

NEWS CAPSULE

GST gets Prez assent

NEW DELHI, April 13: President Pranab Mukherjee has given assent to four key legislations on Goods and Services Tax (GST), paving the way for the roll out of one-nation-one-tax regime from July 1. The legislations were the GST Act, 2017, the Integrated GST Act, 2017, the GST (Compensation to States) Act, 2017, and the Union Territory GST Act, 2017, officials said today – PTI

Pegu in custody

GUWAHATI, April 13: Arunima Pegu, a Bonded Warehouse Bondy Gogoi Pegu was today produced before a Special Court here, which remanded her to five-day police custody. – Staff Reporter

The Assam Tribune on Internet <http://www.assamtribune.com> & <http://epaper.assamtribune.com>

The Assam Tribune

HOLIDAY NOTICE

Today (Friday) and tomorrow (Saturday) being holidays in the offices of The Assam Tribune on the occasion of Bihu, there will be no issue of this newspaper on Saturday and Sunday.



The Assam Tribune wishes its readers, advertisers, agents and well-wishers a happy and prosperous Rongali Bihu.

State braces for Rongali Bihu celebration

STAFF REPORTER

the people for the Bihu seems to have increased.

The first day of the Bohag Bihu – called Goru Bihu (Cow

Guy, CM greet people

GUWAHATI, April 13:

Governor Banwarilal Purohit, Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal greeted the people on the occasion of Rongali Bihu and the Assamese New Year.

The BJP, AGP, Congress, AIUDF and AAMSU, too, have wished the people on the occasion. – Staff Reporter

Bihu – falls tomorrow (Friday). It is an occasion dedicated to the cow which is intrinsically linked to the State's agrarian economy and rural

life. Perhaps few other cultures boast of such a unique bond of love and affection between the cow and its owner as exemplified by the occasion.

The morning of the day is marked by garlanding of the cows with wreaths of vegetables, after which the animals are taken to ponds or rivers for giving them a good bath. People also beat the animals with *dighalati* leaves (a plant with medicinal value) to ward off fleas and insects and sing *lok-khabori* (eat bottle gourd and brinjal and be a robust animal).

Next (the second day) comes the Manuh Bihu (People's Bihu), where the thrust is on merry-making and the general Bihu celebrations. The

(See page 4)

CM warns Ministers over cash offer to scribes

STAFF REPORTER

a any such action by a Minister or a senior officer would bring bad name to the Government, which is trying its best to eradicate corruption from all levels of administration and also launched a concerted drive in this regard. He said that several officers have already been put behind the bars for their involvement in corruption and asserted that the Government's fight

(See page 4)

HORIZON

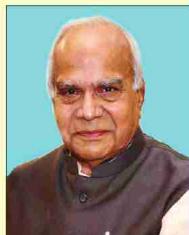
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RAJ BHAVAN
GUWAHATI

Dated: April 14, 2017

Message

I extend my heartiest greetings to the people of Assam on the occasion of Rongali Bihu and the Assamese New Year.

'Rongali Bihu', one of the greatest festivals and the heart of Assamese society, is celebrated throughout the state amidst great festivity and fanfare. This colourful festival marks the beginning of the Assamese New Year and heralds the advent of sowing season. It exemplifies the bond of unity and amity among the people cutting across of all caste, creed and religion. Bihu is the hallmark of the festive spirit and the joyous nature of the Assamese mind, body and soul which epitomises the hospitality of the Assamese people, their love and affection towards humanity at large.

I hope the celebrations of Rongali Bihu usher in peace, prosperity and plenty in Assam. Let this Rongali Bihu and the New Year be an opportunity for the people of Assam to take a pledge for a "Swacch", "Samriddhi" and "Shashakt Bharat".

Jai Hind

(Banwarilal Purohit)
Governor of Assam

BJP wins Dhemaji bypoll CORRESPONDENT

SILAPATHAR, April 13: BJP candidate Dr Ranjoi Pegu won the Dhemaji ST LAC seat by a margin of 9,285 votes today. Pegu received 75,217 votes, while Congress candidate Babul Sonowal got 65,932, CPM candidate Jadh Hazarika got 4,944 and SUVICI Hema Kanta Miri got 1,218. At least 1,371 voters opted to press the NOTA button in the bypoll.

There were 21,975 voters in Dhemaji LAC. As many as 1,50,029 votes were cast on the polling day on April 9 in 273 polling stations, out of which 1,12,510 votes were cast by male voters and 1,07,241 were cast by female voters. The counting started

(See page 4)

AGP against big dam hydel projects

STAFF REPORTER

ports the stand of the State's experts on the Lower Subansiri Hydroelectric Power (See page 4)

JOCOSERIOUS



April is the cruellest month. Tax deduction and family demands during Bihu make me helpless!

Wishing you all a

Happy Rongali Bihu

Photo: K. D. India

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Wanted Female 50 Telecallers & 50 Data Entry Operators for Thredz IT. Qual: 12th or degree. Add: Above HDFC Bank, BK Kaliati Road, Ulubari, Guwahati. Ph: 7896614567, 8885012366, SV/P/AP065/3

Required Project Director / Project Engineer / Project Manager in Meghalaya based Construction firm mainly for Building works with experience of minimum 5 years. Salary negotiable. Site location - Tura. Only experienced candidates should mail their resume to - bimansingha@gmail.com. Contact: 09864425046, SV/P/7735/1

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In Loving Memory of

Born: 10.10.1957

Deceased: 14.04.2016

One who always made us all

grief stricken. Please shower your

blessings on us wherever you are.

Remembering you.

Anupama Rajbonghi (Wife)

Mrinmoy Rajbonghi (Son)

Jupura Deba Rajbonghi (Daughter)

Chinmay Rajbonghi (Son)

Lachit Nagar, Ghy-781007.

CD/InMemor/P/AP060/1

ADYA SHRADHHA

REMEMBERING YOU

Born: 10.10.1957

Deceased: 14.04.2016 (Friday)

We extend our thanks to all those

who stood by us this hour of

grief and humbly request

their presence at the Adya

Shradhha ceremony to be

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at our residence.

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CD/AdyaShradhha/202/1

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(CLASSIFIED ON PAGE 4)

IN THE COURT OF THE CIVIL JUDGE (SENIOR DIVISION)

NO. 1 AT GUWAHATI

Under Order 5, Rule 1A & 5 of the C.P.C.

Money Suit No. 260 of 2014

Vijaya Bank

..... Plaintiff

SMT. SUNITA DAS

D/O SUKU RAM DAS

Assam State Bank, Kamrup

P.S. Paban Bazar, Guwahati-16,

District - Kamrup (Metro), Assam

WHEREAS the above named Plaintiff has instituted a suit against you for realization of money and Permanent injunction, you are hereby summoned to appear in this Court in person or by a pleader duly instructed and able to answer all material questions relating to the suit, or the defendant shall be accompanied by his/her pleader, and to appear on the 26th day of May, 2017 at 10:00 O'clock in the forenoon to answer the claim, and further you are directed to file on that day or within 30 days of the receipt of this summons, whichever is earlier a Written Statement of your defence or claim to produce on and set off or counter claim, and where you base your defence or claim for set-off or counter claim, whether in your possession or not, as evidence in support of your defence or claim for set-off or counter claim, you are further directed to file the same in writing to be annexed to the written statement.

Please notice, that in default of your appearance on the day before mentioned, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Court, on the 07th day of April, 2017.

By Order

Civil Judge No. 1

Kamrup (M) at Guwahati

CD/LN/...../1

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H&F/P/AP056/1

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His funeral procession (Antim Yatra) will start from our Kalipur residence Today (14.04.17) Friday at 3 PM. Adhya Shradhha will be held on Tuesday (25.04.17)

Condolence Siting: From 04.04.17 to 21.04.17 at 3.00PM to 5.00PM at our Kalipur residence, Guwahati.

Deeply mourned by:**Bhagwati Devi Jain (Wife)**

Siddharth - Sunayana Jain (Son-Daughter-in-law)
Sanjib - Jhilmil Jain (Son-Daughter-in-law)
Sweta - Ratan Kr. Choudhury (Daughter-Son-in-law)
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BJP victory jolts AAP in Delhi

NEW DELHI, April 13: Ten days before the municipal polls, the AAP today suffered a body blow as it lost the Rojouri Garden assembly seat to the BJP, forfeited its deposit, and finished third behind the Congress which showed signs of clawing back in its erstwhile turf.

The timing and scale of the defeat could not have been worse for the Arvind Kejriwal-led party which is still reeling from its dismal performance in Punjab and Goa assembly polls. The victory came as a boost for the BJP which is hoping to retain power in the three municipal corporations staving off anti-incumbency after having controlled the entities over the last one decade.

The result also indicated a shift in the city's political dynamics which had witnessed a radical churn in 2015 when the AAP had romped home with a staggering 67 seats in the 70-member Delhi Assembly, decimating the Congress and the BJP.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia attributed the defeat to the anger of people over its sitting legislator Jar-

nal Singh quitting the seat to contest the Punjab polls, which necessitated the by-election.

"There was anger among people after Jarnail went to Punjab. We tried convincing them, but with the results we are realising that people were not convinced and remained upset," he said, adding the verdict won't have any impact on the April 23 MCD polls.

The Delhi BJP was quick to demand Kejriwal's resignation on "moral grounds" and said this was the "beginning of the end" of the AAP in the national capital.

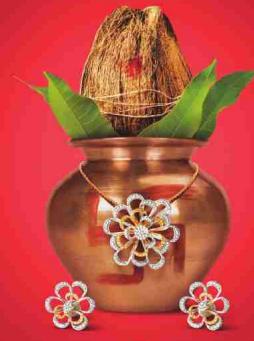
Addressing a press conference, BJP MP Parvesh Sahib Singh Verma said, "After humiliating defeat in the bypoll, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal should give his resignation on moral ground as his party

has completely been rejected by people in this election."

In terms of vote share, the Congress staged a turnaround of sorts by getting around 33 per cent of the total votes cast, in a jump of over 21 per cent over the 2015 Assembly polls.

"INC workers have done well to jump from 12% to 38% in just 2 years! AAP loses deposit. Keep the spirit alive - we'll be the dark horse in MCD!" Delhi Congress chief Ajay Makken tweeted before the final tally was out. The final figure were slightly different.

For the AAP, the slide in vote share has been steep, from 47 per cent in 2015 to 13 per cent in the current one. The BJP's share has increased from 38 per cent in 2015 to 52 per cent in 2017. - PTI

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Advisory for local Bihu committees

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 13: The Kamrup Metro district administration has issued an advisory for local Bihu committees in the city to follow certain guidelines during celebration of Rongali Bihu events.

As per the advisory, the committees and organisers have been directed to make proper arrangement for fire safety measures at the venue and to obtain a certificate from fire and emergency services, as well as a certificate from

the Pollution Control Board prior to holding events.

"Use of sound system beyond permissible limit is strictly prohibited," it said.

The administration said that proper emergency and evacuation plan for the programme must be in place and adequate provision of drinking water for the participants should be provided at the venue.

"Proper toilet facility should be provided. Proper arrangement for parking of vehicles is to be made," it said. The advisory added that use of any kind of alcohol, narcot-

Call to end functions by midnight

will have to be ensured.

The district administration has also called upon the general public to enjoy Bihu in a peaceful manner and avoid any untoward situation.

Appeal on programme timing: Meanwhile, the Brihatter Guwahati Bihu Sammelan Samanwayrakshi Samiti, while wishing the people a happy and prosperous Rongali Bihu, has called upon the City Police Commissioner Hiren Chandra Nath and urged him to ensure adequate security for the celebrations by 12 midnight.

In a statement, the Samiti also emphasised preserving the time-tested traditions associated with Bihu and appealed to the Bihu organisers and the people to use *gamosas* woven by the State's artisans.

The Samiti also expressed concern over unwarranted incidents that sometimes take place during Bihu celebrations, especially when carried beyond the midnight hours. Samiti office-bearers met City Police Commissioner Hiren Chandra Nath and urged him to ensure adequate security for the celebrations.

Rongali Rongchora

GUWAHATI, April 13: The Nilachal Educational Welfare Society organised 'Rongali Rongchora' recently. Students and teachers of Nilachal Jatiya Vidyalaya performed Bihu Husori on the school premises, said a press release.

Nilachal Jatiya Vidyalaya Educational and Eco-Social Trust also prepared a handwoven Assamese calendar which was unveiled by Bijon Kalita, MD of advertising agency Akir Vision. The group also performed Husori in the courtyards of several families. The Principal of Nilachal Jatiya Vidyalaya thanked all the students and teachers for their cooperation during the celebration.

Liquor seized, 1 held

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 13: The Kamrup district excise department today conducted a raid at Singimari and seized 60 cases of illegal Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) estimated to be worth around Rs 5 lakh. One person was also arrested during the raid, said an official statement.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
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Contact Person : Sudipta Saha,
Senior Manager (Contracts),
Eastern Region, Phone : 033-
24145122, E-mail : sudiptosa@
indianoil.in

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Contact Person : Chief Manager
(Contracts) ERO, Phone-033-
24145896, E-mail : tapasbiswas@indianoil.in

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MESSAGE FOR TODAY

To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift.

- STEVE PREFONTAINE

The Assam Tribune

Bihu musings

Bluppen Hazarika's immortal number – *Bohag matho eli ritu nohay* – best sums up the spirit of the Bohag or Rongali Bihu. As the song recapitulates, the occasion transcends the confines of mere festivities and represents the composite Assamese ethos in a manner nothing else does. No doubt, fun and merry-making holds centre stage during the Rongali Bihu – something its very name suggests. With Mother Nature decking herself up in her resplendent best, it's but natural that the spirit of mirth, merry-making, love, bonhomie and hospitality should grip the people who welcome the Assamese New Year with aplomb. Another time-tested distinguishing feature of the Bihu has been that it cuts across the barriers of caste, community and religion. It's this universal appeal that constitutes the most striking aspect of Bihu, setting it apart from many other mass festivals normally linked to religion. Today, the Assamese society stands at a crossroads with the edifice of its age-old amity on a shaky ground due to growing mistrust, tension and intolerance. Perhaps Bihu is the time for the people to retrospect and reaffirm their faith in all that pure and good, and to cement our social ties. The testing times warrant that we exhibit greater camaraderie and bonhomie, which would be the most fitting tribute to the unifying Bihu spirit.

While Bihu festivities have understandably undergone changes over the years – the process gaining more momentum with urbanization – it should be our collective endeavour to preserve the salient features of the Bihu. Indeed, it's time we asked ourselves whether we have allowed an overdose of change to take over, eroding the very essence and foundation of the occasion. Though basically linked to agriculture, many of the traditions ingrained in the festivities are dying out due to the changing rural landscape and social life. Some of the changes are inevitable but it is for us to ensure that the spirit of Bihu is not lost in the maze of growing commercialization of the festivities. While it is welcome to have a host of economic activities – traditional garments, music and stage shows, and the expanding market of Bihu delicacies – centring on the festival, the unhealthy trends and distortions that have crept into the Bihu culture due to unbridled commercialization must be checked. Bihu celebrations carried on into months in the form of 'Bohagi Bida', 'Bohagi Utsav', etc., as also forceful collection of 'donations' are pure nuisances that needs to be opposed unequivocally. Bihu symbolizes the Assamese identity and such undesirable practices are never in syn with the Assamese ethos. Then, festivities apart, Bihu can also be the ideal occasion to start long-term community initiatives aimed at public welfare. Our Bihu organizers would do well to think on such lines that can accord enhanced significance on the occasion.

Travesty of justice

The decision by a military court in Pakistan to award the death sentence to Indian national Kulbhushan Jadhav on the charge of being a spy is an outrageous travesty of justice. Held in camera, the trial was patently unfair with Jadhav not being given consular access as international protocol demands. Union Minister of External Affairs Sushma Swaraj has rightly asserted that the charges against Jadhav were "concocted" and his trial was "farical". The retired navy officer was in Iran on business purposes when he was kidnapped and smuggled into Pakistan to be put on trial ostensibly to show the world the activity of India's spy agencies in sensitive regions of that nation, but in reality to deflect attention away from Pakistan's own unsavoury issues. It is no secret that despite allies like China and the US choosing to look the other way, Pakistan has become a hotbed of terrorism, and the world has come to see her as she really is. India has been at the receiving end of cross-border terrorism sponsored by Pakistan, a reality today acknowledged by the international community, even by close friends among the Islamic countries. The need to project herself as a "victim" rather than a "perpetrator" had been urgently felt by that nation's Government and Jadhav, an innocent pawn in a devious game of chess, had been selected to be the scapegoat.

Fortunately, all is not lost yet, because Jadhav has rights to appeal to higher authority and it would be some time before the death sentence can actually be implemented. Indian diplomacy needs to shift to full gear to utilize the time frame and do everything possible to get the unfortunate man back from Pakistan's clutches. His sentencing has caused outrage not only in India but in much of the free world. India must utilize this global outcry to pressureize Pakistan to set Jadhav free. The forum provided by the United Nations has to be used to leverage Pakistan into retracting the sentence. Swaraj had correctly asserted that if India's neighbour persisted in carrying out the sentence, it would amount to "pre-meditated murder" and the latter would have to bear with the consequences. The world must be made to attest the blatant violation by Pakistan of provisions of the Geneva Convention and the illegality of a trial where the State acted as both the judge and the jury. It is good that India's Parliament has condemned the sentencing in one voice and authorized the Government to do all it can to save Jadhav. This would empower Swaraj and her officials to use all means at their disposal to rescue Jadhav. As it had earlier done in carrying out surgical strikes against terrorist camps in Pakistan, India must once again take off the velvet glove and show Pakistan her hands of steel.

A word of caution

PLAIN-SPEAK

Arup Kumar Dutta

The river Brahmaputra has been very much in the news lately. While past Congress and AGP governments had sat twiddling their thumbs without attempting any major initiative towards sustainable hazard management and resource development of the Brahmaputra, the new Sonowal Government is at least focusing on these two aspects, and deserves to be commended.

The highlights of this focus are first, to undertake dredging of the river from Sadiya to Chittagong port in order to enhance navigability, and second, to build an expressway across both the banks of the river. A tripartite agreement for dredging and highway construction has been signed between the Assam Government, Inland Waterways Authority of India and the National Highway Authority of India. The Union Minister for Road Transport, Highways and Shipping, Nitin Gadkari, has assured that the Centre would provide adequate financial support towards the objectives.

However, the unique characteristics of the Brahmaputra, among the largest and most powerful in the world, make it imperative that the authorities undertake the proposed projects with utmost care and caution. These characteristics bear reiteration. The flow-regime of the Brahmaputra and its tributaries is dependent upon the rains, particularly during the monsoons, as well as thawed water discharge from the Himalayan glaciers. Since these two processes, of heavy rain and glacial melt, coincide, the amount of water carried by the rivers is phenomenal during a few months of the year.

The volume of water borne by the main river is augmented by the

fact that it is fed by no less than 57 tributaries on the north and 33 in the south. Some of these tributaries, such as the Lohit, Dibang, Subansiri, Jia-Bharali are enormous rivers by themselves and carry huge amounts of water. Moreover, apart from the Siang-Dihang, some of these tributaries descend from great heights, which imparts to the flow tremendous velocity.

Added to this is the fact the Himalayan mountain system is relatively young and its rock formations fragile. The lithological erodibility of the highly folded and fractured Himalayan terrain ensures that it is susceptible to easy degradation by climatic, weathering and hydrological factors.

The upshot of all this is that the Brahmaputra and many of its north tributaries carry an inordinate amount of detritus, estimated by experts as amounting to over 400 million metric tonnes per year, the second highest among the world's rivers, next only to the Yellow River. Compounding to the problem, the sediment load can be transported by the rivers only during the descent down the mountains, but because the velocity of the flow is greatly reduced in the plains, much of it is deposited on the riverbeds and the banks.

Other factors such as human intervention and dredging, resulting in deleterious effects such as loss of forest cover, encroachment of wetlands which formerly worked as natural reservoirs to contain spill-over flood water, have tended to aggravate the phenomenon of silt deposition and the bed of the Brahmaputra becoming shallower. Our planners also failed to take into account the characteristics of our river sys-

tems while building infrastructure such as road, railways and bridges, while the growth in human settlements has diluted the capacity of natural built buffers to act as bulwarks.

Adding to the problem have been short-sighted policies, inspired by the ill-conceived National Policy for Flood Control, 1954, such as building embankments and dykes. To attempt to control a river system which comes down from such heights and with so great latent energy by means

they reach the Valley. This being a continuous process, and the possibility of dredged portions being soon filled up again being very real, the dredging too might have to be continuous.

One does not need to be a hydrologist to comprehend this possibility. It must be recalled that attempts at dredging the powerful river had been made in the past, with the proponents giving them up precisely for this reason. The decision to dredge

the river, therefore, should not be a political or bureaucratic one. On the contrary experts at an international level need to be consulted to determine whether this would be worth the time and money that might be involved.

Again, the decision to build expressways on the banks of the river must be given serious thought for precisely similar reasons and scientific opinion widely consulted.

Many factors, technical, administrative, social, management as well as development of water resources including wetlands coming into play when such a serious decision is made.

Societal aspects must be taken into account; the agrarian nature of the economy has to be kept in mind and agriculture economists and environmentalists associated with any broad-based plan like this for harnessing the mammoth and powerful river system. Above all, unless another Suhansiri mega dam type imbroglio, the people must be kept informed about the planning and the various associated issues.

That Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has ordered a preliminary survey to be carried out before engaging in projects such as dredging

the Brahmaputra river and building expressways along its banks is sensible. The ability to manage a river and extract the best out of it depends upon a thorough knowledge of its fluvial regime. Unfortunately, even seven decades after Independence, not only have there been very few studies of the mighty Brahmaputra but also the hazard management techniques adopted so far to tackle the grave problems of annual flooding had been undertaken with an inadequate data base. Thus Sonowal's directive for a thorough morphological study of the river is timely.

Thoughtless human interference, based on inadequate knowledge of the Brahmaputra and its tributaries, has resulted in untold suffering for the people of the Valley. Data collection, satellite mapping, etc., even today cannot be said to be adequate – an unpardonable reality is that rivers-related infrastructural developments in Assam since Independence, such as construction of embankments, roads and railways, have been based upon insufficient understanding of the fluvial regime of the rivers which constitute the hydrologic system of the Valley. Thus, greater knowledge and systematic collection of data is sine qua non before any endeavour such as dredging can be made.

Human intervention in Nature is always fraught with risk, and the stakes increase manifold when a powerful river-system like the Brahmaputra is involved. Thus one cannot emphasize enough the requirement to seek the counsel of international experts on river management before undertaking any manner of intervention. It is only because of the presence of the river-system that the cultural evolution of our indigenous communities had been made possible. In the final analysis, nothing must be done with the river-system which might disrupt the bonds of the people with it.

Bihu songs: rhythmic melody of love and longing

Badan Sarma

In harmonious conformity with the advent of spring, Bohag Bihu or Rongali Bihu – the Spring Festival of Assam, comes annually amidst Nature's gay abandon in the month of April. In harmonious communion with Nature's splendour, beauty and bounty the Rongali Bihu, as the name speaks itself, stands for spontaneous joy and merriment, love and longing. The enchanting musical chorus of the season's singing birds, the appealing voice of the cuckoo, the nightingale, the evergreen leaves of trees, the dreaming buds, the multicoloured petals of flowers – all these elusive natural phenomena elevate the highly enthusiastic excitement of young Assamese youths to woo and crave for love and longing.

