

NEWS CAPSULE

Pak spies

NEW DELHI, March 29: As many as 33 agents of Pakistani spys were arrested by security forces since 2016, Rajya Sabha was informed today. Among them 14 were arrested in Rajasthan, six each in Bihar and Jammu and Kashmir, four in Delhi, two in Gujarat and one in Uttar Pradesh. – PTI

NIA cases

NEW DELHI, March 29: Another 19 cases related to ISIS have been registered by the National Investigation Agency. Rajya Sabha was informed today. "The NIA has registered 19 cases related to ISIS and out of these, chargesheet has been filed in 11 cases," Minister of State for Home Hansraj Ahir said. – PTI

Dhoni Aadhaar

NEW DELHI, March 29: Taking a serious view of public sharing of Aadhaar details of MS Dhoni, the Unique Identification Authority of India has blacklisted for 10 years the entity that had enrolled the ace cricketer. The UIDAI has also ordered an inquiry into it. – PTI

Recruitment

NEW DELHI, March 29: There has been a decline of 89 per cent in the direct recruitment in Central Government ministries and departments in 2015 as compared to 2013, data presented by Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh in Lok Sabha today shows. – PTI

Health policy

NEW DELHI, March 29: The new health policy puts forth a concrete framework for universal health coverage and provisions to provide free drugs and diagnostics to all, Minister of State for Health Anupriya Patel today said in Lok Sabha. – PTI

Maternity leave

NEW DELHI, March 29: Women employees will now be able to get paid maternity leave of 26 weeks, up from 12 weeks, as per the Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Act, 2017 that was given assent by President Pranab Mukherjee. – PTI

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

LS passes GST supplementary Bills

NEW DELHI, March 29: The historic Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime today came a step closer to meet its July 1 target of rollout, with the Lok Sabha approving four supplementary legislations.

The Central GST Bill, 2017; The Integrated GST Bill, 2017; The GST (Compensation to States) Bill, 2017; and The Union Territory GST Bill, 2017 were passed after negotiation of a host of amendments moved by the opposition parties.

Repeating by the seven-hour-long debate, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said the new tax regime is implemented, the harassment of businesses by different authorities will end and India will be one rate for one community throughout the country.

Jaitley said that the GST Council, comprising finance ministers of Union Territories and states, had agreed to take a decision on bringing real estate within the ambit of the new

GST, which will usher in a uniform indirect tax regime in the country, will make commodities "slightly cheaper". He said the GST rates would depend upon whether the commodity is used by a rich person or a common man.

Jaitley said once the new tax regime is implemented, the harassment of businesses by different authorities will end and India will be one rate for one community throughout the country.

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GST, which will usher in a uniform indirect tax regime in the country, will make commodities "slightly cheaper". He said the GST rates would depend upon whether the commodity is used by a rich person or a common man.

On the impact of GST on prices, Jaitley said: "Today you have tax on tax, you have cascading effect. When all of that is removed, goods will become slightly cheaper."

He said currently food articles are not taxed and those will continue to be zero-rated under the GST. All other commodities would be fitted into the nearest tax bracket. – PTI

Delay in approval hits embankment works

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 29: A day after facing the Chief Minister's ire, the State water resources department today cited reasons like delay in getting administrative approval and clearances from the forest department, besides court cases for the slow progress in embankment repair works.

The department, however, claimed that 98 proposals on which work is currently on will be completed within April 30 next. In the first phase, the revenue and disaster management department had recommended 98 proposals and an additional

Police custody for Kujendra

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 29: Kujendra Doley, the Irrigation Department Secretary, who was arrested on Tuesday on charges of accepting bribe, was today produced before the Court of Special Judge, Assam here. The court remanded him in five-day police custody.

Stealts of the anti-corruption and vigilance (ACV) wing of Assam Police have recovered over Rs 54 lakh from the residence and office of Doley.

"Six bank passbooks and other documents have also been seized," sources said.

(See page 7)

Nepal to sign road link deal with China

NEPAL, March 29: Nepal will soon sign a "deal" with China to be a part of the Belt and Road Initiative. Prime Minister Prachanda said today as he returned from Beijing after a meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Prachanda told reporters that Nepal would become the part of the Belt and Road Initiative as early as possible and reap benefits from the initiative.

"We are going to sign the deal with China as early as possible to ensure our participation in the Belt and Road Initiative," China's official Xinhua news agency quoted Prachanda as saying.

(See page 7)

NEPAL, March 29: As many as 250 Pakistani nationals and 1,750 Bangladeshi were deported last three years, Rajya Sabha was informed today.

Kiren Rijiju also said some Bangladeshi migrants may be prone to Islamic fundamentalism and become easy prey for militancy, communal conflicts and anti-India elements like ISI.

The government has been strengthening Indo-Bangladesh Border to prevent infiltration of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh.

Bilateral mechanisms such as Joint Working Group on Security, Director General-level talks between Border Security Force (BSF) and Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB), Home Secretary-level

(See page 7)

1,750 Bangladeshis deported in last 3 years

NEPAL, March 29: There is no accurate data with regard to number of Bangladeshi citizens illegally residing in the country," he said.

Rijiju said many illegal Bangladeshi immigrants are found to be involved in cases relating to theft/burglary, smuggling, human trafficking and drug trafficking etc.

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(See page 7)

SC bans sale of BS-III vehicles from April 1

NEW DELHI, March 29: The Supreme Court today banned sale and registration of vehicles with the older BS-III emission norms from April 1, in a blow to auto firms saddled with a stock of over eight lakh such vehicles valued up to an estimated Rs 20,000 crore.

Observing that health of the people is "far, far more important" than the commercial interests of the manufacturers, the apex court observed that automobile firms have declined to take "sufficient pro-active steps" despite being fully aware that they would be required to manufacture only BS-IV compliant vehicles from April 1, 2017.

The court in its five-page order also prohibited registration of vehicles, which do not meet Bharat Stage-IV emission standards, from April 1 except on a proof that such a vehicle was sold on or before March 31.

Green bodies lauded the ban calling it an acknowledgment of the public health crisis and a step in the right direction towards fighting air pollution while the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) dubbed it as "frustrating". SIAM said the existing law allows sale of BS-III compliant vehicles and that this fact was ignored by the court.

The auto emission norms are emission standards which are adopted to check the air pollutants released from any internal combustion engine equipment, including motor vehicles. – PTI



Anti-Brexit protesters hold placards outside British Parliament even as Prime Minister Theresa May announced that she has triggered the process by which Britain will leave the European Union, in London on Wednesday. – UNI

Brexit countdown begins

LONDON, March 29: Prime Minister Theresa May today said there could be "no turning back" as the countdown to Britain's exit from the EU began after the British envoy to the economic bloc delivered her letter to the European Council in Brussels, announcing the UK's intention to end its 44-year association. (See page 7)

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JOCOSERIOUS



Arrest and bail is just like head and tail. (See page 7)

Visits by President, Dalai Lama City under tight security

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 29: With President Pranab Mukherjee and His Holiness the Dalai Lama visiting Guwahati, the entire city has been placed under a multi-layer security system and additional forces have been brought from other parts of the State to ensure that no untoward incident takes place during the visit of the VIPs.

Security forces are using a drone for surveillance in and around the main venue of the Namami Brahmaputra festival, besides the river, official sources said, adding, over five companies of security personnel, including paramilitary, are being deployed to ensure smooth conduct of the festival programmes.

An anti-sabotage team from the Indian Army has also been deployed, sources added.

Meanwhile, City Police Commissioner admitted that despite best efforts made by the police, the possibility of traffic congestion in some roads of the city cannot be ruled out and requested the citizens to use alternative routes to go to the airport, if possible.

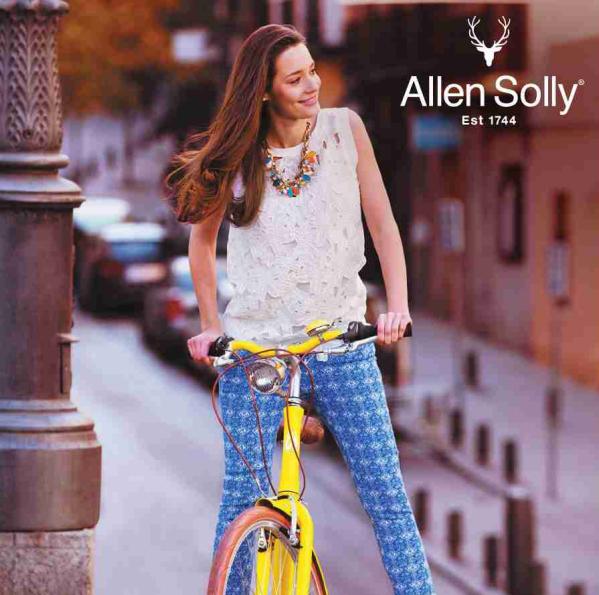
The President of India will inaugurate the Namami Brahmaputra festival on March 31, while the Dalai Lama is scheduled to arrive in the city on

the venues where the President and the Dalai Lama will address public functions. He said that patrolling on the river Brahmaputra has also been intensified.

However, the City Police Commissioner admitted that despite best efforts made by the police, the possibility of traffic congestion in some roads of the city cannot be ruled out and requested the citizens to use alternative routes to go to the airport, if possible.

The President of India will inaugurate the Namami Brahmaputra festival on March 31, while the Dalai Lama is scheduled to arrive in the city on

(See page 7)



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Opp equates Finance Bill to 'terrorism'

NEW DELHI, March 29: The Opposition today slammed the government over various provisions of the Finance Bill, saying those amounted to "terrorism" and a "serious effort to finish off" the spirit of democratic discourse and Parliamentary democracy.

"This is not a Finance Bill. This is more than a Finance Bill. This is an agenda for reducing Parliament to complete irrelevance. It is FIFT. Finance Bill Terrorism." Congress member Jairam Ramesh said in the Rajya Sabha while participating in the debate on the legislation.

"The Finance Bill shows the skill of the Finance Minister to go in for the kill. He has really gone in for the kill in Finance Bill," the former Union minister said. "I will take up only five

clauses of this bill to show how Finance Minister has made several efforts to finish off the spirit of democratic discourse and Parliamentary democracy," he said.

He said Jaitley had introduced a "pseudo inheritance tax,"

"arguing that the transfer

of assets to all private trusts will come under the ambit of taxation. "It is an instrument of transferring assets to next generations. He amended that any transfer of assets to relatives is exempted. Now the inheritance tax has gone out of the window," Ramesh said.

He also talked about another clause under which the "reason to suspect" will be invoked for going after a suspected tax evasion case.

"This has been condemned by everyone. But I want to

condemn for one particular reason, which is that in 2012, when the Vodafone tax decision was taken, the Leader of the Opposition (Jaitley), who is now Leader of the House, called it tax terrorism."

"But Section 132 is tax ter-

rorism to the power of a ten. If

Vodafone was a tax terrorist,

then Section 132 is a Tax Jihād". You have removed reason to believe, to suspect and given unmattered power to the tax administration and bureaucracy," Ramesh said. He asked the FM, "What is the reason for going back to 1975 to introduce this draconian section. Is it because there are 25,000 cases pending in the High Courts or 2,500 cases pending in Supreme Court. Is it that way for accelerating decision-making?" - PTI

RSS man who announced bounty on Kerala CM's head gets bail

UJJAIN, March 29: RSS activist Kundan Chandrawat, who was arrested for allegedly announcing a bounty of Rs 1 crore for anyone who beheads Narmada Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, has been granted bail by a court here.

Chandrawat was released late last evening. "Special District and Sessions Judge Pradeep Kumar Vyas granted bail to Chandrawat on a bond of Rs 10,000. He was released from jail last evening," Chandrawat's lawyer Virendra Sharma told PTI today.

Earlier, he was arrested on March 27 and produced before the chief judicial magistrate's court which remanded him in judicial custody for a fortnight on the same day.

In a video that went viral on social media early this month, Chandrawat was purportedly seen announcing a bounty of

one crore for beheading Vijayan, whom he held responsible for killing of RSS workers in the southern state.

He later retracted his statement which drew widespread condemnation from various quarters, including the Sangh, and expressed regret.

The RSS had distanced itself from its functionary's remark and promptly removed him from the post of Sah Prachar Samruddhi (publicity chief) of Ujjain district.

On 2 March, local Madhav Nagar police had registered an FIR against Chandrawat under IPC section 505(1)(B) whenever makes any statement with intent to cause, or which is likely to cause, fear or alarm to the public, or to any section of the public whereby any person may be induced to commit an offence against the State or against the public tranquility). - PTI

Extra forces deployed in Kashmir after clashes

SRINAGAR, March 29: Extra forces were today deployed in sensitive areas of Kashmir Valley where normal life was disrupted due to a strike called by separatists to protest the killing of civilians during a clash with security forces.

In view of the situation, Kashmir University, Central University, Islamic University of Science and Technology have postponed all examinations scheduled for today.

Three civilians were killed and 18 others were injured yesterday as security forces clashed with stone-pelters trying to disrupt an anti-militancy operation which ended with the killing of a militant in Budgam district of Kashmir.

Officials said today that most of the shops, business establishments and fuel stations were shut in the summer capital here in view of the strike, while educational institutions remained closed in the city, the

officials said.

They said public transport was minimal, while private cars, cabs and auto-rickshaws were plying in some areas of the city.

Similar reports of shutdown were received from most other district headquarters of the Valley, the officials said.

They said extra deployment of security forces has been made in sensitive areas like Chadoora, in central Kashmir's Budgam district – where the killings took place – as well as in downtown areas of the city here to maintain law and order.

The separatists, including chairman of both Hurriyat factions – Syed Ali Shah Geelani and Mirwaiz Omar Farooq and JKLF chief Mohammad Yasin Malik, yesterday asked people to observe a shutdown today to protest the killings. They also asked the people to hold protests after congregational prayers on Friday. - PTI

IIT Roorkee lifts curfew at hostels for girls

NEW DELHI, March 29: IIT Roorkee has lifted the restrictions at its hostels for girls bringing the rules at par with those for the boys hostels.

The decision following repeated demands from the students comes at a time when girl students from various universities across the country are alleging discrimination in the hostel curfew timings and other regulations as against those for the boys.

"The students have been demanding this for long and we have decided to do away with the restrictions. Like boys, girls can also step out of their hostels and roam around the campus round the clock," IIT Roorkee Director A K Chaturvedi told PTI.

"The entry of boys and girls in the common rooms of the hostels and vice-versa has also

been allowed earlier this month. However, we have depated two patrolling vans using which security personnel roams around the campus during night hours to ensure there is no untoward incident.

"Girls can also call these vans like they can any PCR in case of emergency," he added.

Chaturvedi, who took charge of the top post in December last year, has also given a go ahead for opening of the library during night hours when the examinations are round the corner.

"The library will now be open 24 X 7 a week before the examination and during the entire duration of exams," he added.

Girls in Delhi have been protesting against different rules and curfew timings for them than boys' hostels. - PTI

Hazare warns PM of another agitation

MUMBAI, March 29: Social activist Anna Hazare today wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accusing the BJP-led government of being apathetic to the issue of appointing Lokpal and warning him of launching an agitation over it.

