively. Oral tributes were offered to the status of Khorsing Terang, the first CEM of Karbi Anglong District Council situated at Khorsing Terang Memorial Park near the KASA ground. Later, the official KAAC foundation day celebration was followed by hoisting of the National Flag at the KAAC complex, which was done by Principal Secretary of KAAC, Jayashree Daulagupu.

The souvenir of the KAAC was released by the Principal Secretary in association with KAAC Deputy and joint secretaries. Plantation of ornamental saplings was carried out in Diphu town and fruits were distributed to the patients of Diphu Civil Hospital by the KAAC authority.

A cultural programme was spontaneously held at Joysing Doloi Auditorium. The cultural programme was organised by the Art and Culture Department of KAAC.

However, no elected KAAC MACs were present during the foundation day celebration due to the party-level meeting in Guwahati. — Correspondent

Dhemaji students submit memo

DHEMAMI, June 24: In protest against the alleged conspiracy of the State Government to destroy public sector schools in the State by amalgamating the primary and secondary level schools, the Dhemaji Zilla Chatra Mukti Sangram Samiti staged a protest here yesterday along with a rally.

The protest rally saw participation by over 500 members of Chatra Mukti Sangram Samiti led by Jugal Gogoi, president of the students' organisation. The rally was taken out from near Dhemaji Girls' College and it passed through the main thoroughfares of the town even as the rallyists shouted slogans against State Education Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma.

The rally demanded the State Government to cancel the decision for amalgamation of the public sector schools in the State, besides seeking provincialisation of all the venture schools in the State by appointing adequate number of teachers in accordance with their class and enrolment. — Correspondent

Erosion renders 80 families homeless in Morigaon

CORRESPONDENT

MORIGAON, June 24: Unabated river bank erosion by the swirling waters of the mighty Brahmaputra in three places under Lahorjhat and Bhuragao revenue circles in Morigaon district took a grim turn today after rendering 80 families homeless in Mikir

gaoon and Dighnai villages.

According to official sources, river bank erosion has even threatened the rock spur at Mikirgaon, thereby causing concern among the concerned citizens. The fury of erosion at Lahorjhat and Bhuragao has obviously compelled the local farmers to stop all farming activities in the areas.

Meanwhile, standing crop covering several thousand hectares were submerged by flood waters of the Brahmaputra. At Kachoni village, a school, naonghar and PHC were also inundated.

Though the Water Resource Department intensified erosion protection work in the area, yet several dwelling

houses were submerged.

The Water Resource Department has lately released an amount of Rs 6 crore for the flood and erosion protection work in Morigaon district, yet as the monsoon has already arrived, it will obviously be difficult to implement the project work properly at a time when the Brahmaputra is in spate.

Vast areas in Balipara inundated

CORRESPONDENT

DIGHALI, Patbil and Mulapukhuri villages, besides Balipara ASEB office, Balipara PHC, various educational institutions, including Balipara Higher Secondary School, Balipara Education Block Office and large areas of Rangapara town under Chardwar Revenue Circle in Sonitpur district.

Due to inundation of about one km of NH-15 from Balipara ASTC area till the rail crossing due to flash flood, a severe traffic jam led to a chaotic situation among the people in the area. The flood water also washed away two culverts at Kachariagon area, thereby disconnecting the area with other parts of the town.

Moreover, besides the flood fury, erosion by river Kaloni, Jorakhor and Mansiri have lately caused serious threat to the existence Balipara Centre and the Balipara-Rangapara Road.

More importantly, the Balipara Higher Secondary School and Balipara PHC have been under water since the last one week following flood caused by the Jorakhor and Mansiri rivers.

Patient dies in Majuli ferry

MAJULI, June 24: In a tragic incident, one Bhainen Das (46) died in a passenger-carrying ferry in the midst of river Brahmaputra today.

According to sources, Das, an employee of the Inland Water Transport Department and a resident of Lakhimpur Nagar Gaon complained of cardiac problem and was ferried from Majuli to Jorhat for better treatment. However, he succumbed on the way. — A Correspondent

On June 24, a tragic incident, one Bhainen Das (46) died in a passenger-carrying ferry in the midst of river Brahmaputra today.

According to sources, Das, an employee of the Inland Water Transport Department and a resident of Lakhimpur Nagar Gaon complained of cardiac problem and was ferried from Majuli to Jorhat for better treatment. However, he succumbed on the way. — A Correspondent

SILCHAR, June 24: Echoing strong sentiments against the Government's decision to curtail the number of Durga Puja holidays for Barak Valley from the academic calendar and also cancellation of holiday of the birth anniversary of Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore, citizens of Barak Valley have decided to register their collective protest outside the office of the Inspector of Schools, Cachar on June 28.

This was decided at a citizens' meet convened by the All Barak Valley Students' Association (ACKHSA) at the Madhya Sar Sankriti Samiti Hall.

Members of various other organisations and associations, including leading citizens of the

people here.

Valley unanimously agreed to support a 12-hour Barak bandh on June 29 called by ACKHSA to give vent to their anger and disappointment over the decision to lessen the number of Durga Puja holidays to mere four days.

"We never wanted a 30-day summer break. But Durga Puja is the biggest annual festival here, so the decision to scrap holidays on Sabarimala and also on Tagore's birthday is unacceptable. We condemn the autocratic decision imposed on us by the Government," said Rupam Nandi Purakayastha, chief adviser of the students' body. He added that the Government should retain the previous list of holidays as the new list has hurt the sentiments of the people here.

(On Reverse Auction basis)

Tenders are invited by Executive Director (CNS-Planning) on behalf of Chitravati Airport Authority of India (AAI) for the Work of "SITC of FPD Software & 8 sets of FPD Software for 8 sets of FPD Software".

Cost : ₹ 11,99,73,350/-, Earnest Money Deposit : ₹ 23,99,547/- (₹ 37,200/-). Last date for submission of tender : 07.07.2017 upto 1200 hrs.

For more details please visit CPP Portal : <http://tenders.gov.in/eprocurement/> or MR No : <http://www.aai.aero/E-tender-NIC-PPD-PORTAL>. Further clarifications/agendum in this regard, if any, will be put up only on CPP portal/website.

(N-37/2917-18)

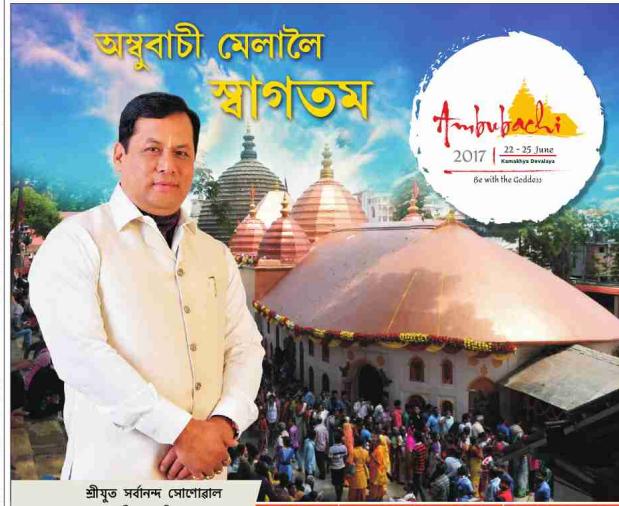
Sd/- Managing Director

भारतीय विमानप्रवाह समिक्षकरण अधिकारीता

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Assam Gas Company Limited, a Govt. of Assam undertaking, invites bid for Supply, Installation and Commissioning of ICP System on AGS gas pipelines in Assam. Tender documents may be obtained from Assam e-procurement portal <https://assamtenders.gov.in> and should be submitted ONLINE only. For NIT, the parties may visit our website www.assamgas.com.

Sd/- Managing Director



Janasyayog/4222/1



**WEATHER
NORTHEAST**
Forecast for North Eastern States
Tropical shower is very likely to occur at most places over Assam and Meghalaya and at many places over Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura.

Widespread showers are very likely to occur at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh on June 25 and 26. Heavy rain is very likely to occur at isolated places over Assam and Meghalaya. Heavy rainfall is very likely to occur at isolated places over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura on June 25, 26 and 28.

Temperatures :

	Max (°C)	Min (°C)
Dibrugarh	34.1	25.0
Tezpur	31.5	26.2
Silchar	33.0	26.0
Dhubri	33.6	26.8
Jorhat	34.2	25.4
Lakshimpur	34.8	23.7
Shillong	24.8	14.9
Imphal	30.2	23.2
Mizaghar	33.8	24.7
Aizawl	30.5	14.7
Agartala	34.8	26.7
Kohima	23.6	17.0
Pasighat	34.4	25.6
Cherrapunjee	25.0	17.5

Heroin seized

AIZAWL, June 24: Mizoram Excise and Narcotics department officials seized 212 grams of heroin worth around Rs 10.60 lakh from Mizoram-Myanmar border in Champhai district, sources said. The department officials arrested a person last night for possession of the contraband, reportedly smuggled from Myanmar. The person was booked under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985. The officials also seized 1,560 cans of Myanmar-made beer called Dagon near Myanmar border Tlangmvi village on Tuesday last. -PTI

Taxi, bus services to Sikkim affected

GANGTOK, June 24: Bus and taxi services between Siliguri, considered the gateway to the North East, and Gangtok were affected today as drivers of West Bengal registered vehicles stopped plying to Sikkim, inconveniencing a large number of tourists.

Several Sikkim registered cars were damaged by anti-Gorkhaland protesters and the services of Sikkim Nationalised Transport (SNT) from Siliguri was stopped.

SNT additional general manager (operations) HL Lamchhaney said his buses were not plying today out of fear.

"Local drivers have threatened us that they will torch our vehicles if we carry on with our services. We will resume our service if the West Bengal Government provides security to our buses," he said.

Sikkim-bound tourists were stranded at the SNT bus stand at Siliguri. Hundreds of tourists were seen standing in long queues at the SNT bus depot in Gangtok waiting for tickets to Siliguri.

An indefinite bandh is being observed in Darjeeling hills by Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) spearheading an agitation demanding separate Gorkhaland state.

The unrest in Darjeeling in peak tourist season has come as a boon for Sikkim, a landlocked State, with tourists thronging the neighbouring hill State instead of Darjeeling.

But problem was created after Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Chamling extended support for a separate Gorkhaland State on June 22.

Drivers of tourist vehicles in Siliguri alleged that GJM activists were not allowing them to ply cars along NH-31A, the long highway connecting Gangtok and Siliguri, but bandh supporters were not objecting to Sikkim registered cars.

"GJM is not stopping cars from Sikkim. Their Chief Minister has supported Gorkhaland. And our livelihood is at stake," a driver said.

They stopped a Sikkim-bound bus in the morning and later small cars from going to the neighbouring hill State. Two cars were damaged by a mob at Champasari as the drivers were not ready to get down. -PTI

NORTH EAST China denies entry to Kailash Mansarovar pilgrims

GANGTOK, June 24: China has refused to issue to the first batch of around 50 Indian pilgrims who were scheduled to travel to Kailash Mansarovar through the Nathu La pass in Sikkim, citing damage to roads due to rains and landslides in the Tibet region.

The development has cast a shadow of uncertainty on the annual yatra as Chinese officials maintained that it would take some time to repair the roads and the Indians would not be able to make the pilgrimage any time soon.

"The pilgrims and their liaison officer were told that because of incessant rainfall the roads in the Chinese side had been washed away in major landslides. So they cannot proceed any further," a source said here.

The Chinese officials said they were concerned about the safety of the Indian pilgrims which is why they were stopped from proceeding further.

The Chinese officials also informed the yatri that as and when the weather would improve and the road conditions in Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) would be restored they would be allowed to enter into China, the sources said.

The first batch of 47 pilgrims had arrived in Sikkim on June 15. The Sikkim Tourism Development Corporation is the nodal authority for conducting the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra through Nathu La.

Hundreds of Indian pilgrims undertake Kailash Mansarovar yatra in the TAR of China every year negotiating the mountainous terrain. This year, a total of 350 pilgrims had registered for the yatra via Nathu La route and they were to travel in seven batches. -PTI



Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh inaugurating the community policing programme in Imphal on Saturday. - Correspondent

Purohit inaugurates national seminar on nutrition

SHILLONG, June 24: Meghalaya Governor Banwari Lal Purohit on Friday urged agricultural scientists in the country to conduct a thorough research on the nutritional aspects of local delicacies.

"Research should be conducted on the nutritional aspects of local delicacies which have enormous nutrients," Purohit said while inaugurating a two-day national seminar on nutrition sensitive agriculture.

He said the change in culture has led to a change in food habits, which ultimately leads to a malnourished nation. He harped on the fact that local delicacies have enormous nutrients, which needs to be identified.

The Governor said soil nutrients should be checked so that healthy harvest can be achieved. "Agriculture should be nutrition sensitive and nutrition should reach the plates of every citizen," Acharya said.

He emphasised that local and traditional foods should be promoted as every region has a special nutritional aspect and requirement and said the aim should not only be to achieve food security but also to ensure that a balanced diet is received by every Indian.

Internationally acclaimed environmentalist Dr Vandana Shiva in her address emphasised on the fact that food is the centre of any culture and food is the chief of all beings.

"We need to change the outlook in the way food is cultivated. Agriculture begins with Mother Nature and our earth and its biodiversity needs to be protected," she said.

Madhya Pradesh Minister for Welfare and

Child Development Archana Chintu said the villages in India are never weak, but the procedure in which agriculture and the farming practice are conducted, is destroying the soil which in turn gives less remunerative to farmers. ICAR director Dr SV Ngachan said "We need to look back and give a thought to the corrective steps needed to achieve a healthy nutrition. Agriculture is not only the economic background of the country, but also the basis for a healthy nation," he said.

Over 100 scientists from across the country converged at the seminar with an intention of formulating and articulating recommendations to various government agencies involved in these fields to promote traditional and local foods. -PTI

GNC, UDP to work together

TURA, June 24: With an eye on the upcoming Assembly elections in Meghalaya, United Democratic Party (UDP) and National Council (GNC) held a meeting yesterday wherein both the parties decided to work together to win maximum number of seats in the election.

The meeting was attended by former Chief Minister Donkupar Roy, Bindo Lanong and top leaders from Garo Hills.

Both the parties decided to work together for the development of the State which they felt could be achieved only through regional parties. - Correspondent

Security forces are not villains all the time, says decorated officer

RAJU DAS

sion, Col Pillai said.

Stating that the armed forces are made to be villains by "vested interest groups," he said these groups "make a lot of money" out of the status quo between the armed forces and the insurgents. Col Pillai said that it is the armed forces tell the world about these stories so that security forces are not viewed as villains all the time.

He said there were 198 army men convicted and punished for Human Rights violation during army operations under the Armed Force (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA).

"In a democratic country like India, army men are also subjected to judicial review and persons found violating the law of the land are punished," he added.

Col Pillai recalling the incident said, during a seminar at the Assam Rifles headquarters, that he did what was required of a soldier. He said there are several other untold stories of the armed forces where soldiers refused to use strong arm tactics against militants fearing collateral damage.

"I have batch-mates who have refused to use rocket launchers during counter-insurgency operations and some have lost their lives while implementing their deci-

tion to restore law and order. Col Pillai is of the view that laws like AFSPA should be lifted once law and order is restored.

Student leader shot dead

IMPHAL, June 24: President of Haokip Students' Organisation (HSO), Letkhol Haokip (37) was shot dead by unidentified miscreants in Imphal West district, police said today.

The student leader was shot near the gate of his residence by the armed miscreants last night. He was rushed to Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) Hospital where doctors declared him dead, the police said.

The first batch of 47 pilgrims had arrived in Sikkim on June 15. The Sikkim Tourism Development Corporation is the nodal authority for conducting the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra through Nathu La.

Hundreds of Indian pilgrims undertake Kailash Mansarovar yatra in the TAR of China every year negotiating the mountainous terrain. This year, a total of 350 pilgrims had registered for the yatra via Nathu La route and they were to travel in seven batches. -PTI

Drug peddler arrested in Arunachal

CORRESPONDENT

ITANAGAR, June 24: Police in Lohit district of Arunachal Pradesh arrested one more drug peddler, for the third time within a fortnight, along with 50 grams of brown sugar.

On June 14 last, a police team from Tezu arrested two motorcycle-drug peddlers and recovered 26 grams of brown sugar from their possession, at Tebing bridge point near 32 Mile, Dangla, Tezu Police arrested a woman drug peddler and seized about 10 grams of brown sugar from her at Tezu.

