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NEWS CAPSULE

LeT ultra killed

SRINAGAR, Sept 2: A Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) militant, involved in the killing of Lt Umar Fayaz in May, was today gunned down in an encounter with security forces in Kulgam district of south Kashmir. A joint team of the police and Army laid a trap for Ishfaq Ahmad Padder in Tantray Pora village. – PTI

Militant shot

DOOMDOOMA, Sept 2: One self-styled corporal of NSCN(K), Honcham Wangsa, was killed in an encounter with the Assam Rifles at Kunsa village in Longding district of Arunachal Pradesh last night. A pistol was recovered from the slain militant. – Correspondent

Ransomware

NEW DELHI, Sept 2: The Union government today issued a nationwide alert on the spread of a new malware 'Locky Ransomware' that can lock computers anywhere anytime and demand ransom for unlocking them. – PTI

HP landslide

SHIMLA, Sept 2: Eight vehicles were buried while three houses and a temple were damaged in a massive landslide triggered by heavy rains near Dhalli area in the suburbs of Shimla today, officials said. No loss of life was reported in the incident. – PTI

9 new faces to take oath as ministers

NEW DELHI, Sept 2: Nine new ministers including former IFS officer Hardeep Puri, ex-Mumbai Police chief Satyapal Singh and retired IAS officer Alphons Kannanthanam will be inducted into the Union Council of Ministers tomorrow as part of a major revamp by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Union Cabinet reshuffle today

The new faces include BJP MPs Ashwini Kumar Choubey (Bihar), Virendra Kumar (Madhya Pradesh) and Shiv Pratap Shukla (Uttar Pradesh). The others are Anant Kumar Hegde, Raj Kumar Singh, Hardeep Puri, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Satyapal Singh and Alphons Kannanthanam.

"The new ministers are going to be strategically placed in key ministries, especially focusing on last mile delivery directly to the people," a source said. "As a part of the restructuring, six incumbent ministers have resigned," the source said.

Earlier there was a cloud of uncertainty over the participation of the BJP allies like the JD(U) and Shiv Sena in the reshuffle, the third since the NDA came to power in 2014, and chances of the AIADMK joining the government also appeared slim.

"There was no such talk of JD(U) joining the Union Cabinet. No talks were held on the issue (between the BJP and JD(U)," Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, whose party JD(U) recently rejoined the NDA, said in Patna.

BJP president Amit Shah returned to the capital today after attending a crucial coordination meeting with various RSS outfits in Vrindavan, and he and Modi gave final touches to the changes.

More than half-a-dozen ministers are expected to make way for new faces in the reshuffle while portfolios of some could be changed. While Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari can be given more responsibility, Railway Minister

(See page 7)

People offering namaz on the occasion of Eid-uz-Zuha at Machkhowa Idgah Maidan in Guwahati on Saturday. – AT photo

Eid-uz-Zuha celebrated across State

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: Eid-uz-Zuha, also called Bakr Eid – the holy festival of the Muslims marked by animal sacrifice – was celebrated across the State along with the rest of the country today.

Religious fervour and traditional gaiety ruled the roost as people in large numbers celebrated the occasion in a befitting manner.

The city, too, had its fair share of the celebrations, with thousands of Muslims congregating in the mosques and idgah maidans in the morning to offer namaz. Men, women and children dressed in their finest attire added to the festive occasion. The imams conducted the proceedings of the prayers.

The central function was held at the Machkhowa Idgah Maidan which drew people in huge numbers. Following the prayers, people, irrespective of their religious affiliation, embraced one another exchanged pleasantries and sweets.

Various other idgah maidans and mosques, such as Athgaon Kabarstan, Islampur, Ambari, Chandmari, Lakhtokia, Kumarpara, Garigaon, Sijubari, Santipur, Panjabari, Latasil, etc., also witnessed spontaneous participation of the devout.

At many places in the State, cultural functions were organised in the evening, enhancing the festive spirit.

Take over Louis Berger case: HC to CBI

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: The Gauhati High Court has directed the Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to investigate the high-profile Louis Berger bribery case.

The court, in its order on Friday, directed the CBI to take over the investigation of the case from the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and bring the investigation to its logical conclusion.

"The case diary shall be submitted by the CID in a sealed cover to the custody of the Registrar General of the Gauhati High Court who shall hand over the same, after completing necessary formalities, to the CBI," the court ruled while directing the State government and its police to cooperate fully with the CBI in the investigation.

Earlier, the court expressed apprehension that as the CID is under the State government and since high ranking officials are involved in awarding the contract after taking huge amount of bribe, the investigating agency may not be in a position to act independently to bring the investigation to a fair and logical conclusion.

Under Article 226 of the Constitution, the High Court has the power to direct an investigation by the CBI, but the power can be exercised only in cases where there is sufficient material to come to the prime facie conclusion that there is a need of such an investigation.

The CID had registered a case (41/15) in the year 2015 following a complaint from one Bhaben Handique and two others. This came after American company Louis Berger pleaded guilty before a New Jersey court of paying bribes in Assam and Goa to obtain contracts as consultants of water supply projects.

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

Sunday

Adventure on wheels
Bhaswati K. Goswami
Forgotten heritage
Prerona Das
Wonders of waste
Maiyankini Bose
WOMEN PLUS:
Cleanliness, godliness
Barsha Malakar
FICTION:
Life – a mirage
Simla Chowdhury
MY SPACE:
Lost in Austen world
Navanita Varadpande
HEALTHWISE:
The cat scratched disease
Dr. Gitartha Roymedhi
THIRD EYE:
Life's meaning
Indrani Raimedhi
FOODTALK:
Fasting foods
Dr. Ritu G. Goswami
Plus all our regular features

Major TEs declare 20% puja bonus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

DIBRUGARH, Sept 2: In spite of the fact that the tea industry incurred losses this financial year due to unfavourable weather conditions, major tea industries in the State have declared puja bonus for the workers at 20 per cent, Dileshwar Tanti, general secretary of Assam Chah Mazdoor Sangha told *The Assam Tribune*.

McLeod Russel India Ltd, which owns the highest number of 48 tea plantations in the State, has agreed to disburse 20 per cent bonus to its workers.

Similarly, managements of James Warren Tea Limited, Rossel

(See page 7)

Assam last NE State to start Aadhaar works

Govt hopes to complete exercise within a year

R DUTTA CHOUDHURY

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: The process of providing Aadhaar cards to the citizens gained momentum in most of the states of the Northeast, while the enrolment process in Assam is scheduled to start only from December 1. The Assam Cabinet took the decision of providing Aadhaar cards to the citizens of the State way back in May and only yesterday, the government finalized that the data collection process would start from December 1.

Official sources told *The Assam Tribune* that the process of providing Aadhaar cards to citizens is almost complete in Tripura and Sikkim, while around 70 per cent of the population has been covered in the states of Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh. The process was delayed in Meghalaya due to opposition by some organizations and it has started only recently.

On the plan chalked out for providing Aadhaar cards in Assam, sources revealed that the projected population in the State up to this year is around 3.40 crore and so far, around 22 lakh people have already received Aadhaar cards. Sources said most of those who have received Aadhaar cards in the State include the Central government employees posted in the State. These include defence personnel, residents of the State who are staying elsewhere in the country, employees of the State Secretariat and those who were covered during the pilot project launched in the districts of Nagaon and Sonitpur.

(See page 7)

JOCOSERIOUS

It is not a real tremor, Sir. Sometimes it feels like that when there is turmoil!

BRICS Summit begins today

Modi-Xi bilateral meet likely

XIAMEN (China), Sept 2: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will arrive here tomorrow for the BRICS Summit, where he is likely to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping, days after the two countries ended their 73-day standoff in the Doklam area.

The three-day summit in this southeastern Chinese city in Fujian province will begin tomorrow even as authorities declared a high alert with Typhoon Mawar expected to hit the coastal region.

In New Delhi today, Modi said he was looking forward to productive discussions and positive outcomes at the upcoming BRICS Summit in China, noting that it has to make important contributions in upholding peace and security and address global challenges.

The summit will be the first gathering when the leaders of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa will meet after New Delhi and Beijing decided on "expeditious disengagement" of their border troops in the disputed Doklam area on August 28.

It is likely to provide Modi and Xi their first face-to-face opportunity to discuss the standoff, which had started on June 16 after the Chinese military tried to build a road India feared would allow Beijing to cut off its access to northeastern states.

India and China have not ruled out a Modi-Xi meeting during the summit. India's External Affairs Ministry (MEA) has said it was a common practice to arrange bilateral meetings on the margins of such multilaterals, while the Chinese Foreign Ministry has said it will make arrangements "if time allows".

The BRICS nations are key players in the world economy and in global governance. Together, the five accounted for 23 per cent of the 2016 global economy, almost double their share in 2006. They contributed more than half of world economic growth in the past 10 years, becoming the strongest engines of the global economy. – PTI

Problems in securing ISO code for Assamese script remain

AJIT PATOWARY

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: The problems faced by the Assamese script in securing a separate code chart in the Geneva-based International Organization for Standardization (ISO) seems far from over. The Assamese script needs a separate identity in the ISO to be an independent entity in the digital world, as it is presently treated as a part of the Bengali script.

The fact that the hurdles for the Assamese script are yet to be over has come to light from a Unicode internet forum discussion held among David Faulks, James Kass and Unicode Consortium's Michael Everson. This discussion was held immediately after the Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) accepted on August 23, 2017 the argument of the Assam government's representatives on the independent character of the Assamese script and thus giving a green signal to the BIS to take up the issue with the ISO.

Unicode Consortium, an American company registered in California, maintains a standard of the global scripts. The Unicode standard is synchronised with the ISO 10646 Standard, which deals with details of the encoding of the individual scripts. To enter this ISO Standard, a script must first get itself registered with the ISO 15924 Standard. The registry of ISO 15924 Standard is outsourced to the Unicode Consortium of which Michael Everson is the registrar.

On August 23 this year, Faulks said in the discussion mentioned above: "It appears that the Indian government will submit an 'Assamese' proposal.

"Since everything I know about Assamese Script indicates that it is basically the same as Bengali and the Unicode Assamese controversy is derived entirely from a sub-nationalistic fit over character and script names, I expect that this proposal will not be accepted.

(See page 7)

SITUATION VACANT

Established, Guwahati based International Call Center is recruiting CCE for its Canadian Mortgage Process. Good salary package with incentives (Limited Seats). Contact: +919706069426. Interview Timing: 7.00 pm onwards.
SV/P/KP472/14

A LEADING ANIMATION INSTITUTE REQUIRES A 2D/ 3D/VFX FACULTY. SALARY AND INCENTIVES BASED ON INTERVIEW. CONTACT: 9706669520, 8474014300.
SV/P/A3886/1

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CD/SV/2657/1

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SV/P/A3906/1

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SV/P/A3902/2

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SV/P/AP746/1

RE-ADVERTISEMENT

Applications in standard form (as published in Assam Gazette, part ix) are invited from eligible candidates having UGC norms with NET/SLET/SET Degree as mandatory required qualification for appointment of Assistant Professor. The eligibility marks of 55% and the relaxation of 5% is provided from 55% to 50% of marks to the Ph.D. Degree holders who are obtained their Master's degree prior to September 19, 1991.

Candidates who have been awarded Ph.D. Degree in accordance with the University Grant Commission (Minimum Standard as procedure for award of Ph.D. Degree) regulation 2009 shall be exempted from the requirement of the minimum eligibility condition of NET/SLET/SET for requirement and appointment of Assistant Professor in the revised pay Band+AGP Rs. 15,600 - 39,100 + AGP 6000 with other allowances as per rule as admissible time to time.

The age of the candidates should not be more than 43 years as on 01/01/2017 and relaxable up to 5 years for ST/SC candidates. The candidates must have a Permanent Residential Certificate (PRC) and must know local languages.

1. Assistant Professor, Chemistry-01 (One Post) Reserved for ST (H) (As per roster point No. 30)

Application along with Bio-Data together with all relevant documents from HSLC onward along with a Demand Draft of Rs. 1000/- (Rupees One Thousand only) (non refundable) drawn in favour of the Principal, Dibru College, Dibrugarh payable at United Bank of India, Chowkidinghee Branch, Dibrugarh should reach the undersigned within 15 (Fifteen) days from the date of publication of this advertisement. No TA or DA will be admissible for appearing the interview. Candidates who are in service must apply through proper channel.

Sd/- Dr. Poresh Boruah
Principal & Secretary
Dibru College, Dibrugarh
Dist-Dibrugarh, Pin-786003, Assam, (M)- 9957214885
CD/SV/2663/1

APPOINTMENT

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SV/P/KP576/1

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SV/P/A3970/3

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SV/P/KP569/1

Job vacancy in a reputed organisation in Guwahati. Apply with Biodata, expected salary, photograph and experience to jobsmk7@gmail.com or call 9435104342. 1) Chief Accounts Officer, male, min 10 year's experience. 2) Junior Accounts Officer, 3) Sales/Marketing Officer, 4) Godown Incharge, 5) Godown Helper.
SV/P/KP565/1

Urgent required Sales person with knowledge of FMCG and Electrical Products under Distributor for the following posts. 1. Sales Representative: 4 person, 2. TATA ACE Driver: 1 person, 3. Peon: 1 person, 4. Accountant: 1 person. Interested candidate please apply to Shyama Associates, 219, M.R.D. Road, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-21. Contact: 0361-2550109, 8402984306. Email: shyamaassociates2015@gmail.com.
SV/P/KP484/1

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"A walk-in-interview for 1 (one) post (un-reserved) of Assistant Professor in Political Science against lien vacancy of FDP under UGC XII plan on UGC scale of pay will be held on 12.09.2017 from 10.30 a.m. Candidates having latest UGC norms with NET/SLET may appeared for interview with all original documents along with photo copies (2 set) and D.D. of Rs. 600.00 (Rupees Six hundred) only towards application fee in favour of Principal, Kokrajhar, Govt. College, Kokrajhar payable at SBI, Kokrajhar. Intending candidates should have to report at 10.00 am on the day of interview in the college." No TA/DA will be admissible. Sd/- (Dr. B.K. Brahma), Principal, Kokrajhar Govt. College, Kokrajhar.
SV/P/16757/1

Urgently required retired persons for reputed company to lead team. Earn upto 50K. #8638389354.
SV/P/A3968/1

DARRANG COLLEGE, TEZPUR

A walk-in-interview will be held for the post of **Project Fellow on 8th of September, 2017** at 11.00 AM for a DBT Twinning Project under the Department of Botany. The tenure of the project is 2 years 9 months and remuneration payable is Rs. 8000/- per month. Candidates with **M. Sc. in Botany (Specialization in Mycology & Plant Pathology)** are eligible to appear in the interview. Interested candidates may send their Bio-data to **darrangcollege@gmail.com** by 6th of September, 2017. No TA/DA is admissible.

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CD/SV/2665/1

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SITUATION VACANT

Asian Institute of Management and Technologyislookingfor 1. A DTP Operator (Part/Full Time) proficient in assemese language typing, additional knowledge of Adobe Photoshop, Indesign, Corel Draw etc. is preferable. 2. A Lab Assistant with knowledge of video production and Camera handling (Part/Full Time). Knowledge of Video Editing Software is preferable. Bio – Data along with photograph to be sent on or before 9/09/2017 either by mail or by post. Address-12, Bhaskar Nagar, R.G.Baruah Road, Guwahati-21. Email ID- hr@asianinstitutions.com, contact: 7002996766.
CD/SV/2661/1

SITUATION VACANT

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Required Sr. Accountant (2)– 30-40K, Data Entry (10) – 6-10000/-, Civil Engg– 20-45K. 8822818792. hrdeptad@gmail.com.
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SV/P/A3965/10

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CD/SV/P/A3960/1

REQUIRED DYNAMIC YOUNG FRONT OFFICE ASSISTANT FOR VIJAYA CONSTRUCTION, GRADUATES WITH 2-3 YEARS WORK EXPERIENCE. MAIL RESUME TO info@vijayaconstruction.com
SV/P/PA731/1

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SV/P/PA732/1

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SV/P/KP543/1

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Laxmi Publications (P) Ltd Guwahati Branch required an Accountant urgently. Qualification B.Com/M.Com, candidate must have experience of 3 years in any trade. Interested persons can apply to the following address. Laxmi Publications (P) Ltd, Hem Sen Complex Near Bazar India, Paltan Bazar. Mobile No. 9957564493/7002285153, 0361-2513881.
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SV/2642/1

Required immediately B.Com Graduates (3 nos- male only) with experience in Tally ERP 9, Excel, Word and Internet. Candidates having practical experience will be preferred. Walk in interview on 06.09.2017 between 3.30 pm to 5.00 pm at S.K. Beria & Co. Chartered Accountants, Sujata Bhawan, Opp. Garima Marble Yard, R.G. Baruah Road, Ganeshguri, Guwahati-781006, Phone No.- 0361-2201006/7.
SV/2643/1

Required Graduate Lady Teacher fluent in English for Montessori Play House at Dibrugarh. Contact 8638199286.
SV/2646/1

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SV/2649/1

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SV/P/A3976/1

Urgently required male/female Marketing Executive. Salary 10K to 30K. Ph. 91270-09340/9864028890. Mail: dsdoffice16@gmail.com.
SV/P/A3977/1

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(CLASSIFIED ON PAGE 4 & 9)

Parties, outfits stage protests over student's suicide in Tamil Nadu

CHENNAI, Sept 2: Political parties and pro-Tamil outfits today staged Statewide protests over the suicide of a 17-year-old girl who had moved the Supreme Court against the NEET- based medical examinations.

They sought immediate withdrawal of the entrance exam. The CPI(M) and its student and youth affiliates, SFI and DYFI, staged a road blockade here over the suicide of the Dalit girl. The party's State unit secretary, G Ramakrishnan, and many others were detained, the police said.

Similarly, VCK party workers were held when they staged a road blockade at Kilpauk here. A students' outfit tried to picket the Government Multi-Super Speciality Hospital at Omanthurar Estate on the main road and its members were detained. The protesters raised slogans against the Central and State governments on the issue of National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET).

At Palayamkottai in Tirunelveli district, a "wailing protest" was held by women members of the pro-Tamil Naam Tamizhar Katchi. Protests were also held at Coimbatore, Salem and Rameswaram by students' and youth outfits who demanded justice for the girl and sought immediate withdrawal of NEET.

Daughter of a daily wage earner, Anitha dreamed of becoming a doctor. She was found hanging at her house at a village in Ariyalur district yesterday. She was reportedly upset after it became known that Tamil Nadu would not be exempted from the ambit of NEET.

The apex court had last month asked the State Government to start counselling for admissions to MBBS and BDS seats in the State based on the NEET merit list. It had given the directive after the Centre told the court that it was not in favour of a recent ordinance passed by the State to exempt it from NEET this year.

Political leaders, including DMK working president MK Stalin and VCK founder Thol Thirumavalavan and actors Kamal Haasan and Rajinikanth, among others, had condoled Anitha's death.

The State Government had announced a relief of Rs 7 lakh to her family, besides offering a government job on compassionate grounds. Political parties and other outfits in Tamil Nadu are opposed to NEET, saying it will affect rural students.

Early this year, the State Assembly had unanimously adopted two resolutions to ensure the continuation of medical admissions in the State based on Class XII marks and not through an entrance exam, as envisaged by NEET. – PTI

Students staging protest in Chennai on Saturday. – UNI

'Hazare has demanded Lokpal on RSS instructions'

MUMBAI, Sept 2: Social activist Anna Hazare has "woken up from his slumber" and demanded the appointment of a Lokpal on "instructions" from the RSS, the NCP alleged today.

Hazare had written a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi earlier this week, threatening to launch another agitation over the appointment of Lokpal and Lokayukta, as well as implementation of the Swaminathan Commission report.

"Anna Hazare has woken up from his slumber after three-and-a-half years. He has become active now... Made the demand for appointment of a Lokpal on instructions from the RSS," NCP spokesperson Nawab Malik alleged in a statement issued here. – PTI

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HC grants 3-day parole to Vikas Yadav

NEW DELHI, Sept 2: The Delhi High Court has granted till tomorrow a three-day custody parole to Vikas Yadav, one of the three killers of Nitish Katara, serving a 25-year jail term without remission.

Justice Ashutosh Kumar directed the Delhi Police to take the convict to his residence in Ghaziabad in custody for three days for observing the post-death rituals of his grandfather, who died on August 20.

"The custody parole would be from 7 am to 7 pm for the three days," the court said, adding that the convict "would not visit any other place except what has been permitted by this order."

"The police personnel who would accompany Vikas Yadav, shall be vigilant and would be in their uniform," it added.

The order came on Vikas Yadav's plea who, through senior advocate Vikas Pahwa, appealed to the court to release him on a three-day custody parole to enable him to participate in the post-death rituals of his grandfather. Additional standing counsel Rajesh Mahajan, appearing for the Delhi Police, did not oppose the plea.

The court observed that the convict had been earlier granted custody parole for a period of one week for meeting his counsel and file an appeal before the Supreme Court against the Delhi High Court order in the murder case. He was also allowed to meet his family members during that period.

Nitish Katara case

On August 29, the Supreme Court had dismissed his plea, seeking review of its verdict sending him behind bars for 25 years. Besides Vikas Yadav, the apex court had awarded a 25-year jail term to his cousin, Vishal Yadav, and 20 years in prison for third convict Sukhdev Pehalwan in the case.

On October 3 last year, the apex court had modified the award of 30-year jail term, handed down to the Yadavs by the High Court, saying 25 years' imprisonment for the offence of murder and five years' jail term for causing destruction of evidence would run concurrently and not consecutively.

It had also scaled down the jail term of 25 years to 20 years for Sukhdev by holding that the jail term for separate offences would not run consecutively, but concurrently.

The top court had earlier dismissed the appeals against their conviction in the case for kidnapping Katara from a marriage party on the intervening night of February 16-17, 2002 before killing him for his alleged affair with Bharti Yadav, the sister of Vikas Yadav. It had concurred with the findings of the High Court that the offence fell under the category of honour killing, which deserved harsh punishment to send across a strong message to possible offenders.

The trio have been serving life terms awarded by the lower court in May 2008 for abducting and killing Katara, a business executive and the son of a Railway officer, as they opposed the victim's affair with Bharti, the daughter of Uttar Pradesh politician DP Yadav.

DP Yadav is at present in jail in connection with a murder case. The High Court had on April 2, 2014 upheld the verdict of the lower court by describing the offence as "honour killing" stemming from a "deeply-entrenched belief" in the caste system. Katara was murdered as Vishal and Vikas Yadav did not approve of the victim's affair with Bharti because they belonged to different castes, the lower court had said. – PTI

Dera chief's film fraternity membership terminated

MUMBAI, Sept 2: The Indian Films & TV Directors' Association (IFTDA) has terminated the membership of Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh, who was sentenced to 20 years' prison for rape earlier this week.

The association, which is a body of directors of cinema and television, said it has "no place for goons, rapists and killers."

"We strongly felt that after Ram Rahim was convicted...., he has no place in our dignified organisation," IFTDA convener Ashoke Pandit told PTI.

"We stand by the emotions of the victims and the judiciary, and hence, terminated his membership. He will not be allowed to work in our industry," he said. Pandit said they have also terminated the membership of his adopted daughter, Honeypreet, who has worked in films made by the Dera chief.

The 'rockstar baba' has made five films, all of which feature him in the lead role. Ram Rahim was found guilty of rape of two of his followers. The case was registered by the CBI in December 2002 on the directions of the Punjab and Haryana High Court. – PTI

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Norms not being followed in medical examination of rape victims: NGO

NEW DELHI, Sept 2: The medical examination of rape victims is not conducted in consonance with the guidelines set by the Health Ministry, a study has claimed while calling for proper training of personnel for carrying out such examinations.

The study was conducted by an NGO, 'Partners For Law in Development,' with support from the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, and the UNDP (United Nations Development Programme).

The study also found that some victims experienced obstacles and harassment from the police in registering FIRs.

"A copy of the FIR is not immediately available, but is despatched later to the victims. Often, victims have to keep following up to obtain a copy," said the report.

The report also said that medical examinations were not carried out within the guidelines set by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW). Consent is not formally taken and signatures and thumb impressions are often taken at a later stage, it said.

It recommended that only those garments that were connected with the crime must be taken for purposes of forensic examination. The report also stressed on the need for victim-witness protection from the accused and their relatives.

The prosecutrix is shielded from the accused within court by way of in-camera trials, and there is a screen to shield her from intimidation by the accused during trial, it said.

However, it said that there is a need for victim-witness protection outside the court premises, where the accused and their relatives continue to have access to the victim, and within the court precincts in waiting areas, it highlighted. Many of the times, the victims are not aware of their right to avail of compensation. – PTI

Muslims offer Eid-uz-Zuha *namaz* in gurudwara

GOPESHWAR, Sept 2: In a show of communal amity, a gurudwara at Joshimath today offered its space to Muslims to offer *namaz* on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha.

"It was raining heavily and to spare our Muslim brethren the inconvenience of offering *namaz* in the open, we offered to them the precincts of our gurudwara at Joshimath for the purpose," Hemkund Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee (HGPC) chief Sardar Seva Singh said.

Between 9 am to 10 am, around 1,000 Muslim faithfuls offered *namaz* at the gurudwara to mark the festival. The Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee also offered them snacks, Singh said. The local administration also lent a helping hand in making the arrangements.

The HGPC chief said they have offered their space for offering *namaz* to the Muslim brethren under similar circumstances in the past as well. Joshimath is located on the way to Badrinath and the famous Sikh shrine of Hemkund Sahib. – PTI

Muslims offering namaz *on the occasion of Eid-uz-Zuha at Jama Masjid in New Delhi on Saturday. – UNI*

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Vide the said Notice it was also informed to all concerned that by an order dated 02.08.2017 passed in Title Suit No.3/2017, the learned District Court No. 1, Guwahati District Court had restrained my Client, its Officers etc. from using the mark 'DURAROOF' and/or any other mark which is deceptively similar to the trademark 'DYNAROOF'. In the said Notice, threats were also given to all concerned that criminal complaints accompanied by Police raids and seizure shall also be conducted although there were no judicial orders to that effect.

We would like to bring to the notice of all concerned that all orders of injunction in favour of Dynaroof Pvt. Ltd. including the order dated 02.08.2017 mentioned in the Notice issued by Bharucha & Partners ***have been set aside by the Hon'ble Gauhati High Court*** by its Judgment and Order dated 28.08.2017 passed In F.A.O. No. 47/2017 and F.A.O. No.50/2017.

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Eduglobal provides Home Tuition (CBSE/SEBA/ICSE) @ all subjects @ (I-XII) Dispur #84040-01796.
Tuition/P/A3322/30

EduQuest Home Tuition/ Classroom Coaching for all subjects. (Experienced Teachers). Ph. 9706050064, 7399050064.
Tuition/P/KP467/10

Result oriented home tuition for Mathematics from VI to X. Ph. 86382-13230 (Polydimension).
Tuition/P/16389/8

Mathematics, Physics Tuition, Class 11 & 12. Small group individual attention. 8486354658, Beltola, Sixmile.
Tuition/P/A3879/3

Shiksha Tutorial home tuition/ Coaching specially Hindi/ Sanskrit/Assamese classes I to X all boards. Ph: 9435555836/ 8133853236.
Tuition/P/A3724/8

Home Tuition: Sketching & Painting, Sipukhuri. M: 8876655188.
Tuition/P/PA739/1

Tuition classes for class IX-XII. Biology (CBSE, SEBA, NEET, AIIMS) from IIT, Ph. D., Dr. A. Ghosh. 9678071697.
Tuition/P/KP048/4

HEALTH & FITNESS

Stay slim, lose 13 kg in 2 months jain Naz - 98640-65832.
H&Fit/P/A3797/4

ADYA SHRADDHA

Dharani Dhar Das
Retd. IOC Employee
Narengi, Ghy-26
(Left for heavenly abode on 25.08.2017)

We know your blessings are always with us and we promise to keep you alive forever in our hearts. We request the gracious presence of all those who stood with us in our tough time.

Adya Shraddha:
4th September, 2017
Matsya Sparsha:
6th September, 2017.

Nilima Das (Wife)
Jayanta Kr. Das (Son)
Nabanita Das (Daughter-in-law)
Ranjan Kr. Das (Son)

CD/AdyaShraddha/KP482/1

SPOKEN ENGLISH

Speak English in 30 days! Fluency guaranteed + free Personality Development classes! North East No. 1 Spoken English Institute since 17 years! @ GCC- above KFC Restaurant, Zoo Road Tiniali. Ph: 90850-60986.
SE/P/A3813/8

Spoken English? Learn from Hemanta Deka (Senior most). IRM (Since:1991), Panbazar. 9864039850.
SE/P/PA651/8

COACHING

Learn equity/share, commodity & currency trading (Technical analysis course). Ph: 8749941021.
Coaching/P/PA639/4

Govt. Jobs/IBPS/SSC/MBA/ MCA/Mathematics+ Reasoning Coaching (individual care). @ 9435004094.
Coaching/P/15740/1

COACHING FOR CLASS XI & XII (CBSE/COUNCIL) SUBJECTS: MATHEMATICS/COMPUTER SCIENCE/POLITICAL SCIENCE/ECONOMICS. VERY EXPERIENCED TEACHERS. WEAK STUDENTS PREFERRED. ULUBARI, M: 070024-45599.
Coaching/P/15909/1

COMPUTER

Learn DCA, PGDCA, TallyERP9/GST, 3D Max, 2D/ 3D Animation, Graphic/Web Designing, Video Editing, Auto CAD, Programming Languages, Oracle, SQL, Stenography, Adv. Hardware+Networking+Laptop+ Wireless Networking, Mobile Reparing with free Spoken English + Personality Development classes ***ETGr*** (ISO 9001:2008). 9854084480 (Bhangagarh), 9707024181 (Zoo Road).
Comp/P/A3901/8

TO-LET

4 ROOMS APPROX 2000 SQ.FT. IN 2ND FLR FOR COACHING CENTER/ COMPANY OFFICE NEAR DOWNTOWN HOSPITAL, DISPUR. CONTACT: 9864064070.
TL/P/KP526/1

At Wireless 2 BHK ground floor. Rent Rs. 12,000/-. Contact: 9435014619.
TL/P/KP479/1

3 BHK first floor (1275 sq.ft.) at Natunpath, Hatigaon near Little Flower School. Ph: 9435348651.
TL/P/KP483/1

RCC GF & 1st floor 3 bed drawing dining kitchen 2 bath store puja each floor for Bank/ Office/Residence with open front and side space walled campus at #63 Bhagadattapur Dispur Kahilipara. Contact: 9740994168.
TL/P/KP477/1

2 BHK flat ready for rent at Kharghuli, near Post Office. Phone No. 9435046938.
TL/P/KP490/1

3 BHK 2nd floor flat at Uzanbazar rent Rs. 20,000/- Bank/Company Executive preferred. Ph: 9435555267.
TL/P/KP468/1

2nd floor at South Sarania for Bank/Company executive. Rent Rs. 12000. Contact: 9435112121.
TL/P/KP473/1

2 BHK flat at Borbari. Mobile No. 9864504555.
TL/P/KP529/1

2 BHK part house near Guwahati Commerce College 7500 pm. 9435158565, 9954097166.
TL/P/PA719/1

1500 sq.feet apartment at Ganeshguri, Nayanpur Road, near flyover for family/Office Purpose. Contact: 9864027162.
TL/P/KP521/1

Two room Assam Type House at Survey, Beltola Road. Ph: 9706802401.
TL/P/KP509/1

700 sq.ft. G.F. at Dispur for Godown/Office. Ph: 9435101778, 7664895020.
TL/P/KP514/1

Single room for working girls at Hengrabari. Contact: 9101220321, 9854700842.
TL/P/KP513/1

3 BHK APT, study room with attached bathroom at Rukmini Nagar Rent 20,000/-. 9864369860.
TL/P/PK463/1

First floor 2 BHK, fully furnished, for rent at Bhaiya Mama Path, Zoo Tiniali. Suitable for 2 working girls. Rent expected Rs. 15,000. Call: 9954449328.
TL/P/KP512/1

RCC 3 rooms attached bath, kitchen, parking at Uzanbazar, Brahmaputra river facing. Ph: 9864101562.
TL/P/KP502/1

2 BHK for Rent (RCC, 1st flr) at Happy Villa with parking. Contact: 9435106525.
TL/P/KP465/1

Apartment for rent 3 BHK, 2 balcony, first floor, about 1200 sq.feet. Residential area. Rehabari. Contact: 8811094732.
TL/P/KP461/1

2 bedroom with toilet, drawing dining, kitchen etc. at Silpukhuri area for rent. 9127067940, 9435041718.
TL/P/KP459/1

3 BHK flat for rent near new Ganesh Mandir Mandir. Cont. Ph. No. 9401161102, 9864103958, 8638036737.
TL/P/KP455/1

3 BHK house at VIP Road, Chachal in 2nd floor 24 hrs water supply car parking rent Rs. 12000. M: 9435009746.
TL/P/PA709/1

3 BHK (G+4) with parking for rent at Rehabari. Family only. Ph: 9401667248.
TL/P/KP458/1

3 (three) bedroom parthouse with a car shed at Monalisa Path, Mother Teresa Road. Ph: 9864035943.
TL/P/KP497/1

Two rooms 4th floor Paltan Bazar near KFC rent 8500/- working person/student. 9707092215.
TL/P/KP493/1

Ground floor for Family/Bank/ or working staff at Sundarpur byelane 3, H.No. 12. Ph: 9435014119.
TL/P/PA707/1

2 BHK flat at Apurba Apartment, Rajgarh, Guwahati-3, Rent 14,000/- service holder/Bank employee preferred. Phone: 9864075415.
TL/P/KP522/1

2 BHK drawing/dining with attached bathroom at L.K.R.B. path, Nabin Nagar, AIDC for rent. Call: 9707728884, 7002268288.
TL/P/KP504/1

3 BHK flat at 2nd floor with parking at Housefed complex, Tripura Road, Beltola, Guwahati. Rent Rs. 12,000/- electricity extra. Contact: 9864041440.
TL/2645/1

House for rent at Beharbari near International School Kalimandirpath two apartment with three bed room bathroom kitchen for rent serviceman. Contact: 9435157591.
TL/2647/1

2 BHK flat at Survey, Bank etc. officials with family preferred. M: 9435152486.
TL/2650/1

2nd floor part 1600 sq.ft. at Zoo Road Tinali for office. Ph: +91-9957194716.
TL/P/PA464/1

2, 3 rooms Chandmari, Silpukhuri, Bhangagarh, Ulubari, Christianbasti, Ganeshguri, Sixmile, Bharalumukh, Zooroad. Ph: 8822363283.
TL/P/KP561/1

2 BHK wellfurnish part house 2nd floor at Shreenagar rent 11000/-. Contact: 9435049320.
TL/P/16716/1

2 BHK & new stylish 4 BHK, Brahmaputra view, near Barthakur Clinic, Kharghuli. 9435015548, 7002775482.
TL/P/16718/1

1 RCC part house with all facilities Kharghuli Beltol. Ph: 9954756569 for small family.
TL/P/KP539/1

Ground floor 1600 sq.ft. at Six Mile Guwahati-22, Opp. VIP Rd, IDBI Bank, near UBI Bank for commercial purpose. Contact: 9854890070, 9864982770.
TL/P/16720/1

3 BHK Hindu family 1st floor, running water parking, Ganeshguri, Kalyan Pur. M. No. 9864369937.
TL/P/KP542/1

Three bedroom flat for rent at Chinaki Path Geetanagar. Contact: 9435408398, 9435817744.
TL/P/KP559/1

3 BHK flat for rent at Panjabari Baghorbori Anusuya Apartment. Rent Rs. 10000/-, Cont. No. 7002138312, 8011957905.
TL/P/KP552/1

3 BHK duplex flat 1863 sq.ft. near Chandmari Police Station, Guwahati for rent. Ph: 7002291049.
TL/P/PA738/1

Tolet ground floor of RCC building near Anuradha Cinema, Bamunimaidam. Contact: 9957179270 or 9435014353.
TL/P/KP545/1

Two rooms attached kitchen, bathroom Guwahati Club, Hedayetpur. Rent Rs. 8000/-. M: 9706577522.
TL/P/KP546/1

Single room with attached kichen bathroom balcony and parking at Christianbasti, G.S. Road. 9085014561.
TL/P/KP544/1