"After your government came to power, one began to believe that the demand for Lokpal will be fulfilled. That, however, hasn't happened," said Hazare expressing his dismay.

"Due to such a stance of

yours, I am mulling launching another agitation," Hazare said in his letter to the PM.

"My fast at Ramila ground

in Delhi in 2011 attracted nation-wide response and the Lokpal bill was passed in the Parliament," he said. - PTI


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INTERNATIONAL

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017



Arab leaders and head of delegations pose for a group photograph during the 28th Ordinary Summit of the Arab League at the Dead Sea, Jordan on Wednesday. — UNI

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Bangladesh forces carrying out raids at 3 militant hideouts

DHAKA, March 29: Police today raided a third suspected militant hideout in eastern Bangladesh as security operations continued at two Islamist extremist dens in the northeast, days after the chief of the outfit linked to the country's worst attack in Dhaka was killed along with three terrorists.

"Police raided the third suspected militant den in Comilla city," a police spokesman in Dhaka told PTI.

Comilla's police chief told reporters they believe several militants with explosives were held up inside the building.

The raid came soon after security forces came under a grenade attack as they laid a siege to hideouts of top JMB militants in separate areas of the northeastern Moulvibazar.

Guns and explosions were reported from one of the two buildings surrounded by the security forces, after the SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) team began their operations this evening. Deputy Inspector General of Police Kamruddin Ahsan said.

Police suspect the militants stayed as tenants in the two buildings owned by one Bangladeshi-origin British national. Earlier today residents said they were woken up by the gunshots and grenade explosions. Authorities have enforced a cordon in the areas, barring onlookers in the vicinity. — PTI

Thai ex-tourism boss gets 50 years' jail

BANGKOK, March 29: The former head of Thailand's tourism department was given a 50-year jail sentence today for accepting USD 1.8 million in kickbacks from an American couple lobbying for rights to host a Bangkok film festival.

Juthamas Sirivian, 69, accepted the bribes while she was tourism chief in the early 2000s, according to the verdict delivered at a new Bangkok court handling corruption cases.

Judges also sentenced her daughter, Jittipanya, to 44 years for helping hide the cash in overseas bank accounts, and ordered that authorities seize the money.

"They colluded to avoid free competition in favour of Gerald Green and Patricia Green," the court verdict said, referring to the Los Angeles-based couple behind the bribery.

The Greens served time in US jails for running the sophisticated graft scheme, which saw them funnel money to Juthamas over a period of five years to secure rights to run Bangkok's year-long International Film Festival.

The contracts enabled the couple to generate more than USD 13.5 million in revenue, according to an FBI statement about the investigation. — AFP

PUBLIC NOTICE
I Aarti Mahajan R/o D-401 Utarayan Greens Guwahati 34
I declare that due to oversight my name has been recorded as Arooti M Das and Aarti Das in some documents. I declare and sworn
I vif affidavit that henceforth I shall be known as Aarti Mahajan
for all purposes before Notary
Jituti Kalita, Kamrup Metro
Guwahati on 28.3.2017.
PN/P/6727/1

I, Ajit Kumar Ghosh S/o Late Nripendra Naray Ghosh, a resident of village- Gauhati, P.O. P.S. and Dist. Goalpara, Assam have declared before the Notary Public at Goalpara dated: 28.03.2017 that in my some relevant documents my father's name printed as Peyar Mohan Ghosh instead of Nripendra Narayan Ghosh.
Our research is at an early stage, but we believe that this neuro-prosthe-

top JMB leaders were said to be hiding in the buildings.

The security forces have cordoned off the neighbourhoods.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said in Dhaka, that four-five militants were likely hiding inside the building in Moulvibazar town and at least eight militants, with a huge amount of explosives, were held up in the second building in a nearby village.

"Our plan is to evade casualties, if required army will be deployed out afresh," Kamal said.

Media reports said the army was monitoring the situation in Moulvibazar and preparing for commando assault if required.

Police suspect the militants stayed as tenants in the two buildings owned by one Bangladeshi-origin British national.

Earlier today residents said they were woken up by the gunshots and grenade explosions. Authorities have enforced a cordon in the areas, barring onlookers in the vicinity. — PTI

ISIS holds terrified civilians as human shields in Syrian city

BEIRUT, March 29: Residents of the northern Syrian city of Raqa live in terror, trapped as a massive human shield in the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria's (ISIS) de facto capital ahead of the final battle with US-backed opposition forces for the militant group's last major urban stronghold.

A belt of land mines and militant checkpoints circle the city. Inside, all the men have been ordered to wear the jihadis' garb of baggy pants and long shirts, making it difficult to distinguish ISIS militants from civilians.

Hundreds if not thousands of Syrians who fled from other parts of the country now live in tents in Raqa's streets, vulnerable to both warplanes and ground fighting.

Enormous tarps have been stretched for blocks in the city center to hide the militants' movements from spy planes and satellites.

The estimated 300,000 people trapped inside live in terror, fearing uncertainty over how to find safety. Airstrikes by US-led coalition shake the city almost daily, mainly hitting northern neighborhoods, amid reports of civilians killed by strikes in the nearby countryside.

Leaflets dropped by coalition forces give confusing directions — one suggests areas close

to the Euphrates River are safer, but then another warns that boats crossing the river will be struck.

Mass panic erupted on Sunday, when ISIS announced on mosque loudspeakers that US strikes had hit a dam to the west of Raqa. Residents were urged to flee imminent flooding, and thousands did.

The militants allowed them into ISIS-controlled countryside nearby, as long as they left their possessions behind, according to an activist who is in touch with people inside the city. Hours later, the militants announced it was a false alarm and urged everyone to return. — AP

S African anti-apartheid icon Ahmed Kathrada laid to rest

JOHANNESBURG, March 29: Ahmed Kathrada, South Africa's revered Indian-origin anti-apartheid icon, was laid to rest here today with political stalwarts hailing him as "incurruptible" at his funeral which President Jacob Zuma skipped according to the wishes of the activist's family.

Kathrada, who was one of Nelson Mandela's closest aides, died yesterday aged 87 at the Donald Gordon Hospital here after complications following a brain surgery.

Kathrada, who spent 26 years and 3 months in prison, including 18 years in the infamous Robben Island, was buried according to Muslim rites in the Heroes Acre section of the Westpark cemetery here.

He became the first person of Indian-origin to be interred in the area demarcated for national leaders.

The coffin bearing the body of the ANC stalwart was draped in the party's flag. Muslim prayers were said prior to Kathrada's body leaving the mosque for Westpark Cemetery where he had to rest.

Mandela's ex-wife Winnie Madikizela Mandela, 80, attended the special official funeral accorded to Kathrada. However, President Zuma did not attend the funeral of Kathrada, who in recent years had become fiercely critical of the government. — PTI

TENDER NOTICE NO: N-2016-DA (Sig) Pl II Date: 21-03-2017

Sealed open tenders are invited by Dy. Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer, Maligaon for the following work:- Ref. No:- N-2016/12/Sr. DST/ET/ Maligaon Name of work:- S/T work in-connection with 21 sets of TTR work in section Agnara-Narengi. Total value: Rs. 1,08,56,000/- Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 71,549/- Cost of Tender document: Rs. 3,000/- (Rs.300/- extra by post); Completion period: 90 days. Validity of tender: 15.03.2017. Tender documents can be had from the office of Dy. Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer, Maligaon. Working hours from 01.03.2017 to 01.05.2017.

The militants allowed them into ISIS-controlled countryside nearby, as long as they left their possessions behind, according to an activist who is in touch with people inside the city. Hours later, the militants announced it was a false alarm and urged everyone to return. — AP

STORIES E PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE NO. S/6/65/2016 DT 24-03-2017

(1) All tenders have been uploaded on Indian Railways-Procurement portal (IREPS)-www.ireps.gov.in. For details & necessary guidelines for quoting against e-tender. Please visit IR-EProcurement portal. Work to be done is to be opened on 26-03-2017 and 28-04-2017. (2) The prospective tenderers are advised to get them registered on IR-EProcurement portal at www.ireps.gov.in online. This registration is mandatory for participation in the bidding process and is free of charge. (3) Offers are to be submitted online only. Offers sent/ submitted against such e-tenders through e-mail, post/ fax or in person will be rejected summarily without any consideration. (4) This notice is for information during initial phase only. In future tenders may be published. Vendors are requested to register with IR-EProcurement portal and visit portal www.ireps.gov.in for future tenders. (5) Please submit offer online for the above mentioned tenders.

Description, Pl. No, Quantity, Tender date & validity
Graphic Granite, 800x3028, 2100 Kgs. 801/6/40/46/01/57/16 Non Ferrous Metal, 166x3406, 18000 Kgs. 10/17/1887/01/75/01/57/16 Bushing Block, 166x3406, 18000 Kgs. 10/17/1887/01/75/01/57/16 Controller of Stores, Maligaon
NORTH EAST FRONTIER RAILWAY SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

E-Tender Notice No. N-2016-17-TSK-NIT-14 Date: 24-03-2017

Works tenders through E-Tendering System are invited by the Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer, Maligaon for the following work:- Ref. No:- N-2016-17-TSK-1-27. Brief Description of item: Replacement of LC gates (DD/66, DD/71 & LC/66) and the replacement of TMT/4 gate (MM/59 & PL/17) at JTTN station. Tender Value: Rs.1,12,379.20/- Earnest Money: Rs. 2,05,340/- Cost of Tender document: Rs. 3,000/- Completion period: 70 days. Due and time of Closing of all above E-tenders on 26-03-2017 at 12.00 hrs. Date of opening of tenders: 27-03-2017 at 10.00 hrs. Date of award of contract: 01-04-2017 at 15.30 hrs. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto 15.00 hrs of 27-03-2017 in website www.ireps.gov.in. The tenderer requires to submit their e-tender on this website only. Tenders other than those submitted online or those which are not accepted against above e-tenders, for this purpose, contractors are required to get themselves registered on IR-EProcurement portal. IR-EProcurement portal uses Digital signature certificate, Rands Entered into Rate page and duly signed digital stamp can be considered valid. Payment of payment through Demand Draft, Bankers Cheque, Cash Deposit Receipt or in any other acceptable form will be made to the bidders will have to make all payment either through Net Banking or through e-tender receipt. A digital signature is required to be attached on IREPS Portal. Final deposit Receipt (FDR) will not be accepted as EMD for tenders invited on IREPS. Tender document will be available at the specified time and date. In case the specified date is declared a holiday, the Tender would close on the next working day. In case of any difficulty, help desk available on the website of IREPS may be approached.

**Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer, Maligaon
NORTH EAST FRONTIER RAILWAY SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

STORIES E PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE NO. S/6/65/2016 DT 24-03-2017

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Description, Pl. No, Quantity, Tender date & validity
Tender not respectively
Irrigation system, 10000 Kgs. 10/12/04/46/01/57/16 Non Ferrous Metal, 166x3406, 310000 Kgs. 18/7/07/07/08/01/57/16 Bushing Block, 174x5221, 712 Nos. 10/12/04/46/01/57/16 Controller of Stores, Maligaon
NORTH EAST FRONTIER RAILWAY SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

RAILWAY NOTIFICATION

Notice No. H/4/1/HVS/DBRT/2016-17 Date: 22-03-2017

Chef Medical Superintendent, N.F. Railway, Dibrugarh invites applications for empanelment of Honorary Visiting Consultants (HVC) in each of the specialties of General Surgery, ENT and Radiology.

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Current rate of honorarium to be paid:

Hours	Specialist	Specialist
2 hours a day for 6 days/week	₹32,000/- PM	₹40,000/- PM
2 hours a day for 4 days/week	₹20,000/- PM	₹25,000/- PM
2 hours a day for 2 days/week	₹10,000/- PM	₹12,500/- PM

4. Free Railway Passes: One set of complimentary Railway Pass valid all over Indian Railway & Konkan Railway in AC two tier including Rajdhani Express and in AC Chair Car of Shatabdi Express for self, spouse and dependent Children (As per rules applicable for Railway employees) will be made available per the empanelled selected Government officers in each calendar year. The complementary pass can be availed after 3 months of engagement for the calendar year.

5. Tenure of working: Each time the offer is given for a year only. After expiry of one year, extension can be given yearly basis subject to age limit.

6. Details terms & conditions as per Railway Board's L/No. 20/14/2016/14/V/S/P/Policy dated 19/08/2015 can also be obtained from the office of Chief Medical Superintendent, N.F. Railway, Dibrugarh.

7. Short listed Doctors will be intimated in course of time after approval from Railway Board.

8. The application in plain paper along with address, contact number, passport size photograph & attested copies of documents (Marksheet, Degree certificate, Experience certificate, Post Graduate degree certificate (where applicable), Registration certificate, additional qualification & experience, Pan Card, E-mail ID and Phone number) may be submitted at the address below.

9. Address for correspondence - Chief Medical Superintendent N.F. Railway, Dibrugarh.

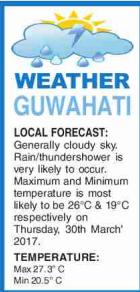
10. Last date of submission of application 01.00 PM of 27-04-2017.

Visit us at: <http://www.nfr.indianrailway.gov.in>.

Chief Medical Superintendent, N.F. Railway, Dibrugarh

NORTH EAST FRONTIER RAILWAY "SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE"





Evening OPD clinic at Press Club on April 1

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 29: Ayurisundra Superspeciality Hospital will conduct the next weekly evening OPD clinic at Guwahati Press Club on April 1 between 2 pm and 5 pm for the benefit of its members along with their dependents.

Besides health-related free consultations by practicing doctors, including Dr Pint Sarma (Medicine) and Dr Ayyana Barthakur (O&G), the participants in the camp will also get the facility of blood sugar and blood pressure tests. Essential medicines will also be available, said a statement.

Dalai lecture

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 29: Krishna Kanta Handique State Open University and Lawyers Book Stall are organising a lecture by the Dalai Lama on Ancient Indian Knowledge in Modern Times at the BKB Auditorium of Gauhati University at 9.30 am on April 2.

Consultation on learning held

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 29: A regional consultation on 'Students' Learning Standards and Assessment' was held in the city today.

The main objectives of the present series of regional consultations are to disseminate the National Achievement Survey findings and learning standards, to develop and share understanding of innovative child-friendly pedagogical models, sensitise the participants on quality standards on the learning achievement system and use of data for improving learning.

The regional consultation was organised with a partnership between NCERT and UNICEF.

OBITUARY

Debjani Thakuria
GUWAHATI, March 29: Debjani Thakuria, a retired senior official of NF Railway here, passed away this morning following a heart attack. She was 75.

A pious lady, she was very popular in the locality due to her amiable nature. She was also associated with a lot of socio-cultural organisations.

She leaves behind two sons, a daughter and a host of relatives and admirers. Her last rites today at the Bhoothnath crematorium was largely attended.



Members of the Street Vendors' Association, Assam, staging a demonstration in protest against non-fulfilment of their demands, in Guwahati on Wednesday. - AT photo

MLAs urged to play active role in Gunotsav implementation



Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal attending a training programme on Gunotsav for MLAs at the Chief Minister's Conference Room at the Janata Bhawan in Guwahati, on Wednesday. - UB Photos

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 29: Aiming to achieve qualitative improvement of primary education in the State, Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal directed the MLAs of eight districts where 'Gunotsav' is to be implemented during the first phase to initiate steps for developing ten schools with model school in their constituencies.