Bihu songs are a spontaneous overflow of a powerful feeling of ecstasy and agony, tears and laughter, love and hatred, composed by the illiterate rustic youths during the Rongali Bihu. These songs always carry a message of love, of

longing or a pensive rhythm of pain or frustration. Being the invaluable treasures of Assamese folk culture and literature, these Bihu songs represent an all-pervading reflection of a passionate heart which bespeaks of home, yearning, pain or pleasure, smiles or tears of human life. The rustic youths express their inner feelings of joy and hence, love and longing through these self-composed Bihu songs. The literate village poets portray through these rhythmic melodies, the enchanting beauty of Nature during the spring season, the glory of love and lust, the irony of fate, the frustration caused by betrayal in love, the burning zeal for a happy conjugial life through matrimony with one much sought after, the traditional way of life of a cultivator, the rituals observed in family life and so on. In fine, these songs embody the true spirit of nature during the spring season from one side and the socio-cultural life of the Rongali Bihu on the other.

Amidst a harmonious chorus of

dance, drumbeat and enchanting lyrical tune of the *parpa* made of buffalo horn, the village youths express through 'Bihu Geet' their innermost feelings and emotion of love and longing, for the sweet-heart, the lovelorn youths express their indomitable courage and iron will to win the heart of the beloved. Being an integral part of Assamese folk culture, the Bihu Geets undoubtedly reflect the traditional life of the Assamese people. The *Huchari* is an association or group of like-minded youths and old alike from among the village folk. As the convention goes since time immemorial, the *Huchari* group, on the first day of the Bohag Bihu, assembles at the house of the village elder man and start singing devotional songs in praise of god. The chorus is attuned with the lyrical music of the flute, beats of the *dhod* and dancing. The primary objective of such *Huchari* is to shower blessings on the household on the auspicious first day of the Assamese new calendar for peace, unity, happiness and prosperity in the days ahead.

Thereafter, the *Huchari* party takes formal permission from the household to sing Bihu songs. The thematic contents of such Bihu songs are related to pleasure of love, pain of separation, misfortunes caused by poverty or illiteracy, longing for a conjugal life and so on. The young girls, in full attire with the traditional Assamese *Riha-Mekhela* and 'Kopau' flower, dance in group. The dancing girls demonstrate various body languages and sing songs of romance and of love. This jocund company of young boys and girls with full mirth and merriment, singing songs of ecstasy or agony, render immense pleasure to the audience.

The most spectacular aspect of these Bihu Geets is their hidden motive of a powerful overflow of an emotional rupture emanating from love and longing. These folk songs reflect not merely the passionate yearning of young lovers who dare even to climb the highest pinnacle of the mountain or tame the wild elephant in order to win the heart of his beloved, but also they embody the socio-cultural life of the Assamese people in its entirety.

The Bihu Huchari was for the first time given the royal patronage and public ovation by the Ahom kings. The kings had brought Huchari Boys to the Rangbar Bakori where the royal family and the common laymen from all walks of life, assemble together to participate and enjoy the Huchari during the Rongali Bihu season. The royals also witnessed the buffalo fight, cock fight, etc., in the field. The elderly villagers had usually taken the lead with their traditional Assamese attire in the Huchari party, followed by the young Bihu revellers.

The Assamese Bihu songs, composed by the love-ridden rustic Bihu revelers, are the invaluable treasures of Assamese folk culture. They always refer to the traditional and ethnic identity of the Assamese people, their social and family life. The songs composed by the illiterate rustic youths not only represent a most powerful and spontaneous feeling of love, longing and lust, ecstasy and agony, they also enrich the Assamese folk culture and literature.

Letters to the EDITOR

Sir, – Once again the festive season is round the corner. Rongali Bihu, or Bohag Bihu as it is also called, will be celebrated throughout Assam and across the globe with much pomp, gaiety and fanfare. It is one festival we like to celebrate irrespective of our caste, creed, colour or religion. The Bihu functions will be held across the State throughout the Assamese month of Bohag, and sometimes spilling over to the next month as well. The Bihu committees across different places are already in the overdrive mode to make the Bihu celebrations a grand success.

The question is: Why do these cultural functions necessarily need to be late night functions? Why has it been made a mandatory rule that these functions must continue well past the midnight? Why do the star attractions at the functions necessarily have to be a late night affair? We can very well celebrate the Bihu functions in the evening time. Evening time is the prime time when everyone, young and old, can come out and enjoy the celebrations. This is in addition to

the open air Bihu celebrations in the open grounds in the daytime. Another trend that has set in, is the hoarding of some young men at the Bihu venues. They come in, mostly drunk, spewing out the filthiest words. They create utter nuisance in and around them. They care the least about the people or the gathering around them. The people who come to enjoy the shows mostly prefer to ignore them, lest it should spoil their evening. Another lot who do not appreciate these late night functions are the residents who reside close to the Bihu venues. The loud music becomes an irritant to the inhabitants, especially the elderly and the small children. And added to the list are the students who try to prepare for various entrance or other examinations. All this can be easily avoided if we continue the celebrations only up to a certain time, say 10 pm. Isn't programme till 10 pm enough to celebrate and enjoy our Bihu? Yours etc., SAFIQUE AHMED, Guwahati.

Equal work, equal pay

Sir, – It is indeed unfortunate that a large number of qualified contractual teachers, not only in the

universities of Assam but also in many universities around the country, are working for a nominal salary although the Supreme Court has passed a judgement upholding the constitutional rights of equal pay for equal work. The contractual teachers are doing works of similar nature and for same hours as that of the regular teachers, but they are being paid only a nominal sum for their services in comparison to the regular teachers. Yours etc., KIRINTATH KALITA, Dibrugarh.

Principal appointment

Sir, – The letter on HS school principal appointment (AT April 1) is very crucial one in the present juncture. We fully support the view of the writer regarding the appointment of principals in Government High/HS schools. As per Government notification, the Government HS schools are governed by separate Service Rules. Therefore, we too feel that the teachers of such schools should have a higher status unlike the teachers of the provincialized schools. Their pay structure should also differ from that of the teachers of the provincialized schools. But in actual practice, no such differences are seen. So, we

would like to urge the Government through your esteemed daily to fulfil the aspirations of such teachers. Yours etc., NK SAIKIA, R BARMAN, D RAJKHOWA, Nagaon.

Deflated expectations

Sir, – The issues highlighted in your editorial 'Deflated expectations' (AT April 10) are perhaps of the greatest importance to the Assamese people in today's scenario. It is now irrefutably evident that Narendra Modi's poll promises with regard to fulfillment of the Assam Accord were nothing more than mere rhetoric. The Central Government is bent upon ingratiating Bangladesh, at whatever cost, and that cost will have to be borne in full by the Assamese people only. It is time that every Assamese came out of his or her comfort zone and lent their voices against this nefarious plan. Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, once a flag-bearer of the Assam Agitation, should reawaken in himself the old fire and place it above all political considerations to stand with the Assamese people in the fight for their identity. Looking up to the Centre to solve this problem will

yield nothing but treachery. Yours etc., DEBOJIT BARTHKUR, RG Baruah Road, Guwahati.

Gunutsav 2017

Sir, – Recently, the Government of Assam had launched a three-day programme from April 5 on quality assessment and improvement in elementary education system termed as 'Gunutsav 2017'. The main objective of this initiative was to evaluate the schools and the students by assessing their performance and design new strategies. Another goal of this programme was to bring about quality improvement in learning as well as in the school environment. These were done under the guidance of external evaluators of the authorities concerned who interacted with the pupils, parents and teachers and also offered some valuable suggestions for the improvement of the learning process. It will help our new generation to develop skills in a positive manner. Yours etc., PARTHA JYOTI SHARMA, Milan Nagar, Dibrugarh.

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

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Bihu dancers busy with rehearsals for Rongali Bihu celebrations, at Mangaldai on Wednesday. — UB Photos

Demand for RCC bridge over Barak at Madhuraghat

CORRESPONDENT

SILCHAR, April 13: Over 5000 people under the banner of Silchar Madhuraghat Barak Bridge Demand Committee took to the streets on Wednesday demanding a double-lane RCC bridge with footpath on both the sides over river Barak at Madhuraghat Dudiapati in Cachar district.

The protest, which went on for more than three hours, put normal life into a standstill at the Office Enclave and Club Road area. Protesters from seven gaon panchayats under Borkhola constituency along with school students

voiced their demand for the bridge. A memorandum was also sent to the Chief Minister through the Cachar Deputy Commissioner.

Meanwhile, sensing a huge turnout of people, the Cachar district administration and Cachar Police were seen only to combat the situation. Police troops from Maligram, Rangirkhola, Silchar Sadar, Tarapur Police outpost, National Highway patrol post at Shalchpara and Srikona police out post were deployed at the Office Enclave to control the irate crowd during the protest.

Expressing solidarity with the protesters, former Congress MLA from Borkhola Dr Rumi Nath used scathing remarks against her present BJP counterpart Kishore Nath saying the present MLA is a "paper tiger" who knows only how to scream sans any visible performance.

Showing a challenge at Kishore, the former MLA said that she would salute him if he strives to fulfil the long-pending demands of the people. Kishore Bhattacharjee, president of the demand committee made it clear that they would give their best to see that the bridge is completed.

Guv attends 400th anniversary celebration of Adi Elengée Satra

CORRESPONDENT

DOOMDOOMA, April 13: Eminent academician and philanthropist Moly Paul breathed his last on Tuesday evening at his residence situated at Old AT Road here. He was 88. He was suffering from neurological problems for quite sometime.

After his graduation in the Science stream from Calcutta University, he didn't go for any job. Instead, he started teaching science and mathematics to poor students of Doomdooma area at his residence. Later, he became a popular private tutor of entire Doomdooma Circle. He was also associated with sports, culture and various other social activities of Doomdooma. He was a life member of Asam Sahitya Sabha. His death has been widely mourned in the tea town.

Weekly Mangal Batori celebrates 40th anniversary

CORRESPONDENT

MANGALDAI, April 13: "It's not very difficult to start publishing a small newspaper, but it is almost impossible to run it continuously for 40 long years in a small township like Mangaldai, that too without any commercial motive. But Prasanta Barua, the editor and publisher despite acute financial crisis has proved all such observations wrong with his determination, courage and social responsibilities and kept on publishing *Mangal Batori*," observed Mangaldai legislator Guru Jyoti Das while taking part as the chief guest in the 40th anniversary celebration of *Mangal Batori*, the only Assa-

mese weekly published from Mangaldai at Youth Club auditorium here on Thursday afternoon. Das also termed Prasanta Barua as the symbol of honesty and ethics.

Synchronizing with the celebration, the management also offered felicitation to retired administrative officer Tapeswar Sarma for receiving the Sahitya Akademi award for translation of *Upanshads* into Assamese for the year 2016. Legislator Guru Jyoti Das handed over the management to Sarma in the function presided over by Principal of Mangaldai College and a former journalist Dr Khagen Kumar Nath.

In fact, the celebration has already started with the *Bogahi audarani* under the aegis of Bhaktiviratana Yuba Manch. The community Bihu celebrations will start with Mukuli Bihu under the aegis of Dergaon Anchalik Chakra Santha on April 16.

The day-long programme will be started by Dr Nagen Thakur by hoisting of the Bihu flag. The souvenir *Borgach*, being published on the occasion, will be released by Dr Samujit Bhattacharya while the Mukuli Bihu will be inaugurated by the editor of *Dainik Janmabhumi* Utpal Barua.

In the open Bihu, several ethnic cultural troupes including Barhamurti harsari group of Nowsalia, Gabbari

She was admired by all in the entire Kalabari area for her socio-religious activities. She leaves behind her sons, daughters-in-law and a host of relatives and well-wishers.

On the occasion of her *adavashardha* on April 15, we all the family members remember her with tears and pray to the Almighty for eternal peace of the departed soul.

— Hem Baruch, Jalukbari, Guwahati

Girija Bhuyan: a tribute

 Girija Bhuyan, my mother-in-law, a noted social activist of Kalabari area of Sonitpur District, passed away on April 5. She was 84. She was the president of Sipimi Sangha and Mahila Samiti of Kalabari Kalita Gauon. She was the fulcrum of peace and harmony in entire family since the demise of her husband in 1984.

Rongali Bihu celebrations at Gauripur from April 21 to 23

CORRESPONDENT

GAURIPUR, April 13: The 64th Rongali Bihu will be celebrated at the historic Mahamanya playground with a colourful programme from April 21 to April 23 next. A celebration committee covering the greater Gauripur area was formed with Gautam Ray, Basanta Kumar Ray, Ranjith Das, Nijan Sharma Utpal Das, Ashutosh Ray, Guru Chandra Mali and Rathindra Nath Ray as president, working president, vice-presidents, general secretary and assistant general secretaries respectively for the purpose.

Besides hoisting of Bihu flag by Banendra Kumar Mishubary chairman, Assam Plantation Group Development Corporation, Assam Art., 'Bihu Pari', 'Rajbangshi Kanya', Mukuli Bihu, Bihu 'Maina', Rajbangshi 'Maina' and 'Bihu

Konwari' competitions will also be held. The cultural evening will be held at the Padmasuri Pratima Barua Pandey Memorial stage and the local and invited singers are expected to take part. Troupes of dancers from Bisasipara, Chapar, Pathasa, Nalbari, Abhayapuri, Howli, Barpeta and Bahalpur will attend the Mukuli Bihu and the programme will be anchored by Ratul Sarkar, Banamali Ray and Pranom Ray.

Hanuman Jayanti celebration: Under the auspices of Shri Hanuman Jayanti Mahotsav Samiti, Hanuman Jayanti was celebrated at Gauripur with a two-day devotional and colourful programme on April 10 and 11 last.

On April 10, ceremonial puja of Hanuman was started in the morning on the premises of Shri Narasingha temple and was followed by non-stop reading of

Ramayana, Bhajan-kirtan of the *Sundarakanda* chapter of the *Ramayana* was held in the afternoon and was participated by 'Akash Daghis and Parichay Daghis' of Giridih in Jharkhand.

On April 11, declaration of closure of reading of the *Ramayana* was held in the morning. A *homajgaa* was also performed by chanting hymns of the Maruti Nrudana. A colourful procession with a chariot, where live Ram-Sita and Hanuman were sitting, was brought out followed by band party and hundreds of devotees and it passed through the main streets of the town. To create awareness a cut out on 'Swachh Bharat' and 'Beti Bachao Beti Parao' was displayed in the chariot to attract the onlookers. The programme was chalked out as a part of silver jubilee celebration of Hanuman Jayanti.

Baukhungri festival kicked off at Kokrajhar

CORRESPONDENT

Bwisiagu Bwtwr.

The festival beside various cultural programmes will include adventure sports like para-gliding, indigenous games like khonkham (Bodo wrestling) and traditional cuisine in and all over the region.

It may be mentioned here that the BTC Deputy Chief Kampa Borgoyary, who is also in-charge of Tourism department, inaugurated the festival in the presence of a large number of visitors and local public. It may be mentioned that the festival has been organised by the Tourism department, BTC on the eve of

Baukhungri Hill just 10 km east of Kokrajhar town.

Baukhungri festival is a national festival of Bodoland region held especially on the eve of Bwisiagu, where people from all walks of life participate with great enthusiasm.

Baukhungri itself has a historical past based on its beautiful scenic look. Tourists come from various parts of the State and the nation, besides from neighbouring Bhutan during the festival and enjoy the festive spirit.

It may be mentioned here that the multi-community cultural rally was also organised on the day to mark the celebration of the festival, BTC Executive Members Rajib Brahma, BTC Principal Secretary BC Phukan, Kokrajhar Deputy Commissioner B Choudhury, among others, attended the first day of the festival.

Dharna by panchayat workers at Kokrajhar

CORRESPONDENT

KOKRAJHAR, April 13: The BTAD Pancharat Casual Employees' Association on Wednesday staged a three-hour sit-in demonstration in front of Kokrajhar Deputy Commissioner demanding immediate solution to their various grievances like regularization of jobs, release of salaries etc.

The programme, which started at 11 am, was joined by hundreds of members of the association from BTAD region with banners and posters. The protesters also shouted slogans over their demands.

Later the association also submitted a memorandum to the chief of BTC through the Deputy Commissioner, Kokrajhar.

It may be mentioned here that there are 188 panchayat employees in the BTAD region, who were engaged and appointed prior to 1993 by the Assam government.

Sitala puja concludes at Lumingd

CORRESPONDENT

LUMINGD, April 13: The eight-day-long Sitala puja from April 4 to April 11 completed 60 years this year. It's the biggest puja in Lumingd, where lakhs of people from different parts of the North-east and outside the North-east attend every year. The celebration committee consisted of a large number of members.

The inaugural ceremony (adhishwas) started in the evening of April 3. The ceremony was attended by a number of dignitaries of the locality including local MLA Siba Mishra and Swapna Kar, former MLA and the members of the puja committee.

Thousands of people throughout the puja pandal throughout the day. All the rites and rituals, worshipping of goddess Sitala etc., were performed everyday since

morning to evening.

Stalls set up by businessmen from different parts of the district at the mela attracted a large number of people.

This year 'Maut-ka-kau', nagardola and lighting arrangements were absent due to reasons best known to the committee and organisers concerned.

Thousands of people throughout the puja pandal throughout the day. All the rites and rituals, worshipping of goddess Sitala etc., were performed everyday after the puja.



Students browsing through books at a book fair, in Bongaigaon on Wednesday. — UB Photos

Rongali Bihu spirit grips Dergaon

CORRESPONDENT

Bihu group of Moran, Sanring Arvadi group of Anguri, Bodoland Cultural Centre of Kokrajhar, Chhiring Chherang cultural group of Golapara, Choura dance group of Kaziranga, Goondheera dance group of Jorhat, Mesh Khorai dance group of Dergaon, Jhankhi Kala Kendra of Dergaon, Mili Juhuli Suwali magan nam of Nalbari and Zikir team of Naharani will present their performances.

It may be mentioned that the old Rongali Bihu celebrations of Bapui Mandir, which started during 1935, will be held on April 17 to 18.

The two-day-long programme will be started by Basanta Goswami with the hoisting of the Bihu flag while the open Bihu will be inaugurated by artiste Pradip Barthakur.

The Dergaon Central Rongali Bihu Utsav, which started during 1935, will be held on April 22-23. The two-day-long programme will be started by Bholo Hazarika and Gopal Krishna Khoud by hoisting of the flags on April 22. The cultural procession will be flagged off by Golaghat DC Gauru Bothra while the Bihu stage will be inaugurated by Nurul Sultan. The souvenir *Kekoli* will be released by journalist Nitumoni Sakia on April 23. Dr

individuals."

Talking to this correspondent noted social worker Atul Goswami opined that the number of Bihu pandals should be minimised to maximum two or three. He also opined that although three Bihu pandals, namely Bapui Mandir, Dergaon Town Club and Jhewar Hazarika Memorial Park were merged into a single one in 1965 but after 1970 the committee splitted against the spirit of unity and harmony of Bihu celebrations. "Due to the increase in number of Bihu committees there has been an alarming rise in the rates of essential commodities because of donations," he added.

Noted educationist Jatinra Nath Neog also stated that the increase in Bihu pandals creates an artificial taxation scene. Therefore, pandals should be restricted to two.

Chairman of Dergaon Municipal Board, Aruna Kalita stated that there should be no argument on increasing Bihu pandals ward-wise if the financial transaction is confined among members only. He added that due to the pressure by all Bihu organisations, same businessmen and individuals have to donate again and again. "Because of these reasons, Bihu pandals should be restricted to two or three."

Death condoled

CORRESPONDENT

NAGAON, April 13: To condole the demise of educationist Pradip Saikia, Nagaon unit of Senior Citizens' Association organised a condolence meeting on April 12, which was chaired by its president Lalit Ch Dutta. Members present in the meeting recalled the manifold personality of late Pradip Saikia.

The speakers said that Pradip Saikia was a teacher in the principal sense and was always eager to help the students personally even when he was the Principal. He was the founder Principal of Dhing College and retired as the Principal of Nowrang College.

The speakers recalled the literary contributions of late Pradip Saikia but expressed resentment that Asam Sahitya or Sahitya Akademi failed to recognize his talents. Only Akhil Bharatiya Sahitya Parishad conferred him with Kailash Nath Sarma award for his book *E Jyot Raghuva Nandana*.

Permanent MCI affiliation to Barpeta medical college

BARPETA, April 13: Amidst the turbulent situation over the death of a promising MC College student allegedly due to wrong treatment at the Falguni Ali Ahmed Medical College (FAMC), the medical college has been accorded permanent affiliation by the Medical Council of India (MCI). A letter issued by the health service regulator stated that the college has been recognised as a full-fledged institution for health education and the ongoing MBBS course need not be renewed every year – Correspondent

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(c) The candidate should have completed 23 years as on 01/04/2017 and should not be more than 30 years on that day.

(d) All posts are un-reserved category.

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- (a) Remuneration @ Rs. 13,000/- PM. as monthly salary and a maximum of Rs. 3000/- PM. for TA/DAD/Other expenses. Payment of remuneration will be subject to release of fund from the Govt.
- (b) The engagement of BLF is purely temporary and initially for a maximum period of 1 (one) year.
- (c) The engagement is scheme specific. Depending upon the scheme and sanction & release of fund from the Govt., the engagement of BLF will commence and end accordingly.
- (d) The remuneration may be terminated without assigning any reason if the performance is found to be not satisfactory.
- (e) The person cannot claim any appointment/engagement under regular Govt. establishment by virtue of his/her performing duties as a temporary appointee.

3. How to apply:

- (a) Daily filled in application should be submitted to the address given below alongwith self attested copies of all documents pertaining to their qualification, age, experience, Voter ID Card & relevant testimonials.
- (b) One attested and stamped Envelope affixed by mentioning Mobile No. and E-mail of the applicant.
- (c) Envelope containing the application must be addressed to the undersigned and submitted in the drop box placed in front of Personnel Branch of D.C. Office, Dhubri.
- (d) 3 (Three) copies of recent passport size photographs duly signed by the candidate should also be submitted with the application.
- (e) Inability to produce above mentioned documents at the time of identification of documents will render the applicant ineligible for the selection process or even after selection & engagement in the post.

4. Selection Procedure

(a) Written Test (b) Interview

- 5. Date of Written Test will be communicated to all the eligible candidates via Post/Telephone/E-mail. However the date, Time & Venue of such examination will be displayed in the Office notice board of D.C.S Office, Dhubri within next 7 (Seven) working days of last date of submission of application.
- 6. No TADA will be provided to the candidates appearing in the written test/interview.

Sd/- Deputy Commissioner,
Janasanyog/527/17
Dhubri

STATE

Bodo bodies observe 'Betrayal Day'

CORRESPONDENT

UDALGURI, April 13:

Along with other parts of the BTC region, hundreds of activists of All Bodo Students' Union (ABSU), National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB-Progressive) and Peoples' Joint Action Committee for Bodoland Movement today observed a daylong 'Betrayal Day' in the heart of Udalguri town and expressed their anguish over apathy towards their demands for separate Bodoland and facilities to the Bodos living outside the Bodo bank of Brahmaputra.

The speakers called for a democratic movement, starting with a 24-hour Bodoland bandh on April 25, followed by a 168-hour highway blockade to pressurize the government to hold parleys to resolve the long pending demands of the Bodo people along the north-east bank of Brahmaputra.

The activists also submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister through the Deputy Commissioner with an appeal to act positively to resolve the

ment towards the commitment to hold the next parley tomorrow.

The protest was addressed by ABSU general secretary L Islari and NDFB(P) general secretary Gobinda Basumatary, among many others.

The speakers called for a democratic movement, starting with a 24-hour Bodoland bandh on April 25, followed by a 168-hour highway blockade to pressurize the government to hold parleys to resolve the long pending demands of the Bodo people along the north-east bank of Brahmaputra.

The activists also submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister through the Deputy Commissioner with an appeal to act positively to resolve the

issues amicably.

Our Kokrajhar Correspondent adds: The ABSU, NDFB(P) and Peoples' Joint Action Committee for Bodoland Movement today observed 'betrayal day' for not inviting them to talks on the Bodoland state demand before April 14 as has been earlier assured.

The betrayal day was observed at various places of the district, including at the Office of Kokrajhar Deputy Commissioner, with posters and banners and slogans shouting. Over 600 activists turned themselves to express their anguish.