3 BHK flat with 2 balcony Ganeshguri near S.B.I. Kahilipara, Guwahati. Contact No. 9435145974.
TL/P/PA733/1

3 room attached Toilet and kitchen Dispur Supermarket, Dilip Huzuri Path. Ph. No. 9864788495.
TL/P/PA744/1

3 BHK 1935 sq.ft. spacious flat for rent, Kharghuli riverside. Contact: 9435012328, 9435551060.
TL/P/PA741/1

Ganeshguri Good location RGB Roadside, residence/office. Full/ part house. 9954939836.
TL/P/PA740/1

2 rooms, 3 rooms first floor, Kalapahar, near Bharat Sevasharm Service holder preferred. 9435547083.
TL/P/KP570/1

2000 sq.ft. 2nd floor, lift in Sewali Path, Hatigaon only Office, Institute. Ph: 9854550352.
TL/P/KP563/2

3 rooms part house at 2nd floor with 2L+B, kitchen & balcony at Jonakpur, Rupnagar. Ph. No. 9854038930, 9435150549.
TL/P/A3962/1

For furnished/unfurnished flats, offices commercial space contact Maanvi Properties. 9706744533, 8822244533.
TL/P/A3963/1

Deluxe 1 BHK tiles floored attached T/K mosquito net 7500. Lakhiminagar Hatigaon. 9435236466.
TL/P/A3964/1

3 BHK independent GF at Kumarpara for Rent 22000. Call: 7399004883.
TL/P/16723/1

Office space for rent at G.S. Road, Zoo Road. Call: 7399004883.
TL/P/16724/1

1000 sq.ft. newly constructed residential/office space available at Lachitnagar main road with parking. Phone: 9435044957, 9085081001.
TL/P/A3972/1

3 BHK flats for rent at Rajgarh Road, near Bigbazar. Contact No. 9706384355.
TL/P/A3974/1

New 2 BHK 1400 sq.ft. at Geetanagar for rent @Rs. 14,000/ -. Ph: 9435149912.
TL/P/KP579/1

Single room with all facilities, Six Mile, VIP Road. Ph: 8133066960.
TL/P/A3987/1

2 BEDROOMS, DRAWING ROOM, 2 BALCONIES, KITCHEN CUM DINING, RUNNING WATER FOR FEMALE STUDENTS/ WORKING WOMAN AT SIXMILE, GHY. 10,000/-. 9435732327.
TL/P/A3988/1

2 roomed Assam Type House attached bath, kitchen near Beltola A.G. Office. Rent Rs. 6500/- p.m. 9435197596.
TL/P/A3991/1

RCC two small rooms attached toilet, kitchen for Rs. 6500/- at Sixmile. Ph: 9435592543.
TL/P/A3993/1

1BHK, 2BHK with water facilities and parking with furnish/Semi-furnish for rent may contact-9476691338 at Kalapahar. Near VIP Hotel.
TL/P/PA748/1

4BHK Duplex Bungalow with 2 parking space in 2nd byelane Ajanta Path, Hatigaon, Guwahati. Contact: 9435476837, 7002530169.
TL/2663/1

Drawing cum dining, 3 bedroom, 1st floor, Shankardev Path, Pub-Sarania, Ph. 94354-92429, 96780-73699.
TL/P/UP050/2

For rent from 1st October'2017, an independent 3 storied building (approx. 7500 sq.ft.) in 3 floor along with terrace of 2000 sq.ft. at Uzanbazar (presently occupied by TISS). Contact : Siddhartha Chowdhury Mobile :- 98640-91399 (10 am - 2 pm).
TL/P/UP051/2

3 BHK flat super furnish 1st floor, Rukminigaon, opp-PIBCO, Guwahati-22. Rent Rs: 15000/-pm. 9864721537, 986406673.
TL/P/16645/2

Tolet Service- Single/Double from House/Flat, Office, Guest House, Commercial, Godown. 9957699880.
TL/P/A3909/2

RCC 1st floor 2 room suit with Toilet, Kitchen at 6th Mile, Guwahati. Ph: 9435558703, 7086237592.
TL/P/A3913/2

3 BHK Apt, covered car park, Shankar path, Hatigaon. 9435013524.
TL/P/KP454/4

Prime Tolet: single & double room Independent house, Flat, Office, Institute Godown. #9577467574.
TL/P/A3894/2

Single bedroom fully furnished studio apartment available near Survey, Beltola, 24×7 water supply, electricity etc. Ph: 7636026555.
TL/P/KP443/3

3 BHK/4 BHK SMALL LUXURIOUS FLATS IN NEW BUILDING COMPLEX IN LACHIT NAGAR MAIN ROAD FOR RENT STARTING RS. 18,000/- (INCLUDING CAR PARKING AND MAINTENANCE. NO HOSTEL. (M) 7637031951, 9854044411.
TL/P/A3867/4

GROUND FLOOR INDEPENDENT HOUSE - 3 BEDROOM ATTACHED BATH FULLY FURNISHED (PLUS T.V., A.C., FRIDGE ETC) AT NARIKALBARI, GUWAHATI. SUITABLE FOR COMPANY EXECUTIVE/GUESTHOUSE. CONTACT: 8879640399.
TL/P/UP034/2

PAYING GUEST

Girls PG at Beltola Survey Opp. Central Nursing Home, Brindaban Path. 84862-72313.
PG/P/16529/1

Safe accommodation: Girls (Hatigaon) & Boys (Ganeshguri). Single room/attached Bath/AC-Aqua-Inverter, Parking. # 9954029888.
PG/P/A3622/1

Paying Guest for Girl's at Panbazar near Oriental Tutorials Panbazar # 7002331624, 9401002004.
PG/P/16635/3

Furnished single/double seats for Boys/men with all facilities at Zoo Road. 9854086966.
PG/P/A3912/2

Boys PG at Bora Service near Bus Stop. 8134926791.
PG/P/KP523/1

Lalit boys PG at Ganeshguri/Zoo Road. Quality food, Inverter, 24H water. 8876040394, 7399921430.
PG/P/16613/3

Newly opend P.G. for Girls, Sixmile, Lakshmi Mandir. Ph: 9707268449, 9101332908.
PG/P/KP489/2

5BHK Boy's/men's PG, Kundilnagar, Basistha Chariali, Guwahati-29. Ph: 7002940218, 9864048229.
PG/P/A3432/4

Mahagouri Girls P.G. few seats available near Bata Showroom, Guwahati Club. 98643-57317, 8403981510.
PG/P/16760/1

PG Marche, Chandamari, Nizarapar, Q. Food, Inverter, 24 water. 70025-35615, 86381-92700, 70357-40401.
PG/P/PA734/1

PG for boys and working man quality food 24 hours running water. Survey, Beltola. Contact No. 8812826244.
PG/P/KP534/1

Accommodation for girls and working women at Jonali. Contact No. 9678885134.
PG/P/KP537/1

PG for boys near Commerce College. Ph. No. 88766-50867.
PG/P/KP554/1

Exclusive Ladies Paying Guest at Dispur near Rajdhani Masjid. Single/double occupancy. Attached bathroom, all wooden furniture, CCTV surveillance, spacious lounge with dining area. Contact: 91104-51866/ 90853-11011.
PG/P/A3947/1

Newly open Girls PG at Sixmile, Lakhimandir. Single/Double/ Tripule seat available. Ph: 9706396021, 8876404307.
PG/P/A3992/1

HOSTEL

Girls Hostel single-double seat Down Town. Phone: 9864930002, 9864075342.
Hostel/P/KP499/2

LAND & PROPERTY

1½ katha land + ground floor sale Sewali Path, Hatigaon, Ph. No. 97063-77262, 98640-47640.
L&P/P/KP480/1

Myadi patta land for sale at Boiragimoth, Dibrugarh, Ph. 99544-81841, 94355-53922.
L&P/P/15690/3

One katha 10 lessa Myadi land sale at Bagharbari Mazid, Panjabari, Guwahati-37, Ph. 95776-39077, 70021-53796.
L&P/P/KP517/1

2200 sq.ft. G.F. with 1K-10L land for sale in Ganeshguri, R.G. Baruah Road, near International Hospital backside. Brokers excuse, Ph. No. 95088-09036, 95088-09036.
L&P/P/KP449/1

At South Kolkata near Joka IIM/ Metro Rail Station, 2 katha Bastu land sale 5 lakh only (Mukherjee) 91632-83611.
L&P/2644/2

Land with RCC Building G+1 for sale. Contact : 99570-91717, 94013-87152.
L&P/P/KP560/1

Myadi land 2 Katha (Residential Plot) Gorchuk near Kaziranga School owner. Ph: 7002585121.
L&P/P/16759/1

Myadi land 1 Bigha 2 katha 6 lecha at Tangla, Dist. Udalguri PIN-784521, Ph. 98593-71613.
L&P/P/A3984/2

4 Bigha (Myadi) at Sonapur Upper Tepechia (Tribal Belt) @Rs. 22 lakhs per bigha/ negotiable. 88769-77386.
L&P/P/A3989/1

Urgently required buyers for 1 katha high Myadi land Ambari Guwahati-1 near Standard Chartertered Bank. Contact: 8135839652.
L&P/P/16715/1

COMMERCIAL SPACE

Commercial Office, Showroom Space available. Rent starting from Rs. 19. Beltola Tiniali/ Main Road Guwahati-781028. Contact: 8486353235, 7035378390.
CS/P/KP431/7

RENT- 3201 SQ. FT NEAR ULUBARI CHARIALI FOR BANK, CORPORATE OFFICE, MNC ETC. CONTACT: 8920476737.
CS/P/A3349/8

Commercial Space approx 5700 sq. ft available for rent on 1st floor at Borbari Chowk VIP Road, Sixmile with parking facility for Bank and other Institution. Contact: 8638067190.
CS/P/KP462/1

GROUND FLOOR, ROAD FACING, G. S. ROAD, COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT (1800 & 2500 SQ. FT). 9435152253.
CS/P/KP524/3

Rent service for showrooms, Office, Warehouses & commercial spaces all over Assam. Contact: Sidvin Realty Network Private Limited. 0361-2343888, 9706023888.
CS/P/16611/8

Buying, selling, renting of Office Space, showrooms, Godowns, Warehouses anywhere within Guwahati. Promaster. 7399040555, 9435106266.
CS/P/A3827/1

Commercial/Office Space (1276 sq. ft built up area, incl. 1 Bathroom) available for rent in Protech Centre, Ganeshguri, Guwahati. Central location overlooking Ganeshguri Flyover on G. S. Road, part of modern office complex with onsite security and parking spaces. Available immediately. Please contact: D. Talukdar. 9435305986 (M).
CS/2641/4

Commercial Space near A.G. Office Beltola (Approx. 170 sq. ft). Rent Rs: 5,000/-pm. # 9435197596.
CS/P/A3990/1

OFFICE SPACE

Office Space available 400 sq. ft at ABC Tarunnagar. 9435158415.
OS/P/A3905/2

A four storied building measuring 8800 sq. ft of Indian Red Cross Society, Guwahati District Branch at Uzan Bazar, near Vivekananda Kendra, Guwahati. Interested party specially, Multinational, Corporate Sector, Public Sector, Bank etc. will get preferrence. Please contact: 9864208272 Indian Red Cross Society, Guwahati for further details.
OS/P/KP464/1

2000 sq. ft 3A/CS Office furnitures and 1300 sq. ft 1 A/C Zoo Road Office/Call Center preferred. M: 9864061854.
OS/P/KP540/1

Required Office Space approximately 800-1300 sq. ft with parking facility in & around Ulubari, Rehabari, Bhangagarh, Christianbasti. Ph: 9613031780.
OS/P/A3980/1

Office/Godown (500 sq.ft.) available at Ulubari near D.G.P. Office. Ph: 9435044957/ 9085081001.
OS/P/A3971/1

CONSULTANCY

ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM BANK PROBLEM? IS YOUR ACCOUNT N.P.A., ISSUED POSSESSION/SALE NOTICE BY THE BANK, WE ARE HERE TO SOLVE YOUR BANKING PROBLEMS. M: 8296227444/8444.
Consultancy/2617/3

Contact for Digital signature & Online tender & Franchise of Digital signature. Ph: 9508382006.
Consultancy/P/UP022/1

COUNSELLING

Child Psychology, Anger Management, Hypertension, Stress Management, Corporate Training session. Contact: 9859930710.
Counselling/P/16495/8

FRANCHISEE

Be a part of an empowering business with maximum growth opportunity partner with the most innovative Pre-school brand. Ph: 9864039655.
Franchise/P/PA727/1

INTERIOR DESIGNING

Interior Forum Presents Complete Interior, an end to end Interior Designing Service that will transform your imagination into reality whether it is your bed room or your Kitchen, it is your living room or your office our expert designer will fix everything as per your need and your budget. Kindly contact us at 9435057039 or visit our office for free consultation at Anil Plaza, G. S. Road, Guwahati. Other product: Ceiling, Wooden Flooring, Wall Paper, Blinds, Artificial Grass.
Int Design/P/KP326/4

For Interior Designing of Residence, Flat, Commercial Space. Contact: 8876867979, 7002573758.
Interior Designing/P/KP548/1

MUSIC

Home Tutor for Guitar/Piano/ Song/Flute/Sound Engineering classes. Ph. No.: 9706377262, 9864047640.
Music/P/KP481/1

FASHION

Learn Tailoring, Designer Blouse, Kurti, Lehenga, Gown, Limited seats. Contact: 9707115997, 8011428453.
Fashion/P/KP508/1

BOOKS & JOURNALS

To improve made Tea quality buy book at a discount "Tea Manufacturing Technology and Engineering" by ITMC. Contact: itmc.golaghat@gmail.com. 8486121249.
Book/Jot/P/PA718/1

BUS & TRUCK

3516, Leyland, 2010 model prime mover good condition for immediate sale. 8723819282 (M).
Bus & Truck/P/KP532/1

HOTEL & RESTAURANT

Customised food van (Mahindra Maximo) for immediate sale. Price Rs. 3,50,000/- Contact: 9864023502, 7086046648.
H&Rest/P/PA715/1

Running Restaurant with all equipments for sale at Solapara Road, Opp. Capital Travels, Paltan Bazar. Price Rs.: 6,50,000/-. Contact: 9864023502, 9854087596, 7086046648.
H&Rest/P/PA716/1

Running Restaurant with all equipments and Furnitures & Fixtures for sale at Ulubari near Woodland Restaurant, Opp.- Capital Travels, Paltan Bazar. Price Rs.: 13,00,000/-. Contact: 9864023502, 9854087596, 7086046648.
H&Rest/P/PA717/1

WEBSITE

Web-Designing, Web-Hosting, Bulk SMS, Software solution provider. Assamlook.com. # 9864300295.
Website/P/16496/8

VASTU

Change your life by Tarot Reading, Pyra Vastu & Tantra Healing. 81330-43407.
Vastu/P/16305/1

Solve all your Problems by vastu samrat Dr. Menaka 9435559305/0361-2552830 www.readstar.in.
Vastu/P/16637/15

ROAD ROLLER

Want to sale 1 Nos. of JCB & Britannia Road Roller in good working condition, JCB Price Rs. 10,00L & Britannia Road Roller Rs. 7.00L only genuine party. Interested to buy contact : 88761-53078.
Road Roller/P/KP571/1

WAREHOUSE

WAREHOUSE/INDUSTRIAL SHED/MODERN GODOWN, AVAILABLE 18000 SQ.FT. TO 150000 SQ.FT. AT GAURIPUR, AMINGAON. # 9864741396, 9435041918.
Warehouse/P/A3493/30

Covered Industrial/Warehouse 7000 sq. ft and 5000 sq. ft near Changsari on Highway. Contact: 9101298788.
Warehouse/P/PA648/2

PACKERS & MOVERS

P&C Packers & Movers Household Goods Packers & Transporters.Service all over India, Maheshgroup. Ph: 9435145246, 9127452759.
P&M/P/PA606/30

Rhino Packers, Sixlime, M : 98644-69464, Local shifting M : 94018-22253 (All India). Packing & Transportation Household goods.
P&M/P/A3312/30

Adhunik Packers & Movers, An ISO: 9001:2008, Household goods, Cars. All India, Guwahati. 0361-2510232, 9401785901, 9864195237. Mumbari: 09324261020. Email: rameshagarwal2010@yahoo.com.
P&M/234/180

Contact for household goods shifting. Local & outside. # 9864109852, 9864153586. Popular Packers & Movers.
P&M/P/AG008/30

Shifting? Shifting? Shifting? Local & Outside, Household & Official goods, Sunrise Packers & Movers. Ph: 9854066099, 7002309986.
P&M/P/A3501/10

WEATHER GUWAHATI

LOCAL FORECAST: Generally cloudy sky. Rain/thundershowers is very likely to occur. Maximum and Minimum temperature are most likely to be 32°C & 25°C respectively on Sunday.

TEMPERATURE: Max 33.5°C Min 26.4°C

Cong flays State Govt over NITI Aayog report

Ease of doing business

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: Citing a NITI Aayog report on 'Ease of Doing Business' which showed the State in poor light, the State Congress today questioned the efficiency of the Sarbananda Sonowal government.

But the Assam government claimed that the joint survey by NITI Aayog-IDFC Institute (Mumbai), the report of which was released on August 28 last, was conducted between April 2015 to April 2016.

Addressing a press conference here, State Congress president Ripun Bora said that according to the survey report, it takes an average 248 days to set up a business in Assam, against the national average of 118 days. In Tamil Nadu it is 63 days and in Andhra Pradesh it is 67 days.

"The power shortage per month in Assam is 156 hours while the national average is 46 hours. The average time taken to get construction permission in Assam is 270 days (national average 112 days) and for labour approval it is 103 days (national average 74 days). This shows the efficiency of the government. It is for anyone to guess how the government will develop the State," the APCC president said.

The report was based on data collected from April 2015 to April 2016, says Govt in its defence

An official release of the Assam government, however, claimed that as soon as the new government came to power in May 2016, it passed 'The Assam Ease of Doing Business Bill' at its very first Assembly session in June 2016, and "hence the survey report was based on data prior to the implementation of EODB in Assam".

"The leading business house, Patanjali, got all clearances within six days and the 1000-crore unit started its commercial production in less than 100 days. After EODB started in Assam, the maximum time for getting construction permit in Assam is now reduced to 30 days and the Labour Permits within 15 days. Environment clearance is now given in Assam within a month. Power connection period has now been reduced to 15 days," the government claimed.

The Ease of Doing Business Portal in Assam, which is a Single Window Clearance System, has been functioning since April 2017.

Need for survey on substance abuse stressed

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: A one-day State-level consultation meet on 'National survey on extent and pattern of substance abuse in Assam' was held at Swahid Nyas Bhawan, Uzanbazar here on September 1.

This national survey programme is undertaken by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, in association with the National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC) of the AIIMS, New Delhi.

The meeting was attended by Dr Jayanta Kumar, Director, Regional Resource and Training Centre (RRTC) NE-1, Imphal, Luish Aind, DCP, Crime, Guwahati, Naba Kumar Tamuly, Deputy Director, Social Welfare Department, Government of Assam, and Dr S Gajendra Singh, RIMS Imphal, as resource persons. The speakers highlighted the importance of the survey as well as its technical approach.

More than 20 NGOs representatives working for the prevention of alcoholism and substance abuse were present in the meet along with other invitees.

Dr Sandip Hanse, State Coordinator, RRTC NE I, said household surveys will be conducted in Dibrugarh, Nagaon, Sonitpur, Barpeta, Baksa and Cachar from this month-end.

Relatives of Cachar and Nagaon Paper Mill employees highlight their plight at a press meet in Guwahati on Saturday. – UB

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Cultural programme in memory of Bhupenda

ANN SERVICE

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: On the first day of the birth anniversary of Sudhakantha Dr Bhupen Hazarika, the Luitporiya Cultural Group organised a cultural programme yesterday evening in the fond memory of the late music maestro with support from the Directorate of Cultural Affairs, Government of Assam.

Veteran actor Dilip Kumar Hazarika, who was the chief guest for the evening, inaugurated the programme at the Rabindra Bhawan here. He urged the young generation to keep Dr Hazarika's spirit alive.

A number of artistes like Samar Hazarika, Sudakshina Sharma and Dr Anjanjyoti Choudhury took part in the event and mesmerised everyone with their melodious renditions. Professor Biswajit Ray Choudhury recreated some of the music originally created by Dr Hazarika through his violin performance and left the audience spellbound.

The event also saw a number of dance performances and dance dramas staged by children brought together by upcoming choreographers Akash Jyoti Sharma and Jintu Borpuzari.

Woman missing

CORRESPONDENT

JALUKBARI, Sept 2: A search is under way for Smritimala Chouhan, a 24-year-old resident of Kotabari, Gorchuk, who went missing after leaving her home around 10. 30 am on August 31.

After failing to trace her, Smritimala's family finally lodged an FIR at the Gorchuk Police Station today. Police investigation is on.

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Flurry of activities at Techniche

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: The 19th edition of IIT Guwahati's annual techno-management festival Techniche today witnessed inaugural ceremonies of various activities like TechExpo, Technotlon, workshops and Robotics Module. The crowd witnessed the formal landing of an Air Force chopper, which marked the inception of the Air Force Exhibition.

In the lecture series, a keynote address was given by Dr Nadrian Seeman, a famous American chemist and crystallographer and well known as the Father of DNA Nanotechnology. The lecture's motive was to eventually prove that 'DNA' is no more a 'secret of human body'. The audience showed their enthusiasm and interest by engaging in a healthy questionnaire session.

In another keynote address, Dr Subramanian Swamy, Member of Rajya Sabha, Harvard Associate Professor and an economist, mentioned and discussed various issues including 'need for an entrepreneurial outlook by the budding citizines', 'need for innovation', 'influence of British Rule on our education system', etc.

"In the process of developing a country's economy, if one needs to take huge jumps, then innovation is the solution," Swamy said. His address concluded with a questionnaire session. Apart from keynotes, Techniche witnessed huge crowds at the exhibitions, fun events, workshops and all other competitions.

As part of 'After the Sunset' event, the night concluded with a hilarious comedy show by Sahil Shah, co-founder of East India Comedy and a famous standup comedian.

Fire damages trailer

JORABAT, Sept 2: A trailer caught fire due to a short circuit and its cabin got completely burnt around 4.30 this morning at Jorabat under Jorabat Police Outpost.

As per reports, the coal-laden trailer-truck, bearing registration no PB 10CU-9617, was on its way from Margherita to Guwahati. After reaching 13th Mile area of Jorabat, it caught fire due to a short-circuit in it. No loss of life was reported as the driver managed to escape. Jorabat Police with the help of fire service personnel took control of the situation, but the trailer's cabin was completely gutted. – Correspondent

The ill-fated trailer. – Photo: Jorabat Correspondent

Poor garbage collection

citizens' voice

Citizens are requested to express their Guwahati-specific views within 100 words and mail the same to: citizensvoice365@gmail.com

I fully agree with the views expressed by Dhiraj Kakati through the 'Citizens' Voice' column of *The Assam Tribune* on August 28, 2017. The process of removal of garbage from various parts of the city by the authorities concerned seems to be very irregular. The collection points are always left dirty, posing health hazards to the citizens. One can see pitiable conditions of the garbage collection points in front of the Fakaruddin Building in Lakhtokia, at Dr JC Das Road in front of the Namghar and so on. I request the GMC authorities to take immediate steps in this regard.

– **Dr BL Sharma**, Panbazar

Beautification

The 500-metre stretch connecting the bank of the Deepor Beel with Dharapur to the GIMT is blessed with great natural beauty.

The giant water body in that area is a real delight for nature lovers and tourists. I would like to request the government to develop this small stretch with sitting arrangements and stands for visitors so that people with their families can throng the area in the morning or the evening. Such measures will help keep this area clean and garbage-free. The development of this stretch will also help small traders of this locality earn a good income.

– **Alokojjwal Das**

Brahmaputra Ashok

I subscribe to the views expressed by RN Dutta Barua regarding the Brahmaputra Ashok published in this newspaper on August 29. Enjoying five-star hospitality by the government officials at the taxpayers' expense is unethical. No doubt people on State duties deserve hospitality when it is legitimate. In such a situation, the State is obliged to pay, even if it is a hotel bill. Therefore, it is not expected of an elected government to convert a commercial property for such use. It will keep the gate for its misuse wide open.

Handing over the property to a professional group after following necessary procedures will give the government some revenue and also the desired accommodation on payment. We request the government to keep in mind the long-term implications of a decision in this respect.

– **Gunin Choudhury**

Reserved seats in city buses

For the senior citizens and the physically challenged persons, a certain number of seats are kept reserved in the city buses. But on most occasions, the young and the physically fit people are seen occupying those seats in the city buses.

Most of the so called young and smart people do not show any respect and support to the senior citizens as well as the physically challenged persons while travelling on city buses. Moreover, the conductors of the buses also do not help the elderly and the physically challenged persons to enjoy the facility.

Through your esteemed daily, I would like to draw the attention of the authorities concerned so that they look into the matter seriously.

– **Dhrubajyoti Nath**

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Interest on tax liability for the month of July, 2017 will have to be paid for the period starting from 26.08.2017 to the date on which cash/credit ledger is debited for payment of tax:-
1. Even if FORM GSTR-3B is submitted by the due date but the cash / credit ledger has not been debited; or
2. FORM GSTR-3B is not submitted at all by the due date.

Late fee for delayed filing of return in Form GSTR-3B only has been dispensed with.

Due dates for filing of details and returns for the month of July - August, 2017 are given below:-

Details to be furnished	For July, 2017	For August, 2017
Return in FORM GSTR-3B	Last date already over	20th September, 2017
Details of outward supplies in FORM GSTR-1	1st - 5th September, 2017	16th - 20th September, 2017
Details of inward supplies in FORM GSTR-2	6th - 10th September, 2017	21st - 25th September, 2017
Return in FORM GSTR-3	11th - 15th September, 2017	26th - 30th September, 2017

davp 15502/13/0206/1718

Note: In case where registration has been applied for within 30 days of being liable for registration in the month of July, 2017 but registration has been granted in the month of August, 2017, one single return for the month of July, 2017 & August, 2017 (FIRST RETURN) will have to be filed together and tax paid accordingly.

Please adhere to the above schedule to avoid late fees and interest!

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MESSAGE FOR TODAY

Failure is another steppingstone to greatness.
– OPRAH WINFREY

The Assam Tribune

Matter of concern

The inability of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) launched by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on 31st August to properly place into orbit the IRNSS-1H navigational satellite it had been carrying is a matter of some concern. This has injected a note of failure and pessimism into a programme that had rightfully earned global accolades for continuous success and cost efficiency. This particular PSLV itself had a track record of successfully carrying out satellite launches 39 times since 1994 and was reputed to be a most reliable workhorse. A single failure might serve to dent its unsullied image amongst a host of client nations on which the ISRO depends heavily to sustain other space programmes. It may be recalled that in 2013, when India launched the Mars orbiter spacecraft Mangalyaan, carpers had criticized the Rs. 450 crores price tag, and questioned its affordability for a developing nation. The response of ISRO scientists had been to develop PSLVs using indigenously built cryogenic rockets at a small fraction of the price spent by organisations like NASA and European Space Agency. Because Indian space launches are cost-effective, using them has become attractive for players in the multi-billion dollar satellite launching market, thereby facilitating ISRO launches of multiple satellites which has earned thousands of crores and helped it become financially self-sustaining.

It is true that a single swallow does not make a summer and a single failure does not reflect poorly on the overall performance of our space scientists. However, the "business" of satellite launches which ISRO so heavily relies on is a competitive one, and ISRO cannot afford to have its credentials for success besmirched in any way. Reportedly, the launch itself had gone according to plan and the glitch occurred at the point of satellite-release when the heat-shields protecting it failed to open. Thus the problem does not appear to be, according to experts, on the PSLV itself whose reputation remains intact, but in the manner in which the satellite was integrated with it. This points to the possibility of human error, perhaps brought about by the kind of "complacency" induced by an unmitigated sequence of successes. However, it would not be fair to prejudge the episode and one will have to wait for the report of the "failure assessment committee" constituted to analyze flight data and find out what went wrong. Thus, in a sense, perhaps the failure has come as a blessing in disguise, if it has served to erase any complacency. Rather than be disheartened, our scientists need to consider the failure as a part of the profession, and work with redoubled vigour and alertness, cognizant that the people of India have full faith in them.

'Fake' encounters

Even as we boast of India being the world's largest democracy, the high incidence of fake encounters and custodial deaths, especially in a few restive regions, takes a lot of sheen off the assertion. Jammu & Kashmir and Manipur have been among the worst affected by the phenomenon of extra-judicial killings. Indeed, there have been scores of cases in which the victims were found to be civilians with no criminal record. In many cases, the probes instituted by the State governments are mere eyewashes and end up doing little to provide justice to the victims' families. It is precisely due to the reluctance of the authorities to probe cases of human rights abuse in an impartial manner that the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has urged the Supreme Court to make it mandatory on the part of the States to provide information on any encounter killings to the Commission for enabling the latter to conduct an inquiry. On several occasions in the recent past, we witnessed interventions by the Assam Human Rights Commission as well as the NHRC on incidents of fake encounters and custodial deaths, exposing unprovoked brutality on the part of the police and security forces. It ought to be remembered that every accused, and even convicted criminals, are entitled to their human rights – something that needs to be protected conscientiously if we were to maintain the rule of law in society.

When members of the security forces are increasingly found to be indulging in brutalities that negate the existence of both human rights and the rule of law, the faith of the people in law-enforcing agencies is bound to erode. The high incidence of fake encounters and custodial death along with custodial sexual abuse testifies to the growing dehumanization of the police and security forces. Lack of sensitization to human rights apart, the absence of an effective deterrent mechanism which ensures that the violators of human rights seldom get punished largely explains the prevailing scenario.

Assam floods: the road ahead

■ Dr Umesh C. Tahbildar

As the waves of ravaging floods in Assam this year, 2017, begin to wane, it is time for some serious soul searching as the suffering that befell so many people left them vulnerable to a mitigable natural disaster. Recent floods have taken the lives of more than 150 innocent people, caused immense pain and suffering to lakhs of people and devastated people's property and even livelihood. As the affected people are picking up the pieces of their lives in attempts to get rehabilitated, there is now a need for deep introspection for the society in general and the governing authorities in particular.

It is common knowledge that floods have been a routine event for the Brahmaputra valley all through its recorded history. However, the ferocity seems to have exacerbated over the recent decades for which there is a host of postulated reasons including climate change, aggradation, deforestation, population pressure, human activities including dam building etc. The hard fact is that Assam is preordained with a unique geo-meteorological reality that it has to experience a large annual rainfall, mostly in the monsoon season, of about 230 cm per year. This causes a huge amount of surface runoff over a large catchment area of more than 200,000 km ^2 of the river Brahmaputra. Sandwiched between the eastern Himalayan slopes in the north and a series of highlands including Meghalaya plateau, Mikir Hills, Naga Hills and the Patkai ranges on the south and south east, the Brahmaputra valley is a swath of land area about 90 km wide and about 700 km long. The valley bears the burden of carrying the precipitation through multiple tributaries into the Brahmaputra river that eventually transport the water load to the bay of Bengal through Bangladesh. As the carrying capacity is exceeded by the volume of water drained onto the Brahmaputra river and its tributaries, flood ensues because of overflowing of banks or rupture of manmade structures meant for containing the same flood water.

Even after 70 years of India's independence, the people of Assam have not received much relief from the ravages of floods. It is not that nothing has been attempted to prevent floods. More than 4000 km of embankments have been built in Assam hoping that they would provide relief. Time has proved that they are largely ineffective because of structural failures. It may be noted that not all of the embankments constructed/repaired during the last one year, presumably using the latest know-how, have been able to meet the test of strength in the latest waves of flood. Other methods including dredging have been tried or they are being contemplated. But there are questions as to their viability.

It is, therefore, high time for a paradigm shift in the approach to flood control in Assam. Any future flood control should not be taken as a business as usual in a cavalier attitude. Rather, it is necessary to think out of the box and be creative in developing a new stratagem based on sound scientific and engineering analysis and judgement. There is no magic bullet to strike down the flood problem in its entirety. At the same time, there is no reason why a comprehensive plan cannot be developed given adequate financial resources and seriousness to mitigate the worst case flood scenario. Traditional approach without rigorous scientific analysis of the Brahmaputra valley and the river system with a number of tributaries is doomed to failure. So it is time to chart out a new course of action with a macroscopic view. The alternative to that will be undesired recurrent flood havoc for the people of Assam.

It is, therefore, high time for a paradigm shift in the approach to flood control in Assam. Any future flood control should not be taken as a business as usual in a cavalier attitude. Rather, it is necessary to think out of the box and be creative in developing a new stratagem based on sound scientific and engineering analysis and judgement.

On August 17, 2017, in New Delhi, Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal disclosed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced constitution of a high-level committee to study the flood problem in detail for finding a permanent solution for which a sum of Rs. 100 crore was sanctioned. Furthermore, the Chief Minister announced that a national-level meeting would take place in September, 2017 in Guwahati to find a solution to the flood problem. This is certainly a welcome news. However, the optimism will have to be guarded since there have been a few initiatives of similar nature in the past, none of which produced effective results. The Brahmaputra Flood Control Board was set up under an Act of Parliament (46 of 1980) to implement measures to control flood and bank erosion in Assam. More than three decades later, floods still afflict the populace with pain and suffering, death and destruction. One may also recall that during his visit to Guwahati in November, 2004, the then Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh promised to make floods in Assam *"a thing of the past"*. He set up a Task Force to look at the problem and chart out a course of action. This initiative also failed to deliver the declared promise. In the Chief Minister's meeting in Delhi on August 17, 2017, it has been reported that the Director General of the Brahmaputra Board informed that the Board decided to start three major projects upstream to protect Majuli from the fury of floods. Given the track record of the last more than three decades, credibility of such a promise is serious doubt. There is nothing to show for whatever the Board did to control flood in Majuli for the last 30 years or more as this year's flood havoc has proved. Under the circumstances, it is hard not to be cynical. But one can hope that this time around it is going to be different.

To date there is no comprehensive and integrated flood control blueprint for Assam on the table. It will be a monumental task requiring full backing of large amount of federal funds and a global outreach of expertise involving many different areas of science and technology to develop such a blueprint. Towards that end, the search for a total solution of the flood problem in Assam will be best achieved by instituting an independent *Brahmaputra Flood Control Institute* in Assam with a time bound mandate to come up with a comprehensive and viable design for flood control. Local experts should be roped in for this initiative to capitalize on their experience in a coordinated fashion. The committee proposed by Prime Minister Modi will be well advised to look at the flood problem in Assam from this general angle to arrive at a grand solution scheme in a systematic way rather than embarking on an agenda of rash actions for rhetorical embellishment.

Caring for caregivers

■ Dr Ajaya Mahanta

The word dementia comes from the Latin word demens meaning without a mind. The term dementia came into common usage from the 18th Century when it had both clinical and legal connotation. The word 'Dementia' was used when a person is incompetent and is not able to manage one's own affairs. In the French revolution dementia enriched in law through Article 10 of the Napoleonic code 1808. 'There is no crime when the accused is in a state of dementia at the time of the alleged act'

Medical use of the term dementia evolved throughout the 19th century and was used to describe people whose mental disability were secondary to acquired brain damage, usually degenerative and often associated with old age. In this way dementia was distinguished from mental disorder. From 20th century onward clinical knowledge was supplemented by study of pathology of brain. Marce, in 1863 first described shrinkage of brain of persons who died with diagnosis of dementia. But modern era of dementia started 100years ago in 1907 when Alois Alzheimer, German physician described neuropathological hallmark of dementia , senile plaques and neurofibrillatory tangles in a brain of 51year old lady who died after having dementia. This disease is now known as Alzheimer's dementia.

Current definition of Dementia-Definition of dementia refers to cognitive and intellectual decline involving memory, problem with language, impairment of motor skills, inability to recognize familial people or object , impairment in planning, organizing and abstract thinking, sufficiently severe to interfere with activities of daily life occurring in elderly people. Presentation is of gradual onset and progressive.

The prevalence of dementia rises from about 1% to 2% at age 65 to 10% to 15% at age 80, and may be as high as 40% by age 90.