Addressing the MLAs of Barpeta, Chirang, Dibrugarh, Hailakandi, Kamrup (Metro), Lakhimpur, Morigaon and West Karbi Anglong in an orientation programme of 'Gunotsav' held today at the Chief Minister's conference hall at the Janata Bhawan here, Chief Minister Sonowal stated that such an initiative would be a major contribution of the MLAs for ensuring quality in elementary education and improvement of children's learn-

ing outcomes.

Stating that quality citizens are the foundation of a developed society, Chief Minister Sonowal stressed on the need to imbibe moral values among students at the school level.

"In today's competitive world, only talent matters and school education must strive hard to harness the potential of the students to make them better human beings," Sonowal said.

Adding that the teaching fraternity should work with a devoted mind to educate the students, Sonowal urged the MLAs to motivate the teachers in order to boost up their dedication for service. Saying that society as a whole would have to carry the burden of guilt for every student who has drifted away, Chief Minister Sonowal mentioned that involvement of MLAs in a noble venture like Gunotsav would pave the way for quality acade-

mic environment.

The Gunotsav programme to be conducted from April 4 to 7 next will cover 911,588 children of 12,220 schools in eight districts of the State during the first phase. It is expected that the learning gap of each student studying in primary schools will be properly assessed, besides the reading, writing and numerical ability of students will be improved, apart from generating awareness among the teachers, students, administrators, communities and other stakeholders for quality education by this ambitious project of the State Education Department.

The Chief Minister's Media Adviser Hrishikesh Goswami, Legal Adviser Santanu Bharali, Chief Secretary VK Pipersenia, MLAs of eight districts, where this programme is to be implemented during the first phase, were present in today's orientation programme.

Smart India Hackathon at GIMT on April 1-2

GUWAHATI, March 29: Preparations are on to host the Smart India Hackathon 2017 at the Girijananda Chowdhury Institute of Management and Technology (GIMT) here on April 1 and 2, a press release received here stated.

An initiative by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) under the aegis of the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development, the effort is to make the dream

of Digital India a reality. GIMT Guwahati was selected as the only nodal centre in the North East among 26 nodal centres all over the country.

This initiative of the AICTE attempts to institutionalise a model for harnessing the creativity and problem-solving skills of the young talents, thus leading to digital solution of problems faced by society.

Under the DoNER Ministry, a total of 33 teams, with

each team comprising of 6 students and 2 mentors from 32 institutions all over the country will participate in the event. This grand finale is scheduled to be held simultaneously at all nodal centres across the country for a total duration of 36 hours continuously. The winners will receive cash prizes and a chance to be a part of NASSCOM's 10,000 start-up programmes.

Awareness generated against child labour

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 29: A teachers' training programme was held at the Bishnu Nirmala Sishu Pithibharat at Latusi under the aegis of Kamrup Metro district administration with the help of National Child Labour Project (NCLP).

In the day-long programme, teachers of the 54 Special Training Centres were imparted training regarding the Child Labour Act, besides the Child Labour Act, besides the

ways to make the society aware against the menace of child labour.

Before the training programme, an inaugural meet was held where the MLA from Guwahati East Siddhartha Bhattacharya, Kamrup Metro Deputy Commissioner Dr M Angamuthu, Director of Social Welfare SSM Sundaram, Development Commissioner of Kamrup Metro Barnali Sharma, Inspector of Schools K. Ahmed, and other senior of-

ficials were present.

In his speech, Dr Angamuthu called for necessary steps for eradication of child labour and appealed to the workers of NCLP to create awareness in the society against child labour.

Bhattacharya praised NCLP for its endeavour in working for eradication of child labour.

H Goswami, Deputy Labour Commissioner, Prasenjit Talukdar, Labour Inspector and B Das, Child Protection Officer, participated as trainees in the programme.

Six-day entrepreneurship development prog ends

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 29: A six-day Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) for beneficiaries of the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) conducted by Assam Gramene Vi-kash Bank RSETL, Kamrup (M) concluded at its campus on Tuesday.

"This was a general EDP training which was imparted to 22 beneficiaries under the PMEGP scheme of the district. The training was im-

parted to those beneficiaries who desire to be an entrepreneurs in the field of Tailoring and Readymade Garments, Steel Fabrication, Herbal Beauty Man-

agement, DTP & Xerox, Hotel and Fast Food, Electric Motor Pump Repairing, etc.

The training was conducted under the guidance and co-ordination of Sukanti Ranjan Bhattacharjee, faculty of the institute," a press release stated.

The event was inaugurated by Pranab Borah, General Manager of DICC, Kamrup (M), Kamal Bhowmik, Regional Manager of Assam Gramin Vikash Bank, RO, Guwahati and Durlov Chandra Nath, Director of the institute.

The valedictory programme was attended by VD Sarah, AGM of NABARD, Kamal Bhowmik, Regional Manager of Assam Gramin Vikash Bank, RO, Guwahati and MD Hazarika, Project Manager.

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Shri Sarbananda Sonowal
Chief Minister, Assam

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on April 3, 2017

at Manas Symposium Hall
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MESSAGE FOR TODAY

The only thing people regret is that they didn't live boldly enough, that they didn't invest enough heart, didn't love enough.

- TED HUGHES

The Assam Tribune

A languishing issue

Are any of our political parties serious about creating a Lokpal, the ombudsman to try corruption cases against people in power, as mandated by the Lokpal Bill passed by Parliament in 2013 and which came into effect in 2014? For that matter, do they even recall the tumultuous days of 2011 when lakhs of people came out in support of a little-known leader named Anna Hazare, whose lieutenants included the present Chief Minister of Delhi Arvind Kejriwal, and who called for the establishment of a Lokpal? Sad to say, not merely our legislators, but even the people themselves, appear to have consigned those days to oblivion, given the reality that a Lokpal has not yet been constituted despite the first attempt by the UPA Government at forming one being aborted as early as December, 2011. The NDA Government which replaced the UPA appears to be in no hurry to constitute one, giving the somewhat spurious pretext that the Bill mandates the presence of the Leader of the Opposition in the selection committee – since there is no leader of Opposition in the current Lok Sabha, ergo, there can be no Lokpal! The simplest way to resolve such a catch-22 situation is to amend the Bill so as to replace the Leader of the Opposition provision with leader of the largest party, but Parliament's response towards this has been slow.

On the contrary, the Apex Court expressed its disappointment with the Centre for taking its time in proceeding with the necessary amendment, the Centre in turn accused it of attempting to embark on "judicial legislation". It is perhaps the issue's sensitive nature which has made the Apex Court, in response to a batch of petitions requesting it to direct the Centre to appoint a Lokpal in the country, after listening to the argument of all parties, reserve its judgement. During the arguments, the Attorney General had repeated the usual line of the inability of Parliament to appoint a Lokpal in the absence of a Leader of the Opposition, though he made no clarification as to why the Government was dithering over an issue which had been allowed to languish for so long. This despite the fact that as late as November 23 last year the Apex Court had pulled up the Centre over its procrastination in appointment of a Lokpal and categorically asserted that it must not allow the law to become a "dead letter". Apparently, vested interests are in play to delay the formation of an anti-corruption ombudsman despite Narendra Modi's claim of fighting black money and corruption. With the Apex Court reserving its judgement it is now up to Parliament to expedite the matter. If, by more procrastination, it forces the Apex Court's hand to issue fresh directives, the former can hardly be accused of judicial legislation!

Team India shines

India's coming-from-behind 2-Test series win over formidable Australia has been remarkable. With a hype building up ahead of the series which turned out to be a bitterly-contested one, India has done well to outplay their rivals and regain the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. It has also consolidated in the process its No. 1 Test status. The Team India juggernaut has been on a roll for quite some time now, corroborated by their seventh Test series win on the trot. It has been a period of Indian dominance that started in 2015 and which had scripted remarkable victories over Sri Lanka, South Africa, West Indies, New Zealand, England and Bangladesh – the humbling of the mighty Aussies being the icing on the cake. In the decisive fourth Test, Indian players displayed a lot of character while under pressure, and the performance of Ravindra Jadeja, Lokesh Rahul and debutant Kuldeep Yadav deserve particular mention. As for the series, the famed India batting was not exactly up to the mark, with the repeated failures of skipper Kohli subjecting the line-up to a lot of pressure. Ironically, Kohli's absence was also a blessing in disguise as India's performance in the last Test without the superstar was a revelation. Ajinkya Rahane led the team with conviction and Kohli's absence did not hurt Team India as it went on the offensive in its quest for the decisive series win. The Indian bowling had been consistent and did the trick for the series win, with all the bowlers having a good series. Another positive of the series is the emergence of Jadeja, the Man of the Series, as a decent all-rounder.

While India has traditionally performed well at home, Test matches outside home, especially beyond the sub-continent, has been its Achilles heel for decades. As a result, the wins overseas have been few, and series wins ever rarer. On many occasions we have been witness to how the Indian team failed to sustain the momentum after an initial gritty display, raising doubts on its self-belief. Failure to cope with genuine fast bowling on the hostile pitches of Australia and South Africa has been a perennial bane with the Indian batting – leaving aside a few brilliant individual performances. The obsession with preparing spin-friendly flat pitches at home had been the single-most debilitating factor behind the constant batting failures outside the subcontinent. It was a pleasant surprise, therefore, to see the pitch during the final Test at Dharamsala. It had something for everybody – the spinners, pacers and the batsmen. And the pitch stayed lively and did not deteriorate even on the fourth day. Admittedly, spin bowling has been our strength and has largely been responsible for a majority of home wins but still, shifting to a balanced approach in preparing wickets will have a positive bearing on the long-term interests of Indian cricket.

Engineers in works departments of Assam

■ Gopal Chetri

Every conscious and educated person in the society will agree that no development of the service is possible without the service of an engineer. An engineer makes realistic and innovative ideas and executes them to transform a society from undeveloped to a developing state. Becoming an engineer is not an easy task in the sense that he or she has to earn his education and professional skills through a hard and continuous process of learning technical knowledge. In each field of social development, the sectoral profession has a unique role of providing the service to the society. As compared to others, the engineering profession may be regarded to be of extreme importance as it provides the necessary infrastructure for other sectors to also deliver the service to the society.

When we talk of the works departments in the Government sectors, we mean the PWD, PHED, WRD, Irrigation, Municipal Administration, Town and Country Planning, P&RD, etc. Perhaps, the role of engineers working in each of the above departments need not be explained as it is all known to everyone in the society. Nowadays with the Panchayati Raj coming into existence, the role of engineers is very much realized in rural development process since the various State and Central government schemes are being implemented on a large scale at the Panchayat and block levels. The amount of

workload on the engineers cannot be underestimated as they are overburdened in view of limitations in the sanctioned strength. Moreover, there is hardly any atmosphere conducive for the engineers in the government works departments to carry on the overburdened workload since neither they are given the conveyance allowance nor provided with the vehicles to make the tours for regular supervision, inspection and monitoring of the work. Therefore, whenever the quality of work is not found satisfactory, the engineer in charge of the work has to take the blame and face the consequences in spite of the fact that he/she could not make continuous inspection due to want of conveyance facilities.

As far as the vehicles, even in this advanced age of computerization and information technology, the engineers in the various works departments are not even provided with a computer, whereas their counterparts in the Government of India or in the corporate sectors are provided with the best of the modern infrastructure at their workplace.

In order to show efficiency, proper work environment is a must. The reporting/controlling officers have a big role to ensure that the subordinate officers can

their equivalent positions in the state civil service. The time scale promotion as allowed for the civil servants should be extended to the engineers without any further discrimination by the government. Otherwise, there will always be grievances from the engineering fraternity and it would make their efficiency levels go down.

There should be a reasonably

good salary and regular promotion for the engineers over a certain minimum time span and preferably the promotion should be linked to merit, higher qualifications and performances. Some performance-measuring parameters may be worked out to assess an engineer's eligibility to hold higher responsibilities. This would encourage the engineers to work with sincerity and commitment without any inclination to any acts of corruption.

Moreover, the positions of the engineers in the State should be the same as their counterparts in the Government of India service so that equivalence may be established. For example, an engineer in the State Government is inducted into service as assistant engineer (after selection by the APSC) whereas in case of the Government of India, the entry position is as assistant executive engineer (after selection by the UPSC) whereafter the next hierarchical position is that of executive engineer. Therefore, the post of assistant engineer should be designated as assistant executive engineer in the State Government and the existing post of assistant executive engineers in the State be merged with the positions executive engineers so that there is uniformity both at State and Central government levels.

The engineers need to update themselves regularly with the day-

to-day research and developments in engineering science. Therefore, the entire engineering fraternity should be exposed to periodical institutional trainings, seminars and technical workshops so that they can interact with the experts in the related field. The junior and senior engineers both should interact and share their experiences to boost up the knowledge level. The knowledge gained through the trainings/seminars or workshops should be reflected in assessment of the performance index of the engineer. It has been observed that the numbers of trainings/seminars/workshops organized for the in-service State Government engineers are not at all adequate and this matter should be addressed seriously by the administrators of the works departments concerned. There are many issues which are raised by the engineers at different platforms regarding the difficulties in handling the problems in implementing the government schemes. Therefore, the work administrators instead of ignoring such vital issues should take up the matter with the appropriate authorities to find amicable solutions for the problems.

There is a need to look at the problems faced by the engineers in various State Government departments so that at any stage they do not have the feeling of apathy. Let all the engineers in the State devote themselves to the best of their abilities and make the State rise to the top of the stairs of development so that it contributes to the building of a great nation.

Mathematics education for application to real world

■ Dr Hemen Dutta

Sriniwasa Ramanujan's mathematical genius found application in a wide range of areas and for this reason his legacy exists even today. Ramanujan's calling for the subject was passion-driven. He did not study mathematics keeping in mind the applications that his work has started finding of late. We often hear people asking about the usefulness of the subject. In the present scenario, it is also very difficult to categorize mathematics under groups such as pure and applied. Many people are of the opinion that it is just a discipline, with or without applications. There are others who are convinced about its utility. But what is the importance of mathematics in general? In this connection, it is worth mentioning that the National Policy on Education (1986) suggested that "mathematics should be visualized as the vehicle to train a child to think, reason, analyse and articulate logically. Apart from being a specific subject, it should be treated as concomitant to any subject involving analysis and reasoning".

The study of mathematics probably started when its applications

begin to fulfil some daily needs of human beings. Only then did they realize its importance. Since then, mathematics has made tremendous progress and managed to enter almost every sphere of society, with its multifaceted use. It is, of course, not all pervading, but there is not a shred of doubt about the fact that it has made significant contribution to the development of our society. Mathematics has now become a crucial tool in developing or understanding several subjects that were initially considered to have very little or no relation to mathematics. Mathematics was known by many to be applied only to perform some calculations, measurements, etc. But they may be surprised to know that mathematics can be used to cure genetic diseases at a very low cost or that it is already used indirectly in curing some diseases. Since the laboratory cost in generic mappings is very cost-intensive, mathematics is being sought after for its reuse, and some progress has already been made. Application of mathematics has already made a huge impact in engineering, with mathematical logic or reasoning help-

ing to make devices more efficient, smaller in size, leading to reduced production cost. Many such devices are being used in medical science also.