Talking to media-persons, ABSU president Promod Boru said that the movement groups have been compelled to observe betrayal day today

and launch a series of agitation for a separate Bodoland State. He added that the movement groups are determined to continue the mass movement until and unless the Centre concedes to their demand.

Our Bongaigaon Correspondent adds: Feeling betrayed as the government did not to keep its promise of holding tripartite talks on Bodoland issue by April 14, Bodo groups today observed 'betrayal day' in Cachar district.

Bodo organizations observed the day with a two-hour demonstration in front of Deputy Commissioner's Office.

Many activists tonsured their heads during the demonstration to express their anguish.

Infant slips from balcony

SILCHAR, April 13: A one-year-old girl suffered head injury after falling from the balcony on Thursday. The girl, Guria, daughter of Biju Kalwar, has been admitted to the Silchar Medical College and Hospital and is kept in the ICU. According to sources, the incident took place around 10 am. – Correspondent

Gourd at Rs 100-300!

DERGAON, April 13: With the Rongali Bihu celebrations starting tomorrow, the hiked prices of all essential commodities have crippled the common people. Vegetables have become extremely costly here. The gourd (*bauri lao*), which usually sells at Rs 30 each, has been sold at Rs 100-300 today. Similarly, the *kerora*, a sour fruit, is sold at Rs 10-15 each. Prices of other Bihu items have also shot out of the roof. – Correspondent

Local holiday in Dibrugarh

DERBRUGARH, April 13: In view of the Bihu festival, the district administration has declared Monday, April 17 a local holiday in the district. All government offices and educational institutions will remain closed on the day. – Staff Correspondent

Fire at Kayakuchi

BARPETA, April 13: A devastating fire gutted over 30 business establishments and a residence at Kayakuchi Bazar in Barpeta district late last night. – Correspondent

Employees fail to receive salary

DIPUJI, April 13: Government employees have been deprived of their monthly salaries in Karbi Anglong before the Rongali Bihu. It may be mentioned here that the 36-hour Karbi Anglong bandh, called by HSDC and various Karbi bodies, has crippled activities in government offices. – Correspondent

One killed

BAHATA CHARIALI, April 13: One Mantu Ali (26), son of Abdur Rahman of Tumalam village under Bahata Chariali PS, died in a road accident at Kshudra Palaha on NH 15 last night. A cement-laden truck coming from Bahata Chariali to Mangaldai had hit the bike. – Correspondent

Road mishap

RAHIA, April 13: A cyclist was killed on the spot when a small public vehicle hit him on NH37 at Mahadevshah under Raha PS around 11 am today. The deceased, Ritu Bordoloi (31) of Bagariguri, was cycling when the Nagaon-bound vehicle hit him from behind, police said. – Correspondent

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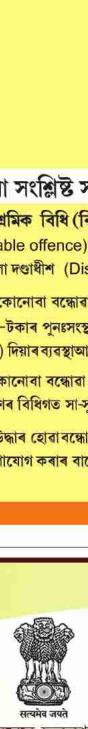
ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলোকে জনোৱা হ'ল যে:-

- বকোৱা শ্রমিক বিধি (বিলুপ্তিৰ বিধি) অধীন, 1976 অনুসৰি বকোৱা শ্রমিক নিয়োজিত কৰাটো আইন মতে দণ্ডনীয় (punishable offence) আৰু যদি কোনোৱা বকোৱা শ্রমিক নিয়োগ কৰাটো দণ্ডিত্বাচৰ হয়, তেনেক্ষেত্ৰত তৎক্ষণাত্মে ছানীয় কিলা দণ্ডনীয় (District Magistrate) নতুন আৰক্ষী বিভাগত যোগাযোগ কৰক।
- (ক) যদি কোনোৱা বকোৱা শ্রমিক (Bonded Labour) চিনাক্ষৰকৰণ কৰি তেওঁক উকোৱা কৰা হৈছে তেনেক্ষেত্ৰত তেওঁক 20,000/-টাঙ্কাৰ পুনঃসংস্থাপন পুঁজি (Rehabilitation Assistance) আৰু অন্যান্য বিধিগত সা-সুবিধা (all other statutory benefits) দিয়াক বাবহাত্তাছে।
- (খ) যদি কোনোৱা বকোৱা শ্রমিক বিধি বিধিগত সা-সুবিধা প্রদান কৰা হয়।

শ্রম আয়ুক্ত, অসম, ওৰাহাটী-16।

অধিক জানিবলৈ শ্রম বিভাগৰ সৈতে যোগাযোগ কৰক।

Janasanyog/529/17



অসম চৰকাৰ

চোল পেঁপা গগনাৰ সমাহাৰত বাজি উঠক সমন্বয় আৰু প্ৰগতিৰ জয়গান

ৰঙলী বিহু আৰু
অসমীয়া নৰবৰ্ষ উপলক্ষে
অসমবাসীলৈ
মোৰ হিয়াভোৱা ওলগ যাচিছে।

সৰ্বনন্দ সোণোৱাল

মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰী, অসম



JSG DESIGN



Mob attacks Meghalaya vehicles at Byrnihat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

SHILLONG, April 13: An angry mob pelted stones on cars and buses bearing Meghalaya registration number at Byrnihat last night in which Leader of Opposition Donkupur Roy escaped unharmed when his car was attacked.

At least 20 vehicles were attacked and in the stone pelting some passengers were injured. Two night super buses from Tura were damaged in the incident.

The police said that the damages were minor with wind-shield and door glasses of vehicles being damaged. The injuries of the persons were also not life threatening.

Roy who was travelling on the Highway was caught in the

attack and his car was damaged, but he escaped unharmed.

The stone pelting was reportedly a retaliation to a vehicle knocking down a pedestrian a few days back, when vehicles were taking the wrong lane due to the ongoing construction work near the weigh bridge in the area.

According to police, the incident took place at around 9 pm and was so sudden that police and CRPF forces stationed near the weigh bridge were caught unaware.

FIRs have been registered at Byrnihat police station against unknown persons and the injured were provided preliminary treatment. Adequate forces have been deployed in the area and the situation is under control, police said.

Army installs solar street lights at Mechuka

CORRESPONDENT

ITANAGAR, April 13: 12th Kumaon Regiment has installed solar street lights in various locations at Mechuka town in Arunachal Pradesh's West Siang district, bordering China.

Speaking at the installation programme, Col Kamal Mishra, Commanding Officer of the Regiment highlighted the importance and safety of solar street lights. He requested the denizens especially the youth to keep the town clean and green.

CINEMA PROGRAMME

SILVER SCREEN

Bijay Nagar, Opp ICIC Bank (Digital Projection and Dolby Surround sound system and Luxurious plush back seats with leather covered sofa & car parking)

At 10 am, 2:00 pm & 8:00 pm

ASHWIN AUR JAHAN
For any query please call at 8730-90081 67062-90972 & 88763-35234
www.bookmyshow.com

GRANDE CINES
5th Floor, Paltan Bazaar, Bala Building,
Goregaon, Dispur, Guwahati-781006

(2 Screen) 10 am, 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm
Surround Sound System, Luxurious
Puash Back Seats. Air-conditioned and
Multi-lingual Screen

Air-9:30 am

FAST AND FURIOUS 8 (Hindi) 2D
A 11:45 am & 5:15 pm

FAST AND FURIOUS 8 (Hindi) 3D
A 10 am, 3:30 & 9:00 pm

FAST AND FURIOUS 8 (English) 3D
A 10 am, 3:30 & 9:00 pm

BEGUM JAAN
Booking for bookmyshow.com

INOX MOVIES - JOHNATH
ABB MALL, GARI ALL JORHAT
(Two Screens)
A 10 am, 2:00 pm & 8:00 pm

A 11:30 am, 2:30 & 7:30 pm
BEGUM JAAN

A 10 am, 3:30 & 9:00 pm

FAST AND FURIOUS 8 (Hindi) 2D
A 11:45 am & 5:15 pm

FAST AND FURIOUS 8 (Hindi) 3D
A 10 am, 3:30 & 9:00 pm

FAST AND FURIOUS 8 (English) 3D
A 10 am, 3:30 & 9:00 pm

BEGUM JAAN (Hindi)

Booking for bookmyshow.com

FUN CINEMA MANGALDAHAI
2nd Floor Sunites Shopping Complex N/L Road, Mangaldai (Digital Surround Sound system with Multi-lingual screen system)

Ambient, Luxurious Puash Back Seats

14th April to 20th April 2017

A 10 am, 2:00 pm & 8:00 pm (Hindi)

and 12:35 pm (English)

FAST AND FURIOUS 8 - 3D

Booking for bookmyshow.com

BEGUM JAAN (Hindi)

Booking for bookmyshow.com

AMBIKA CINE PALACE
Dhundih

Digital & Dolby Sound-Century

Air Conditioned & Puash back seat

A 10 am, 3:30 & 9:00 pm

FAST AND FURIOUS 8 (Hindi) 2D

A 11:45 am & 5:15 pm

FAST AND FURIOUS 8 (Hindi) 3D

A 10 am, 3:30 & 9:00 pm

BEGUM JAAN

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GALLERIA CINEMA

HUB, G.S.Road, Guwahati is showing

14th April to 20th April 2017 with

following times:

A 10 am, 12:35 pm

FAST AND FURIOUS 8 (English) 3D

A 5:30 & 9:00 pm

FAST & FAMOUS 8 (Hindi) 3D

A 11:30 am, 2:30 & 7:30 pm

BEGUM JAAN

Booking for bookmyshow.com

GOLD CINEMA

L.G. Town, Gouranga Tinali

With Multiple Ambience

A 11 am, 2:00, 5:00 & 8:00 pm

BEGUM JAAN

Booking for bookmyshow.com

SHANKARDEVA (Assamese)

A 12:30 pm & 5:00 pm

WEATHER NORTHEAST

Forecast for NE: Light rain/rain/thunderstorm is very likely to occur over isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya and western part of North East India including parts over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura.

Warning: Thunderstorm with wind speeds exceeding 60 kmph is very likely to occur over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura on April 14 & 15.

Temperature:

Max (°C) Min (°C)

Dibrugarh 31.8 19.7

Tezpur 33.2 19.6

Silchar 34.8 20.1

Dhubri 32.5 21.5

Jorhat 31.4 18.2

N Lakhimpur 34.1 16.2

Shillong 24.1 13.4

Imphal 31.6 19.5

Itanagar 34.2 18.1

Aizawl 36.5 12.4

Agartala 35.9 22.2

Kohima 24.0 14.0

Pasighat 31.9 20.2

Cherrapunji 25.2 13.4

Barpeta 29.6 11.2

Lengpu 33.8 17.0

Free parking facility available.

VANDANA

WITH DIGITAL PROJECTION

At 11:00 am & 5:00 pm

JISM KA NASHA

At 11:00 am & 5:00 pm

EK AUR PREM DEEWAANI

Sig: Shriya Sharan, Prem Kumar etc.

Advance Booking: 2506821

Website: bookmyshow.com

NORTH EAST

Digidhan Mela deferred in Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2017

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM FLOOD AND RIVER EROSION MANAGEMENT AGENCY OF ASSAM (FREMAA)

Application are invited from eligible Indian Citizens for engagement on contractual basis for the following post in Flood and River Erosion Management Agency of Assam (FREMAA) as may be seen below.

Sl. Post	Qualification	Exp.	Remuneration
1. Field Supervisor	Post Graduate in any discipline	03 years of relevant field experience	Rs. 20,000 per month TADA and other allowances admissible as per FREMAA norms

The detailed advertisement may be downloaded from www.fremaaassam.in.

Sd/-CEO-FREMAA

NOTICE FOR WRITTEN TEST FOR THE POST OF STAFF NURSE AND ACCOUNTANT CUM SECRETARIAL STAFF

This is for information to all the candidates who have applied for the post of Staff Nurse and Accountant cum Secretarial Staff under District Health Society, Kamrup Metro in response to the advertisement No. NRHM/Corress/2016-17/272653, dated 15.03.2017 the schedule of written Test for the candidates has been fixed as below:

Sl. No	Name of Post	Date of Written test	Reporting Time	Time of Written exam	Venue
01	Accountant cum Secretarial staff - UHC	23.04.2017	9.30 am	10 am	Borgi Block, M.M.C., Panbari
02	Staff Nurse	23.04.2017	11.30 am	12.00 Noon	Borgi Block, M.M.C., Panbari

Candidates are requested to collect the admit card from District Programme Management Unit-NHM, Kamrup Metro till 21.04.2017(5 PM) for attending the Written Interview. No separate call letters will be issued and no TA/DA will paid for attending the written test. The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all applicants without any reasons thereof.

Sd/- Joint Director of Health Services, cum Member Secretary, DHS, Kamrup Metro District Janasanyog/518/17

No. SA/12/2015/71

SHORT NOTICE INVITING QUOTATION

Sealed quotation affixing court fee stamp of Rs 8.25 (Rupees eight and paise Twenty five only) (non-refundable) are invited from suitable contractors for the supply of LED TV etc. at the State Archives, Assam, Dispur which will be received by the undersigned on or before 21.04.2017 up to 1.00 PM. The Tender should be submitted in two Bid system viz. 'Technical Bid' and 'Financial Bid' and should be submitted in separate cover duly sealed and then sealed in a big envelope. The covers should be clearly marked 'Technical Bid' and 'Financial Bid' respectively and duly subscribed as 'Tender for LED TV etc.' addressed to the Directorate of Archives, Assam. The court fee stamp Rs. 8.25/- should be affixed in the Technical bid envelope. All tenderer must submit quotation along with the attested copy of –

(1) Copy of Bid Document.

(2) Copy of VAT Registration.

Besides all relevant particulars of the articles, the quotation should clearly quote the unit prices inclusive of all taxes. The undersigned does not bind himself to accept the lowest tendered rate and may reject any quotation without assigning any reason thereof.

Quantity:
1. 32" LED TV etc.
7 band Equalizer, HDMI.

Sd/- Director of Archives, Assam, Dispur, Guwahati-6
Janasanyog/194/17



Manipur Chief Minister Biren Singh speaking at the inaugural function of PMKVY training centre in Imphal on Thursday. — Correspondent

PM to lay foundation stone of sports varsity in Manipur

CORRESPONDENT

IMPHAL, April 13: Prime Minister Narendra Modi would be arriving in Manipur soon after the ongoing Parliament session to lay the foundation stone of the country's first National Sports University, according to officials.

He also informed that an independent body would probe whether there were irregularities in the mass recruitment carried out by the previous Congress Government in the State.

The recruitment drive was conducted by the then Congress Government prior to the recent held Assembly elections. He said the appointments made in contravention of rules and regulations would be cancelled.

On how to make Manipur free of bandh/blockade, the Chief Minister said the problems and grievances would be sorted out on the negotiating table before the demands or grievances result in imposition of bandhs or blockades.

The Chief Minister also conveyed that Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh has approved setting up of four India Reserve Battalions in the State to man the highways as National TV channel.

Responding to a query on Churachandpur issue, the Chief Minister maintained that the present State Government had held two rounds of talk with the Joint Action Committee Against Anti-Tribal Bills (JACATB) and the matter would be settled soon.

The Government cannot favour any com-

munity or religion to resolve an issue, he said and hoped that the talks would bring an understanding soon, he added.

He also informed that an independent body would probe whether there were irregularities in the mass recruitment carried out by the previous Congress Government in the State.

"We are very fortunate that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has gifted us a National Sports University, and I have been informed over the phone by Prime Minister's Office that he will visit Manipur to lay the foundation stone of the varsity after the ongoing Parliament session", said Chief Minister Nongthombam Biren Singh in an interview to a national TV channel.

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"We are very fortunate that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has gifted us a National Sports

Amazon gets RBI nod for mobile wallet

NEW DELHI, April 13: Online marketplace Amazon India has secured a licence to operate pre-paid payment instrument (PPI) or mobile wallet in the country as it tries to compete more aggressively against Snapple and Paytm.

The approval will help the US-based giant to cash in on the booming digital payments market in India.

"We are pleased to receive our PPI licence from the RBI (Reserve Bank of India). Our focus is providing customers a convenient and trusted cashless payments experience," Amazon India said in a statement yesterday.

In December, Amazon had launched its Pay Balance service to cash in on the digital payments boom.—PTI

Himanta for early migration to GST fold by traders



Dr Hasmukh Adhia, Revenue Secretary, Govt of India, addressing the 'GST Manthan' conference organised by the State Commissionerate of Taxes, at Makhshowa ITC Centre, in Guwahati on Thursday. —UB Photos

STAFF REPORTER

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

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

Sarma while addressing a conference titled 'GST Manthan' said that no one should remain under any kind of illusion about a delay in GST rollout as the new tax regime is going to be a reality from July 1.

The conference was organised by the State Commissionerate of Taxes.

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

"The GST will virtually do away with any kind of human interface in tax collection and the taxpayer will be exposed to a

seamless tax regime," the Minister stated, adding that the States like Assam have been ensured 14 per cent growth in the first five years by the GST council.

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

"There are States where 85 per cent migration process has been recorded," he revealed. Adhia also asserted that having a Permanent Account Number (PAN) is a must to get enrolled in the GST mould.

"In India, we have around 28 crore PAN card holders although the number of taxpayers is about five crores," he said, adding that both the Centre and the State Government will organise a series of outreach programmes in the next three months for GST familiarisation.

A number of senior government officials and members of the trading community, besides tax professionals, participated in the conference.

Ease of doing business

Govt to take cos' feedback for ranking of States

NEW DELHI, April 13: The Commerce Ministry today said it will take feedback from businesses on implementation of reforms carried out by States while ranking them on ease of doing business this year.

The ministry said the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) will carry out a comprehensive business-to-government feedback exercise this year.

As part of the exercise, "feedback will be taken from businesses on the quality of implementation of the reforms claimed by the States and UTs," it said.

It added that the feedback scores will be used to generate a ranking of States/UTs in terms of reform implementation.

"Such a ranking will be different from the last year's ranking, which was a ranking of de-jure reforms (or reforms based on evidence submitted by States)," the Commerce and Industry Ministry said.

The DIPP with the help of the World Bank, ranks States in terms of ease of doing business. The exercise was started in 2015. Andhra Pradesh

is the online portal would soon be enabled to allow States/UTs to upload the reforms implemented along with the evidence, it added.—PTI

Airtel moves TDSAT over Jio delay in plan withdrawal

NEW DELHI, April 13: Bharti Airtel has filed an application with telecom tribunal TDSAT objecting to the alleged delays by Reliance Jio while withdrawing its three-month complimentary offer as was directed by TRAI.

The interim application by Airtel pertains to the Summer Surprise offer of Reliance Jio under which it was giving free data and voice under Rs 303 plan.

Airtel has also objected to the continuation of scheme's benefits for those who had already subscribed to the said offer before it was withdrawn. When contacted, Bharti Airtel declined to comment.

Summer Surprise offer

The matter was heard briefly today in the Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT). The next hearing will be on April 20, along with a main petition, in which Bharti Airtel and Idea Cellular have challenged a TRAI order that allowed free 4G service offers of Jio beyond the stipulated 90 days.

On April 6, TRAI had asked Jio to withdraw its contentious three-month "complementary" offer of unlimited data usage and free calls on payment of a minimum Rs 303, saying it was not in accordance with the regulatory framework.

TRAI had said that Reliance Jio will be required to roll back the three-month complimentary offer, but clarified that customers who had already subscribed to the said scheme could avail the benefits till June-end. Soon after, Vodafone approached TRAI alleging that Jio was inviting last-minute subscriptions to its "Summer Surprise" offer despite the regulator finding it in violation of norms.—PTI

India to build fuel pipelines to B'desh

NEW DELHI, April 13: India will build pipelines to carry diesel and natural gas to Bangladesh as the world's third largest energy consumer looks to strengthen ties with the neighbour.

While a 131 km pipeline will start from Siliguri in West Bengal to Paribpur in northern Bangladesh to transport diesel, a line from Dattapur in West Bengal will take natural gas to Khulna, the third largest city of Bangladesh.

Oil Secretary KD Tripathi today said the pipelines were part of a non-binding Framework

of Understanding (FoU) which India will enter into with Bangladesh for cooperation in the hydrocarbon sector.

The Cabinet had yesterday approved signing of the agreement to establish an institutional framework mechanism for facilitating and enhancing India-

Bangladesh bilateral cooperation in the hydrocarbon sector, he told reporters here. As part of the cooperation, India is looking at setting up a liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal in Bangladesh, supplying diesel from Numaligarh Refinery Ltd and selling LPG, he said.—PTI

SHORT TENDER NOTICE

Dated: Johat, the 11-04-2017

Superintending Engineer, PWD, Johat Road Circle, Johat invites sealed Tenders with a validity period 180 days from date of receipt of tenders for the following works under the name of F.O.U. F.O.U. agreement affixing a non refundable Court Fee Stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees Eight and paise Twenty Five) only alongwith 2% Bid Security and 1% Advance Payment Security and 1% Performance Bond (A.B.C.) & Class-II for execution of the following works under "SDRF" for the year 2016-17 in PWD, Johat State Road Division, Johat.

SDRF : Restoration of different roads under SDRF for the year 2016-17 in PWD, Johat State Road Division, Johat.

(1) Met. Chodhara Road (1st & 2nd Km)
(2) Met. Chodhara Road (1st & 2nd Km)
(3) Met. Tariq Rani Phukan Road(1st & 2nd Km)
(4) Met. Deobahanukul Road (1st Km)
(5) Met. Deobahanukul Road (1st & 2nd Km)
(6) Met. Gazpura Road (1st Km)
(7) Met. CCB Road (1st & 2nd Km)
(8) Met. Chirang Road (1st & 2nd Km)
(9) Met. Ekhn. Milan Nagar Road (1st Km)
(10) Met. Club Road (1st & 2nd Km)
(11) Met. Chirang Road (1st & 2nd Km)
(12) Met. Malow Ali (1st & 2nd Km)
(13) Met. Seunagon Road (1st Km)
(14) Met. Chirang Road (1st & 2nd Km)
(15) Met. Tarajan Bamunpong Road (1st Km)
(16) Met. Tarajan Kaliakalong Road (1st Km)
(17) Met. Hailong Road
(18) Millstone Road
(19) No. 2 Bamunpong Road (1st to 3rd Km)
(20) Neesima Road (3rd to 13th Km)
(21) Met. Chirang Road
(22) JPR Road
(23) Chirangton Road (1st & 2nd Km)
(24) Met. Chirang Road (1st & 2nd Km)
(25) D.C. Court Approach Road (1st Km)
(26) JEC to Ishkhul Road
(27) Met. Chirang Road (1st & 2nd Km)
(28) Met. Na-All (1st to 17th Km)
(29) NKL Road

Amount of work (in Rs.) : Rs. 65,43,000.00

Time of completion : 120 days

Cost of tender paper (in Rs.) : Rs. 1,400.00

Bid Security : Rs. 1,400,000.00

Restoration of Divrur Ali from Ch.45,00,000.00 to 47,00,000.00, Ch.50,00,000.00 to 76,00,000.00, Ch.80,00,000.00 to 90,50,000.00 & Ch.94,00,000.00 to 95,00,000.00, TBV road >7,86,000.00 APB & HQ road 5,60,000.00, Big road (1st & 2nd Km), Bihai Read No. II (1.50Km) and Jyoti Nagar Road (Le2.00Km) under SDRF for the year 2016-17 in PWD, Johat State Road Division, Johat.

Amount of work (in Rs.) : Rs. 1,400,000.00

Time of completion : 120 days

Cost of tender paper (in Rs.) : Rs. 1,400.00

Bid Security : Rs. 1,400,000.00

The tenders will be received by the undersigned upto 2,00,000. M. of 3rd May 2017 and same will be opened on the same date at 2,30 P.M. at the office of the undersigned.

Cost of tender paper should be in the form of Bank draft/Banker's Cheque of a Salaried Officer of the concerned division in favour of Executive Engineer, PWD, Johat State Road Division.