Dementia is classified into two types. Treatable and non-treatable dementia. Less than 10% dementias are treatable meaning that for majority of dementia there is yet to have curable treatment. Non treatable dementias are also known as degenerative dementia. It is convenient to classify most degenerative dementias as either of Alzheimer's Disease (Alzheimer's Dementia AD) or non-Alzheimer dementia . Alzheimer's disease constitute 65% of all degenerative dementias. Non-Alzheimer dementias include the frontotemporal lobar degenerations, Vascular dementia (multiple strokes), dementia with Lewy bodies, Parkinson's dementia.

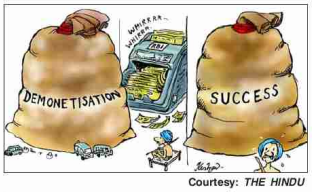
While discussing Dementia without discussing a critical component – the caregiver – would be incomplete. Every individual with dementia requires some degree of assistance with daily living. Degree of assistance varies depending on type and stage of dementia, but all individual with degenerative dementia eventually require total care. A caregiver is an individual who assumes the primary responsibility of caring for an individual suffering from dementia.For every individual with AD, there are one or more caregivers who must assume enormous responsibilities day in and day out for years. They must spend time with the affected individual to prepare meals, ensure adequate hygiene, administer medication, take them to places and appointments, engage them in activities, monitor their whereabouts and safety and the list goes on and on. It has been estimated that 80% of all individuals with dementia are cared for at home , with most care provided by family members. The typical caregiver is an older woman caring for her husband with dementia. In fact 90% care givers are women, 80% of those are spouses. Daughter and daughter-in law account for another 15% of care giver. They are called 'sandwich caregiver' as they have also to look after their family and children as well. Only 5% caregiver are sons and other.

The term caregiver burden has been used widely to describe the resulting physical, mental and financial toll. Burden is affected by both disease related factors like functional loss, agitation and caregiver issues like financial constrain, loss of sleep, physical and mental stress.

Learning to recognise the signs of caregiver stress and burnout is the first step in dealing with the problem. Common signs of stress are anxiety, depression, irritability, feeling tired, run down, difficulty in sleep, overreacting to minor nuisances, new health problems, trouble concentrating etc. Common signs of burnout are less energy, constantly exhausted, feeling helpless and useless.

Tips for caregivers – (1) Speak up – do not expect others to automatically know what you need and how you are feeling. (2) Divide responsibilities – Try to involve as many family members as possible. Divide caregiving task among them. For example, entrust one person with medical responsibilities, another with finances, and another with groceries and errands. (3) Say 'yes' when someone offers assistance- do not be shy about accepting help from others. (4) Be willing to relinquish some control- people will be less likely to help if you give orders, or insist on doing things your way. (5) Give yourself a break- take time to rest. Do things that you enjoy. Do not compromise with sleep. Get out of house. Ask family or friends to help in caregiving. (6) Share your emotion and feelings. (7) Join caregiver support group (Day Care centre, self help group)- this is a great way to share your troubles and find people who are going through the same experiences that you are living each day. If you need help kindly contact Dementia Day Care Centreunder Alzheimer's Dementia and related disorder Society of India Guwahati Chapter. Contact through phone –7035907918 or our web site www.ardsiguwahati.com *(Published on the occasion of World Alzheimer Month)*

Voices of the WEEK



Courtesy: *THE HINDU*

"Electricity tariffs have not gone up for 3rd year in a row! Till 3 yrs ago annual rise of tariffs was like a law of nature!!" – ATISHI MARLENA, AAP leader

★★★

"We want India to be a manufacturing hub and increase the share of manufacturing in GDP to 25 per cent." – NIRMALA SITHARAMAN, Commerce and Industry minister

★★★

"No one has right to take law into one's own hands in the name of one's beliefs... neither this country nor any government will tolerate it." – NARENDRA MODI, PM, India

★★★

"RBI 'gained' Rs 16,000 crore, but 'lost' Rs 21,000 crore in printing new notes!" – P CHIDAMBARAM, ex-finance minister

★★★

"It is a matter of great concern that growth has fallen to 5.7 per cent." – ARUN JAITLEY, Finance Minister

★★★

"After the Indian troops pulled back, we hope that India will respect China's sovereignty and rightful concerns and work towards peaceful settlement." – HUA CHUNYING, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson

★★★

"We tried our best so that there was no jobless. After all they have been working here for 10 to 15 years. But it's very unfortunate that the state government did not pay any heed to our prayers." – P S ARORA, manager, Hotel Brahmaputra Ashok, Guwahati

★★★

"There are still millions of saints in the country who are living a life full of honesty, purity and serving the common people." – Yoga Guru RAMDEV

★★★

"Schools and colleges in India need to be autonomous to ensure students can think independently." – N R NARAYANA MURTHY, co-founder INFOSYS

The Assam Tribune From THE PAST

Congress Policy On Language Reiterated

4-Pronged Approach To Problem

NEW DELHI, September 2 – After a thorough discussion which was marked by occasional sparks, the Congress Working Committee to-day reiterated its earlier resolution on language policy and left its implementation to the Government.

The resolution adopted by the Working Committee in June, 1965 visualized a four-pronged approach.

First, Hindi would be the link language of India but the Government would bring forward legislation in terms of Nehru's assurances to continue the use of English as long as necessary.

Second, each State would be free to transact its administrative business in any language it desires.

Third, the medium of education would be changed to the regional languages at all stages of education and examinations conducted in all the languages listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1967

Persuasive salesmanship

The last word
S RAGHUNATH

In a bid to tone up milk distribution in major cities and towns and villages, Assam State Dairy Development Corporation (ASDDC) plans to allot agencies to retired senior police officers who are willing to take them up to supplement their pensions. A superannuated Deputy Superintendent of Police whose forte was law and order, criminal investigation, anti-dacoity and anti-militancy operations in his service days has been the first to take advantage of the scheme and quite appropriately his agency number is 007. Hardly a week in business, he has notched up record sales not only of milk, but also kova, agmark ghee and pasteurised butter. What accounts for his success? Let's see.

"What do you want?"

"I want a quarter litre satchet of toned milk."

"Come smartly to attention and salute smartly before talking to me and address me as sir. So you want a quarter litre satchet? Do you? Now that's a laugh. How would you like to be booked under the anti-goonda act and receive the beating of your lifetime from my regulation lathi? So you've changed your mind and you'll buy 20 one-litre satchets of full tone milk. How about agmark ghee? I can offer you 500 gms pouches and the price has been reduced for the festival season."

"No, no, sir. I'm a heart patient and ghee will be the death of me. Please sir, can I go home now?"

"So you don't want to buy my best quality agmark ghee? Isn't that a big laugh? You come into my booth and strip to your waist and lie flat on your back. I'll place a bamboo stave across your knees and stamp on it with my regulation boots causing multiple fracture of your bones and you'll end up a paraplegic and I bet you wouldn't like it. Ah, that's good. You'll buy a dozen 25-kg tins of agmark ghee. It is a pleasure to serve discerning customers like you. How about pasteurised butter? It's specially fortified with vitamins and minerals to provide essential nutrition and I'm sure your children would love to have it with their sandwiches and snacks. It costs just Rs 330 a kg."

"No, no sir. I'm allergic to butter and the very sight of it and I throw up. Please, sir may I go home now?"

"So you don't want to buy my yummy butter. The service revolver in my hip holster is fully loaded and how would you like it if you're 'encountered'? You wouldn't like it, of course and you'll take home 10 kgs of pasteurised butter."

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State left parties form common platform for 2018 panchayat polls

PRANJAL BHUYAN

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: The Left parties in Assam have started gearing up for next year's panchayat polls and they are looking to fight the elections on a common platform by focusing on the issues of 'communalism' as well as the fallout of the 'neo-liberal economic policies' on the agrarian sector of the State.

Senior leaders of the Left parties told *The Assam Tribune* that efforts would be made to build a consensus within the 11-party Left Democratic Manch (LDM) to fight the panchayat elections unitedly. They added that there is no question of joining hands with the Congress, and that the Left would maintain distance from both the Congress and the BJP.

"We have started identifying zila parishads and gaon panchayats where our party has some organisational strength and in such places we have started mobilising our cadres. Our fight will be against both the Congress and the BJP. While the Congress may be a secular party, it has time and again compromised with communal elements in the past.

At the same time, the economic policies of both the Congress and the BJP are the same," Deben Bhattacharya, Assam State secretary of the CPI (M) told this newspaper.

He said an effort would be made to have some sort of coordination among the LDM constituents.

"Till now no formal discussions have taken place. But during the bye-elections to the Lakhimpur Lok Sabha and the Dhemaji Assembly seats, the LDM constituents were united. We are keen to extend that understanding to the panchayat polls as well. The LDM constituents will meet in September for an initial discussion in this regard," said the veteran Marxist leader.

He added that besides highlighting the growing threat from 'communal forces', the CPI (M) would also take up the matter of growing distress in the agrarian sector and falling standard of living of the rural masses and try to spread awareness on such issues.

On its own, the CPI (M) is focusing on the districts of Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Sonitpur and Kamrup where the party has some base.

Dambaru Bora, State executive member of the Communist Party of India (CPI), said that the district committees of the party have been directed to prepare for the panchayat polls.

"Our State executive will hold a meeting in Guwahati on September 7-8 where detailed discussions will take place regarding the panchayat polls. While consolidating our own party's base, we are also keen on having a united front of all LDM constituents. The panchayat polls are an opportunity to firm up a solid alliance of all Left and democratic forces of Assam," Bora said.

The CPI, on its own, will focus on Sivasagar, Golaghat, Morigaon, Jorhat and Lakhimpur districts.

"We are also keen to take the LDM experiment to the district, block and panchayat levels.

Our poll plank will be against the economic policies of the government and their repercussions on rural areas which have led to massive destitution and distress in the farm sector," Bora said.

Bibek Das, central committee member of the Communist Party of India (Marxist Leninist) Liberation said that the forthcoming panchayat polls would prepare the ground for the 2019 Lok Sabha elections in Assam.

"It will no doubt be good if the Left can fight the panchayat polls unitedly. We will try for unity and our party is against both the BJP and the Congress.

"The coming panchayat polls will be historic. Not only will this be the first panchayat polls after the coming of BJP to power in Dispur, it will also be held at a time when public disenchantment with the saffron party is growing due to their betrayal of the slogan – *jati, mati and bheti*," said Das.

He said the CPI (ML) Liberation would, on its own, focus on Dibrugarh, Nagaon and Biswanath districts for the panchayat polls.

Satyarthi to flag off awareness rally against child trafficking

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi will flag off an awareness march against child trafficking and sexual abuse from the city in September, as part of a nationwide campaign of his foundation to fight this social menace.

With the recent data reflecting an alarming situation in Assam and other north-eastern states in cases of human trafficking, child marriage and sexual abuse, many local stakeholders have joined this campaign launched by the Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation to mobilise local NGOs, community organisations and also government departments.

The Guwahati leg of the march will be flagged off by Satyarthi from Gauhati University, which would reach Bongaigaon and Dhubri, and will reach Siliguri on September 27.

The march, supported by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will start from Kanyakumari on September 11 and culminate in New Delhi on October 16.

According to Hasina Kharbhih, founder of the NGO Impulse whose motto is to make India safer for children, the entire exercise aims at mass awareness generation among different communities and government agencies.

According to the National Crime Records Bureau and the National Family Health Survey-3, child marriage is a cause of concern in Assam with 1,28,554 girls and 1,34,214 boys being married off before their legal age.

The report also highlights the per cent share of Protection of Children against Sexual Offences (POCSO) cases where the perpetrator was known to the survivor, which stands at 93 per cent. Assam also registers 1,317 such cases, which account for 38 per cent of the national figure.

"These numbers are merely indicative of the amount of child trafficking that takes place. In several other cases which go unreported, children are sold multiple times and forced to endure physical, mental and sexual assault, consistently," Kharbhih stated.

Professor Mridul Hazarika, Vice Chancellor of Gauhati University, also said that to uproot this social menace all segments of society must come together and act at their levels against child abuse and trafficking.

"Violence against children in any form, is unacceptable. This menace will see a decline only when the citizens of our country come forward and declare their zero tolerance against such crimes," Hazarika added.

Kailash Satyarthi has been campaigning for the freedom, safety and security of children across the globe for the past 36 years. He had led the historic Global March Against Child Labour in 1998 that prompted the ILO to pass international conventions against the worst forms of child labour, in addition to the Shiksha Yatra in 2001, after which the Right to Education was included as a fundamental right in the Constitution of India.

He won the Nobel Peace Prize (2014) for his continuous efforts and struggle for the rights of children.

The rally is the launch of the three-year campaign against child rape and child sexual abuse which is aimed at increasing awareness and reporting of the cases, strengthening institutional response, including medical health and compensations, ensuring protection for victims and witnesses during trials and increasing conviction of child sexual abuse cases in a time-bound manner.

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BAADSHAHO
Screen-2
At 10.30 am, 3.20 & 8.30 pm
BAADSHAHO
At 1.10 & 6.00 pm
SHUBH MANGAL SAAVDHAN
Tele Booking Timings 9.00 am to 8.00 pm. Tele Booking No. 8876565017/ 8876565002
(Terms & conditions apply)
Ticket Rates: Regular Show : Rs. 110/-, Rs. 200/-, Rs. 250, Rs. 300/-, Rs. 350/-
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At 12.15 & 5.15 pm
BAADSHAHO
Screen–2
At 10.30 am, 3.20 & 8.30 pm
BAADSHAHO
At 1.15 & 6.00 pm
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'Healthcare tourism can be the next success story in NE'

CORRESPONDENT

JORABAT, Sept 2: Expressing optimism about the huge potential of medical tourism in the north-eastern region, Dr Gitartha Roymedhi, in-charge of healthcare tourism and social healthcare of the North East Cancer Hospital and Research Institute (NECHRI) said the healthcare tourism can be the next success story in the North East if the existing marketing policies and strategies can be upgraded.

In the present healthcare system, there are some deficiencies, due to which many patients from this region head for places like Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Delhi, Mumbai or Kolkata for treatment, he said, adding that the hospitals in those places have become brands and therefore, they also attract patients from other countries too.

"Healthcare in North East India is growing. All the major hospitals and institutions in the region are equipped with modern technologies and have employed experienced physicians and surgeons, skilled nurses and trained technicians. The north-eastern states have the potential to attract patients from different countries, particularly from Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Myanmar and even African countries and Gulf nations," Dr Roymedhi said.

He further said the cool and pleasant weather of the region will add extra comfort to the patients.

"India is visited by thousands of foreigners seeking quality treatment because the treatment costs in our country are about 30 per cent less than in the developed countries. Like other industries, healthcare also runs on demand and quality assurance. Upgrading the quality can help the North East, particularly Assam, transform itself into a cheap healthcare hub for the neighbouring countries," added Dr Roymedhi.

The NECHRI has already attracted patients from Nigeria, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan and Myanmar.

Dr Narimah Binti Awin from Malaysia, former director of the World Health Organisation (WHO) for Southeast Asia, also visited the NECHRI for promoting healthcare tourism in Assam.

OPD clinic

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: Dispur Hospital conducted the weekly evening OPD clinic at the Guwahati Press Club today, where Dr Raj Dutta (medicine) offered free consultations to the participants.

Organised under the programme 'Evening with a Doctor', the camp witnessed the participation of more than 30 mediapersons along with members of their families. They also got their blood pressure and sugar checked by the hospital's Parismita Gogoi and Jitu Pathak.

Meanwhile, a physiotherapy camp is scheduled for September 8 from 1 pm to 5 pm at the Press Club.

Assam last ...

(Contd from page 1)

Sources said that it would be the responsibility of the State government to engage agencies to collect the data and upload it in the website of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) so that unique identification numbers can be generated to provide Aadhaar cards to the citizens. The State government has entrusted the GAD (general administration department) to act as the nodal agency for the purpose.

The UIDAI will give Rs 50 to the State government for enrolment of each person and in addition to the documents sought by the UIDAI, the State government can seek additional documents. The State government can engage only the agencies empanelled by the UIDAI for the purpose of enrolment. The process of selecting such agencies though tendering has already started.

The government is planning to divide the State into 10 divisions to expedite the process. Sources asserted that the process can be completed within a year as stipulated. Earlier, it was decided that the enrolment process would be completed within six months, but in yesterday's meeting, the government decided that one year would be required for completing the job.

Sources revealed that the UIDAI would provide technical and other help to the agencies engaged by the State government and give training to the personnel engaged before the process starts. The agencies will set up camps in different locations of the State so that the people can enrol themselves easily and the number of such camps would be reduced gradually after enrolment of around 70 to 80 per cent of the population.

It may be mentioned here that in a few states, including Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram, the state governments carried on the enrolment process directly through the deputy commissioners without engaging any agency, while most other states of the country engaged UIDAI empanelled agencies for the purpose.

Major TEs ...

(Contd from page 1)

Tea India Limited, Jay Shree Tea & Industries Limited, The Jorehaut Tea Limited, MK Shah Export Limited, MK Jokai Agri Plantations Private Limited, Silonibari Tea Company Limited and Dufflating Tea Estate have agreed to pay 20 per cent bonus.

However, Dolahat Tea Estate will pay 15 per cent bonus, the ACMS general secretary stated. The bonus amount has not been finalised with other plantations. Tanti said that the Assam Company and Andrew Yule will hold discussion with ACMS on September 4, while Apeejay Tea Limited, Goodricke, TATA's Amalgamated Plantations, MK Tea Company Private Limited and Jokai plantations will finalise the issue on September 6. He said that some of the tea industries will be releasing the bonus in two instalments.

The ACMS has demanded that the tea estates release the bonus at least 15 days before the Durga Puja.

Problems in ...

(Contd from page 1)

"However, 'popular nationalism' will probably be used to attack Unicode then."

James Kass wrote the following day: "Any proposal for separate Assamese code should be judged on its merits, and it's a 'non-starter'... 'Popular nationalism' might be best served by returning to separate code pages... For me, that's also a 'non-starter'."

Everson wrote the same day: "They have never been able to show the difference to anyone in SC2... because there is no difference."

Assamese script has a history of evolution right from the 4th century AD. It has its own set of characters and symbols for its written form. It was included during the initial days of digital encoding, in Indian Standard Code for Information Interchange (ISCII), 1991, but it later disappeared from subsequent standards like ISO and Unicode, said Prof Sikhar Sarma, who played a major role in placing the demand of the Assam government on the issue before the BIS.

Only through a determined thrust from the governments in the State as well as the Centre, the ISO could be persuaded to accept the fact that the Assamese script has a separate identity, he added.

Dr Satyakam Phukan, who has been pursuing the matter since 2008, said that he had lodged a complaint with the ISO against Everson and some others alleging that he (Everson) was inimical towards the Assamese people and the script. The ISO had warned Everson not to indulge in such activities. With Everson being the registrar of the ISO 15924 Standard's Registry, it may be difficult for the Assamese script to get a separate code chart in the ISO, warned Dr Phukan.

9 new faces ...

(Contd from page 1)

Suresh Prabhu, who indicated his willingness to resign following a string of train mishaps, may be moved to another key ministry, party sources said.

After assuming office in May 2014, Modi expanded his council of ministers twice – first on November 9, 2014 and then on July 5, 2016.

Union ministers – Kalraj Mishra, Bandaru Dattatreya, Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Sanjiv Kumar Balyan, Faggan Singh Kulaste and Mahendra Nath Pandey – had resigned yesterday ahead of the reshuffle. Uma Bharti, too, had offered to resign but her fate remains in a balance amid speculation that there may be a few more exits. – PTI

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The Director, IIFPT reserves the right to accept or to defer the above dates or reject any tender in full or part thereof without assigning any reason.

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SAVE ENERGY FOR THE BENEFIT OF SELF & NATION

CM provides aid to ailing AASU leader

ANN Service

PATACHARKUCHI, Sept 2: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has sanctioned an aid of Rs 80,000 from the CM's Relief Fund for Sanjib Talukdar, an active AASU leader, a central executive member of the organisation and a resident of Uzanuluwa village in Barpeta district, who has been bedridden for more than a year due to critical illness. The cheque in this regard was recently delivered to him at his residence by Phani Pathak, president of Bajali Zila BJP in the presence of local people.

A team of the BJP party workers including workers of Mahila Morcha, Kisan Morcha,OBC Morcha, Yuba Morcha went to the residence of the sick leader and handed over the cheque amounting Rs 80,000. Bajali Zila BJP president Phani Pathak informed that an application regarding his illness was submitted to the Chief Minister. Accordingly, the Chief Minister sanctioned the amount. On the occasion, the sick leader and his parents were felicitated with *phulam gamusa* in the presence of local people. The decision was lauded by the locals.

Model college set up at Karimganj

CORRESPONDENT

SILCHAR, Sept 2: State PWD Minister Parimal Suklabaidya on Friday inaugurated the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Aadarsh Mahavidyalay in Eraligul area under Karimganj district. The model college will start operating from this academic session. Karimganj Deputy Commissioner Pradip Kumar Talukdar accompanied the minister during the inaugural ceremony. It may be mentioned here that the college is among the 22 such colleges to be opened across the State.

LPG connections distributed

CORRESPONDENT

DOOMDOOMA, Sept 2: LPG connections were distributed among the beneficiaries of Prime Minister Ujwala Yojana (PMUY) of Talap area under Doomdooma circle in a meeting held at the LPG distribution centre of Allied Gas Services here on Friday.

A meeting on the occasion was attended by Executive Director of IOCL (NE region) Dipankar Roy, Chief General Manager Uttiya Bhattacharyya and Deputy Managers Dibyajyoti Bhattacharyya, Ranjit Borgohain and Khagen Changmai respectively.

The proprietor of M/S Allied Gas Services of Doomdooma Sujit Kumar Baruah anchored the programme.

OBITUARY

Madhavi Barhoi Saikia

CORRESPONDENT

DERGAON, Sept 2: Madhavi Barhoi Saikia, noted social worker and a resident of Bongalgaon here passed away recently due to old-age ailments. She was 70.

She also served as a panchayat ward member earlier. Her demise has been widely mourned.

She leaves behind her husband, four sons, three daughters and a host of relatives.

Devout offering Eid-uz-Zuha (Bakrid) namaz at Nagaon, on Saturday. – UB Photos

Eminent scientist, entrepreneur urges youths to become leaders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

JORHAT, Sept 2: Padma Bhushan Dr AV Rama Rao, founder and also chairman and managing director of Avra Laboratories Private Limited, Hyderabad, has appealed to the society, particularly to the younger generation to strive to become leaders by nurturing the qualities like confidence, transparency, integrity, passion and zeal to innovate.

Dr Rao said this while delivering the 23rd Dr JN Baruah Memorial Lecture at CSIR-NEIST here on Friday as the chief guest on the topic 'Science and its Relevance to Society.'

The eminent scientist recollected his journey as a scientist, a technologist and an entrepreneur in the field of natural products of chemistry and drug development.

Having a rich background in organic chemistry, Dr Rao lucidly explained about some of the complex compounds land his work in synthesising these compounds which have directly impacted the Indian drug industry and also abroad.

He also spoke about his journey in establishing the Avra Laboratories and the various industrial projects handled by the company. The lecture was jointly organised by the Dr JN Baruah Memorial Trust, Assam Science Society (Jorhat branch) and CSIR-NEIST.

Dr Baruah was a former director of CSIR-NEIST and also an eminent scientist and an educationist from Assam, who contributed significantly in science and its popularisation among the students.

Dr RSC Jayaraj, of RFRI, Jorhat, attended the function as the guest of honour while Dr RC Boruah, former scientist, of CSIR-NEIST and president, Assam Science Society (Jorhat branch) presided over the programme.

Dr D Ramaiah, Director, CSIR-NEIST delivered the welcome address while Dr RL Bezbaruah, life member, Assam Science Society presented a gist of the activities and achievements of Dr JN Baruah. On the occasion, the bust of Baruah was unveiled by Dr Rao.

As a part of the event, this year the Late Dr JN Baruah Student Scholarship was awarded to Partha J Dutta, a student of class XI (Science) of Crescent Academy, Jorhat for having secured 83.8 per cent marks in HSLC this year.

Awareness meet on ECI's new portal organised at Golaghat

CORRESPONDENT

DERGAON, Sept 2: The Golaghat district Election department, in association with the district administration, organised an awareness meeting on ERO-net, a new web portal of the Election Commission of India (ECI) at the DC's conference hall on Friday.

The new portal that was launched nationwide by ECI has been effective in Assam since August 28. According to a press release issued by DIPRO, Golaghat, the meeting attended by the representatives of different political parties and the mediapersons of the district discussed in length the facilities offered by ECI through this new portal.

Explaining the objectives of the meting, the ADC (Election) Arupjyoti Barman narrated the different aspects of the portal which is a platform for preparation, maintenance and revision of electoral rolls. Through his demonstration, he explained the three major components of the system i.e., ERO-net (links all electoral rolls of nation), UNPER (Unified National Photo Electoral Rolls data) and NVSP (Citizen Electoral Services).

The ADC also urged the participants to make it clear to the people that citizens can easily avail the services of www.nvsp.in for any election-related service.

It is worth mentioning here that through the portal the inclusion of name, deletion of name, change of vote centre etc., will be an easy task for the citizens as well as the officials.

The meeting was also attended by the District Election Officer Kokila Gogoi, Electoral Registrar (ER) of 95 Golaghat LAC Lakhimi Dutta and ER of 96 Khumtai LAC Dr Manika Bora along with the Assistant ERs.

Dhakuakhana Block Office bereft of regular staff

Graft-accused employees abscond, go on leave

CORRESPONDENT

NORTH LAKHIMPUR, Sept 2: Corruption charges filed against several employees of the Dhakuakhana block development office has left the department without its regular staff. This has happened as all the accused employees of the office are absconding or are on prolonged leave to avert arrests as their charges are under non-bailable sections.

The Sub-Divisional Officer of Dhakuakhana, Devashish Baishya filed cases against 40 different individuals of Dhakuakhana, a week ago following allegations of embezzlement of public money of MGNREGA works at various gaon panchayats of the subdivision. The accused included Himananda Das, the Block Development Officer, Dhakuakhana, Kula Chamuah and Kushal Dutta, junior engineers, chairman of Dhakuakhana DRDA, gaon panchayat representatives etc.

Following the filing of cases, the BDO, Dhakuakhana went for leave on health grounds and his junior colleagues have stopped attending the office to evade arrest. This has left the BDO Office in Dhakuakhana in a standstill with no progress in daily work.

Beneficiaries of PMAY Housing scheme are facing worst problems as the second installment of their fund could not be credited to their bank accounts due to the absence of the junior engineer and the BDO. The installments of PMAY scheme are only released following reports by the junior engineer and authorisation by the BDO. Recently, the Joint Director of State Rural Development department Indranee Laskar assured the local public about appointing temporary staff at the Dhakuakhana BDO office. But nothing has materialised so far.

Ironically, this is happening in an LAC where the elected representative is the State Rural Development Minister Naba Kumar Doley. A close aide of the Minister Meera Patir, the chief of Anchalik Panchayat is also an accused in this case who is also absconding.

Book released

CORRESPONDENT

DOOMDOOMA, Sept 2: An executive body meeting of Tinsukia district committee of Sadou Asom Lekhika Samaroh Samity (SALSS) was held at the local branch office of the organisation recently.

The meeting was chaired by the district committee president Anuva Baruah while the secretary of the committee Gita Goswami explained the objectives of the meeting.

Earlier, the secretary of the Doomdooma branch of SALSS Dr Meena Devi Baruah delivered the welcome address. Over 50 delegates from different branches of the Samity across Tinsukia district attended the meeting which discussed about the conference of the district committee to be held in October.

A book titled *Vigyan Aru Jivan* written by Dr Meena Devi Baruah was formally released by the president of Tinsukia district committee of the Samity, Anuva Baruah. The book was published by the district committee of SALSS.

Shortage of doctors, nurses hits Lakhimpur

CORRESPONDENT

NORTH LAKHIMPUR, Sept 2: Shortages of doctors, nurses and other infrastructural facilities have led to a deterioration in the health sector in Lakhimpur district. Presently only 60 doctors are working in the State health sector in the district which requires 115 of them. That means there is a shortage of 45 doctors in the district. Similarly, there are 103 nurses in various categories in Lakhimpur whereas the actual requirement is 170. In this sector, the shortage is of 67 nurses. Fourteen grade four posts in the Lakhimpur Health department are also lying vacant, which too are very important in the health service of the district.

At Dhakuakhona First Referral Hospital which requires 14 doctors, only six are presently working. One gynaecologist attached to this hospital is entrusted with additional charges of duty at North Lakhimpur Civil Hospital. The Panigaon Primary Health Centre has a shortage of one doctor and same is the case in Bihpuria, Nowboicha, Dhalpur, Azad and Bogeenadi PHCs. The present scenario is that doctors from different PHCs are shifted for duties to different hospitals to manage the shortage. This has created resentment among many doctors due to the low income and heavy workload. As a result, most of them have opted for the private health sector by resigning from the State service.

Poor people who come for free medical care at various hospitals and PHCs in the district hence are deprived of the same. On the contrary, the private health care sector is mushrooming doing brisk business by taking advantage of the poor public health services. However, these private sector nursing homes do not have any specialised health care systems and there are examples in which cancer patients are being attended by pediatricians. Most of the private nursing homes do not follow the mandatory waste management norms and other basic guidelines.

The Lakhimpur district health sector also lacks emergency trauma services and ambulances. The Lakhimpur district unit of AASU has staged a series of protests against the poor health care services. They also staged a sit-in protest on August 29 in North Lakhimpur against this problem.

Dambarudhar Sarma Award distribution function held

CORRESPONDENT

JAGIROAD, Sept 2: Sikshasevi Dambarudhar Sarma Smriti Nyash Samiti, a memorial trust under Mayong Circle recently organised its fourth annual awards distribution ceremony in memory of 'Dambarudhar Sarma' and 'Nilima Borthakur Sarma' at the premises of Jagi HS School, 7 km from here with a seminar session. The Nyash felicitated two meritorious students, who secured highest marks in the last HSLC examination under Mayong Block and 'Dambarudhar Sarma Memorial Award' and "Nilima Borthakur Sarma Memorial Award' was given to Prince Gohain and Ribha Bora with a *gamusa*, *japi*, Rs 5000 in cash and citation each respectively at the function by the invited guests.

A seminar on the topic 'actual significance of education' was organised on the occasion. Writer and thinker, Diganta Biswa Sarma, Associate Professor in English of Jagiroad College and Dr Dipak Jyoti Baruah were the main participants in the seminar session. In his keynote address on the topic, Diganta Biswa Sarma said that there has been a palpable change in the society due to the changing economic scenario of our country. A lot of changes have also been noticed in the education scenario. Today, it is the market forces which determine what we should do. 'Utility', more than any other thing has become the most important objective of education. Such a shift to mere utilisation of benefits from education may lead us to a spiritual vacuum. Such a situation will portend ill for our future generations, he cautioned.

Referring to a few scholars' views upon the present-day status of our education, he contended that we have failed to regulate the economy by ourselves, which in turn has come to adversely affect the contemporary education scenario. An economy, which plays a subversive role in education, cannot do good for our nation, he said.

Another speaker of the seminar session, Dr Dipak Jyoti Baruah upheld the need for an integrated approach to teaching and learning. Transaction of learning is an enterprise in which the teacher ought to play the role of facilitation. In the information age, well thought-out plans and policies in education have become all the more important, he said.

Former Secretary, APSC, Trailokya Mohan Sarma released a memorial book, title *Sapnadarsha*, edited by Ajit Sarma, secretary, Morigaon district unit of Asam Sahitya Sabha and published by the Smriti Nyash Samiti. In his memorial lecture, Sarma recalled their contributions in the area specially of Swahid Surjya Bora Girls' High School and Jagi Kalpataru Puthibharal and Krishti Chora, a socio-cultural and educational organisation under Mayong circle. The seminar session was conducted by the Smriti Nyash Samiti vice-chairman, Dr Anil Kr Bora while the secretary Dr Utpal Sarma offered the welcome address earlier.

Gohpur MLA Utpal Bora paying tributes to Swahid Bir Mukunda Kakoti at Dhupabor, in Gohpur on Saturday. – UB Photos

Darrang AASU submits memo to Himanta

CORRESPONDENT

MANGALDAI, Sept 2: The Darrang district unit of AASU on Friday submitted a memorandum to the State Education Minister, Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma over several issues related to the present academic environment and future job avenues for the youths of the district.

The memorandum, prepared on the basis of the resolutions passed in a public meeting held in the office of the AASU here recently and signed by the president and secretary of Darrang AASU, Khanindra Rajbongshi and Parag Kr Saharia respectively, was submitted to the Education Minister through Deputy Commissioner, Darrang.

The 12 charter of demands in the memorandum, among others, included – immediate functioning of the Industrial Training Institution (ITI) at Gerimari, Mangaldai, the building of which was inaugurated in February 2016 ; steps to start the pending construction work of the proposed polytechnic institution near Chapai, Mangaldai; upgrade Mangaldai College to a model college and steps to open PG curriculum in all the subjects in Arts and Science stream; sanction of fund for a modern college library and a boys' hostel for the college.

The list of demands also included introducing a new Science stream in Sipajhar College and all the government provincialised higher secondary schools in the district; filling up of all the vacant posts of subject teachers in those schools; provincialisation of Mangaldai Girls' College and introduction of new subjects in the college; improvement of infrastructure of Mangaldai Commerce College; establishment of an engineering and an agri-science college in the district, among others.

Gyani Swaran Singh: a tribute

Gyani Swaran Singh, a permanent resident of Khutikatia, Nagaon and a reputed businessman, pious and social activist of the Sikh community passed away on August 23 at his own residence at the ripe old age of 102 years.

Gyani Swaran Singh, son of Late Sardar Hakim Singh and Late Mata Radhi Kaur was born in 1915 at Bhekhowal village of Batala district in Punjab. Since childhood, he was a very sincere, honest, obedient, religious-minded and hardworking person. In 1945, he was called to Assam by Late Sardar Bahadur Singh of Jorhat, a first class Railway contractor and his close relatives to construct some railway staff quarters at Digboi area. Later, he went to Dimapur and Jorhat also for the same purpose. Lastly, he permanently shifted to Khutikatia, Nagaon in 1957 where he was working in Sardar Moola Singh Body Building Company for many years. Finally, Gyani Swaran Singh started his own business at Khutikatia, Nagaon.

An honest man of amiable disposition, he would always carry a smile on his face. A doting father, grandfather and very good friend to all, he commanded love for his sociable nature, respect and admiration from everyone. His demise is a irreparable loss not only to his family but also to the society at large, specially, the Sikh society of Assam.

With the passing away of Gyani Swaran Singh, the Sikh community of Assam has lost an intellectual with in-depth knowledge of Sikh Gurubani and a honest social worker. The vacuum created by his absence will remain forever. On his death, a pall of gloom descended in Nagaon district as well as among the entire Sikh community of Assam. He was popularly known as 'Gyani' ji due to his deep and profound knowledge of Sikhsim.

He leaves behind five sons, five daughters and a number of grandsons and grand daughters including and many great grand children and a host of relatives and well-wishers. His wife Bibi Kartar Kaur predeceased him in 1983.