However, it is a common myth that such mathematics is difficult to understand by common people and only top class mathematicians can comprehend it. Even after completing higher studies in mathematics, very few in India are interested in such applied mathematics. This may be largely because of some kind of fear due to insufficient training to build up thinking power, limited efforts in teaching mathematics to interact with nature and primary devotion only to textbook mathematics at every stage of learning, right from the primary level of teaching. One must understand that it is impossible to master all the fields of mathematics or use it. Learning mathematics is a continuous process, and it is essential to build thinking power by interacting with nature, through laboratory activities and using mathematics in other branches of studies.

How does mathematics actually interact with the real world phenomena? What is the role of mathematicians in solving real life problems? To answer these questions,

it is important that a mathematician or a group of mathematicians must develop mathematical models to solve real life problems in collaboration with experts from other fields related to the problem. This is because mathematical models developed by a mathematician or a group of mathematicians alone may not be accurate. It depends on the nature of the problem and the factors associated with the problem. So when the problem is dealt with only by mathematician, some factors may go unnoticed leading to an inappropriate model. After model development, mathematicians should strive for mathematical solution to the problem. If no ready-made solution is available, help from researchers may be sought to develop a solution or the model be approximated to another model with an already known solution. Finally, mathematical solution is expressed in terms of the language of the problem. If the solution is not acceptable, the model must be improved with input from more mathematicians and other experts.

A simple mathematics can convey a lot of things, and it depends on the capability of learners or user of mathematics. Mathematics is not rigid, and it is wrong to assume that only a single mathematical concept can be used for a particular situation or application. Rather it is flexible, making it more useful and enjoyable. It is difficult to know in advance as to when and how mathematics finds application in different areas. Mathematics is growing and will continue to grow with time. When mathematics encounters a situation, where it fails to progress, a new area or branch of mathematics develops to cope with the situation. It is important for mathematics learners and practitioners to be updated with the developments and ongoing activities on the subject worldwide. In the age of internet, this is possible by associating with reputed mathematical societies and bodies, visiting the profiles of renowned mathematicians, webpages of research groups, mathematics publishers, interacting with seniors, etc. Many mathematical societies offer free membership for students, visiting fellowships and circulate free newsletters periodically covering different topics including career opportunities, interviews of successful mathematicians and mathematicians contributing significantly in industries, etc.

Letters to the EDITOR

Sir – One can't deny the depiction and expression of various forms of the Brahmaputra by Sudakshana Dr Bhupen Hazarika through his melodious songs composed among by him or other artists. The fact is that it is through his words and songs people around the world could realize the cultural assimilation of Sudakshana to the mighty Brahmaputra. Do we really need any script or words apart from what are expressed in the form of evergreen songs by Dr Bhupen Hazarika to nomenclature the mighty river now? What is the need of further motivation by anyone if we really able to accept his words about the Brahmaputra or the Assam?

Looking at the controversy of the theme song of 'Namami Brahmaputra', I think it would be more appropriate to picture few of his creative songs so as to give more flavour to those songs. The idea is not to demean the creativity of the present generation which works like a marketing strategy. But, if we really focus on the Assamese society along with its history and geography, probably one can't deny the songs of Dr Bhupen Hazarika as the means of propagating Assam and its culture and this mighty river. Yours etc., AK SARMA, Guwahati.

(II)

Sir – The Brahmaputra is the mightiness of the Brahmaputra, his revolutionary warnings to the Assamese people of current generation, his uncompromising mission for the uplift of the nation, his passionate love towards his motherland, his words of caution to exploit the strength – all these are

Namami Brahmaputra and Bhupenda

ample examples of deep attachment of Sudakshana to the mighty Brahmaputra. Do we really need any script or words apart from what are expressed in the form of evergreen songs by Dr Bhupen Hazarika to nomenclature the mighty river now? What is the need of further motivation by anyone if we really able to accept his words about the Brahmaputra or the Assam?

I feel shunning criticism and negative approach, we must celebrate the festival with vigour. Yours etc., PRINYAK JALAN, Guwahati.

Good initiative

Sir – This is with reference to news item 'Free coaching' (AT, March 22) for the medical and engineering aspirants of Bhabhatara. This is indeed a commendable initiative taken by the Kamalapur MLA in providing free coaching. This sort of steps would help instill positivism and faith amongst the people on our politicians. Medical and engineering coaching these days has become very expensive for which many economically-disadvantaged but meritorious students cannot pursue such courses. I am sure the step taken by the MLA would benefit many students and help them in realizing their dreams to

pursue a career in medical or engineering. Other MLAs of our State should also take similar initiatives so that many students can be benefited. Yours etc., DIGONTO TATE, Guwahati.

Silapather incident

Sir – The lesser known Nikhil Bharat Bangali Uladba Samanvay Committee (NBBUS) vandalizing the office of the AASAU and the Swadhin Beda at the AASAU on March 6 last is highly condemnable. However, it is good news that after tremendous effort and vigorous searching, the Assam Police along with other agencies have succeeded in arresting the mastermind of the act Subodh Biswas along with one of his close accomplices in the wee hours of March 22 last from a remote village in North Pargana district in West Bengal. The culprits must get exemplary punishment. Yours etc., PUTUL SARMA, Biswanath Chariali.

(II)

Sir – Two news items appeared on the front page of your esteemed daily on March 24, placed one above the other. While the first one was from your staff reporter, the other one was from R Dutta Choudhury. According to the staff reporter, Subodh Biswas along with one of his close accomplices was arrested

by a team of Assam Police. Meanwhile, the Chief Minister of Assam Sarbananda Sonowal appreciated the role of the Assam Police in nabbing Biswas. According to his report, it was a central agency under the MHA which played a key role in Biswas' arrest. The speculations, technical and human intelligence, successfully tracked him to West Bengal, continued tracking him and finally located him in the place (where he was arrested) and requested the DGP West Bengal to nab him. The Bengal police arrested him in the wee hours of March 22 from that remote village and subsequently handed him over to the team of the Assam Police and CID who went there to bring him to Assam. R Dutta Choudhury's report is correct, it is very clear that the Assam Police had no role in arresting Biswas and they simply went to West Bengal to take delivery of the arrested persons. It is, therefore, the central agency and the West Bengal Police only should be credited in nabbing Biswas. Yours etc., JN BHUYAN, Guwahati.

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

Elaborate security arrangement in place for Namami Brahmaputra fest

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 29: The Kamrup Metro district authority has made elaborate security arrangements for the ensuing Namami Brahmaputra festival which will start from March 31 and continue till April 4.

The administration is coordinating with various stakeholders like police, SDRF, NDRC, River Police, Health Services, Guwahati Municipal Corporation (GMC) and the Public Health and Engineering (PHE) Department and has taken various measures for safety and security of VIPPs, VIP's as well as the general public attending the festival.

A nodal cell has since been constituted and headed by Additional Deputy Commissioner and Chief Executive Officer of the District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC) involving all con-



SDRF personnel during a mock drill on the Brahmaputra in Guwahati on Wednesday
— Photo: Samarendra Sarma

cerned Circle Officers, representatives from police, SDRF, NDRC, River Police, Health Services and Inland Water Transport (IWT) Department. "This nodal cell will coordinate and supervise all the safety-related issues during the

five-day event to prevent any untoward eventuality. A Joint Control Room will be established for all the response agencies at the venue for necessary coordination and support," said Kamrup Metro Deputy Commissioner Dr M Angamuthu.

He said that sufficient CCTV's have been installed all around the venue at Rajdhari Ghat for proper centralised monitoring.

"A proper evacuation plan is in place for any emergency during the event. For tackling

any untoward eventuality and for safety of the visitors, NDRF has deputed three fully-equipped teams, out of which two teams will be operational round the clock and one team will be kept in reserve in the IWT boat at Fancy Bazar Ghat. Each team will consist of eight boats with eight divers, one medical squad and one CBRN squad. NDRF personnel are detailed round the clock at the Joint Control Room," said Dr Angamuthu.

River Police will make arrangements for river patrolling during the event.

SDRF personnel with boats and necessary rescue gear will be deployed to cover the entire area during the five-day event. Four groups of extinguisher teams consisting of three personnel in each team with portable fire extinguishers will be detailed at strategic places to tackle any eventuality.

"Three medical teams will be deployed with doctors, paramedics and emergency medicine. For any emergency, three medical teams will be operational round the clock and one team will be kept in reserve in the IWT boat at Fancy Bazar Ghat. Each team will consist of eight boats with eight divers, one medical squad and one CBRN squad. NDRF personnel are detailed round the clock at the Joint Control Room," said Dr Angamuthu.

Volunteers from civil defence, National Cadet Corps and National Social Service will be deployed at the venue for crowd management during the festival.

While the PHE has been tasked with providing packaged drinking water to all the visitors, garbage disposal and sanitation will be taken care of by the Guwahati Municipal Corporation. Proper street lighting throughout the city and riverside lighting at the venue has been done by GMC in coordination with APDCL, and PWD," informed the DC.

Plea to integrate Zoo Road Water Supply Scheme with JICA-funded project

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 29: About 101 employees of the Zoo Road Water Supply Scheme (ZRWSS) of the Gu-

wahati Metropolitan Drinking Water and Sewerage Board have complained that their fate now hangs in the balance due to the contradictory decisions of the authorities concerned.

These employees were earlier transferred from the Assam Urban Water Supply & Sewerage Board (AUWS & SB). They have now made an appeal to the State Government to review the latest decision of the Government to send them back to the AUWS&SB.

In a representation to the Chairman of the Guwahati Metropolitan Drinking Water and Sewerage Board as well as the Guwahati Development Department (GDD) Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, these employees have also pleaded for integrating the Zoo Road Water Supply Scheme (ZRWSS) with the JICA-funded main water supply scheme of the city and

treat it as a pilot project till that integration is done.

The ZRWSS capacity should also be increased to cover the area under its command till the JICA-funded project comes under operation. This will generate more revenue and compensate the cost, said these employees.

It needs mention here that the above employees of the ZRWSS were transferred on deputation to Guwahati Jal Board," stated a February 10, 2015 agreement signed by the Managing Director of Guwahati Jal Board and the Managing Director of the AUWS&SB.

But the August 26, 2016 Board meeting of the Jal Board expressed the view that taking over the assets and employees of the existing agency would be counter-productive and could result in a serious challenge to the Board, which has proposed to apply

the most modern and complex systems in running its projects.

The Board, therefore, felt that it is appropriate that all the existing agencies may be allowed to continue even after the Board starts operating. After two to three years, the matter can be reviewed further, said the Board in its August 26, 2016 meeting.

The ZRWSS employees, now 101 in total, hence made a representation to the Managing Director (MD), Guwahati Jal Board on December 9, 2015 with a plea that the above decision should be reviewed.

Getting no positive response from the Jal Board MD, the employees then moved the Gauhati High Court and the High Court directed the Jal Board MD to look into the grievance of these employees and answer the same by issuing a speaking order.

The Jal Board MD said in

his order on March 15, 2017, among others, that the Board is not required to take the assets or the manpower of any of the existing water supply schemes, since the Board will be completely professional and modern agency to take care of the drinking water and sewerage system.

However, those staff/employees of the ZRWSS, who fulfil the criteria of the modern organisation can join the concerned organisation at an appropriate point of time.

The matter remains with the decision of the administrative departments of both the Boards.

He also said that the representation made by the above employees on December 9, 2016, would be placed before the Board in its next Board meeting for its consideration.

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The matter remains with the decision of the administrative departments of both the Boards.

He also said that the representation made by the above employees on December 9, 2016, would be placed before the Board in its next Board meeting for its consideration.

Delay in...

(Contd from page 1)

In the second phase, of the 70 schemes proposed, only 17 have got administrative approval so far. The second phase includes three breaches of L855 km length, besides repair work on 79.9 km and anti-erosion work in a stretch of 25.9 km.

According to the Comptroller, Secretary, works worth about Rs 20 lakh were awarded through e-tendering. "People ought to adapt to the new digital method, another reason for the delay," he said.

During last year's floods, 36 breaches had occurred in the embankments. Of these, 33 are being closed in the first phase of the restoration work.

The water resources department looks after 4,474 km of embankments in the State.

This year, a record amount of Rs 345.56 crore – all-time highest in a single financial year – had been released under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for carrying out strengthening and repairing of embankments and erosion protection works.

Brexit countdown ...

(Contd from page 1)

In her statement to the House of Commons, May said that Sir Tim Barham had delivered her letter to Donald Tusk, President of the European Council, in Brussels.

"Today the government acts on the democratic will of the British people and it acts too on the clear and convincing position of this House," she said.

"The Article 50 process is now under way and in accordance with the wishes of the British people the United Kingdom is leaving the European Union. This is a historic moment from which there can be no turning back," she said in an address that was frequently inter-

Nepal to sign ...

(Contd from page 1)

of President Xi. It was proposed by him in 2013 and the project aims to build a trade and infrastructure network connecting Asia with Europe and Africa along the ancient trade routes.

It includes the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road to connect China with ports across the world as well as the USD 46 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) – which passes through the PoK – and the Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar Economic (BCEM) corridor. – PTI

OFFICE OF THE STATE COORDINATOR, NRC
Achyut Plaza (1st Floor), Bharatapur
Bhagabati, Guwahati - 781005

No: SPMU/NRC/PIT/2/2014/P-1/V32 Dated 29th March 2017
EXTENSION NOTICE

In reference to the tender no. SPMU/NRC/PIT/2/2014/P-1/V32 dated 06-03-2017, closing date of which was on 29th March, 2017 at 2:30 PM is hereby extended up to 2:30 PM, 06-04-2017.

All other terms & conditions of the tender remain unchanged.

Sd/- State Coordinator, NRC, Assam



३ वर्षीय ब्रिटिश लिमिटेड
Oil India Limited

P.O. DULIAJAL-786 602 ASSAM
CIN : L11101AS1959CO001148

SPECIAL RECRUITMENT DRIVE FOR SCST/OBC IN OIL
OIL INDIA LIMITED (OIL), a Navratna Public Sector Undertaking, invites online applications from eligible Indian Nationals, to fill up the following posts:

POST	GRADE	PAY SCALE (in Rs)
Sr. Accounts Officer / Sr. Internal Auditor	C	32900-58000
Account Officer / Internal Auditor	B	24900-50500
Mr. Medical Officer (Gynaecology)	C	32900-58000
Security Officer	B	24900-50500

The last date of receipt of Online Application is 30.04.2017

For details visit: <http://www.oil-india.com/oilnew/Current-openings>

ASSAM POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED

SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE

NIT No.: CGM (D)/APDCL/LAR/IASST/DEPOSIT/

16-17/D-23

The Chief General Manager (D), APDCL (LAR), Bijilee Bhawan, 5th Floor, Paltan Bazaar, Guwahati-781001 invites Tender for Construction of 33 KV Line and Dismantling of old lines from 33/11KV Narangi S/S to Narangi T in favour of AEEA, PWMS Borpeta AACP Sub Division Borpeta, Assam under Narangi Electrical Subdivision of Guwahati Electrical Division (North) under Guwahati Electrical Circle-I, under Deposit scheme on "Full Turnkey" mode.