Bid security should be submitted alongwith the tender and should be in the form of BD/PD pledged in favour of E.E. PWD, Johat State Road Division. Bid Security will not be accepted.

Tender papers may be purchased from office of the undersigned on 24th April 2017 to 20th April 2017.

The tenders have to be submitted in (One) Read Roller at their custody and a certificate from a PWD Officer not below the rank of Assistant Executive Engineer of PWD (Roads) under Johat Road Circle is mandatory for submitting tender papers. This Short Nit will be a part of the tender agreement.

Details may be seen in the office of the undersigned during office hours in any working day.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, PWD, Johat Road Circle, Johat.

Jansanyog/129/17

PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Superintending Engineer, PWD, Johat Road Circle, Johat, on behalf of the Government of Assam invites bids in the case of SWASAGAR (SUSAGAR LAC & NAZRILA) under 'Assam Road Maintenance Fund (PRMF)' for the year 2016-17. The bids should be delivered to this office or before 14.00 hours of 22/04/2017. Date may be seen in the office of the undersigned during office hours from 02/05/2017 to 08/05/2017. Tender papers will be sent on 12/05/2017 to 15/05/2017.

Sl. No. Name of Works Approx. value of work (in Rs.) Time of completion Cost of Tender Papers Bid Security % (Two) percent (in Rs.)

Sl. No.	Name of Works	Approx. value of work (in Rs.)	Time of completion	Cost of Tender Papers	Bid Security % (Two) percent (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Under Assam Road Maintenance Fund (PRMF) for the year 2016-17 in PWD, Sivasagar State Road Division, Nazira (SUSAGAR LAC)					
1	Maintenance & Repair of Lai-Kapukali Path (Ganakapatty Road, Lai-1.5km)	Rs.21,85,891.00	4(Four) Months	400.00	43,700.00
2	Maintenance & Repair of A.T. Road, Lai-1.169km	Rs.44,38,000.00	4(Four) Months	900.00	88,600.00
3	Maintenance & Repair of J. Agarwala Path, Tengi-740m	Rs.17,60,597.00	4(Four) Months	400.00	35,200.00
4	Maintenance & Repair of Dokumah Road (H.C.B., Road), Lai-265m	Rs.15,74,000.00	4(Four) Months	300.00	31,500.00
5	Package No. ARM/FPBM/C/Sr./SRD/SIBSAGAR04				
6	Maintenance & Repair of Swasagar Tari Sids Road, Lai-2,430m	Rs.30,87,000.00	4(Four) Months	600.00	61,700.00
7	Maintenance & Repair of Swasagar Tari Sids Road (Road/Work), Lai-284m	Rs.57,84,000.00	4(Four) Months	1,200.00	115,700.00
8	Maintenance & Repair of Desmangul Ali (VIP, Road), Lai-1,20m	Rs.20,88,980.00	4(Four) Months	400.00	41,800.00
9	Package No. ARM/FPBM/C/Sr./SRD/SIBSAGAR07				
10	Maintenance & Repair of East Boundary Road No. I & II (L-1.25Km)	Rs.21,70,000.00	4(Four) Months	400.00	43,400.00
Under Assam Road Maintenance Fund (PRMF) for the year 2016-17 in PWD, Sivasagar State Road Division, Nazira (NAZRILA)					
11	Repair and Maintenance of Madon Ali (From Ch.0.0m to Ch.360.00m), Lai-5.6km	Rs.45,50,000.00	4(Four) Months	900.00	91,000.00
12	Repair and Maintenance of Chhati Ali (From Ch.0.0m to Ch.242,00m), Lai-2.42km	Rs.28,50,000.00	4(Four) Months	600.00	57,000.00
13	Repair and Maintenance of Dholai Ali (From Ch.122,70Km to Ch.127,70Km), Lai-0.50km	Rs.72,00,000.00	4(Four) Months	1,400.00	144,000.00
14	Repair and Maintenance of Nonglung Ali (From Ch.0.0m to Ch.140.00m), Lai-1.4km	Rs.74,62,000.00	4(Four) Months	1,500.00	149,200.00
15	Package No. ARM/FPBM/C/Sr./SRD/NAZRILA01				
16	Repair and Maintenance of Bampom Ali (From Ch.0.0m to Ch.250.00m), Lai-2.0Km	Rs.40,64,000.00	4(Four) Months	800.00	81,300.00
17	Repair and Maintenance of Sartang Nogon Road (From Ch.0.750.00m to Ch.250.00m), Lai-1.0Km	Rs.39,99,867.00	4(Four) Months	800.00	80,000.00
18	Repair and Maintenance of U/M Extension Chatai Ali, Katon Ali (Balance Portion) (From Ch.265.00m to Ch.325.00m), Lai-0.59km	Rs.19,99,983.00	4(Four) Months	400.00	40,000.00
19	Repair and Maintenance of Abhorua Chetla Gason Road (From Ch.0.00m to Ch.230.00m), Lai-2.20Km	Rs.23,73,998.00	4(Four) Months	600.00	59,500.00
20	Repair and Maintenance of Met. Banigarh Bokat Gason Road (From Ch.0.00m to Ch.230.00m), Lai-2.20Km	Rs.45,00,000.00	4(Four) Months	900.00	90,000.00

Note: Tender papers may be purchased by depositing non refundable fees as stated in the table above in the form of Demand Draft/Banker's Cheque of a Salaried Commercial Bank drawn in favour of Empowered Officer, Assam State Road Board A/C No. 1056691479 and payable at Guwahati.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, PWD, Johat Read Circle, Johat.

Jansanyog/119/17

Sd/- DC/QM
For Commandant
30 BN BSF

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, P.W.D.
Johat Read Circle, Johat.

Jansanyog/119/17

CORRIGENDUM

Please read required qualification in respect of this Office Advertisement notice No. KRD-4/4/MGNREGA/2014-15/5347-62 dated 21.03.2017 for the post of MIS Manager under MGNREGA GA is BCA/MCA instead of only MCA. Other terms and conditions are remain same.

Sd/- Project Director
District Rural Development Agency
Jorhat

Stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees Eight and Twenty Five Paisa) only from Registered Travel Agencies for providing vehicle on hire basis annually. The detailed Tender document may be obtained from official website www.asrlms.assam.gov.in. The Tender must be submitted by hand on or before 2:00 PM dated 20th April 2017 and will be opened at 3:00 PM in the same day to the following address:- State Mission Director, Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission Society, Sivathan Gogoi Path, Nabajotinagar, Panbari, Guwahati-37. Sd/- State Mission Director ASRLMS

No: ASRLMS/395/2015-16/130 Dated: 13.04.2017
Notice Inviting Tenders Providing Vehicle Hire Facility ASRLMS invites sealed tenders after non-refundable Court Fee Stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees Eight and Twenty Five Paisa) only from Registered Travel Agencies for providing vehicle on hire basis annually. The detailed Tender document may be obtained from official website www.asrlms.assam.gov.in. The Tender must be submitted by hand on or before 2:00 PM dated 20th April 2017 and will be opened at 3:00 PM in the same day to the following address:- State Mission Director, Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission Society, Sivathan Gogoi Path, Nabajotinagar, Panbari, Guwahati-37. Sd/- State Mission Director ASRLMS

No: DTP/AC/116/08/
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (R.F.P.)

This undersigned Administraitve Request for Proposals (RFP) in two bid system (Technical and Financial bids in two separate envelopes) from experienced and reputed contractors / firms for preparation of different models for Master Plan & Master Plan Area of Assam, 10 districts of Dibrugarh, Tinsukia and Dhemaji districts of Assam will be received till 2 p.m. of 02/05/2017. Earnest money of 2% of contract value only in the form of Fixed Deposit/Bank Draft pledged in favour of the Deputy Director, Town and Country Planning, Assam which will be deposited along with technical bid. Technical bid will have to be deposited along with technical bid. Technical bid will be opened on 02/05/2017 at 2.30 p.m. in presence of intending bidders or their authorized representatives. If any date specified in the Schedule of RFP is not convenient to the contractor, he can suggest another date which will be considered for the activity / event and the time will remain same.

The major scope of the works for the consultants / firms will be to convert the Master Plan maps and Cadastral maps (Revenue maps along with other details to web ready GIS format). Detailed tender documents may be obtained from the Office of the Deputy Director, Town and Country Planning, Dibrugarh, Assam during office hours from 18.04.2017 on payment of Rs. 1000.00 (Rupees One Thousand Only) in the form of Demand Draft in favour of Deputy Director, Town and Country Planning, Dibrugarh, Assam which is non-refundable.

Tender documents will be available on the website on the date of issue work order. All other details can be seen in the RFP document. Sd/- Deputy Director Town and Country Planning, Dibrugarh, Assam



Jute ropes and makhayoti being sold on the eve of Guru Bihu in Guwahati on Thursday. - AT photo

PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Executive Engineer PWD, Mangaldoi Rural Road Division on behalf of Governor of Assam invites bid for Maintenance & Repairing of roads for the works under Assam Road Maintenance Fund (PRMF) for the Financial year 2016-17 for 3(Three) years. The detailed Tender document may be obtained from the office of the undersigned from 13/04/2017 during office hours.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD (Roads), Mangaldoi Rural / State Roads Division. Janasanyog/149/17

Rains predicted during Rongali Bihu

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 13: Rain or thunderstorms are very likely to occur at a few places of the State during the Rongali Bihu. Sources in the Borjhar-based Regional Meteorology Centre (RMC) told this newspaper this evening that rain or thunderstorms are very likely to occur at isolated places over the NE region on April 14.

On April 15, a few places of Assam and Meghalaya Meteorological Subdivision are likely to experience rainfall activities. On that day, Dibrugarh, Tinsukia and Lakhimpur districts are likely to receive rainfall at many places.

On April 16 and 17, rain/thunderstorms activities are very likely to occur at a few places over Assam and Meghalaya Meteorological Subdivision, said the RMC sources.

Between tonight and 8-30 am tomorrow, thunder squalls, with wind speed exceeding 50 km per hour, are very likely to lash isolated places over West Assam. Thunder squalls with similar wind speeds are very likely to lash isolated places over the Assam-Meghalaya and Nagaland-Manipur-Mizoram-Tripura Meteorological Subdivisions on April 14 and 15, the sources said.

Missing girl rescued, woman arrested

CORRESPONDENT

JALUKBARI, April 13: A 17-year-old girl from Garigong Medhipara who had gone missing on April 7 while on her way to appear in her HS examination at Jalukbari Higher Secondary School, was rescued by Jalukbari Police Outpost from Howrah last night.

Acting on a tip-off, Jitendra Singh i/c Officer In-charge of Jalukbari Police Outpost, managed to rescue the teenager from the clutches of her captor.

The alleged captor identified as Halima Khanum (25) of Boko Tuliadi, was apprehended by the police and a case has been registered against her, police sources said.

The rescued girl revealed that Halema, who was in touch with her, lured her away on the pretext of arranging a job for her, but handed her over to a man. The girl was medically examined and handed over to her parents.

Garments donated

GUWAHATI, April 13: Prayash, a voluntary organisation devoted to social work formed by a few retired personnel with its office at Bhamuk here, ushered in the Rongali Bihu festivities by donating new garments to the resident children of Assam Sisulu Kalyan Sadan, Sundarban, Jorhat, today.

On behalf of Prayash, Sarashree Bijoy Roy, president, DR Nag, secretary, Rishikesh Deka, assistant secretary and a few other members distributed the garments to the children in the presence of Dipali Majumdar, superintendent, and Kabita Deka, house mother of Assam Sisulu Kalyan Sadan.

The details particulars may be seen in the office of the undersigned on all working days from 10.04.2017 to 13.04.2017 during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer PWD
Goalpara (Rural Roads) Division

No: SMC/11/2017/2

PRESS NOTICE

The Addl. Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Buildings), Assam, on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites bids for the following work from APWD (registered contractors under Class I & II) having experience in similar nature of work.

Details of the bid may be seen at a procurement portal website i.e. www.asamtenders.gov.in and also in the office of the undersigned during office hours from 18.04.2017 to 28.04.2017.

The bidders must be enrolled in www.asamtenders.gov.in.

Sl. State/ No.	Name of Work	Approv. Value of Work (Rs. in lakh)	Time of completion	Bid Security	Bid Security to be drawn in favour of	Tender Cost (Rs.)
1 SMC- Palasbari	Construction of Ground Floor (part) and First Floor (Part Assam Technical Standard) provided (G+AT) School building for Palasbari Girls High School at Palasbari	Rs. 107.512 Lakh	6 (six) month	Rs. 21,50,000.00 (for General) or Rs. 41,50,000.00 (for reserved Category)	E.E. PWD, Guwahati	Rs. 3,500/-

Sd/- Addl. Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Bldg.), Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3
Janasanyog/165/17

No: CST/ED/01/2017/9

PRESS NOTICE

The Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Buildings), Assam, on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites bids for the following work from APWD (registered contractors under Class I & II) having experience in similar nature of work.

Details of the bid may be seen at a procurement portal website i.e. www.asamtenders.gov.in and also in the office of the undersigned during office hours from 18.04.2017 to 28.04.2017.

The bidders must be enrolled in www.asamtenders.gov.in.

Sl. State/ No.	Name of Work	Approv. Value of Work (Rs. in lakh)	Time of completion	Bid Security	Bid Security to be drawn in favour of	Tender Cost (Rs.)
1 Bldg.	Construction of RCC Building (Ground + 2 Storied provision) at Rangia Sub-Treasury, Rangia under Kamrup (R) District	135,209.1	12 (twelve) months	Rs. 27,241.00 (for General) or Rs. 16,207.00 (for reserved Category)	E.E. PWD, Guwahati	Rs. 4,500/-

Sd/- Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Building), Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3
Janasanyog/165/17

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE (RURALROADS) DIVISION GOALPARA SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER (SNIT)

The Executive Engineer, PWD (Rural Roads) Division, Goalpara invites Tender in sealed envelope with a validity period of 90 (Ninety) days affixing a non-refundable court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees Eight and Twenty Five Paisa) only subsequently to be drawn in printed F-2 form from APWD registered contractors under APWD class-I, (A,B,C), class-II and class III category contractor under PWD Rural Roads Division, Goalpara for the year 2016-17 and will be received in the office of the undersigned up to 2.30 P.M. on 19.04.2017 and will be opened on the same day and place at 3.00 P.M.

Govt. Name or Work No.

Govt. Name or Work No.	Estimated Value of Work (Rs. in lakh)	Time for Completion	Estimated Value(Rs. in L.)	Time for Completion
1 Imps. of Road from Goalpara L.P. School to Guagulgi Mandir via Sri Pradyush Hajong house, Goalpara under Joyramukhi Constituency of RPHAC for 2016-17.	Rs.69305.00	45 days		

2 Constr. Of Box Culvert at Belpara village Road near Gojen Das House under Rononjhi Constituency under RPHAC for 2016-17

3 Constr. Of 600mna (NP-3) HPC on approach Road to RPHAC Secretariat Godown, Daudnadi under RPHAC for 2016-17

The details particulars may be seen in the office of the undersigned on all working days from 10.04.2017 to 13.04.2017 during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer PWD
Goalpara (Rural Roads) Division

No: EE/G/13984/P/H/II/151-36-41

E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE/INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)

The office of the Executive Engineer, Industries & Commerce Dept., Assam, Guwahati-21 invites fresh bid from registered contractors (valid up to 31.03.2017) under Class-(A, B, C) & Class-II of Industries & Commerce Department, Assam for the following works on SINGLE BID SYSTEM:

Gr. No.	Name of Work	Bid Amount (in Rs.)	Bid Security (in Rs.)	Cost of Bid Document (in Rs.)	Time of Completion
			General Category	Reserved Category	
1	Construction of Main Road with Open drain between the campus of DAECC office, Dibrugarh	3	4	5	6
1	Construction of Main Road with Open drain between the campus of DAECC office, Dibrugarh	37,03,387/-	74,100/-	37,100/-	06 (six) months

Experience Criteria:
Bidders must have satisfactorily completed :-

(i) Three similar completed works costing not less than the amount equivalent to 40% of the estimated cost or

(ii) Two similar completed works costing not less than the amount equivalent to 50% of the estimated cost or

(iii) One similar completed work costing not less than the amount equivalent to 60% of the estimated cost in the month previous to the month in which the tenders are invited, executed during last seven years (i.e 01.04.2010 to 31.03.2017).

The contractor/bidder must be registered with the Electronic Tendering System (ETS) of the Govt. of Assam (<http://assamtenders.gov.in>). Bidders have to necessarily upload the bidding documents through the ETS using their own ID (Digital Signature Certificate). Bidders are requested to subscribe to copy of the documents of Technical Bid management module of Bid Submission System (BSS) of the concerned department. The bidder shall be liable to pay the service charges levied by the concerned department.

Online bid preparation and last date and time of manual submission/hand copy of Bid Document from 10.30 hours of 17.04.2017 up to 14.00 hours of 20.04.2017. Date & time of opening of bid is 18.04.2017 at 09.00 hours.

The bid tender will be available through the link <http://www.asamtenders.gov.in> from 10.30 hours of 17.04.2017 up to 14.00 hours of 20.04.2017.

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
INDUSTRIES & COMMERCE DEPT.
ASSAM GUWAHATI-21

No: KRRDT-I/ARMF/Ph-II/2016-17/15
Date: 11.04.2017

RE-PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Executive Engineer PWD, Karimganj
Rural Road Division on behalf of Governor of Assam invites tenders for the work under Assam Road Maintenance Fund for the Financial year 2016-17 for 3 (Three) years duration of 6 (six) Nos. packages of Revenue Circle in respect of Block/District/Area under RPHAC for the financial year 2016-17. Details may be obtained from the office of the undersigned from 17.04.2017 to 19.04.2017 during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD
Karimganj Rural Roads Division
Janasanyog/153/17

SHORT NIT

On behalf of Jorhat Development Authority, its Administrator invites tenders from qualified agencies/persons for "the collection of Maintenance and Security Charges" of Bus Terminals of Jorhat Development Authority for various purposes as mentioned below:

- Cost of Tender Document: Rs. 500/-
- Date of issue of tender documents from 19.04.2017 to 22.04.2017 during working hours between 11.00 AM to 3.00 PM at JDA Office.
- Last date of receipt of tender on or before 2.30 PM on 08.05.2017.
- Tender opening at 3.00 PM on 08.05.2017.

The Administrator, JDA reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning reason thereof.

Sd/- Administrator
Jorhat Development Authority, Jorhat

EXTENSION NOTICE

This is for general information to all concerned that due to some unavoidable circumstances, the tender documents for the work under Assam Road Maintenance Fund for the Financial year 2016-17 for 3 (Three) years duration of 6 (six) Nos. packages of Revenue Circle in respect of Block/District/Area under RPHAC for the financial year 2016-17 has been extended upto 14.00 hrs of 18.04.2017.

The bidders who have already submitted tender should not apply again for their earlier tender. However, they can re-tender for consideration, all other terms and conditions will remain the same.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, P.W.D.
Jorhat Building Circle, Jorhat
Janasanyog/141/17

No: PRIC/236/2016/14
NOTICE INVITING RE-E-TENDER

In partial modification of earlier Tender No. PRIC/236/2016/7 dated 04-02-2017, the Inspector General of Prisons, Assam invite Re-e-Tenders in two Bid System (Technical Bid / Financial Bid) affording Court Fee Stamp of Rs. 500/- (Rupees Five Hundred/-) each. Details for the same are as follows:-

The tender documents/Bid indicating the details of specification of the dietary articles, term and condition etc. can be obtained from the website www.asamtenders.gov.in on 08.04.2017 upto 1.00 PM.

Last Date & Time for online submission Tenders 03.05.2017 upto 1.00 PM

Date & Time of opening of Hard Copy of Technical Bid 03.05.2017 upto 1.00 PM

Sd/- Inspector General of Prisons, Assam
Khangsara, Guwahati,

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Office of the Addl. Director General of Police (CID), Ulubari, Guwahati, 781007, Assam has invited e-tender for Selection of System Integrator for providing four (4) years comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for Data Centre and Client Infrastructure for CCTNS project of Assam Police. The Bidder is also required to supply install hardware and software along with site preparation for LAN, Electrical including chemical earthing at 36 Police Stations with 4 years AMC support. The details of the RFP can be downloaded from the e-Tendering portal of Govt. of Assam website (www.asamtenders.gov.in), the last date of Bid Submission is 10th May 2017 at 1400 Hrs. The pre-bid query may be submitted to the undersigned by 23rd April 2017.

Sd/- Additional Director General of Police (CID)
& State Nodal Officer, CCTNS Project
Guwahati, Assam

Janasanyog/192/17

No: KRRDT-I/ARMF-PR-II/2016-17/10
RE - PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Executive Engineer PWD, Karimganj Rural Road Division on behalf of Governor of Assam invites re - bid for "Repair & Maintenance of Road from Agartala to Anjupur & Karimganj" under RPHAC for the financial year 2016-17 for 3 (Three) years duration of 6 (six) Nos. packages of Revenue Circle in respect of Block/District/Area under RPHAC for the financial year 2016-17.

The tender documents/Bid indicating the details of specification of the dietary articles, term and condition etc. can be obtained from the website www.asamtenders.gov.in on 17.04.2017 upto 1.00 PM.

Last Date & Time for online submission Tenders 03.05.2017 upto 1.00 PM

Date & Time of opening of Hard Copy of Technical Bid 03.05.2017 upto 1.00 PM

Sd/- Inspector General of Prisons, Assam
Khangsara, Guwahati,

Janasanyog/139/17

in original along with one set of attested photocopies of the same. Any incorrect information or document submitted which is not genuine may disqualify a candidate at any stage and may also render him liable to criminal prosecution. Original documents of a candidate may be produced at any later stage of recruitment.

(a) The tender fees for the following categories:- Rs. 150/- for SO-ST/OCB/MBC candidates, and Nil for BPL candidates - BPL Card holders only, Ration Cards not acceptable). The fee is to be paid online during the form submission.

(b) Incomplete/defective/invalide application will be summarily rejected.

(c) Testimonials/documents to be submitted when appearing in Tests:- The candidates shall bring a set of attested photocopies along with the originals of the following documents/materials for verification by the Selection Committee on the date of their Test.

a) Certificate of age

b) Certificate of education

c) Certificate of equivalent examination

d) Certificate of additional qualifications such as Diploma from ITI or other recognised/institutes etc (if any).

e) Certificate of sports etc. (if any).

f) Certificate of caste from the competent authority in respect of the candidates belonging to ST (P) ST (SC/BC & MBC).

g) 2 (two) copies of passport size recent photographs.

h) Permanent reference number with date of online payment made.

i) BPL Card (only for BPL candidates seeking application fee exemption, Ration Card not acceptable).

SELECTION PROCEDURES: Candidates whose applications are found correct in all respect will have to undergo the Physical Standard Test (PST) and Physical Efficiency Tests (PET). If any candidate is found to be physically unfit for the post he/she will be declared unfit. The marks for PET will be awarded for the PET in the manner shown below:

Male Candidates Female Candidates Maximum Marks Qualifying Marks

I. 1600 meters race 1200 meters race 15 5

II. 100 meters sprint 80 meters sprint 15 8

III. Long jump 75 cm 15 8

IV. High Jump 75 cm 15 8

Final results will be based on the marks obtained as follows:

a) Marks awarded in PET

b) Multiple choice objective type Written test

c) Extra-curriculum activities and special skills

Total 100 marks

Note: Detailed scheme for award of marks for PET, Written test and for extra-curricular and special skills can be seen detailed guideline on the website www.asamtenders.gov.in.

Special List:- The selected lists will be prepared for each category (SC/ST/P/H/SC/BC/MBC) for both men and women based on the total marks obtained by the candidates. The select lists will be published in the leading News Papers and through other available media. No waiting list will be prepared.