Today, on the occasion of his *antim ardas,* which will take place at Nagaon Gurudwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha, I pay my humble tribute to his departed soul. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

– Laxmi Prasad Singh

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GROOM WANTED

Assamese Nath, 30 yrs, 5'5", girl, working as Dentral Surgeon for Assam Govt. serving in Upper Assam seeks for suitable match. Contact : 9435831877. Mat/G/P/KP009/4

Bengali Kayastha girl age 33, 5'4", Debarigon, BA, LLB good looking, father Engineer, retired GM. No caste bar. Direct : 9957073479. Mat/G/P/A3431/4

Hindu Bengali Kayastha 5'5", 34 yrs. good looking girl working as Assistant Professor in Guwahati seeks suitable match. Contact : 09127267041. Mat/G/P/KP105/2

Beautiful/ Assamese/ Ahom/ 40 years/ 5'3"/ BA. Service in Private (for daughter). Ph. No. 9864387381 Guwahati. Mat/G/P/KP456/1

Suitable groom wanted for Assamese Hindu girl 27 years, 5'4'', BE (GU), working in Mahindra Ltd. Contact Parents directly. 9864065345. Mat/G/P/KP506/1

Groom wanted for a fair and good looking Assamese girl (Rajbanshi) 27 yrs, pursuing Ph.D and working as Assistant Professor in a prominent private college at Guwahati. Father and only brother are Engineers. Residence at Guwahati and originally hails from lower Assam. Early marriage. Contact parents at 7086335635. Mat/G/P/KP492/1

Assamese Brahmin girl, just 30 years, 5'6.5", tall, fair, B.Tech/ MBA working at Noida seeks Assamese Brahmin match. Kindly contact parents directly @ 9435748456/ 9859928687. Mat/G/P/KP501/1

ENGINEER WITH MASTER'S DEGREE ASSAMESE GIRL WORKING IN GERMANY LOOKING FOR SUITABLE MATCH. DIRECT CONTACT : 7002073165. Mat/G/P/A3944/1

Kayastha/ Assamese/ 29/ 5'3"/ B.Com, MBA from Christ University, Asstt. Manager reputed MNC. #7035343836, 8011859400. Mat/G/P/A3921/1

Bengali/ Kayastha/ 26/ 5'1"/ B.Tech/ Central Govt. employee. #9613766785. Mat/G/P/A3922/1

Assamese boy of 31 yrs, working in IOCL as a Sr. Engineer, seeks a girl for early marriage. #7670016333. Mat/G/P/3955/1

Beautiful Hindu/ Assamese/ Kalita/ 30 yrs/ MBBS/ working as a Doctor/ good family background/ lives in Guwahati. Contact : 8898087482. Mat/G/P/A3942/1

Beautiful Assamese/ Hindu/ Kayastha/ 33 yrs/ issueless divorcee/ MBBS, MD/ lives in Guwahati/ good family background/ Please contact : 8822243823. Mat/G/P/A3943/1

Age 23, Bengalore, M.Com, Ghy (2) 35, Bengali, Masters, Lecturers, Ghy (3) 37, Bengali, Masscom, service, Ghy. Sandhani, 8011630847. Mat/G/P/16748/1

(1) Age 24, Kalita, M.Com, Teacher, Ghy (2) 28, OBC, Architecture (Masters) Lecturer, Ghy (3) 33, Kalita, Masters, Saigaon (4) 27, Ahom, Masters/ M.Phil, Ghy (5) 27, Kalita, LLB Advocate, Ghy (6) 27, Kalita, MBA, own Pvt. school, Ghy (7) 28, Kalita, Masters, Lecturer, Ghy. Sandhani, 8011630847. Mat/G/P/16746/1

2 Beautiful/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4"/ B.Tech/ Engineer at Metro/ Upper residency. #70867306669/ 7670003400. Mat/G/P/A3933/1

Bengali/ Kayastha/ beautiful/ slim/ 22/ 5'4"/ Graduate. Caste no bar. @8638153087. Mat/G/P/A3934/1

Assamese, OBC, 31+, 5'4", Govt. School Teacher, MA, B.Ed, Guwahati residence. Wanted suitable match. Contact parents phone : 9435195599. Mat/G/P/16717/1

Required a service holder boy for a Brahmin/ Assamese girl/ 32 yrs/ 5'6"/ MA (Norms), working as Govt. Teacher (LPS) at Sipajhar, Bharadwaj Gotra, Kumvo Rashi. Contact directly : 8638229131. Mat/G/P/16701/1

Guwahati based Nath girl age 36. Looking for match. Contact directly : 7578063798. Mat/G/P/KP536/1

Assamese Hindu issueless divorcee. Fair & preety 32, 5'5", BE (Chemical) working in Mumbai. Father Doctor. Contact (M) 9854063196. Mat/G/P/16702/1

Match invited for Assamese Hindu girl General Caste 26 yrs, MA, Engilish from Delhi University. Presently working in Guwahati. Contact (M) 8876361596, 8876361596. Mat/G/P/16703/1

Assamese Hindu General Caste 27, 5'4", fair & good looking, BE, Engineer MNC seeks suitable match working in any Indian Metrocity. Contact (M) 9854203706. Mat/G/P16704/1

Kalita 26, B.Tech, MBA, working in USA (2) Kalita 28, B.Tech, MS USA working in USA (3) Assamese Hindu 30, BE, Engineer working in USA. *Matchmaker (M) 9854063196. Mat/G/P/16705/1

Alliance invited for Kalita girl 27, 5'3", slim, very fair, B.Tech. Presently working in Guwahati. Contact (M) 8011743756. Mat/G/P/16706/1

34 yrs, NRI boy, MBA and working as a Consultant (UK) seeks a girl for early marriage. Contact : 9085058666. Mat/G/P/A3951/1

Bengali Kayastha boy 32 yrs, M.Com passed. Currently working in Central Govt. as an Accounts Assistant. Seeks a girl from well educated family. 7670002626. Mat/G/P/3952/1

Bengali boy of 34 yrs, 5'9" height, currently working in PWD as an Engineer. Own resident in Guwahati. Seeks a girl for early marriage. 7670002626. Mat/G/P/3953/1

Bengali boy of 33 yrs, 5'9" height, M.Tech passed, currently working as a Software Engineer (NRL) who have own resident in Guwahati. Well educated family seeks a girl for early marriage. 7670002626. Mat/G/P/3954/1

Age 35, Muslim/ BA/ Polytechnic, Self employed, divorcee (2) 28, Muslim, LLB, Advocate, Nalbari (3) 27, Muslim, MBA, Ghy. Sandhani, 8011630847. Mat/G/P/16749/1

Age 30, General, MBA, MNC, Delhi (2) 28, Kalita, B.Tech, MNC, Bangalore (3) 28, Kalita, MA (English), Service, Delhi (4) 29, Kalita, B.Tech, MNC, Delhi (5) 27, Ahom, B.Tech, MNC, Bangalore (6) 27, Kalita, BBM, MNC, Bangalore (7) 27, Kalita, M.Sc/ B.Ed Teacher, Mumbai. Snadhani, 8011630847. Mat/G/P/16747/1

(1) Age 28, Brahmin, MBA, Central job IIT, Ghy (2) 27, Brahmin, B.Tech/ MS, MNC, USA (3) 28, Brahmin, M.Com, service, Ghy (4) 24, Brahmin, Masscom, Ghy (5) 27, Brahmin, B.Tech, MNC, Bangalore. Sandhani, 8011630847. Mat/G/P/16745/1

Assamese/ 26/ very beautiful/ B.Sc, NIFT Delhi/ working in Mumbai/ origins Nalbari. *Weddingbell. *7575917948. Mat/G/P/16744/1

Beautiful Assamese, Brahmin 27, BE (Ghy), Engineer in (IBM) Bangalore. 9127023992. Mat/G/P/16739/1

Hindu Assamese, 29, MA (Eco), GU, Govt. Teacher in Guwahati. Caste no bar. 9854082854. Mat/G/P/16740/1

37, Assamese, Kalita, issueless divorcee, MBBS (GMCH)/ PG, Govt. Doctor in (GMCH) Guwahati. 9127023992. Mat/G/P/16741/1

Bengali, OBC, 27, M.Sc (GU), banker in (SBI) Assam, Caste no bar. 9854059693. Mat/G/P/16742/1

Beautiful/ Assamese/ Kalita/ 26/ 5'5"/ B.Tech/ Central Govt. Engineer/ Ghy residency. #8011641568. Mat/G/P/A3932/1

Muslim/ Assamese/ 29/ 5'4"/ BE Engineer at Govt. employee. #7035343833. Mat/G/P/A3923/1

BRIDE WANTED

Nepali, Shrestha/ Newar, 34 yrs, 6', M.Sc, Govt. job, looking decent Nepali girl. For marriage. Call : 83830-27300, 98568-73617, 99711-18248. Mat/B/2174/4

Guwahati based Assamese boy working in Central Govt. looking for a Post Graduate beautiful girl upto 30 yrs. Ph. : 7896511792. Mat/B/P/KP535/1

Alliance invited for Assamese Hindu boy 30, B.Tech from NIT Nagpur, MBA from IIM Engineer working MNC in Delhi. Contact (M) 8876361596. Mat/B/P/16707/1

Kalita 31, 5'9", BE, MBA, Engineer working MNC, in Bangalore. Seeks suitable match working in any Indian Metrocity. Contact (M) 8011743756. Mat/B/P/16708/1

(1) Brahmin groom's of all age Doctor's/ Banker's/ Business Class/ Govt. Servant/ Engineer working in Assam/ Indian Metrocity/ Abroad. Contact : ADAMS (M) 9854063196. Mat/B/P/16709/1

Doctor Assamese Hindu 31, MBBS, DNB (Anesthesia) (2) Assamese Hindu 33, MBBS, MS, working Guwahati (3) Assamese Hindu 36, MBBS, MD, working GMC. *ADAMS (M) 9854063196 Mat/B/P/16710/1

(1) Kalita 34, BE, Engineer IBM Bangalore (2) Kalita 34, BE, MBA, Engineer, Pune/ Delhi (3) Ahom 38, Software Engineer Bngalore (4) Assamese 40+, BE, Engineer Delhi. *ADAMS (M) 9854203706. Mat/B/P/16711/1

Divorcee/ widower (Hindu & Muslim) of all ages Doctor's/ Govt. Officer/ Professor/ Businessman/ working in Assam/ Indian Metrocity/ Abroad. Contact : ADAMS (M) 9854063196. Mat/B/P/16712/1

Alliance invited for Assamese Hindu boy General Caste 32, BE, MBA, working in University.Eaming handsomely. Contact (M) 8876361596. Mat/B/P/16713/1

Muslim Assamese, 32 yrs, B.Tech from NIT (Tiruchirapalli) & MBA from IIM. Engineer working MNC in Indian Metrocity. Contact (M) 8011743756. Mat/B/P/16714/1

Asamese girl of 29 yrs, CA/ MS, working as a Financial Analyst in Canada. Own resident in Guwahati seeks a boy for early marriage. 7670065577. Mat/B/P/A3956/1

Assamese girl of 30 yrs, working in Central Govt. from Guwahati, seeks a boy for early marriage. 7670065577. Mat/B/P/A3957/1

Smart Assamese, 50, divorcee, B.Sc/ LLB (Dibrugarh), established business (Hotel/ Petrol Pump) in Guwahati. 9127023992. Mat/B/P/16733/1

Assamese girl of 26 yrs, MA (Economis)/ B.Ed, working in Govt. Sector, seeks a boy for early marriage. Contact 7670016333. Mat/B/P/A3959/1

Brahmin/ Assamese/ 33/ 5'9"/ BE, Mechanical Engineer at ONGC. #9854152573, 7035343836. Mat/B/P/A3915/1

Kalita/ Assamese/ 29/ 5'11"/ BE NIT Surathkal, Electronics Engineer at reputed MNC. #7035343836, 9854152573. Mat/B/P/A3916/1

Hindu/ 35 yrs/ Assamese/ Kalita/ MBBS/ pursuing MD/ now working as a Doctor in Govt. Hospital/ well culture family of Guwahati/ Caste no bar. Contact now : 9508008145. Mat/B/P/A3937/1

Kalita/ Assamese/ 38/ 5'9"/ M.Tech IIT working in a very reputed Bank. #9854152573, 7035343836. Mat/B/P/A3917/1

Kalita/ Assamese/ 34/ 5'7"/ BE, M.Tech/ working at Govt. Professor. #9613435785. Mat/B/P/A3918/1

Kalita/ Assamese/ 31/ 5'7"/ B.Tech/ Central Govt. Employee. #7035343833. Mat/B/P/A3920/1

Smart handsome/ Assamese/ Kalita/ 34 yrs/ M.Tech/ MBA/ presently working in Abroad/ lives in Guwahati. Contact : 8898087482. Mat/B/P/A3936/

Smart Assamese/ Hindu/ Kalita/ 37 yrs/ issueless divorcee/ MBA in Finance/ Banker in Guwahati/ good family background/ Please contact : 8822243823. Mat/B/P/A3938/1

Hindu/ 37 yrs/ divorced (no children) Assamese/ Kalita/ PG at Gynaecology/ now working as a Doctor in Assam State Govt. at Guwahati/ Caste no bar. Contact now 9508008145. Mat/B/P/A3939/1

Smart handsome Bengali/ Hindu/ 29 yrs/ MBBS/ working as a Dentist/ good family background/ lives in Assam. Contact 8898087482. Mat/B/P/A3940/1

Muslim/ Assamese/ 34 yrs/ 5'7"/ BE/ now working as an Engineer in Metrocity/ well culture family from Guwahati/ Mobile No. 9508008145. Mat/B/P/A3941/1

Assamese/ Kalita/ divorcee 48/ Central Govt. employee. Caste no bar. Own residency, Guwahati @7670003400. Mat/B/P/A3924/1

Bengali/ divorcee/ Kayastha/ Brahmin/ Age 35 to 55. Well settled. Caste no bar. @8638153087. Mat/B/P/A3925/1

Assamese/ Ahom 33/ 5'1.1"/ B.Tech (NIT). Executive ONGC Engineer at Metro. Caste no bar. #8011641568. Mat/B/P/A3926/1

Assamse/ Brahmin 32/ 5'9"/ MBBS, APSC passed. Govt. Doctor. Ghy residency. #7086730669. Mat/B/P/A3927/1

Assamese/ Kalita 32/ 5'8"/ BE, working MNC at Metro. Caste no bar. Early marriage. @9864809793. Mat/B/P/A3928/1

Assamese/ Kalita 38/ Master Degree. Working Gazetted Officer. Caste no bar. Early marriage. @9864809793/ 9706036644. Mat/B/P/A3929/1

Assamese/ Kalita/ 31/ B.Tech/ MBA, Govt. Bank Officer. Residency Guwahati. Good family background. @7399475723. Mat/B/P/A3930/1

Bengali/ General 30/ 5'8"/ M.Tech (IIT) Class-I Officer. Residence Guwahati. @8822230669/ 7576026601. Mat/B/P/A3931/1

Bengali, General, 33, B.Tech (NIT/ Rourkella), Bank (PO) in Guwahati. 9854059693. Mat/B/P/16734/1

39, Assamese, Kalita, issueless divorcee, B.Sc/ LLB (GU), Govt. employee (Assam Secretariat). 9854059693. Mat/B/P/16735/1

Bengali, General, 32, M.Sc (Geology), Class-1 Central Govt. Employee in (Assam). 9127023992. Mat/B/P/16736/1

Smart Assamese, 37, ST plain, M.Sc/ Ph.D (GU), Assistant Professor (Guwahati University). 9854082854. Mat/B/P/16737/1

Muslim Sunni 38, issueless divorcee, MCA (GU), Govt. employee in Guwahati. 9127023992. Mat/B/P/16738/1

33, Assamese, Kalita, LLB (Delhi University)/ LLM (Singapore), Corporate Lawyer (Metrocity). 9854082854. Mat/B/P/16727/1

Smart, Assamese, Brahmin, 32, BE (Nagpur University), Engineer in (MNC) Pune. 9127023992. Mat/B/P/16728/1

Hindu Assamese, 35, Kalita, MBBS/ MD (Medicine), Doctor in (AMC) Dibrugarh. 9854082854. Mat/B/P/16729/1

Smart Assamese, OBC, 43, M.Com/ Masscom (JNU) Delhi, Govt. employee (OIL) Sector Assam. 9854082854. Mat/B/P/16730/1

Assamese, Kalita, 34, M.Sc/ MBA (Delhi), Class-1 State Govt. employee in (Guwahati). 9854059693. Mat/B/P/16731/1

37, Assamese, Brahmin, MA (Double) GU, Assistant Professor (Govt. University) Assam. 9854082854. Mat/B/P/16732/1

Age 35, Brahmin, B.Tech/ MS, MNC, Bangalore (2) 31, Brahmin, MBA, Govt. job, Ghy (3) 32, Brahmin, B.Tech, MNC, Abroad (4) 29, Brahmin, MBA, MNC, Delhi (5) 32, Brahmin, B.Tech/ MBA, MNC, Metro. Sandhani, 8011630847 Mat/B/P/16750/1

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Age 32, General, BA/ BPO Advisor, Kolkata (2) 37, Kalita, B.Sc, MNC, Kolkata (3) 31, Kalita, MBA, Bank Executive, Delhi (4) 33, Kalita, BCA, MNC, Mumbai (5) 32, General, B.Tech, MNC, Bangalore (6) 31, OBC, B.Tech, MNC, Bangalore (7) 30, OBC, M.Tech, MNC, Abroad. Sandhani, 8011630847. Mat/B/P/16752/1

Assamese/ 30/ MBBS, MS (Surgery)/ working in Medical College/ residence Guwahati. #Weddingbells# 9613894338. Mat/B/P/16753/1

Age 35, Kalita, MBBS/ MG, Govt. job (2) 34, OBC, MBA, Service, Ghy (3) 38, General, Graduate, Business, Ghy (4) 35, Kalita, B.Com, own CA Farm, Ghy (5) 33, OBC, ITI Pass, Govt. job, Ghy (6) 30, Kalita, MBBS/ MS, Ghy (7) 35, Kalita, B.Tech, PSV, Ghy (8) 31, Kalita, Govt. Engineer, Ghy.Sandhani, 8011630847. Mat/B/P/16754/1

26 yrs. Bnrahmin girl M.Tech working as a Jr. Engineer as ASEB, seeks a boy for marriage. Contact 9085058666. Mat/B/P/A3958/1

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Arogya provide Home Care Nursing for oldaged, bedridder, stroke, babycare. Contact, Guwahati: 9706108998, 9476690577. Nursing/P/KP555/1

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PUBLIC NOTICE

I have corrected my name from Pratap Sinha to Mangalbabu Sinha by an Affidavit before the Notary Public Kamrup (Metro) Guwahati dated 29th August 2017. Henceforth, I shall be known as Mangalbabu Sinha. PN/P/KP500/1

I, Ratan Lal Bhati shall be notified as Ratan Lal Bhati instead of Ratan Bhati, and my wife Rukmani Devi Bhati shall be notified as Rukmani Devi Bhati instead of Rukmani Bhati vide affidavit dated 01 September, 2017 sworn before Notary Mrinmoyee Rekha Sarma, Notary Kamrup (Metro) Guwahati, Assam. PN/P/KP577/1

Eid-uz-Zuha celebrated

CORRESPONDENT

RANGIYA, Sept 2: Along with the rest of the country, Eid-uz-Zuha was celebrated with religious fervour by the Muslim community here today.

People offered community *Namaaz* in the morning at Islampur, Highway Chowk and Iddgah Maidan and greeted each othet for peace, prosperity and success.

In Kokrajhar: BTC Chief Hagrama Mohilary today took part in Eid-uz-Zuha special prayers at Monakosa Iddgah Maidan in Kokrajhar and offered prayers.

Senior BPF leaders, among others, also attended the function and offered prayers on the occasion. He also announced financial assistance for construction of the boundary wall of the Monakosa Iddgah Maidan. Mohilar appealed to all to maintain peace and harmony and extend cooperation for all-round development of the region.

Later, talking to mediapersons, Hagrama Mohilary said he prayed for peace, progress and prosperity of the region as well as the State. He also conveyed his greetings to the people of this region as well as the State on the auspicious occasion of Eid-uz-Zuha, our Correspondent adds.

Raha student saved by police from Blue Whale Challenge

CORRESPONDENT

RAHA, Sept 2: A 13-year-old student of Raha was saved by police from the disastrous Russian-based online game Blue Whale Challenge here on Friday.

This is the first Blue Whale Challenge incident reported here, which has till date claimed many young lives in the country and abroad.

The Class-VII student of a local school here had already completed five out of 50 assigned tasks, which is an essential part of the game challenged by the administrator. The local police after receiving the information from a source about the boy's addiction to the game immediately rushed to the victim's house and rescued him.

" We noticed an outline of a blue whale carved on his forearm with a blade", the police officer investigating the case told this Correspondent.

He added, "when we received information that a student of Class-VII of a local school and hailing from Mulankota area of Raha had taken up the Blue Whale Challenge, we reached the spot immediately and rescued the boy. We found the boy lying on his bed and brought him to the doctor for treatment."

According to the student, he had been instructed to complete some assignments by the administrator of the game after each task he had completed. " When I refused to complete the task assigned to me, the administrator threatened to inform my parents about my wrong doings via the internet," he informed.

In another Blue Whale Challenge-related incident, two boys were rescued by local people at Raha Chariali on Friday night when the duo were on their way to Guwahati from Nagaon by their bicycles. Identified as students of local schools, one among them had already completed his 27th assigned task.

"The administrator of the game assigned me the task to go for a 112-km long bicycle ride on the highway as the next task, following which I along with my friend were riding bicycles to Guwahati from Nagaon," one among them said.

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TENDER NOTICE

Invited quotation from Agency for Security Service at Ghy-based Industry. Ph: 9435115577. TN/P/KP553/1

CORRIGENDUM TO TENDER NOTICE DATED: 02.09.2017

Assam Cricket Association (ACA) hereby clarifies that the make of light fittings may be read as "Philips/Bajaj/Crompton/GE". All other terms & conditions remain unchanged.

CD/TN/Corri/P/2660/1

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Sealed tenders are invited for supply of **Eartags with Eartag Applicators (Combo)** under NPBB. NIT may be obtained on application by email. Last date of tender submission with samples: **22-SEP-2017 (3 PM).**

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer,
Assam Livestock Development Agency,
GS Road, Khanapara,
Guwahati-781022.
Email:
ceoalda@gmail.com

CD/TN/2652/1

Protest

SILCHAR, Sept 2: Demanding immediate recruitment of teachers, including principals, vice principals and faculty staff across Government schools in Cachar district, student organisations like All Cachar Karimganj Hailakandi Students' Association staged a demonstration outside the office of the Inspector of Schools in Cachar recently. During the protest, members of the students' body shouted slogans. – Correspondent

Carcass found

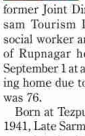
CORRESPONDENT

DERGAON, Sept 2: The carcass of a male leopard cub about 4 months old was found at Bhakatiagaon under Dergaon Police Station today.

Though the Dergaon Forest Beat Officer claimed that the cause of death of the cub was accidental, but sources alleged that it was a case of poisoning.

OBITUARY

Charu Sarma



GUWAHATI, Sept 2: Charu Sarma, wife of Late Prafulla Chandra Sarma, former Joint Director of Assam Tourism Department, social worker and a resident of Rupnagar here, died on September 1 at a private nursing home due to illness. She was 76.

Born at Tezpur on July 18, 1941, Late Sarma was closely associated with Brindaban Dham Seva Ashram and the Shiva Temple of Rupnagar area. She actively took part in the 8th biennial conference of Assam Brahmin Samaj and was a member of the reception committee.

She leaves behind a son, a daughter and a host of relatives. Her death was widely mourned.

WEATHER NORTHEAST

Forecast for North Eastern States: Rain/thundershower is very likely to occur at most places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura.

Warning: Heavy rain is very likely to occur at isolated places on Sept 3 over Arunachal Pradesh; on Sept 3, 4 & 5 over Assam & Meghalaya and on Sept 3 over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura.

Temperatures :

	Max (°C)	Min (°C)
Dibrugarh	30.4	25.1
Tezpur	32.9	25.4
Silchar	31.2	25.2
Dhubri	32.1	25.7
Jorhat	34.0	24.7
N Lakhimpur	30.8	22.2
Shillong	25.4	16.0
Imphal	28.2	22.2
Itanagar	33.6	22.7
Aizawl	NA	11.2
Agartala	31.8	25.2
Kohima	25.0	18.2
Pasighat	27.2	24.0
Cherrapunjee	22.6	17.8

FIR filed against former Manipur CM Ibobi, 5 others

SOBHAPATI SAMOM

IMPHAL, Sept 2: An FIR has been registered against former Manipur Chief Minister Okram Ibobi Singh, three former Chief Secretaries, former director of Manipur Development Society (MDS) and another MDS official, in connection with alleged financial irregularities in the functioning of the MDS.

The three former Chief Secretaries are DS Poonia, P C Lawmkunga and O Nabakishore Singh while the former project director of MDS was Y Ningthem Singh and administrative officer of MDS S Ranjit Singh, according to reports.

While Poonia and Lawmkunga are already retired, Nabakishore is now Director General of State Academy of Training in Imphal.

Reports said the FIR was registered at Imphal Police station on Friday after Joint Secretary Dr Th Muhindro Singh of State Planning department lodged a complaint to SP Imphal West district police, to register an FIR for investigation following the findings of an inquiry conducted by State Vigilance Commission into alleged financial irregularities in the MDS. The total liabilities to MDS are Rs 185.79 crore.

The said persons were charged with "cheating, criminal conspiracy and breach of trust," according to the FIR which was registered under various sections of Indian Penal Code Liabilities Act 1998.

Vigilance Commission report named Ibobi and the others, stating that they are required for examination for the investigation into financial irregularities in the MDS, sources said.

Being the then chairman of MDS from July 1, 2013 to August 31, 2014, former Chief Minister O Ibobi Singh is required to be examined and recording of his statement is required, according to reports. Besides, all the three former Chief Secretaries were chairman of the MDS by virtue of their post of chief secretary.

Former Chief Minister Ibobi could not be contacted for his comment as he is out of station.

PTI adds: Ibobi Singh of the Congress was the Chief Minister of Manipur from 2002 to March 2017.

In November last year, the State Planning Department had approached the Vigilance department to conduct an enquiry into the alleged financial irregularities in MDS.

It was alleged that "officials and staff of MDS had not observed prescribed procedures, establishment's norms and extant rules" including "measurement books, detailed project reports and utilisation certification."

Meanwhile, Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee spokesperson AK Ranjit said only after the conclusion of the investigation on graft charges, their authenticity should be determined. The Congress "welcomes the investigation process," he added.

A boat race being held at Sagolband Thangapat in Imphal during the Heikru Hidongba festival on Saturday. – Correspondent

Heikru Hidongba fest observed in Manipur

CORRESPONDENT

IMPHAL, Sept 2: The 239th Heikru Hidongba festival was observed in Manipur on Saturday. The festival is organised on the 11th day of the Manipuri calendar month 'Langban' to bring prosperity to the community.

Thousands of people thronged the Bijoygobinda Moat at Sagolband in Imphal West district this afternoon to witness a boat race organised as part of the traditional 'Heikru Hidongba' festival.

Religious rituals were performed to predict the fortune of the State in the days to come, besides paying obeisance to God for bountiful blessings in the year gone by.

Girls rescued: Anti Human Trafficking Unit, Churachandpur along with a team of women police rescued three girls including one minor who were reportedly being trafficked to South East Asia along Moreh-Rangoon Road on Saturday, according to police. The incident took place in the wee hours today.

As per the modus operandi of the traffickers, the girls are lured into jobs and kept at a "clandestine place" in Rangoon. They are then segregated into two groups as per their looks and trained in skills such as massage, household works, etc., the source said.

The police seized the vehicle, besides arresting three traffickers including the main agent Esther Lalpianmawii of Churachandpur. She admitted to have transported many girls in the past as well. The other two arrested are Lalganihawami and Lunkhosat Haokip of Churachandpur.

A case has been registered in women police station at Churachandpur, the source informed.

Eid-uz-Zuha celebrated in Meghalaya

SHILLONG, Sept 2: Meghalaya Governor Banwarilal Purohit and Chief Minister Dr Mukul Sangma today greeted the Muslim community on the occasion of Id-uz-Zuha.

"On the occasion of Id-uz-Zuha (Bakrid), I convey my warm greetings and good wishes to the people of Meghalaya, especially the Muslim brethren and hope that the festival which signifies sacrifice, compassion and brotherhood will enhance the feelings of love and compassion among people and build harmony in society," the Governor said in his message.

Conveying his greetings on the occasion, in his message, the Chief Minister said: "May the holy festival help each one of us reaffirm our commitment to the spirit of love, compassion and selflessness and further strengthen the bond of love, brotherhood and camaraderie."

He further wished that the festival helps to "achieve a society which is truly inclusive which is a prerequisite for sustained growth and prosperity for the State." – Correspondent

Acharya extends greetings

KOHIMA, Sept 2: Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh Governor PB Acharya today extended greetings to people of both the States on the occasion of Eid-uz-Zuha, calling upon them to build a peaceful and progressive society.

"This festival epitomises the noble values of sacrifice, trust and forgiveness. I wish that this festival inspire all of us to sacrifice our personal benefits in the larger interest of the country," he said in a message. The Muslim community in Nagaland celebrated Eid-uz-Zuha with gaiety and traditional fervour by offering namaz at Eidgahs, specially in Kohima and Dimapur districts. – PTI

New alliance in Mizoram

AIZAWL, Sept 2: A pre-electoral non-Congress non-MNF alliance called Zoram Peoples Movement has been formed in Mizoram.

The new alliance comprise of Zoram Nationalist Party, Mizoram Peoples Conference and the newly-formed Zoram Exodus Movement, one of its leaders said today. It would contest the Mizoram Assembly polls scheduled for late next year. ZEM convener K Sapdanga, who is also the editor of 'Vanglaini', the largest circulated vernacular daily in the State said the successive Congress and MNF Governments had ruined the State and the people were looking for an alternative. – PTI

Tripura faces acute shortage of qualified teachers

CORRESPONDENT

AGARTALA, Sept 2: If the present trend continues, it will be tough for the Tripura Education department to fill up sanctioned posts of teaching staff especially in Under Graduate and Graduate categories.

Only 239 candidates have been able to clear Teacher Eligibility Test (TET)-I against the total sanctioned posts of 6,422 while only 1,068 candidates took the examination, according to a report of Teachers' Recruitment Board of Tripura (TRBT).

A substantial number of posts of Graduate Teachers has remained vacant even after conducting TET (II) as only 146 candidates have managed to clear the hurdle against 1,470 vacant posts while 2,648 appeared in the examination.

Education department has been facing trouble to get suitable teachers to fill up vacant posts in all categories of teaching staff – Under Graduate, Graduate and Post Graduate. "Stringent guideline under Right to Education Act 2009 – scoring 50 marks in HS (+2), B.Ed and Diploma in Education appear as major hurdle to get suitable candidate for filling up vacant posts", said an official of the department.

There is no point of conducting TET before capacity building of job aspiring youths, he said, adding that it will be tough to get eligible candidates for teaching jobs as the State lacks in educational infrastructure.

Sacking of 10,323 teachers and the government's subsequent decision of engaging them will have an adverse impact on the State's education system especially in elementary and secondary level.

Apart from the MHRD's latest instruction of sending all the in-service teachers for mandatory training and acquiring minimum educational qualification has sent an alarm bell ringing in the education sector.

WB police carried out op without permission: Sikkim police

GANGTOK, Sept 2: South Sikkim district police on Friday alleged that West Bengal police had, posing as tourists, entered its jurisdiction, shot dead a Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) supporter and arrested four leaders of the outfit.

South Sikkim SP Pratap Pradhan said West Bengal CID officials had entered Sikkim posing as tourists, gunned down a GJM supporter from Kalimpong in the Sadam area and arrested four leaders of the party.

He added that the district police officials intervened and when they found that the West Bengal CID had no arrest warrant or legal sanction to carry out the operation inside Sikkim, they did not allow it to take away the four men they had taken into custody. Pradhan said the South Sikkim police had no official communication regarding operations being conducted by West Bengal police in the district.

"While the West Bengal CID has claimed that they entered Sikkim in pursuit of suspects whose names featured in FIRs in West Bengal, they did not have any documents to prove it... The Sikkim police has asked the West Bengal police to get a court order if they want to take the arrested men with them," he added.

The Sikkim police, the SP said, had also filed an FIR against those who killed the GJM supporter in "cold blood".

"Corroborating evidence indicates that the person was shot at by West Bengal police officials," he added. Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Chamling had earlier voiced support to the ongoing protest called by the GJM in the Darjeeling Hills for a separate State of Gorkhaland. – PTI

Bank scheme for Dimapur jail inmates launched

CORRESPONDENT

DIMAPUR, Sept 2: Central Jail, Dimapur in association with Axis Bank has launched a personal bank account scheme for prisoners of the jail. The initiative seen as a major step towards corrective and reformative measures for the inmates was undertaken by Nagaland Prisons department.

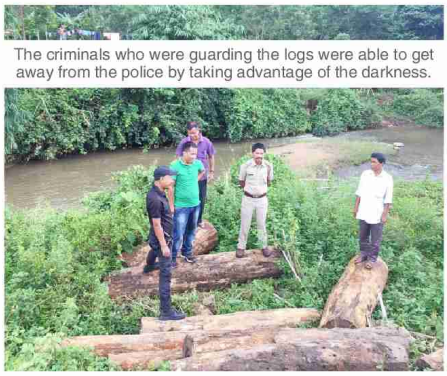
According to a local daily here today, as part of the first phase, senior superintendent of Central Jail Dimapur Imtiangshi Ao handed over the personal savings pass books to seven inmates in presence of Axis Bank officials and jail officers and staff in the jail complex.

Jailor Dr Woben Yanthan, in his address, said the banking facility extended to prisoners is the first of its kind in the history of the State's Prisons department. He said the objective of launching the facility is to encourage inmates to take part in the various corrective activities initiated by the department.

Terming the introduction of banking facilities to prisoners as a positive and welcome step, Dr Woben also mentioned that poverty is one of the major factors in development of criminal tendencies among people. He hoped that the association between the Prisons department and Axis Bank would continue for the benefit of the inmates.

Deputy VP and Cluster head, Axis Bank Dimapur, Madan Gopal Boro said the bank was delighted to be a part of the corrective measures undertaken by the Prisons department and expressed optimism that banking facilities would be covered in other district jails too in the coming days.

For the convenience of the inmates, Boro also informed that prisoners can operate their accounts on zero balance. Branch Manager, Axis Bank Purana Bazaar, also spoke on the occasion.



The criminals who were guarding the logs were able to get away from the police by taking advantage of the darkness.

Police seize illegal timber in Garo Hills

CORRESPONDENT

TURA, Sept 2: Smuggling of illegal timber cut from the reserve forests near Williamnagar continues unabated. Jengjal police under West Garo Hills district yesterday stopped a group of timber smugglers who were about to load and transport the timber from Bolbokgre area.

The incident took place at about 9 pm yesterday.

After receiving information from sources, Jengjal police swooped down on the spot where the illegal timber was being kept for transportation near Bolbokgre village . However, the criminals who were guarding the logs (12 sal logs measuring 3 feet in diameter and 8 feet long) were able to get away from the police by taking advantage of the darkness.

In order to ensure that the criminals did not return to make another attempt a night guard was kept on duty before the logs were finally handed over this morning to the State Fforest department for further investigation.

Yesterday's incident follows several incidents last week of illegal smuggling of timber indicating that unscrupulous elements were bent upon forest destruction with the help of some corrupt officials in the administration.

Nagaland Govt asked to check influx of immigrants

DIMAPUR, Sept 2: Expressing serious concerns over the unabated and unchecked influx of illegal immigrants to Nagaland, the Central Nagaland Tribes Council (CNTC) has asked Nagaland Government to start acting before the indigenous population is swallowed up by the illegal immigrants.

Pointing to the Ministry of Home Affair's directive to identify and deport all illegal immigrants from the State, the CNTC, in a recent press note, said the lackadaisical attitude of the State agencies has failed in protecting vulnerable indigenous population of the State. It further asked all tribal hohos, civil societies, student organisations and churches to join them to "curb this menace."

It asked the Nagaland Government to be serious and set up a task force in State and district level and identify all illegal immigrants and deport them at the earliest.

Transgender community sees ray of hope in Supreme Court judgement

NEW DELHI, Sept 2: India's transgender community hopes that the recent Supreme Court judgement on privacy will not just strike down a law against homosexuality, but also change mindsets on gender identities and sexual choices.

Days after the Court said the right to privacy was a fundamental one, community members expressed the hope it would lead to the end of Section 377, which criminalises homosexuality.

But along with that, said Rohit Khumanthem, a transgender beauty queen from Manipur, people's attitudes needed to change. "Acceptance by society is the first step towards the community's empowerment. And for that, people must believe that transgenders are humans like them," Khumanthem said.

An aspiring lawyer hoping to fight for the rights of underprivileged women and children, Khumanthem said there was need to spread awareness about the community. "People must know who we actually are and how we live our daily lives. They have to be sensitised. Only then will they start accepting us," she said.

The 22-year-old was here to participate in the recently held 'Miss Transqueen India 2017', the country's first beauty pageant for transgenders.

Founded by Reena Rai, the event not only aimed at giving the community a platform to showcase talent and beauty, but also to create a forum for advocating their concerns.

Looking at the recent landmark judgement pronounced by the apex court, Rai believed a dignified life for the transgender community was no longer a distant dream. "If one goes by the Supreme Court's judgement, the community might soon be able to get proper education and employment and live a dignified life," she said.