KEY Dates :
Tender download start date : 30.03.2017
Pre-Bid meeting date & time : 13:00 Hrs on 06-04-2017
Bid Submission End date & time : 13:00 Hrs. on 11.04.2017
Technical Bid opening date & time : 13:30 Hrs. on 11.04.2017

For details please visit www.apdcl.org OR <https://apdcl.tenders.in>

Sd/-, Chief General Manager (D)
APDCL (CAR)

CAS/2017/26

ASSAM POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LTD.

SHORT RE-e-TENDER NOTICE

NIT No.: CGM (D)/APDCL/LAR/AFS-DIGARU/

DEPOSIT/16-17/D-26

The Chief General Manager (D), APDCL (LAR), Bijilee Bhawan, 5th Floor, Paltan Bazaar, Guwahati-781001 invites Online Re-Tender for Construction of new 33 KV Line of length 6.2 Km from 220/132/33 KV GIS Sanada Pathar Sub Station to Air Force Station, MES, Sivasagar, Sonapur. Sanada Pathar Garrison, Engineer MES, Air Force Station, Digaru, Sonapur Kamrup (M) under Sonapur Electrical Sub Division of Guwahati Electrical Circle-I, under Deposit Scheme on Full "Turnkey" mode.

KEY Dates :
Tender download start date: 30-03-2017
Pre-Bid meeting date & time: 14:30 Hrs on 06-04-2017
Bid Submission End date & time: 14:00 Hrs. on 11-04-2017
Technical Commercial Bid Opening date & time: 14:30 Hrs on 11-04-2017

For details please visit www.apdcl.org or <https://apdcl.tenders.in>

Sd/-, Chief General Manager (D)
APDCL (LAR),

APS/2017/25

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR GAUHATI UNIVERSITY, GUWAHATI-781014

Advertisement No. NTS-2017

Applications on prescribed format are invited from the eligible Indian citizens for the following post in the Population Research Centre (PRC), Gauhati University. Sponsored by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India

Post

: Lower Divisional Clerk (L.D.C.)

Number of Post

: 1

Salary

: Rs. 19,278/- (Fixed) per month

Essential Qualification

: Bachelor Degree in any discipline

from a recognized University/ Institution with adequate computer knowledge.

Nature of post

: Contractual, initially for a period of 1 year.

: Should not be below 18 years & above 38 years on 01.01.2017.

AGE

: 18 years

INSTRUCTION & INFORMATION

I. Application form: Prescribed application form, the details of qualifications & other are available in the University website: www.gauhati.ac.in. The candidates may download the application form from the above website. Application in any other form will not be accepted.

II. Application fee & last date: Candidates will be required to pay an amount of Rs. 100/- (Rupees One Hundred) only by Demand Draft in favour of the "Registrar, Gauhati University" payable at SBI, G.U. Branch as an application fee for the post. Completed applications in the prescribed form along with all relevant enclosures must be submitted to the Registrar, Gauhati University, Guwahati-14 latest by 10th April, 2017. Two copies of application with all testimonials are needed to be submitted. The envelope containing the application form must indicate the name of the post & advertisement no.

III. Those who are employed should submit their applications through proper channel or must submit a **No Objection Certificate** from the employer.

IV. Attested copies of Marksheets, Birth Certificate, Educational Certificates and Experience Certificates etc. must be attached to the application. Incomplete applications and applications without relevant enclosures will be rightly rejected.

V. The University reserves the right to withdraw any advertised post at any time without assigning any reason thereof. The right is also reserved with the University either to fill or not to fill the post and its decision in this regard shall be final.

VI. The University will not be responsible for late/non receipt of call letters for the test/interview due to postal delay.

VII. Candidates if found indulging in canvassing in any form will be disqualified.

VIII. Candidates will have to appear before the Selection Committee for an interview at their own cost if called for. More fulfillment of academic qualifications will not entitle a candidate to be called for interview.

Sd/- Registrar
Gauhati University

ASSAM POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED

SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE

NIT No.: CGM(D)/APDCL/LAR/NS5 PWD ROAD/DEPOSIT/16-17/D-24

The Chief General Manager (D), APDCL (LAR), Bijilee Bhawan, 5th Floor, Paltan Bazaar, Guwahati-781001 invites online Tender for Construction of 33KV / 11KV / LT line along with 33KV Narangi S/S to Bonda in favour of AEE, PWD, Borpeta AACP Sub Division Borpeta, Assam under Narangi Electrical Subdivision of Guwahati Electrical Division (North) under Guwahati Electrical Circle-I, under Deposit scheme on "Full Turnkey" mode.

Key Dates:

Tender download start date : 30-03-2017

Pre-Bid meeting date & time : 14:30 hrs. on 05-04-2017

Bid Submission End date & time : 13:00 hrs. on 12-04-2017

Technical Bid opening date & time : 14:00 hrs. on 12-04-2017

For details please visit www.apdcl.org OR <https://apdcl.tenders.in>

Sd/- Chief General Manager (D), APDCL (LAR)

EA/2017/24

Dhubri gears up for Ashokastami Puja, Mela

CORRESPONDENT

DHUBRI, March 29: Dhubi is all set to welcome thousands of devotees that will throng to participate in the historic Ashok Astami Puja and take a dip in the river Brahmaputra.

Every year thousands of devotees from many parts of the State and from West Bengal come to the town of Dhubri to participate in the Ashokastami Puja and to join

the fair that is organised to mark the occasion. As per the information provided by the Ashokastami Puja and Mela Committee, the puja will be conducted on the banks of Brahmaputra on April 4 morning and the fair will get under way on that day and will end on April 18.

The committees are hoping that this year the town will get more than one lakh footfall on the Puja day, i.e., on April 4 and to accommodate

the devotees they have made special arrangements. "We have seen that every year the number of devotees is increasing and this year there will be not less than one lakh participants in the pujas that will be conducted on the banks of Brahmaputra at Dhubri," said Ganesh Sen, secretary of the committee. He also added, "We have made arrangements in the Children's Park, Kalibari, Harisabha and in the premises of a few schools

where the devotees can at least take rest".

Meanwhile, in the Ashokastami Mela, arrangements have been made for 600 stalls where traders from UP, Bihar, West Bengal, Delhi and other parts of the State are likely to participate, informed the Mela Committee.

To control the crowds during the Puja and the fair, special traffic arrangements have been chalked out by the administration.



Participants at the mass rally at Diphu on Tuesday. — Photo: Dipu Correspondent

HS contractual teachers stage protest

CORRESPONDENT

MANGALDAH, March 29: Members of the Darrang District Committee of All Assam Additional (Contractual) Teachers' Association on Tuesday staged a three-hour-long sit-in demonstration protesting against the State government in regularisation of their posts.

About 150 members of the association assembled in the office campus of the Inspector of Schools, Darrang and took part in the demonstration from 11 am till 2 pm. At the end of the agitation, on behalf of the association, a memorandum was sent to the State Education Minister with several charter of demands, including unconditional regularisation of their posts, among others.

Burglars loot merchandise at Silchar UCO bank

CORRESPONDENT

SILCHAR, March 29: Sensation prevailed in Silchar after burglars broke into the Silchar Polytechnic branch of UCO Bank on Monday night and escaped after looting some vital merchandise.

According to Ramkrishna Singh, when the employees opened the bank on Tuesday, they saw that the back room of the bank was vandalised with CCTVs broken and hard disk was found missing. Also, some vital files were badly ransacked and some were even stolen away. "One desktop computer has been looted but the burglars could not open the locker of the bank," the branch manager maintained.

OBITUARY

Aneki Bala Deori
CORRESPONDENT

MORIGAON, March 29: Aneki Bala Deori, distinguished lady of ward no 6 of Morigaon town died at a private hospital at Guwahati recently after a brief illness. She was 69.

A lady of amiable disposition, Aneki Bala Deori's death cast a pall of gloom over Morigaon town. A retired officer of Indian Postal department, Deori was associated with several social service works. Several organisations and individuals have mourned her death and conveyed heartfelt condolence to the bereaved family.

She leaves behind her husband, one son, two daughters besides a host of relatives.

Meena Borthakur
CORRESPONDENT

JORHAT, March 29: A socially sensitive elderly lady of Digamber Chowk area of Jorhat, Meena Borthakur breathed her last at Dibrugarh-based Assam Medical College Hospital on Monday due to old age ailments. She was 78.

She was the wife of late Dr Dwijendra Nath Borthakur of Nakari Road at Digamber Chowk area of the city, who inspired the locals for good education and morality.

She leaves behind four sons and a host of relatives. Along with her family members and relatives, several people of Jorhat have expressed sorrow in her death.

Concern over unhealthy atmosphere at DKD College

SANJOY KR. HAZARIKA

DERGAON, March 29: Excessive use of mobile and other ICT equipment has adversely affected the academic environment in higher educational institutions. This was proved in a prestigious college of Upper Assam, DKD College Dergaon where nearly 500 students have been declared as the non-collegiate and dis-collegiate for not having the required attendance in the semester.

According to the latest notice hung in the college notice board, a total of 299 students have been declared as the dis-collegiate, and 125 as non-collegiate. Fifty nine students have zero percentage of attendance in second, fourth and sixth semester of the three-year degree courses of arts, science and commerce streams.

On the other hand, several public complaints have been levelled against a section of the students who keep sitting on their bikes on the roads in front of the college gate the whole day. When contacted, the principal of the college Dr Ranjit Kr Bordoloi admitted that a large number of students are asked to pay penalty as they

have been declared as dis-collegiate and non-collegiate for not having the minimum required attendance. Talking to this correspondent regarding the gathering in front of the gate, the principal revealed that due to the ban imposed on the use of mobiles, they are out to access free internet facilities as provided by some internet service provider.

Shristi Sharma, a degree student of the college said that the abuse of mobiles etc. are really bad but the students who are sincere must take advantage of free access of internet services as provided by various service providers. A senior citizen of Dergaon as well as a writer, Atul Ch Mahanta felt that the parking of bikes and gathering of students in front of the college should be stopped immediately. He also revealed that several students in college uniform are seen on the nearby roads during the college time. The conscious citizens here have urged the college authority and the district administration as well as police administration to take steps to ban parking on the roads in front of the college and to restore the healthy environment of the college.



Activists of Nakachari Jyestha Nagarik Mancha along with other organisations holding a road blockade programme demanding reconstruction of the Teok-Boloma-Nakashari Road, Mariani on Wednesday. — UBS Photos

World Tuberculosis Day observed in Hailakandi district

CORRESPONDENT

HAILAKANDI, March 29: World TB Day was observed in Hailakandi under the auspices of Health Department's Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP). This year's theme of the day is 'Unit to end TB'. The programme began with the bringing out of a rally through the main thoroughfares of Hailakandi town with placards, banners and posters. A large number of nurses also participated in the rally.

It can be mentioned here that the World Tuberculosis Day is observed on March 24 every year to help spread awareness about the disease, its prevention measures and precautions as well as to commemorate efforts undertaken against the disease. The date was earmarked due to the discovery of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, a bacterium which causes TB by German microbiologist Dr Robert Koch in 1882, when the disease had much of Europe and America under its grip. At the 100th anniversary of the discovery, in 1982, the International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IATL) suggested that the day be observed as World Tuberculosis Day.

The meeting held on the occasion at the GNM training centre was addressed by the programme officer of RNTCP, Dr NH Majharbuiya, Dr Tapas Kumar Bhattacharjee, Dr DK Deb among others. They stressed the need of creating awareness among all sections of people regarding TB infection. They said that the probability of the disease is higher in HIV patients, as their immune system is weaker than others. Most HIV deaths occur due to TB. City pollution is one of the major causes of tuberculosis. Stray dust on roads as well as fine dirt particles from construction sites can enter the lungs and aggravate chances of tuberculosis, they added. Tuberculosis can spread by being in the infectious air as the disease is an infectious one whose bacteria travel through air droplets, by coughing or sneezing by an infected person. Therefore, a person who is infected should always avoid crowded, closed spaces and shift to an open environment immediately, they clarified. According to statistics, about 2.3 billion people in the world have TB, but many never know that they have it. Due to a condition called latent tuberculosis, the person infected might never ex-

perience severe symptoms or be hazardous to others, but the germs will simply stay in the body. However, in only 5-10 per cent of people do the TB bacteria become industries? These people can spread the disease to other people as the bacteria are active.

Mostly, TB is found in underdeveloped countries, especially in Africa, Asia, Latin America, or Russia. Close to 1.5 million people die from the disease every year. TB is found to be very common in shelters for homeless people, prisons, hospitals and nursing homes, immigration settlements, etc. Usually, TB attacks the lungs but other organs such as the brain or the kidneys can fall prey to the disease too. Symptoms include coughing that lasts for more than two or three weeks, at times with blood, chest pain, fatigue, unexplained weight loss, weakness, fever at night, sweating in cool weather, shortness of breath, whistle-like sound while breathing, etc. They urge the people to contact doctors or nearby DOTS centre immediately if the cough continues for at least two weeks.

World Poetry Day: World Poetry Day was observed in Hailakandi under the auspices of Sammilito

Sanskritik Vishak Mancha (SSVM).

The poets' meet held on the occasion was presided over by the chairman of SSVM, Hirakjyoti Chakraborty. The secretary of the mancha, Sankar Choudhury initiating the meet, expressed satisfaction for observing the day for the first time in Hailakandi and hoped that this will definitely encourage the poets of all ages.

Mostly, TB is found in underdeveloped countries, especially in Africa, Asia, Latin America, or Russia. Close to 1.5 million people die from the disease every year. TB is found to be very common in shelters for homeless people, prisons, hospitals and nursing homes, immigration settlements, etc. Usually, TB attacks the lungs but other organs such as the brain or the kidneys can fall prey to the disease too. Symptoms include coughing that lasts for more than two or three weeks, at times with blood, chest pain, fatigue, unexplained weight loss, weakness, fever at night, sweating in cool weather, shortness of breath, whistle-like sound while breathing, etc. They urge the people to contact doctors or nearby DOTS centre immediately if the cough continues for at least two weeks.

World Poetry Day: World Poetry Day was observed in Hailakandi under the auspices of Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYK) and in collaboration with 10 youth clubs, extensive cleanliness programmes were conducted in different places of Hailakandi district recently. The five daylong programme under Mahatma Gandhi Yuva Swachhatma Maha Abhiyan Evansram Karyakram-2017 was conducted in Hailakandi district along with the 200 districts of the country. Altogether 50 volunteers of Greenview Club, Naveejean Club, Netajii Jeevan Youth Action Group, Jupiter Welfare Society, Sunrise Gramin Vikash Society, Nath Youth Action Group, Unaid FD Youth Club, Bal Youth Action Group, Amarijyoti Club and Major Daboor Club tirelessly carried out cleanliness programme led by the district youth coordinator of Nehru Yuva Kendra, Sekhar Ranjan Deb. Some dustbins were also fitted in some places.