Giving details about the latest catch, Police informed that acting on a tip-off that one person was selling contraband drugs in and around Tezu, a police team apprehended him on Thursday night. The cadre was apprehended in Yaiskul Police Lane in Imphal during skirmish, following a tip-off. -PTI

GOVT. OF INDIA MINISTRY OF DEFENCE BORDER ROADS ORGANISATION GENERAL RESERVE ENGINEER FORCE CHIEF ENGINEER PROJECT VARTAK	
1. The Chief Engineer Project Vartak, C/O 99 APO invites Online bids on single stage bid system from the eligible contractors for the work with the given details:-	
PARTICULARS OF WORK :-	
Name of Work: SUPPLY AND STACKING OF STONE AGGREGATES 22.40 MM, 11.20 MM AND STONE DUST AT KM 125, 000 (HMP SITE) ON ROAD O-K-S-R-T FOR RESURFACING WORKS UNDER 91 RCC SECTOR OF 14 BRIT PROJECT VARTAK IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE	
1 : NIT NO. CE (P) VTK-09 OF 2017-18.	
Other Details	
(a) Cost of work :	Rs. 95.37 lakhs
(b) Period of completion :	150 days
(c) Earnest money :	Rs. 1,90,000/-
(d) Cost of tender :	Rs. 1000/-
CRITICAL DATE SHEET	
Published Date	: 27 June 2017 at 1800 hrs.
Bid Document Download Date	: 28 June 2017 at 1000 hrs.
Clarification Start Date	: 29 June 2017 at 1100 hrs.
Clarification End Date	: 30 June 2017 at 1200 hrs.
Pre-bid meeting	: 01 July 2017 at 100 hrs.
Bid Submission Start Date	: 03 July 2017 at 1100 hrs.
Bid Submission End Date	: 17 July 2017 at 1200 hrs.
Bid Opening Date	: 18 July 2017 at 1200 hrs.
Q-Bid Opening Date	: To be fixed later on
Note : Full notice of tender, any change in above details, tender document (including eligibility criteria) and other details may be obtained from CPPPP website: https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app . For any queries please contact on telephone No. 03712-230501, 221513, FAX No. 03712-220706; dawp 3710211/0116/1617	

GOVT. OF INDIA MINISTRY OF DEFENCE BORDER ROADS ORGANISATION GENERAL RESERVE ENGINEER FORCE CHIEF ENGINEER PROJECT VARTAK	
1. The Chief Engineer Project Vartak, C/O 99 APO invites Online bids on single stage bid system from the eligible contractors for the work with the given details:-	
PARTICULARS OF WORK :-	
NAME OF WORK: DIFFERENT SIZE OF MATERIALS OF STONE CHIPS 22.40 MM, STONE CHIPS 11.20 MM AND STONE DUST AT KM 169.00 AT HMP SITE FOR RESURFACING WORKS BETWEEN KM 222.00 TO KM 228.420 ON ROAD BALIPARA-CHARUDAR-TAWANG IN 80 RCC SECTOR OF 42 BRIT/TAWANG DISTRICT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH; NIT NO. CE (P) VTK-07 OF 2017-18.	
Other Details:	
(a) Cost of work :	Rs. 26.55 lakh
(b) Period of completion :	120 days
(c) Earnest money :	Rs 53,000.00
(d) Cost of tender :	Rs 500.00
CRITICAL DATE SHEET	
Published Date	: 23 June 2017 at 1800 hrs.
Bid Document Download Date	: 24 June 2017 at 1000 hrs.
Clarification Start Date	: 27 June 2017 at 1100 hrs.
Clarification End Date	: 29 June 2017 at 1200 hrs.
Pre-bid meeting	: 29 June 2017 at 1100 hrs.
Bid Submission Start Date	: 30 June 2017 at 1100 hrs.
Bid Submission End Date	: 14 July 2017 at 1200 hrs.
Bid Opening Date	: 15 July 2017 at 1200 hrs.
Q-Bid Opening Date	: To be fixed later on
Note : Full notice of tender, any change in above details, tender document (including eligibility criteria) and other details may be obtained from CPPPP website: https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app . For any queries please contact on telephone No. 03712-230501, 221513, FAX No. 03712-220706; dawp 3710211/0114/1718	

PRESS NOTICE						
No. T - USE/ELDR-2017-BID-006 To the Superintending Engineer, Fancy Bazar, Guwahati - 1 on behalf of Governor of Assam invites Bid from registered Class - II & Class - I (ADC) Electrical Contractor under APWD for the year 2017-18 for the works mentioned in the table below :						
Sl. No.	Name of Work	Approximate Value of Work	Bid Security	Cost of Bidding Document	Period of Completion	Eligibility for Submission of Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	RENOVATION/UPGRADATION AND CONSTRUCTION WORK AT SARASUJA SPORTS COMPLEX AND NEHRU STADIUM AT GUWAHATI IN CONNECTION WITH FIFA U - 17 WORLD CUP INDIA 2017 AT INDO GHANDI ATHLETICS STADIUM, SARASUJA SPORTS COMPLEX GUWAHATI (ADDITIONAL WORK) (PHASE - II) - INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL DIESEL GENERATOR (600 KVA DGI) AND GENERATOR (100 KVA DGI) AND STATIONARY UPS (INVERTER) AND STATIONARY UPS (DG SHED) AT SARASUJA SPORTS COMPLEX GUWAHATI	Rs. 1,00,00,000.00	For General Category, Rs. 10,00,000.00 For SCST/BC/ MOBC Category, Rs. 1,00,00,000.00	Rs. 5,00,000.00	60 (SIXTY) Days	Class-I (A,B,C) Class-II
2	RENOVATION/UPGRADATION AND CONSTRUCTION WORK AT SARASUJA SPORTS COMPLEX AND NEHRU STADIUM AT GUWAHATI IN CONNECTION WITH FIFA U - 17 WORLD CUP INDIA 2017 AT INDO GHANDI ATHLETICS STADIUM, SARASUJA SPORTS COMPLEX GUWAHATI (ADDITIONAL WORK) (PHASE - II) - PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL STATIONARY UPS (INVERTER) AND STATIONARY UPS (DG SHED) AT SARASUJA SPORTS COMPLEX GUWAHATI	Rs. 83,00,000.00	For General Category, Rs. 10,00,000.00 For SCST/BC/ MOBC Category, Rs. 93,00,000.00	Rs. 4,00,000.00	60 (SIXTY) Days	Class-I (A,B,C) Class-II
3	RENOVATION/UPGRADATION AND CONSTRUCTION WORK AT SARASUJA SPORTS COMPLEX AND NEHRU STADIUM AT GUWAHATI IN CONNECTION WITH FIFA U - 17 WORLD CUP INDIA 2017 AT INDO GHANDI ATHLETICS STADIUM, SARASUJA SPORTS COMPLEX GUWAHATI (ADDITIONAL WORK) (PHASE - II) - PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL STATIONARY UPS (INVERTER) AND STATIONARY UPS (DG SHED) AT SARASUJA SPORTS COMPLEX GUWAHATI	Rs. 55,68,700.00	For General Category, Rs. 11,334.00. For SCST/BC/ MOBC Category, Rs. 55,667.00	Rs. 3,00,000.00	45 (FOURTY FIVE) Days	Class-I (A,B,C) Class-II
Value of work is approximate only & Tender offer for which is given may be exempted.						
Application for issue of tender documents shall be submitted to the office of the undersigned or before 29/06/2017 during office hour on payment of a sum of Re. 1/- (Rupee One) towards cost of tender document.						
In favour of Assam State Road Maintenance (Roads) Fund A/C 1056999479.						
Details of work to be undertaken from 29/06/2017 to 07/07/2017.						
S/o: Superintending Engineer, F.W.D., Guwahati Electrical Circle, Fancy Bazar, Guwahati-1.						

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT

TO-LET

2 BHK with baths, balcony at Survey, Ajanta Path. Mobile: 9435191706. TLP/AP/12787/1

3 BHK flat for rent, opposite Ulubari Petrol Pump, Janapath Lane. Contact: 9864023743. TLP/AP/778/1

2 BHK + 1 1200 sqft. RCC ground floor with garage at Belota. 8486706226, 8876802770. TLP/AP/784/1

2 rooms with kitchen & bath at Rajgarh Road. Call: 9435049278. TLP/AP/12721/1

2 rooms, attached kitchen, bathroom R. 8000/- near Ghy Club, Hedeypur. M: 9706577522. TLP/AP/1271/1

2 BHK room on rent @ Rs. 6000/- - Basistha Chariali, Patorkuchi Tiniali, M. No. 8811016910, 9864471846. TLP/AP/1271/1

A house for rent in the ground floor in New Guwahati. Ph. No. 9864049325. TLP/AP/12716/2

1/23 2 BHK flat/House@G. available at Zoo Road, G.S. Road, Rajguri. Ph: 98640526099, 8637874889. TLP/AP/12720/1

1860 sqft. 1st floor side flat for rent Zoo-Japigorod. Road, Guwahati. Contact No. 9613140126 (M). TLP/AP/12706/1

At Wireless 2 BHK RCC ground floor, Rent twelve thousand. Contact: 9435014619. TLP/AP/12707/1

Two bedroom flat with parking Rukmini Greens Rukminiganj Cal: 9613116883. Service Holder. TLP/AP/12709/1

2 bed-room, drawing-cum-dining at Nupuram Road, near Ganeshguri flyover. Contact: 9864027162. TLP/AP/12693/1

2,3 rooms with attached kitchen and bathroom near Apsara Hall. Contact: 9864014813, 9854055088. TLP/AP/12695/1

3 BHK flat for rent at Dispur Laxmangarh, Naharimati @Rs. 16000/- . Contact: 943501839. TLP/AP/12681/1

2/3 BHK roadside flat available at Panjabari for Residence/ Office. 9864081615. TLP/AP/12682/1

3 rooms with kitchen & bathroom attached at Zoo-Road Tiniali, Mother Teresa Road. Ph. 8135027600. TLP/AP/12683/1

Rs. 4,000/- and Rs. 3,000/- rooms bath kitchen attached at Belota. Contact: 8638629597, 9954052522. TLP/AP/12684/1

3 BHK flat near ABC at Tanninagar. Phone: 9508486468. TLP/AP/12687/1

RCC building (Ground floor) appx. 2000 sq ft. for Office/ Coaching Centre at Pinaki Path, Zoo-Road Tiniali. Ph: 9435065319. TLP/AP/12689/1

3 BHK new DLX flat for rent. Ph: 09599698451, 0959919029. TLP/AP/12751/

Chandmari, single room, attached bath, kitchen slab, running water, 6000/- 9435112924, 8638318482. TLP/AP/12656/1

2 BHK-rent at Sewali Path, Hatigunjan @8500 m. Call: S. Kalita. 9957195793, 9854248888. TLP/AP/12657/1

Toilet single room attached kitchen, bathroom. Down Town. Ph: 9854088185. TLP/AP/12660/1

2 BHK with 2 bathroom house at Jyoti Path, Sixmille (no. water lodgging). Contact: Ph. No. 9859427539, 9706778151, TLP/AP/12661/1

3 BHK flat near Birubari Path. Mandir. Contact: 943519893. TLP/AP/823/2

Two RCC comfort living house at Rajgarh Road, near Sainik Bhawan. Facility attached. Ph: 9435019479. TLP/AP/12665/1

One big room, attached bath & Kitchen at Durgasagarbar, Kamakhyaate. Ph: 708623871, 8011363637. TLP/AP/12670/1

Single room with both & kitchen for single person at floorfree Belfota Bazar Road. Rs. 6000/- Contact: 9435738141 - 38151. TLP/AP/12673/1

2 BD first floor house for rent Sun Narong Rd. Monalisa Path. 9577787531. TLP/AP/12676/1

2 BHK flat (1st floor) at Rupnagar (near Rupnagar L.P. School), Anani path. House No. 1(A). Rent @ Rs. 13,000/- p.m. Please contact: 943501783, 9864538166. TLP/AP/12676/1

Single room with attach kitchen and parking Jyoti, Panjabari. 9577866917. TLP/AP/12679/1

2 BHK & 1 BHK delux residential house for ent @ Rs. 11,000/- & Rs. 8,000/- for small family of salaried person at a place connected to both 6 Mile & Downtown. Ph. No. 9577294910. TLP/AP/12680/1

One two bedded part rent Rs. 10,000/- running water, parking place. Com: 8811021282, 8134851190. TLP/AP/12707/1

Newly constructed 2nd floor 2 BHK for family working lady at Zoo Road. Contact: 9435017922. TLP/AP/12800/1

3 BHK 1800 sqft. duplex with servant quarter at Ajanta Path, Survey. Contact: 8811061491. TLP/AP/12804/1

Floor for rent 1000 sqft. 2nd floor, 2 BHK, 2 toilet, modular kitchen, furnished. I car parking, AC, marble flooring, 2 balcony, located next to GNRK Hospital, Dispur, Guwahati. Preferably for Bank/Company. Phone: 9774510916. TLP/AP/12799/1

Assam type parthouse two rooms for family (Ulubari). Contact: 7002179867. TLP/AP/12767/1

New 3 BHK C 2BHK, 2 toilet with carparking at Bylane-1 Lokhara. Contact: 9412051596. TLP/AP/12768/1

1 BHK ground floor near Zoo Rd. for rental for company. 9435012069. TLP/AP/12807/1

3 BRC rooms with kitchen, bath, parking at F.A. Ahmed Nagar, Sixmille. Ph. No. 9854381846. TLP/AP/12769/1

RCC part house at Kalyanigar, Kalihipura, no water logging. Contact: 9435014435. TLP/AP/12771/1

3 BHK (2 NOS) AVAILABLE IN WIRELESS DISPUR INDEPENDENT HOUSE. RENT 13K. SERVICE PREF. 9854199400. TLP/AP/12773/1

Singer room (Gents) at Rukmini Nagar, Dispur. H.No. 42. Ph: 9854019359. TLP/AP/289/1

2 BHK apartment near FCI, Bamunimaidam for rent. Ph: 09599698451, 0959919029. TLP/AP/12751/

One tip-top single room, attached bath/kitchen in a very secured campus for single occupancy @4000/- per month. No-28, next to Delta building, Baikunthapuri Path Nr Gita Nagar H.S. School, at Hatiagh Chariali, Guwahati-21. TLP/AP/284/1

One room kitchen with attached bathroom in New Guwahati. Contact: 9864071895. TLP/AP/12758/1

3 BHK furnished flat at Laxminagar, near Rajdhani Majid @16000/- Contact: 9854546763, 9706778151. TLP/AP/12759/1

2 BHK furnished flat at Laxminagar, near Rajdhani Majid @16000/- Contact: 9854546763, 9706778151. TLP/AP/12759/1

3 BHK flat near Birubari Path. Mandir. Contact: 943519893. TLP/AP/823/2

Two rooms with attach both kitchen, bath, kitchen slab, running water, 6000/- 9435112924, 8638318482. TLP/AP/12656/1

2 BHK furnished flat at Laxminagar near Rajdhani Majid @16000/- Contact: 9854546763, 9706778151. TLP/AP/12759/1

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT

2 bed room house, FF, near Guwahati College. For details - 8638458374, TLP/AP/832/1

RCC 3 BHK 2 baths balcony water parking family/office, Hatigunjan 14,000.00. TLP/AP/12760/1

One big room, attached bath & Kitchen at Durgasagarbar, Kamakhyaate. Ph: 8638938002. TLP/AP/826/1

Ubulari, near HDFC Bank Dr. B.K. Kakoti Road, House No. 11C. Ph: 8876315991. TLP/AP/12676/1

1st floor measuring about 850 sqft. with all amenities available for rent, preferably for a small family. Please contact at following address: Gakul Path, Bylane No. 9, Zakir Hussain Path, near Kamdhenu Society, Assam. Dispurs, Bishnupur. 701836. Phone No. 7821822831. TLP/AP/12751/

RCC ground floor 2 rooms with covered veranda, attached toilet kitchen, running water. Cont: 9706201856. TLP/AP/12773/1

2 BHK Assam type house at Belota Tiniali, family preferred. Ph: 8721822831. TLP/AP/12790/1

G/F 3 rooms with kitchen/toilet, 2nd floor 3 rooms with kitchen/toilet at Srimantapur, Bhangarh. 9864127771. TLP/AP/12777/1

2 BHK Assam type house at Belota Tiniali, family preferred. Ph: 8721822831. TLP/AP/12791/1

RCC flat house for rent at Ubulari, Office/Small family. 863851766, 9706948874. TLP/AP/12751/

Two room (MT) at Ajanta Path B/L Elton Path at Hatigunjan for small family. Ph: 9000/- Rent 6000/- p.m. Contact: 8472824857. TLP/AP/12748/1

2 BHK flat for rent at G.S. Road, Rukminiganj. Rent 10,000/- & Society Chrg. Cont: 9706201856. TLP/AP/12751/

2 BHK Appt for rent at G.S. Road, Rukminiganj. Rent 10,000/- & Society Chrg. Cont: 9706201856. TLP/AP/12751/

Two bed rooms attached toilet kitchen & parking ground floor at Lakhminagar Guwahati. Ph: 9864024976, 9711468219. TLP/AP/12836/1

2 BHK semi furnished flat at Uzambazar, Wardrop Rent 15000/- Hindusthan Service. 9706105059. TLP/AP/12782/1

2 BHK flat for rent, adequate water, lighting, power, facility, modern amenities, Naungarh Path, Wireless, Dispur. 9435555164 (M). TLP/AP/12834/1

Two bed-rooms attached toilet kitchen & parking ground floor at Lakhminagar Guwahati. Ph: 9864024976, 9711468219. TLP/AP/12876/1

Good 3 BHK flat in Belota. No water logging. For details 9437168561. TLP/AP/12720/1

Good 3 BHK flat in Belota. No water logging. Contact: 9437168561. TLP/AP/12720/1

3 BHK (1350 SQ.FT.) BRAND NEW, GOOD VIEW, 3RD FLOOR, FLAT FOR RENT AT NARIKALI BASTI 1ST BYELANE ZOO-NARENGI ROAD, GUWAHATI, NO WATER LOGGING PROBLEM. CONTACT BY PHONE ON 07896004668, BROKER EXCUSE. TLP/AP/12721/1

Two bed room house at Chankhuri Hill Side. 9864058042, 986411459. TLP/AP/12796/1

2 NOS, 3 BED ROOMS APARTMENT FOR FAMILY OR WORKING PERSON AT PRESTIGE ELITE HOUSING SOCIETY, GITALI PATH, ZOO NARANGI ROAD, G.U.W.H.A.T.I -78 10 20. CONTACT: 9707014829. TLP/AP/12813/1

Two bed room house at Chankhuri Hill Side. 9864058042, 986411459. TLP/AP/12796/1

3 BHK flat for rent 9000/- Laxmi Nagar, Dispur. H.No. 42. Ph: 9854019359. TLP/AP/12803/1

3 BHK DUPLEX WITH OWN WATER SECURITY, PARKING, LAND AT SAWKUCHI, LOKHARA. 997590247. TLP/AP/12791/1

Drawing-dinning hall, 2 bedrooms 2 baths, kitchen, secured campus at Lachitnagar. Rent 10,000. Contact: 9435307906, 9864074943. TLP/AP/12793/1