Under its verdict making privacy a fundamental right, the Supreme Court, however, clarified that since the challenge to Section 377 was pending before another bench of the apex court, it would leave the constitutional validity to be decided in an "appropriate proceeding".

Rai added that the key to achieving the goal was "a change in mindsets". "Change will not come until there is acceptance from us. No matter what the Supreme Court decides, if there is no end to the day-to-day discrimination we inflict on the community, change will not happen," she said.

Eliza, born Abomcha Ngangom, believed the process of empowerment had begun, but social ostracism came in the way of progress.

The transgender, who also took part in the beauty pageant, recalled how her parents used to worry over her fondness for "girly things" when she was a child.

Now a beautician running a successful parlour, Eliza said she was "tortured" by her family after she visited a women's beauty salon in class 8.

Many stressed they were hopeful about the future. "We have had to struggle right from the time we came out about our sexuality. We have had to fight not just society, but also our parents," said Namita, a 26-year-old transgender make-up artist.

But members of the community today were not just beggars or sex workers, she pointed out. "They are becoming inspectors and principals," she said, alluding to K Prithika Yashini, India's first transgender sub-inspector, and Manabi Bandyopadhay, the first college principal from the community.

About 1500 people from the community took part in the pageant, the first of its kind here. The winner, Nitasha from Kolkata, will now represent India in the Miss International TransQueen in Thailand. – PTI

CAPSULE

Dell CEO

WASHINGTON, Sept 2: The founder and CEO of Dell electronics has pledged to donate $36 million towards hurricane Harvey relief efforts, the largest aid till date, the media reported. – IANS

Zydus Cadila

NEW DELHI, Sept 2: Cadila Healthcare today said its group firm Zydus Cadila has received final approval from the USFDA to market Mycophenolate mofetil for injection used in organ transplants to prevent rejection. – PTI

Bharat Roads

KOLKATA, Sept 2: Road infrastructure company, Bharat Road Network Limited (BRNL) said it was witnessing a strong growth in revenue. – PTI

Bosch Ltd

BENGALURU, Sept 2: Auto parts maker Bosch Ltd said the company is putting electromobility on the Indian streets and is ready to offer portfolio of electrified solutions for the local market. – PTI

India's forex reserves rise

MUMBAI, Sept 2: India's foreign exchange (Forex) reserves kitty increased by $1.148 billion as on August 25, 2017, official data showed here.

The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) weekly statistical supplement released showed that the overall Forex reserves rose to $394.55 billion from $393.40 billion reported for the week ended August 18.

India's Forex reserves consist of foreign currency assets (FCAs), gold reserves, special drawing rights (SDRs) and the RBI's position with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Segment-wise, FCAs - the largest component of the Forex reserves - augmented by $1.142 billion to $370.83 billion during the week under review.

Besides the US dollar, FCAs consist of nearly 20-30 per cent of major (non-US) global currencies. The FCAs also include investments in US Treasury bonds, bonds of other selected governments and deposits with foreign central and commercial banks. The country's gold reserves were stagnant at $19.94 billion. However, the value of SDRs increased by $2.3 million to $1.49 billion. Similarly, the country's reserve position with the IMF edged higher by $3.6 million to $2.27 billion.-IANS

Ducati India targets more growth

KOLKATA, Sept 2: Italian superbikes-maker Ducati India is looking to grow by at least 18 per cent in the current calendar year and plans to expand its dealer network, a company official said.

"Last year, we sold 1,000 units and our year-on-year growth was 18 per cent. We expect not only this year (calendar year) but also next one year to grow at least at the same pace," company's Managing Director Sergio Canovas told reporters here.

The premium motorcycles maker, which commenced operations in India in March 2015, has diverse product portfolio of 19 models ranging from 800-cc to 1,299-cc across six categories. Its price range starts from Rs 7 lakh.

The company had been importing the bikes from Thailand, with which India has a free-trade agreement and has no plan, as of now, to set up any assembling plant in India. – IANS

Demonetisation may have hurt more than it helped

AMULYA GANGULI

It will take time for the economists to figure out whether the fall in the growth rate to 5.7 per cent is the result of the disruption caused by demonetisation and the Goods and Services Tax (GST), but most of the common people will see a connection between the two steps and a slowing down of the economy.

For most of them, the GST seems right - like the uniform civil code in another field of national life notwithstanding the teething troubles – but the jury is out on whether demonetisation was necessary if only because 99 per cent of the banned currency has been returned to the Government.

Even if this means that those with unearned incomes have chosen to deposit their money in the bank, the question will remain whether the huge disruption caused by demonetisation was required to ferret out these holders of black money, especially when their numbers cannot be too large since most of the dubious earnings is not kept in cash but invested in gold, jewellery and real estate.

The claim that counterfeit currency will be detected by demonetisation has also been disproved by the fact that the amount of such notes that has been turned in is a mere 0.0007 per cent of the total.

If the Government's intention in wiping out 86 per cent of the currency in circulation in one fell swoop was the result of the failure to keep Narendra Modi's election-eve promise of depositing Rs 15 lakh in each bank account by unearthing black money, it can only be described as a "monumental misjudgement", as Manmohan Singh called demonetisation.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the Government has changed its line from the initial justification of demonetisation as a tool of breaking the back of the so-called parallel economy to that of converting the country into a cashless, digital economy.

However, even if this second objective is laudable, the unanswered question remains whether the shock and awe of demonetisation were necessary considering that more than 100 people died while standing in queues before banks and how an unknown number of small business suffered. According to one estimate, five million jobs were lost.

The fact that the people in general and the banking system have got back to their feet is a tribute more to their resilience than to the Government's wisdom. But what is undeniable is that they have been put through a wringer, as it were, when the ultimate gain in terms of cleansing the system has been negligible.

It is obvious that the same ends of trapping the hoarders of black money and nudging the country towards the greater use of plastic cards could have been achieved by far more carefully devised ways by experts which would not have caused the kind of turmoil set off by the sudden sweeping of the economy by the broom of demonetisation.

The utility of this reckless intervention is all the more doubtful since the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) claim that demonetisation paid it political dividends is not foolproof.

For instance, the party's record in winning elections in 2017 is 3-2 considering that it lost in Punjab and came second in Goa and Manipur while winning in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

It is another matter that the BJP negated the outcome in Goa and Manipur by some adroit manoeuvres in horse-trading in order to secure the allegiance of MLAs susceptible to enticements. But the original score line showed that demonetisation was not a booster for the BJP.

The worry for the Government at present will be about the fall in the growth rate as it will rob the country of its claim of being the fastest-growing economy and accentuate the phenomenon of jobless growth.

If demonetisation has put paid to such hopes in the near future – although the new Niti Aayog Vice-Chairman, Rajiv Kumar, has called a link between the falling growth rate and demonetisation "spurious" – the government will have only itself to blame.

Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Ajay Narayan speaking at a FICCI programme in New Delhi on Friday. Jill Duggan, Director,Prince of Wales,Corporate Leaders Group is also seen. – UNI

Australia keen to support India's smart cities programme

MUMBAI, Sept 2: A 35-member business delegation from Australia, which is on a visit to India, said here that it is keen to build long-term partnerships with the state governments and the private sector companies here in various sectors, including infrastructure and water.

The delegation, which was in the megapolis, held discussions with the officials of the state urban development department, Chief Secretary Sumit Mallick and private sector firms to explore business opportunities in Smart Cities project of Maharashtra.

"We are here to build relationships with the State Governments here as well as the private sector companies, which are involved in Smart Cities projects to explore the possibilities of Australian involvement and participation in various such projects," Australian Trade Commissioner Grayson Perry told reporters here.

He said the Australian companies, with their vast experience in sectors like infrastructure, smart cities, infrastructure, water and waste management among others, can assist the Indian companies and the Government in their various programmes.

"Apart from technological know-how, we have a lot of solutions that we can offer in the government's smart cities program. We want to build relationships with the Indian companies and extend not just technological support but also participate in the entire development chain," Perry said.

The delegation is visiting cities like New Delhi, Bhopal and Mumbai and meeting Niti Aayog officials, heads of various smart cities projects in the State Governments and municipalities, and with leading private sector companies. – PTI

Myanmar to get diesel from NRL

NAY PYI TAW, Sept 2: The first consignment of high speed diesel from India will reach Myanmar on September 3, Parami Energy Group CEO Ken Tun has said.

Ken Tun told that his group is importing the diesel under a joint venture agreement with Assam's Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL).

Two trucks, each loaded with 4,000 gallons of high speed diesel or HSD, will reach Moreh on September 3, he said on the sidelines of a seminar on 'Myanmar in BIMSTEC' here. Moreh is a town located on the India-Myanmar border in Manipur.

"They will be formally received by Parami Energy officials in Tamu, on the border crossing with Moreh and the event will be viewed on screen by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Myanmar State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi and other Ministers and the officials of her Government," Ken Tun said.

Modi is arriving in Myanmar on September 5 on a three-day visit from Xiamen in China, where he is going to attend the BRICS summit.

Ken Tun said Parami Energy will import between 10 to 20 trucks of high speed diesel from the NRL every day for three months before India takes a call on whether to go for a pipeline to transport diesel to Myanmar,

"We will see whether the demand stabilises and then check if the volumes are big enough to justify construction of a pipeline to bring down transport costs. If we have a big demand, a pipeline is the only way we can compete with others who import petroleum products by sea," Ken Tun told. – IANS

> Parami Energy will import between 10 to 20 trucks of High Speed Diesel from NRL every day for three months before India takes a call on whether to go for a pipeline to transport diesel to Myanmar,

Infosys seeks investors' nod for new appointments

BENGALURU, Sept 2: Global software major Infosys Ltd has sought its shareholders' approval, through postal ballot and electronic voting, for buyback of equity shares and appointments of co-founder Nandan Nilekani as non-Executive Chairman, UB Pravin Rao as Managing Director and D. Sundaram as an Independent Director.

"The postal ballot notice is being sent to all shareholders whose names are in the register as on August 30, 2017 to seek their approval for the buyback of the equity shares and appointments of Nilekani, Rao and Sundaram on executive posts," said the IT major in a regulatory filing on the BSE.

The voting through postal ballot and e-voting will be held from September 8 to October 7 and results will be announced on October 9.

Practising Company Secretary Parameshwar Hegde will be the scrutiniser for the postal ballot and e-voting, while the National Securities Depository Ltd (NSDL) will conduct the e-voting.

The board on August 19 approved the buyback of 11.3 crore equity shares of Rs 5 face value at Rs 1,150 per share on a proportionate basis through the tender offer route as per the regulatory rules.

> The postal ballot notice is being sent to all shareholders whose names are in the register as on August 30, 2017 to seek their approval for the buyback of the equity shares and appointments of Nilekani, Rao and Sundaram on executive posts

The offer size is 20.51 per cent of the total paid-up capital and free reserves, aggregating up to 4.92 per cent of the total shares for an amount not exceeding Rs 13,000 crore. – IANS

Govt monitoring GST implementation: Meghwal

NEW DELHI, Sept 2: The Government is monitoring implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regularly and teething issues are being resolved immediately, Minister of State for Finance Arjun Ram Meghwal said today.

Some technical issues with regard to tax payment have come to light and GST Network (GSTN) was directed to resolve them, he added.

Authorities are also keeping a tab on the impact of the GST on prices of various commodities. According to the Minister, a team of 180 officials and 30 Ministers is on the job.

"They are getting feedback from various districts and towns and trying to assess what kind of procedural difficulties business are facing. Procedural issues are sorted out by tax authorities as and when they arise," he said at an event organised by PHD Chamber here.

GST - touted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as 'Good and Simple Tax' – was rolled out on July 1.

Meghwal ruled out instant policy measures to legalise introduction of crypto currency for security and commodities related transactions in Indian context pointing out though that a committee has been set up to examine the pros and cons on the subject.

"The majority public view, however, on introduction of crypto currency in capital and commodities markets transaction is in the "negative" as of now as even Parliament in the recent past has been flooded with questions on the issue. The committee set up by the Finance Ministry on the issue though is weighing its consequences," he said.

On GDP growth, he said manufacturing was hit in June because of destocking in light of GST implementation from July 1.

The growth slumped to a three-year low of 5.7 per cent during April-June – lagging China for the second straight quarter – as manufacturing slowed ahead of the GST launch amid demonetisation effect. – PTI

NTPC's power generation rises

NEW DELHI, Sept 2: State-owned NTPC recorded 12.55 per cent growth in power generation in August this year as compared to the same month in 2016.

"The total (power) generation for the month (August 2017) was 22.347 billion units (BU) as against 19.855 billion units," NTPC said in a statement today. The plant load factor (PLF) increased 5.58 per cent as compared to August last year.

Koldam hydro power project generated electricity at its peak capacity during this period, it said. In line with Government's thrust on renewable energy, the company's solar stations generated 455 million units from 870 MW capacity during April-August 2017. "This is three times higher than last year," it said. – PTI

Credit growth of banks slowed to 8.1% in 2016-17: Report

NEW DELHI, Sept 2: The credit growth of all banks slowed down to 8.1 per cent in 2016-17 from 10.9 per cent in the previous year, though the aggregate deposits improved on account of massive flow of funds after demonetisation, a Dun and Bradstreet report said.

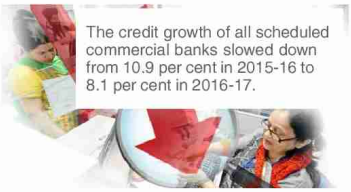
"The credit growth of all scheduled commercial banks slowed down from 10.9 per cent in 2015-16 to 8.1 per cent in 2016-17. The growth in aggregate deposits, on the other hand improved from 9.3 per cent in 2015-16 to 15.9 per cent in 2016-17, largely on account of a massive flow of funds into the banking system after the demonetisation of November 2016," the report titled 'India's Top Banks 2017" noted.

It said that the banks' non-performing assets (NPAs) continued to display the highest level of stressed advances.

"The gross non-performing advances (GNPA) of banks rose to 9.6 per cent in March, 2017 from 7.5 per cent in March, 2016. The net NPA ratio of banks stood at 5.5 per cent in March 2017," the report said.

"At present, the Indian banking sector is going through a critical phase. The credit growth has remained subdued, particularly in the case of public sector banks. Increase in stressed assets has affected the profitability of banks and therefore, deteriorating asset quality means a major challenge for the banking industry," Manish Sinha, Managing Director- India, Dun and Bradstreet said. The Indian banking sector has lately grappled with various challenges, including degradation in asset quality and a sharp slowdown in credit off take.

The report highlights that an improvement in India's macro-economic fundamentals, the underlying potential in terms of a largely under-banked population and the digital push by the government can be leveraged to help the sector turn the tide in the coming years. – IANS



> The credit growth of all scheduled commercial banks slowed down from 10.9 per cent in 2015-16 to 8.1 per cent in 2016-17.

Joint Commissioner of Police Diganta Borah inaugurating an auto expo of Mahindra Finance in Guwahati on Saturday. – UB Photos

Ex-doctor of Gorakhpur hospital arrested

GORAKHPUR, Sept 2: The UP Police today arrested Dr Kafeel Khan who was removed from his post in the State-run hospital here after 30 children died in two days last month, a senior official said.

It is the third arrest in the case, and six others, against whom non-bailable warrants were issued yesterday after their names figured in an FIR after the deaths, remain at large.

The Special Task Force had on August 29 arrested the former principal of the BRD Medical College, Rajiv Mishra, and his wife, Purnima Shukla, after their questioning and they were remanded to 14-day judicial custody on September 1.

"Yes, Dr Kafeel Khan has been arrested. He was arrested by the STF from the outskirts of Gorakhpur," SSP Gorakhpur Anirudh Sidhartha Pankaj told PTI today.

Khan was the nodal officer of the 100-bed AES ward at the Baba Raghav Das Medical College and was removed following the deaths on August 10 and 11. Police had earlier gone to Khan's residence to quiz him, but did not find him there. – PTI

Modi hopes for positive outcomes in BRICS Summit

NEW DELHI, Sept 2: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said he was looking forward to productive discussions and positive outcomes in the upcoming BRICS Summit in China, noting that it has to make important contributions in upholding peace and security and addressing global challenges.

"I look forward to building upon the results and outcomes of the Goa Summit. I also look forward to productive discussions and positive outcomes that will support the agenda of a stronger BRICS partnership under the chairmanship of China," the Prime Minister said in a statement.

Modi leaves for Xiamen tomorrow to attend the Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa (BRICS) Summit on September 4. The visit comes days after India and China managed to end the 73-day Doklam standoff. From Xiamen, he will travel to Myanmar on August 5 for a three-day visit.

About his first bilateral visit to Myanmar, Modi said both countries will look at strengthening existing cooperation in areas of security and counter-terrorism, trade and investment, infrastructure and energy, and culture.

On BRICS, the Prime Minister said he would have the opportunity to meet leaders bilaterally on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit. Replying to a specific question, the Ministry of External Affairs yesterday did not rule out a possible meeting between Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping on the margins of the summit, saying it is a common practice to arrange bilateral meetings on the sidelines of such multilaterals. India had hosted the previous BRICS Summit in Goa last year.

"India attaches high importance to the role of BRICS that has begun a second decade of its partnership for progress and peace. BRICS has important contributions to make in addressing global challenges and upholding world peace and security," the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister said he was looking forward to engage with leaders of nine other countries, including BRICS partners, in an Emerging Markets and Developing Countries Dialogue, being hosted by Chinese President Xi Jinping on September 5.

"We will also interact with the BRICS Business Council represented by captains of industry from all five countries," he said.

On his Myanmar visit from September 5-7, Modi hoped it would help in charting a roadmap for closer cooperation between the two countries. He said both countries would review developments in bilateral ties with a focus on an "extensive" programme of development cooperation and socio-economic assistance India is undertaking in Myanmar. Both sides will also explore new areas of cooperation.

The Prime Minister said he was looking forward to paying a visit to the famed heritage city of Bagan, where the Archaeological Survey of India has done "stellar work" in renovating the Ananda Temple, and where it will be undertaking further restoration work on a number of pagodas and murals that were damaged in last year's earthquake.

Modi had visited Myanmar in 2014 to attend the ASEAN-India Summit. The Prime Minister will meet President U Htin Kyaw and hold talks with State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi. The Myanmarese President and Suu Kyi had visited India last year.

"I am also keen to meet and interact with the Indian-origin community of Myanmar, whose history goes back more than a century. I am confident that the visit will open a bright new chapter in India-Myanmar relations and will help in charting a roadmap for closer cooperation between our governments, our business communities and at the people-to-people level," Modi said. – PTI

Massive manhunt launched for GJM chief

DARJEELING, Sept 2: A massive search operation was launched today in Darjeeling hills and adjoining areas for GJM supremo Bimal Gurung, even as the indefinite shutdown entered the 80th day.

The police had yesterday issued a lookout notice against the GJM chief for his alleged involvement in various cases, including a bomb blast in Kalimpong Police Station in which a civic volunteer was killed.

The bandh continued after Gurung revoked party convener Binay Tamang's decision of suspending it till September 12, when the next round of dialogue with the State Government is scheduled. The GJM chief had also expelled Tamang yesterday on the charge of "violating the party line and indulging in anti-party activities."

Questioning the decision, Tamang today lashed out at Gurung and party general secretary Roshan Giri. "I do not need to take lessons from them. I am a son of the soil and am fighting for the interests of my Gorkha brothers. I want to ask Gurung and Giri, if they are so concerned about fighting for Gorkhaland, why did they send their families abroad so that they can be safe?" he asked. – PTI

Puducherry Govt's bid to curb Blue Whale menace

PUDUCHERRY, Sept 2: The Puducherry Government will bring in a legislation to curb the menace of the Blue Whale challenge besides taking stringent action against those indulging in it, Chief Minister V Narayanasamy said today.

Citing reports of young students allegedly committing suicide in different parts of the country after playing the online game, the Chief Minister said it should be curbed soon. "This is a matter of serious concern and the parents should keep a close eye on the behaviour of their wards," he told reporters.

The Puducherry Government will soon set up monitoring committees through the cyber crime wing of the police to keep a vigil on the situation, he said. "Stringent action will be taken against those indulging in the game. A legislation will also be brought in Puducherry soon to curb the menace," the Chief Minister said.

> The Puducherry CM said the police are probing whether the suicide (of a student from Assam) was related to the Blue Whale game or due to depression or any other cause

Narayanasamy also appealed to the Centre to pay immediate attention to the menace of the online game and prevent it through "deterrent action." He added that awareness camps would be held in schools and colleges to highlight the danger involved in playing the game and protect students.

The Chief Minister said a student from Assam pursuing a course at the School of Management in Pondicherry University had allegedly committed suicide by hanging from a tree branch on the university premises yesterday.

"The police are probing the matter to find out whether the suicide was related to the Blue Whale game or due to depression or any other cause," he said. – PTI

President Ram Nath Kovind offering prayers at Srivari Temple at Mahadwaram, in Tirumala on Saturday. – UNI

Kangana declines comment on relationship status

MUMBAI, Sept 2: Kangana Ranaut is known to be outspoken, but the actor today refused to answer questions about her current relationship status.

"I have an answer to all questions...but not this," Kangana told reporters here when asked if she was single or not. When further quizzed whether the question was complicated, Kangana quipped, "It is something like this only."

The actor was speaking at the launch of "Single Rehne De" from her upcoming film, *Simran*. In the song, Kangana's character does not want to get married and loves the vibe of being single. – PTI

'President should intervene in Tamil Nadu'

PUDUCHERRY, Sept 2: Sidelined AIADMK leader TTV Dhinakaran today demanded that the President should intervene in Tamil Nadu as an "extraordinary situation" is prevailing in the State.

Dhinakaran, who is involved in a power tussle with Chief Minister K Palaniswami, met the MLAs loyal to him who have been staying here for nearly two weeks. After the meeting, he said the legislators had not been herded and asserted that they were staying here on their own volition.

Dhinakaran told reporters that an "extraordinary situation" was prevailing in Tamil Nadu. "The President (Ram Nath Kovind) and Governor should intervene in this extraordinary situation. We will wait for two more days and then decide the next course of action," the party's deputy general secretary said.

He had come here to hold discussions with his camp legislators, he added. The DMK, Congress and Left parties had met Kovind on August 31, demanding a floor test for the incumbent Palaniswami Government in the Tamil Nadu Assembly.

They had earlier knocked on Rao's doors with a similar plea. To a question, Dhinakaran said his side has not sought an appointment with the President.

The former MP said he wished to meet the MLAs but could not do so due to his busy work schedule. The MLAs had been staying here ever since they left Chennai following their meeting with Rao on August 22 where they had told him that they had lost confidence in Palaniswami and had sought his removal as Chief Minister.

He said both Palaniswami and his deputy, O Panneerselvam, had "betrayed" the AIADMK and the people of the State. "A Chief Minister appointed by us has betrayed the people and the party by joining hands with Panneerselvam who had earlier betrayed the party," he alleged.

"How can a man who has betrayed a party that made him Chief Minister serve the people," he said while referring to his camp's demand for the removal of Palaniswami.

On the Governor informing a team of Opposition leaders recently that he cannot intervene in the AIADMK's "internal affairs," Dhinakaran said "we know why he said so," but did not elaborate.

"Our MLAs are revolutionaries. They will not back down," he added. Indicating that his flock was united, Dhinakaran refuted reports that some of them had left the Union Territory or had wanted to leave.

He said none of them had been herded at the Puducherry accommodation and said they had even left their homes and families for the cause they had taken up. "They are independent here," he said.

They rued not being able to serve their respective constituencies, Dhinakaran said, adding "but people in Tamil Nadu know they are here to protect their party and their Government." – PTI

Railways to rename trains after literary classics

NEW DELHI, Sept 2: Adding an erudite touch to train journeys, the Railway Ministry is looking at a proposal to rename trains after famous literary works, referencing not just their authors but the region they come from.

So, passengers travelling to West Bengal could soon board a train named after a novel by Mahashweta Devi and a train ride to Bihar could reference a work by Ramdhari Singh Dinkar, said a senior official.

The Ministry, he said, was creating a bank of award-winning literary works from across the country to christen trains across Railway zones.

"The idea came from the minister (Suresh Prabhu) who said the Railways is a secular integrating factor in the country and the names of the trains can be used to showcase varied cultural identities. So we will name trains on the works of the authors across languages and across regions," said the official.

Officials working on the database said preliminary work has already begun with a list of Sahitya Akademi-winning works being shortlisted.

"The minister feels that in India there are regional aspirations and regional affiliations that generate a lot of interest. It is an innovative way to commemorate these achievements. Also, it has great recall value for the younger generation," said the official.

The decision to rename and name trains lies with the Ministry. However, it needs to take permission for renaming stations. The names of several trains, stations, rail circuits and schemes were changed after the BJP-led NDA Government came to power in May 2014.

The Mahamana Express, for instance, was renamed after former Hindu Mahasabha president Madan Mohan Malviya and the Antodaya Express in memory of Bharatiya Jana Sangh ideologue Deendayal Upadhyaya.

The Dadar-Sawantwadi-Dadar Express in the Konkan region was recently renamed the Tutari Express after revolutionary Marathi poet Krishnaji Keshav Damle's Marathi poem, "Tutari," which means a trumpet-like instrument.

Some trains already had that literary touch. The Godan Express, for instance, which runs from Mumbai to Uttar Pradesh is named after Munshi Premchand's acclaimed work. There is also the Kaifiyat Express, named after Urdu poet Kaifi Azmi, which goes from his home town, Azamgarh in Uttar Pradesh, to Delhi. – PTI

Replacement of 6 Units dilapidated Type-I and Type-II Quarters

E-Tender Notice No. : **EL/RNY/TN /15/2017-18** Dated **30-08-2017**. E-Tenders are invited by SDEE/Rangiya for the following work. **E-Tender No.:** RNY-EL-T-15 (RT)-2017-18. **Name of Work :** Electrical works in connection with, at Dangtal-Replacement of 6 units dilapidated Type-I quarters by standard Type-II quarters. **Tender Value :** ₹ 12,91,408/- **Earnest Money:** ₹ 25,830/-. **Date & time of closing of above E-tender: 15.00** hours of **03-10-2017**. **Date & time of opening of above E-tender: 15.30** hours of **03-10-2017.** For details, visit N.F. Railway website **http://www.ireps.gov.in.**

Sr. DEE, Rangiya
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

PROVISION OF SOLAR POWER PLANT

E-Tender Notice No. EL/RNY/TN/ 18/2017-18 Dated: 30-08-2017. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work. **E-Tender No**: RNY-EL-T-18-2017-18; **Name of work:** Provision of 2Kwp solar power plant at 3 Nos. Gate goomty in BG-II section. **Tender Value:** ₹8,32,497/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹16,650/-. **Date & time of Closing of E-tender:** 03-10-2017 at 15.00 hrs. **Date & time of Opening of E-tender:** 03-10-2017 at 15.30 hrs. Detailed of above e-tender will be available in website **http:// www.ireps.gov.in.**

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, Rangiya
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

REPAIRING AND REPLACEMENT OF ELECTRICAL POWER ASSETS

E-Tender Notice No. EL/RNY/TN/ 16/2017-18 Dated 30-08-2017. 1. E-Tender No. RNY-EL-T-16-2017-18. Name of work: Repairing and replacement of electrical power assets in BG-II section. **Tender Value (Excluding all taxes):** ₹ 33,06,819/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 66,140/-. **Date & time of closing of E-Tender 15.00** hrs. on **03-10-2017 & opening of tender: 15.30** hrs. on **03-10-2017**. Detailed Tender Notice and Tender Documents are available at website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, Rangiya
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

PROVISION OF SOLAR POWER PLANT

E-Tender Notice No. EL/RNY/ TN/17/2017-18, dated 30-08-2017. E-Tender No: RNY-EL-T-17-2017-18. Name of work:- At Dudhnoi-Provision of 6Kwp solar power plant with battery back up system with maintenance for 5 years. **Tender value:** ₹7,91,154/-. **Earnest money:** ₹15,830/-. **E-tender will be closed at** 15.00 hrs. on 03-10-2017 and **Opened at** 15.30 hrs. on 03-10-2017. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in **www.ireps.gov.in**.

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, Rangiya
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers with a smile

RAILWAY NOTICE AGAINST SHRI SANTOSH SHAH

No.T/Misc/D&AR/TSK (absentee) Date:29-08-2017. Shri Santosh Sah, LR/P.Man (B) Working under TI/NTSK S/O of Shri Ramchander Shah, Hajong Bari P.O. Chandrapur, P.S. Pragjuotishpur, Kamrup (M), Assam, Guwahati, Pin-781150 is hereby informed that he had been issued a charge sheet No. T/Misc/ D&AR/TSK (absentee) dtd. **27-01-17** (Major Penalty) for having unauthorised absent from duty w.e.f. **03.06.16** to till date. An enquiry was conducted exparte due to your non-attendance in the enquiry through you were called for several time & you have been found guilty of the charges levelled against you. You are hereby intimated through this notice that you are given last opportunity to attend this office within 15 (Fifteen) days from date of publication. Failing which the Disciplinary Authority will have to take an exparte decision as D&AR 1966.

Divisional Operation Manager (IC), Tinsukia
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

CHANGE OF TIMINGS OF SPECIAL TRAINS

It has been decided to continue the service of presently running **Special trains** with revised timings, stoppages and composition with effect from **04-09-2017** as under.

GUWAHATI AND DALKHOLA

Train No. 05610 Guwahati-Dalkhola Special on 04-09-17 to 07-09-17 | Train No. 05607 Dalkhola-Guwahati Special on 05-09-17 to 08-09-17

ARR.	DEP.	STATION	ARR.	DEP.
---	19.00	Guwahati	17.30	---
19.15	19.17	Kamakhya	16.25	16.27
20.00	20.05	Rangiya	15.15	15.20
20.25	20.27	Nalbari	14.55	14.57
21.14	21.16	Barpeta Road	14.28	14.30
22.00	22.02	Bongaigaon	13.58	14.00
22.10	22.15	New Bongaigaon	13.40	13.50
22.45	22.47	Kokrajhar	12.20	12.22
00.00	00.02	New Alipurduar	11.33	11.35
00.27	00.29	New Coochbehar	11.05	11.07
00.58	01.00	Falakata	10.10	10.12
01.25	01.27	Dhupguri	09.40	09.42
02.02	02.04	Jalpaiguri Road	09.15	09.17
02.50	03.00	New Jalpaiguri	08.37	08.47
03.40	03.42	Aluabari Road	08.05	08.07
04.15	04.17	Kishanganj	07.30	07.35
05.30	---	Dalkhola	---	07.00

Composition: AC-3 Tier (One), Sleeper Class (One), General Second Class (Ten) SLR (two) = 14 Coaches

GUWAHATI AND NEW JALPAIGURI

Train No. 05606 Guwahati-New Jalpaiguri on 04-09-17 to 07-09-17 | Train No. 05605 New Jalpaiguri-Guwahati on 05-09-17 to 08-09-17

ARR.	DEP.	STATION	ARR.	DEP.
---	12.50	Guwahati	19.30	---
13.05	13.10	Kamakhya	19.08	19.10
13.48	13.58	Rangiya	18.10	18.15
14.13	14.15	Nalbari	17.53	17.55
15.00	15.05	Barpeta	17.15	17.17
15.45	15.47	Bongaigaon	16.48	16.50
16.05	16.15	New Bongaigaon	16.35	16.40
16.42	16.44	Kokrajhar	15.00	15.02
17.55	18.00	New Alipurduar	14.00	14.05
18.35	18.40	New Coochbehar	13.20	13.25
19.25	19.27	Falakata	12.20	12.22
20.15	20.17	Dhupguri	11.45	11.47
21.25	21.27	Jalpaiguri	11.05	11.07
22.15	---	New Jalpaiguri	---	10.15

Composition: AC-3 Tier (One), Sleeper Class-(One), General Second Class (Ten), SLR (Two) = 14 Coaches

CANCELLATION, RESTORATION OF TRAIN SERVICES

Due to unavoidable circumstances **Train No. 19306 (Guwahati-Indore Jn. BG) Express** schedule to leave from Guwahati on **03-09-17** will remain cancelled **between Guwahati and Indore Jn. BG.**

Inconvenience caused to the Passengers is regretted

RESTORATION OF TRAIN SERVICES

The following train services will be **restored** from the date as shown as under -

SN	Train No.	From	W.E.F.
1	15658 Kanchan Jungha Express	Guwahati	07-09-17
	15657 Kanchan Jungha Express	Sealdah	08-09-17
2	25658 Kanchan Jungha Express	Silchar	08-09-17
	25657 Kanchan Jungha Express	Sealdah	09-09-17
3	15660 Kanchan Jungha Express	Agartala	09-09-17
	15659 Kanchan Jungha Express	Sealdah	10-09-17
4	75720 DEMU Special	Siliguri	07-09-17
	75719 DEMU Special	Malda Court	08-09-17

The Service of **DEMU Special** presently running between **New Jalpaiguri and Kishanganj** via **Siliguri-Thakurganj-Aluabari Road will be withdrawn with effect from 07-09-17.**

General Manager (Operations)
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

প্ৰচাৰ মাধ্যমলৈ বিনম্ৰ গোহাৰি

সাম্প্ৰতিক সময়ত 'ব্লু হোৱেল' নামৰ এবিধ অত্যন্ত বিপজ্জনক চাইবাৰ গেমৰ পাক চক্ৰত পৰি সমগ্ৰ বিশ্বৰ বহুসংখ্যক কিশোৰ-কিশোৰী আত্মহত্যা কৰাৰ প্ৰৱণতা বৃদ্ধি পাইছে বুলি বহুল প্ৰচাৰ হৈ আছে। অতি সম্প্ৰতি আমাৰ ৰাজ্যখনতো এনেকুৱা দুই-এটা ঘটনাৰ বাতৰি বিভিন্ন সংবাদ মাধ্যমত প্ৰচাৰ হোৱাটো পৰিলক্ষিত হৈছে।

এইক্ষেত্ৰত যথোচিত সচেতনতা সৃষ্টিৰ প্ৰয়োজন আছে যদিও অতিমাত্ৰা প্ৰচাৰৰ ফলত শিশু বা কিশোৰ-কিশোৰীসকলৰ মাজত খেলবিধৰ প্ৰতি অনাহক আগ্ৰহ বৃদ্ধিৰ প্ৰৱণতা গঢ় লৈ উঠাৰ সম্ভাৱনীয়তা একেবাৰে নুই কৰিব নোৱাৰি। কাৰণ কিশোৰ-কিশোৰীসকলৰ কোমল মনত বেছিকৈ প্ৰচাৰ হোৱা যিকোনো ঘটনা বা ঘটনা প্ৰৱাহৰ বিষয়ে জনাৰ বাবে কৌতুহল বৃদ্ধিৰ এটা চিৰাচৰিত প্ৰৱণতা থাকে।

সেয়েহে এই ঘটনা প্ৰচাৰ কৰাৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত কোমল আৰু নিষ্পাপ মনৰ আমাৰ দেশৰ ভৱিষ্যতৰ সম্পদ শিশুসকলৈ চাই অত্যন্ত সাৱধানতা অৱলম্বন কৰাৰ বাবে ৰাজ্যখনৰ ছপা, ইলেক্ট্ৰনিক বা অন্যান্য সংবাদ মাধ্যমসমূহক অনুৰোধ জনোৱা হ'ল।

Janasanyog/D/7042/17

অসম চৰকাৰ

E-smoking calling it a day

E-cigarette ban may wipe out less harmful alternative for smokers

Banning e-cigarettes may deprive Indian smokers of a substantially less harmful alternative, which can be against public health and can result in adverse consequences, experts have warned.

Some States in India, including Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Punjab, Maharashtra and Kerala, have prohibited sales of e-cigarettes, while tobacco cigarettes remain legal.

According to media reports, the Union Health Ministry has recently ruled out acceptability of e-cigarettes in the light of research findings by experts who concluded that they have cancer-causing properties, are highly addictive, and do not offer a safer alternative to tobacco-based smoking products.

However, health experts argued that such decision creates a paradox. The government is allowing the sales of lethal nicotine-containing products – tobacco cigarettes – while banning a substantially less harmful alternative.

"In my opinion, banning e-cigarettes is against public health. I think it's going to have an impending adverse consequence, because the ban will deprive Indian smokers of a substantially less harmful alternative," Konstantinos E Farsalinos, a research fellow at the Onassis Cardiac Surgery Centre in Athens, Greece, said.