An awareness meeting was also held at Kuchila and it was addressed by Sekhar Ranjan Deb, Osman Gani Laskar, Mohammed Ali among others. They stressed the need of educating the people regarding cleanliness programme. Fifty CRPF personnel also took part in the cleanliness drive in Kuchila area with the NYK team members. Earlier, the

inaugural function of the programme was attended by the SP of Hailakandi, Pranjoyoti Goswami, Deputy SP Foyaz Ahmed, Additional DC Ruthileen, MLA of Hailakandi, Anwar Hussain Laskar among others. All the speakers urged the people to come forward voluntarily to keep their own area clean.

Projects inspected: An eight-member team of the Public Account Committee (PAC) headed by Lakshmi MLA Rajdeep Goala visited Hailakandi district and took the stock of the situation of the ongoing developmental projects here. They inspected Algapur Model Hospital, World Bank's mega water supply scheme of Public Health Engineering Department at Chamdipur village, irrigation project at Bandukmara etc. They also inspected the dilapidated conditions of Matijuri Bridge over Katakhali river. They asked the concerned officers and engineers to expedite the ongoing works. Later, the team also held a meeting with the district authorities of District Rural Development Agency, education, agriculture, irrigation, water resources, public health engineering, Public Works Department etc., and reviewed the ongoing schemes of all the departments.

Tribal bodies take out rally at Diphu for safeguarding their rights

CORRESPONDENT

Mikir Hills District (Transfer of Land), Act 1959 for the protection of tribal land.

The organisations demanded that the framing and passing of Karbi Anglong Autonomous Districts (Representation of People in Autonomous Council) Act, 2017 and Karbi Anglong Autonomous Districts (Representation of people in Autonomous Council) Rules, 2017 must commence latest by April 3, 2017 and complete before commencement of KAAC election process and code of conduct or within April 29, 2017 whichever is earlier.

It also said that the process must be done with the concurrence of all leaders of the hill tribes of the district. Information on the commencement of the framing of Act and Rules for KAAC election must be communicated to the agitating organisations in writing on April 3, 2017.

The organisations said: "If the KAAC election is held without passing Election Act and Rules under Paragraph 2, Sub-Paragraph 7 of the Sixth Schedule and if name of illegitimate persons are not deleted from voter lists, the elections and voter lists will be illegal and unconstitutional and shall be liable to be quashed."

The KAAC and the Government of Assam are reminded of the onslaught of Banga Sena and their extremist's activities in Karbi Anglong and their ethnic cleansing

perpetrated at Silapathar in Dhemaji district and Musalpur in Baksa district of Bodoland, the memorandum said.

The organisations in their memorandum also demanded the KAAC that the Mikir Hills District (Transfer of Land) Act, 1959 must be repealed immediately as some sections in the act have already been declared void and unconstitutional by both Gauhati High Court and Supreme Court way back in 1971. A new Land and Revenue Law based on customary law of the hill tribes must be made within the fixed time frame by the latest March 28, 2017.

The memorandum was signed by Ji Kathar, retired IAS Officer and adviser, Sixth Schedule Implementation Committee (SSIC) and Ram Terang, president, Karbi Anglong Rong Asar Amei (KARA).

Later, they assembled at Diphu Government Boys HS School playground, where Ji Kathar, adviser, SSIC said that it is time the tribal people wake up to protect its land and identify here. He said, "Only 41 percent of all ethnic tribes population have been counted. It shows that we have now become minority in own land and we need to stand up and fight to protect our land, culture, language and identity." The organisations were: UKSA, SSIC, KAHTSCA, RNSU, KSYA, KASDO, KNA, DSU, KARA, KFA, NN-KRAA, PFP, UHDG, GGKSA, NKSA, TKS, LKSA, SKSA, GKSA, JKSA, DKSA, Bangalore Karbi Society, Biswanath Chariali KSA and Man (Tai speaking) Students & Youth Association.

SAC meeting held at KV, Barpeta

GUWAHATI, March 29: The Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting for the year 2017-18 was organised at the Krishnigandhi Kendra, Barpeta on March 27, a press release stated.

The meeting chaired by Dr HC Bhattacharya, Director, Extension Education, Assam Agricultural University had threadbare discussions on the Action Taken Report 2016-17 and the proposed Action Plan 2017-18. Dr Bhattacharya in his welcome speech mentioned

about the ways through which farmers' income can be doubled within 2022 as envisaged by the Government of India. To achieve this there is a need of joining of hands by all the line departments with the KV, he added. He made several suggestions and modifications to be incorporated into the proposed action plan. He briefed about the current trend of farming with special reference to organic agriculture. A phased manner transformation of conventional farming to organic farming initially for

25% of the net cultivable area of Barpeta district should be given priority, he said.

On the occasion, the KV Newsletter for the period July – December 2016 and a Medicinal Plant Garden with 30 plant species were also inaugurated by the Director. The meeting was attended by Dr S Paul, Chief Scientist, RARS, Gossaigaon, Dr KJ Pun, Officer In-Charge, RRLRS, ICAR, Gerua, Heads and representatives from State departments, Barpeta, several NGOs and farmers, the release added.

**CM meets
Japanese team
CORRESPONDENT**

KAZIRANGA, March 29: With an aim to increase trade ties between Japan and Assam, a meeting led by Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal was held at a resort here today. A high-level delegation from Japan was represented by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Talking to media persons this evening, the Chief Minister said the JICA has been cooperating with the State Government on various programmes to develop infrastructure, especially water supply projects, and make the State economy stronger. Assam will seek more cooperation in the near future, he added.

The initiative to have the discussion with the Japan team was taken by India Foundation. Sonowal added that the Union Surface Transport Ministry is initiating measures to dig up the Brahmaputra, adding that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is committed to the development of the North East region.

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ABS Mall, Gar Ali, Jorhat

(24th Mar. to 30th Mar. 2017)

At 10 am, 5 & 5:30 pm

PHILLAUARI (Hindi)

At 10.30 am & 7.30 pm

LIFE (Eng.)

At 12:15 pm

RUFF AND TUFF (Assamese)

Beauty and the Beast (E) 3D

For booking : www.bookmyshow.com

Or 09654017771

FUN & MALL JORHAT

2nd Floor Shopping Complex

L.N.B Road, Mangaldan

(Dolby Surround sound system and Push Back Seats)

Ambience, Luxurious Push Back Seats)

24th Mar. to 30th Mar. 2017

RUFF AND TUFF (Assamese)

Star Cinema, Bhati, Dibrugarh

Rs. 250/-, 100/-, 70/-

Morning ticket rates (Before 10:30 am)

Rs. 300/-, 150/-, 100/-

Online Booking : www.bookmyshow.com

For query please call at Ph: 0371-222722

AMBKA CINE PALACE

Digital Picture & Dolby Sound

Condition & Push Back seats

RUFF AND TUFF (Assamese)

Star Cinema, Bhati, Dibrugarh

Rs. 100/-, 50/-, 50/-

Online Booking : www.bookmyshow.com

For query please call at Ph: 0371-222722

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (H)

Alfa Bazaar, Star Cinema, Dibrugarh

Rs. 250/-, 150/-, 100/-, 70/-

Morning ticket rates (Before 10:30 am)

Rs. 300/-, 150/-, 100/-

Online Booking : www.bookmyshow.com

For query please call at Ph: 0371-222722

PHILLAUARI (Hindi)

Alfa Bazaar, Star Cinema, Dibrugarh

Rs. 250/-, 150/-, 100/-, 70/-

Online Booking : www.bookmyshow.com

For query please call at Ph: 0371-222722

GALLERIA CINEMA

HUB, G.S. Road, Guwahati is showing

24th Mar. to 30th Mar. 2016

At 10.30 am, 1.30 pm & 9.00 pm

PHILLAUARI (Hindi)

At 10.45 am & 3:45 pm

RUFF AND TUFF (Assamese)

Star Cinema, Bhati, Dibrugarh

Rs. 100/-, 50/-, 50/-

Online Booking : www.funcinemas.com

For query please call at Ph: 0371-222722

GALLERIA CINEMAS

Dibrugarh, Junction Mid

24th Mar. to 30th Mar. 2016

At 10.45 am & 3:45 pm

RUFF AND TUFF (Assamese)

Star Cinema, Bhati, Dibrugarh

Rs. 100/-, 50/-, 50/-

Online Booking : www.funcinemas.com

For query please call at Ph: 0371-222722

VANDRA

(WITH DOLBY DIGITAL)

At 11:00 am & 6:30 pm

RUFF AND TUFF (Assamese)

Star Cinema, Bhati, Dibrugarh

Rs. 50/-, AA GAYA HERO

Star Govinda, Ashutosh Rana etc.

Advance Booking Call : 2595021

Free parking facility available.

STATE Jorhat gearing up for Namami Brahmaputra fest

CORRESPONDENT

JORHAT, March 29: Several cultural troupes here are doing extended rehearsals to hone their proposed performances highlighting the lives and traditions of riverside communities during the forthcoming Namami Brahmaputra festival.

Bustling localities like Baru Chariali, AT Road, Jail Road and remote villages of Kokilamukhi, Baru, Deori and JDFA Field, and in the

lalumukhi. Preparations are on in full swing," said Jorhat Additional Deputy Commissioner Jayanta Kumar Goswami.

Officials of the district administration said that they would endeavour to include all communities to showcase their culture and heritage in different programmes and at the Mising Gunmara, Sattriya dance and drama, ethnic dances like the Lishing Gunmara, Khamti dance and the traditional Lohit Lung Kang dance of the Ahom community will also take centre stage during the festival.

"On April 2, Umgar, Lai Lung Kang and Sattriya dances will be performed on a floating stage in the Neamatiang area. Besides, several cultural programmes will be performed on the JDFA Field and at Kokilamukhi. Preparations are on in full swing," said Jorhat Additional Deputy Commissioner Jayanta Kumar Goswami.

Several prominent citizens stated that the five-day river festival would catch the attention of foreign and domestic tourists towards Jorhat, which is enriched with optimum resources for the development of heritage tourism.

The lush green landscape with cattle and buffalo herds amidst swaying reeds in the vast meadows on the bank of

the mighty Brahmaputra, tea gardens and golf resorts, architecture and historic ponds of the royal Ahoms, spiritual centres and devotional chanting, and songs of different religious groups, British-era bungalows and vivid cultural elements of various communities and other folk features will naturally draw visitors to this splendid Upper Assam district, the local people feel.

and unions associated with the trade to make contributions to the festival. Such a call from the administration has allegedly given an opportunity to some groups to collect excessive funds in the name of the festival.

However, no active participation of the local people was noticed till yesterday at the venue of the festival. It is due to the communication gap between the local people and the administration, a section of residents in Jorhat area alleged.

Significantly, four days ahead of the festival, the PWD started repairing a soil-road leading to the venue of the festival at Jogighopa and for this work, an amount of Rs 60 lakh has been sanctioned. The local residents have expressed dissatisfaction over the poor quality of the repair works.

The importance and impact of the Brahmaputra river on the lives of the common people will be showcased through different events during the festival, an official of the administration said.

Preparations at Bongaigaon

CORRESPONDENT

BONGAIGAON, March 29: The Bongaigaon district administration has nearly completed its preparations towards the Namami Brahmaputra river festival from March 31 at Jigogicha.

As the Brahmaputra passes through Jigogicha, it has been selected as a venue for the four-day festival in the district. Jigogicha has also stone caves down a hillock near the river to attract tourists. The area is also known as a hub of coal trade.

A long bridge over the river connecting the district with Goalpara has added to the scenic beauty of the spot.

Meanwhile, a budget of Rs 40 lakh has been fixed for the festival, of which the Government will pay only Rs 10 lakh. The rest of the amount will be managed from public contributions, a local citizen said.

For the collection of required fund, the administration has already asked coal traders

and unions associated with the trade to make contributions to the festival. Such a call from the administration has allegedly given an opportunity to some groups to collect excessive funds in the name of the festival.

However, no active participation of the local people was noticed till yesterday at the venue of the festival. It is due to the communication gap between the local people and the administration, a section of residents in Jorhat area alleged.

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The importance and impact of the Brahmaputra river on the lives of the common people will be showcased through different events during the festival, an official of the administration said.

Security beefed up at Rangiya Railway Station

CORRESPONDENT

of the State. There are more than 1.5 crore Hindus living in Bangladesh and the Government must start diplomatic talks with its Bangladeshi counterpart," he said.

Chetia advocated for March 25, 1971 as the base year for identification and deportation of illegal foreigners from Assam.

The pro-ULFA leader is here to hold meetings with surrendered ULFA members.

He also expressed concern over the economic backwardness of the Barak Valley.

Following Intelligence inputs about the threat perception held by terrorist outfits, the Rangiya Railway Police have stepped up security at the Rangiya Railway Station premises. Frisking was carried out in a large scale.

There was a thorough checking of bags and belongings of passengers at the railway station, the Railway Police said.

4 injured in fight: Four members of the same family, including two women, were seriously injured when a fight took place between two groups at Kanikuchi village under the Rangiya Police Station on Tuesday. The injured have been identified as Ajin Ali, his son, Asif Ali, and sisters-in-law Malati Begum and Jorina Begum.

The dispute reportedly occurred over the sanction of a building under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. One Hafiz Ali and his accomplices attacked Malati Begum and the three others over the allotment. The injured have been shifted to the GMCH and a case has been registered by the police.

The accreditation to the varsity was recommended by the NAAC during its 23rd standing committee meeting held yesterday. A 10-member NAAC team had visited the university in February for the assessment.

Dibrugarh University gets 'A' grade from NAAC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

DIBRUGARH, March 29: In a major development, the Dibrugarh University has now been granted 'A' grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). The varsity has scored 3.16 (CGPA) on a four point scale.

The university was last accredited by the NAAC in 2009 with 'B' grade when it had scored a CGPA of 2.98. A team of NAAC members had carried out a thorough assessment of the varsity from February 21 to 23. The inspecting NAAC members had evaluated the university's research activities, infrastructure facilities, quality of students and faculties, amenities and academic and co-curricular activities.

The accreditation to the varsity was recommended by the NAAC during its 23rd standing committee meeting held yesterday. A 10-member NAAC team had visited the university in February for the assessment.

The agencies concerned in this regard, local people alleged that the National Highways Department

Authority and the PWD are not according any importance to the widening of the road. "Due to the rapid growth in vehicular movement, the national highway has in fact become a narrow lane. They need that local MP RP Sharma has also not done anything in this regard.

This stretch of the road is used for communication by the people of the entire northern belt, apart from the people of the neighbouring State of Arunachal Pradesh. But it is appalling to note that despite the increasing traffic volume, the road has not been correspondingly widened, following which there are frequent traffic snarls and accidents.

Citing a recent road mishap in which a former secretary of the ABSU, social worker Kripesh Raj Paul passed away on March 13, Born on January 14, 1936, he had an amiable disposition which endeared him to all.

Paul leaves behind his wife, two sons, including Krishnendu Paul, MLA of Patharkhali LAC in Karimganj district, and a daughter, a twin.