General Instructions:-

a) For PET Preference shall be given to the candidate from whom less time of announcement of the post.

b) The list of selected candidates will be displayed at the concerned District HQ town.

c) The selected candidate can be called for written test.

d) The selected candidate will be called for interview.

e) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

f) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

g) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

h) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

i) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

j) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

k) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

l) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

m) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

n) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

o) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

p) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

q) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

r) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

s) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

t) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

u) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

v) The selected candidate will be called for written test.

BJP wins bypolls in Delhi, HP, MP; Cong bags Karnataka seats

NEW DELHI, April 13: The BJP today won the assembly bypolls in Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Assam while it was leading in Rajasthan as results poured in for the nine seats where elections were held on Sunday.

There was some solace for

the Congress in Karnataka where it won both the seats. By-elections were held in nine Assembly constituencies in seven states on Sunday, besides the Srinagar parliament seat. Two seats each are in Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh and one each in West

Bengal, Assam, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi.

The thumping victory in the national capital was sweet music for the BJP ahead of the municipal polls.

The BJP registered a victory in the Rajouri Garden Assembly bypoll, handing a humiliating defeat to the ruling Aam Aadmi Party, which finished a distant third and even lost its deposit.

BJP-SAD joint candidate Manjinder Singh Sirsa bagged 40,602 seats, over 50 per cent of the total votes polled, in a boost for the saffron party.

Congress' Meenakshi Chanda finished second with 10,595 votes while AAP's Harjeet Singh managed to get only 10,243 votes, less than one-sixth of the total votes polled.

In Madhya Pradesh, BJP retained the Bandhavgarh Assembly seat after defeating rival Congress by margin of over 25,000 votes while it was a close fight between Congress and BJP in Ater seat.

BJP nominee Shrinivaran Singh defeated Congress' candidate Savitri Singh from the seat in Umaria district by 24,453 votes against 16,144 votes polled by Devi while Pawan Chandel, a BJP rebel who contested as an independent, polled 4,630 votes.

He said, the bypoll was necessitated as BJP MLA Gyan Singh got elected to the Lok Sabha in November last year from Shahdol in a bye election.

In Himachal Pradesh, BJP candidate Dr Anil Dhiman won the Bhoranji (SC) Assembly seat in Himachal Pradesh by 8,290 votes. The BJP candidate defeated his nearest Congress rival, Promila Devi by 8,290 votes. Dhiman polled 24,453 votes against 16,144 votes polled by Devi while Pawan Chandel, a BJP rebel who contested as an independent, polled 4,630 votes.

The seat fell vacant following the death of BJP stalwart and former minister Ishwar Dass Dhiman, who won the seat six times in a row since 1990 and now his son Dr Anil Dhiman has retained the seat.

With this, the strength of the BJP has increased to 28 in the 68-member House.

The ruling Congress re-tained its hold over Karnataka, winning Nanjangud and Gundlupet Assembly seats.

Congress' Kalale N Keshavamurthy defeated his nearest rival V Srinivas Prasad (BJP) by over 21,000 votes in Nan-

jangud. In Gundlupet, Geetha Mahadevaprasad (Cong) trounced BJP's C S Nirajan Kumar by over 10,000 votes, an election official said. Both the seats were held by Congress.

Srinivas Prasad had switched over to BJP while Keshavamurthy had contested the 2013 Assembly polls on a JD(S) ticket. In Rajasthan, BJP candidate Shobha Rani was leading by 22,602 votes after ten rounds of counting in the Dholpur Assemby bypoll. — PTI

শুভেচ্ছা বাণী



অসম উচ্চতর মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা সংসদ
বাস্তুমোদাদ, ওয়ারাটো-১

অসম উচ্চতর মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা সংসদ
বাস্তুমোদাদ, ওয়ারাটো-১

অসম উচ্চতর মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা সংসদ
বাস্তুমোদাদ, ওয়ারাটো-১



NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION ASSAM

No/NHM/PRO/RC-DRUG/NEW-EDL/3040/2016-17/750 Dmt:11/04/17
Extn: 11/04/17

FOR EXTENSION OF BID SUBMISSION START AND END DATE e-TENDER FOR ENTERING INTO RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF DRUGS

This is in reference to the e-Tender No.: NHM/PRO/RC-DRUG/NEW-EDL/3040/2016-17/22402 dated 20.03.2017 for entering into rate contract for supply of drugs in various categories/Medical Categories of Assam. The start and end date of bid submission is as follows:

Sl. No.	Scheduled Start Date	Start Date	End Date	End Time
1	Bid Submission : 05.05.2017	3.00 PM	11.05.2017	2.00 PM
2	Bid opening : 11.05.2017	3.00 PM		

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE TENDER REFERRED TO ABOVE SHALL REMAIN UNCHANGED UNTIL THE CORRIGENDUM IS ISSUED. BIDDER SHOULD TAKE NOTE OF THE CORRIGENDUM PRIOR TO SUBMISSION OF BIDS.

Sd/-
Mission Director NHM, Assam

PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Superintendent Engineer, P.W.D., Johat Road Circle, Johat, Assam on behalf of the Government of Assam invites bids in the district of Assam for the following works under the name of State Roads Maintenance Fund (PRMF) for the year 2016-17. The bids should be submitted on or before 14.00 hours of 20/04/2017. Details may be obtained from the office of the undermentioned during office hours from 11/05/2017 to 18/05/2017. Tender papers will be sold on 22/05/2017 to 23/05/2017.

Sl. No.	Name of Works	Approx. value of work (in Rs.)	Time of completion	Cost of Tender Papers (in Rs.)	Bid Security % (Two percent in Rs.)
1	Repairing and Maintenance of Michael Road From Ch-400+00m to Ch-400+50m, L-27500m, Package No. ARHM/PRMC/CRDISONAR01	Rs.98,75,481.00	4(Four) Months	2,000.00	1,97,500.00
2	Repairing and Maintenance of Morai Habi Road (From Ch. 00 m to Ch.2765.00m), L=765Km Package No. ARHM/PRMC/CRDISONAR02	Rs.30,80,660.00	4(Four) Months	800.00	79,600.00
3	Repairs of SP1 Bridge No.1/2 (45-50.00m) on Trol All Package No. ARHM/PRMC/CRDISONAR03	Rs.24,59,000.00	4(Four) Months	500.00	49,200.00
4	Repairs of SP1 Bridge No.1/2 (45-50.00m) on Trol All Package No. ARHM/PRMC/CRDISONAR04	Rs.19,97,875.00	4(Four) Months	400.00	40,000.00
5	Replacement of H.P. Culvert No.1/2 by RCC Box Cell Package No. ARHM/PRMC/CRDISONAR05	Rs.13,89,529.00	4(Four) Months	300.00	27,800.00
6	Replacement of H.P. Culvert No.2/1 by RCC Box Cell Package No. ARHM/PRMC/CRDISONAR06	Rs.14,10,000.00	4(Four) Months	300.00	28,200.00

Note: Tender papers may be purchased by depositing non-refundable fees as stated in the table above in the form of Demand Draft/Banker's Cheque of a Schedule Commercial Bank drawn in favour of Empowered Officer, Assam State Board/Board A/C No. 10569917/9/Assam dated 10/04/2017.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, P.W.D., Johat Road Circle, Johat

অসম লোকসেবা আৰোগ্য ASSAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

No. 356PSC/DR/48/2014-15

NOTIFICATION

It is for information of all concerned that the Assam Public Service Commission will hold interview/ Viva-voce for the post of Lecturer, DIET in the Directorate of SCERT under Elementary Education Deptt. as per programme given below at its office at Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-22.

Date	Name Of The Post	Roll No.	Time of document verification	Time of Interview
20/04/17	Lecturer, Assamese	Roll No. 000001 to 000020	9.00 AM	10:30 AM
	Lecturer, Foundation of Education	Roll No. 000001 & 000020		
21/04/17	Lecturer, Assamese	Roll No. 000021 to 000040	9.00 AM	10:30 AM
	Lecturer, Foundation of Education	Roll No. 000021 & 000040		
24/04/17	Lecturer, Assamese	Roll No. 000041 to 000060	9.00 AM	10:30 AM
	Lecturer, English	Roll No. 000041 to 000060		
25/04/17	Lecturer, Foundation of Education	Roll No. 000061 to 000080	9.00 AM	10:30 AM
	Lecturer, English	Roll No. 000061 & 000080		
26/04/17	Lecturer, Foundation of Education	Roll No. 000081 to 000098	9.00 AM	10:30 AM
	Lecturer, English	Roll No. 000081 & 000098		
28/04/17	Lecturer, Foundation of Education	Roll No. 000099 to 001010	9.00 AM	10:30 AM
	Lecturer, English	Roll No. 000099 to 001010		
29/04/17	Lecturer, English	Roll No. 001018 to 001033	9.00 AM	10:30 AM
	Lecturer, Foundation of Education	Roll No. 001018 to 001033		
02/05/17	Lecturer, English	Roll No. 001021 to 001040	9.00 AM	10:30 AM
	Lecturer, Foundation of Education	Roll No. 001021 & 001040		
03/05/17	Lecturer, Physical Education	Roll No. 000023 to 000043	9.00 AM	10:30 AM
	Lecturer, Art Education	Roll No. 000023 to 000043		
04/05/17	Lecturer, Art Education	Roll No. 000022 to 000042	9.00 AM	10:30 AM
	Lecturer, Mathematics	Roll No. 000022 to 000042		
05/05/17	Lecturer, Art Education	Roll No. 000043 to 000063	9.00 AM	10:30 AM
	Lecturer, Mathematics	Roll No. 000044 to 000064		
06/05/17	Lecturer, Physical Education	Roll No. 000064 to 000084	9.00 AM	10:30 AM
	Lecturer, Art Education	Roll No. 000064 to 000084		
08/05/17	Lecturer, Art Education	Roll No. 000085 to 000105	9.00 AM	10:30 AM
	Lecturer, Bengali	Roll No. 000085 to 000105		

No. intimation letter, to the eligible candidates shall be sent separately by post. The intimation letter shall be uploaded in APSCS's website (www.apscs.nic.in) on 13.04.2017. The candidates shall have to download their own intimation letter from the aforesaid website. Any query in this regard shall be entertained over telephone No. 0361-2365426 during office hours w.e.f 17.04.2017.

Sd/- Secretary,

Assam Public Service Commission
Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-22

Janasanayog/412/17

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Sd/- Secretary,

Assam Public Service Commission
Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwah

সমৃহ অসমবাসীলৈ ৰঙালী বিহুৰ ওলগ যাচিছো



এয়া কলো, তগৰ, নাহৰ ফুল ফুলাব বৰত। প্ৰকৃতিৰ স্বকীয়ৰ কপোৰে বেসন্ত কাল আহিল।
অসমৰ পাহাৰ-ভৈৰাম, বৰকাৰ-দমপত্ৰৰ প্ৰতিজন অসমবাসীকে অসমৰ বাগতি সাহেন বৰঙলী

অসমৰ পাখাৰ-ভেড়ান, বৰাক-ক্ৰান্তি পুঁজিৰ প্ৰাতঃজল অসমবাসীকে অসমৰ বাপাত সাহোন বড়ান
বিহুৰ শুভেছা জনাইছো।

ଫାଣୁଗ ପହଞ୍ଚାରୀ ବତାହଜାକେ କମୋରୀ ତୁଳା ଉତ୍କରିଛି ନି ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଶୂନ୍ୟ ହୈଯାର ବୀଜ ବିସ୍ତାରିତ କରାଦେଇଁ ପହୋଜାରାକେ ଅନ୍ୟାନ୍ୟ ବୃକ୍ଷ ଉତ୍କରିତ ବୀଜରୋ ବିସ୍ତାର କରେ । ବସନ୍ତର ଆଗମଳର ଲାଗେ ଲାଗେ ବୀଜ ଅର୍କୁବିତ ହୁଏ, ଗଛେ ନ ପାତ ମେଲେ ।

ଆମରା ବାଜାଖନ୍ଦର ସକଳୋ ଜନଗୋଟିଏ କଷତି ପ୍ରକରିତ ଲଙ୍ଘନ ଭଡ଼ିତ । ପ୍ରଦୟମଶୂନ୍ୟ ଅସମ ଗଚ୍ଛବିରେ ଆମରା ଅସମଖନ ସେଉଜୀଯା ବନିବେ ଭର୍ବନ୍ଧ ହୁଏ ଲାଗିବାର- ସଥ କୁଳି-କାତେକୀରେ ସୁଲିଲିତ କହେ ମୁଖ୍ୟରିତ ହେ । ଆମରା ସର୍କ୍ଷତି ପ୍ରାଗରତ୍ନ ହେ ଥାବିବ ।

ବସ୍ତୁ କାଳରେ ଗଢ଼ିଲୁ ବୋପାରୁ ସାହା ଆହି ପରେ । ଅସମର ଥଲାରୁ ଫଳୁମୁ, ଥଲୁରୀ ଝେଧୀ ଶୁଣିଲୁ ଉତ୍ତିଶ୍ଚ ହିତାଳୀ ଦେଖିଗଲାର ଏହା ଉତ୍ତମଶୂନ୍ୟ ସମାଜ । ଅସମର ସମ୍ମାନ ବାଇଜକ ଏହିବେଳେ ବର୍ଷତ କାଳରେ ମଞ୍ଚରୁ ଉତ୍ତିଶ୍ଚ ହିତାଳୀ ଦେଖିଗଲାରେ ଥଲୁ ଗଢ଼ାହିନର ପୁଣି ପ୍ରଦୟମଶୂନ୍ୟ ଥାନାରେ ବୋପା କବି ଅସମଖନ ସେଉଜୀଯା ବନିବାର ଆହା ଜମାହାତା ।

সর্বানন্দ সোগোবাল
মুখ্যমন্ত্রী, অসম



କଟେଖୋଫୁଲ ଆୟାର ବାଜିବନର କେବଳ ବାତ୍ୟକ ଫୁଲେହ ନହଯି ହି
ଅସମୀଆ ସଂକ୍ଷିତିର ଏକ ଅବିଚ୍ଛେଦ୍ୟ ଅଂଗ । ହୟାଙ୍କ ସଂବର୍ଷଣ କବାଟୋ
ଆୟାର ପ୍ରତିଜିଲବେ ଦୟାଇସ୍ ।

আমাৰ প্ৰতিজনৰে দায়িত্ব।



বিদ্যুৎ বন্ধ জীৱ-জৰুৰ সমাজৰ বৰ্তন আসি অসমৰ বৰ্ষায়ে সহায়তাৰ কৰি আয়োজন কৰি। অধিক বৃক্ষৰোপণে আমাৰ আ পুৰুষীয়া ব্যাপ্তিকী সমূহৰ বাসস্থানে সুনিৰ্বিলক্ষণভাৱে মানুষ-বন্যাপ্তিৰ সংহাত মিশ্ৰিত কৰিব। মানুষ-বন্যাপ্তিৰ সংহাত মিশ্ৰিত বাসস্থানৰ বাবে বৃক্ষৰোপণ এক উপযুক্তি বৰাঞ্ছ। বৃক্ষৰোপণৰ বাবে গৃহপুৰী বলি ভিত্তিগত পুলি বাণিজ্যীয়কৰণ সংহেত কৰিব। আসৰে বিভিন্ন স্থানত থকি পুলি বাণিজ্য সমূহৰ তাৰিখ কৰিব।

বিভিন্ন স্থানত থকা বন বিভাগৰ পুলি বাগানসময়

বন বিভাগ, অসম



India expansionist, occupied Tawang: Chinese media



BEIJING, April 13: Accusing India of "expansionism", the Chinese state media claimed today that New Delhi "occupied" Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh and warned Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama against selling China's sovereignty.

An article titled "Tawang's history affirms China's sovereignty" in the *Global Times* alleged that "India has pursued expansionism" since gaining independence in 1947.

"Influenced by the British, India sent troops to the north, beyond the traditional customary border between China and India," said the article written by Jia Liang of the Centre for Tibetan Studies of Sichuan University.

The new piece is part of a number of critical articles Chinese state media organisations have published since the Dalai Lama began his visit to Arunachal Pradesh on April 4.

China considers parts of Arunachal Pradesh as "Southern Tibet" and is opposed to visits by the 81-year-old Nobel laureate or foreign diplomats to the region. It has lodged a diplomatic protest with India over the Dalai Lama's visit, though

it was not the first time he visited the state.

Tawang, in northern Arunachal Pradesh, is believed to be the birthplace of the sixth Dalai Lama in 1683 and is at the centre of the Tibetan Buddhism, which makes China wary of the influence of the 14th Dalai Lama, whom it considers a "dangerous separatist".

The article said prior to his exile in India in 1959, the Dalai Lama refused to recognise India's sovereignty over Tawang but changed his stand later.

"In February 1951, the Indian army occupied Tawang and expelled all the administrative staff dispatched by the local Tibetan government. In 1954, the Indian government set up the North East Frontier Agency

there and modified the official office.

And by 1960, the Indian army completely seized the Tibetan region south of the McMahon Line," it said.

"The Chinese People's Liberation Army once retook the town in the 1962 border war, but the Indian army recaptured the area the next year," it said, without elaborating why the Chinese military withdrew from the region after announcing a unilateral ceasefire. - PTI

1st US black woman on state's highest court found dead

NEW YORK, April 13: The first black woman appointed to the state's highest court has been found dead on the bank of the Hudson river.

Sheila Abdus-Salaam's body was discovered along the riverside near Harlem yesterday, a day after she was reported missing, police said.

Police said her body showed no obvious signs of trauma, and they declined to speculate on the cause of her death. The medical examiner planned to study her body to determine what killed her.

Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who appointed Abdus-Salaam to the state's Court of Appeals in 2013, called her a "trailblazing jurist."

"As the first African-American woman to be appointed to the state's Court of Appeals, she was a pioneer," Cuomo said. "Through her writings, her wisdom and her unshakable moral compass, she was a force whose legacy will be felt for years to come." Chief Judge Janet DiFiore said her colleague will be "missed deeply." - AP

22 dead in blaze at Senegal religious meet

DAKAR, April 13: A fire ripped through makeshift shelters at a Muslim religious retreat in Senegal, killing at least 22 people and triggering a stampede, fire-fighters said today.

The blaze broke out yesterday as worshippers gathered in the town of Medina Goumss in the southeastern region of Tambacounda, a senior official with the fire-fighting service told AFP.

The cause was as yet unknown, the official said.

Images of billowing clouds of smoke, the charred corpses of animals and devastation at the site circulated online, testifying to the fire's impact.

While some victims were badly burnt, others were hurt in the panicked stampede triggered by the blaze, the firefighter added.

Around 20 of the injured are in a serious state and are being treated at the regional hospital in Tambacounda city, around 80 kilometres away.

The fire ripped through straw shelters constructed for the multi-day event, according to Senegal's local press, allowing it spread rapidly through an open-air gathering packed with people.

Senegalese Muslims gather in their hundreds, even thousands, to worship at the site every year, and pilgrims were weighed down with food and luggage, the local press reported. - AFP

Fluke coalition strike kills 18 partner forces

WASHINGTON, April 13: A US-led coalition air strike in support of local forces fighting the ISIS group in northern Syria accidentally killed 18 of the friendly fighters, the coalition said today.

"The strike was requested by the partnered forces, who had identified the target location as an ISIS fighting position," a coalition statement read. "The target location was actually a forward Syrian Democratic Forces fighting position."

The strike occurred south of Tabqa on April 11. - AFP

আকো আহিল ব'হাগ
পৰিৱৰ্তনৰ বতৰা লৈ,
গছে বনে, মেহে-মনে
আকো আহিল ব'হাগ
সুষ্ঠিৰ কঠিয়া লৈ
কৃতিৰ পথাৰত শিচি দিলৈ ব'হ
পাতিলে বঙ্গৰ মেলা- ব'জলী
ভেদাভেদৰ প্ৰাচীৰ ভাণ্ডি
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দুয়োপাৰ ব'জনজনাই-
"নানা জাতি- উপজাতি বহুলীয়া কৃষি".....
আগন্তুক ব'জলী বিহু
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নৰ কুমাৰ দলো
মৰ্ত্তী, সাংস্কৃতিক পৰিত্বমা, অসম

North Eastern Council
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) in association with **Sreemanta Sankar Mission of Guwahati**

Congratulates all the award winners of the Vasundhara – NE Woman Entrepreneur of the Year (2014-15)

**the 1st
PURVOTTAR PRAN
Lifetime achievement
award
for Social Integration to**
SHRI NATWAR THAKKAR
Founder
Nagaland Gandhi Ashram

Vasundhara
NE Woman Entrepreneur of the Year
(2014-15)
Authorizing the spirit of entrepreneurship

**8 states of Northeast
women
Inspiring stories of grit & glory**

Radha Devi Gurung Sikkim, **Taba Yall**
Nabam Arunachal Pradesh, **Kevisedenuo**
Margaret Zinyu Nagaland, Kesham Babita
Devi Manjur Zoramchhani Mizoram, Sumitra
Debbarma Tripura, Janassoline Mary
Ngynope Meghalaya, Najifara Boril Assam

These proud winners were felicitated and the Awards were given away by Shri Ram Muivah, IAS, Secretary, NEC on 8th April, 2017 in Guwahati, Assam in the presence of eminent citizens and distinguished guests.

Inspiring citations of winners can be accessed at NEC website: www.necouncil.gov.in

FIRE SERVICE DAY - 14TH APRIL, 2017
FIRE SERVICE WEEK: 14-20, APRIL, 2017
"FIREMEN – YOUR PARTNER FOR SAVING LIFE AND PROPERTY"

<p>Do's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In case of fire, call Fire Brigade at 101. ■ Keep easy access to fire extinguisher. ■ Give way to Fire Tenders. ■ Support fireman in saving life and property. ■ Follow Fire Safety measures to prevent Fire. ■ Always maintain fire protection equipment in high standard and check at regular interval. ■ Conduct mock fire and evacuation drill at regular intervals in schools, colleges, offices, high-rise buildings and commercial places. ■ Keep sufficient water available when lighting fire crackers. ■ Use one socket for one appliance. ■ Switch-off main switch while leaving home for longduration. 	<p>Don'ts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do not obstruct Firemen while on job. ■ Do not block fire escape route in home, workplace etc. ■ Do not use lift in case of fire, use staircase. ■ Never overload electrical outlets. ■ Do not burst crackers inside the home. ■ In case of fire do not panic, keep calm and call Fire Brigade. ■ Do not throw burning match sticks. ■ Do not smoke in bed. ■ Do not keep inflammable materials near fire. ■ Do not use water on electrical fire. ■ Do not use iron press 'On' while attending other works.
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In case of Fire/Emergency, Dial 101

Fire Safety Awareness material may be downloaded from our website : www.ndrfandcd.gov.in and www.youtube.com/user/dgfirecell/videos

Issued in public interest by:
Directorate General Fire Services, Civil Defence & Home Guards,
Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, East Block-VII,
Level-7, R.K. Puram, New Delhi - 110 066

For more information / help, contact the nearest Fire Station.

davp 19127/13/0001/1718

2nd meeting of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) will be held on 15-16 May 2017 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. For details, visit www.npd2-mha.net.in

Parents, take note! Inflatable toys and swimming aids, such as beach balls and arm bands, may have potentially hazardous substances that can put your child at the risk of cancer, a new study warns.

Researchers from Fraunhofer Institute for Process Engineering and Packaging IVV in

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The majority of these odors were identified and among these were several fatty smelling mono- or di-unsaturated carbonyl compounds and their epoxidised derivatives, but also odouractive organic solvents such as cyclohexanone, isophorone and phenol.

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(Source: PTT)

Germany conducted tests using an inflatable beach ball, a pair of swimming armbands and two bathing rings.

A small piece of material from each sample was analysed using a variety of material analysis techniques, including one that takes infrared measurements, and it was concluded that the inflatable objects were all made from polyvinyl chloride (PVC).

Researchers then investigated the molecular make-up of the distinctive smells arising from the pool toys.

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Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO FISH, April 14, 2017.