"Banning is a hasty decision and can be counterproductive, because we are not aware of the extent of e-cigarette use or its harm in India," added RN Sharan, Professor at North-Eastern Hill University in Shillong, Meghalaya.

An e-cigarette is a battery-operated device that uses a liquid 'e-liquid' that may contain nicotine, as well as varying compositions of flavourings, propylene glycol, vegetable glycerin, and other ingredients.

In tobacco cigarette, there is combustion, a burning of an organic material, which generates temperature up to 900 degree Celsius, and thus produces all the harmful material.

Whereas, in e-cigarettes there is neither combustion nor tobacco. There is only the burning of the liquid, made up of ingredients approved for food and contains minimal burning, which is 100-1000 times lower compared to tobacco cigarette.

A study published in the journal *The Lancet* showed that India has 11.2 per cent of the world's total smokers. Over 11 per cent of 6.4 million deaths worldwide was caused by smoking in 2015 and 52.2 per cent of them took place in China, India, Russia, and the US, the report said.

Further, the experts contented that banning e-cigarettes is contrary to worldwide trends.

Various studies conducted in the US, the UK and other countries in the European Union, have shown that e-cigarettes have resulted in a significant decline in smoking rates.

Several countries like Switzerland, Belgium, New Zealand, Canada and the US, which were formerly advocating for bans, are now moving towards lifting the bans on e-cigarettes, Farsalinos said.

A survey of over 27,000 participants all over Europe, published in *Eurobarometer* in 2016, showed that more than one-third of e-cigarette users polled reported smoking cessation and reduction. – IANS

Kids

CN
13:00 We Bare Bears
15:30 Bal Ganesh 3
17:00 Roll No. 21
17:30 Scooby-Doo! Music of...
19:00 Oggy and the...
21:00 The Powerpuff Girls
21:30 Scooby-Doo Show
22:00 Johnny Bravo
22:30 The Flintstones
23:00 Dragon Ball Z

Pogo
14:00 Chhota Bheem
16:00 Super Bheem-fire And Ice
17:30 Chhota Bheem
18:00 Irish Trish Ballibay
19:30 Wacky Races
20:00 Chhota Bheem
21:00 Takeshi's Castle
22:00 Hole In The Wall
23:00 M.A.D

Entertainment

Zee TV
17:30 Kundali Bhagya
20:00 India's Best Jugbaah
21:00 SaReGaMaPaLiTChamps
22:30 Fear Files

Star Plus
13:30 Dance Plus
18:00 Rishton Ka Chakravyuh
19:00 Tu Soorajj Main Saanjh...
20:00 Dance Plus
21:30 Aaramb
22:30 Dance Plus

Colors
15:00 Kuch Kuch Hota Hai
18:00 Mahakali
20:00 Chandrakanta
21:00 Fear Factor Khatron Ke...
22:00 Dev
23:00 Fear Factor Khatron Ke...

Zcafé
13:00 Two and a Half Men
14:00 Doctor Foster
16:00 Top 20 Funniest
17:00 The 100
18:00 Supergirl
19:00 Lethal Weapon
20:00 Top 20 Funniest
21:00 Reign : 1
22:00 House of Cards

Sony Television
14:00 The Kapil Sharma Show
20:00 The Drama Company
21:00 The Kapil Sharma Show
22:00 C.I.D
23:00 Crime Patrol - Satark

Life OK
13:00 Savdhaan India
20:00 Ghulaam
21:00 Chandrakanta Prem Ya...
22:00 Savdhaan India

Movies

STAR MOVIES 23:07 Volcano
HBO 19:00 Sully
SONY PIX 21:33 The Mummy Returns
WB 21:00 Zoolander 2
ZEE CINEMA 20:00 Dangal

Star Movies
13:02 Captain America: Civil War
16:02 Zathura: A Space Adventure
18:14 Spider Man 2
21:00 Baby's Day Out
23:07 Volcano

HBO
14:48 Shooter
16:57 In The Heart of the Sea
19:00 Sully
20:45 The Accountant
23:02 Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance

Sony Pix
15:28 Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl
18:36 John Carter
21:33 The Mummy Returns

UTV Action
14:30 Zorawar
17:45 Kaalia
21:00 Desh Premee

WB
13:13 The Last Samurai
15:46 Torque
17:10 Speed Racer
19:23 The Spiderwick Chronicles
21:00 Zoolander 2
22:42 Rock of Ages

UTV Movies
14:15 Jaani Dushman: Ek Anokhi Kahani
16:50 Anari No.1
20:10 Super Hero Shehenshah
23:25 Deewaar: Letts Bring Our Heroes Home

Sony BoxGold
15:25 The Jungle Book
17:40 Jaanbaz Ki Ju
19:55 Prem Ratan Dhan Payo
23:20 Ek Tha Soldier

Zee Cinema
14:40 Return of Raju
17:40 Pataas
19:58 TBA
20:00 Dangal

Infotainment

Discovery Channel
13:00 Discovery Hits
14:00 River Monsters
16:00 Revealed: Malaysias...
17:00 Running Wild
18:00 Man vs. Wild
19:00 The Great Indian Factory
19:30 Savage Family Diggers
20:00 Off Road with Gul Panag
20:30 American Digger
21:00 Discovery Hits
22:00 Cooper's Treasure
23:00 Destroyed in Seconds

History TV18
13:00 Pawn Stars
14:00 Modern Marvels-Mega...
15:00 OMG! Yeh Mera India
16:00 Food Tech
17:00 Storage Wars
17:30 Baggage Battles
18:00 Forged in Fire
19:00 Home Planet
20:00 Sons of Liberty
21:00 Treasures of Indus
22:00 OMG! Yeh Mera India
23:00 Modern Marvels

Animal Planet
13:00 The Lion Queens of India
14:00 Yeh Mera India
17:00 Wildest India
18:00 Wild Winners
19:00 Gangland Killers
20:00 Extreme Survivors
21:00 Wildest India
22:00 Jaws and Claws
23:00 Animal Planet Select

National Geographic Channel
14:30 Brain Games
15:00 Surviving The Serengeti
16:00 World's Most Extreme
17:00 Science of Stupid
19:00 Nat Geo Investigates
20:00 Animals Gone Wild
21:00 Science of Stupid
21:30 Street Genius
22:00 Inside

Regional

NEWS LIVE
07:00 Breakfast Live
08:00 Live at 8
09:00 Good morning Assam
10:00 Deubariya adda
11:00 Assamese news
11:30 Assamese news
12:00 Mid Day Live
13:00 Assamese Feautre film
16:30 Discussion Show (R)
17:30 Guwahat Biesh
18:00 Guwahati Live
18:30 Breaking @ 6:30
19:00 Assamese Prime Time
20:00 Discussion Show (R)
21:00 Kotha Barta
21:30 Talk Time
22:00 Live at 10
22:30 Noxo Guwahati
23:00 Noxo Batori

rang
0630 Religious Prayer-naam
0700 Besik Fast18 / Astrology.
0830 Fast News
1000 Xpa
1300 Srimoyee (Women Show)
1630 Gaon Connect
1700 Fast News
1730 Capital Express
1830 Assamese Prime Time
1930 English News
2000 Ekhontek Positive/Soft Issue
2130 Special30 Minutes
08:30 Ramdhenu
08:50 Batori
15:00 Chah Gachar Maje Maje
15:30 Yuva Darpan
16:00 Abelir Batori
16:05 DD Kisan Serial
16:30 Geetmala
17:00 Nimishote Batori
17:02 Rong Birong
17:30 Rupali Dhou
18:00 Dharabahik
18:30 Batori
18:45 NE News

Sports

Star Sports 1
13:00 Australia Tour of India H/s
13:30 Best of Cricket Live
14:00 India Tour of Australia H/s
15:00 Pro Kabaddi League H/s
16:00 SA Tour of India H/s
17:00 Pro Kabaddi League H/s
18:00 KBD Juniors : Mumbai
18:30 Australia Tour of India H/s
19:00 KBD Raid on
19:30 Australia Tour of India H/s
20:00 India Tour of Australia H/s
21:00 ICC World T20 2016 H/s
21:30 Cricket Countdown
22:00 ICC World T20 2014 H/s
23:00 KBD Juniors : Mumbai
23:30 Pro Kabaddi League H/s

Star Sports 2
13:00 Pro Kabaddi League H/s
13:30 Cricket Countdown
14:00 India Tour of Australia H/s
15:00 Pro Kabaddi League H/s
16:00 Knight Club
16:30 KBD Raid on
17:00 Australia Tour of India H/s
18:00 Pro Kabaddi League H/s
19:30 Pro Kabaddi League: Live
22:30 Pro Kabaddi League H/s

Neo Sports
14:30 PGA Tour Special Show
15:00 Mobil 1 The Grid
15:30 The World Sailing Show
16:00 PGA Tour 2017
19:30 PGA Tour Special Show
20:00 Dutch League 2017 H/s
21:00 Mobil 1 The Grid
21:30 PGA Tour Special Show
22:30 PGA Tour 2017 : Live

Sony Ten 1
14:00 WWE Smackdown
16:00 Edge Sports
17:00 ATP 1000 Masters 2017
18:00 Moto GP 2017 H/s
19:00 Mobil 1 The Grid
19:30 Motorsport Mundial
20:00 Trans World Sport
21:00 ATP 1000 Masters 2017
22:00 WWE Raw Sunday Dhamaal

Sony Ten 2
15:00 ESPN FC Show
15:30 La Liga Santander H/s
16:30 FIFA WC Qualifiers: H/s
21:00 FIFA WC Qualifiers: Live
23:30 FIFA WC Qualifiers: H/s

Sony Six
13:30 Extraaa Innings : Live
14:30 India Tour of Sri Lanka
22:00 Extraaa Innings : Live
23:00 India Tour of Sri Lanka H/s

Sony ESPN
14:00 ESPN FC Show
14:30 UFC Unleashed
17:30 ESPN Films : Angry Sky
19:00 ESPN FC Show
19:30 TNA Impact
21:30 FIFA WC Qualifiers: Live

Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, Sept. 3, 2017:
This year you seem quite cerebral and not too emotional. You certainly will feel more comfortable using the intellectual dimension of your personality. You often find that you are frustrated and angry. You will express those feelings without high emotions. If you are single, meeting people could happen with ease. You become far more social and touch base with others. You social life soars. You are likely to meet someone of consequence any time after summer. If you are attached, the two of you have a highly volatile bond, even if you decide to be more easygoing. Instead, enjoy the intensity of the feelings and don't allow others to try to tame your strong personality through logic. You have a way with words that draws many toward you, especially an AQUARIAN who enjoys how you express yourself. Feelings remain a high priority between you and your sweetie. Learn to patch up an argument quickly. Forgive and forget might need to be your motto!

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You might wake up growling and angry about a certain conversation or some other issue. You have a tendency to be argumentative and demanding when expressing irritation, much more so than others. You calm down later when you get together with a loved one who might be younger than you. Tonight: Go with the flow.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Others look to you for advice and guidance, even if you don't wish to be in that role. You could be quite incisive if expressing your desire not to be involved with the matter at hand. Feelings keep flowing, though you could experience an unusual intensity. Tonight: A must appearance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You could be eyeing the big picture. You have a much different perspective on an important situation from many of those around you. If pushed, you could easily get angry and express that emotion through sarcasm. Goodwill helps you understand where others are coming from. Tonight: Fun seems to happen.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ One-on-one relating proves to be a strong suit for you right now. You might decide to buy an item or token of affection. You could get so into the mood of sharing that you purchase quite a few tokens of affection for others. Tonight: Share with a special person.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might want to allow someone else to make a major decision or bring others together, even for a social occasion. You could be close to unstoppable as you proceed with a personal decision. You might not be ready to share what is occurring in your personal life. Tonight: Go with the moment.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Pace yourself and get as much done as possible. You might have a lot to do and accomplish. Sarcasm seems to come forward. Extremes occur that will take kindness to overlook. Everyone tends to go overboard once in a while. Tonight: Express your feelings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Your creativity and childlike spirit often merge, which occurs once more today. A child or loved one cannot resist your childlike spirit. You often have more influence on this person when you are on a similar, open and spontaneous level. Tonight: Be a wild thing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Take a stand and be willing to support a loved one in what he or she wants to accomplish. This person has an otherworldly outlook on life. Extremes mark what happens, and you achieve a new plateau in your thinking. You have a tendency to go overboard with ease. Tonight: Stay close to home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You are likely to express your feelings with ease, no matter who goes by or what happens. The question remains, will your ideas be well-received and understood? News from a distance could hold the possibility of travel. Tonight: Surround yourself with friends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Watch what happens with spending and your finances. You might note a tendency to go to extremes with not just spending but also with living. You might be hard-pressed to hold back and not say what you are thinking. Tonight: Extremes mark your plans.

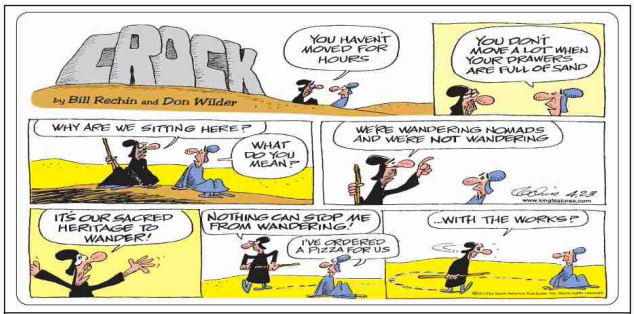
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Your personality flows into whatever you do in general. Others seem to be more responsive to your ideas and inclinations than they have been in a while. Your caring comes through no matter what you say or do. Others get it too! Tonight: Only what you want to do.

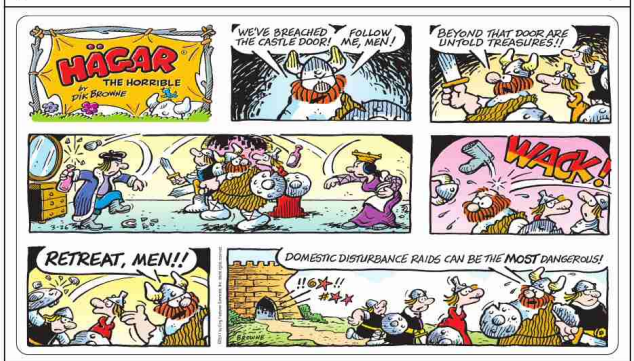
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★ You could feel as if you need more personal time than you have had. If you want, consider canceling plans and taking some much-need personal time. Expect to hear complaints, but also trust yourself. Know what is best for you. It is time to indulge! Tonight: Not to be found.

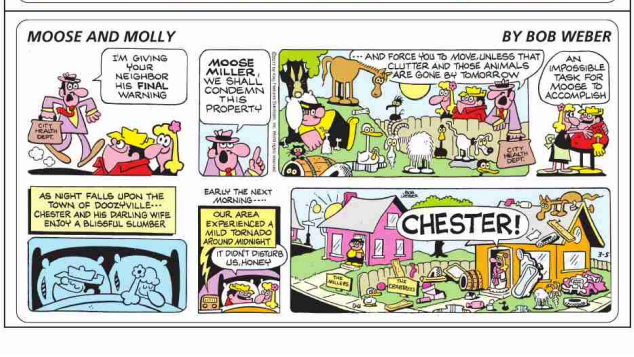
★ ★ ★

Thought for the day

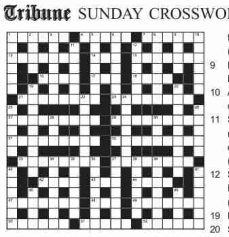
The extension of women's rights is the basic principle of all social progress.
– CHARLES FOURIER







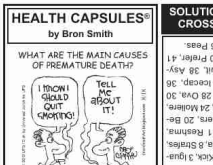
Tribune SUNDAY CROSSWORD – 994



Across
1 Indian state bordering China (6)
4 Joy or happiness; laughter (5)
7 Tries, compositions (6)
13 Person living in seclusion (7)
14 Ardent devotee (3)
15 Definite or reliable (7)
16 Egyptian cross - "Hank" broke? (4)
17 Roman bronze (3)
18 Musical phrase (4)
21 Talk out of (8)
23 Waylays (8)
27 Making holy, consecrating (9)
29 Ostracize or exclude; exclusion (9)
31 Follows or chases? (4,5)
32 Reluctance (9)
33 Beating utterly (8)
37 Finding out (8)
42 American university (4)
43 Uncooked, not ripe (3)
44 Swerves (4)
47 South-eastern state of USA (7)
48 Music director Malik (3)
49 Futile (7)
50 Place of retreat, sanctuary (6)
51 Jokes; makes fun of? (5)
52 Forms of verbs (6)

Down
1 Roll of parchment used to write on at one time (6)
2 Strike with the foot (4)
3 Large American lizards (7)
5 Expand, puff up (7)
6 North African country (7)
8 Attacks with a machine-gun fire from an airplane (7)
9 Devgan of Bollywood (4)
10 Afflicted with dementia (6)
11 Shera's romantic counter part? (6)
12 Sacred Egyptian beetle (6)
19 Hat makers (9)
20 Start (9)
22 Underground cell (7)
24 French dramatist (7)
25 Prickly shrub (5)
26 Greatly inclined (5)
28 Egg cells (3)
30 An outfit of tools (3)
34 Toiling or working hard (7)
35 Polar surface (6)
36 Rubbish (7)
37 Litigation, proceedings in the court (7)
38 Lunatic ____ : mental home or hospital? (6)
39 Not in any place (7)
40 Like better (6)
41 Hires out for a long period (6)
45 Foolish or stupid person (4)
46 Pod vegetables (4)

HEALTH CAPSULES®
by Bron Smith



2/3 OF PREMATURE DEATHS ARE DUE TO POOR FOOD CHOICES, SMOKING AND LACK OF EXERCISE. EAT MORE VEGGIES AND QUIT SMOKING. THEN GET OFF THE SOFA AND HIT THE TRACK.

Health Capsules is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature.

SOLUTION TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD – 994

Across: 1 Sikkim, 4 Mirth, 7 Essays, 13 Recluse, 14 Fan, 15 Certain, 16 Ankh, 17 AES, 18 Rift, 21 Dissuade, 23 Ambushes, 27 Hallowing, 29 Blacklist, 31 Runs after, 32 Hesitance, 33 Crushing, 37 Learning, 42 Yale, 43 Raw, 44 Ways, 47 Florida, 48 Ana, 49 Useless, 50 Refuge, 51 Jests, 52 Tenses.

Down: 1 Scroll, 2 Kick, 3 Iguanas, 5 Inflate, 6 Tunisia, 8 Snares, 9 Alay, 10 Senile, 11 Reshma, 12 Scarab, 19 Milliners, 20 Begining, 22 Dungeon, 24 Molière, 25 Thorn, 26 Sleep, 28 Ova, 30 Gharbar, 37 Lawsuit, 38 Asylum, 39 Nowhere, 40 Prefer, 41 Leases, 45 Goon, 46 Peas.

Hawking's mission to find alien life detects mystery signals

LONDON, Sept 2: A mission to explore intelligent alien life in the universe has recorded some mysterious signals coming from a galaxy three billion light years away, according to an Indian-origin scientist working on the ambitious project co-founded by Stephen Hawking.

Vishal Gajjar is part of the team working under the Breakthrough Listen project – set up by Hawking, one of the world's best-known scientists, and Russian billionaire Yuri Milner – to discover the truth about the universe.

The latest fast radio bursts (FRBs) prove their equipment is working well and ready to pick up signs of life if they exist.

"We really have no idea about where they come from," Gajjar, one of the scientists from the University of California Berkeley Research Centre, told *The Daily Telegraph*.

He noted: "If some form of life would like to produce a signal that is detectable to another civilisation this could be a way to do it, but I don't think they are coming from intelligent civilisations.

"There are more theories than the number of sources. We have opened more questions than answers. As we do more study we find more weird things," he said.

Breakthrough Listen is a USD 100-million global astronomical initiative launched in 2015 by Hawking and Miller and has teams around the world using their telescopes to look for evidence of life.

> "There are more theories than the number of sources. We have opened more questions than answers. As we do more study we find more weird things

The initial 10-year programme will survey the 1,000,000 closest stars to Earth, scanning the entire galactic plane of the Milky Way.

Beyond our galaxy it will listen for messages from the 100 closest galaxies at 10 billion different frequencies. Announcing the project at the time at a press conference in London, Hawking said it was time to commit to finding the answer to life beyond Earth.

"Somewhere in the universe intelligent life may be watching the lights of ours aware of what they mean," he said.

Explanations for the latest signals detected range from rotating neutron stars with extremely magnetic fields, to energy sources used by extraterrestrial civilisations to power spacecraft.

Whatever they are they left their galaxy when our Solar System was just two billion years old and life was just getting going on Earth.

At first scientists thought the signals were the fallout from a catastrophic event in space, like a supernova, but then they repeated again in 2015 and 2016 suggesting the whatever object produced them was still there. University of California, Berkeley, experts scanned the same galaxy at a higher frequency than which had been used to see the original bursts, and found 15 more – PTI

Thousands more Rohingya refugees flee Myanmar by land, sea

SHAH PORIR DWIP, Sept 2: Tens of thousands more people have crossed by boat and on foot into Bangladesh in the last 24 hours as they flee violence in western Myanmar, the UNHCR said today.

Both Myanmar's security officials and insurgents from the Rohingya ethnic minority are accusing each other of burning down villages and committing atrocities in Myanmar's Rakhine state. The military has said nearly 400 people, most of them insurgents, have died in armed clashes.

The violence has triggered a flood of refugees crossing mostly on foot into Bangladesh, though some were fleeing in wooden boats.

"Roughly 60,000 have arrived in Bangladesh since the violence erupted on August 25," said UN Refugee Agency spokeswoman Vivian Tan. That is about 20,000 more than the number local officials had estimated yesterday.

Ali Hossain, a deputy commissioner in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh, confirmed that "the flow of Rohingya refugees is continuing by boat and the land route."

Refugees who had arrived at the Bangladeshi fishing village of Shah Porir Dwip described bombs exploding and Rohingyas being burned alive.

"We fled to Bangladesh to save our lives," said a man who only gave his first name, Karim. "The military and extremist Rakhine are burning us, burning us, killing us, setting our village on fire."

He said he paid 12,000 Bangladeshi taka, or about $150, for his family to be smuggled on a wooden boat to Bangladesh after soldiers killed 110 Rohingya in their village of Kunnapara, near the coastal town of Maungdaw.

"The military destroyed everything. After killing some Rohingya, the military burned their houses and shops," he said. "We have a baby who is 8 days only, and an old woman who is 105. Meanwhile, aid workers and Bangladeshi officials were struggling to cope with the flood of refugees. – AP

UN chief urges restraint by Myanmar forces to avoid 'catastrophe'

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 2: UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned today of a looming humanitarian catastrophe in western Myanmar and urged the country's security forces to show restraint after 400 people – most of them Rohingya Muslims – died in communal violence.

"The secretary-general is deeply concerned by the reports of excesses during the security operations conducted by Myanmar's security forces in Rakhine State and urges restraint and calm to avoid a humanitarian catastrophe," said a UN spokesman.

The violence has sent tens of thousands of Rohingya fleeing across the border into Bangladesh,

while scores of desperate people have drowned trying to cross a border river in makeshift boats.

Reports of massacres and the systematic torching of villages by security forces – as well as by militants – have raised fears that the violence in Rakhine is spinning out of control.

Guterres recalled that it was the government's responsibility to provide security and allow aid agencies to reach those in need.

On Tuesday, US Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley told Myanmar that its security forces must refrain from attacking civilians and aid workers in its response to attacks by Rohingya militants in Rakhine State.

The UN Security Council met behind closed doors on Wednesday to discuss the violence, but there was no formal statement on the crisis. British Ambassador Matthew Rycroft, who requested the meeting, said council members called for de-escalation. – AFP

Hurricane *Harvey*: massive clean up begins, 50 killed

HOUSTON, Sept 2: Rescue workers are desperately searching flooded neighbourhoods across Texas for survivors stranded by Hurricane Harvey, one of the most destructive storms in American history that claimed at least 50 lives.

More than 185,000 homes were damaged and 9,000 destroyed as 42,000 people remain in shelters amid overflowing rivers and reservoirs, Texas officials said.

Harvey wrecked water pumping stations in the city of Beaumont, about 100 miles east of Houston, leaving residents and hospitals without clean water.

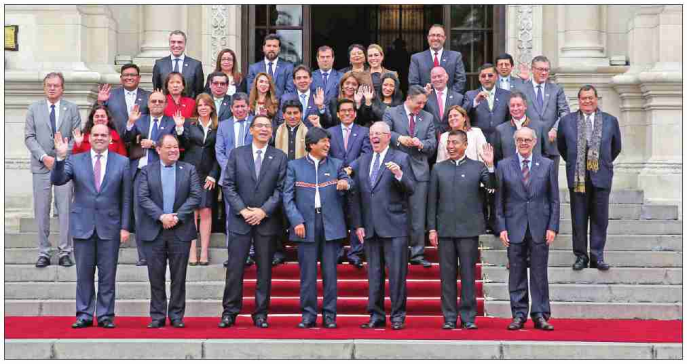
Many remain trapped by debris and waist-high murk that carries a risk of disease. Amidst all this, death toll has reached 50, Houston Chronicle quoted local officials as saying.

Houston's two main airports have resumed limited service and traffic has begun trundling through dry, sunny streets, giving a sense of normality. But some 37,000 homes in the region were still without power, about half the number from Thursday, said mayor Sylvester Turner. He urged conventions and visitors to come.

Turner said the US army corps of engineers needed to release water in reservoirs to create capacity lest more rain come and bring fresh disaster. He reiterated that people should not stay in their homes if they had water.

Texas governor Greg Abbott said the recovery process would be long and arduous.

"This is going to be a massive, massive clean-up process," he was quoted by ABC's Good Morning America. "This is not going to be a short-term project. This is going to be a multi-year project for Texas to be able to dig out of this catastrophe," he added. – PTI



Peru's President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski and his Bolivian counterpart Evo Morales accompanied by their ministers pose for a photo during a binational Cabinet meeting at the Government Palace in Lima, Peru on Friday. – UNI

'US planning more regular South China Sea patrols'

WASHINGTON, Sept 2: The Pentagon is planning to conduct more regular patrols in the South China Sea – as many as two to three a month – to assert freedom of navigation in disputed waters claimed by China, the *Wall Street Journal* reported.

The newspaper said the aim is to create a more consistent posture to counter China's maritime claims, rather than a more ad hoc approach favored during Barack Obama's administration.

US officials declined to say where or when the new patrols would be made, but said the plan developed by the US Pacific Command calls for two or three so-called "freedom of navigation" operations a month over the next few months.

Future patrols also could include US military aircraft as well as US Navy warships, the *Journal* said.

There have been three "freedom of navigation" operations since President Donald Trump took office in January – the last one by the USS John S. McCain, a destroyer that collided with a cargo ship days later off Singapore, killing 10 sailors.

During the Obama administration, the US Navy conducted four such operations in the South China Sea, where China has asserted its claims by building artificial islands and establishing runways, ports and other facilities on them. China claims nearly all of the sea, through which $5 trillion in annual shipping trade passes and which is believed to sit atop vast oil and gas deposits.

Its sweeping claims overlap with Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei – all ASEAN members – as well as Taiwan.

Washington and Beijing have seen their relations grow increasingly fraught since a promising summit between Trump and China's Xi Jinping in April. –AFP

Sikh software engineering student stabbed to death in US

WASHINGTON, Sept 2: A 22-year-old Sikh software engineering student has been stabbed to death in his taxi allegedly by an American student who was upset over not getting admission into a university, media reports said.

Gagandeep Singh, a third year student who was also working as a taxi driver, was allegedly attacked by the 19- year-old passenger he had picked up at Spokane International Airport in Washington State on August 28, NBC affiliate KHQ reported.

The Bonner County Sheriff's Office in Idaho identified the defendant as Jacob Coleman, who was charged with first- degree murder in the death of Singh.

Coleman is said to have flown from Seattle to Spokane to start as a new student at Gonzaga University in Spokane, but upon arrival he was denied entry, according to a statement from the sheriff's office.

But "he became angry and began to have homicidal thoughts," police said, after claiming he was denied entry to Gonzaga University, a private Catholic school in Spokane. The university said it "has no record of an application" from Coleman and that it was cooperating with law enforcement, the report said.

Coleman reportedly left, hailed a taxi and asked Singh to drive him to a fictitious friend's house in Bonner County, Idaho.

Coleman later admitted that during the journey he "became homicidal" and bought a knife during a stop at a shop, police said.

Singh later stopped his car in the city of Kootenai after realising he had been sent to an erroneous location. That's when Singh was stabbed multiple times with the knife Coleman allegedly bought at the store, according to the sheriff's office and a criminal complaint.

Singh, originally from Jalandhar in Punjab, had been living in Washington state since 2003.

"He was talking to my mom, he was a little nervous," his older brother Balgit Singh said on Tuesday. They had spoken over the phone. "That was the last call from our family. So my mom's like 'well, if he already paid you just drop him off another ten miles.'" – PTI

Trump to nominate Kenneth Juster as US ambassador to India

WASHINGTON, Sept 2: President Donald Trump will nominate Kenneth Juster, a top economic aide and one of the key architects of the historic Indo-US civil nuclear agreement, to be the next US ambassador to India.

Juster, 62, who is the Deputy Assistant to the US president for International Economic Affairs and Deputy Director of his National Economic Council, would replace Richard Verma if confirmed by the Senate.

The nomination of the new envoy follows Trump's announcement in his Afghanistan policy speech last week that a "critical part" of his South Asia strategy is to further develop strategic partnership with India.

As the Under Secretary for Commerce, Juster played a key role in developing the civilian nuclear cooperation agreement between the US and India.

The Next Steps in Strategic Partnership, a diplomatic initiative between the United States and India on cooperation in strategic areas such as nuclear, space and military, laid the foundation for increased cooperation.

His work related to India was instrumental in transforming the US-India relationship and laid the foundation for the historic civil nuclear agreement between the two countries.

The position has been lying vacant since January 20 when Trump was sworn-in as the 45th President of the US.

Juster has previously served as the Under Secretary of Commerce from 2001-2005, Counselor (acting) of the State Department from 1992-1993, and deputy and senior adviser to the Deputy Secretary of State from 1989-1992.

In the private sector, he has been a partner at the investment firm Warburg Pincus LLC, Executive Vice President at Salesforce.Com, and senior partner at the law firm Arnold & Porter.

He has also served as Chairman of Harvard University's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, and as Vice Chairman of The Asia Foundation.

Juster holds a law degree from the Harvard Law School, a master's degree in Public Policy from the John F Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, and a bachelor's degree in Government from Harvard College.

In June, the White House said that Juster, 62, will be America's new ambassador to India. – PTI

Record-breaking astronaut Peggy Whitson set to return to Earth

WASHINGTON, Sept 2: Record-breaking NASA astronaut Peggy Whitson is set to depart the International Space Station (ISS) and return to Earth after completing a 288-day long mission, the US space agency said.

Whitson, along with fellow Expedition 52 Flight Engineer Jack Fischer of NASA and Commander Fyodor Yurchikhin of the Russian space agency Roscosmos will undock their Soyuz MS-04 spacecraft from the space station and land in Kazakhstan at 9:22 pm EDT.

On Friday, Yurchikhin will hand over station command to NASA's Randy Bresnik. Whitson is completing a 288-day mission that began in November 2016, spanning 122.2 million miles and 4,623 orbits of Earth – her third long-duration stay on the outpost.

At the time of their landing, she will have accrued a total of 665 days in space over the course of her career, more than any American astronaut, placing her eighth on the all- time space endurance list.

Yurchikhin and Fischer, who launched in April, will complete 136 days in space.

Yurchikhin will return to Earth with a total of 673 days in space on his five flights, putting him in seventh place on the all-time endurance list.

As a result of the impacts of Hurricane Harvey, NASA is reviewing return plans to Houston of Whitson, Fischer and the science samples landing in the Soyuz spacecraft.

The crew will participate in standard post-flight medical evaluations. While living and working aboard the space station, the Expedition 52 crew pursued hundreds of experiments in biology, biotechnology, physical science and Earth science aboard humanity's only orbiting laboratory, NASA said.

At the time of undocking, Expedition 53 will begin aboard the station under the command of Randy Bresnik. Along with his crewmates Sergey Ryazanskiy of Roscosmos and Paolo Nespoli of ESA (European Space Agency), the three-person crew will operate the station until the arrival of three new crew members.

Mark Vande Hei and Joe Acaba of NASA and Alexander Misurkin of Roscosmos, are scheduled to launch on September 12 from Kazakhstan. – PTI

Sharapova advances into US Open last 16, Cilic ousted

Maria Sharapova of Russia salutes fans after her win over Sofia Kenin of the United States in the US Open at New York City on Friday.

NEW YORK, Sept 2: Maria Sharapova rolled into the last 16 at the US Open by overpowering US teen Sofia Kenin while a wide-open side of the men's draw lost 2014 champion Marin Cilic.

Former world number one Sharapova, the 2006 US Open winner in her first Grand Slam since serving a 15-month doping ban, downed the 139th-ranked wildcard 7-5, 6-2 and moved into a fourth-round clash with Latvian 16th seed Anastasija Sevastova.

Five-time Grand Slam champion Sharapova, who tested positive for the blood booster meldonium at the 2016 Australian Open, reached the round of 16 for the 14th time in 15 Slams since the 2011 US Open.

Sharapova, who returned from her ban in April, was snubbed for a wildcard in the French Open and injured for Wimbledon but was given a US Open wildcard despite playing only one hardcourt tuneup match due to a forearm injury.

The 30-year-old Russian broke Kenin with a forehand winner after 66 minutes to swipe the first set, exchanged early second-set breaks on double faults then broke again in the sixth and last games for the victory.

"She came out and had nothing to lose so I'm really glad I got through," Sharapova said.

Sharapova blasted eight aces and 38 winners with 33 unforced errors while Kenin hit only seven winners in the match.

Croatian fifth seed Cilic, idled after Wimbledon until this week due to an adductor strain, was eliminated 4-6, 7-5, 7-5, 6-4 by Argentine 29th seed Diego Schwartzman.

"(The injury) played a quite significant part, and just being injured and not being able to keep that good form," Cilic said.

Cilic's exit ensured a first-time Slam finalist will come from his draw half, which now lacks a top-10 player and has only one Slam semifinalist, American Sam Querrey, who made it in July at Wimbledon.

"Everyone is improving," Cilic said. "And you have a lot of youngsters coming up that are playing better."

Prime among them is Canadian teen Denis Shapovalov, who became the youngest man since 1989 into the US Open last 16.

The 18-year-old Israeli-born world number 69 advanced when Britain's Kyle Edmund retired with a neck injury with the Canadian leading 3-6, 6-3, 6-3, 1-0.

Not since 17-year-old Michael Chang in 1989 had a younger player cracked the fourth round in New York. No qualifier had reached the last 16 since Gilles Muller in 2008.

"I'm playing my second main draw Slam. It's huge," Shapovalov said. "It opens up the draw and helps players like myself have a chance."

Shapovalov will play for a quarterfinal berth against Spanish 12th seed Pablo Carreno Busta, who ousted French qualifier Nicolas Mahut 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

The Spaniard, who has not dropped a set, will become the first player to face four qualifiers at a Grand Slam in the Open Era (since 1967).

With US 10th seed John Isner being ousted 6-4, 6-3, 7-6 (7/5) by German 23rd seed Mischa Zverev, Carreno Busta became the top remaining seed in his half of the draw. Zverev gets US 17th seed Querrey next.

Italy's Paolo Lorenzi, 35, became the oldest player in the Open Era to reach a Grand Slam last 16 for the first time by defeating countryman Thomas Fabbiano 6-2, 6-4, 6-4.

Lorenzi next meets South African Kevin Anderson, who beat Croatian Borna Coric 6-4, 6-3, 6-2. Anderson has won all 43 of his US Open service games and saved all 14 break points he has faced. – AFP

WORLD CUP QUALIFIER

Hummels header edges Germany closer to Russia

PRAGUE, Sept 2: Mats Hummels' late header sealed Germany a 2-1 win over the Czech Republic in Prague to leave the defending champions on the brink of qualifying for the 2018 World Cup.

The Germans took an early lead at the Eden Arena through Timo Werner, but the Czechs deservedly drew level when Hertha Berlin midfielder Vladimir Darida blasted home a superb equaliser with 12 minutes left.