We pray for the eternal peace of his departed soul.

- Sailendra Pandey

COTTON COLLEGE STATE UNIVERSITY

Panbari, Guwahati-781001,
Assam, India
website : www.ccsu.ac.in

NIO No. CCSU/2017/253/Dated

March 21, 2017 : Lab. items/ equipment for the Deptt. of Psychology. The last date of submission has been extended for a period of 3 days i.e. Upto 31 March, 2017.

Sd/- Registrar

Janasanyog/29221/16

NOTIFICATION

No. KTC/ASULMS/RECRUITMENT/04/2016/1747 Date: Kajalgaon, the 27th March 2017
With ref. No. KTC/ASULMS/RECRUITMENT/04/2016/1716 dated

Kajalgaon, the 28th July/2016, the candidates bearing the following Roll Nos. are selected for the post of Accountant and Computer Operator for CMMU Kajalgaon under ASULMS recruitment. The candidates are selected purely on the basis of merit list and work experience.

Roll No.	Post
2423	Accountant
3132	Computer Operator

The Selected candidates are requested to present himself/herself in the CMMU office for joining as soon as possible.

Sd/- City Project Officer, CMMU, Kajalgaon, ASULMS

STATE INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT DISPUR : GUWAHATI-6

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR OF ASSAM

NOTIFICATION

No.MI.3/2009/207: In exercise of the power conferred under Clause-17 of the "Cess Utilization (Amendment) Policy, 2015 for development and welfare of Small Tea Growers of Assam", the Governor of Assam is pleased to make certain amendments and enunciate the "Cess Utilization (Amendment) Policy, 2017 for development and welfare of Small Tea Growers of Assam". This amended Policy will come into force w.e.f. 1st April, 2017.

Sd/- (Ravi Capoor, IAS)

Additional Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Industries & Commerce Department

Janasanyog/10669/16

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

No.SJN/1532/2013/249
TENDER NOTICE
The Chief Engineer, PWD (Bihar), Assam, invites bids with Bid Price Rs. 88,716,763.00 for the construction of a 4 km long embankment of the Churni River between Jorhat and Goalpara, Assam.

Details of the bid are as follows:-
1. Name of Work : **4 KM LONG EMBANKMENT OF CHURNI RIVER**

2. APPROX VALUE : - APPROX VALUE:- (i) Rs. 1,99,800.00 (ii) Rs. 2,00,000.00 (iii) Rs. 2,00,200.00 (iv) Rs. 2,00,400.00 (v) Rs. 2,00,600.00 (vi) Rs. 2,00,800.00

(vii) Rs. 2,00,100.00 (viii) Rs. 2,00,300.00 (ix) Rs. 2,00,500.00 (x) Rs. 2,00,700.00

(xi) Rs. 19,800.00 (xii) Rs. 19,600.00 (xiii) Rs. 19,400.00 (xiv) Rs. 19,200.00 (xv) Rs. 19,000.00 (xvi) Rs. 18,800.00 (xvii) Rs. 18,600.00 (xviii) Rs. 18,400.00 (xix) Rs. 18,200.00 (xx) Rs. 18,000.00 (xxi) Rs. 17,800.00 (xxii) Rs. 17,600.00 (xxiii) Rs. 17,400.00 (xxiv) Rs. 17,200.00 (xxv) Rs. 17,000.00 (xxvi) Rs. 16,800.00 (xxvii) Rs. 16,600.00 (xxviii) Rs. 16,400.00 (xxix) Rs. 16,200.00 (xxxi) Rs. 16,000.00 (xxxi) Rs. 15,800.00 (xxx) Rs. 15,600.00 (xxxi) Rs. 15,400.00 (xxxii) Rs. 15,200.00 (xxxiii) Rs. 15,000.00 (xxxiv) Rs. 14,800.00 (xxxv) Rs. 14,600.00 (xxxvi) Rs. 14,400.00 (xxxvii) Rs. 14,200.00 (xxxviii) Rs. 14,000.00 (xxxix) Rs. 13,800.00 (xl) Rs. 13,600.00 (xli) Rs. 13,400.00 (xlii) Rs. 13,200.00 (xliii) Rs. 13,000.00 (xlii) Rs. 12,800.00 (xliiii) Rs. 12,600.00 (xlii) Rs. 12,400.00 (xliii) Rs. 12,200.00 (xlii) Rs. 12,000.00 (xliii) Rs. 11,800.00 (xlii) Rs. 11,600.00 (xliii) Rs. 11,400.00 (xlii) Rs. 11,200.00 (xliii) Rs. 11,000.00 (xlii) Rs. 10,800.00 (xliii) Rs. 10,600.00 (xlii) Rs. 10,400.00 (xliii) Rs. 10,200.00 (xlii) Rs. 10,000.00 (xliii) Rs. 9,800.00 (xlii) Rs. 9,600.00 (xliii) Rs. 9,400.00 (xlii) Rs. 9,200.00 (xliii) Rs. 9,000.00 (xlii) Rs. 8,800.00 (xliii) Rs. 8,600.00 (xlii) Rs. 8,400.00 (xliii) Rs. 8,200.00 (xlii) Rs. 8,000.00 (xliii) Rs. 7,800.00 (xlii) Rs. 7,600.00 (xliii) Rs. 7,400.00 (xlii) Rs. 7,200.00 (xliii) Rs. 7,000.00 (xlii) Rs. 6,800.00 (xliii) Rs. 6,600.00 (xlii) Rs. 6,400.00 (xliii) Rs. 6,200.00 (xlii) Rs. 6,000.00 (xliii) Rs. 5,800.00 (xlii) Rs. 5,600.00 (xliii) Rs. 5,400.00 (xlii) Rs. 5,200.00 (xliii) Rs. 5,000.00 (xlii) Rs. 4,800.00 (xliii) Rs. 4,600.00 (xlii) Rs. 4,400.00 (xliii) Rs. 4,200.00 (xlii) Rs. 4,000.00 (xliii) Rs. 3,800.00 (xlii) Rs. 3,600.00 (xliii) Rs. 3,400.00 (xlii) Rs. 3,200.00 (xliii) Rs. 3,000.00 (xlii) Rs. 2,800.00 (xliii) Rs. 2,600.00 (xlii) Rs. 2,400.00 (xliii) Rs. 2,200.00 (xlii) Rs. 2,000.00 (xliii) Rs. 1,800.00

Power distribution loss in Mizoram at Rs 5.03 cr

AIZAWL, March 29: Mizoram Chief Minister Lal Thanhawla today informed the State Assembly that distribution loss incurred by the State power and electricity department during 2015-16 was 76.81 million unit which was worth Rs 5.03 crore. In a written reply to a question from Lalrinnawma of MizoNLP, Lal Thanhawla, who also holds the finance portfolio, said Mizoram purchased 565.55 million units of power during 2015-16 and spent Rs 210 crore for the purpose. He said the State sold 83.74 million units of power to other States for which the State earned Rs 18.41 crore. – PTI

Tribal body to hold talks

IMPHAL, March 29: The Joint Action Committee Against Anti-Tribal Bill (JACATB) will hold talks with the N Biren Singh government regarding the demands of the tribal people, the JACATB spokesperson said today. The JACATB held a consultative meeting with the public to decide whether to attend Chief Minister N Biren Singh's request for a meeting to bury the eight bodies of people killed while protesting the passage of three Bills by the State Assembly in August, 2015, still lying at Churachandpur District Hospital. JACATB spokesperson Sangbi said the meeting will be held to press for the demands, like extension of 6th Schedule of Indian Constitution in Churachandpur district of Manipur. – PTI

Hindu temple attacked

IMPHAL, March 29: A Hindu temple on the Indian side of the India-Myanmar border was attacked on Wednesday, causing concern among local officials and people. The second largest temple in the Northeast – and popularly known as Shiva temple – was attacked with a powerful remote-controlled bomb around 8.45 am, police said. No casualty was reported. The temple was inaugurated over 18 years ago by the Tamil Sangam, Moreh, in association with the trading community settled at Manipur's border town Moreh. The town has a mixed population of Hindus, Muslims and Christians. – IANS

10 houses gutted in Khonsa

ITANAGAR, March 29: Altogether 10 houses were reduced to ashes in a fire at Khonsa in Tirap district of Arunachal Pradesh. Official sources said 10 families were rendered homeless in the fire mishap that occurred in the heart of the district headquarters town at around 11.30 pm last night. There was, however, no report of any human casualty. – Correspondent

G.O.T. OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION:ASSAM
KAHILIPARA-GUWAHATI-19.

NOTICE

The venue and time of reporting for the Guest/Part-Time Faculties of new Polytechnics and Barkati Valley Engineering College, Karimganj are as follows:

- 1. Venue : Assam Engineering Institute Auditorium, Chambad, Guwahati-3
- 2. Time : 10.30 A.M. on 01.04.2017

Sd/- Director of Technical Education, Assam
Kahilpara, Guwahati-19

Janesanayog/106877/16

অসম লোকসেবা আয়োগ
ASSAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
No. 106PSC/DR/13/1/2016/2017

NOTIFICATION

It is for information of all concerned that the Assam Public Service Commission will hold interview/Viva-voce for the post of Deputy Director (Ballistics Division) and Deputy Director (Serology Division) in the Directorate of Forensic Science, Assam, Guwahati and Deputy Director (Ballistics Division) in the Regional Forensic Science Laboratory, Jorhat, Assam under Home & Political Department on 5th, 6th and 7th April 2017 at its office at Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-22.

The Select-Reserve list and intimation letters for above posts shall be uploaded in the APSC's website (www.apsc.nic.in) on 3rd April 2017.

Sd/- Deputy Secretary,
Assam Public Service Commission
Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-22

Janesanayog/10664/16

F.NO. 14-24/2013-Sch
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (Divyjan)
5th Floor, Pt Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan,
CGO Complex, New Delhi-110003
Email pwdgo@gmail.com

INTRODUCTION OF A CENTRAL SECTOR PLAN SCHEME OF "FREE COACHING FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES"

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) has introduced a scheme to provide coaching assistance to students with disabilities (SwDs) to appear in competitive examinations for Government jobs and admissions-tests for technical and professional courses. The brief features of the Scheme are shown below:-

Eligibility of Coaching Institutes	Reputed coaching: Institute/centres run by:
	i) Central Govt./State Govt./UTs/PSUs and other Deemed Universities.
	ii) Universities including Deemed Universities and Private Universities; and
	iii) Registered private institutions/NGOs.
Eligibility of Students	The name of the institute/centre is to be recommended by the State Government concerned.
Coeffing fee	i) Having a disability certificate with not less than 40% disability.
Stipend/allowance payable to students	ii) Family Income up to Rs. 6,000/-per annum.
	iii) Eligible to appear at the examination for which he/she desires to obtain coaching.
	The coaching fee shall be decided on the basis of an agreement to be executed with the coaching institution.
	Special Allowance for disability :- Rs. 2000/-p.m.
	2. The detail guidelines of the scheme are available at the web site of this department i.e., www.disabilityaffairs.gov.in
	3. All interested and eligible coaching institutes of repute may forward their name through concerned State Government for empanelment under this scheme to the Under Secretary (Scholarship), at the address mentioned above.

davp 38117/11/016/1617

NORTH EAST



Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh (right) during a meeting with Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju in New Delhi on Tuesday. – UANI

Nagaland CM reiterates support to 'Framework Agreement'

CORRESPONDENT

DIMAPUR, March 29: Stating that the primary issue forward is to its logical and peaceful conclusion, let us all hope for a positive outcome in the near future,"

He said that the erstwhile Political Affairs Committee (PAC) of the DAN government, formed soon after DAN-I was installed, was recently renamed "Political Affairs Mission" (PAM) with the view to give a new thrust and a mission approach to the peaceful resolution of the protracted Nagas political issue.

"While admitting that our best efforts during these last 15 years are yet to yield the desired or expected final outcome, let us say that we should give no room for pessimism of desirous to come in our way," Liezetsu said. "They are going ahead and it is said that they are about to conclude the agreement," Shirozeli informed on the Framework Agreement after the Budget session. "We are yet to know what will be the type of agreement signed between these two groups. It will

be too early for us to comment anything on that," he added.

The Chief Minister, however, lamented that Nagas have "unfortunately gone backward". Nagas had started the movement as one family "but in due course of time, we have split into many groups and therefore it is necessary for all of us to come together," he said.

Reiterating that the DAN government supported the peace process with special emphasis on "inclusiveness", he however, reminded that the government was not party to the negotiation and while the news is doing the rounds that the two negotiating parties were nearing a point to conclude the agreement, it is not known how they will take action.

On the recent news and rebuttals about a final settlement to the Nagas issue that were being highlighted in the media, the Chief Minister said these could be a "tactical move".



WEATHER NORTHEAST

Forecast for North Eastern States: Moderate rain/thunder shower is very likely to occur over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura.

Warning: Thunderstorms with lightning and hail are very likely to occur at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura on March 30.

Temperature Max ('C) Min ('C)

Dibrugarh	23.6	18.1
Tezpur	25.8	21.0
Dibrugarh	27.1	22.0
Jorhat	22.7	19.7
Kohima	27.0	15.7
Itanagar	24.7	19.8
Shillong	18.0	11.8
Mizoram	29.0	21.0
Itanagar	25.2	20.4
Aizawl	23.5	11.3
Agartala	30.2	24.2
Guwahati	23.1	11.8
Port Blair	21.6	20.6

SC Category: Sd/- Deputy Commissioner, Karimganj

NOTICE

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017

TO-LET

A hall measuring around 4300 sq.ft. on the first floor at Fatasil Ambari Near Cycle Factory suitable for office and godown purpose will be let out immediately. Interested person or parties may offer the rates per square feet with their purpose and communicate to the office of the undersigned within 20th April/2017. If any interested parties like to visit the site may contact with the Branch Manager, APTDC Ltd, Guwahati Branch at Fatasil Ambari during office hour.

Sd/- Managing Director
Assam Plains Tribes Development Corporation Ltd, Ganeshguri Chariali, Jorhat, Assam 785016

Dispur, Guwahati-5

e-TENDER NOTICE

FOR DISPOSAL OF 110 NOS. OF CONDEMNED VEHICLE (NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)

e-Tender notice is given for disposal of 110 Nos. of vehicles (P.O. No. 10203) in favour of 10th Director of Health Services (T), SHTO, Assam" for bidders located outside Assam are invited by buyers for disposal of 110 Nos. of condemned vehicles. The complete e-tender documents may be obtained from the website <http://www.assamtenders.gov.in>. The participating bidders should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) and have to register in the portal <http://www.assamtenders.gov.in>. The tender should be submitted on-line in the portal <http://www.assamtenders.gov.in> on or before 25/03/2017 up to 2:00 PM. e-Tender Notice may also be seen in the NHM official website - www.nrmmssan.in.

The bidder shall also submit the proof for payment like non-refundable tender fee of Rs. 2000/- (Two EMDO worth Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand only) each) separately in the form of Demand Draft favouring "10th Director of Health Services (T)", SHTO, Assam" payable at Guwahati.