2/3 BHK house, flat - Chandmari, G. Club, Ubulari, Bhangarh, Ganeshguri, Uzambazar, Sixmille. Ph: 8823363283. TLP/AP/12818/1

2 rooms with attach both kitchen, bath, kitchen slab, running water, 6000/- 9435112924, 8638318482. TLP/AP/12656/1

3 BHK furnished flat at Laxminagar near Rajdhani Majid @16000/- Contact: 9854546763, 9706778151. TLP/AP/12759/1

2 bed room house, FF, near Guwahati College. For details - 8638458374, TLP/AP/832/1

3 BHK 2 baths balcony water parking family/office, Hatigunjan 14,000.00. TLP/AP/12760/1

Single & double room with well furnish for rent. Near I.W.T. Office G., Road, Ubulari. 9854271942. TLP/AP/1281/1

RCC ground floor 2500 sq.ft. (Approx) at Ubulari, Tuliwala lane for Company/Office/Guest House/Institute. Contact: 98638938002. TLP/AP/826/1

Ubulari, near HDFC Bank Dr. B.K. Kakoti Road, House No. 12. Ph: 8876315991. TLP/AP/12670/1

2 BHK attached bathroom running water, parking at Hembaria Path near Downtown. 9531284783. TLP/AP/1220/1

Ready to move ATM space available in T.R. Phukan Road, Dibrugarh. Interested parties may contact @ 9678824043. TLP/AP/1234/1

2 BHK Indipendent house Sixmille 10000 2 nos 3 BHK Independent House Wireless 14000. Ph: 8011653659. TLP/AP/2213/1

3 BHK room with well furnish for rent attached bath & kitchen at Sundarpur byelane, 11, HNo. 12. Ph: 9435014119. TLP/AP/12795/1

PG room, drawing cum dining, running water. Cont: 9854508484, Bamunimaidam. TLP/AP/1281/1

2 BHK attached bathroom running water, parking at Beldola. 9854031628. TLP/AP/12781/1

PG room, drawing cum dining, running water. Cont: 9854508484, Bamunimaidam. TLP/AP/1281/1

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2 BHK attached bathroom running water, parking at Hembaria Path near Downtown. 9531284783. TLP/AP/1220/1

Single & double room with well furnish for rent. Near I.W.T. Office G., Road, Ubulari. 9854271942. TLP/AP/1281/1

PG room, drawing cum dining, running water. Cont: 9854508484, Bamunimaidam. TLP/AP/1281/1

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PG room, drawing cum dining, running water

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MATRIMONIAL

'Sanjog Matrimony' choose your life partner. Any Caste Assamese/ Bengali/ Nepali/ Muslim/ Bodoland/ Marowari/ Bihari- Govt./ PSU/ MNC/ Businessman. Contact Bride/ Groom- Assam & Outsider of Assam, India. Guwahati, Ulmuri, Assam. @ 8638153307, 9706036644, Mat/GP/A2149/1

A reliable No. 1 Matrimonial in North East Sandhu, Guwahati (ALDC), Jorhat (Umnaya Bhawan), Dibrugarh (Chiringsapari), Nagaon (Kushal Nagar), Golaghat, www.sandhu.com, 9707107771 (WhatsApp), 8011630847 (Sunday open), Mat/GP/1284/1

'Bojatri Matrimony' a reliable sources for choosing your life partner Groom/ Bride/ Divorcee/ Widow/ Businessman/ Serviceman/ Doctor/ Engineer #76033300; www.bojatri.in, Mat/A2224/1

GROOM WANTED

Assamese Dibigya Brahmin girl BA/ 33+/ 5'2"/ Mesh, Kashish, Nangon, Meen Lagna, Ghora. Contact : 8256095624, Mat/GP/11668/2

Wanted suitable groom, working in Guwahati, age 29 or an Assamese Hindu bride, interested groom may contact directly 9954762806, Mat/GP/1267/8

Groom wanted for a fair and good looking Assamese (Kali) girl, 34 yrs, 5'4", serving as ACS Officer, having good family background. Early marriage solicited. Contact parents directly 9954144240, Mat/GP/1274/1

Wanted groom for Assamese/ Hindu/ Koch Kali/ 29/ MS (ENT) from same profession, residence Gh (parents College/ Teacher). Contact directly : 8473041770, 9085507637, Mat/GP/1271/9

ALLIANCE INVITED FOR ASSAMESE BRAHMIN GIRL M.S.C. DOB- 22.03.86, HFT 53", WT - 58 KG, SERVICE AT GUWAHATI, GOTRA BHARDWAJ, KARAKART RA SHII, ASHLESHAS NAKHATHA - CONTACT DIRECTLY 9957175825, Mat/GP/1271/8

For a Brahmin girl, 26, double Masters in Nanotechnology presently at Norway. Suitable match required preferably working in US, UK, Japan from Assamese, Brahmin family. Contact direct 9854302681, Mat/GP/1272/1

Charming Assamese girl age 33, working in Canada, seeking groom from Abroad/ Metros. 8131501862, Mat/GP/AP78/51

MUSLIM, SUNNI, SLIM, BEAUTIFUL, 32 YRS, 5'2", B.TECH/ENGINEER, JOB HOLDER, ALLIANCE INVITED FOR A SUITABLE MATCH. EARLY MARRIAGE, CONTACT PARENTS MOBILE NO. 8876314170, Mat/GP/1272/1

Kalita/ Assamese/ 34/ 5'3" BE/ Govt. PSU (Casto no bar early marriage), #9613435785, Mat/GP/A2178/1

Kalita/ Assamese/ 26/ MBAs/ 5'4" Govt. service, #7035348353, Mat/GP/A2179/1

Marwari/ 26/ 5'4" beautiful/ BC / very good family background/ own house in Ghy. 8471887480, Mat/GP/A2180/1

Assamese/ Kalita/ Doctor/ working at Guwahati/ age 37/ issueless divorcee, seeks a suitable match. Contact : 9435550402, Mat/GP/AP83/91

Bengali girl Kayasha 29/ 5'3" Nationalised Bank employee Meen Rishi Nargan/ MBA. For early marriage with Matchable. Contact directly, (M) 75768-45392, 86388-03792, Mat/GA/1938/1

Alom girl 27 yrs/ very fair & good looking, B.Tech. Engineer, seeks suitable match working in Assam or Indian Metrocity. Contact (M) 9854063196, Mat/GP/12726/1

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MATRIMONIAL

Divorcee Assamese Hindu General Caste 34, 5'3" fair & pretty, MBA (HR) Teacher in English Medium School, Father Rtd. Defence Officer, Contact (M) 9041469135, Mat/GP/12720/6, Mat/GP/12728/1

Fair & pretty Kalita girl 28, 5'5", MBA, working in University, mnc seeks suitable match working in Indian Metrocity. Contact (M) 9854063196, Mat/GP/12729/1

Assamese Hindu General Caste 28+, tall, fair, good looking, MBBS, MS, pursuing final year in Guwahati Medical College. Contact (M) 9041469135, 9041469135, Mat/GP/12730/1

Very fair & pretty Assamese Hindu girl General Caste 27, 5'5", COM, English School Teacher, Father Executive Engineer. Contact (M) 985402706, Mat/GP/12731/1

Hindu/ Assamese/ Kalita/ 27/ MBAs/ working/ lives in Guwahati. Contact : 898907445, Mat/GP/A2160/1

Assamese widow Grade 45+, wanted suitable life partner age above 47-. Direct contact : 9854478805, Mat/GP/A2209/1

Hindu/ Assamese/ Kashyap/ 34 yrs divorced/ issueless/ MSc/ working as a Teacher/ lives in Guwahati. Contact : 8822243823, Mat/GP/A2161/

Hindu/ Assamee/ Bengal/ Kashyath/ 32 yrs/ honours degree in Science/ lives in Kuringi, Contact : 8253960543, Mat/GP/A2162/1

Hindu/ Assamee/ Brahmin/ 34 yrs/ BE/ working as Mechanical/ Production Engineer/ lives in Jorhat. Contact : 889807445, Mat/GP/A2163/1

Hindu/ Assamee/ Brahmin/ 33 yrs/ BE/ working in a leading Bank/lives in Guwahati. Contact : 889807445, Mat/GP/A2164/1

Hindu/ Assamee/ Brahmin/ 24/ 5'4" BE/ working in a leading Bank/lives in Guwahati. Contact : 889807445, Mat/GP/A2165/1

Bengali/ General/ 25/ 5'5"/ BE, MBA, working in MNC, Casto no bar, Residence Guwahati. Contact : 8822230669/ 5756026601, Mat/GP/A2166/1

Hindu/ Assamee/ Brahmin/ 24/ 5'4" BE/ working in a leading Bank/lives in Guwahati. Contact : 889807445, Mat/GP/A2167/1

Divorcee Bhattacharjee 39+, B.Com, Post Graduate Business Software and Hardware, Casto no bar, 7663972293/ 8638182084, Mat/BP/1269/1

Bengali/ General/ 25/ 5'5"/ BE, MBA, working in MNC, Casto no bar, Residence Guwahati. Contact : 8822230669/ 5756026601, Mat/GP/A2168/1

Hindu/ Assamee/ Brahmin/ 24/ 5'4" BE/ working in a leading Bank/lives in Guwahati. Contact : 889807445, Mat/GP/A2169/1

Beautiful/ Assamese/ OBC/ 26/ MBAs/ working in Public Sector Bank, Ghy. residency. #801164568, Mat/GP/A2170/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ Tech. Engineer at metro. #7086730669, Mat/GP/A2171/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2172/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2173/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2174/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2175/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2176/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2177/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2178/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2179/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2180/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2181/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2182/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2183/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2184/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2185/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2186/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2187/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2188/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2189/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2190/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2191/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2192/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2193/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2194/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2195/1

Beautiful/ Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4" BE/ working as an Engineer in MNC/ lives in Assam, Contact : 8898074782, Mat/GP/A2196/1

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Decrease in crime against women

SANJOY RAY

GUWAHATI, June 24: For the first time in the last six years, the overall cases of crime against women in a calendar year have witnessed a dip in Assam.

Compared to 20,116 cases of crime against women registered in 2015, the State witnessed 19,193 such cases in 2016.

Significantly, incidents of dowry deaths, cruelty by husbands, kidnapping of women/girls in 2016 came down compared to 2015.

While the number of rape cases slipped from 1,852 in 2015 to 1,723 in 2016, dowry deaths witnessed a fall from 208 to 150. Similarly, reported incidents of cruelty by husbands and abduction fell, although marginally. However, incidents of trafficking and molestation continue to show an upward trend.

While activists do not want to read too much into it term-

ing it as just an aberration, especially taking into view the margin of decrease, the law-enforcers, however, are of the opinion that this could just be the beginning of an improved scenario for women in distress.

"At a time when the use of social media is at its peak with virtually no control over it, the improved record does say few things about law enforcement as well as rise in awareness among the people. There are, however, many areas where policing needs improvement," a senior Assam Police official said, adding that the challenge would be to maintain the downward trend.

"Improving the conviction rate is the biggest challenge," he asserted.

Crime against women has been witnessing a steady rise in the State since 2005 (record available from 2005), the only exception being the year 2011 when the rate of crime dropped marginally.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Sri Minnayi Das, S/o, Sri Tarech Choudhury Das, R/o-Panjabbar Shri Madan Path, P.S-Satgagan, Ghy-37, Dist-Tinsukia (Assam) have declared vide an affidavit sworn the Notary Govt. of Assam dated 20.06.2017 that I have changed my name from "Minnayi Das" to "Minnayi Kumar Das". Henceforth, I will be known as "Minnayi Kumar Das" in all future purposes.

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Tackling Guwahati's perennial flood problem

USHAKANTI DAS

Floods have become an annual phenomenon in Guwahati, the gateway to the North East. The recurring arti-

fact deal with the problem.

Following incessant rainfall recently, storm water submerged several low-lying areas in major parts of the city and the condition was found to

be the hills surrounding the city.

Although the present government at Dispur is well aware of the situation and trying its best to solve the problem, many scientific steps need to be taken to control the flood menace in the city. Here are a few suggestions:

1. Arrangements for controlling artificial floods should be put into place in advance before the beginning of the rainy season. Adequate funding should not be any hindrance in this regard.

2. All clogged drains in the city should be cleared before monsoon for the easy flow of floodwaters.

3. All uncovered manholes and drains must be covered with immediate effect for the safety of pedestrians.

4. Earth cutting and tree fellling on the hilly areas of the city should be stopped, especially during the rainy season.

5. Awareness programmes should be organised in areas which are prone to landslides.

6. Lastly, the State Government should take necessary scientific steps for prevention of floods in consultation with highly qualified experts and engineers of the State Water Resources Department. Governmental and willing citizens of the city should also come forward to help the affected people during any flood crisis.

floods also bring untold miseries to the dwellers of the city.

A number of Guwahati localities remain submerged for days in a row when heavy showers take place. Life comes to a standstill as commuters wade through flooded streets to reach their schools, offices and homes. The recurring floods also inflict heavy damage on the city's civic infrastructure.

It is not possible to control monsoon by any scientific means. But the artificial flood problem in the city has aggravated because its dwellers as well as the government are not well equipped to deal with such natural calamities. Only providing government relief to the flood-affected people is not

better than what it was last year. Besides, waterlogging, landslides have also occurred in the hilly areas of the city.

Faulty drainage system,

rampant earth-cutting on the hills, unplanned construction and inadequate civic infrastructure are some principal causes of severe waterlogging in many parts of the city. Flood-related incidents in Guwahati, at least six persons have lost their lives so far this year. The tragic deaths have naturally caused anger among the residents of the city.

On an average, eight to 10 people die every year in Guwahati due to landslides during the rainy season. More than 1.5 lakh people reside on

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Govt likely to bring ordinance to amend SEZ Act

NEW DELHI, June 24: The government is likely to bring in an ordinance by next week to amend the SEZ Act to bring it in line with the goods and services tax (GST), due on July 1.

The Commerce Ministry is working on the same, a source said. Certain provisions in the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Act, 2005, are not consistent with the GST regime and need to be made compatible before the July 1 rollout date.

For instance, the duty drawback norms, under which an exporter is compensated for taxes during the course of production of goods, are required to fit in sync with the new indirect tax structure.

Under the current rules, units in an SEZ get service tax exemption and the developers are exempted from customs or excise duty for development of zones for authorised operations. Additionally, the Section 26 of the SEZ Act dealing in exemptions, drawbacks and concessions to developers and entrepreneurs has to be amended.

SEZs are export hubs that contribute about 16 per cent to the country's total out-bound shipments.

GST unifies 16 different levies like excise, service tax, and VAT, among others. — PTI

For aligning with GST

Future Group eyes Rs 12,000-cr turnover

KOLKATA, June 24: Future Group, which runs retail stores across the country under various formats, wishes to grow its fashion business to Rs 12,000 crore in the current fiscal.

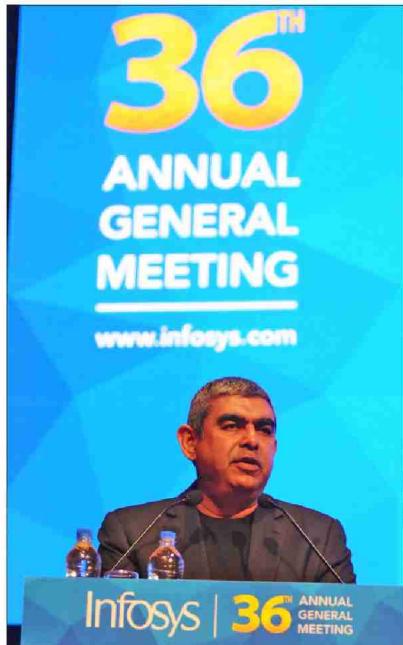
"Revenue from the fashion business is targeted to touch Rs 12,000 crore in the current financial year. Out of which Rs 3,500 crore will come from the revenues of Central, a lifestyle departmental store owned by the group," CEO of Future Group Kishore Biyani told reporters here today.

Opening its first Central departmental store in the metropolis, Biyani said another 15 such outlets will be opened across the country by the end of this financial year, thus taking the total to 50. Future Group was also planning a second Central store at the famous Metro cinema building, now closed, located in the heart of the city at Esplanade.

Since the building had been accorded the heritage status, the facade would remain unchanged, he said.

The group also operates fashion stores across formats like FBB and Brand Factory. — PTI

Fashion business



Infosys CEO and MD Vishal Sikka addressing the 36th annual general meeting of Infosys, in Bengaluru on Saturday. — UNI

GST to make exports more competitive: Commerce Secy

NEW DELHI, June 24: Implementation of goods and services tax (GST) from July 1 will help reduce cascading effects of multiple taxes, lower cost and make exports more competitive, a top government official said today.

Commerce Secretary Rita Teotia said the two main export promotion schemes—Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) and Services Exports from India Scheme (SEIS)—will continue post GST implementation but would be aligned with the new indirect tax regime.

The Commerce Ministry, she said, is reviewing the validity of the scrips and export obligation periods to make them more realistic and aligned with the GST network so that there is a seamless process of extending benefits to exporters.

IMG brainstorms on telcos' financial woes

Govt-TRAI meet discusses policy issues

NEW DELHI, June 24: In a day of meetings, Telecom Minister Manoj Sinha discussed policy issues with TRAI Chairman RS Sharma, even as the inter-ministerial group (IMG) began brainstorming separately to look for remedies to the whopping Rs 4.6-lakh crore debt that is ailing telcos.

Sinha and Sharma held discussions in the presence of new Telecom Secretary Aruna Sundararajan and Telecom Commission Member (Finance), and Universal Services Obligation Fund Administrator.