However, Hummels rescued the world champions after a poor second half when his powerful header hit the net with just two minutes left.

"We had a lot of problems, the biggest one was giving away the ball too easily," fumed match-winner Hummels.

"I haven't seen a Germany team do that in the last 10 years.

"That wasn't the football that we can – or want – to play."

The win maintained Germany's perfect run of seven straight wins on the road to Russia which leaves them five points clear of nearest rivals Northern Ireland in Group C with three games left. – AFP

Mexico book World Cup berth, US in jeopardy after loss

MEXICO CITY, Sept 2: Mexico became the fifth team to guarantee their place at the 2018 World Cup as the United States crashed to defeat at home to Costa Rica to place their qualification campaign in jeopardy.

A Hirving Lozano header on 53 minutes was enough to give Mexico a 1-0 win over Panama at the Azteca Stadium as the CONCACAF heavyweights reached the finals for a seventh successive occasion.

Mexico join Brazil, Japan and Iran alongside hosts Russia as the teams to have confirmed their places in next year's finals.

Yesterday's win saw Mexico go top of the six-nation final qualifying round in CONCACAF with 17 points from six games. – AFP

Nigeria set to qualify; Ghana, SA in trouble

JOHANNESBURG, Sept 2: Nigeria hammered African champions Cameroon to virtually seal a 2018 World Cup place, but Ghana drew and South Africa lost to suffer serious qualifying setbacks.

Current and former Chelsea midfielders Victor Moses and John Obi Mikel scored one goal and created another as Nigeria overwhelmed Cameroon 4-0 in southeast city Uyo.

A late strike from Thomas Partey of Atletico Madrid yesterday salvaged a 1-1 home draw for lacklustre Ghana against Congo Brazzaville in Kumasi.

Russia-based Nuno Rocha broke the hearts of confident South Africa by scoring twice as Cape Verde came from behind to triumph 2-1 in Praia. – AFP

Poland thrashed 4-0 by Denmark

COPENHAGEN, Sept 2: Poland was thrashed 4-0 by Denmark for its first loss in qualifying for the 2018 World Cup, throwing Group E wide open.

With Montenegro winning 3-0 at Kazakhstan, Poland's lead was trimmed to three points with three games remaining.

Montenegro and Denmark are tied on points behind the Poles.

Denmark playmaker Christian Eriksen set up goals for Thomas Delaney and Andreas Cornelius in the first half, before scoring himself in the 80th to wrap up a surprisingly one- sided match at Telia Parken in Copenhagen. Nicolai Jorgensen scored the third goal, in the 59th minute. – AP

Kane overcomes August woes to help England beat Malta 4-0

TA' QALI (Malta), Sept 2: Putting his latest August goal drought behind him, Harry Kane scored twice for England in a 4-0 win over Malta that pushed his team closer to qualification for the 2018 World Cup.

The striker failed to score in all three of Tottenham's Premier League games in August, extending his dry run in that month to 12 matches for the club in total.

Kane got off the mark for this season, scoring the first and last of England's four second-half goals against the world's 190th-ranked team in Group F of European qualifying.

"Didn't like August anyway!" Kane, the top scorer for the past two seasons in the Premier League, wrote in a lighthearted comment on Twitter soon after the match.

Three goals from the 86th minute – Ryan Bertrand and substitute Danny Welbeck also netted – gave the result a flattering look.

Slovakia-1, Slovenia-0

Adam Nemec scored the only goal, bundling in from close range in the 81st minute after a cross from the byline struck the underside of the cross bar and bounced into the path of the forward.

Slovakia heads to Wembley looking to avenge a painful loss to England in the first round of matches, when Adam Lallana scored in the fifth minute of stoppage time in a 1-0 win in Trnava.

Lithuania-0, Scotland-3

Scotland moved into third place, above Slovenia on goals scored, but is still four points behind Slovakia in its bid to snatch the runner-up berth. It leaves the Scots relying on a favour from their old foe England on Monday.

Stuart Armstrong, Andrew Robertson and James McArthur were the scorers in Vilnius, ending Lithuania's unlikely hopes. – AP

Harry Kane of England scores against Malta during the qualification match for the 2018 World Cup at Ta' Qali, Malta on Friday.

Cuba boxers dominate at World C'ships

HAMBURG, Sept 2: Traditional powerhouse Cuba continued to dominate the 19th World Boxing Championships with four of their boxers advancing to the summit clashes on the second day of semifinals, taking the total number of their finalists to seven here.

The semifinals concluded with Cuba being the dominant force yet again and looked well on course to repeating the feat of the 2015 edition, in which the country won seven medals.

However, Cuba is in line to take all seven gold this time, while it had claimed four gold, two silver and a bronze last time.

Julio Cesar La Cruz (81kg), Roniel Iglesias (69kg), Lazaro Alvarez (60kg) and Yosbany Veitia (52kg) entered the semifinals today. Joahnys Argilagos (49kg), Andy Gomez Cruz (64kg) and Erislandy Savon (91kg) had made the finals on the first day of the semifinals yesterday.

Uzbekistan followed Cuba with four finalists, while Kazakhstan had three in the summit clash.

India's campaign had ended yesterday with the loss of Gaurav Bidhuri (56kg) in the semifinals. India thus signed off with one bronze medal. – PTI

Anand returns to World Cup after 15 years

TBILISI (Georgia), Sept 2: Five-time World Champion Viswanathan Anand set to return to FIDE World Cup after 15 years with an aim to seal a berth at the 2018 Candidates tournament.

Anand will lead a seven-member Indian team at the 128- player Knock Out tournament, where the finalists get to play the Candidates tournament.

The Candidates tournament determines the challenger for the World Chess Championship against the incumbent World Champion.

The 47-year-old Indian has won the World Cup twice at China (2000) and Hyderabad (2002) respectively. He never needed to play at the prestigious tournament ever since winning the World Championships in 2007.

Anand will open his campaign against Yeoh Li Tian (rated 2480) in the first round and if he can surpass the young Malaysian, Anand might face GM Varuzhan Akobian in the second round. – PTI

Delight as Serena Williams 'welcomes baby girl'

MIAMI, Sept 2: Tennis superstar Serena Williams gave birth to a baby girl, US media reported, prompting an outpouring of delight from fellow professionals, celebrities and fans of the sporting icon.

Williams, who will turn 36 later this month, was admitted to the St Mary's Medical Centre in West Palm Beach, Florida on Wednesday before going into labour overnight.

There was no immediate confirmation of the birth from Williams' representatives.

Elder sister Venus Williams described herself as "super excited" after being informed of the reports concerning the baby as she walked on to the court for her third-round match at the US Open in New York.

However she declined to take questions on the subject in her post-match press conference.

"I'm definitely available to answer questions about tennis. That's all right now," Venus told reporters.

Earlier, a producer with the Florida-based WPBF television station cited hospital sources as saying Williams' daughter weighed in at six pounds and 13 ounces (3.09 kilograms). Celebrity magazine US Weekly cited an unnamed source close to the tennis star confirming the birth.

Williams, who is engaged to Reddit co-founder Alexis Ohanian, was swiftly greeted with an avalanche of congratulations from well-wishers. – AFP

Hockey India sacks chief coach Oltmans

NEW DELHI, Sept 2: Hockey India today sacked national coach Roelant Oltmans after a string of unimpressive outings at the international level.

High Performance Director David John will be in charge till a suitable replacement is found for a smooth transition of the men's team.

The decision was taken during the three-day meeting of the Hockey India High Performance and Development Committee, which concluded today.

Though the federation did not say it in as many words, it is apparent that the HI bosses

are not impressed with the Dutchman.

"Key decisions taken included Chief Coach Roelant Oltmans to step down," Hockey India said in a release.

"While Roelant Oltmans role as Chief Coach in improving the teams' overall fitness and cohesiveness has been appreciated, the results are what matter and the performance of the team has not been consistent or up to the desired levels."

The power-packed meeting to assess the way forward for Indian hockey was attended by over 24 members over the last three days. – PTI

Paes-Raja in 2nd round; Sania, Bopanna lose

NEW YORK, Sept 2: India's Leander Paes and Purav Raja sailed into the men's doubles second round in the pair's first outing at a Grand Slam but Sania Mirza and Rohan Bopanna crashed out of their respective events in the US Open here.

Veteran Paes and Raja thrashed Serbia's Janko Tipsarevic and Viktor Troicki 6-1, 6-3 at the Flushing Meadows.

The 10th seeded combine of Bopanna and Uruguay's Pablo Cuevas, meanwhile, squandered a one-set advantage to go down to the former Australian Open winners Fabio Fognini and Simone Bolelli, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 in an hour and 47 minutes in the men's doubles second round match.

Sania and her mixed doubles partner Ivan Dodig of Croatia lost to the Latvian-French pair of Jelena Ostapenko and Fabrice Martin 7-5, 3-6, 6-10.

Both are, however, still in the tournament - Bopanna will play the first of his mixed doubles match with Canadian Gabriela Dabrowski and Sania and her Chinese partner Peng Shuai will look to advance to the second round of women's doubles.

Divij Sharan who was paired up with No. 66 Andre Begemann lost 4-6, 4-6 to Spaniards Feliciano Lopez and Marc Lopez.

Paes and Raja's build-up to the tournament was far from ideal as they succumbed to an opening round defeat at the Winston-Salem Open. However, the Indian duo bounced back in style here, converting 40 percent of their break points while conceding none. – PTI

I'm looking forward to grab No. 1 spot: Muguruza

Garbine Muguruza arrived in New York this summer as the favourite to add the US Open women's singles title to July's Wimbledon success. The NO.3 seed's chances have only increased following the defeats of some key rivals, but she insists her poor record there – she had won only two matches at Flushing Meadows in her four previous visits – makes every match a test. Now, ahead of her fourth round tie against fellow Wimbledon winner Petra Kvitova, the 23-year-old, who also won the French Open last year, discusses the life of a tennis champion.

Q: Winning the US Open will make you the undisputed world No.1 – does that inspire you?

A: "All I want is to win matches and then the ranking will come. I focus on matches and improving ahead of the ranking as that improvement is the first step. I'm looking forward to being able to be there [at No.1] and I feel that [I can] improve from what has happened here [in New York] in the past years. I don't know what it is but I never played my best even though I like the tournament."

Q: How does that previous poor record change your chances?

A: "In some ways it is a help as the dark past means I have lower expectations and can treat every match as a final. I like it here and love the big stage of the Arthur Ashe court. Before, things didn't go my way and one thing or another went wrong and I lost a match. I got here early and have started well and have kept myself composed so far."

Q: Rewinding, it is not long since you beat Venus Williams in the Wimbledon final – how did you celebrate that?

A: "The celebrations were very short as I was so tired after the release of tension of winning the match

and all of the interviews. I went with the team to a Spanish restaurant and had some wine, but I went to bed early. I was exhausted. I watched a few points the next day and I wanted to see how I celebrated on the court as didn't remember."

Q: What does it mean to you to be the first player ever to beat both Williams sisters in Grand Slam finals (she beat Serena in the French)?

A: "It means a lot to me as I think it adds an extra value to beat a Williams sister in a final because they are just so good. For me, it is also proof of being the best player in the tournament. I have watched Venus since I was a little girl and then I am playing her! They are both the toughest opponents."

Q: What are you like before a Grand Slam final?

A: "I never know what is going to happen. I try to be confident but I am very nervous and shaking because it is a Grand Slam final and I know what it is like to lose in a final. Nothing is comparable as it is all about winning and so I tried so hard to win. The waiting is the worst thing. I feel it the day before a big match, but once I am on court and start sweating I know what to do and think 'I'm good here.'"

Q: Now you have won two major titles, how keen are you to win more?

A: "Very. When you win once you want to win and you want to win more and more and more. It is addictive."

Q: Does that mean you expect to win every time you play?

A: "No. I have already learned it is hard to have the same level of expectation every week. The level I achieved at Wimbledon is very hard to get to and I have to work to get there every time I play and not expect to get it." – ***TCM***

SU DO KU

	11				1			10			4
	8							2			
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	5		11	7			8		9		
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		10		6			11	8		1	
	12	8		4		2		5	3		9
			2							5	
4			10			3				11	

Solution of last problem

Originating from Japan, 'su do ku' is a mind game and a puzzle that can be solved with proper reasoning and logic. Fill the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3 x 4 box accommodates the digits 1 to 12 without repeating any.

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

Dominant India eye series clean sweep

COLOMBO, Sept 2: A rampaging India will fancy their chances of completing a 5-0 whitewash of Sri Lanka when they face the beleaguered hosts in the fifth and final One-day International match here tomorrow.

The visitors already swept the Test series 3-0, and given their dominant run on this trip, would like to sweep the ODI series as well.

Sri Lanka are in danger of losing a second successive ODI series to India by a 5-0 margin. The last time these two sides played a bilateral series in November 2014, a depleted Lankan side lost 5-0 in India.

Their fortunes haven't changed much since and another loss would be a serious body blow for the hosts in what has been a traumatic summer of cricket. They have already foregone the opportunity to automatically qualify for the 2019 ODI World Cup by failing to win two matches in this series.

That 5-0 win in 2014-15 was India's last ODI series whitewash. Since they have beaten Zimbabwe 3-0 twice, as also beating them 5-0 in 2013.

Ravi Shastri and MS Dhoni chat during a training session

Considering sterner opposition, India previously beat New Zealand and England 5-0 in 2010-11 and 2012-13 respectively, both series' wins coming at home.

In fact, England are the only side to lose 5-0 twice to India (in 2008-09 as well) in the last decade, so the Men in Blue will be eager to add another entry to this short list.

Given the heat and humidity here, and the exertions of what has been a long if not arduous tour, the Indian team enjoyed an additional day off ahead of the fifth ODI.

There are no injury concerns and the same playing combination can expect to be retained tomorrow, with the likes of Manish Pandey, Kuldeep Yadav and Shardul Thakur given a further opportunity to impress.

Additionally, coach Ravi Shastri had spoken yesterday about the need to carefully manage workloads of bowlers across formats. It remains to be seen if Hardik Pandya will be given a break in this light, and Kedar Jadhav afforded another chance to impress, ahead of a long limited-overs' schedule at home.

In light of the team's experimentation and rotation policy, Ajinkya Rahane is the only batsman not to get game time in this series. With Rohit Sharma coming back and scoring runs, and Shikhar Dhawan in good form, the team management has so far not toyed with the opening combination.

Rahane, on the other hand, had won the man-of-the-series in the last ODI engagement in West Indies with 336 runs from five matches including a hundred and three half-centuries.

There is a chance that he could be given a game ahead of Dhawan in this final ODI, even if only to cement his spot as the designated third-choice opener. – PTI

Match starts at 2.30 pm.

Dhawan leaves for India to attend ailing mother

COLOMBO, Sept 2: In-form opener Shikhar Dhawan will not be a part of India's final ODI and lone T20 international after he left for India to attend his ailing mother, the BCCI said today.

"Dhawan's mother is stable and is recovering well at the moment," BCCI acting secretary Amitabh Chaudhary was quoted as saying in the release.

The selection committee has decided not to name any replacement as only two matches are left. There are already two back-up openers in the side in KL Rahul and Ajinkya Rahane.

Dhawan, who has been in prime form from the start of the Champions Trophy, was highest run-getter in the Test series and also scored 132 in the opening ODI of the ongoing series. – PTI

CM visits Barsapara cricket stadium

Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal along with Sports Minister Naba Kumar Doley and ACA officials pose for photograph during his visit to the Barsapara cricket stadium in Guwahati on Saturday. – UB Photos

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today visited the Assam Cricket Association's cricket stadium at Barsapara here which will host the India-Australia T20 International on October 10.

Testing the wicket by having some batting on it, Sonowal expressed satisfaction over the arrangements and hoped that the city T20 would be organised successfully.

Accompanied by Sports Minister Naba Kumar Doley, Director of Sports Pabitra Ram Khound, ACA vice president Debajit Saikia and secretary Pradip Buragohain, the Chief Minister took stock of the ground condition, wicket, pavilion, gallery, dressing room, commentary box, media stand and other ancillaries.

The over 40,000 capacity stadium a state-of-the-art drainage and rain will hardly be a cause of concern while hosting a match.

But the approach roads need drastic repairing works as a capacity crowd is expected for the match which will be the maiden T20I in the city and the newly built stadium will have its first experience of organising any international cricket match. The organisers have to concentrate on the entrance and exit passages of the stadium in order to avoid any mishap.

Sonowal asked ACA officials to leave no stone unturned for holding the match successfully and set a precedent. He also assured the ACA of all assistance from the government.

The Chief Minister also said that there will be fool-proof security arrangements for the match and no laxity will be allowed from any quarter to creep in.

Australia aim to salvage pride against Bangladesh

CHITTAGONG, Sept 2: Heavily criticised after their first-ever Test defeat to Bangladesh, Australia are desperate to restore some lost pride when the teams meet in the second and final Test, starting in Chittagong on Monday.

The visitors were slammed by Australian media when they lost the opening match in Dhaka by 20 runs and coach Darren Lehmann admitted the players had been stung by the level of condemnation of the team's performance.

"The boys are all hurting with the criticism you get," Lehmann told reporters.

"(But) you deserve that when you don't win. It is not good enough when you lose a Test match to anyone, but Bangladesh are tough at home."

Chittagong does at least hold some fond memories for the Australians as they try to salvage a drawn series.

The only previous time they played a Test there, in 2006, the visitors won by an innings and 80 runs with nightwatchman Jason Gillespie scoring an unbeaten double century.

But Bangladesh are a more formidable opponent now and the biggest challenge facing Australia's players is to find a way to combat the home team's spinners.

All but one of Australia's 20 wickets in the series opener fell to spin, and the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium pitch in Chittagong is expected to favour slow bowling.

Australia have recalled left-arm spinner Steve O'Keefe for the injured Josh Hazlewood and could play him alongside their frontline spinners Nathan Lyon and Ashton Agar. – AFP

We are expecting historic numbers from IPL media rights: Johri

NEW DELHI, Sept 2: The BCCI Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Rahul Johri says the revenue generation from the upcoming IPL media rights auction could be "historic", considering the huge interest shown by various stakeholders.

"Monday's auction could produce historic numbers. While I am not in a position to predict numbers, our primary focus is to deliver a transparent and robust bidding process for each and every stakeholder," Johri told PTI during an interaction ahead of the auction.

"We are extremely grateful to the Honourable Supreme Court and the Committee of Administrators (COA) for having faith in our existing system," he added.

The bidding for various media rights auction of the cash-rich league for a five-year period from 2018-2022 will take place in Mumbai on Monday.

The rights have been segregated in two categories – broadcast and digital (internet and mobile) rights.

The rights on offer are Indian sub-continental TV rights, which is the most coveted along with emerging Indian sub- continent digital rights.

There is also rest of the world media rights on offer which includes key international markets like the Middle East, Africa, Europe, USA, Australia and New Zealand.

There are predictions that BCCI could be richer by more than Rs 20,000 crore through their earnings from the rights.

In 2008, Sony Pictures Network won the IPL media rights for a period of 10 years with a bid of Rs 8200 crore. The global digital rights of IPL for a period of three years was awarded to Novi Digital in 2015 for 302.2 crore. – PTI

Roller skating medals

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: Assam school players shined in the East Zone Roller Skating Championship which is going on at Raipur from yesterday.

In the 300m Time Trial Kongkona Buragohain won a gold medal while Prapti Medhi and Mridang Patowary bagged silver and bronze medals respectively.

On the opening day yesterday, in the 300m Time Trial (Inline) Divya D Das (gold) and Abhijay Sarma (bronze) added two more medals to the Assam medal tally.

Today, in the 500m Risk Race (Quad/Inlene) event Prapri Medhi struck gold while Kongkona Buragohain and Divya D Das won silver medals. Abhijay Sarma picked bronze in the same event, informed Bhumidhar Barman, secretary of the Assam Roller Skating Association. – Sports Reporter

Mizo biker books ticket to Spain

COIMBATORE, Sept 2: Mizoram's Lalhruaizela virtually grabbed the ticket to the Road to Moto GP in Spain by finishing second in Round 3 of the 20th JK Tyre FMSCI National Racing Championship 2017 here on Saturday.

The 15-year-old biker collected the maximum possible 10 points on Day 1 of the weekend to take his tally to 48 points, a full 12 points more than his stalemate Lahunsanga. The blue rib-and event of the championship, the Euro JK 17, was meanwhile flung open with defending champion Anindith Reddy storming to the top of the table.

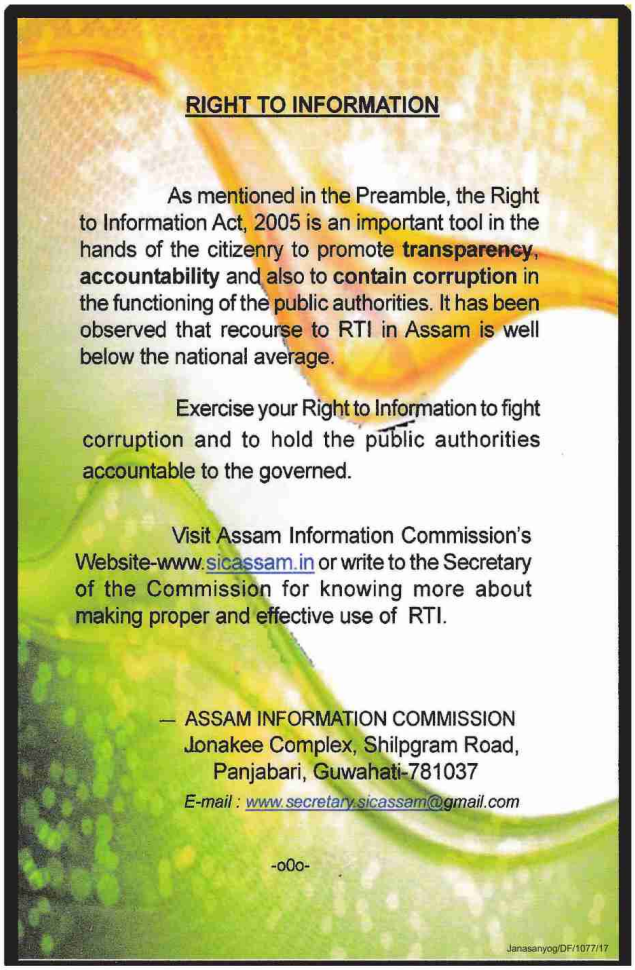
Shotokan karate tourney gets off

GUWAHATI, Sept 2: The first edition of the All Assam Shotokan Karate Championship and Seminar got off today at the Bhogeswari Phukanani Indoor Stadium here.

Altogether 410 players from seven different Shotokan groups under UKAA are participating in the championship. The Shotokan Karate Kata and Kumite seminar is being conducted for the participating players by KAI Referee Commission Chairman Renshi Paramjeet S Singh. The seminar was inaugurated by the UKAA working president Bhuban Lahkar.

The championship is being organised by the Shotokan Karate -Do Promotion Council of UKAA and hosted by Japan Shotokan Karate-Do Kanninjuku Organization, Assam in association with Greater Guwahati Karate-Do Association. The tournament will be held tomorrow morning where competitions will be conducted in 60 different categories for sub junior, cadet , junior and senior, male and female players, stated a release.

Tanisha Kashyap of Assam (2nd L) and her partner Sarvya Shivani of Hyderabad (R) pose for photograph with trophy after winning the ITF World Junior Ranking Tennis title (Doubles) in a Grade 4 event at Hyderabad on Saturday. Tanisha also reached semifinal stage in two Grade 4 at the ITF junior tournaments at Hyderabad and Chennai.



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Sunday
READING

Adventure on wheels

BHASWATI K. GOSWAMI follows a unique couple's peregrinations around South East Asia.

He is 26, a mechanical engineer in the corporate sector. She is 25, a civil servant with the UK Government. He has been cycling around for the past 11 years, intensely into its mechanics. From mountains to road biking, he has tried them all, undertaking a six-week Europe trip from the UK to Albania across 13 countries, and for six weeks from Vancouver to Los Angeles. Together they cycled to work. In September 2016 they left their jobs to undertake a slightly different journey. It was a fascinating conversation with the English-duo Katie Moss and Joseph Thomas who visited us some time ago. They were keen to know about South East Asia. And what better way than biking? Not before they had saved enough and planned the budget for the trip. In October 2016, the couple began cycling across SE Asia to explore and publicise social initiatives with a focus on sustainable energy and education of girls. They started in Hanoi, Vietnam and finished the SE Asian leg at Nepal in July 2017 – cycling almost 10,000 kms!

"Indians are some of the friendliest people I've met," says Joseph, "Moreover, most can speak English, sometimes we can barely finish the distance we mean to because of the invitations we keep getting." Katie, passionate about promoting gender equality, says, "SE Asia is developing rapidly. We wanted to see whether economic development here has been detrimental to the overall good, whether rapid tourism in countries like Cambodia was shaking the society from the traditional self-sustaining mode. Myanmar just had domestic tourists earlier. With international tourists now, how will the local culture cope? There is a distinct contrasting picture here – while there is active social media and 4G network, most people do not even have basic electricity. Without inclusive growth, countries cannot move ahead."

They feel that being too preoccupied becoming a 'social entrepreneur' can distract from the ultimate goal: solving a social issue and that it is necessary for all organisations and institutions to have a social focus. In every country they have been in, they have seen organisations facing the issue of the skills gap. Young people with formal education have extremely poor workplace skills, a serious gap in their capability. They feel this problem can be tackled by employers realising that taking on such staff, in fact, represents a business opportunity, not a persisting frustration. "A business does not need to define itself as a social enterprise to make positive social change. In most South-East Asian countries, there is no legal difference between being a conventional business and a social enterprise," says Joseph.

I follow them on their lively social media account – Gearing Up, where they write, "We spent seven weeks cycling through North-East India, experienced some of the weirdest and most wonderful moments. Highlights are tea-making like one has never seen it before, the combined Asian-Western restroom experience and finally, the exquisite beauty of Tibetan Buddhist monasteries in Sikkim." Sharing another experience, they write, "We're now back in the heat of the flat plains after the sweatiest day on the bikes yet and headed towards Lumbini, the very spot Buddha was born, back in 600BC. Only ten per cent of Nepalis are Buddhists, but Buddhist influence is so strong in Nepali culture that the distinction between Hinduism and Buddhism is not always clear."

Apart from bearing the soaring temperatures and humidity, they had their share of technical problems too, like this one, "We cycled 60 kms today, but ended up exactly where we started: at our hosts' house in Kathmandu having said our farewells this morning. In a haze of dust we made it out of the city, Katie ignoring the slightly strange feeling from her front wheel, putting it down to being back on a fully loaded bike after a week off. On closer inspection, 15 kms out of a town full of bike shops, her rim was well and truly finished. We'd chosen our bikes specifically for their readily available parts. So it's hugely ironic that it took us over five hours and countless bike shops later to find a rim".

The visitors connected with us through the British Council, Delhi. They accompanied the Kamrup Boat Clinic team to a health camp in May, 2017 about which they write, "It's a big day in the village; all women and children come out to watch, if not have their vaccinations done or a health issue assessed. Vaccinating children is a tricky undertaking even in developed countries, parents sometimes think they know better than their doctors. It's made even harder here. The location for the clinic was a school, a school that did not look as though it had been used for a while – so even children are not receiving a basic education, let alone their parents having done so in the past."

The couple aims to raise awareness about the work of such community-driven organisations in their site Gearing Up, whose purpose is to encourage people to understand the challenges faced by others: this understanding is an essential foundation of collective responsibility. They also plan to go back to work. The flexibility of taking a sabbatical to refresh oneself from the daily drudgery is something we should learn to do, too.

(bhaswatigoswami@yahoo.co.in)

Wonders of waste

MAIYANKINI BOSE explores how waste can have new life in many ways.

The massive urban waste that is generated around us today is mindboggling. But the same waste can have a new life in many forms, paving the path for a sustainable lifestyle as some new-age innovators have shown. Four brilliant initiatives have shifted the focus from fast to slow fashion, and using waste in a creative manner, underlining the importance of a green and sustainable lifestyle.

Doodle it out

Started in 2014, 'Doodlage' is a Delhi-based slow-fashion brand dealing with recycling and upcycling of industrial fabric and garment waste. All garment houses generate post-cutting fabric waste which this homegrown fashion brand upcycles to a brand-new garment by patching and panelling them together. Just the way doodles can never be exactly replicated, each product by Doodlage is also unique.

Says Kriti Tula, brand head, "Designing a garment out of fabric waste is like joining the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle together by removing all the non-uniformity and defects separately from each fabric panel."

Operated by a team of seven designers, their successful collections like the Spring Summer Collection 2017 – 'Cloud Walker', replete with doodles, quotes and hand embroidery are all on natural fabrics. Their latest Autumn Winter 2017 collection named 'Dreams & Dystopia' talks about the chaos and social issues in the world around today.

The brand is currently selling online on their website and through 40 other multi-designer boutiques in Tier 1 and Tier 2 cities across India.

Ethically sound

Ethic Attic is a new-age fashion concept based out of Indiranagar, Bengaluru, connecting artisans and fashion patrons adhering to principles of fair trade. Spearheaded by Rema Sivaram and Pradeep

Krishnappa, it promotes fair wages and zero wastage – using their vast network of weaver clusters and artisans across India.

Being true to their brand ethos, they use only natural fibres like organic cotton, hand-woven *Ikkat* from Pochampally, linen (sourced from Jharkhand), *eri* silk (sourced from Assam), bamboo and banana fibre, and even lotus fabric generated from lotus stems.

"*Eri* silk is the only non-violent silk in the world, as the silk worm is not killed in the process of silk extraction and grown only in Assam. That's why it forms an integral part of our collection," informs Sivaram, creative director.

Their boutique store housing Ethic Attic and other sustainable eco-friendly labels opened in Indiranagar recently.

Let's talk trash

Sahar Mansoor, a 'zero waste' lifestyle enthusiast, started this venture by replacing plastic with green substitutes like steel, bamboo, paper, etc., of daily use. In order to stop being part of the waste problem, she learnt the art of organic soap making which she now mass produces under her zero waste label 'Bare Necessities', started in 2016.

"I started with 'Design It Yourself' workshops on personal care products but soon realised not everyone can spare the time to manufacture them, and they don't know where to buy them from. Thus was seeded the idea of 'Bare Necessities'," adds Mansoor.

Currently, Zero Waste Lifestyle and Home products are sold online via Mansoor's website, Instamojo and The Style Salad. Her products range from Lavendar bath salts, detergent, compostable bamboo toothbrush, organic peppermint toothpaste, reusable spoons to stainless steel straw. This motley mix of green products are all made from recyclable materials, ensuring nothing ends in the landfills.

Waste not, create

Sahaas Zero Waste is a socio-environmental enterprise by Sahaas, an NGO and managed by a team of ten members. Their zero waste programme offers on-site solutions to bulk waste generated in tech parks and residential complexes by providing them segregation options at source.

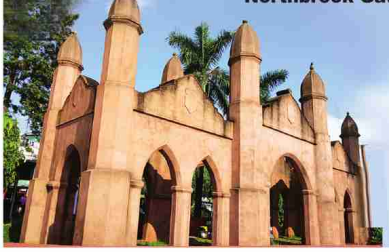
Currently, it manages 25 tonnes of waste per day across Bengaluru, Chennai and Hyderabad. The wet waste is converted to compost or biogas and dry waste is prepared for recycling. "The bio gas generated from wet waste is used to run bio gas vehicles used for waste collection from bulk waste generators," informs Vishal, programme manager, Sahaas Zero Waste.

As he says, "Waste managed at source becomes a resource and our main aim is to minimise the waste going to the landfills by formalising the sector and creating an impact on the society."

Trans World Features (TWF)

Forgotten heritage

PRERONA DAS draws attention to the historic Northbrook Gate.



According to a report of the International Institute of Environment and Development, Guwahati is one of the 100 fastest growing cities of the world. Its importance as the gateway city has increased tremendously, more so after the introduction of the Act East Policy. But ever thought why the city of Guwahati is called the gateway to Assam and North-East? Yes, it does connect the region to the rest of the country and is an economic hub, but it is also a gateway in a literal sense. The location of the Northbrook Gate at the Sukreswar Ghat of the city, which once welcomed British Viceroy Lord Northbrook in 1874, makes it so.

February 24, 1826, was most certainly a very important date in the history of Assam, as the Treaty of Yandaboo was signed on that day between the East India Company and the Burmese invaders, whereby Assam came under the rule of the British Empire for the first time. Following that, Assam became a part of the Bengal Presidency and a Commissionerate for the Assam division was located in Guwahati. But it became inconvenient to govern Assam as a division of the Bengal Presidency and also, there was a growing demand for making Assam a separate State to preserve its language and culture. Therefore, in the year 1874, Assam was made a Chief Commissioner's province. Lord Northbrook, the then Viceroy of India decided to visit Assam that very year and in his honour, the Northbrook Gate was constructed, where he was supposed to land. The design of the gate was similar to the King's College Chapel of arches of the England, with a rectangular structure and 12 arches. Lord Northbrook's ship arrived at the Shukreswar Ghat on August 27, 1874; he entered through the gate and later announced the creation of a separate province of Assam.

Almost 143 years have passed since the construction of this historic monument, which has been a silent spectator to Guwahati's transformation from being a small town to a metropolitan city of immense importance. Even though it is the only existing brick architecture from the colonial times in the city, it never received the attention it deserves from the government as well as the city dwellers. The Northbrook Gate, which was termed as the "Gateway to Assam" by the British officials, hardly catches the eye and has become just another structure that lies inside the Sukreswar Ghat Park. After years of neglect, the condition of this Indo-gothic structure had become quite deplorable, with the plaster peeling off and appearance of multiple cracks, until recently, when some attempt at restoration was made by the Assam Tourism Development Corporation (ATDC), which is in-charge of the park. In 2015, the restoration work was started and the monument is currently in a better condition than before.

However, the authorities still have not taken steps to increase awareness of the people and promote this as a heritage site. While other monuments of the colonial times – like the Gateway of India in Mumbai or the India Gate in Delhi are extremely popular tourist places and well recognised heritage sites, the Northbrook Gate is still very much invisible; even if we pass by the park it is located in, every other day. The park is also rented out as a venue for wedding receptions and other parties, and the majority of the people taking part in these celebrations are probably unaware of the fact that they are sitting and eating in front of a historical monument of great significance for Guwahati as well as Assam.

The importance of preserving heritage sites and generating awareness about them cannot be stressed enough, as these sites tell us important stories and connect us to our past. The Northbrook Gate, though physically restored, needs to be restored in the minds of people so that everyone can cherish its glorious past and know more about the Guwahati of earlier times.

(preronad@yahoo.in)

WOMEN PLUS

Barasa Malakar
barasamalakar@gmail.com

Cleanliness, godliness

For TARULATA DEVI, cleanliness is a labour of love.

"Cleanliness is next to godliness," a proverb that we have been hearing since childhood, but not many people are seen following it. We live in a country which is known for its rich heritage and culture, but still, if the value of cleanliness has to be explained to us by our own Prime Minister, then our country must have been going through a sorry phase in terms of cleanliness.

Unaware of the efforts and initiative of the Assam Swachh Bharat Abhiyan started by our Honourable PM on October 2, 2014, there is an 84-year-old lady from a small village in Assam, who has been engaged in maintaining the cleanliness of her village selflessly for the last 40 years. She is often seen on the streets by many, holding her small, self-made broom made out of areca nut tree leaves, also known as *dhakuna* in native Assamese. Her name is Tarulata Devi, a native of Gandhia village, located in the Nalbari district of Assam. Gandhia itself is a well-known village in terms of astrology and because of the existence of the famous Shri Shri Navagraha Temple.

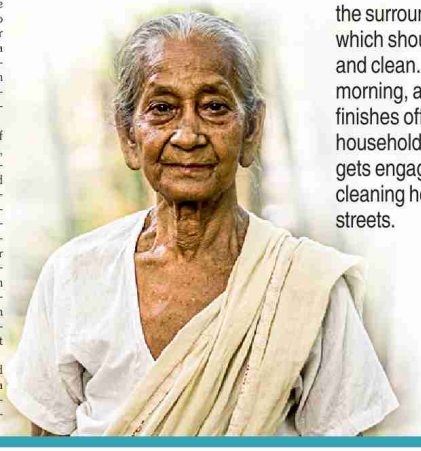
Tarulata Devi believes that happiness of the mind and soul lies in the surroundings, which should be neat and clean. Every morning, after she finishes off all her household work, she gets engaged in cleaning her village streets. She sweeps around 1.5 kilometres at a stretch on a daily basis. On being asked, she humbly talks about the immense happiness she gets while doing her social job and she also believes that pedestrians feel good when they walk on a clean road. She says that she feels immense satisfaction when she sees devotees dressed in neat and clean clothes coming to the Navagraha Temple, walking past the road that she cleans every day.