Fish are able to express their feelings with greater precision and more emotional expression. Others hear what you say loud and clear. The responses you receive will be equally dynamic. If you are single, you easily will meet someone of interest, if you have not already. You will learn how differences can be very attractive, and will come to respect them as a result. If the ones you are interested in, and you can swim, often surprise each other just by being themselves. You can learn to embrace and enjoy these unexpected moments. SAGITTARIUS tries to encourage you to be a wild thing.

The Stars Show That Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Possessive; 3-Adventurous; 2-Playful; 1-Difficult.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19) You're thoughtful reveals a genuine compassion that is not missed by others. Surprises pop up throughout the day and your imagination speaks to you. Stay centered, despite all the adventurous suggestions coming from those around you. Tonight: TIGER!

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 19) Your thoughts reveal a special someone. This person will be so flattered that he or she might not know how to respond. Don't try to provoke a response that is not there. Let the cards fall where they may. Tonight: A Little More Romance.

GEMINI (May 20-June 19) You might not have enough time to respond to what is happening around you. In fact, someone's reactions could be so swift that you will likely catch you off guard. Ask more questions, and you will learn a lot about this person. Tonight: Go along for the ride.

CANCER (June 20-July 19) Attempt to reign in the constant internal chatter. If you do, then you will learn a lot more about those around you, as they will reveal their authentic selves. Letting go of judgments and just living in the moment for a few hours could be enlightening. Tonight: Push Yourself.

LEO (July 20-Aug. 28) You are in the perfect space to take a leap of faith. You have weighed the pros and cons, and you finally can make a decision. News from a very knowledgeable friend proves you to break past a mental barrier that has been holding you back. Tonight: Let the night unfurl.

VIRGO (Aug. 29-Oct. 22) You might feel cornered by what is happening around you. You could experience some tension where you normally would not. Values are changing. Don't fight the inevitable. Decide to go with the flow, and you will bypass any hassles. Tonight: Dinner for two.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You are in a position of looking and rolling; do not sit on them. As a result, you will find that you have more choices. If you give in to spontaneity, you could be delighted by what comes up. Others will be more free in their responses as well. Tonight: Go, do, and Be. Worry less.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You could be surprised by what comes up for you today. Curb a need or desire to be more persuasive than you typically are. You suddenly might decide to change your afternoon plans. Check out the ramifications before taking action. Tonight: Easy does it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You enjoy others' spontaneity. It is as if you are shaking off the workweek, and are ready to rumble. What a way to start the weekend! Make sure your friends are up for the same type of celebration. A child or new friend might surprise you. Tonight: Go along with someone's idea.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You might want to stand back some and observe more. Don't take someone else's comments personally. You will learn a lot about this person by listening to what he or she has to say. You don't need to comment on what they are saying. Tonight: Surprises happen.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You are in a position of authority, and will want to be around those who handle power well. You enjoy watching and learning. A take-charge attitude goes far. Use care when taking a risk. You might opt to go on an impromptu shopping trip. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

Thought of the day

A liar is not believed even though he tells the truth.

- CICERO

Hazardous pool toys

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The majority of these odors were identified and among these were several fatty smelling mono- or di-unsaturated carbonyl compounds and their epoxidised derivatives, but also odouractive organic solvents such as cyclohexanone, isophorone and phenol.

Cyclohexanone can be harmful if inhaled, phenol is known to be acutely toxic and to presumably have mutagenic potential and isophorone is a category 2 carcinogen, which means that it is a suspect substance in the development of cancer in humans.

A panel of trained volunteers sniffed each product and ascribed common odour attributes to them. They also rated the intensity of each odour and had to guess whether these could be hazardous, researchers said. Three of the products reminded the panelists of almonds, plastic and rubber, while the fourth more pungent one reminded them of glue and nail polish.

"A range of these substances are not yet resolved in their chemical structures. Likewise, potential negative effects on humans, such as irritation, smell nuisance, or other physiological or pharmacokinetic effects still need to be resolved," said Christoph Wiedner of Fraunhofer Institute for Process Engineering and Packaging IVV. "Modern products, such as toys, and children's products are sourced from a wide variety of chemical and physical manufacturing processes, and this complexity often makes it difficult for us to identify those containing contaminants and unwanted substances, and to determine their causes," Wiedner said.

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A small piece of material from each sample was analysed using a variety of material analysis techniques, including one that takes infrared measurements, and it was concluded that the inflatable objects were all made from polyvinyl chloride (PVC).

Researchers then investigated the molecular make-up of the distinctive smells arising from the pool toys.

They extracted detectable odours from each sample using solvent extraction and high vacuum distillation methods, and then identified the main odourants using a combination of sensory and common analytical approaches.

They detected between 32 and 46 odours in each sample, of which up to 13 were quite in-

tense.

The majority of these odors were identified and among these were several fatty smelling mono- or di-unsaturated carbonyl compounds and their epoxidised derivatives, but also odouractive organic solvents such as cyclohexanone, isophorone and phenol.

Cyclohexanone can be harmful if inhaled, phenol is known to be acutely toxic and to presumably have mutagenic potential and isophorone is a category 2 carcinogen, which means that it is a suspect substance in the development of cancer in humans.

A panel of trained volunteers sniffed each product and ascribed common odour attributes to them. They also rated the intensity of each odour and had to guess whether these could be hazardous, researchers said. Three of the products reminded the panelists of almonds, plastic and rubber, while the fourth more pungent one reminded them of glue and nail polish.

"A range of these substances are not yet resolved in their chemical structures. Likewise, potential negative effects on humans, such as irritation, smell nuisance, or other physiological or pharmacokinetic effects still need to be resolved," said Christoph Wiedner of Fraunhofer Institute for Process Engineering and Packaging IVV. "Modern products, such as toys, and children's products are sourced from a wide variety of chemical and physical manufacturing processes, and this complexity often makes it difficult for us to identify those containing contaminants and unwanted substances, and to determine their causes," Wiedner said.

"However, we found that in a number of cases our noses can guide us to 'sniff out' problematic products," he said.

The study was published in the journal *Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry*.

(Source: PTT)

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Diarrhoea kills over 500 in Somalia since Jan: UN

GENEVA, April 13: Cholera and acute diarrhoea have killed more than 500 people and left tens of thousands of others sick in drought-hit parts of Somalia since January, the United Nations said today.

The UN's health agency said the epidemic had left more than 25,000 people sick, warning that number was likely to double by the end of June.

WHO put the number of deaths since the beginning of the year from the epidemic at 524, while the UN humanitarian agency OCHA said 533 people had died.

The case fatality rate, which measures the severity of an epidemic by defining the proportion of fatal cases within a specific timeframe, is currently 2.1 per cent – more than double the emergency threshold of one per cent.

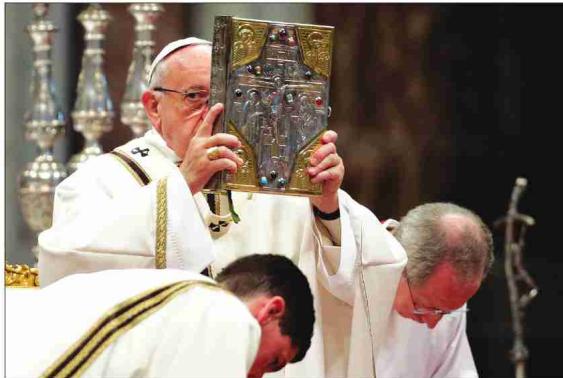
OCHA spokesman Jens Læsrke said the situation was particularly alarming in the Middle Juba and Bakool regions, where the case fatality rates have surged to 14.1 per cent and 5.1 per cent respectively.

The epidemic comes as the Horn of Africa country of 12 million people faces the threat of its third famine in 25 years of civil war and anarchy.

At least 260,000 people died in the 2011 famine in Somalia – half of them children under the age of five, according to the UN World Food Program.

Currently, 6.2 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian aid in Somalia, including 2.9 million who are facing "crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity", Læsrke told reporters. That means they are at levels three or four on a five-level scale, where level five is famine.

The dire drought and food crisis has forced more than 500,000 people to flee their homes since last November, in a country where 1.1 million people are already internally displaced. – AFP



Pope Francis holds Book of the Gospels as he leads the Chrism Mass in Saint Peter's Basilica at the Vatican, on Thursday. – UNI

Russia vetoes UNSC action condemning Syria

UNITED NATIONS, April 13: Russia vetoed a UN Security Council resolution that would have condemned the use of chemical weapons in Syria last week and called on the government there to cooperate with an investigation into the incident.

Russia, a permanent member of 15-nation Council, exercised the veto yesterday when a draft resolution drafted by France, the United Kingdom and the US was tabled here.

While 10 of the Council's 15 members voted in favour, Russia rejected the text, as permanent member China, as well as non-permanent members Ethiopia and Kazakhstan abstained.

"...With its veto, Russia said no to accountability. Russia said no to cooperation with the UN's independent investigation. And Russia said no to a resolution that would have helped promote peace in Syria," US Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley said after the resolution was failed to be adopted.

Chemical weapons attack

condemned "the reported use of chemical weapons in [Syria], in particular the attack on Khan Shaykhun," the site of last week's incident that has drawn increasing global attention.

The measure would also have called on the Syrian government to comply with relevant recommendations of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons' (OPCW) Fact Finding Mission (FFM) and the OPCW-UN Joint Investigative Mechanism (JIM).

"Russia once again has chosen to side with Assad even as the rest of the world – including the Arab world – overwhelmingly comes together to condemn this murderous regime," she said.

This was the 8th time during Syria's six-year-old civil war that Moscow used its veto power to block a resolution against Assad's government.

The resolution would have strongly

Before the vote, Russia's deputy UN envoy Vladimir Safronkov said in the course of negotiations between his country's Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, Moscow had suggested a joint communication asking the OPCW Director-General to immediately put together an international mission to visit Khan Shaykhun and the Shayrat air base.

The US Secretary of State was considering that proposal, he said, adding that the whole gamut of issues would be discussed by OPCW on April 13 at The Hague.

Putting the draft to a vote a day before that would serve no useful purpose, he emphasised.

He said Russia voted against the draft because of its "erroneous" contents, emphasising that his country's concerns and priorities had been pushed aside.

The main problem was that the "troika" of drafters had named a perpetrator before a proper investigation had been conducted, he said. – PTI

Trump offers trade deal to China for support over N Korea

WASHINGTON, April 13: Ditching his anti-China bombast, US President Donald Trump has said he would not label China a "currency manipulator" and offered a "good trade" deal in exchange for Beijing's help in dealing with the nuclear threat from North Korea.

Trump said he was confident that Chinese President Xi Jinping would support America to confront North Korea's nuclear ambitions, but cautioned that he was prepared to tackle the crisis alone if needed.

"President Xi wants to do the right thing. We had a very good bonding. I think we had a very good chemistry together. I think he wants to help us with North Korea. We talked trade. We talked a lot of things," Trump told reporters at a joint news conference yesterday with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg at the White House.

Trump had spent two days with Xi at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida last week. He also spoke to him over phone yesterday.

Tensions are escalating sharply over fears that North Korea may carry out another nuclear test on Saturday.

"I said, the way you're going to make a good trade deal is to help us with North Korea. Otherwise, we're just going to go it alone," Trump said referring to the latest telephonic conversation with the Chinese President.

"That'd be all right, too. But doing it alone means going with lots of their nations," he cautioned China.

Trump said he was "very impressed" with Xi.

"I think he means well, and I think he wants to help. We'll see whether or not he does," Trump said.

In an interview with "The Wall Street Journal", Trump said the US has "tremendous trade deficits" with everybody, but the big one is with China. – PTI

In no position to comment on Jadhav's death term: UN

UNITED NATIONS, April 13: The UN has asked India and Pakistan to engage in a dialogue to find a peaceful solution to their problems, but refrained from commenting on the death sentence given by a Pakistani military court to Indian national Kulbhushan Jadhav.

"We're not in a position to judge the process or to have a position on this, on this particular case," UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres' spokesman Stephane Dujarric said at the daily briefing here yesterday in response to a question by PTI on the death sentence awarded to Jadhav by military Field General Court Martial under the army act for his alleged involvement in terrorism and espionage.

Dujarric was asked that India is strongly disputing the sentence, saying that the due process of law and justice was not observed in this case and that it will consider the sentence as "a premeditated murder". – PTI

N Korea may be capable of gas-loaded missile attack: Japan

TOKYO, April 13: North Korea may have the capacity to launch a warhead loaded with sarin nerve gas, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said today, as tensions rise over the country's missile and nuclear programmes.

Sarin has been used in deadly domestic attacks in Japan, notably in 1995 when the Aum Supreme Truth cult released it in the Tokyo subway killing 13 people and sickening 6,000 others.

"There is a possibility that North Korea is already capable of delivering (via missile) a warhead containing sarin," Abe told a parliamentary diplomacy and defence committee, referring to the poison nerve agent.

His remarks were reported by public broadcaster NHK and leading national newspapers.

Abe did not elaborate or say where he obtained the information, according to the reports.

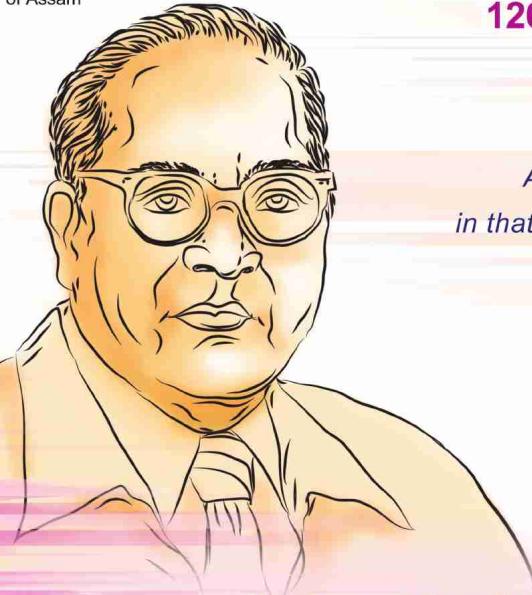
Tensions on the Korean peninsula have spiked in recent days amid concerns that Pyongyang could be on the verge of executing its sixth nuclear test and as a US air-

craft carrier-led strike group heads to the region.

Originally conceived as a pesticide, sarin was used by Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein's regime to gas thousands of Kurds in the northern town of Halabja in 1988.

The US believes the Syrian government employed a sarin-like nerve agent in a deadly attack in the country's northwest last week.

The Aum Supreme Truth cult also used the nerve agent in a 1994 attack in the Japanese city of Matsumoto, killing seven. – AFP



Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar
126th Birth Anniversary
14th April, 2017

*A great man is different from an eminent one
in that he is ready to be the servant of the society.*
- B.R. Ambedkar

We pay our deep tribute to
Bharat Ratna awardee Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar
on his 126th Birth Anniversary.


Sarbananda Sonowal
Chief Minister, Assam

Govt. of Assam

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SPORTS

Ronaldo hits 100th European goal as Real win at Bayern

MUNICH, April 13: Cristiano Ronaldo netted his 100th European goal to give holders Real Madrid a 2-1 comeback win at 10-man Bayern Munich in the Champions League quarterfinal first-leg.

"I wanted to reach this record. To be able to reach this mark is an honour and against a team like Bayern it is even better," Ronaldo, who scored both goals, told BeIN Sport Spain.

Arturo Vidal headed Bayern into a first-half lead yesterday, but then skied a penalty attempt on the stroke of half-time before Ronaldo volleyed the defending champions' level.

Bayern played the last half an hour a man down after centre-back Javi Martinez was sent off for two fouls on Ronaldo within three minutes of each other.

Four-time world player of the year Ronaldo then slotted in the winner between goalkeeper Manuel Neuer's legs for a total of 13 minutes from time.

"We believe we can still do it,

we were the better team in the first half, could have made it 2-0 or 3-0," Neuer told ZDF.

But Bayern were outplayed in the second-half and most of Real's 23 shots on goal came after the break.

"We had everything under control in the first half, but didn't use the room consistently," said captain Philipp Lahm. "The tipping point was the red card."

Security was tight at the Allianz Arena in the wake of Tuesday's attacks on the Borussia Dortmund team bus and both teams arrived with a heavy police escort.

There was a large police presence and inside the stadium there was polite applause when the announced made reference to Dortmund's ordeal in the preceding 24 hours.

Bayern suffered a blow before kick-off when top-scorer Robert Lewandowski, who has netted 38 goals this season, dropped out with a bruised shoulder and Thomas Müller deputised as striker.

Bayern were also missing in-



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo celebrates scoring during the UEFA Champions League quarterfinal first leg match against Bayern Munich in Munich, Germany, on Wednesday.

jured Germany defender Mats Hummels against Real's formidable BBC attack - Gareth Bale, Karim Benzema and Ronaldo.

Bayern went ahead on 25 minutes when playmaker Thiago Alcantara swung in a corner from the right which Vidal powered through Real goalkeeper Keylor Navas's hands.

The Chile midfielder could have added a second when he headed Arjen Robben's cross wide of the post soon after.

Real made a poor start, rarely threatening Germany's goalkeeper Neuer, back after minor foot surgery a fortnight ago.

A strong drive from Ronaldo on 41 minutes which Neuer blocked having palmed a Benzema header onto the woodwork with 15 minutes played were their best first-half chances.

Vidal could have finished with a first-half hat-trick when he stepped up to take a penalty after Dani Carvajal's handball from a Franck Ribery shot.

However, the Chilean

smashed the spot-kick high over the crossbar.

It was a miss Bayern were soon to regret.

Real were level two minutes after the break when Carvajal found space on the right and fired in a cross which Ronaldo volleyed past Neuer.

Bale, who has laboured with an ankle injury recently, came off on 58 minutes and Real raised the tempo after he trudged off.

Having already picked up a yellow card for pulling Ronaldo back on 58 minutes, Martinez was shown a red for again fouling the Portugal captain just three minutes later.

Real's superstar then hit the winner as substitute Marco Asensio, on for Bale, put in a low pass for Ronaldo to tap the ball home between Neuer's legs.

Real defender Sergio Ramos had the ball in the Bayen net with time running out, but the goal was ruled offside but the Spaniards have the upper hand for the second leg at home next Tuesday. - AFP

Juventus renews Dybala contract

TURIN, April 13: Argentine striker Paulo Dybala renewed his contract with Serie A side Juventus until 2022, the Turin club announced on Thursday.

The Bianconeri explained in a statement that Dybala's original contract, valid until June 20, 2022, reported Efe.

The striker, who scored twice in Juventus' 3-0 victory against Barcelona in the Champions League quarterfinals on Tuesday, arrived at the club in summer 2013 from Palermo for 32 million euros (\$34 million).

Even though the club did not reveal his salary, Italian media hinted his income could reach 7.5 million euros (\$7.9 million) a season.

Dybala has been referred to as Lionel Messi's possible successor, while the Barcelona star recognised him as the future of the Argentina national team. - IANS

Gayle, Pollard, KP marquee players

JOHANNESBURG, April 13: Dashing T20 players Chris Gayle, Kieron Pollard and Kevin Pietersen are among eight marquee internationals, who will be representing various franchises in the inaugural edition of Cricket South Africa's #T20 Global Destination League.

The other five marquee stars are Lasith Malinga, Jason Roy, Eoin Morgan, Dwayne Bravo and Brendon McCullum. All these players have a contract of two years.

The eight international marquee players will be entered into a mini-draft with the highest bidding franchise owner having first pick and the rest following the same process.

Franchise owners will be asked to consider the fact that some of these players, by virtue of having played for some years in South Africa, already hold strong ties to certain cities in South Africa. - PTI

Kohli returns for RCB ahead of IPL clash against MI

BENGALURU, April 13: India captain Virat Kohli will return to bolster Royal Challengers Bangalore's campaign when they take on arch-rivals Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League here tomorrow.

Kohli had undergone rehabilitation after sustaining an injury to his right shoulder while fielding

during the third Test against Australia in Ranchi and has been missing in action ever since.

However, the Delhi batsman has been declared fit today by BCCI Medical Team and will look to boost the confidence of RCB, who lost two out of the three matches that they have played so far in his absence.

Kohli, who had dropped hints of making a return after posting a video on his Instagram account of his gym session on April 11, did some fielding drills during the team's net session, yesterday.

In Kohli's absence, AB de Vil-

liers made their presence felt as he smashed his way to an unbeaten 89 off just 46 balls to help RCB post a respectable 148-4 on his comeback match after recovering from an injury.

The single-handed show by the South African, however, couldn't save the blushes of his team as RCB went down by eight wickets to Kings XI Punjab in their last match.

The poor form of Chris Gayle is also a concern for RCB. The West Indian power-hitter has been struggling to carve out big scores, which is reflected in his failure to score even one half-century in his last 10 innings.

Gayle will be hoping to make

a comeback in the team, especially after being dropped against two-time champions Kolkata Knight Riders and title holder Sunrisers Hyderabad in their opening two matches.

RCB also lost India batsman Lokesh Rahul for the entire tournament owing to an injury and is

looking for a replacement.

The talented Sarfaraz Khan too hurt himself on the field during a practice match ahead of the tournament. Kedar Jadhav, meanwhile, has showcased his utility by slamming a 37-ball 69 to help his side score 157 runs during a 15-run win over Delhi Daredevils. He also hit 31 in the opening match against Sunrisers Hyderabad.

Gujarat gets Jadeja boost in their quest for 1st win

RAJKOT, April 13: Struggling Gujarat Lions is set to receive a much-needed boost with the imminent return of all-round rounder Ravindra Jadeja during their clash against Rising Pune Super-Giant in the Indian Premier League here tomorrow.

Gujarat Lions, who finished as the surprise third in their maiden IPL appearance last year, did not have the best of starts in the ongoing edition of the tournament.

The Suresh Raina-led side suffered consecutive defeats against two-time champions Kolkata Knight Riders and title holder Sunrisers Hyderabad in their opening two matches.

And come tomorrow, Gujarat Lions would be desperate to turn their fortunes around in front of home fans at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium here.

Gujarat Lions got a much-

needed boost in the form of Jadeja, who is likely to play his first IPL match tomorrow.

Jadeja missed Gujarat Lions first two games as he was absent from the BCCI medical team soon after the India's fourth match Test series against Australia.

Jadeja has had a terrific home season with both bat and ball for India and his return will definitely boost Gujarat Lions morale.

Another key member, West Indian all-rounder Dwayne Bravo, who is recovering from injury, however is doubtful even though he took part in the team's practice session yesterday.

Gujarat Lions' strong point is the team's batting department.

With the likes of Brendon McCullum, Aaron Finch, Jason Roy, Raina and Dinesh Karthik up its rank, Gujarat Lions heavily depends on its batting unit.

But the likes of McCullum and Finch have failed to live up to their reputations so far, garnering just 40 and 18 runs respectively in the first two games. Opener Jason Roy started the innings well on both occasion against KKR and SRH but failed to convert the good starts into big knock.

Only skipper Raina, who struck unbeaten 68 against KKR at home and Karthik (47.30) have shouldered the responsibility in the middle-order. - PTI

CAMARO
JEANS | TROUSERS | T-SHIRTS

CAMARO
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Mumbai found a new star in Rana

The Mumbai Indians are

on a roll. This is one of their best starts to the tournament and that's simply because not only have they found a new star in Nitish Rana and more crucially after their loss in the first game have made the changes that give them a more balanced attack. Harbhajan Singh has bowled superbly after being left out of the team for the opening game.

They are struggling without their skipper Virat Kohli and if he is fit then it really will be a game to watch out for. Can you imagine the battle between Harbhajan, Malinga, Bumrah with Gayle, ABD and Virat Kohli? It's the stuff of dreams and what the mar-

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Solution of last problem

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Sindhu, Praneeth advance in Singapore Super Series

SINGAPORE, April 13: Top Indian shuttlers PV Sindhu and B Sai Praneeth today advanced to the quarterfinals of the USD 350,000 Singapore Super Series after posting hard-fought victories in the women's and men's singles respectively here.