According to sources, the high-level meeting was held to discuss regulatory and policy issues in the sector and expedite the Net Neutrality.

A separate meeting was also held among the members of the inter-ministerial group which has been constituted to look into the telecom industry's financial woes.

The IMG, last week, held extensive dialogues with all telecom companies as well as large banks to discuss the industry's financial stress and look for measures that can be taken to address the situation.

The telecom industry is reeling under Rs 4.6-lakh crore debt and even large op-

erators are complaining that competition, intensified by aggressive newcomer Idea Cellular as well as other telcos are making an aggressive pitch for reduction in levies and taxes, and are also seeking an extension in the deferred payment liability for spectrum.

"The IMG members met on Friday and discussed the demands placed by the industry... Their demands were reviewed and another meeting may be held in the coming week," a person familiar with the matter told PTI.

On Thursday, the minister had assured industry bigwigs Sunil Mittal and Anil Ambani as well as other telecom players that "corrective steps" will be taken to ensure orderly growth of the beleaguered sector.

After a two-hour meeting with telecom honchos on Thursday, the Minister had said that the IMG will give its report "soon". — PTI



Muslim women shopping at a market ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr festival, in Mirzapur on Saturday. — UNI

Distribution mechanism being readied, says Infosys

BENGALURU, June 24: India's second largest IT company Infosys today said it is in the process of finalising a suitable "distribution mechanism" for its Rs 13,000-crore capital allocation plan to shareholders for this fiscal.

Speaking at the 36th AGM of the company, Chairman R Seshasayee said Infosys is committed to execute the capital allocation policy announced on April 13, 2017 "in a timely manner".

Rs 13,000-cr capital allocation plan

"As the company has a large shareholder base and is listed in multiple countries, the manner of distribution to shareholders requires compliance under laws of several jurisdictions," he said.

The company, he added, is in the process of finalising a "distribution mechanism" that complies with the applicable regulatory requirements in the best interest of all shareholders.

Over the past few months, the Bengaluru-based tech giant has received criticism from various quarters over issues like alleged governance lapses and high compensation doled out to top executives. It was also under pressure to return surplus cash to shareholders through buyback or liberal dividends.

In a bid to bring about "further transparency", Infosys has now put up a document on its website detailing out the policy on executive compensation, the key performance indicators for variable pay and other related matters, Seshasayee said.

The founders, including NR Narayan Murthy, have been vocal about the high compensation paid to CEO Vishal Sikka and COO UB Pravin Rao and also have questioned the service package paid to former CEO Rajiv Bansal and founder David Kennedy. Founders seemed to have given the company's AGM a miss.

Seshasayee further said the board believes it is their duty to "listen" to every shareholder and introspect further to improve performance or take corrective actions. — PTI

GST Clinics to reach out to 6 cr traders

NEW DELHI, June 24: Traders' body CAIT will organise 100 GST Clinics across the country to acquaint traders about the new indirect tax regime to be in place from July 1.

The Confederation of All India Traders said it is working with HDFC Bank, Tally Solutions and Mastercard for the endeavour, which will attempt to reach out to six crore traders.

"The first phase of the nationwide awareness campaign will begin on July 1 and will help the trading community transition smoothly from the current tax regime to goods and services tax," CAIT said in a statement.

The clinics will inform traders about the fundamentals of GST, the defined role of technology for its compliance, requisite information about mandatory compliance obligations, linkage of digital payments with GST and the changes required to make business compatible with its provisions.

CAIT National President BC Bhartia and Secretary General Praveen Khandelwal said because a large number of traders are unaware of core issues including compliance which has led to a situation of utter confusion and unnecessary panic, the GST Clinics will ease the situation. The GST Clinics will be held in offices of trade associations, HDFC Bank branches or markets easily accessible to traders.

However, CAIT raised concerns of traders on GST pertaining to lower tax slabs for various items capped under higher rate, levy of tax on branded food grain and pulses, seeking deferment of e-way bill provision and applicability of HSN Code for at least six months and declaration of nine months from July 1 as interim period. — PTI

New indirect tax regime

GOVT. OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
BORDER ROADS ORGANISATION
GENERAL RESERVE ENGINEER FORCE
CHIEF ENGINEER PROJECT VARTAK

1. The Chief Engineer Project Vartak, C/O 99 APO invites Online bids on single stage two bid system from the eligible contractors for the supply of additional stone aggregates at crusher in the periphery of 45 km from Balipara in the state of Assam for surfacing works between KM 131.00 TO KM 140.00 and between KM 140.00 TO KM 174.00 on road Balipara-Charduar-Tawang under project Vartak NIT No. CE (P) VTK-01 of 2017-18 (Third Call).

Particulars of Work:

(a) Name of Work: RETENDER ON SHORT NOTICE FOR "SUPPLY OF ADDITIONAL STONE AGGREGATES AT CRUSHER IN THE PERIPHERY OF 45 KM FROM BALIPARA IN THE STATE OF ASSAM FOR SURFACING WORKS BETWEEN KM 131.00 TO KM 140.00 AND BETWEEN KM 140.00 TO KM 174.00 ON ROAD BALIPARA-CHARDUAR-TAWANG UNDER PROJECT VARTAK" NIT No. CE (P) VTK-01 OF 2017-18 (THIRD CALL).

Other Details:

(a) Cost of work : Rs. 102.68 lakh

(b) Period of completion : 180 days

(c) Earnest money : Rs 1,77,700.00

(d) Cost of tender : Rs 1000.00

Critical Date Sheet

Published Date : 15 June 2017 at 1800 hrs.

Bid Document Download Date : 16 June 2017 at 1000 hrs.

Clarification Start Date : 17 June 2017 at 1000 hrs.

Clarification End Date : 19 June 2017 at 1200 hrs.

Bid Submission Start Date : 20 June 2017 at 1000 hrs.

Bid Submission End Date : 21 June 2017 at 1100 hrs.

Bid Opening Date : 29 June 2017 at 1200 hrs.

Q-Bid Opening Date : 30 June 2017 at 1200 hrs.

To be fixed later on

Note : Full notice of tender, any change in above details, tender document (including eligibility criteria) and other details may be obtained from CPPR website: <https://procure.gov.in/procure/app>. For any queries please contact on telephone No. 03712-230501, 221513, FAX No. 03712-230706.

Sd/- (A.M. Shrivastava)

EE (CIV)

ALL INDIA AYUSH POST GRADUATE ENTRANCE TEST (AIAPGET 2017)

Notification No. AIAPGET/2017/01

Date: 21.06.2017

The All India AYUSH Post Graduate Entrance Test 2017 (AIAPGET 2017) is a computer based test (CBT) conducted by the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi on behalf of Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India.

For Admission to AYUSH (Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha & Homeopathy) MD/MS Post Graduate Courses Session 2017-18

1. The examination shall be held in various test centers at about 20 cities on 06th August 2017 (Sunday). The examination shall comprise of 100 Multiple Choice Questions from the respective stream (BAMS/BUMS/BSMS/BHMS) curriculum duly prescribed by CCIM/CCH.

2. AIAPGET 2017 is a single window entrance examination for admission to AIYUSH MD/MS Post Graduate courses for all AYUSH Colleges/ Institutions/ University/ Deemed University. No other entrance examination, either at state or institutional level shall be valid for admission to MD/MS courses in Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy system of Medicine w.e.f 2017-18 academic session as per the directions of the Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India

3. AIAPGET secretariat will prepare a common merit list and will share it with the concerned authorities/states who will be responsible to prepare their own merit list considering the applicable rules, regulations, reservation policy and their other criteria, for the counselling. It will include All India quota (Open/ other State) seats & State quota seats for AYUSH MD/MS PG courses for admission in all AYUSH colleges, institutions & universities/deemed universities.

AIIA & Ministry of AYUSH will not hold any counselling.

4. The entire procedure for registration and application for the examination is online.

ONLINE APPLICATION

27th June 2017 (9 AM)

till 15th July 2017 (04.00 PM)

TEST

6th August 2017

23rd - 26th August 2017

RESULT

23rd - 26th August 2017

(Prof Abhimanyu Kumar)
Director, AIIA, New Delhi &
Chief Coordinator
AIAPGET 2017

Details regarding AIAPGET 2017 will be available on www.aiapget.com/
www.aiia.co.in/ www.ayush.gov.in from 25th June 2017, 4 PM onwards.

Be GST Ready >
GST coming from 1st July, 2017



GST to Make Return filing Easy & Online

Keeping in mind the mantra that, "ease of tax compliance and ease of doing business" go hand in hand, the process of filing of returns under GST law is simple and easy. One simple return with auto-populated components not only makes the process smooth but also makes the experience stress free. The ease of compliance is even more for small tax payers.

MYTH AND REALITY

- **Myth 1:** Every taxpayer has to file invoice wise details in the return.
- **Reality:** Only suppliers to re-sellers (i.e. B2B suppliers) not under composition scheme have to file invoice wise details.

MYTH AND REALITY

- **Myth 2:** There are 3 returns to be filed every month.
- **Reality:** There is only one return to be filed by the taxpayer with other components getting auto-populated.

RETURN FILING DETAILS

Category of Taxpayer	Details to be given	Form to be used	Periodicity /Last date
Aggregate turnover less than Rs. 20 lakhs	NIL	NIL	NIL
Aggregate turnover up to Rs. 75 lakhs and availing the Composition Scheme	➤ Consolidated details of outward supplies made by you during the quarter including that of advances received ➤ Details of supplies received (auto-populated from the GSTR-1 of the supplier)	FORM GSTR-4	Quarterly / 18 th of the month following the quarter
Aggregate turnover more than Rs. 20 lakhs and not availing Composition Scheme but supplying to consumers (only B2C supplies)	Tax-rate wise summary of all intra-state supplies made	FORM GSTR-1	Monthly / 10 th of the following month
	Supplies received	FORM GSTR-2	Auto-populated by the computer and only needs to be verified and submitted by 15 th of the following month.
	Final return	FORM GSTR-3	Auto-populated by the computer and only needs to be verified and submitted by 20 th of the following month.
All other suppliers including suppliers to re-sellers and / or consumers (both B2B and/or B2C supplies)	➤ Invoice-wise details of all B2B supplies and Inter-state B2C supplies of value above Rs. 2.5 lakh ➤ Tax-rate wise summary of B2C intra-state supplies ➤ State-wise and tax-rate wise summary of B2C inter-state supplies of value below Rs. 2.5 lakh	FROM GSTR-1	Monthly / 10 th of the following month.
	Supplies received	FORM GSTR-2	Auto-populated by the computer and only needs to be verified and submitted by 15 th of the following month.
	Final return	FORM GSTR-3	Auto-populated by the computer and only needs to be verified and submitted by 20 th of the following month.

Remarks: Even in case where the details of invoice has to be provided, an offline free software utility provided by GSTN can be used during the month, which can automatically convert into return on uploading.

Provisions for first two months of transition

Return filing process has been simplified and a simplified **FORM GSTR-3B**, containing only summary details, has been provided for all classes of tax payers for acclimatisation of the taxpayers with the new GST tax regime. The details are as follows:-

Return for the month of	GSTR-1	GSTR-2	GSTR-3B
July 2017	5 th September instead of 10th August	10 th September instead of 15 th August	20 th August
August 2017	20 th September instead of 10th September	25 th September instead of 15 th September	20 th September

Provisions for low compliance burden

Law has provided for a low compliance burden on the taxpayers and the government is committed to further lessen the burden by creating:

- Facilitation Centres
- GST Practitioners
- GST Suvidha Providers
- Offline utility for return filing
- Application interfaces

For more details please see <http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/gst/returns-of-GST-onlineversion-07june2017.pdf>

You can address your queries to:

Help desk: cbecmitra.helpdesk@icegate.gov.in; 18001200232

Help desk: helpdesk@gst.gov.in; 01244688999

Twitter handle @askGST_GoI and @GSTN_IT

date:15/02/2017/3/0055/1717

Tweet us at **@askGST_GoI** for any GST related query



CENTRAL BOARD OF EXCISE AND CUSTOMS &
COMMERCIAL TAXES DEPARTMENTS OF STATES/UNION TERRITORIES
www.cbec.gov.in



Getting unsmart?

Having a smartphone within easy reach reduces brain ability, says a study

Having a smartphone within sight or within easy reach – even if it is switched off – can reduce your ability to focus and perform tasks because a part of the brain is actively working to not pick up or use the phone, shows an interesting research.

"We see a linear trend that suggests that as the smartphone becomes more noticeable, participants' available cognitive capacity decreases," said Adrian Ward, Assistant Professor at McCombs School of Business at The University of Texas at Austin in the US.

"Your conscious mind isn't thinking about your smartphone, but that process – the process of requiring yourself to not think about something – uses up some of your limited cognitive resources. It's a brain drain," Ward explained.

The researchers conducted experiments with nearly 800 smartphone users in an attempt to measure, for the first time, how well people can complete tasks when they have their smartphones nearby even when they are not using them.

In one experiment with similar tests, the researchers found that participants who were the most dependent on their smartphones performed worse compared with their less dependent peers, but only when they kept their smartphones on the desk or in their pocket or bag.

The findings, published in the *Journal of the Association for Consumer Research*, suggest that the mere presence of one's smartphone reduces available cognitive capacity and impairs cognitive functioning, even though people feel they are giving their full attention and focus to the task at hand.

the desk face down, in their pocket or personal bag, or in another room.

All participants were instructed to turn their phones to silent.

The researchers found that participants with their phones in another room significantly outperformed those with their phones on the desk, and they also slightly outperformed those participants who had kept their phones in a pocket or bag.

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The experiment also showed that it did not matter whether a person's smartphone was turned on or off, or whether it was lying face up or face down on a desk.

"It's not that participants were distracted because they were getting notifications on their phones," Ward said.

"The mere presence of their smartphone was enough to reduce their cognitive capacity," Ward added. – IANS

Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, June 25, 2017:

This year you often want to relate to others more openly and with greater sensitivity. Your inclination to want to fix situations and help people ease off carefree. You might not be that good at it in certain ways. If you're always the one who comes to the defense of your fans. Though this relationship might not be forever, you will experience a lot of passion. If you are attached, the two of you often spend hours laughing together. Curb a tendency to spend a lot and break the bank. You feel uncomfortable around you, as you seem to see right through her/him.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

**** Stay close to home if you can. More might be going on and around the scenes than you realize. A family member could become expensive or angry out of the blue. Also be wary of a partner's or friend's effort to get you to think along his or her terms. Tonight: Lighten up the moment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

**** Make plans for something new. You also might want to adjust your plans. You have a lot of energy so don't worry if your plans take on a hectic tone. A friend is likely to disappoint you at the last minute. Tonight: Make it early.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

**** Try not to be too competitive, especially if this results could be career-related. You also might want to adjust your plans. The solution might be so obvious that you will laugh that you hadn't seen it before. Make plans to meet a friend at a favorite spot. Tonight: Dinner out.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

**** You feel as if you've run out of energy to do nearly anything. Today: Work on a new challenge that you'd like to take on or some other fun project. You probably will say "yes." News from a distance might not be as clear as you'd like. Tonight: Treat a loved one to a favorite meal.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** If you're feeling lazy, embrace it. Close your eyes, curl up in your favorite chair and do not allow anyone to push or talk you into doing something. You likely will feel energized by late in the afternoon. Make plans if you want, or invite a friend over. Tonight: Be in the moment.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

**** Getting together with friends could start as a bunion and go on all day long. Be sure to enjoy the moment and enjoy it. A friend might upset you, getting very heated about an issue that you find irrelevant. Try to detach from the situation, if possible. Tonight: Chill out at home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** Your imagination is a tremendous resource. Use it to jazz up your plans. Invite a friend to take off with you and visit a favorite country-club spot. Otherwise, opt to go to the movies or an art show. By escaping the here and now, you'll refresh your outlook. Tonight: Be noticed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** A loved one will entice you to join him or her. This person could be unusually serious, that is, until the two of you are alone. Suddenly, you might see another side of this person's personality. Given a few minutes, you'll be swapping jokes. Tonight: In the limelight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

**** You're a lover of life. You have the same experiences as you. The two of you need to relate more often on an equal level. Use caution around someone who seems angry or upset. Tonight: All smiles.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

**** Clear the air. You have been putting off for quite some time. You do not need to push yourself so hard. You can squeeze in a few hours to read the Sunday paper and make some Sunday calls. You could hear some startling news. Tonight: Invite a friend to join you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

**** A loved one has new romantic interest could delight you. The person has a lot to share and loves having you as his or her audience. You could be a little loose when handing funds, so make sure you can afford to be less careful. Tonight: Dinner for two.

Thought for the day

Science is organized knowledge.

- HERBERT SPENCER

Kids



Entertainment



Movies



Infotainment



Regional



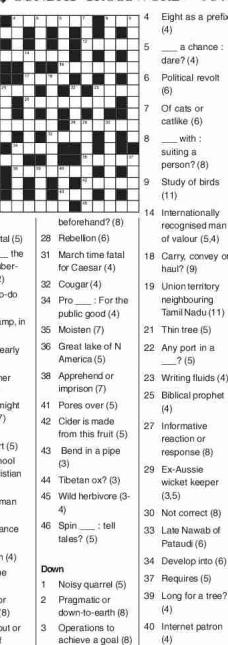
Sports



WB



Tribune SUNDAY CROSSWORD – 984



HEALTH CAPSULES®



Five killed, 120 feared dead in China landslide



BEIJING, June 24: At least five people were killed and over 120 others remained missing after a mountain village was today buried under tonnes of rocks following a massive landslide in southwest China's Sichuan Province.

The landslide from a high part of a mountain in Tibetan and Qiang

Autonomous Prefecture of Aba hit Ximmo Village in Maoxian County at about 6 AM, blocking a 2 km section of a riverbed and burying 1,600 metres of roads. A side of a mountain collapsed following the landslide burying 62 homes.