Tarulata Devi is a source of inspiration and encouragement for all of us, in spite of being a lady who has never been to any school to pursue formal education. However, the responsibility that she has shown towards the society is immense, which today's generation certainly ought to emulate.

Tarulata Devi is not keeping well these days due to her growing age and her work has not got due recognition or appreciation from the society.

But to pay tribute to this great soul for the responsibility that she has shown towards the society, her work has been documented by Pranab Jyoti Sarma and his group of research scholars from IIT, Guwahati, under the name of *Aitar Baroni* or "Grandma's broom" which showcases her unrecognised journey of four decades.

I really hope that the younger generation follows the footsteps of this lady by taking her as a source of inspiration and provide their service towards the cleanliness of the nation. I hope that in the coming days, our government and various non-government organisations will give this lady due respect and recognition for her selfless service.



> Tarulata Devi believes that happiness of the mind and soul lies in the surroundings, which should be neat and clean. Every morning, after she finishes off all her household work, she gets engaged in cleaning her village streets.

STYLE FILE

Shankari Chaudhury
shankz.ch@gmail.com

The foyer story

Here's how to wow your guests from the start.

An impressive foyer or an entryway is a sure shot way of wowing your guests from the minute they step inside your home. This space can literally be the space where you can let your creativity shine without any inhibitions. Are you a Zen minimalist? Do you like opulence? Are you an art connoisseur or a passionate photographer? Let this space provide a glimpse of you and your sensibilities by styling it with things that matter to you. First impressions are definitely important when someone visits your home and there is no better way to bowl them over than designing an awe-inspiring foyer that will definitely be the talk of the town.

Next time you are planning on re-decorating or building a new home, take a cue from these amazing foyer ideas below:

Invite Nature indoors:

This home has a beautiful zen courtyard planned right at the entrance. With a sky-light carved into the slab of the floor above, you can create a gorgeous space that is perfect to bring some landscaping indoors. The feeling of living right in the midst of Nature is sublime and every time one passes through this space, there is a sense of peace and tranquillity which is definitely welcome in our hectic lifestyles.

The dramatic staircase:

Every home with a staircase should absolutely use it to their advantage and highlight interesting details on the walls or even use it as an interesting feature. The walls of this staircase, which is right at the entrance of the home, speak volume of the owners' ethnic tastes and their love for traditional motifs. The brick walls are the perfect background for the concrete panel with the brass motifs to shine. The juxtaposing of contemporary and traditional materials lend a special charm to this home with its Indian sensibilities.

When floors do the talking:

This quintessential Indian home is unique and charmingly elegant with its vibrant patterned tiles right at the entrance of the home. One can't help but be awed by this glorious flooring as it tapers out to blend beautifully with the rustic concrete flooring of the rest of the house. The foyer is beautifully designed and provides a peek into the equally vibrant, yet mature living quarters right off the foyer. Traditional motifs or patterned tiles – when combined with a neutral palette is perfect to perk up your foyer space and lend an interesting feel to the rest of the house.

The gallery wall:

Foyers are perfect to showcase your collection of interesting art or your framed photographs or things that have a story to tell. Make your home narrate its own story. This home has a series of photographs highlighted in a very minimal décor, drawing your eye to its surreal moody photos. Your guests would love to pass through a space that celebrates you or your passion as soon as they step in. There is instant interest, curiosity and drama and who doesn't like any of that!

Multipurpose solutions:

Every home has a tonne of bits and we are forever looking for spaces to stuff them in. More often than not, we are stuck with letters and postcards and other stuff which do not end up at your desk. This home has very efficiently designed a foyer space that screams opulence but is also very functional and practical. The dark chocolate hues with the gold profiling is absolutely delicious, and the console unit is a great storage piece. The top drawers can be used to throw in your car keys or the mail with which you walk in through your door everyday, instead of moving them further into the house. This helps in reminding you to pick up your everyday essentials and saves you time hunting for them. The mirror behind is also a great feature to bring volume to a narrow corridor, and styled with a couple of interesting accessories, this simple, yet stylish foyer is a definite win.

LET'S CREATE

Even though we live in *gamocha* land, we prefer plush towels over the homegrown handloom wonders. Maybe a legacy of the British Raj, who knows! But, yes, we have managed to become avid towel users, with possibly every family member having his/her own piece in a favourite colour. Eventually, we end up with quite a few around the house. While we do reuse the old ones for dusting and cleaning, there are other more creative ways to revamp these fluffy pieces.

Here's how:

BABY WIPES

We all know how expensive baby wipes can be. Old towels can come handy here. Simply cut the towels into squares and put them in an empty wipes box or bottle. Now add some baby wipe solution to them. The latter can be made by mixing oil, some good quality liquid soap, essential oils and water.

KIDS' CRAFT APRON

Kids' craft time is really messy and their craft aprons can be rather expensive. So, instead of throwing out old towels, cut a hole big enough for your children's heads to fit through and let your little ones wear it while they work on crafts, painting or other messy activities. Once they're done, toss it in the wash so that your makeshift craft aprons are ready for next time!

A BATH POUF

Towels are very good for scrubbing. And a bath pouf made out of them will work wonders in the bath. One old towel can be made into quite a few such scruffies.

BABY BIBS

Use your old towels to make homemade baby bibs. To make yours, simply cut your towels into four equal sections, then cut a hole into each section big enough for your child's head. Slip over their heads and enjoy lunch time!

A CLOTH CADDY

If you can see the image, you'll know how easy and effortless this looks. Simply fold a bath towel in parts and sew the ends together. You can hang it behind the bathroom door to store all those little knick knacks that you have in there.

POT HOLDERS

These are quite handy in the kitchen, especially when taking the lids off hot, steamy pots and *kadhai*s. Use an old towel and some leftover fabric, sew them together and you have a pretty pot holder for your kitchen.

Tapioca ball fritters

Ingredients:

- Tapioca pearls (*sago*) ..... 1 cup
- Potato (large) 1
- Coriander leaves, chopped ..... 5 tbsps
- Green chilli, chopped ..... 1 tsp
- Roasted whole cumin seeds ..... ½ tsp
- White sesame seeds ..... ½ tsp
- Lemon juice ..... 1 tsp
- Rice flour ..... 2 tbsps
- Vegetable oil ..... for frying

Method:

Soak the tapioca pearls for about two hours. Drain off excess water and set aside for one-and-a-half hours or until tender.

Peel the potato and grate into a colander. Squeeze out the excess moisture with your hands.

Transfer potatoes to a bowl and mix in lemon juice, green chillies, coriander leaves, salt and sesame and cumin seeds.

Add the rice flour and tapioca pearls to the potato mixture and mix until well-combined.

Divide mixture into golf-sized balls and flatten between the palms of your hands.

Add enough oil to a large deep frying pan until hot.

Fry over medium heat, until golden brown.

Transfer to an absorbent paper, using a slotted spoon.

Serve hot with *chutney* of your choice.

CULINARY corner
SHARMIN PASHA

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

Yoghurt and gourd curry

Ingredients:

- Gram flour (for the fritters) ..... ½ cup
- Gram flour (for the curry) ..... 1 tbsp
- Yoghurt ..... ½ cup
- Water ..... 1 cup
- Oil ..... 1 tbsp
- Gourd (*bhut*), peeled and chopped ..... 1 cup
- Mustard seeds ..... 1 tsp
- Garlic, sliced ..... 4 pods
- Chilli(es), split 1-2
- Turmeric powder ..... ½ tsp
- Cumin seeds ..... 1 tsp
- Red chilli(es), dried 1-2
- Pure *ghee* ..... 1 tbsp
- Salt ..... to taste
- Sugar ..... to taste
- Oil ..... for frying

Method:

For the fritters, add half a cup of gram flour and salt in a bowl.

Add adequate water and mix to make a thick batter.

Heat sufficient oil in a deep pan.

Drop in spoonfuls of the batter into the hot oil and fry, until golden.

Remove the fritters with a slotted spoon and drain on a kitchen paper and set aside.

For the yoghurt curry, whisk together a tablespoon of gram flour with the yoghurt and salt until smooth.

Add a cup of water and whisk, until incorporated.

In a deep pot, heat a tablespoon of oil.

Add mustard seeds, followed by the garlic and chillies and sauté until aromatic.

Stir in the chopped gourd, along with the turmeric and salt.

Cook, covered, over low heat until the gourd is tender.

Pour in the prepared gram flour-yoghurt mixture and sugar and cook, stirring continuously, until it comes to a boil. Lower heat and cook a further five minutes.

Stir in the fritters and remove from the heat.

Heat the pure *ghee* in a small frying pan over medium heat.

Add the red chillies and cumin seeds and sauté until the seeds sizzle.

Pour the tempered *ghee* into the yoghurt curry and mix through.

Serve with rice.

Note: The fritters are optional.

FICTION

Simla Chowdhury
bdochhaygaon@gmail.com

Life – a mirage

The phone rang exactly at 5.30 a.m. It was an unexpected call. Sima picked up the phone. On the other end was Rajen. There was a short pause that seemed to be like ages.

He asked, "What are you doing?" trying to sound normal.

"I am cooking," an abrupt answer that suffocated her heart.

"Are all the arrangements made?"asked Sima.

"I sent someone yesterday to see to it," was Rajen's reply.

It was the morning of Rajen's marriage. A very special day for him. It was only a week before the marriage that he had started to talk to Sima and it seemed that the world had changed for her completely. He was the person that her eyes and heart had been searching for since her teenage years and suddenly he appeared in front of her, out of the blue. She recollected a saying that everything happens at the right time but she knew that she had met Rajen at the wrong time and the wrong place. May be for some people things never happen at the right time and so Rimjhim was sitting beside him on the day of his marriage.

"Are you not well?" she asked.

He ignored the question and said, "The rituals will start from 9 a.m., I have to go."

Sima could not stop herself from saying, "You will be fine. It was nice talking to you. My best wishes for your married life." Rajen remained silent and before she could let this beautiful moment last forever, Rajen had put down the phone. A whirlpool of questions arose in Sima's head. Why did Rajen call on the morning of his wedding day? She had no answer. She felt choked and her heart ached. She went back to completing her household chores to divert herself and hurried to office. She started to have the similar feeling as she very often had of being a 'zombie'. Gathering all her shattered strength, the way she had been doing for the last seven years, she sat on a bus heading towards her destination. On passing every religious place on the way, her heart throbbed with a question to God, "Why did you do this to me?" It was only a week earlier that she had met Rajen through a social networking site. His sudden appearance in her life made the picture that she had painted about a person whom her heart could pour all her love complete, and the residual doubts were cleared when both of them started to talk over the phone as if there was no tomorrow. Both of them were enchanted to show their real self to each other that they had been concealing for so long from the outer world. Rajen's childlike nature hidden behind a tough looking man and Sima's desire to be cared. Married to a man for nine long years and after her exhausting efforts to prove herself as a good wife, a good mother, a good daughter-in-law, all she got as a reward was… deception (a big round of applause for her). And, surprisingly, from no man's land, Rajen came into her life to define that love, care and concern is possible. Even in the absence of long gazes, physical presence, they both found a kind of solace in each other. She had been living her life on her own conditions, accepting no sympathy from anyone – but the reality is when we become an inspiration for many, we try to live up to the expectations of only others. One week before Rajen's marriage, one night, both of them poured their hearts out about their past experiences; some very funny and some very tragic and suddenly she had a strange feeling, she knew not what.

Reaching office, she forced herself to concentrate on her official work but could not ignore the flashes in her head of the wedding bells, the chanting of the *mantras*, the veiled bride, the bridegroom smearing the bride's forehead with the holy *sindoor*. She looked at the watch. It was 3 p.m. She knew that the rituals were over. She decided to leave office early. Heading home, passing by the temple where the marriage was taking place, her heart pounded hard. What if she suddenly saw a glimpse of him? She wanted to cry aloud to relieve herself from this terrifying pain but her dignity stopped her from doing so. She consoled her heart with the same words that she had said seven years ago to herself, "Sima, you have no right to love. Your child is your life," but, somehow, this time she was unable to convince herself. She knew that she had to continue to live with many unasked questions and unanswered replies, as she was not a coward and that the burden to prove that she is strong lay only on her and her alone.

HEALTHWISE

Dr. Gitartha Roymedhi

The cat scratched disease

Understanding the risks of CSD.

Cat Scratched Disease or CSD is caused in humans by the bite or scratch of an infected cat. The disease can also be transmitted to the human body when the saliva of an infected cat comes in contact with an open wound or eyes.

What causes Cat Scratched Disease?

Cat Scratched Disease or CSD is caused by the bacteria called *Bartonella Henselae*. Cats are the carriers of this particular bacteria in their blood streams. The bacteria is transmitted to the cats when they come in contact with fleas, but they do not get sick. Humans cannot get infected by the bacteria directly from fleas. Almost 40 per cent of the cats are the carriers of the disease. More than adult cats, kittens are more infected by the bacteria. Any individual with regular contact with cats develops the highest risk of getting the disease.

What are the signs and symptoms of Cat Scratched Disease?

The common signs and symptoms of Cat Scratched Disease or CSD are:

- Swollen lymph nodes around the site of bite or scratch.
- Formation of bump or blister around the site of bite or scratch.
- Fatigue.
- Low-grade fever with headache.
- Loss of appetite, leading to weight loss.
- Sore throat.

The *Bartonella Henselae* weakens the immune system. The following are the complications of CAD:

- **Encephalopathy:** A neurological disorder that is caused when the bacteria spreads to the brain.
- **Neuroretinitis:** Inflammation of the Optic Nerve and retina of eyes, causing blurred vision.
- **Osteomylites:** Bacterial infection of bones, making the bones poor and losing bone density.
- **Parinaud Oculoglandular Syndrome:** This syndrome can be seen when the *Bartonella Henselae* bacteria enters the eyes directly or also if it reaches the eyes through the blood stream. This syndrome leads to pink eyes.

How can CSD be diagnosed?

A patient with Cat Scratched Disease or CSD presents with enlarged spleen. It is difficult to diagnose CSD based on the symptoms. The accurate diagnosis can be made by performing Indirect Fluorescent Antibody or IFA blood test that confirms the presence of *Bartonella Henselae* bacteria in the body.

What are the treatments for CSD?

Normally, Symptomatic Treatment is given for Cat Scratched Disease or CSD. In severe cases, antibiotics are given. Rarely in the case of Parinaud Oculoglandular Syndrome, surgery is performed to remove the infected tissues.

(gitartharoymedhi83@rediffmail.com)

MONEY SMART

Dipankar Jakharia
money.smart@assamtribune.com

Loan against MF

Explore credit against mutual funds.

In a recently held investors' awareness programme in Guwahati, I was shocked to realise that investors are comparing mutual funds with Ponzy scams of yesteryears. Maybe some numbers will give them confidence to consider it as a different asset class altogether.

The size of the Indian Mutual Fund industry in the month of July 2017 was rupees 20 lakh crore.

To give you some perspective, in the last ten years, the Indian MF industry has grown from 3.26 lakhs crore as on March 31, 2007, to Rs. 19.97 lakhs crore as on July 31, 2017, a six-fold increase. But the majority of the growth has come from the last five years. From Rs. 5.87 lakhs crore as March 31, 2012, to Rs. 19.97 lakhs crore as on July 31, 2017, about three-and-a-half-fold increase can be seen in a span of about five years.

To look at it another way, the industry had crossed the milestone of 10 lakh crore for the first time in May 2014 and in a short span of about three years, it has touched 20 lakh crore last month, almost double. The total number of accounts as on July 31, 2017, stood at 5.94 crore.

Why I am writing about it is that the majority of the investments are coming from mainland India. We are being left behind as usual and we have no one but ourselves to blame. The numbers above should give you confidence and you should consider it as a different asset class to begin with. Now, out of the many features of mutual funds – one which is rarely discussed or explored is credit against it.

Loan against your equity or hybrid mutual fund can be availed of by pledging the mutual fund units to a bank or a non banking finance company (NBFC). Depending on loan amount and the tenure, the interest rate varies and can be negotiated. One point to ponder is that the mutual fund units which are under lien against the loan, cannot be sold or switched to another fund. Experts agree universally that only equity mutual funds should be used as collateral to avail loan for the obvious reason of higher growth potential.

The process will begin with execution of a loan agreement with your bank or NBFC. The lender will communicate to the mutual fund Registrar, either to CAMS or Karvy and ask them to mark a lien on a certain number of units that are being pledged by the customer. Normally lenders lend about 60-70 per cent of the value of the pledged mutual fund units. The Registrar, in turn, will mark the lien of the unit from the customer and until the loan is returned, the investor-cum-borrower can't redeem the said units.

Once the borrower repays his/her loan or makes a part payment, the lending bank or NBFC will write to the Registrar to remove the lien from the proportionate units and the customer will be at will to redeem or continue with his investment in the mutual funds.

If a borrower fails to repay, then the lender will write to the Registrar to enforce the lien for the recovery of his loan at will.

A loan against mutual funds is normally used as an overdraft account for short-term capital needs, which can be repaid within a few months. This facility will not disturb you from breaking your investments with longer term goals and hence, keeping your financial equilibrium in balance and safe.

MY SPACE

NavanitaVaradpande
varadpande.navanita@gmail.com

Lost in Austen world

The airbrushed image of a petite, attractive English lady seemed to stare blindly into space. A lace bonnet keeps her dark curls in place, save for a few strands that frame her face. Suddenly, I felt her staring at me, with a glint of a smile, from a picture of the new British ten-pound currency note in the newspaper, commemorating the bicentenary of her death. Did I imagine this? Like a genie, she seemed to daintily fly out of the newspaper and gently carried me back in time. The year when I had just turned 13.

We had gone to spend our vacation with my aunt who lived in a tea garden in Assam. Her husband had the grand fortune of inheriting it from his ancestors. I loved the ambience, the green dale of the tea plantation, reverberating with the laughter of the skilled local girls as they happily plucked tea leaves, filling up the baskets tied to their backs. We were put up in Aunt Rita's bungalow, built by a British gentleman, many years ago. The cook would entertain us, the children, with spooky myths surrounding the place. He spoke of the ghostly sightings of the '*burha sahib*', who owned the bungalow once upon a time. The English man was very fond of hunting. He can still be seen coming back from one such expedition and then he would disappear into the tea bushes.

One night, my cousins and I were watching a movie and as was our wont, we were hungry and craved some midnight snacks. The two boys went down to the kitchen to get some food, when suddenly we heard a piercing scream, as we saw the cute, fat dollop of protoplasm called Romi roll into the room like a rhino on fire! "We just saw the *burha sahib*'s wife! She was dressed like that British author whose books Mother reads with her friends!" The four of us prepared to check out the ghost of the English lady. It was a chilly December night. We shivered more with fright than from the cold. Romi, my cousin, whispered, "There she is, in the lounge, near the fireplace." Yes, we saw her. Her back was turned towards us. She read aloud lines from a novel. Written by Jane Austen. The voice seemed familiar, the accent more Indian than British. She suddenly turned around and we stared at Aunt Rita. Her tiny frame looked pretty in the attire of a character from the novel of her favourite author. We learnt that she was preparing to celebrate Jane Austen's birthday in her book club, comprising the wives of the tea estate managers. Each one of the members had to dress like a character from any Austen novel and bring the character to life by enacting the same. This was my initiation into the world of Jane Austen, as Aunt Rita regaled us that night with yummy midnight snacks and the story of *Northanger Abbey*. She had just converted me to an Austenite, for life!

> It was a chilly December night. We shivered more with fright than from the cold. Romi, my cousin, whispered, "There she is, in the lounge, near the fireplace." Yes, we saw her.

Images from her novels whizzed by as I held her gaze on the currency note. They replaced the Mills and Boons romantic series that other girls in my boarding school swore by. *The Complete Works of Jane Austen* covered in brown paper, was handed down by my mother to me. I read all the six novels. The favourite being *Northanger Abbey*, as I strongly identified with Catherine Morland, the 'heroine' of the novel. With her, I would delve into the fantastic world of Bath, visit the balls and theatres, where she would eagerly wait to meet the ravishing Henry Tilney. With Catherine, I fell in love with Mr. Tilney, well read and extremely witty. Deliciously attractive! Yes, Mr. Darcy from *Pride and Prejudice* stood passé and clichéd for me. I grew wary of girls like Isabella Thorpe, a manipulative and self-serving young woman on a quest to obtain a well-off husband; at the time, marriage was the accepted way for young women of a certain class to become "established" with a household of their own. Over the years and even till recently I have seen the shadow of Isabella Thorpe in many women and to my husband's dismay, I was even warning my son the other day to be careful of such obnoxious girls in future. When I come across arrogant and extremely boastful young men who certainly appear distasteful, I uncontrollably burp out the name John Thorpe!

Recently, I had worked on an assignment based on book-themed parties and the Austenian party figured forefront in the same. Over the years I have traversed the path of transformation of Austen from a little known spinster-scribbler to a literary superstar… from *Northanger Abbey* I developed the *Sense and Sensibility* to visit *Mansfield Park*… where Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* overtook me and with a little *Persuasion* from *Emma*, I became the Austentatious fan…for posterity!

As I came out of my hypnotised reverie, I sent a message to my brother, in England, to save an Austen currency note for me. I plan to frame it, adding to the repertoire of other Austen memorabilia that I have collected over the years.

Life's meaning

THIRD EYE

Indrani Raimedhi
indrani.raimedhi@gmail.com

We are a land-locked part of the world and strangely enough, the blue whale has swum right into our midst. Even as I write this, the first TV visuals are coming in of a youth admitted to a city hospital after an apparent suicide bid. Chillingly, on his arm is the carved outline of a whale. We are all talking about the Blue Whale Challenge, started by secret groups on Russian social media networks. Imagine this scenario. You are a typical urban professional couple. As you race the clock to meet your never-ending commitments, your teenage son or daughter is at home or among friends, venturing into the outer limits of cyberspace, losing grip on reality, floundering in confusion, angst and even resentment towards you and other authority figures. And then comes this game that excites their curiosity, gives them something to achieve, and arouses the need to follow a leader. S/he is slowly drawn into meeting 50 challenges – watching horror films, inflicting self-harm among them. Monitored by a curator, your kid secretly takes photos after carrying out an assignment and uploads them for the curator's approval. The last challenge is suicide... the negation of all purpose, worth, and meaning of life. Philipp Budeikin, a curator of the challenge, was arrested for assisting suicides last year. The 22-year-old later pleaded guilty and said the victims were biological waste and that he was cleansing society. How eerily similar to the Nazi Final Solution.

How strange is the human mind, we play with it, it plays us. A few weeks ago, I repeatedly watched a Whatsapp suicide video of a young IAS officer. In calm measured tones, he said, among other things, that life had become meaningless for him. Even more disturbing was his quiet declaration that all lives which had gone on before or are yet to come are futile, bereft of meaning. In the days that followed, I kept returning to one question. Was life meaningless? The disturbing thing is – Leo Tolstoy thought so. He said the only absolute knowledge attainable by man is that life is meaningless. Somerset Maugham was of the view that when you realise life is meaningless, the world does not seem so cruel anymore. Bertrand Russell had it that unless you assume there is God, the question of life's purpose is meaningless. From his years of psychiatric study practice, Carl Jung was of the view that man cannot stand a meaningless life. Milan Kundera warns how we live on the border from which you can slip to the other side where love, convictions, faith no longer have any meaning. Immerse yourself in existentialism, absurdism and nihilism, and life will seem unbearable in its desolation.

> Milan Kundera warns how we live on the border from which you can slip to the other side where love, convictions, faith no longer have any meaning.

Then, something happened when I was returning home from work. Our car was held up by a crew of men and women on a water-pipe construction site on the lane near our home. As I sat in air-conditioned comfort, feeling faintly guilty of heating up the earth, my eyes alighted on a scrawny woman in a faded saree, struggling to shovel stones even as the baby strapped to her back wriggled and cried. With every ounce of her strength, she shovelled the stones on a pan and lifted it on the head of another woman. As she toiled in the pitiless sun, forcing her body to feats of strength and endurance, it suddenly struck me that this poor woman, this mother and daily wage earner did not have the luxury of questioning if life was indeed meaningless. She survived life one day at a time, a shovelful of stones at a time, so she could feed herself and her baby. That was the meaning of her life, the meaning she was ready to strive for.

Take the stone on my study table. I picked it from the dry river bed in Bhutan. It is just a stone, worn smooth by the water, fitting snugly on the palm of my hand. It is just a stone, a thing of no value. Yet, I give it meaning, I give it value. It is a reminder of the timelessness of natural things, of how experience rounds out our rough edges. In a fragile life, it is, indeed, comforting to hold on to the solidity of this tough, unyielding stone.

Life is just that, life. We have to give it meaning and passion. As you snuggle up in bed every night, a new dawn approaches. What you do with the day is for you to decide. And even as you are aware that death waits in the end, that's all the more reason to hold life with both hands, humbly and gratefully.

No piece about life's meaning can be complete without the book *Man's Search For Meaning*. It is a 1946 book by Victor Frankl, describing his experiences as an Auschwitz concentration camp inmate during World War II, and describing his psychotherapeutic method, which involved identifying a purpose in life to feel positively about, and then immersively imagining the outcome. Frankl, a psychiatrist, lost his parents, wife and brother in the Holocaust. Frankl says that we cannot avoid suffering but we can choose how to cope with it, find meaning in it and move forward with purpose. Frankl's theory, known as logotherapy, from the Greek word *logos* (meaning) postulates that our primary drive in life is not pleasure, as believed by Freud, but the discovery and pursuit of what we personally find meaningful.

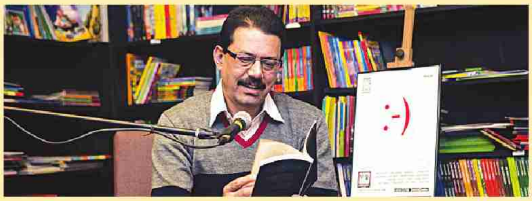
In the end, the meaning of life is not an edict on stone, single and immutable. All of us find meaning in different ways and under different circumstances. When you bring up your young, instead of dinning it to them the need to have the means to live, help them discover meaning to live for. Questioning the meaning of life should be the beginning of an adventure, not the end of an existence.

Indrani Raimedhi is a journalist, author and columnist.

5 THINGS/ Literary leanings

"A writer's greatest asset relates to her feelings for her character"

Author DHRUBA HAZARIKA cites five qualities of a successful writer.



1 Writerly asset worth counting

A writer's greatest asset relates to her feelings for her characters. It comes from within, this empathy. No book can teach the writer this quality. If it comes at all, it will come unbidden, something intrinsic to the writer. That is why it is often said that the true creative writer is born, not made.

2 You need to write for yourself

A successful writer, I have always maintained, writes first to please herself, to unburden her soul of an obsession that will simply not leave her until she relegates it to paper. There are writers who pander first to the reader's taste. But if you care to check properly, you will find that such writers are either mediocre or secondary in the long run.

3 Being word perfect is vital

A great writer is careful with her words. Each word is a pedestal from which she can command and express to herself the most intense description or narration of what she feels to be the relevant image she visualises as she writes. I can think of Graham Greene in this context. Unsparing in his choice, he has left behind an extraordinarily rich legacy.

4 Lucidity is a strong point

Another trait that attracts me is lucidity. In creative writing, the essence is to clear the air of all confusion. Two classic examples are – Fyodor Dostoevsky, probing into the human mind, and Edgar Rice Burroughs – dealing with man-animal relations. There is no intellectual snobbery, no attitude by which obtuse thoughts and sentences are indirectly meant to convey that the story is beyond the reach of the ordinary reader.

5 Know your limitations

Finally, a successful writer knows her limitations. By this, I mean she is aware about which genre she fits in. Science fiction went well with Ray Bradbury. Detective fiction with Agatha Christie. Realism went well with Hemingway. To write fiction effectively, the perspicacity must suit each writer's own idiosyncrasy. To vie with one's nature will not lead to the kind of success that any writer would wish for oneself.

*(As told to **Indrani Raimedhi**)*

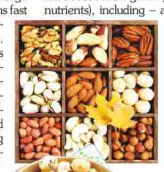
FOODTALK

Dr. Ritu G. Goswami

Fasting foods

Religious fasting has been a part of our lives. Hindus fast during different *pujas* like – Durga *Puja*, Lakshmi *Puja*, *Navratri*, etc. Muslims fast during the month of *Ramadan* and Mormons, on the first Sunday of each month. Fasting has got many positive and negative impacts on our health. Few studies have reported that fasting for a day, once a month, may prevent heart disease and diabetes. Some other studies have reported that intermittent fasting has numerous health benefits, including weight loss, lower blood pressure and reduced cholesterol. Intermittent fasting is an eating pattern where one can cycle between periods of eating and fasting. Many diet supporters feel that fasting gives the digestive system a rest and, therefore, encourages detoxification.

However, frequent fasting or fasting for longer durations may hamper the health of an individual. During a fast, the body produces less stomach acid, but if the smell of the food or the thought about food comes to the mind, the body starts to generate more acid, which in turn, causes heartburn. Some of the foods (with benefits) taken during a fast are:



Kuttu atta (buckwheat flour): This *atta* is packed with high fibre, which helps in detoxification of the body as well as keeps hunger pangs at bay. It is also rich in proteins, B-complex vitamins and minerals like phosphorus, magnesium, iron, zinc, copper and manganese. The essential fatty acids in buckwheat reduce the risk of diabetes by lowering glucose, blood pressure, cholesterol and reducing haemorrage caused by high blood pressure.

Sabudana (*sago*/tapioca pearls): Being rich in carbohydrates, it gives us energy during a fast. *Sago* is easily digestible and gives a cooling effect to the body. As this fasting food is low in fat and protein, milk and *dal* can be added to prepare *kheer* and *kichdi*, respectively.

Makhana (fox nuts): The lotus seeds are famous for their antioxidant, free-radical scavenging, anti-inflammatory and immuno-modulatory properties. In addition, lotus seeds are high on phyto-nutrients (disease-fighting nutrients), including – alkaloids, gallic acid and saponins. Being low in fat and high in other nutrients, *makhana* can be used during a fast. *Makhana* strengthens the body, reduces burning sensation and quenches thirst during a fast.

Legumes and pulses: Pulses are an excellent source of protein and fibre, as well as forms a significant source of vitamins and minerals.

Dry fruits: Most dry fruits like almonds, pistachio nuts, cashew nuts, raisins, etc., provide energy during a fast.

Fruits and vegetables: A bowl of fresh fruits and boiled vegetables provide us a lot of vitamins and minerals. They also aid in preventing dehydration. Sweet potatoes are a rich source of Vitamin K, magnesium, etc., which can be taken during a fast as they regulate heartbeats, nerve signals and also help to relax muscle contractions.

Dairy products: Dairy products like milk, curd, *ghee*, *khoya*, etc., are considered to be holy for any auspicious occasion. They provide enough protein and calcium.

Other foods: Foods like coconut, sugar, honey, jaggery, lemon, coriander leaves, curry leaves, ginger, etc., can also be consumed during *Navratri*/fasting season.

At last, staying well hydrated during a fast is very important. Any kind of fluid like fruit juice, *lassi*, broths, light tea, etc., must be taken during a fast.

(ritugeu_goswami@yahoo.in)

FORECAST

SEPTEMBER 4 – 10, 2017

ARIES (MAR 21 – APR 19)
Avoid all new starts and major purchases. Make no promises/commitments, and accept none. Tackle chores all week. Relationships fill Sunday.

TAURUS (APR 20 – MAY 20)
Start no new projects or relationships. This week brings romance, passion, beauty, pleasure, creative and risk-taking urges.

GEMINI (MAY 21 – JUN 20)
The main ascent this period lies on domesticity, family, property, garden, nutrition, resting. However, a thread of romance has just begun, and will last until late September.

CANCER (JUN 21 – JUL 22)
During the present week, work and health duties might conflict with your philosophy or ethics. A hint: sometimes our view of justice can be wrong. Sunday's for home.

LEO (JUL 23 – AUG 22)
All week, concern might mount regarding your finances and your employment, or your health. A smidgen of worry over these things is good, motivating; but worrying too much can be crippling.

VIRGO (AUG 23 – SEP 22)
This week pits your romantic urges against your marriage urges – this climaxes now, asks you for a decision, but it has been in effect almost two years, and will continue (more and more mildly) to the end of this year.

LIBRA (SEPT 23 – OCT 22)
Despite your low energy, this period is setting you up for a hugely fortunate, superb year ahead – one in which you can solve or "escape" a long-term domestic problem or barrier. All week, keep one eye on work communications.

SCORPIO (OCT 23 – NOV 21)
You're the leader, everyone's eyes turn to you – give projects or relationships a big push! Luck's mingled, so step cautiously and nimbly. Buy nothing major – lemons abound. Romance is deceptive, home is welcoming.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22 – DEC 21)
Be charitable, spiritual, and tackle neglected chores. All runs smoothly. Can't say the same about Wednesday evening to Saturday dawn, when your soaring energy and charisma can create as many problems as they solve.

CAPRICORN (DEC 22 – JAN 19)
Show ambition, whether you feel it or not. Hopes, popularity, wish-fulfilment (of an old wish) social delights – and, possibly, true love – greet you and bless you. All lights are green – go! But return to caution.

AQUARIUS (JAN 20 – FEB 18)
Hopes, wishes, optimism, popularity, social delights and "glances across the room" arrive Wednesday evening to Saturday. Good and bad luck mingle, so don't expect a lot in the "solid results" column!

PISCES (FEB 19 – MAR 20)
All is smooth during this small interval, so don't hesitate. Far travel, higher learning, legal affairs, insurance and cultural affairs are also blessed. Be ambitious, but go lightly – bad luck mixes with good.

MOVIE WATCH

Bidisha Singha

Logan Lucky

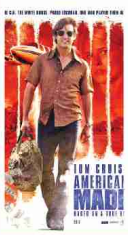
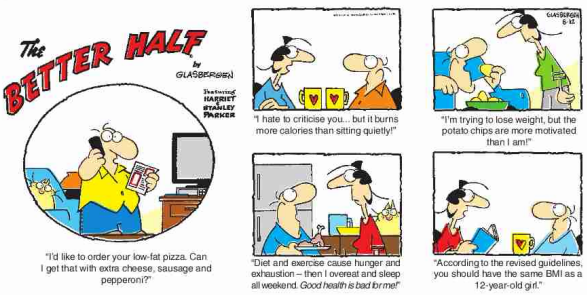
Cast: *Channing Tatum, Adam Driver, Daniel Craig, Hillary Swank.*
Director: *Steven Soderbergh.*

Academy winning director Steven Soderbergh is back to doing what he does best after announcing his big-screen retirement, four years back. He has managed to create another crime caper that's been hailed by fans as well as critics. Soderbergh is known for his casting coups (as was seen in the *Oceans Trilogy*), and for this too he gets some of the best ones in the job. The plot essentially revolves around a heist being planned by the 'unlucky' Logan brothers during a popular NASCAR rally and how they rally a gang of misfits to pull it off. Daniel Craig stands out in his utterly 'un-Bond' like character.

Weekly Top Grossers

1. The Hitman's Bodyguard	6. Leap!
2. Annabelle: Creation	7. Spider-man: Homecoming
3. Wind River	8. The Nut Job 2: Nutty By Nature
4. Logan Lucky	9. The Emoji Movie
5. Dunkirk	10. Girls Trip

American Made

Cast: *Tom Cruise, Sarah Wright, Domhnall Gleeson.*
Director: *Doug Liman.*

Based on the life of Barry Seal, a commercial airline pilot in the late '70s, *American Made* tracks the life of this rather audacious guy who makes the most of his flying skills to keep his paymasters happy – in this case, the CIA and a dangerous drug cartel. As he takes on the CIA job of taking secret reconnaissance missions over South America, Seal also gets involved in the Medellin Cartel to smuggle drugs into the US. His good luck doesn't last long, though, and soon his American godfathers drop him like a sack of potatoes. It is Tom Cruise from start to finish, and if you're a fan of this all-American hero, you might not want to miss it.