The World No. 30 Indian pair will clash with eighth seeded Tanongsak Saensomboonsuk of Thailand next.

B Sumeeth Reddy and Ashwini Ponnappa, who reached the finals at Syed Modi Grand Prix Gold in January, produced a gritty performance to see off China's Qiao Bin 21-15, 21-23, 21-16 in an hour and 12 minutes.

The World No. 30 Indian pair will clash with eighth seeded Tanongsak Saensomboonsuk of Thailand next.

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Mla Siddhartha Bhattacharya giving away the trophy.

Squash meet ends

GUWAHATI, April 13: Shubham Bafla of Guwahati FC emerged champion in the 1st All Guwahati Inter Club Squash Championship which came to an end yesterday.

In the final Shubham defeated Jit Amrit Baruah of River Rine 11-7, 16-14, 11-2. Ravi Panjwani of Navajyoti Club was the second runner up in the men's category. In the closing function Guwahati East MLA Siddhartha Bhattacharya, GSA president Munin Nobis, Blaskar Bhuyan, CEO of ATM Television along with a host of guests and sportspersons were present. The championship was organised by the Guwahati Squash Racket Association at the RG Baruah Squash Complex here where 12 clubs took part. — Sports Reporter

Zangam champions

SIVASAGAR, April 13: Zangam of Sivasagar clinched the title in the 1st All Assam Bir Lachit T20 Challenge Cricket Tournament played here at the Darbar field under the aegis of Cricket Club of Sivasagar. In the low scoring final Zangam beat Cricket Club of Dibrugarh (CCD) by 28 runs yesterday.

Opting to bat first Zangam team was all out for 88 runs. Wasikur Rahman 22 and Arpan Dutta 18 were the leading scorers. Phamindra Sonowal and Sandip Sharma of CCD picked 5 and 3 wicket respectively. In reply CCD bowled out for a paltry 60 runs. Arpan Dutta and Roshan Alam of Zangam took 3 wickets each.

The individual prize winners were: (Best batsman and Man of the Series) Samuk Das (Zangam), (Best Bowler) Sandip Samah (CCD), (Man of the Final) Arpan Dutta of Zangam. The winning team was awarded Rs 30,000 while the runners-up team got Rs 20,000 along with trophies. In the closing function Mugtabul Hussain, jt secy, ACA, Manoj Bhagawati, Bikash Borgohain, Biju Gogoi, Hakikat Rahman, Tapan Dutta, Babul Khan, Tapan Baruah and Kabir Borai gave away the prizes. — Correspondent

Bhuvi blames small score, dew for defeat

MUMBAI, April 13: Sunrisers Hyderabad seamer Bhuvneshwar Kumar has blamed the dew factor and small total responsible for the title-holders' four-wicket defeat against hosts Mumbai Indians in last night's Indian Premier League game here.

In reply to Hyderabad's 158/8, Mumbai scored 159/6 in 18.4 overs.

"I don't think there was anything wrong with our batting. They tried their best. It was just one of those days when you play your shot and it goes to the field-

ers. We were 79 without loss in 10 overs which was a good start but 158 was not enough as dew was there," Bhuvneshwar said at the post-match press conference last night.

"It was difficult to defend. Although it's the average score in T20, but on this ground it was below average. It's very difficult to bowl when dew sets in. It's not an excuse. We needed to get 2-3 wickets in power play," said the swing bowler, who returned with impressive figures of 3 for 21 when most other bowlers of his team strug-

gled in the conditions.

Put in to bat, Sunrisers got off to a sluggish start, accelerated a bit, but then lost their way once opener and skipper David Warner got out, trying to repeat a reverse-sweep off Harbhajan Singh after having hit the offie for a six in the previous ball.

Sunrisers kept on losing wickets at regular intervals after Warner was dismissed to a stunning, two handed diving catch by wicket keeper Parthiv Patel.

But Bhuvneshwar sought to downplay the shot, saying the attempt did not come as a surprise as Warner tries it in net sessions too.

"He bats for 20 minutes five minutes he bats right handed in nets. It was not surprising. It was an amazing shot. AB de Villiers plays these shots," said Bhuvneshwar.

on Pollard – did not score big. But other batsmen led by opener Parthiv Patel (49) and later Nitish Rana took Mumbai past the line.

Rana scored a 36-ball 45, thus narrowly missing his second successive half century in the tournament, hitting two sixes and three fours.

Bangladesh left-arm pacer Mustafizur Rahman, playing his first game, gave away plenty of runs (34) without completing his quota.

"He played, that means he is fit," Bhuvneshwar retorted. — PTI

NF Railway enter semifinals

SPORTS REPORTER
GUWAHATI, April 13: NF Railway stormed into the semifinals of the All India Railway Cricket Tournament.

In the two-day quarterfinal match, which ended at Kharagpur today, NF Railway defeated Northern Railway by virtue of their 111-run first innings lead.

NF Railway, after batting first yesterday, piled up 355 all out in 83.5 overs.

Today the NF Railway forced their opponent to fold their innings at 244 in 51.3 overs. For the NF Railway outfit Sarupam Purkayastha

top scored with 130 while Kunal Sharma added 112. Karan Saikia was the other notable contributor with 60.

Today, Abhilash Gogoi, Muri Singh and Arup Das were the leading wicket-takers for the winning team bagging four, three and two wickets respectively. For Northern Railway Ashish (53) and Akash Yadav (52) were the leading scorers.

In the semifinal NF Railway will square off against RWF at the same venue on April 15 and 16, informed NF Railway sports officer and former Assam Ranji captain Rajesh Bora.

Tezpur CA prevail over GCCC

SPORTS REPORTER
GUWAHATI, April 13: Tezpur Cricket Academy defeated Guwahati Cricket Coaching Centre by two wickets in today's match of the 13th Golap Hazarika Memorial Inter-District Coaching Centre Cricket Tournament at the Dispur Parade Ground.

Restricting the opponent to 124 in 35 overs, Tezpur CA hit up 127 for eight in 31.1 overs.

Brief scores: Guwahati CCC 124/9 (Vivek Saha 32, Deben Sharma 28, Rohit Singh 17, Ritam Roy 2/20). **Tezpur CA 127/8** (Abub Hussain not out 25, Naeem Islam 18, Rohit Singh 3/11, Kuldeep Roy 2/19).

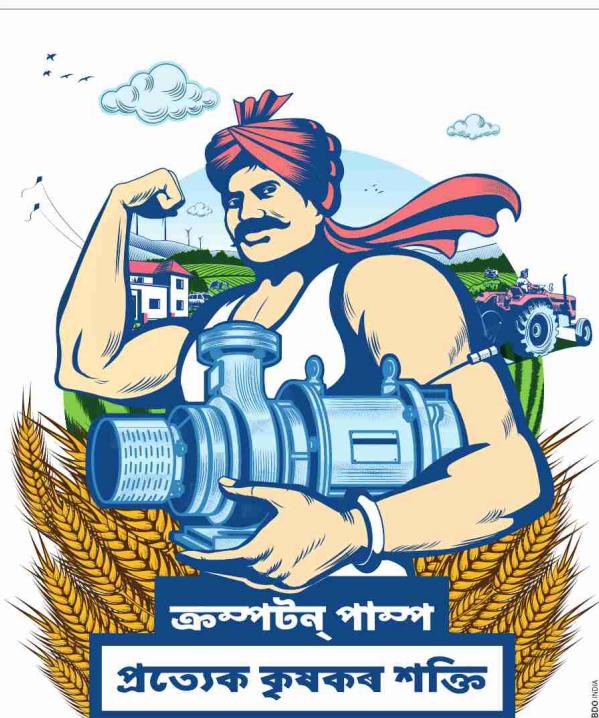
Next match on April 16 between CCC A and NF Railway CA.

Nishanta named U-19 team trainer

SPORTS REPORTER
GUWAHATI, April 13: Nishanta Bordoloi has been appointed as Strength and Conditioning Coach of the Indian U-19 team by the National Cricket Academy.

The camp for the Indian colts will be held at Bengaluru from April 20 to May 19.

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বেলট পান্থপথ*
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- * বিস পানি: টাৰ ২০০-১০০০ প্ৰয়াজ
- ৬ টাৰ পানি: টাৰ ২০০-১০০০ প্ৰয়াজ
- ৮ টাৰ পানি: টাৰ ২০০-১০০০ প্ৰয়াজ

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GRAPHICS DEBASISH SINHA

Of Bihu and *Bohag*

KC Bhattacharya unravels the astronomical origins of this spring festival.

As winter draws to an end, and spring announces its arrival, nature is also getting ready in its new attire. The raindrops sprinkled on the dry earth by the *Bordoloi* on her annual visit spreads an aroma of liveliness in the air. Everybody eagerly waits to welcome *Bohag*. Bihu. Astronomically, the first day of *Bohag* is the beginning of a solar or tropical year based on the apparent movement of the Sun as seen from the Earth.

Two days in a tropical year are known to have equal durations of sunshines (day) and darkness (night). The astronomers of ancient India had named them as *mashavishwa*, falling in spring, and *jala-vishwa*, falling in autumn. The western astronomers call them vernal equinox and autumnal equinox, respectively. *Vishwa* in Sanskrit means division into two equal parts. The imaginary line dividing the northern and southern hemispheres of the globe equally is called the *vishvarekha* (equator). The distinctiveness of the *mashavishwa* from the rest of the days, and also due to its occurrence in the clear weather of spring, led to count a tropical year from one *mashavishwa* or vernal equinox to the next.

Just as the tropical year was divided into 12 months, the apparent annual path of the sun in the sky was also divided into 12 sectors of 30 degree angles, each identified by a constellation of stars, and named as a *Rasi* (zodiac) – *Mesha*, *Brisha*, *Mithuna*, etc. These zodiac signs have close similarity with those of western astrology. On the *mashavishwa* day, the sun is exactly overhead at midday, at any place on the *vishvarekha*. The Sun enters the *Mesha rashi* on this day, hence the special status of *Mesha* as the *adhistari*. The first day of the year having such astronomical or astrological significances must have been celebrated with great pomp, and was probably named as *vishwa* festival.

The astrological tradition in India was to name a month by the *rakshatra* or star in whose vicinity a full moon occurs. In the first month, the full moon happened to occur near the star *Vishabha*, hence the name *Vaisakha*. In the next month,

was the *Jaitrhna nakshatra*, giving the name *Jaitrhya* and so on. From *Vaisakha* to *Bohag*, and from *Vishwa* to *Bihu* – this is the link we can trace back to ancient astronomy. In the Malayalam calendar of South India, this *tithi* is celebrated in present time as *Vishu*, while in Odisha, it is celebrated as '*maha-vishvavasankranti*'.

According to modern astronomy, the vernal equinox (*mashavishwa*) comes every year on March 20. If *Bihu* originated from *Vishwa*, then how is it that we celebrate it in April? This again is found explained in astronomy. Due to the 23.45 degree tilt of the rotational axis of the planet earth, the equatorial plane of the earth is also inclined at 23.45 degree angle with respect to the orbit plane. These two planes intersect at a line which meets the orbital path at two points, named in astronomy as vernal equinox and autumnal equinox, respectively. The rotational axis of the earth is generally said to be fixed towards the pole star. But in reality, it has a slow cyclic motion completing one round in 25,772 years.

Due to this slow cyclic movement of the spin axis, the angle between the equatorial plane of the earth and its orbit plane keeps on changing. As a result, the vernal equinox point keeps on drifting westward on the orbit of the earth around the sun. Accordingly, the tropical year will start about 20 minutes earlier every year compared to the previous year. The ancient astronomers of India knew about it and determined the cycle period to be about 25,500 years, as mentioned in the *Surya Siddhanta* by Bhaskara-II, the astronomer of 12th century CE.

In present days, we celebrate *Bihu* (*vishwa*) in April, but the actual *mashavishwa* has already taken place on March 20, that is 24 days earlier, according to modern astronomy. At the rate of 20 minutes a year, the drift of 24 days requires 1728 years. That is, the *vishwa* must have been celebrated in April during the 3rd century CE. The *mashavishwa* has since drifted to March 20, leaving behind the *vishwa* festival in April, probably due to the enchanting environ of spring. Thus *Bihu*

or *vishwa* has a heritage of at least 1700 years.

The Gregorian calendar, introduced in 1582 CE, was so adjusted as to have the vernal equinox to fall every year on March 21. According to the International Astronomy Union, in the present era, the sun resides in *Meen rashi* from April 19 to May 15. According to Vedic astrology also, the sun enters *Meen rashi* on April 15. Thus, the new solar year starts when the Sun enters *Meen*, but the *vishwa* happened 24 days earlier when the Sun was in *Meen rashi*.

The Gregorian year and the Vedic astrological year match with the tropical year very closely. Therefore, the Bohag *Bihu* will continue to visit us every spring in April. But there is a danger of a different kind, not very far away, threatening the Bohag so dear to us. Since the advent of the industrial revolution, millions of tonnes of fossil fuels are burnt every year to meet the energy demand of human civilisation. Forests are being cleared to set up new townships and industries, leaving no place for birds and animals to live. Rising concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere to an unprecedented level is causing the planet to warm up. Within the next 100-150 years, the rising temperature may cause the climate system to change unpredictably. If such a day comes, there will not be any spring to welcome the *Bohag*. The heedless cooing of the cuckoo will be missing. *Bordoloi* may turn very violent, destroying everything on her way. Nobody will venture out for *Bihu* dance in the open due to the intense heat. And for all these, Nature is not to be blamed. We have to blame ourselves.

Time is now to desist from destroying the environment. If *Bohag* is lost, then our existence will be also a thing of the past.

Perhaps Sudakshana was right in his thinking, "*Bohag matron eti ritu nobo...*" *Bohag* is indeed a testament of creation, derived from the radiance of the sun. Our survival rests on its preservation.

(The writer was the Director (Reit), North Eastern Space Applications Centre, ISRO. He can be contacted at k_c_bhattacharya@rediffmail.com)

schemes and contrivances to everyday tasks, our Mr Bean – Rowan Atkinson.

Moving into Bollywood, we have Raj Kapoor who is considered the 'Charlie Chaplin of Indian Cinema'. *Shree 420*, *Mera Naam Joker* are often viewed as adaptations of Chaplin's *Limeight*. A scuffly boy and a boisterous boy made his *Mera poota hai Japani* an exact replica of Chaplin's style. Indian cinema had some comedians like Keshito Mukherjee, Mehmood, Johny Lever, Asrani, etc. And a special mention must be made of Paresh Rawal as Baburao Gantipatio Apte, who wore an untidy *dhobi* and a torn vest all through *Hera Pheri*.

Though comedy in India is not at its peak, the last few years have shown a great hike in the number of comedians. Shows like *The Great Indian Laughter Challenge*, *The Kapil Sharma Show* and the laughter shows on SAB TV provide us with the right amount of comic relief. Also stand-up comedy is fast finding its feet in India. People are more inclined towards comedy than any other topic as is evident from the increasing number of comedy shows on TV. Thus adding the much-needed spice of laughter into our lives.

rta25march@gmail.com



The funny men!

Ria Chakraborty

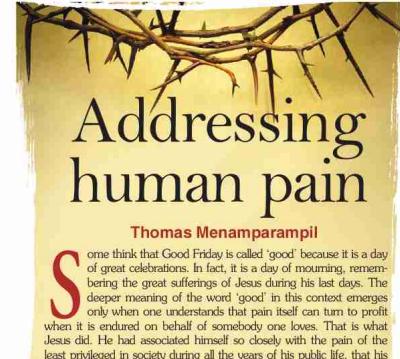
Charlie Chaplin once said that life is a tragedy when seen in close-up, but a comedy in long-shot. In our busy, over-committed world, laughter seems to have been lost along the way. We don't find much of it in our everyday lives. Laughter triggers the release of endorphins, the body's natural feel-good chemicals. Endorphins promote an overall sense of well-being and can even temporarily relieve pain.

When we talk about laughter, we instantly remember one of the greatest comedians of all time – Charlie Chaplin. He would take a serious subject, something you can relate to, and show you how funny life actually is. The king of the world of comedy who reigned in the 20th century is equally famous even today. Even today's generation, for whom silent, black-and-white comedy is anachronistic, if not alien, is

aware of Chaplin and his remarkable legacy. The variety of emotions that Chaplin could portray, even with a straight face, is what is still so riveting about him. He is dead serious, and yet the result is hilarious.

Two men, one's fat, while the other is lean and thin, one seems a little smart, and the other childlike; this contrasting duo can make you laugh until your stomach hurts – Laurel and Hardy, Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy's comic team is widely regarded as the greatest in film history. Before coming to comedy, the two were doing well in their individual acting careers, but as a duo their real magic became evident, with Laurel playing the bumbling innocent foil to the pompous Hardy.

For one reason the whole world will always be grateful to British Television – Mr Bean, the person who gets himself in trouble even while cleaning his nose. The man with an MSc in Electrical Engineering at The Queen's College, Oxford is the same childish buffoon who brings various unusual



Addressing human pain

Thomas Menampampil

Some think that Good Friday is called 'good' because it is a day of great celebrations. In fact, it is a day of mourning, remembering the great sufferings of Jesus during his last days. The deeper meaning of the word 'good' in this context emerges only when one understands that pain itself can turn to profit when it is endured on behalf of somebody one loves. That is what Jesus did. He had associated himself so closely with the pain of the least privileged in society during all the years of his public life, that his self-giving on the cross was nothing but its climax.

All his active life, Jesus kept moving from one village to another in Galilee, a Roman province known for its frequent uprisings against the rulers. The imperial authorities crushed the insurrection each time, and executed hundreds of dissidents mercilessly upon the cross. Unexplainable, the helper of the poor and the 'prophet of peace' would meet with the same fate.

The mission of Jesus had been to heal the sick, encourage the heartbroken, motivate people who had lost their sense of direction, and assure everyone that no effort of theirs was wasted. The crowds that flocked to him were the sick, the excluded, the desperately poor, the debt-ridden, grief-ridden, guilt-ridden. For everyone he had a word of encouragement. He never suggested rebellion or violent resistance. He planted courage and determination into their hearts. He asked them to have confidence in their own resourcefulness and look beyond. He sweat blood in the Garden of Gethsemane while praying to God in their behalf. His mind was in agony, thinking of their pains, and those like them.

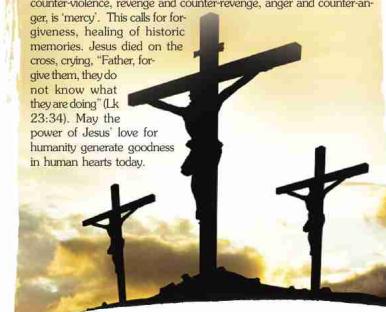
What proved his undoing was the fact that he was critical of injustice, unfairness to the poor, misuse of religion. He exposed hypocrisy. He emphasised the deeper dimension of religion: worshipping God "in spirit and in truth" (Jn 4:23). He was against excessive legalism, ritualism and superficiality in religion. No wonder he got into trouble with the Establishment, which first sought to marginalise him; then, later to eliminate him. Thus, he too dies on a cross placed between two violent men.

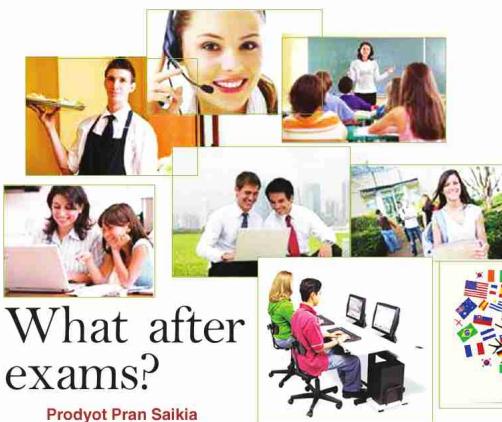
Despite the relevance of his words and works to the immediate context, his concern was for the whole of humankind. He says, "Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest" (Mt 11:28). His message on the Mount, "Happy are the poor, who mourn, the humble, the merciful, those who work for peace, the persecuted," (Mt 5:3-10) touched the heart of Mahatma Gandhi profoundly. They have brought consolation to millions of people on every continent. Jesus' suffering was then a co-suffering with the human family: 'pro-suffering' in their behalf. He, thus, summarised his life-mission, "I have come in order that you might have life – life in all its fullness" (Jn 10:10). Good Friday is called good because people remember that Jesus died for the well-being of humankind, that all may have life in its 'fullness'.

Let us place Jesus' pain side by side with the pain of humanity in our times. Not a day passes without some group or other dying as victims of violence. It is heart-rending that horrendous human tragedies are reported today as though they were merely about names and numbers. When gruesome tales of violence come up in the media again and again one gets lost in incidents, like in the case of the downing of the Russian Metrojet plane which killed 224 at Sinai; the bomb attack at Ankara; the suicide strike at Beirut butchering 46 innocent bystanders; the ghastly murder of four sisters of Mother Teresa's with 12 of their helpers in Yemen; the Istanbul Ataturk Airport blast, wiping out 44 lives; the violence in a restaurant in Dhaka annihilating 20 foreigners; and recently the use of chemical weapons in Syria. One fails to grasp the contextual significance of these hideous events and the human depth of the problem.

In the immediate excitement of the horror we forget that every victim is an individual with his/her own personal history, ideas, aspirations, dreams, and internal agonies; that he has a family whose future is thrown off the rails; that he belonged to a community in which he played a dynamic role, and possibly an entire society felt inspired by him. We fail to hear the sighs; the sobs, and the loud wailings of his/her dear ones. An inspiring voice silenced, amazing stamina extinguished, long-cherished hopes crushed, in each single case. When we keep hearing of similar mishaps overtaking dozens, hundreds, thousands of people, we wonder whether Thomas Hobbes was right in *Leviathan* that 'man is a wolf unto man'. No. But what is true is that a man, if he so chooses, can make himself a wolf to others.

In such contexts, we cry for help 'from on high'. Shakespeare wrote, "The quality of mercy is not strained. It droppeth as the gentle rain from 'heaven' upon the place beneath" (*The Merchant of Venice*). The saving word in the context of this terrible dialogue between violence and counter-violence, revenge and counter-revenge, anger and counter-anger, is 'mercy'. This calls for forgiveness, healing of historic memories. Jesus died on the cross, crying, "Father, forgive them, they do not know what they are doing" (Lk 23:34). May the power of Jesus' love for humanity generate goodness in human hearts today.





What after exams?

Prodoyer Pran Saikia

Even doing absolutely nothing at times could be painful activity. For example, when one is ill and recuperating, then doing absolutely nothing helps one regain health. When a student finds his syllabus daunting and overwhelming, his psychotherapist may offer him a completed dissociation from textbooks for a brief period of time as a valued option. But doing absolutely nothing worthwhile for a longer period of time when one is at the threshold of facing the rigours of the world could not only be catastrophic but may also adversely affect one's future prospects.

Exams could be stressful. Board exams could be more stressful. Once the board exams are over, a brief 'cooling off' period should follow to de-stress oneself. This is the period when you can lounge about without feeling guilty. This is also the period to make up for the lost sleep. But worse are those students who, after their board exams, go into just a brief cooling-off period, and then pick up skill development activities to gainfully utilise this period (till the results are out) instead of whiling away their time. Usually it takes about two months time for the boards to declare the results. This interim can

be used to pick up or develop a skill, prepare for competitive tests to enrol into higher courses, learn a trade, do a job, or learn a language among a plethora of other possibilities.

Two years ago, after completing his matric exams, Sagar (name changed) took up a part-time job in a shoe retail franchisee of an international brand. In addition to earning a hefty monthly sum for pocket money, he also gained first-hand work experience. The money he earned helped him pay for the college enrollment fees. And, in that brief period, he also learnt a lot about life, human behaviour, customer care and above all, he learnt about discipline, punctuality, time management, and the economics of life.