About 120 people were feared to be buried. State media had ear-

lier reported that 141 people may have been buried but later the figure was revised.

Rescuers, including soldiers, frantically scoured through the mud and rocks to find survivors.

Wu Xiaobin, captain of the local fire department, told state broadcaster CCTV that five bodies were pulled from the rubble.

It is the biggest landslide in this area since the Wenchuan earthquake that killed 87,000 people in 2008 in a town in Sichuan, said one of the officials in charge of rescue efforts.

A family of three was pulled out alive from the rubble, the Mao County government said on its official Weibo page. The couple and their baby were treated at the Mao County People's Hospital, the post said. It did not provide further details on their identities.

Chinese President Xi Jinping has ordered all-out efforts to save people buried in the landslide. Xi has ordered the State Council, China's Cabinet, to send a team work to the site.

The provincial government has launched the highest level of disaster relief response and sent rescue teams to the site, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

More than 300 rescuers carrying excavation and life-detection instruments were rushed to the site, said Lin Limin, spokesperson of Sichuan provincial government.

Pictures posted by the People's Daily newspaper showed bulldozers moving earth and large boulders as the rescue efforts continued.

Local police told state broadcaster CCTV that the landslide had been triggered by recent heavy rains in the region and that the situation was made worse by a lack of vegetation in the area. — PTI



Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May attends an Armed Forces Day event in Liverpool, Britain on Saturday. — UNI

Suicide bomber blows himself up as Saudis foil Mecca plot

RIYADH, June 24: A suicide bomber blew himself up near the Grand Mosque in Mecca as police disrupted a plot to target the holiest site in Islam just as the fasting month of *Ramadan* ends, Saudi security forces said today.

The Interior Ministry said it launched a raid around Jiddah, as well as two areas in Mecca itself, including the Ajyad Al-Masafi neighbourhood, located near the Grand Mosque.

There, police said they engaged in a shootout at a three-story house with a suicide bomber, who blew himself and caused the building to collapse. He was killed, while the blast wounded six foreigners and five members of security forces, according to the Interior Ministry's statement. Five others were arrested, including a woman, it said.

Saudi state television aired foot-

NSG plenary fails to take decision on India's membership

BERN, June 24: A plenary meeting of the Nuclear Suppliers Group has failed to take a decision on India's application for its membership, but decided to discuss in November the issue of entry of non-NPT signatories.

China, a key member of the NSG, has been strenuously opposing India's bid primarily on the grounds that New Delhi is not a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Its opposition has made India's entry into the grouping difficult as the NSG works on the principle of consensus.

"The NSG had discussions on the issue of 'Technical, Legal and Political Aspects of the participation of non-NPT states' in the NSG," the statement said.

During the plenary, which was chaired by Ambassador Benno Lagger of Switzerland, the NSG members reiterated their firm support for the "full, complete and effective" implementation of the NPT as the cornerstone of the international non-proliferation regime. — PTI

attacks from a local branch of the Islamic State group.

Neither group immediately claimed involvement, though IS sympathisers online have urged more attacks as an offensive in Iraq slowly squeezes the extremists out of Mosul and their de facto capital of Raqqa in Syria comes under daily bombing from a US-led coalition.

The disrupted attack comes at a sensitive time in Saudi Arabia. King Salman earlier this week short-circuited the kingdom's succession by making his son, Defense Minister Mohammed bin Salman, first in line to the throne.

The newly-appointed 31-year-old crown prince is the architect of Saudi Arabia's stalemated war in Yemen against Shiite rebels. He has also offered aggressive comments about the kingdom confronting Shiite power Iran. — AP

16 killed in B'desh mishap

DHAKA, June 24: At least 16 people, mostly factory workers and labourers, were killed today when a cement-laden truck they were travelling on while returning home for Eid overturned and fell into a ditch after the driver lost control near the northwestern Bangladeshi city of Rangpur.

"They were travelling on a cement-laden truck...11 of them died instantly and five succumbed to their wounds on the way or at two hospitals," a police officer told PTI.

Four among those dead were women while one was a 10-year-old girl.

Highway Police camp in-charge Hafizur Rahman said that five people injured in the accident were being treated at a Rangpur hospital and had suffered critical wounds.

The truck overturned and fell down into a roadside ditch after its driver lost control and passengers were buried under tonnes of weight of heavy cement bags that the vehicle was stacked with.

Media reports said the passengers were mostly poor garment factory workers or daily wage labourers, who had taken the cheap truck ride from suburban Gazipur to return to their families in northwestern Lalmonirhat district for the Eid festival.

Muslim-majority Bangladesh is preparing for Eid celebrations with tens of thousands of people expected to travel to their villages by buses, ferries and trains. — PTI

Saudi-led demands not reasonable: Qatar

DOHA, June 24: Qatar said today that a 13-point list of demands made by Saudi Arabia and its allies impinged on its sovereignty and failed to meet US expectations by "reasonable".

The four Arab governments delivered the demands to Qatar through Kuwait on Thursday, more than two weeks after severing all ties with the emirate and imposing an embargo. The document has not been published but has been widely leaked and the demands are sweeping in their scope.

In Qatar's first response to the demands, government communications director Sheikh Saif bin

They require Doha to join Riyadh and its allies in ousting the Muslim Brotherhood, which it has long supported. They also require it to close Iran's embassy and a base on its territory operated by its ally Turkey, as well as to shut Al-Jazeera television.

Qatar is also required to end all contacts with opposition groups in the four countries — Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

In Qatar's first response to the demands, government communications director Sheikh Saif bin

standards," he said. Saudi Arabia and its allies have put enormous pressure on Qatar to meet their demands.

"This blockade is not aimed at fighting terrorism but at impinging on Qatar's sovereignty and interfering in its foreign policy," Sheikh Saif said.

He recalled that US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson had said on Wednesday that Washington wanted a clear list of grievances that was "reasonable and actionable".

This list "does not meet those



Iranian demonstrators shout slogans during the annual pro-Palestinian rally marking Al-Quds Day in Tehran, Iran. — UNI

West Bengal Govt receives prestigious UN award

THE HAGUE, June 24: The UN has awarded a scheme by the West Bengal government aimed at promoting girls' education with its highest Public Service Award.

Kanyashree Prakalpa scheme was chosen among 552 projects from 62 countries which were nominated for the award, the Indian embassy in The Hague said in a statement.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee received a trophy and the certificate for the First Prize at the UN Public Service Forum here.

Kanyashree Prakalpa is a targeted conditional cash transfer scheme aimed at promoting education among girls. Over four million girls are already enrolled in the scheme.

Around USD 500 million has been transferred directly to the

public service award for its ability to reach the poorest and the most vulnerable sections of the society through inclusive services and participation, the statement said.

On receiving the award on behalf of the state, Banerjee said that it was a historic achievement and a proud moment for the people of West Bengal and India.

She reiterated the commitment of her government towards achieving the 2030 agenda for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through similar innovative public service programmes catering to the needs of the most vulnerable sections of the society.

Earlier, Banerjee also participated in a ministerial conversation on 'Accelerating Innovation in Public Service' as part of the UN Public Service Forum, the statement added. — PTI

whether Moscow could disrupt the November 8 vote itself by hacking voter-registration lists or voting machines, undermining confidence in the tally itself.

Worried about making the situation worse, the administration put off retaliating, and instead delivered stiff warnings directly to the Russians not to go farther.

At least four direct warnings — Obama to Putin, spy chief to spy chief, and via diplomatic channels — appeared to have an impact, officials told the Post. They believe that Moscow pulled back on any possible plans to sabotage US voting operations.

"We made the judgment that we had ample time after the election, regardless of outcome, for punitive measures," a senior administration official told the Post.

Options to retaliate were on the table early: more crippling sanctions on the Russian economy, leaking information that would embarrass Putin diplomatically, and launching cyberattacks on Russian infrastructure were high on the list. But Trump's shock victory dampened the response.

Obama took modest measures at the end of December, expelling 35 Russians and adding to existing sanctions. He also, according to the Post, authorised a plan to place cyberattack implants in the systems of critical Russian infrastructure. But it remains unclear, the Post said, whether Trump has followed through with that. — AFP

CIA knew in August that Putin sought to boost Trump'

WASHINGTON, June 24: The CIA had top-level intelligence last August that Russian President Vladimir Putin personally ordered an operation to help Donald Trump win the US presidential race, *The Washington Post* has reported.

The intelligence shocked the White House and put US security chiefs on a top-secret crisis footing to figure out how to react.

But amid confidence that Democrat Hillary Clinton still had the election in the bag and worries over president Barack Obama himself being seen as manipulating the election, the administration delivered warnings to Moscow but left countermeasures until after the vote, the Post reported yesterday. After Trump's shock victory, there were strong arguments among administration officials that they had shied

from tough action. "Promotional security people there was a sense of immediate introspection, of, 'Wow, did we mishandle this,'" a former administration official told the newspaper.

The Post said that as soon as the intelligence on Putin came in, the White House viewed it as a deep national security threat. A secret intelligence task force was created to firm up the information and come up with possible responses.

They couldn't do anything about embarrassing WikiLeaks revelations from hacked Clinton emails. The focus turned to

whether Moscow could disrupt the November 8 vote itself by hacking voter-registration lists or voting machines, undermining confidence in the tally itself.

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Police escort escaped prisoner Sayed Mohammed Said from India following his capture and return from East Timor at Ngurah Rai International Airport in Kuta, Bali, Indonesia on Saturday. — UNI



Federer enters Halle Open semifinal

HALLE (Germany), June 24: Top seed Swiss tennis player Roger Federer knocked out the current champion of Halle Open, German Florian Mayer, and advanced to the semifinal of the tournament.

Federer, an eight-time winner in Halle, took just over one hour to beat Mayer 6-3, 6-4 in the tournament played on grass on Friday. Efe news reported.

Federer will seek his ninth title in the final against Russian Karen Khachanov, who beat his compatriot Andre Rublev 7-6 (8), 4-6, 6-3. - IANS

Former Real defender Arbeloa retires

MADRID, June 24: Former Real Madrid defender Alvaro Arbeloa reportedly announced his retirement from professional football here on Saturday.

According to Spanish publication Marca, the 34-year-old full-back, who currently plays for English Premier League (EPL) club West Ham United has called time on his career and said this is the right time for him to leave despite being physically fit.

"It's time to say goodbye. Physically I was ok to keep playing," he was quoted as saying by Marca.

The former Spain international was a part of his country's FIFA World Cup winning squad in 2010. He was also a part of the Spanish squad that won consecutive UEFA European Championship titles in 2008 and 2012.

He made 56 appearances for Spain from 2009 to 2013. - IANS

Jolt for Lalit Modi, RCA suspends Nagaur District Association

JAIPUR, June 24: In a severe jolt to former IPL commissioner Lalit Modi, the newly elected executive of Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA) today suspended Nagaur District Association (NDA).

The six-member executive also handed a suspension order to its secretary Rajendra Singh Nandu to please the BCCI but the move will lead to more legal tangles which have been plaguing the state for almost a decade.

The move is planned to get the BCCI suspension on RCA revoked and get the financial aid which has not been granted since past four years but it could also push the RCA into further mess as the Sports Act prevailing in state and the Lodha Committee recommendations might create some problems.

The elections held on May 29 were held under the Lodha Committee recommendations and today the executive in its first meeting took a bold deci-

Srikanth reaches Super Series final

SYDNEY, June 24: Kidambi Srikanth continued his dream run and grabbed a third successive Super Series final spot at the Australian Open with a straight-game victory over China's Shi Yuqi here today.

Srikanth, who had reached the summit clash in Singapore and Indonesia, joined Indonesia's Suni Dwi Kuncoro, Malaysia's Lee Chong Wei, the Chinese duo of Chen Long and Lin Dan to become only the fifth player in the world to contest three successive Super Series finals.

A former World No.3, Srikanth, who had reached the semifinals in the last edition, produced yet another near-perfect performance to outclass All England finalist Shi 21-10 21-14 in a 37-minute match to notch up his second win over the Chinese. Srikanth had beaten him at the quarters of the Singapore Open in April.

"It's a dream performance," said Srikanth, who had suffered a stress fracture in his right ankle after the Olympics.

"I played a World Super Series final (Singapore Open) after two years, and then to play the next two finals is a dream for sure."

Srikanth will play either reigning

Olympic champion and two-time World champion and All England champion Chen Long or Korea's Lee Hyun Il in the finals.

"I have no thoughts about the final,

Srikanth and Shi engaged in long rallies with both the shuttlers staying away from the net early on. The Indian relied on strong returns to lead 9-6 in the first game.

the nets. At 16-9, Srikanth had a service error as the shuttle went to the net. But that didn't affect his run as he continued to move ahead and reached the game point when the Chinese faltered with a net-stroke. The Indian seized the opportunity with a straight smash which left his opponent stranded.

Srikanth took a slender lead in the second game but Srikanth caught up at 2-2 and edged ahead with an unorthodox return at the net.

The duo engaged in some sensational rallies where both tried to surprise each other with odd shots. But it was Srikanth's silver net play which helped him to move to 7-6 with a backhand smash.

Shi's every play was met with determination from Srikanth and it seemed the Chinese had run out of ideas.

He did play some extraordinary strokes but the Indian was always a step ahead. He once again gained a three-point advantage at the interval with another attacking net play.

After the break, the Chinese tried to be more aggressive but Srikanth managed to reach 15-8. Srikanth hit three straight points but another rally ended with his shuttle going long as Srikanth moved to 16-11. - PTI



no thoughts about winning or losing. (If it is Chen Long) I've played him four or five times. Most times it was close. I played him twice this year, I lost 21-19 or so," he said.

Srikanth showed better anticipation and immaculate stroke play to lead 11-7 at the break.

He continued to dominate the proceedings with Shi hitting long, finding

Dominant India face inexperienced WI

PORTE SPAIN, June 24:

India, who dominated with the rain-affected first One Day International (ODI) match, will look to carry forward their momentum when they take on the West Indies the second match at the Queen's Park Oval here on Sunday.

Put in to bat, India made a good start with openers Shikhar Dhawan and Ajinkya Rahane putting up a 132-run partnership. But their efforts went in vain as rain played spoilsport with the match being abandoned.

With the sky likely to be overcast during Sunday's match also, both the teams will look to play more attacking cricket from the outset to offset the Duckworth/Lewis

method of setting a target.

In the last match, the visitors opted for the strategy of starting slow and keeping wickets in hand for the last.

India only managed to score 199/3 in 40 overs before a show in the summit clash of the Champions Trophy and will look to con-

tinues playing with the same momentum. But Yuvraj Singh's patchy form will be a concern for the Indian skipper while going to the second ODI.

The bowling department,

which consists of pacers Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Umesh Yadav, Hardik Pandya, alongside spinners Ravindra Jadeja and Kuldeep Yadav will be hoping for a rain-free day so that they get to flex their muscles in front of an inexperienced batting line-up.

The West Indies batting line-up of the likes of Evin Lewis (15 ODIs), Kieran Powell (38 ODIs), Shahzaib Khan (14 ODIs) and Jason Mohammed (12 ODIs) may find it difficult to resist the formidable Indian bowling. - IANS

First ODI abandoned

PORTE SPAIN, June 24: The first One-Day International (ODI) match between India and West Indies here on Friday was called off due to inclement rain.

Put in to bat, India were 199/3 in 39.2 overs before rain played the spoilsport.

After the continuous rain, the match officials gave West Indies a revised target of 194 in 26 overs – a not impossible task.

Apologies from the openers, skipper Virat Kohli also cracked a show in the summit clash of the Champions Trophy and will look to con-

tinues playing with the same momentum. But Yuvraj Singh's patchy form will be a concern for the Indian skipper while going to the second ODI.

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Srinivasan set to represent TNCA at BCCI SGM

CHENNAI, June 24: N Srinivasan will represent Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA) at the BCCI's special general meeting to be held in Mumbai on June 26.

TNCA's executive committee has nominated Srinivasan to be its representative at the meet, an official said.

He would also attend the state associations' meetings with the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA) tomorrow.

Srinivasan, former BCCI president and ICC chairman, has stepped down as the TNCA president, but continues to be a member of the association's executive committee in his capacity as a representative of Perambalur District Cricket Association.

Though he has stopped functioning as the TNCA chief after the Supreme Court ruled on the Loda Committee recommendations, the TNCA website still mentions him as the association president.



"Executive Committee Member".

He had a few days ago attended a function to felicitate members of the state's cricket team, which had reached the Ranji Trophy semifinal and won the Deodhar Trophy and Vijay Hazare Trophy.

However, Srinivasan contin-

ues to hold a post in the executive committee of TNCA as he was nominated by the Permanent DCA.

Sources said by being an executive committee member, he (Srinivasan) was eligible to represent TNCA at BCCI meetings if the association chose to nominate him.

Meanwhile, sources said Srinivasan is likely to discuss the various Loda panel recommendations.

Also, he is expected to take up the issue of allowing outstation players to participate in the second edition of Tamil Nadu Premier League (TNPL).

The BCCI had said that outstation cricketers could not be included in the League.

The state association had responded by saying it was well within rules to allow them to play as they had been playing in the city league for years.

The TNCA is hoping to get a favourable response on its plea to allow outstation cricketers to be part of TNPL. - PTI

Ford, who was previously with Sri Lanka from 2012 to 2014, had said he faced a huge rebuilding task when he returned to the team in February last year; when the islanders had dropped down the rankings.

Sri Lanka failed to reach the semifinals of this month's eighth-team Champions Trophy in England, and there have been recriminations with the country's sports minister accusing the players of being too fat.

"Sri Lanka has grown older, and although we've made the decision to part ways where coaching is concerned, she will always have a little piece of my heart," Ford said in a statement issued by Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC).

After Ford took the job in February last year, Sri Lanka whitewashed their three-Test home series against world number one Australia. - AFP

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Devendro, Ankush in finals of Mongolian boxing

NEW DELHI, June 24: Commonwealth Games silver medalist L Devendro Singh (52kg) advanced to the game point when the Chinese faltered with a net-stroke. The Indian seized the opportunity with a straight smash which left his opponent stranded.

Srikanth and Shi engaged in long rallies with both the shuttlers staying away from the net early on. The Indian relied on strong returns to lead 9-6 in the first game.

the nets. At 16-9, Srikanth had a service error as the shuttle went to the net.

But that didn't affect his run as he continued to move ahead and reached the game point when the Chinese faltered with a net-stroke. The Indian seized the opportunity with a straight smash which left his opponent stranded.

Srikanth took a slender lead in the second game but Srikanth caught up at 2-2 and edged ahead with an unorthodox return at the net.

The duo engaged in some sensational rallies where both tried to surprise each other with odd shots. But it was Srikanth's silver net play which helped him to move to 7-6 with a backhand smash.

Shi's every play was met with determination from Srikanth and it seemed the Chinese had run out of ideas.

He did play some extraordinary strokes but the Indian was always a step ahead. He once again gained a three-point advantage at the interval with another attacking net play.

After the break, the Chinese tried to be more aggressive but Srikanth managed to reach 15-8. Srikanth hit three straight points but another rally ended with his shuttle going long as Srikanth moved to 16-11. - PTI

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India hammer Pak 6-1 in HWL classification clash

LONDON, June 24: The Indian hockey team continued its domination of arch-rivals Pakistan, handing them a 6-1 thrashing in a 5th-8th place classification match of the Hero Hockey World League

Semifinals here today.

Goals by Ramandeep Singh (8, 28 min), Talwinder Singh (25 min), Mandeep Singh (27, 59 min), and Harmanpreet Singh (36 min) helped India decimate Pakistan and set up a

clash with Canada in the 5th-6th place playoff.

The result denied Pakistan's hopes of booking a berth to participate at the Hockey World Cup to be held in Bhupneshwar next year.

India displayed good attack right from the start with their first real shot on goal coming as early as the opening minute when Ramandeep Singh set up one for an unmarked Akashdeep Singh in the circle.

But Akashdeep could not make a powerful connection to put the ball past Pakistan goalkeeper Amjad Ali.

Mandeep, meanwhile, helped India win their first Penalty Corner in the sixth minute.

but Harmanpreet Singh's flick was deflected well by Pakistan.

Soon after, India were putting pressure on Pakistan, interrupting their counter-attack cornering Pakistan player with a three-man defence. - PTI

V'ball coach's clinic

GUWAHATI, June 24: The Assam Veteran Volleyball Players' Association is organising a two-day coach's clinic at the Guwahati Volleyball Coaching Centre premises, Judges' Field here which began today.

FIVB certified coach Raja is conducting the clinic where 20 veteran men and women spikers are taking part. Former State volleyball player Dr CP Saikia, who is also the president of the organising body, inaugurated the event, stated a release.

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Football camp at GU ground

GUWAHATI, June 24: A 10-day football coaching camp has been organised with an aim to popularise the game among the school students and youths. The coaching camp is being conducted by Guwahati City Football Club (GCFC) in association with a top I-League team.

The camp will start from July 15 to July 26 at Gauhati University ground.

Aspiring students from schools, colleges and universities can take part in this camp, where experienced coaches will train and motivate young players. Along with training, students will be ad-

vised on football ethics, fair play, proper diet, fitness and football career by experienced resource persons.

Several noted football personalities from Assam as well as from other States of the region will be present on the last day of the camp for an exhibition match.

In a press statement, the club appeals to the aspiring students to contact Kausab Chakrabarty for details. Registration forms can be obtained from 11th Avenue Cafe Bistro, Digali Pulukuri, JB's Christian Basti, Phat Town, Six Mile, Street Za, Chandmari, Guwahati.

Narang to train 20 shooters

PUNE, June 24: The Gagan Narang Sports Promotion Foundation (GNSPF) unveiled its ambitious plan, "The Project Leap", to train and turn 20 young and talented shooters from different parts of the country into international champions.

Founded and driven by Khet Ratna Awardee and Olympic medalist Gagan Narang, the selected shooters will be mentored by top international coaches and will receive training at state of the art facilities including sports science support for a full year so that they become the new shooting stars of the country.

"We identified 55 prospective shooters and put them through an elaborate evaluation process to select the 20 best ones among them," Gagan explained. "We looked for various skill-sets that are required for sustained high-level performances in world-level competitions," he added.

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SHUBHAM GUPTA	568	SUBHAM GUPTA	508	MAMTA DALU	506
ABDUL QODIN AHMED	504	MD ALI	496	KANU DUTTA	495
ABHIJIT DAS	494	MD ABDUL HABIB	490	MANOJ DHAL	472
ABHINAV DAS	481	MOSTAFI	478	NAYANA ROY	464
DAISY KUMAR	449	MD ABDUL ULLAH	445	SHUBHAM SARKAR	463
RAHUL DAS	442	ANNA DAS	438	SHRIYAN KARIM	443
PIYAL DAS	430	RESHMI	436	PRITHWIRAJ DAS	433
ABHIJIT DAS	427	MD ABDUL	426	NALINAKSHI DAS	424
SHOHID A CHOURHURI	424	MD ABDUL	423	ABID AKTHAR DAS	424
SHAKIR M. CHOURHURI	415	CHANDRA SEN	422	RIYA ROY DEKA	417
Parag Jyoti Hazarika	414	MD ABDUL	419	KIRAN SHARMA	410
Mujibur Rahman	416	MD ABDUL	416	MONALI SHARMA	410
Sukanya Koundinya	413	MD ABDUL	412	JEEVESH SHARMA	410
Nihai Pankaj Deka	408	RESHMI	408	SHUBHAM SHARMA	408
Rasidul Haque	408	MD ABDUL	406	SHUBHAM SHARMA	406
Jeburul Islam	406	MD ABDUL	404	SHUBHAM SHARMA	404
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Muhibur Rahman	Sukanya Koundinya	Nihai Pankaj Deka	Rasidul Haque	Jeburul Islam	Manash Pratim Das	
Marks : 418 (U.I.C.)	Marks : 416 (G.C.)	Marks : 413 (G.C.)	Marks : 408 (G.C.)	Marks : 406 (G.C.)	Marks : 381 (G.B.U.)	

CBSE 10 Pointers of 2017

Upasana Talukdar	Sankriti Sarma	Pratiksha Sharma	Rashed Sayeed Borah	H. Dushan Singh	Sounak Sharma	Tahseen Ansas Laskar
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Parigyan Barman	Shubham	Ashish Bhagawati	Kabir Bhattacharjee	Mandeep Roy	Tanjeem Ahmed	Ananya Deori
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2 WOMEN PLUS

Manisha Sarma slams a society where women are unsafe.

3 HEALTHWISE

Dr. Dharmakanta Kumbhakar provides information on eye donation.

4 FROM THE MARGINS

Ankush Saikia celebrates a beloved dish.

The Assam Tribune Sunday

As Chanti, our affable guide led the group into the van, there was this familiar feeling of being close to home. Once again it is the fascinating story of migration – for our neighbours, the Khasis from Meghalaya are from the Mon Khmer clan of Cambodia. The Khmer and the Khasi language actually have a few similarities. We were at Siem Reap, the gateway to the Angkor ruins, a two-hour flight from Hanoi.

Angkor Wat was discovered in 1860 when French explorers stumbled upon the city. Henri Mouhot, a young French naturalist and explorer who died here in 1861 and whose writings, published posthumously, encouraged successive waves of archaeologists to Cambodia in pursuit of a lost, ancient civilisation, could make neither head nor tail of what he saw. "It is grander than anything left to us by Greece or Rome," he wrote.

Chanti narrates that the imposing complex took 89 years to complete. This largest religious monument in the world, built by the Khmer King Suryavarman II in the early 12th century was originally constructed as a temple dedicated to Lord Vishnu, gradually transforming into a Buddhist temple towards the end of the 12th century. It is generally accepted that Angkor Wat was a funerary temple for King Suryavarman II and oriented to the West to conform to the symbolism between the setting sun and death. The impressive bas-reliefs, designed for viewing from left to right, in the order of Hindu funeral rites, support this.

Besides this main temple complex there are plenty more Khmer temples dating from between the ninth and 15th centuries. Each has its own allure. The Bayon temple's most distinctive feature is the multitude of serene, smiling stone faces on the many towers which cluster around its central peak, dedicated by King Jayavarman VII to Avalokitesvara, the universal God of compassion. The enchanting bas-reliefs here depict ordinary Khmer life. We wait in queue for a photograph in front of the famed Ta Prohm, better known as the "Tomb Raider" temple, thanks to its appearance in the film, with its surreal trees that embrace the temple tightly like a possessive claw. The doorway underneath it was where Angelina Jolie's Lara Croft picked a flower before falling through the crack of the earth. Banteay Srey the 10th-century temple dedicated to Lord Shiva is the only Khmer temple not built by a



The ruins of Angkor

king but by a Brahmin, the spiritual adviser of a Khmer king. Pre Rup, a red-brick temple-mountain is a sunset viewing destination. The steps are steep (ancient builders considered the summit as heaven). During sunset, the temple emanates a beautiful orange glow. Packed with visitors trying for space to view, we found it rather noisy and uncomfortable.

Angkor Wat required considerable restoration in the 20th century. Work was interrupted by the civil war and Khmer Rouge control of the country during the 1970s and 1980s. Between 1986 and 1993, a team from the Archaeological Survey of India struggled in civil war-torn Cambodia on a project to save the Angkor Wat. In 1998, the World Monuments Fund (WMF) added the temple to their restoration programme and began work to stabilise the structure to make it safer for visitors.

We were amazed by Chanti's depth of knowledge accumulated over the years as a guide. He tells us that though most Cambodians were Buddhists, Hinduism was still part of their culture – following horoscopes and astrology for marriage, starting a new business and so forth. Chanti's life has been quite a struggle, born in a refugee camp in Thailand, after his parents fled the genocidal Khmer Rouge regime that killed two

million people. He stayed there for the first 13 years of his life, sheer resilience helping him and many others like him survive.

As we walked around the many temple complexes, we connect with other members of our group – a young South Korean, Kim was curious about India as were the rest. Belgians Hannah Gyspen, Eva Van Lieshout and Stephanies DeVries had taken a sabbatical from their academic routine to teach English and Math at Phnom Penh. As always, the best part about travelling is meeting new people. Local vendors and street food were in abundant supply in each temple complex. We had plenty of time to relax in between excursions and stop by at local restaurants to relish the tastiest of Khmer food. The decor was traditional, local materials were used, the high ceiling ensured good ventilation. Primarily an agricultural country, tourism contributes 20 per cent to the economy. The sight of children begging in most of these sites was disturbing, however. Children born after the Khmer Rouge have not escaped, raised by traumatised family members. The cycle of poverty and abuse continues.

Outside the Angkor ruins, Siem Reap is a vibrant city. We took a unique styled rickshaw to commute every evening to and fro the hotel to our favourite Pub street – vibrant with pulsating music and great food. Angkor Wat survived French colonialism, the Khmer Rouge and is a flourishing tourist destination. But more distant sites are at risk from jungle encroachment and left over munitions.

(bhawatigoswami@yahoo.co.in)

BHASWATI K. GOSWAMI finds this great monument awe-inspiring.

5 tips to make the most of this amazing place

Visit in the afternoon, from 5 p.m. If you visit in the morning, the sun will be behind the Angkor temples, so you will mostly see the silhouette of the temple. In the afternoon, the light shines on the temples as you approach them, inevitably from the West. The closer you get to the temple, the more magnificent it will appear.

Make careful note of the dress code, no sleeveless tops, no above-the-knee shorts or skirts.

A local guide can really help you appreciate the beautiful carvings in the galleries. Their fees are reasonable.

If you take pictures of the carvings in the gallery with a flash, you may find that all the details get lost. Either use natural light, or use the kind of external flash that you can bounce off of another area.

Bring cash in American dollars and don't buy any local currency, you really don't need to get any Cambodian money. Whatever your local currency is, buy American dollars before you leave your country.



The crescent festivities

SAIKH MD. SABAH AL-AHMED encapsulates the essence of Eid-al-Fitr.

Since time immemorial, people have marked some special days in a year to rejoice, celebrate and be happy. In Islam, the two days of *Eid* earmarked in a year are usually the days of rejoicing, merriment and feasting.

"*Eid*" means "recurring happiness" or "festivity". There are two types of *Eid* in Islam. The first is called *Eid-al-Fitr* – that falls on the first day of *Shawwal*, the tenth month of the Muslim year, following the month of *Ramzan* in which the glorious *Qur'an* was revealed, and which is the month of fasting. The second is called *Eid-al-Adha* – that falls on the tenth day of *Zulhijjah*, the final month of the Muslim year.

Since the advent of Islam in the sixth century AD, it has laid down a sense of profound compassion for people who are poor and needy with an in-built humane system to mobilise the flow of wealth from the fortunate rich to the not-so-fortunate poor. A prescribed and self-assessed proportion of *Zakat* and *Fitra* (terms used to define the amount of money which is obligatory under Islamic law to be given annually to the needy before *Eid-al-Fitr*) are given to the poor so that they can fulfil their needs (new clothes, food) for the upcoming *Eid*. The original meaning of the word *Zakat* is both "purification" and "growth", and is also one of the five pillars of Islam.

The holy month of *Ramzan* – with its austerity, rigid fasting, prayers, control of taste and passion – instantly generates a robust spiritual bond among the pious Muslims. And when finally the austerity and fasting ends, it marks

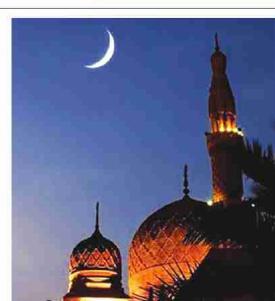
the celebration of *Eid-al-Fitr*.

Alhaj Maulana Faizul Hoque Nadvi, the former *Inam* (head priest who leads prayers in a mosque) of Rajdhani Masjid, Dispur, Guwahati, has a sublime talk on *Eid*: "The universal festival of *Eid* generally brings to one's mind a beautiful picture of a seemingly endless and ecstatic day. It is a day of rejoicing, bonhomie, fun and harmony among the rich and poor alike."

For recently retired IPS officer NMASIF Haque, who was also the first joint Commissioner of Guwahati (Police Commissionerate), *Eid* exudes an essence of optimism: "Today the festival of *Eid* emerges as the most important occasion for Muslims to celebrate their festival by exchanging goodwill and compassion with all communities with whom they reside, against the backdrop of divisive forces with narrow vested interests." He further adds: "I feel that India is the best country for Muslims and on the occasion of *Eid*, every Muslim should pray for the peace and prosperity of the Indian nation."

Each *Eid* is a wholesome celebration of a remarkable achievement of the individual Muslim in the service of *Allah*.

It is a thanksgiving day when Muslims assemble in a brotherly and joyful atmosphere to offer their gratitude to *Allah* for helping them fulfil their spiritual obligations. Dr. Ubedul Islam, Assistant Professor, Department Of Medicine, Gauhati Medical College and Hospital, opines: "*Eid* for me is a day of love, affection, togetherness and brotherhood for all fellow human beings, irrespective of any caste and religion. He then goes down memory lane and



says: "I can remember the warmth and togetherness with my late *Abba* while we offered the community *Eid Namaz* at the Edgah Maidaan."

Eid is also a day of solemn remembrance. Even in their most joyful times, the Muslims remember the deceased by praying for their souls, and relive the good old days spent with their near and dear ones. Salid Md. Abdulla Pahlevi, a practising criminal lawyer at the Gauhati High Court signs off on a more sombre note: "Along with the joys of *Eid* festivities, we also remember our deceased family members who were with us on the previous occasions of *Eid*. This year, *Eid* for us will be a low-key affair as we lost our dearest *Abba* Alhaj Malik Hafizur Rahman just a month back. So this *Eid* will visit his grave at the Aathagon Kabaristan and pray to *Allah*."

Eid, therefore, is a day of thanksgiving, a day of festivities and feasting as well as a day of solemn remembrance. *Eid Murabak!*

(sabahalhmed@gmail.com)



UP CLOSE

Manik Banerjee

Pitch perfect

JHULAN GOSWAMI undertook an amazing journey to become an international cricketer.

In May, 2017, Jhulan Goswami became the leading wicket-taker (181 wickets) in the ODI format in women's cricket, surpassing Australian Cathryn Fitzpatrick (180 wickets). She achieved this feat at the Women's Quadrangular Series in South Africa.

Coming from a humble social background, the journey to the top echelon of international cricket where Jhulan has been honoured with the Arjuna Award and the Padmashree by the country was not a cakewalk. It was one of hard struggle, dedication, grit, stamina and, of course, talent for Jhulan, who has captained the Indian women's cricket team from 2008 to 2011. Jhulan, affectionately called "Babu" at home, was born in Nadia on November 25, 1982, in a middle-class family. Playing cricket was not in vogue then for women and Jhulan was also initially interested in football. But she used to watch her elder brother playing on a makeshift wicket at their courtyard in home. One day, one of the regular boys was absent and she was asked to fill the gap. That was the beginning and her interest grew and after watching the Women's World Cup final in 1997, she finally decided to go for cricket.

She had to travel daily to Kolkata, which is 65 kms away from her home. Carrying on with studies and cricket at the same time kept her on her toes throughout the day.

Jhulan wanted to be a batsman. But seeing her height, which is much more than that of average Indian girls, her coach advised her to go for pace bowling. Besides bowling, Jhulan also trained herself as a batswoman, which is why she is known as the "Kapil Dev of women's cricket in India".

Excerpts from an interview:

Fifteen years is a long time. Whom do you give credit for your excellence in cricket in all these years?