But not everyone will be equally inclined to get into a part-time job. Learning a language or strengthening the existing language skills could be useful areas. Say for example, the English language. The board exams had given you enough opportunities to assess how good you are in English (or, the medium of your education). If you had struggled to construct sentences to express your

thoughts, then it will be appropriate for you to enrol yourself into a course to brush up the basics of English grammar and writing skills. The same will be true for any other language. Irrespective of whether you are aiming to pursue higher studies in science, arts or commerce streams, a good grasp in the language of the medium of instruction and learning is must if you wish to earn good grades.

Or, maybe you always wanted to be an actor. Why not get into it by enrolling for a short term course in acting? If you live in bigger towns or cities then you may be privileged to find institutions that offer basic courses in acting. In the absence of such institutions, you may reach up to a noted actor in your locality and request him to guide you. If you always wanted to learn some musical instruments then just get into it. There are bound to be a few musical instrument training centres that charge nominal fees, in addition to providing access to the instruments too. Just ask around. Or you wanted to be a painter? Find a guru and seek guidance. If your budget is a constraint, you don't need to go shopping for costly wares. Start with pencil sketching and crayons.

Skill development in Computer Science is always going to be a huge bonus. Learning the basics of Desktop Publishing software and Tally could help you earn, while you later pursue your higher studies. Learning programming languages like C, C++, and Java can bring out the software engineer in you. If you are aiming to work abroad, a serious programming course could be your work visa. Picking up the basics of the trade, even if only as a hobby, could stand you in good stead any time.

Your biology teacher may have introduced you to the Darwinian theory of the survival of the fittest. Your parents, relatives and well-wishers may have been constantly bombarding you with the fact that it is becoming increasingly difficult to earn a living. They are not wrong. In 1947, the population of India was only around 30 crores. It stands at more than 120 crores now. You may have read news items like 70 per cent of engineering degree holders are unemployed; doctorate holders are applying for menial jobs. In such contexts, any additional skills will help you move ahead in the queue. And remember that time and tide waits for none. The one who stiches in time, indeed, saves nine.

- oppsaikia@mail.ru

Indrajit Kaitla

There is hardly any individual, who does not like to scale the success ladder. Indeed, success is an inseparable entity everybody aspires for. It goes without saying that there is no short cut to success. It does not come overnight. Success involves hard labour, perseverance, devotion, time management, patience, and an indomitable spirit. Often a person might not attain the desired goal even after waging relentless effort. We call them unsuccessful, which is too simple an observation. We fail to acknowledge the effort made, and considering the dignity of this, it carries little significance, whether the package of success is pocketed or not. In fact, real beauty lies in the way one tries to attain success, and not in success itself.

Success carries much more meaning once it entails concern for the betterment of society, and not simply for individuals. If the success of an individual is confined to personal interest, it is partial in nature, and fails to come to real help to the larger spectrum of society. Blessings of science and technology, achievements in arts, etc., no longer remain in the custody of those who have taken painstaking measures in realising them. They surpass petty boundaries and enter the domain of wider interest. The recognition they get because of serving people is far higher than the success confined to a select few.

Most people think that

success brings stability in life. The ups and downs that people usually experience come to an immediate halt, and life goes along a positive frame. But this is partially true since it cannot say that successful persons always lead a decent life with no trace of instability. Success is not an end in itself; rather a consolidated move towards an unexplored territory.

Success is not to be measured in terms of material gain, which is narrow and limited in nature. One's material affluence may bring happiness, but only till a certain point. Success and its consequence should be long-lasting and directed towards the betterment of society.

It is sad to see people becoming disheartened once they fail to scale the desired height in pursuit of success. Indeed, failure may be looked at as something very natural. The end of failure should not necessarily

Scaling success

ly lead to disappointment or despondency. On the contrary, it warrants a positive frame of mind and an indomitable spirit to navigate one towards the right direction. The most important thing is to try our best and undo the wrong course of action so that success may find its way to us.

- indrajit_kaitla@rediffmail.com



Autism and Northeast India

When it comes to dealing with autism in the Northeast region of India, resources, including skilled manpower, are at the minimum. Do the children from this region vary from the rest of the country and the world in terms of care and rehabilitation from parents?

We attempted to study the above in our research work by assessing parental stress, social support, coping mechanisms, as well as resilience in the face of the challenges faced by the parents of the children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) attending a multi-specialty centre – Astiava – located in Guwahati. Children with ASD are among the service users in this centre. Astiava is one of the few such centres in Northeast India.

The outcome, presented in the research paper, titled 'Impact of stress, coping, social support, and resilience of families having children with autism: A North East India-based study' by Shyamanta Das, Bornali Das, Kokoli Nath, Arunima Dutta, Priyanka Bora, and Mythili Hazarika has been published in the Asian Journal of Psychiatry. Some of the highlights are: definite stress and time constraint, discontinuation of jobs held earlier, coping well in spite of problems, mixed social support, religiosity and spirituality as the resorted avenues.

Our research throws light on pertinent issues regarding families having children with ASD from a region where specialty centres are a rarity. This work also has future implications as far as these children's future, rehabilitation, and care from the parental perspective are concerned in Northeast India.



MIND MATTERS

Dr Shyamanta Das

- dr.shyamantadas@gmail.com

The top two topics doing the round now are the Windows 10 Creators Update and Samsung's Bixby. However, for me, the most interesting topic is the unique single speaker surround system. Imagine a sound base that acts like a home theatre in a box! Here is the Playbase by Sonos Inc, an American consumer electronics company known for its smart speakers.

The Sonos Trueplay tuning software processes adapt the speaker to the layout of your room. You can also manually tweak the output in the Sonos app. With window-jarring bass, crisp mid-range and a surprisingly wide soundstage, the Playbase is kind of a surround sound setup with a single speaker.

Apart from being very slim, almost like our JioFi set, Playbase is a breeze to set up. Put it in, download app, tap a few buttons, and you are ready. If you already own Sonos products, it is even simpler. Since it is so small, it will fit underneath almost any TV. The Playbase works great even when the TV is off, since it is still part of the Sonos system. Want one? It is available online.

More Windows!

This column will do great injustice to its nomenclature, if I fail to mention the latest Windows update, launched

The strong fragrance of the *keteki* and the flowering of *kopou* are harbingers of spring, signalling the dawn of a new year in the Brahmaputra Valley. *Kopou phul* is the most sought after orchid in Assam during the New Year festivities in April. Assamese women adorn the pink flowers as ornamentation on their head during the celebration of Rongali Bihu. Found in the Northeast and South India, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia, Java and Philippines, the *Kopou phul* or *Seeta pushpa* in Sanskrit, *Rhyncostylis retusa* is commonly named Fox Tail. Declared the State flower of Assam, the *Rhyncostylis retusa* is intrinsically associated with the mosaic of tradition and culture of the State's diverse ethnic groups. The cultural symbolism of orchids

– that have long been a symbol of love and beauty – could be traced to many tropical and subtropical countries where they enjoy the status of national flower. Orchids are found in almost every habitat, except for Antarctica. The term 'orchid' was introduced by John Lindley in 1845 as a shortened form of *Orchidaceae* – the largest and diverse family of the flowering plants (Angiospermae). The Royal Botanical Gardens of Kew lists 800 genera and nearly 22,000 accepted species of orchids, while thousands more remain unknown or unclassified.

Of some 1,300 species (140 genera) of orchids found in India, the Northeast alone hosts 800 species. Jharkhand has more than 500 species. Meghalaya too has some undisturbed areas providing

on Tuesday.

Microsoft, which has been testing its latest Windows 10 Creators Update in recent months, says that it is now ready to roll out to existing machines. The Creators Update includes some small and welcome additions, like...

Cortana: In this update you will notice Cortana guiding you through the set-up process. Cortana will use the microphone and speakers to listen to commands, including setting up a Wi-Fi network and keyboard layout.

Game Mode: The new Game Mode in the Xbox app prioritises CPU and GPU resources for a game by reducing unnecessary usage of system resources so that games run as best as they can.

Dynamic Lock: This new feature lets you automatically lock a PC when you are away from it. You can pair Bluetooth devices like a phone or wearable, and Windows 10 will sense once the Bluetooth connection is too far away and lock the PC.

Microsoft Edge: The new feature in the Edge browser lets you set tabs aside and save them for use later on. Microsoft has added e-book support and the ability to view 360 videos to Edge. The update includes some more features. However, this is as much update for you now.

- devolnath@hotmail.com

habitat for wild orchids. Silvian's floral wealth has a treasure chest of some 600 orchids. About 300 species of orchids are reported in Assam that represents 44.39 per cent of the Northeastern species and 24.42 per cent of species occurring in India. *Ranenatha insignis* or Red Vanda is one of the most rare and beautiful orchids in Northeast India. The Blue Vanda is equally cherished. There are many other rare varieties found in the Lakhimpur district and Dibrugarh. Of them *Rhyncostylis retusa Alba* is one of the most unique and rare genus of fragrant flower.

Many orchids are highly valued for their medicinal properties. In traditional medicine they are used as a cure for many diseases and ailments and an important ingredient in herbal remedies. The dried seed pods of

Vanilla planifolia are commercially used as flavouring agent in bakeries, for perfumery and aromatherapy. Orchids are cultivated on a commercial basis through intervention from biotechnology. Horticulturists created over 100,000 hybrids for commercialisation, as wild orchids are protected under various conservation laws. While government plans for conservation and propagation of orchids, and development of gene bank for endangered species found in this part of the country are yet to be implemented.

ed, the Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti (KMSS) has come up with a sprawling three hectare Kaziranga National Orchid and Bio Diversity Park. It houses almost all the wild orchids found in the region. - newwildflowers@gmail.com

Orchids: ornaments of nature

SEEDS OF CHANGE

Mubina Akhter

the Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti (KMSS) has come up with a sprawling three hectare Kaziranga National Orchid and Bio Diversity Park. It houses almost all the wild orchids found in the region. - newwildflowers@gmail.com

TITANIC



TITANIC

AS legend goes – Titans were Gods – the children of Uranus (heaven) and Gaia (earth). Cronus was their leader and, Zeus his son. Zeus possessed immense strength and power, and rose up against the Gods, defeated convincingly and became the chief God. Backed by this story, the word titanic came to use since the early 18th century with the meaning 'of exceptional strength, size and power'. So, the huge British passenger liner was named titanic considering her size and expected durability. The expression 'rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic' is used to refer to futile actions against inevitable disaster.



VETO

IN Rome, a tribune was an elected representative of the common people. In order to protect their interests, the representatives opposed measures of the Senate or actions of magistrates, they uttered 'veto', that meant 'I forbid', in Latin. This word found its use in English in the early 17th century to express opposition against a proposed Act, especially one made by a law-making body.

TRUANT

THE word came from old French, but is thought to be of Celtic origin. The use of this word has been traced to the 13th century and was used to denote a beggar who was averse to work, and begged out of choice rather than necessity. The idea of self-imposed idleness ultimately found application in the later medieval period to children staying away from school without permission. It is used to mean anyone shying away from one's duties using all plausible pretenses.



WORDSPK

The story behind words

Bibekananda Choudhury



The cult of the face

Facial expressions are a very important part of communication. Though nothing is said verbally, there is much to be understood about the messages we send and receive through the use of non-verbal communication, such as facial expressions. Facial communication has become an area of utmost importance during the present times. A little bit of self-introspection would really help us get better at communicating better with our facial expressions.

A face that stands out in a crowd gathers optimum accolades. But how to stand out in a crowd of numerous faces? Out of all the facial expressions – frowning, eye rolling, making eye contact, scowling, and appearing bored or interested, looking shocked – the one which always seems to exude warmth and speak of an amiable nature is the smile. It makes you look friendly and approachable.

When it comes to facial language, one of the most important aspects is the tilt of the face. A face that tilts towards the right or the left indicates aggression. While engaging in a conversation, need to keep the face straight, and maintain eye contact with the other person. Eye contact and facial expressions provide important social and emotional information to the one on the other side. Ideally, we suggest you keep a neutral face, devoid of a broad smile. Smile or laugh if the situation demands. Else, keep a neutral expression.

Eye gestures complementing your face will let the other person know that you are interested in the conversation. We would advise you to draw an imaginary straight line from the right eye to the left and back again, dragging it to the tip of your nose. An imaginary 'T' will make the speaker feel that you are being attentive.

Words, as per their meanings, also need a comprehensive modulation of the voice, and matching facial expressions.

– anjanchowdhury74@gmail.com



CHARISMA CHRONICLE

Anjan Chowdhury

WEST SIDE STORY

Junior Cowell's charms

IT appears Simon Cowell's 3-year-old son Eric is following in his father's footsteps, having bagged himself five girlfriends already. Cowell was known for being a ladies' man in his heyday, boasting an impressive host of exes.

The media mogul, 57, said this about his only child with Lauren Silverman, 39: "I think he has my charm with the ladies."

I asked him how many girlfriends he has got and I think he has five currently, so he's doing okay... Eric is absolutely incredible and so funny. It's the best thing that ever happened to me."

Sienna spotted with ex

SIENNA Miller was spotted in New York with her former fiance Tom Sturridge earlier this week. The British actress, 35, looked deep in conversation with Tom, who she shares four-year-old daughter Marlow with. Speaking to *Harper's Bazaar* recently about Tom, who she split with in 2015, she described him as her 'best friend in the world'.

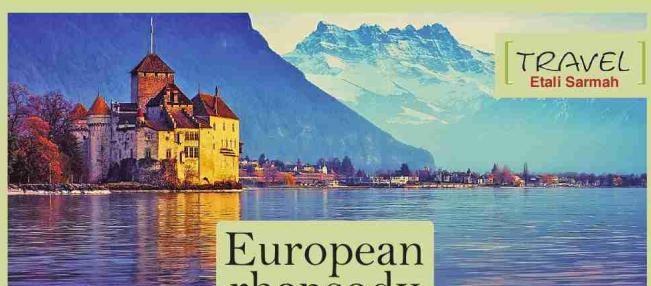
Meanwhile, Brad Pitt, 53, was reportedly seen getting flirty with Sienna, the star of his new film, in Los Angeles, according to *Page Six*.

Sheryl is 'losing faith'

LAST year, Sheryl Crow started a petition on Change.org to shorten the US presidential election cycle. The Grammy-winning singer-songwriter said she was exhausted by the mudslinging and divisive language that had dominated the discussions.

"I felt like it was becoming so hateful that I had to watch to make sure my lads didn't pick up the remote and turn the TV on... Now we have this forum for haters to come out and say the worst thing you could possibly say to someone without having the experience of the reaction. We've learned to be a society without empathy and without compassion."

AGENCIES



European rhapsody

After completing all the shopping, packing and planning, finally the most awaited holiday of the year began. Though (me, my husband and our toddler) had taken short trips to UAE and Egypt earlier this year, this holiday was special – five countries, 18 days and some major relief from the scorching summer heat of Kuwait where we stay.

Our first destination was Geneva, and the bird's eye view of Lake Geneva and the mountains from our Emirates flight added to our excitement. Without wasting much time, we rushed to our hotel and after some rest, started exploring the city. Throughout the trip, we kept our travel style common, we bought Euro rail passes for travel between countries, and respective city passes for local transport with access to some places of touristic importance. We hopped on to a train and reached our first destination the Palais des Nations. Close to this building is a structure called the Broken Chair by Daniel Berset, which was built as a symbol of fragility and strength, precariousness and stability; a desperate cry of war-torn civilian population.

Next morning, we started early, accompanied by a light drizzle to see the spectacular Lake Geneva, one of the largest lakes in Western Europe. We sat in a cafe and enjoyed the sight of the Jet d'Eau, a fountain which is the city's landmark attraction. As we sipped our morning cup of coffee, along with our breakfast, our happy toddler was hopping all around with joy at the sight of the swans enjoying the rain.

Our second destination was Bern. We covered the beautiful Zytglogge, an ancient clock tower belonging to the 13th

century and a UNESCO world heritage site with an astronomical clock belonging to the 15th century. We had to tailormake our travel plan taking into account our little fellow passenger's requirements. So next we decided to go to the Bear Park. I had assumed it to be a zoo. But I was wrong, it was located along the banks of the river Aar, next to the Nydeggbrücke (a bridge), with the bears in the lower section and beautiful walkways for tourists on the top and bottom. Our girl saw three big bears from the top. It made me very happy.

Next day, after a city tour on a tram, we came back, checked out of the hotel and boarded the train to Lucerne, a small city from where we based up to go to Mount Titlis and the Rhine Falls. Our guide explained to us about Swiss cheese and chocolate making and showed us some of the oldest houses along the way in the Engelberg area. We were taken to the mountains to see the glaciers by Gondola, ice fly and revolving aerial cable car. We also walked over Europe's highest suspension bridge, while marveling at the extensive panoramic views.

We soon bid adieu to Switzerland, as we still had four countries to explore. We sat in a morning train to Innsbruck, where we spent two days. This small and beautiful Austrian town is known for its Swarovski Kristallwelten. I especially liked the mechanical theater inside with no human performers, but only some stylish machines doing musical moves. We went to the mountains on the Hungerburgbahn, a futuristic vehicle to see the Alpine zoo which is considered to be the highest zoo in Europe.

By the time we reached Vienna, we were a little tired and so decided to take the bus tours. Vienna is a big city to explore, so choosing this mode of transportation was convenient. We went to see the Schönbrunn Palace, Hofburg Palace, Prater, the Madame Tussauds museum, St Stephen's Cathedral, and many more museums and parks.

We had planned for a day trip to the Slovak city of Bratislava. Due to its proximity to Vienna we chose to keep Vienna as base. Bratislava was a beautiful experience. We were hungry and so chose to have a brunch first, we loved the pasta with goat cheese, pan cakes, herb chicken, rice and *haluski*. Then we walked the beautiful alleys and took a toy train ride. Lovely sculptures adorned the square. After limitless smiles, smiles, chatters, and souvenir shopping, we boarded the shuttle back to Vienna.

The fourth country in our route plan was Hungary. We chose a hop-on, hop-off ride for city exploration. Budapest is a beautiful city on the banks of Danube. There is a viewpoint on the top of the mountains with the Statue of Liberty overlooking the city. The Szchenyi Chain Bridge is a suspension bridge that spans the River Danube between Buda and Pest, the western and eastern sides of the city.

The last destination was Prague, Czech Republic. This serene and gorgeous city is well known for the historic astronomical clock, Charles Bridge and the Prague Castle. Live music, boat rides, Bohemian crystal shops, street performers and endless tourists flocking these attractions liven the spirit of the city. Standing on top of the towers, we stood praising the red roof tops and gorgeous settings of this beautiful city.

– etalimanager07@gmail.com



Techno-time management!

Since school days, we have been hearing about the concepts of time management. 'A stitch in time saves nine' and 'time and tide wait for none' are two of the most famous proverbs on time. Our parents, teachers, seniors, colleagues have left no stone unturned teaching us about time.

In the advent of information boom, the digital era has taken a leaf out of time management and brought out some cool tech and tools relating to time management. Let us have a look at these techno-savvy, time-saving applications:

Rescue Time: If you have doubt that you are using your time wisely, this app will send you weekly reports to indicate your time thieves. You may be shocked to discover how much time you are wasting.

Togg: This tool tracks how much time you spend on different projects. Effective time management starts with being clear on exactly how much time you actually spend on your projects and tasks, and then analyse how you can manage them more effectively.

MANAGEMENT MOVES

Saurav Soman



Mind42: Mind42 is a free mind-mapping app. It helps you to get more organised by focussing your thoughts, thereby gaining clarity on what needs to be done.

MyLifeOrganised (MLO): This task management system helps you to target what you should be focusing on to reach your objectives. It automatically generates to-do lists with priority actions for your immediate attention so that you can track your progress systematically.

Universal Password Manager: This app allows you to keep all your passwords in one encrypted database, protected by one password. This saves your precious time when you forget your passwords and need to retrieve them, and also allows you to use various passwords so you don't compromise on security issues.

Focus booster: This app is designed for those individuals who procrastinate and feel overwhelmed by tasks. It is designed to enhance your focus and remove any anxiety you might have with time.

Syncback Freeware: This free software allows you to back up, restore and synchronise your files easily. It not only saves your time but enhances productivity. If you have never backed up your files before, you should certainly not overlook this pivotal tool.

– casaurav.soman@gmail.com

Articles for **Horizon** should carry the address and contact number of the contributor. Articles can also be e-mailed at - horizon@assamtribune.com



DIRECTOR: MANISH HARISHANKAR
STARRING: VIVIAN SHAH, AKSHARA HAASAN, GURMEET CHOUDHARY, SAURABH SHUKLA, DARSHAN JARIWALA, SANJAY MISHRA

AT THE THEATRES

Jitu Changmai



It's the title of the movie does not put you off, the story that unfolds on the screen definitely will. Manish Harishankar's *Laali Ki Shaadi Mein Laaddoo Deewana* is a complete drivel right from the start. You get to know who the hubba-loo is all about in the first few scenes and then you have to sit for more than two hours to see how the zany details are worked out. Save for the picturesque locales captured beautifully and a fun moment or two, nothing really clicks in the overdone film. As the narrative moves back and forth in multiple flashbacks, it turns out to be a real test of patience.

Laaddoo (Vivian Shah), a small town boy from a modest family, arrives in Vadodara to work as a steward in a food joint owned by his father's friend, Kabir (Sanjay Mishra). There, he falls for the charms of Laali (Akshara Haasan) who is a frequent visitor to the restaurant. After a few meetings complete with the mandatory songs, Laali finds that she is pregnant. But Laaddoo ditched her as he

goes about making moolah. There triggers a bout of parent-swapping as Laaddoo's father (Darshan Jariwala) disowns him and treats Laali as his daughter and Laali's alcoholic father (Saurabh Shukla), on the other hand, considers Laaddoo a son despite all that he has done to his own daughter.

Meanwhile, a royal stud, Veer (Gurmeet Choudhary), appears on the scene who is advised by his family priest to marry a pregnant girl. Wow! When Laaddoo lands up in the marriage venue where Veer and Laali are going to tie the nuptial knot, the drama is set up.

Akshara Haasan, who made her debut carrying an atrocious hairstyle in *Sharmabhih* (2015), looks pretty in this one. But like her elder sister Shruti, she too has not inherited the acting genes from their famous father, Kamal Haasan. But Vivian Shah is more disappointing. With such meagre talent, it is hard to believe that he is the son of the thespians Naseeruddin Shah and Ratna Pathak Shah. Strangely, the gawky Gurmeet Choudhary is the better performer. Seasoned actors Saurabh Shukla and Sanjay Mishra are funny, but they are more or less wasted in inconsequential roles.

Vipin Patwa's music has no novelty value and may in fact turn off the listeners as the romantic numbers pop up one after the other.

– jchangmai@gmail.com



ARCHIE: OH OVER! I'VE GOT THE NEW 'CRUSHINATOR' DVD!
HENRY: SURE ANY POINT YOU COME OVER AND LET ME WATCH IT?
CRAIG: I'M GOING TO MATCH IT.
BOLDRMAN: THAT'S COOL.
VERONICA: THAT'S COOL.
VERONICA: THAT'S COOL.

ARCHIE: ANY POINT YOU COME OVER AND LET ME WATCH IT?
HENRY: SURE ANY POINT YOU COME OVER AND LET ME WATCH IT?
CRAIG: I'M GOING TO MATCH IT.
BOLDRMAN: THAT'S COOL.
VERONICA: THAT'S COOL.

MORT WALKER'S
beetle bailey

WHERE'S BEETLE?
I TOLD HIM TO BE HERE AT 10:00
I-15

I'LL BETHEE STILL IN BED

BUT HAD SHE GOT THE SPECIAL EDITION BOX SET?
LISTEN, ARCHIE, THIS IS A PUPPET COMMENTARY AND ACTOR INTERVIEW!
I'LL BE BACK!
I'LL BE BACK!

SORRY, I CAN'T WORK WITH WHO I WAS CALLED AWAY.
I-15
1-15
1-15

WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS SO SUSPICIOUS?
I-15
1-15
1-15

1-15
1-15
1-15