My coaches, family members and my teammates. They guided and helped me in shaping my cricket career.

Do you think winning the quadrangular series recently in South Africa will help you in the forthcoming World Cup?

It has definitely boosted our morale. But playing in the World Cup is a different ball game. All of us have to be fit, both physically and mentally. We have to play well in every match. Any team that has qualified for the World Cup can beat us.

In 2002, when you first played for India, you were one of the junior players. Now you are among the seniormost players in the team. Do you feel extra pressure for this?

Not much pressure; but we the seniors in the team have more responsibilities – especially when the going gets tough.

How did you feel after breaking the world record as the highest wicket-taker in ODI?

I was definitely happy and at the same time, relieved that I could achieve the goal before the World Cup. But I was even more happy as India won the tournament there.

You have won many awards and honours. What is your next target?

Winning the World Cup.

How well is India prepared for the World Cup?

We are preparing well. We have played tournaments abroad and are also having all the necessary preparatory camps.

Do we have any chance of winning this World Cup?

It is very difficult to say. As I have earlier mentioned, the situation in a World Cup is different, where performing well matters in each and every match because on a given day, any team can beat the other.

You are an all-rounder, though bowling is your forte. Where are you concentrating more – bowling or batting?

Bowling and batting, both. Besides I am stressing on fielding as well.

How long do you want to play at the international level?

As long as I am fit and I enjoy playing cricket.

— Trans World Features (TWF)



WOMEN PLUS

Manisha Sarma

sarmanisha2701@gmail.com

Draupadi shamed...

Millions of Indian women are vulnerable to sexual violence.

Lost in a game of dice her dignity/ In the name of false diversion/Disrobed publicly by the Kauravas/And witnessed by the helpless Pandavas/ She was subjected to unimaginable humiliations/ What was her fault? What made her distraught?/Draupadi, the epitome of femininity, beauty and grace/The Pandavas, her five husbands, the proof of cowardice, disgust and disgrace!

There are millions of Draupadi's still residing and suffering in our households and on the streets around us, whose dignity is being compromised day in and out, both mentally and physically. There will be more of them if they lack the courage to face the monsters of our pseudo-modern society who still assume women to be a commodity.

With the rapidly growing rate of crime against women in our country and the weak legislative tools and procedures to punish such grievous offences, the future breed of women can be safe only if people with strong social awareness take up the cudgels.

A recent incident that took place in a remote village of Assam has shaken my belief in humanity. The middle-aged (58 year old) middle-class Armonal Boru of a school of Jamunamukhi, in Kamari Dhang village, was brutally raped and killed on

her way back home from school duties. She lives behind her husband Birbal Boru and a family of growing children and grandchildren.

There are other numerous such incidents that devastate the very existence of humanity, one of them being that of the 21-year-old girl in West Karbi Anglong district, who was gangraped and killed while returning from a cultural programme, accompanied by

Sadly, women are not safe at home, nor at the workplace and not at all in our savage streets.



Wall art

This is easy to make as it looks. Just cut out hexagons and paint them whatever colours you wish. And that blank wall space will breathe a sigh of relief.

Coasters

Why spend money on something so trivial when you can easily make some on your own? Cut the cardboard into the shape that you want and simply stick decorative duct tape on them.

Gift Boxes

Create unique and unusual gift boxes for special occasions with the smaller cardboard boxes that you get. Use scrapbook paper, wrapping paper or interesting pictures and prints, and just add crafty designs to your boxes. Once dry, you can even glue on buttons or scraps of fabric for something that will be treasured just as much as the gift inside.

Storage boxes

Every house has several knick-knacks that need ample storage space, and you may not have that many drawers or chests for everything. Cardboard boxes can be transformed into beautiful bins that can be placed at different corners of our house for all our loose stuff. Simply line the insides with drop cloth, and to enhance the look, wrap the box in string or paste colourful fabric on it, or stencil them with some craft paint.



Photo frames

You will simply need a pair of scissors, some poster colour and a scale to make these. Decide on the size of the frame, then cut out two pieces of the same size. Now take one piece and cut it out in the middle for the photo to fit into. Stick the two pieces and voila, you have a photo frame! As for making it look pretty, it's all up to you.



Dollhouses

Dollhouses are always a little pricey, and they take up a lot of space as well. It's here that cardboards come handy. Use the leftover boxes to build an entire doll neighbourhood, if you so wish. And when you child grows out of it, simply recycle it, instead of letting it collect dust.



Gift Boxes

Kimami sewai

Kimami sewai



Ingredients:

- Fine vermicelli (Sewai) 250 gms
- Sugar 1 cup
- Water 2 cups
- Milk ½ cup
- Pure ghee 4 tsps
- Green cardamoms 6
- Cashews, chopped 15
- Raisins 15
- Almonds, chopped 10
- Cream for serving

Method:

In a saucepan, bring the water along with the sugar to a boil, stirring continuously till the sugar dissolves.

In a separate pan, heat the ghee and fry the cashew nuts, until golden. Remove and set aside.

Break the vermicelli into one-inch long pieces and add them to the same pan, along with the cardamom.

For the vermicelli, over low heat, stir continuously, until they are evenly browned.

Pour in the milk and cook over medium flame, stirring until the milk is absorbed.

Add the sugar-water and push the vermicelli down with the back of a large spoon so that they are completely submerged.

Bring to a rapid boil and then reduce heat to medium, and cook covered until the vermicelli is cooked through and the liquid is absorbed.

Take care not to overcook the vermicelli as it will clump together.

Remove from heat and gently separate the strands of vermicelli with a fork.

Transfer to a serving dish and garnish with fried nuts and raisins.

Serve with cream.



Sharmin Pasha is a food writer currently based in Dubai, UAE, where she teaches privately-organised cooking lessons on different techniques of cooking. She also hosts an informative page featuring Assamese recipes on Facebook, which was created to showcase the culinary treasures of Assam to the world and to preserve ethnic recipes for generations to come.

Chicken milk biryani

Ingredients:

- Chicken drumsticks 6
- Aromatic rice 2 large cups
- Chicken pieces 1 kg
- Milk 2 cups
- Oil 1 cup
- Onion (large), chopped 1, plus 2 (small)
- Ginger, grated 1 tsp
- Garlic, chopped 1 tsp
- Coriander seeds 1 tsp
- Black cardamom seeds ½ tsp
- Cloves 2
- Black peppercorns 5
- Green cardamoms 3
- Cinnamon sticks 2
- Oil ½ cup
- Almond paste 2 flops
- Cream ½ cup
- Kewra water (optional) ½ cup
- Salt to taste
- Saffron threads 1 pinch
- Boiling milk ¼ cup
- Fried nuts to garnish

Method: Wash the rice, until the water runs clear, and then

soak in cold water for 20 minutes.

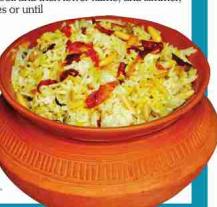
In a large pot, place the chicken, milk, water, chopped onion, cinnamon stick, cloves, cardamom pods, coriander seeds, cumin seeds, salt, ginger and garlic. Now cook, until the chicken is half done. Remove from heat and strain the stock. Retain the chicken pieces and the stock and discard the rest. Measure the stock and add hot water to make it three cups of stock.

Heat oil in a large frying pan over medium heat and fry the onions, until golden brown.

Drain the soaked rice and add to the stock, along with the stock and bring to a boil.

Simmer the rice, covered with a tight-fitting lid. Cook on low heat over an iron griddle, until the rice is aromatic. Fluff the rice with a fork.

Serve hot, garnished with fried onions and nuts.



BEAUTY

Zarin Saleh Hussain

zarin.saleh.hussain@yahoo.com



Pamper your nails

Some easy nail care hacks for today's women.

Having beautiful nails and hands is a desire everyone has. The shape of the nails, their strength and look is a reflection of one's personality, health and self-care. But most often, nails are damaged due to poor nutrition, or insufficient care. In order to maintain the beauty of your hands and nails, make sure you have a routine to take care of them.

Nails are more prone to breakage because they are more porous than the surface of the skin of our body. Apply hand cream every time you wash your hands. Using hand cream on nails will strengthen them.

Moisturise your nails daily with a nourishing oil or cream. This helps to seal the moisture in the nails and prevents flaking and splitting. A drop of olive or coconut oil is a great alternative.

Avoid using acetone nail polish removers as these can strip the nails of essential moisture. Use nail paint remover of good brands. This will help you save your nails from breakage. Choose the conditioning variety of nail polish removers.

If you want speedy growth of your nails, use gelatin. Gelatin helps in boosting nail growth.

For strong and pretty nails, dip them in warm mustard oil for a few minutes, then gently massage the nail area and fingers, as this improves blood circulation. Use cuticle oil or cream for healthy cuticles and beautiful nails. Apply a cuticle-softening cream before gently pushing them back with a clean cotton bud. To avoid brittle nails, give them a salt bath.

For weak nails, take one egg yolk, one teaspoon honey and one tablespoon water. Mix all the ingredients together, leave on for about ten minutes and then rinse off with warm water. Eggs will strengthen your nails and honey has anti-fungal properties.

Long toe nails can be quite painful in closed shoes. Fungal infections affect the toe nails more than finger nails. Always trim your toe nails. Keep your nails well-trimmed and short to strengthen the base. Keep the tips of your nails slightly square or oval and not pointed. This will prevent them from breaking.

File your nails in one direction only. Do not forget to buff. Do not buff too much if your nails are soft.

Clean your feet with a pumice stone and nail brush, and dry. Rub lemon slices to remove tan and dry your feet.

Dark nail polishes can stain your nails. To get rid of that, you can try using a mixture of some lime juice and one tablespoon baking soda. Apply and leave on for ten minutes and then rinse off with warm water.

If you have weak nails, apply a base coat before wearing nail polish to give them extra strength.

Make your nail polish last longer by using vinegar. Take vinegar on cotton balls and swipe it on your unpolished nails. Then apply nail polish. By doing this, your nail polish will stay longer on your nails.

Never apply nail polish in thick coats. Paint the top edge of your tips and also paint a little on the underside of the tips. This way, your polish does not chip and stays longer.

Give at least an hour for your manicure to dry completely. Abstain from using blow-driers for the purpose.

Washing clothes or utensils with harsh detergents causes damage to both our nails and hands. Use gloves while gardening, handling harsh detergents and cleaning agents.

Diet plays an important role in having good nails. Drink lots of water to keep the toxins out of your system. If your nails are splitting, you should add calcium-rich food to your diet. By following a good nail care routine with proper diet, you can have beautiful nails and hands.

FICTION

Indrani Raivedhi

indrani.raivedhi@gmail.com

Once a month Anjali and I meet for lunch at Minerva Cabin. This is a restaurant long past its former glory. This was where we hung out in the late Seventies, having long, impassioned discussions on the students' movement, the elections, the arrests, the police excesses. Minerva Cabin is close to college and still has the most affordable menu cutlets in town. It still has its beige coir-carpeting, battered cane tables and chairs. Chinese style lamps mounted on brackets on the walls. And the waiters still mix up the orders.

Anjali and I go back a long way. She came down with her family from Shillong in the early Seventies, quiet, a bit secretive, exquisite in her small boned beauty and bobbed hair, trying to fit in our convent's claustrophobic confines. This was when we were in class six. I was the star volleyball player, with cropped hair, muscled calves and a weakness for sweet words avidly picked up from Harold Robbins. When I saw her the cusses evaporated, and all at once I found my life's purpose... to shield Anjali from all the slings and arrows of life. Surprised and grateful for my friendship among a sea of strange faces, Anjali grew close to me and soon we were inseparable.

We both did well enough to get into the best college. Through Milton, Karl Marx, The Kothari Commission, we were together, a pair in contrast. Anjali wore simple handloom saris and tiny pieces of silver jewellery. I never got out of my jeans and buttoned up kurts.

Minerva Cabin then had a row of box-like cubicles on one side, each discreetly curtained. This was for couples in need of privacy. We did not know what went on there. Or pretended not to. But I can still feel the stab in my heart when I saw Anjali emerge from one of the cabins, followed by Biman, one of the student leaders, skilled at words, sly, persuasive. Instead of confronting her, I chose to remain silent. What could I say? The rest of our time in college passed in a blur. We both graduated and just as I enrolled for law, a mutual friend told me Anjali



Minerva Cabin

had eloped with Biman. It had been a huge scandal... with her family disowning her. I was not surprised. She had always been naive. When I lost touch with her, I never allowed myself to think she was. I do not have a man in my life. I am not easily persuaded.

Then, eight years later, we met each other on a busy street, linking our fingers and scanning each other's faces to see if the past lived within us still. And that was how we returned to Minerva Cabin, seeking comfort in its continuity with our shared past.

I am now a rising lawyer, with a growing clientele. And Anjali? She had given up all of her old life to marry Biman. The door to her parents' house was firmly shut, and had been so for years. While her classmates went on to gain Post-graduate degrees, even Doctorates, Anjali cleans her father-in-law's bed-sores, cooks for a large family and sleeps with their son always between her and the man who had won her with his sly, ingratiating words but did not understand nor desire her anymore.

Anjali reveals to me these details of her life in bits and pieces, between sips of coffee and Dire Straits playing in the background. She no more longs for love, she says. I look to where the cubicles were, now long gone. Her romantic disillusionment, the drop in the corners of her mouth, her large, hurt eyes and fragile wrists draw me to her once again. I feel she needs me more than ever before.

The day the Berlin Wall falls Anjali gets a job as a subject teacher at Mount View English Medium School.

"Why do you settle for so less?" I ask, exasperated. "The school isn't even recognised."

"I don't have an MA degree, remember? It's better than cleaning bed-sores. Don't spoil my day, Isha. And the treat is on me today. What will we have?"

For a time Anjali is happy. She talks of teaching *Solitary Reaper* and the Lucy poems, Socrates and Jim Corbett. The colour comes back to her cheeks. So does the silver jewellery, those tiny silver earrings I had loved seeing on her. It is raining the day darkness creeps back to her life. When we meet I am uneasy at her silence.

"What?" I try to be witty. "The Man-eater of Rudraprayag got your tongue?"

She begins to cry, her shoulders shaking as she twists her hankie round her fingers. His name is Keshav Gupta, the vice principal of the school. Somehow, every one hour, he finds a reason to summon her to his room. To devour her with his eyes. To reach out and squeeze her hand. To make her sit in air-conditioned comfort, writing out the study plans, as he leans over her, breathing heavily.

This was the time we had no sexual harassment law, no complaints cell, no Vishaka guidelines. She no more longs for love, she says. I look to where the cubicles were, now long gone. Her romantic disillusionment, the drop in the corners of her mouth, her large, hurt eyes and fragile wrists draw me to her once again. I feel she needs me more than ever before.

"What will you do?" I ask, feeling the rage rise in me.

"If I complain, they'll just fire me. It let this go on, one day everyone will know and think I'm a s---t. Biman is against me working. We fought about it for weeks. He does not want me to neglect Vicky. But Vicky goes to school. He does not need me all the time. My parents would be delighted to know the price for eloping. I dream of love. I should have settled for self-respect, earning my own money, not being a victim. I'm tired of being a victim..."

She rambles on, her eyes averted from me. Suddenly I feel so inadequate as her friend. I do not know how, but I had somehow never been there for her. I have failed her. My love has amounted to nothing.

There were no telephones then. Contact was tenuous. I call her several times on the landline. There is no answer. She has never asked me my number.

This Saturday evening Minerva Café is suddenly full of students. It feels like the Seventies. I sit at our usual table, wondering if she would come. She does and slides into the seat opposite mine. We order chicken cutlets and coffee.

"Something strange has happened," she begins.

"At school?"

"Yes." She nods, eying me solemnly. "Last week, Gupta called me to his office. I felt it was time to end it, to hand over my resignation. But, you know, I was not leering, or leaning over me, or trying to squeeze my hand. This was, I swear, a different Gupta."

"What do you mean?"

"He was polite, respectful, sat at a distance. He praised my teaching and said the school board was thinking of raising my pay. It's just surreal, Isha."

The cutlets arrive. Our knives and spoons twinkle. I have seen Gupta shrivel as I spoke my cold, menacing words in his chamber. I had seen how he had mopped his brow with his large handkerchief. In all my years of practising, those were the most savagely satisfying moments.

The cutlets had never tasted so wonderful, the crust crisp, and the delicately flavoured mutton keema melting in the mouth. Anjali has no idea what I had done. I would like it to stay this way.

HEALTHWISE

Dr. Dharmakanta Kumbhakar

drkdharmakanta@yahoo.com

The gift of vision



In India, there are about 4.6 million people with corneal blindness. The cornea is the clear surface at the front of the eye which covers the coloured part of the eye. It is the main focusing element of the eye which allows light to pass through to the retina, allowing sight. A person's vision can be reduced drastically when the cornea becomes opaque from diseases, injuries, infections, etc.

Corneal blindness is curable through corneal transplantation made possible by eye donation. Donation of eye tissues can allow transplantation of the cornea and the sclera. Corneal transplants restore sight to people who are par-



tially or completely blind due to corneal damage, following genetic conditions, illnesses or injuries. It is a surgical procedure which replaces an impaired cornea with a similarly shaped piece of a healthy donor's cornea.

However, according to the National Programme for Control of Blindness 2012-13 report, only 4,417 corneas were available in 2012-13 in India, against a whopping requirement of 80,000-1,00,000 per year.

Who can be a donor?

Eyes can be donated only after death, and donors could be of any age group or sex. People who use spectacles, patients with diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma and those without communicable diseases can donate eyes. Persons with AIDS, Hepatitis B and C infection, rabies, septicemia, acute leukaemia, tetanus, and infectious diseases like meningitis and encephalitis cannot donate eyes. To become an eye donor, the most important action a person can take is to inform his/her family and legal representative about his/her desire. It is most helpful if the families know in advance that she/he would like to donate her/his eyes. A donor card can serve as an indication to the family, legal representative and hospitals of one's intention to be an eye donor.

Surgical procedure

The surgical removal of the eye tissue is performed by a registered medical practitioner within four hours of death in the summer season and within six hours of death in the winters, ensuring the tissue is in the best possible condition for transplant. The eye bank team visits the home of the deceased or the hospital for surgical removal of the eyes. Eye collection can be done only with the written consent of the next of kin in the presence of two witnesses. If possible, a small quantity of blood is drawn before the surgical removal of the eye to rule out communicable diseases. The entire procedure takes 20-30 minutes, and does not cause disfigurement.

After the donation

The donated eyes are taken to the eye bank and evaluated by a trained eye bank staff. Tests are carried out and the tissue is sent to the corneal surgeon. The waiting list is referred and the recipient is called for corneal transplant. The identities of both the donor and the recipient are kept confidential. Periodic follow-up of the recipient is done over time to ensure that the graft is successful. The donor's family receives a certificate of appreciation from the eye bank.

CORNEAL TRANSPLANT PROCEDURE



MONEY SMART

Dipankar Jakharia

money.smart@assamtribune.com

Couple of years back, on a New Year's morning, my wife gifted me a voucher for a membership to an internationally reputed gym. Looking for reasons, I found that I was not particularly fat or unhealthy, but I had turned 40.

Soon, the D-day arrived and I landed up at the gym in my new shorts. I had done my research on Google and accordingly, I did my reps through the upper, lower and middle of my body in the first three days of joining. On the third day, I couldn't lift my hand and my wife had to feed me, as my daughters were around making fun of me. My enthusiasm for becoming Arnold Schwarzenegger ended in three days and because my wife had paid the fees for an entire year up ahead, the entire adventure rested in the waste bin, even before we could celebrate Maghi Bihu. Later on, the experience was described many times with much fanfare by my wife and daughters.

All that happened because I had refused to take help from the gym instructor, not primarily because he was oversized, but because I

Direct plan

Know the importance of a financial guide while investing in mutual funds.



trusted Google and YouTube more. I thought I was being trained by the best from the western world, while my diet was rice and fish terga and alu pitika. Similar stories can be seen in the mutual fund industry too. How? Mutual funds are asset manage-

ment companies, which act as a trust to manage your funds professionally. But when you invest in mutual funds, you normally deal with an intermediary. This intermediary has his own interest because he/she is entitled to get some commission from the asset man-

Bitter story of sweet curd



I bought two pots. However, I was not sure whether this item was allowed to be carried as my hand baggage.

card and told him as politely as possible "I am a retired Brigadier. We both are from the uniformed service, we must help each other."

The *hawaldar* ultimately agreed. Thanking him, I was about to put the items in my bag. But that was not to be. A passenger (doctor by profession) who was watching the entire event closely charged at the *hawaldar*. "You did not allow me, how can you allow him?" The CISF person tried to use his authority. "It is my prerogative; do not interfere in my duty." But the other person was adamant. Helpless, the *hawaldar* approached his senior. It appeared that his senior was also inclined to help, but the doctor was following my more carefully. Then, suddenly, the inspector changed his mind and said, "You are not allowed to carry," and pointing

towards a dustbin, he commanded. "Either you eat it or throw them in the dustbin." Both his 'decisions' were not acceptable to me.

Meanwhile, the announcement for boarding was made. I kept looking alternately at the CISF personnel and at the earthen pots. Then suddenly I remembered my CISF friend posted at New Delhi. I rang but he cut the call and messaged, "Busy in important meeting," I messaged back, "Very urgent, call immediately." He rang back with utmost concern. I narrated my plight in one breath. "Just wait, I will do something," he said.

After a few minutes, a call came from an unidentified number. Introducing himself as a CISF officer, he said, "Brigadier Sahib, your request is being processed." Meanwhile, the

third and final announcement for boarding was announced. An airways employee who was desperately looking for me almost caught me by my arms and directed me towards the waiting bus.

As I was about to fasten my seat belt, a call came on my mobile. "I am a CISF duty officer, your consignment has been cleared, collect immediately." Seeing me talking on my mobile, two airhostesses came running towards me and admonished me. "Sir, you have already delayed the flight, switch off the mobile immediately."

On reaching Guwahati, I messaged my friend "Thanks for your help but the mission was not successful." A prompt reply came. "Do not worry, there is always a next time for *misti doi*."

MY SPACE

Brigadier R. Borthakur (Retd.)

My elevation to the category of 'senior citizen' has not dampened my craving for *misti doi* of Kolkata. On my recent visit to Kolkata, my host had ordered different varieties of curds. However, his detailed explanations regarding the recipe of each type was rather monotonous. Instead, I would have been happier if he had offered me some to take back home.

Thus, on my way to the airport, I stopped at a sweet shop to buy some quality *doi*. Having been assured of quality and packaging, I bought two pots. However, I was not sure whether this item was allowed to be carried as my hand baggage.

I realised that I had to calm down if I really wanted to carry the stuff. I took out my 'retired officers' identity

The humble puri sabji

What the beef steak is to American diners, the humble *puri sabji* (or *puri torkari*) might be to our tea shops. A few weeks ago I was passing through Bokakhat, and stopped at the old Gopal Krishna *mithai dukan* for their famous *puri sabji*, followed by tea with a *peda*. There must be very few people in Assam who haven't heard of the *puri sabji* from this shop, which is supposed to have stayed the same over the decades, in taste and in presentation. Two pieces of banana leaves are laid on the wooden table after a customer sits on one of the benches, and on this makeshift plate are placed two *puris* (kneaded with *atta*, and usually sticking to each other with the oil), along with a helping of *aloo sabji* and a chilli chutney. The potato curry seems to have been simply boiled along with spices such as turmeric and chilli powder, and a large part of the appreciation for this simple curry rests on the fact that the skin is left on the potatoes and they are cut up in irregular pieces. The boiled, acidic-tasting chillies that give the added kick to the dish resemble something that might have come from a local village kitchen.

It is only Rs. 10 per plate, and the customers include labourers as well as the families of managers from the tea gardens around Jorhat. This is how the place has been running for decades, the *thakurs* tolling at the back, inside a kitchen blackened with wood smoke. I have a vague memory of tasting the *puri sabji* there for the first time as a child after crossing the Brahmaputra by ferry from Tezpur (before the Kolia Bhomora Bridge was built). It still tastes good, but I think part of it is also the anticipation of tasting something which hasn't changed over all these years, and which takes us back in time.

A plebeian and unnoticed connection to mainstream India has always existed across the North-East in the form of *puri sabji*. A simple dish, the *puris* kneaded from *atta* or more commonly *maida* and fried in hot oil, and the *sabji* – a lightly spiced dish of chickpeas that could have potatoes, *lauki*, *dal* or soya-bean nuggets added to it. In a region of rice culti-

vators and eaters, where traditionally little or no oil is used in cooking, a dish with deep-fried wheat bread as one of its two components would have come in with traders and workers from North India who opened up the North-East commercially after the arrival of the British in the early 19th century.

My earliest memory of *puri sabji* is from a tea shop that was called 'Jalpan' on the Laitumkhrah Main Road in Shillong.

FROM THE MARGINS

Ankush Saikia

ankush_as @rediffmail.com



Down a warren of stalls lit by hanging light bulbs was a wobbly little wood-plank tea shop with four or five plastic tables, where two young boys were hard at work... The *puris*, when they came, were soft and fluffy, and the light chickpea gravy that came along had an unexpected addition.

long. That shop is long gone, the single-storey wooden structure replaced by a building, as has happened with most shops in the area. Even before that, the shop had been shut down: I remember boys occasionally sauntering out of the place without paying, the man at the counter too scared to say anything. The *puri sabji*, served on the usual stainless

steel quarter plate and bowl, cost about four or five rupees then, in the late 1980s. There was a dingy room down below by the kitchen where they would set curd in earthen bowls, the finished product watered from the poor milk and with a smoky taste. Tea would cost about a rupee more, and if we had a 10-rupee note, we would also order a bowl of *ras malai*. Even today, *puri sabji* (along with chops and *chow*) continues to be a popular "outside" food in Shillong.

Thinking back, there have been several places that served excellent versions of this common food: in the old Nongpoh bazaar (before the highway was widened) where the *puri* was really an oily, limp *bhatura*, but still tasty; in Palitan Bazar, where one shop would add soya chunks to the *sabji*, and along the highways – I recall a wonderful *sabji* that was garnished with fresh roasted cumin or *jeera*.

The most memorable version I have had was a couple of years ago in Mao Bazaar in Kohima, a large, colourful market which lies beside the road to Imphal. I had bought some fresh bamboo shoot and then walked around the stalls looking at the varied offerings on display: local vegetables, frogs and snails, tree tomatoes, pork and beef, red and green *raja mircha*. Down a warren of stalls lit by hanging light bulbs was a wobbly little wood-plank tea shop with four or five plastic tables, where two young boys were hard at work. They were Bengali boys from Silchar, and the customers were some elderly Naga ladies and local policemen. The *puris*, when they came, were soft and fluffy (the dough had been kneaded very well), and the light chickpea gravy that came along had an unexpected addition: slivers of red *raja mircha* that lent their unique aroma to heat and the gravy, much welcome on a cold winter's day.

The oil and *masalas* used at some places nowadays may be suspect (and more importantly our stomachs might not be what they used to be), but there is no denying that this simple and humble dish will continue to rule the roost in our bazars and along our highways.

Ankush Saikia is the author of the Detective Arjun Arora series.

NEWSMAKERS

Compiled by Bidisha Singh

RAM NATH KOVIND

NDA's Presidential probable is as low-profile a politician as can be. And that's a grudge that many are holding against him, for the lack of arty. A lawyer-turned-politician, who is presently the Governor of Bihar, Kovind's name came as a surprise for the opposition who were finding it difficult to find faults with the choice as the man fits the bill to the T. Seems like another masterstroke from BJP Chief Amit Shah.

TRAVIS KALANICK

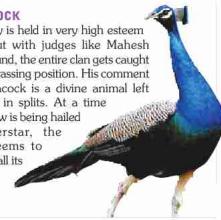
Uber's embattled CEO Travis Kalanick resigned from the cab-sharing company he helped found in 2009 following a "shareholder revolt" led by some of Uber's most prominent investors. In the world of business there are no permanent friends, as Kalanick has now found out, much like what happened with Steve Jobs in his early days at Apple.

ANIL KUMBLE

The legendary spinner recently quit his job as head-coach of the Indian cricket team over an alleged fall-out with Captain Kohli. Despite having a hugely successful year with the team, Kumble's departure has brought cricketing pundits baying for Kohli's blood, blaming him for being the quintessential 'spoilt brat' that he is already known to be.

THE PEACOCK

The judiciary is held in very high esteem in India, but with judges like Mahesh Sharma around, the entire clan gets caught in an embarrassing position. His comment on why peacock is a divine animal left the country in splits. At a time when the cow is being hailed as a superstar, the peacock seems to have stolen all its thunder.



(MAR 21 - APR 19)

Some of you have done well in your career, but you still need to keep an eye on your stash of cash. Be open to take risks and join new enterprises. Trying out new ideas will help you now.



(APR 20 - MAY 20)

Don't let fears about an uncertain future keep you from making progress. Take some time to consider your fears and where they might arise from; you may find that you really have nothing to fear at all.



(MAY 21 - JUN 20)

An excellent energy gives you a surge of power as stars urge you to get out and mingle. People in authority should be well disposed towards you, take advantage of the boss's good graces.



(JUN 21 - JUL 22)

It's time to balance your bank books and organise your finances if you would like to avoid debt. Normally very prudent with finances, you have been spending money to keep up with other people.



(JUL 23 - AUG 22)

The public eye turns to you, so put on your sharpest outfit. You have the potential to be very successful in the coming weeks. But watch what you say and who you say it to.



(AUG 23 - SEP 22)

Stay in low gear. There is no need to push yourself unduly – just follow your own internal clock. It's time to recharge your spiritual batteries. Take time to do the things that bring you back to your most peaceful self.



(SEP 23 - OCT 22)

You need to transform something about yourself now – your appearance, personal surroundings, or your relationship with a group of people. However, be careful to avoid unnecessary risks and ill-conceived ventures.



(OCT 23 - NOV 21)

Conflict, hardship and obstacles seem to be strewn across your path. There could be loss of embarrassment at work due to the carelessness of some member of your team.



(NOV 22 - DEC 20)

Be careful! It will be a challenge to fight the visible odds and ensure victory. Practically can almost always be postponed. Get outside and enjoy the fresh new season.



(DEC 21 - JAN 19)

You will be keen to get out and mingle, as people seem somehow more on your wavelength. Your talents can be honed and put to work and you will be appreciated for your contribution.



(JAN 20 - FEB 18)

Brace yourself to face any challenge that comes your way. Maintain a low-profile in the career environment and keep working to the best of your ability.



(FEB 19 - MAR 20)

Your optimism and self-confidence could see you through but back them with careful research and planned strategy. This week you shall meet and mix with people who matter.

5 THINGS/ Legal matters

"The law does protect women"

Lawyer NIKITA BAROOAH speaks about the sexual harrassment law.

1 Sexual harassment and the IPC

Sexual harassment means any unwelcome physical contact, sexual advances, making of sexually coloured remarks, demand or request for sexual favours or forcefully showing pornography by a man to a woman. Sexual harassment has been incorporated as an offence in Section 354A of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (IPC), which is punishable with imprisonment for a term of upto three years. The victim can register an FIR if she has been subjected to sexual harassment.

2 Trouble at the workplace

When sexual harassment takes place in any government or private sector office, institution, organisation, enterprise or undertaking, the ag-

rieved woman can take recourse to The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. This Act has been enacted to protect women from sexual harassment at their place of work, irrespective of their age or designation and to provide a forum for the redressal of any complaints of sexual harassment against them.

Every employer who has more than 10 employees, has to constitute an "Internal Complaints Committee" to deal with the complaints of sexual harassment of their women employees. In every district, the government shall appoint a District Officer, who has to constitute a "Local Complaints Committee" to deal with complaints of sexual harassment from establishments where no Internal Complaints Committee has been constituted or where the complaint is against the employer himself.

3 Price of assault

When a man assaults or uses criminal force on a woman or assists someone else in order to disrobe her or to force her to be naked, he shall be punished under Section 354B of the IPC with imprisonment for a period of three years, which could extend up to seven years, along with a fine.

4 Spot the voyeur

When a man secretly watches or takes pictures of a woman's private parts when she is engaged in a private act like – using the lavatory or changing clothes or doing a sexual act, in a place where she does not expect anyone to see her or circulates such pictures without the woman's consent, he has committed the offence of Voyeurism, punishable under Section 354C of the IPC with imprisonment for a period of one year, which could extend to seven years, along with a fine.

5 Stop your stalker

A man commits the offence of stalking when he follows or persistently tries to make personal contact with a woman against her will or follows her on the internet, e-mail or any other type of electronic communication (cyber stalking) and it is punishable under Section 354D with an imprisonment up to a term of five years and fine.

(As told to Indran Raivedhi)

SCREENSHOTS

Shoma A. Chatterjee

Living icon

Sounmitra Chatterjee is a living icon of Indian cinema not only because of his work in 14 films directed by Satyajit Ray, but also because of his excellence in several forms of creative expressions. Now he is being bestowed with France's highest civilian award, the Legion d'Honneur. In a tête à tête with the veteran actor.

■ This honour comes at a time when you are in the middle of a family crisis, with your grandson recovering from a near-fatal accident. How do you react to this juxtaposition of triumph and crisis?

This juxtaposition is part of our lives and we cannot avoid it. One needs to accept it as reality. But this honour has triggered a completely different feeling even in the middle of this family crisis and depression. I am overjoyed that though my work has remained confined exclusively to Bengali films, it has reached out to touch film lovers, intellectuals and cineastes across borders.

■ After nearly six decades as an actor, how would you elaborate on the term "acting"?

Acting is restricted by its quality of temporality. It is, perhaps, the only form of creative artistic expression that does not follow any rule and doesn't have any fixed formula. Acting is something the actor has to create temporarily at that given point of

time in the play or the film which only a good director is able to control.

■ When did you first find yourself drawn to films?

When I was very young, I watched films like *Thief of Baghdad*, *Saboo*, etc. As I grew into boyhood, I often took leave from school to watch films.

Serious interest in cinema began with the first Film Festival in the city after my parents shifted to Kolkata from Howrah. I watched *Bicycle Thieves*, *Miracle in Milan*, *Fall of Berlin*, etc., with friends who were equally passionate about cinema. These films changed my entire perspective about cinema.

■ You are often seen acting in some terrible films. Why do you accept these assignments?

(Laughs). Acting is my bread and butter and I have a big family to feed. I just can't let go of assignments because I feel they are going to be 'bad' films. Besides, how can an actor become judgemental about a film that is being shot when he doesn't know what the final product would look like? The quality of an average Bengali film has gone down. My work in these films are a reflection of that quality.

■ You have said that you had a snobbish attitude towards Indian cinema. How did it change?

I was brought up on European films. I was very young then. But *Pather Panchali* changed all that. When I saw the film, I had no clue that I would be part of Ray's films as an actor which would shape my future course in life. I didn't identify this aesthetic and cinematic excellence with the work of any Indian director before this film. Looking back, it changed the course of my life.

— Trans World Features (TWF)



"I tried to learn CPR online, but blowing into the CD slot hurts lips!"

"You spent \$200 for a phone and \$60 a month so you can pop virtual bubble wrap?"

"It's too nice a day to stay inside, so I changed my screen background to a grassy meadow with a stream."

"Why didn't Dorothy put the ruby slippers on eBay and use the money to buy a plane ticket back to Kansas?"

"I've been cursing at the screen. Tech support says I should be cursing at the keyboard."



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