The original Demand Draft for Tender Fee, EMD and Court Fee Stamp (IPo) along with the hardcopy of Technical bid only should be submitted to the 10th Director of Health Services (T) (Tech) SHTO, Assam, Nareng, Guwahati-71, Assam or before the last date and time of submission of the tender.

Important dates of the tender :

Sl.No.	Scheduled	Start date	Start Time	End Date	End Time
1	Tender Publishing	30/03/2017	10:00 AM		
2	Tender Download	30/03/2017	1:00 PM	25/04/2017	1:00 PM
3	Bid Submission	14/04/2017	10:00 AM	25/04/2017	2:00 PM
4	Bid opening	28/04/2017	3:00 PM		

Sd/- Director of Health Services (T)
SHTO, Assam, Nareng, Guwahati-71

Janesanayog/6045/16

NOTICE

The candidates having following Roll Numbers are hereby selected for appointment to the post of Amin in the amalgamated establishment of the Deputy Commissioner, Karimganj against Advertisement No. KR.I/2016/PT-I/B5-86, dated 05/01/2017.

Un-reserve category:

KRK-1, KRK-2, KRK-9, KRK-15, KRK-16, KRK-17, KRK-18, KRK-24, KRK-27, KRK-37, KRK-49, KRK-50, KRK-55, KRK-60, KRK-63, KRK-64, KRK-65, KRK-66, KRK-68, KRK-73, KRK-75, KRK-85, KRK-98, KRK-178.

OCB/MOB Category:

KRK-8, KRK-14, KRK-19, KRK-22, KRK-44, KRK-53, KRK-61, KRK-67, KRK-69, KRK-70, KRK-71, KRK-72, KRK-77, KRK-79, KRK-86, KRK-96, KRK-97, KRK-126, KRK-140, KRK-155.

ST(P) Category:

KRK-89, KRK-95, KRK-101, KRK-103, KRK-104, KRK-123, KRK-134, KRK-138, KRK-139, KRK-141, KRK-147, KRK-169, KRK-169.

ST(H) Category:

KRK-81, KRK-111, KRK-114, KRK-115, KRK-120, KRK-121.

SC Category:

KRK-29, KRK-78, KRK-87.

Sd/- Deputy Commissioner, Karimganj

TENDER NOTICE

ORDER NO. 120 Date : 28/3/2017

Sealed tender affixing court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight & paise twenty five) only is invited to lease out the following ferry services under Inland Water Transport, Division, Uluberia, Guwahati-7 for the financial year 2017-18 to 2018-19.

Prescribed form and detail terms & condition of the NIT may be obtained from the office of the undersigned on payment of Rs. 500.00 (Rupees five hundred) only (Non refundable) through bank draft in favour of the Executive Engineer, I.W.T. Division, Guwahati for each set of NIT during the office hours on all working days within 20th, April'2017.

The tenders will be received up to 2:00 P.M. on the dates mentioned below against the respective Ferry Services and will be opened on the same day at 3:00 P.M. in presence of intending tenderers or their authorized representatives in the office of the Executive Engineer, I.W.T. Division, Guwahati.

If the tender opening day is a Govt. holiday then tender will be received and opened in the next working day at the same time and same place. The name of the ferry service against which the tender is submitted shall be superscripted on the Envelope of the tender.

Sl. No.	Name of ferry service	Estimated Value (Rs)yr	Tender submission and opening date
1	Bhutanag-Baidchari via Pavakat, Malahu, Kalichar, Maguman, Chitlai and Karkhowa Ferry services	378000.00	20th April'17 (Thursday)
2	Gerimari-Kochaili via Shringi ferry service	126500.00	
3	Baramani-Gadhawa via Habangon ferry service	265100.00	
4	Chaulhoo-Apruria-Gobardhan ferry service	55100.00	
5	Guhahat-North Guwahati ferry service	961000.00	
6	Burredi-Saumri-Guwanir ferry service	207400.00	
7	Mukulna-Bhagman ferry service	389200.00	
8	Abaran-Salma-Kurhama ferry service	341900.00	
9	Karaturi ferry service	191800.00	24th April'17 (Monday)
10	Gumathi ferry service	337160.00	April'17 (Monday)
11	Bongali-Kahan-Jorhoga-Telphukhuri ferry service	186860.00	
12	Dongia-Kholabanda ferry service	515200.00	
13	Karaban-Lurkher-Majarcher-Kalcher ferry service	952400.00	
14	Sontoli-Borani-Alikash ferry service	175900.00	
15	Daukuchi-Bhakadia-Rangewari-Pijupara ferry service	404500.00	
16	Nayeniga-Garangsia ferry service	552500.00	26th April'17 (Wednesday)
17	Chikatola(Narakhoba)-Choudhury Char Phu(Fulukasi) ferry service	94000.00	
18	Bagoni-Goapara & Monbar-Goapara Town via Tarakhandi ferry service	505700.00	
	Sd/- Executive Engineer, I.W.T. Division, Uluberia, Ghy-7.		



A cultural troupe performing a dance during the opening ceremony of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Mahotsav at U Soso Tham Auditorium in Shillong on Wednesday. – UB Photos

Sajibu Nongma Panba Cheiraoba celebrated

CORRESPONDENT

IMPHAL, March 29: *Sajibu Nongma Panba Cheiraoba*, the Meitei New Year, was celebrated widely in Manipur on Wednesday.

Praying to the Almighty by offering flowers, fruits and seasonal dishes, traditional family feasting, climbing nearby hilltops, particularly Cherraoching and Chinga hills here in the afternoon, etc., marked the occasion. Special veggie dishes were also prepared as offerings to the deities. After the preparation, the food is served to the elders of the house to three deities for the protection of the family.

In her message, Governor Dr Najma Heptulla said, "We have witnessed incidents which could have broken the bond between different communities but the people of Manipur have shown their maturity by maintaining peace and shunning violence," adding that from this *Sajibu Cheiraoba* onwards let us strive together for a better Manipur setting apart our differences and working for a common goal.

In his message, the Chief Minister expressed hope that the festival will bring joy, prosperity and peaceful co-existence among all the people of the State, while Speaker Khemchand wished that the New Year brings peace, harmony and prosperity in the State.

CAPSULE**Jio paid users**

NBW DELHI, March 29: Reliance Jio, India's newest telecom operator, is closing in on 50 million paid users days before its free voice, free-data offer ends. Out of 100 million-plus free subscribers, nearly 50 million are still active for its Prime membership by paying a one-time charge of Rs 99 and buying data packs. - PTI

Steel dealers

GUWAHATI, March 29: Over 50 automobile dealers took part in the Steel Dealers' Meet-2017, which was held under the aegis of steel major JSW Steel Ltd and its sole distributor in the North-east Suresna Steel Pvt Ltd, here recently. Suman Saha of JSW Steel gave an account of the company's functioning and said that JSW Steels had been able to establish itself as the country's number one steel brand, a press release said.

Bamboo timber
GUWAHATI, March 29: The bamboo timber unit ESES Bio Wealth Pvt Ltd, located at Jagiroad, Morigaon district, commenced commercial-scale production today, a press release said. The unit will manufacture strand woven bamboo timber, which is about 120 per cent harder and stronger than teak and is a premium solid wood substitute.

Panacea Biotech
NEW DELHI, March 29: Drug firm Panacea Biotech today announced launch of EasySix, a liquid hexavalent combination vaccine indicated for immunisation of newborn babies against common preventable diseases. This is world's first fully synthetic hexavalent pertussis-based vaccine and would work against diseases as diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, meningitis, hepatitis B and polio. Panacea Biotech said in a statement. - PTI

Auto firms scramble to liquidate BS-III vehicle stocks

NEW DELHI, March 29: With over 8 lakh vehicles worth up to Rs 20,000 crore hit by the Supreme Court order to ban BS III vehicles from April 1, auto companies are scrambling to liquidate stocks and upgrade, besides considering export options to minimise the impact.

According to industry estimates, the total value of the impacted vehicles is between Rs 15,000 to Rs 20,000 crore. Around 6.7 lakh two-wheelers, 97,000 commercial vehicles and over 40,000 three-wheelers are affected by the ban.

"Given the current demand, majority of the vehicles in the pipeline have already been sold. Some more will be sold in the next couple of days where we have customers," Ashok Leyland MD and CEO Vinod K Dasari said in a statement.

The little inventory that is left would be exported to other markets where the company has significant presence and which still operate on BS III norms, he added.

"Finally, for any other vehicles still left-

over, the company confirms that it will be able to easily upgrade them to BS-IV at minimal cost," Dasari said.

Dasari, who is also the President of industry body AMI, said, the Supreme Court verdict banning BS III vehicles from April will have to be respected but it is "frustrating" that the existing law allowing sale of these vehicles was ignored.

He said commercial vehicle makers have been producing BS-IV units since 2010 but they have been selling BS-III for the last seven years because of lack of fuel.

Stating that as per government notification, sales of BS-III vehicles were allowed after April 1, he said: "Now suddenly those BS-III vehicles are banned. I think it quite frustrating that something like this happens."

The main issue is that it is a matter of principle."

Car market leader Maruti Suzuki is least affected by the order and has been making BS-IV vehicles since 2010. Hyundai Motor India said it respects the court's decision and confirmed that all its products complied with BS-IV norms. - PTI



NEEPCO CMD AG West Kharkongor presenting the interim dividend cheque for 2016-17 to Union Power Minister Piyush Goyal, in New Delhi on Monday.

Tata Motors launches Tigor

MUMBAI, March 29: In its bid to claw back both the wallet share as well as mindshare, Tata Motors today launched its first compact sedan in a decade under the Tigor label with petrol and diesel options and with attractive prices beginning at Rs 4.7 lakh.

The 1.1 litre petrol model in four variants comes in a price range of Rs 4.7 lakh to Rs 6.19 lakh while the 1.05 litre diesel engine-mounted model, again in four variants, starts at Rs 5.6 lakh and goes up to Rs 7.09 lakh in the top.

Meanwhile the company re-

fused to comment on the Supreme Court ban on sale of BS-III models from April 1 saying they are yet to study the verdict.

While Managing Director and Chief Executive Gunter Butschek before the apex court looked

sad the company would look

at exporting the stock to Africa,

Marketing and Sales President Mayank Pareek refused to com-

ment after the event saying they

need to study the verdict.

Butschek said the company

has no inventory left in the pas-

senger business but there are

some inventory at the com-

mercial vehicles unit. - PTI

India takes US to WTO over visa fee hike

NEW DELHI, March 29: India has taken the issue of visa fees by the US to the dispute settlement agency of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), Parliament was informed today.

Commerce Minister Nirmala Sitharaman told the Rajya Sabha in a written reply that the government has taken up with the new American administration the visa issues being faced by Indian services companies.

"The government of India continues to engage the US administration for better access of its professionals in the US," the minister said.

"H-1B and L-1 visa issues, including increase in visa processing fees, high rejection rates and other difficulties faced by the Indian services companies have been raised with the US government at various lev-

els," Sitharaman said.

"India has also taken up the matter on US visa fee hike in the dispute settlement body of the World Trade Organisation," she added.

The US has told India that there is no significant change in its H-1B visa regime, Parlia-

ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited from Indian citizens in the standard form of applications as published in Assam Gazette-IX for filling up of the following posts as mentioned below under the Directorate of Cultural Affairs, Assam, Gauhati-781001

SL. NO.	NAME OF POST	NO. OF POST	SCALE OF PAY	EDUCATION/QUALIFICATION AND REQUISITE QUALIFICATION	RESERVATION
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Jr. Asstt.(H.O)	3 nos.	B-2 Rs. 14000/-to40000/- G. Pay - 6200/- p.m. plus other allowance as admissible under rules	a) Must have Bachelor's Degree from recognized University b) Proficiency in Computer Skills in use like Microsoft Office, Internet e-mail correspondence etc.	UR OBC CSC
2	Jr. Asstt.(District level)	11 nos.	B-2 Rs. 14000/-to40000/- G. Pay - 6200/- p.m. plus other allowance as admissible under rules	a) Must have Bachelor's Degree from recognized University b) Proficiency in Computer Skills in use like Microsoft Office, Internet e-mail correspondence etc.	UR OBC MOCB-3 STP-2
3	Museum Asstt.-Jyoti Bharat,Tezpur	1 no.	B-2 Rs. 14000/-to40000/- G. Pay - 7400/- p.m. plus other allowance as admissible under rules	a) Must have Bachelor's Degree from recognized University b) Proficiency in Computer Skills in use like Microsoft Office, Internet e-mail correspondence etc.	UR
4	Demonstrator of Vocal Music (Luit/Konwar Rudra Baru State College of Music)	1 no	B-2 Rs. 14000/-40000/- G. Pay - 7400/- p.m. plus other allowance as admissible under rules	a) Must have passed H.S.S.L.C. Examination from recognized Board/Council b) B.Music Degree from recognized University or its equivalent c) Teaching Experience of at least 3 years. In any recognized School or College. d) Traditional or professional artist with highly commendable professional achievement in the subject concerned. and Knowledge of indigenous traditional and Folk Music / Dance will be an additional qualification e) Candidates should have good knowledge in Assessments	OBC MOCB
5	Demonstrator of Kothuk (Luit/Konwar Rudra Baru State College of Music)	1 no.	B-2 Rs. 14000/-40000/- G. Pay - 7400/- p.m. plus other allowance as admissible under rules	a) Must have passed H.S.S.L.C. Examination from recognized Board/Council b) B.Music Degree from recognized University or its equivalent c) Teaching Experience of at least 3 years. In any recognized School or College. d) Traditional or professional artist with highly commendable professional achievement in the subject concerned. and Knowledge of indigenous traditional and Folk Music / Dance will be an additional qualification e) Candidate should have good knowledge in Assessments	UR
6	Demonstrator of Luit/Konwar Rudra Baru State College of Music	2nos	Rs. 14000/-40000/- G. Pay - 7400/- p.m. plus other allowance as admissible under rules	a) Must have passed H.S.S.L.C. Examination from recognized Board/Council b) B.Music Degree from recognized University or its equivalent c) Teaching Experience of at least 3 years. In any recognized School or College. d) Traditional or professional artist with highly commendable professional achievement in the subject concerned. and Knowledge of indigenous traditional and Folk Music / Dance will be an additional qualification e) Candidate should have good knowledge in Assessments	UR OBCMOCB-1
7	Accompanist of Flute (Luit/Konwar Rudra Baru State College of Music)	1 no	B-2 Rs. 14000/-40000/- G. Pay - 5000/- p.m. plus other allowance as admissible under rules	a) B.Music Degree from recognized University or its equivalent b) Must have passed H.S.S.L.C. Examination from recognized Board/Council c) Preference will be given to candidates having considerable Experience in the Instruments. d) Candidates should have good knowledge in Assessments e) Proficiency as a performer in the line	OBC MOCB
8	Accompanist of Violin (Luit/Konwar Rudra Baru State College of Music)	1 no.	B-2 Rs. 14000/-40000/- G. Pay - 5000/- p.m. plus other allowance as admissible under rules	a) B.Music Degree from recognized University or its equivalent b) Must have passed H.S.S.L.C. Examination from recognized Board/Council c) Preference will be given to candidates having considerable Experience in the Instruments. d) Candidates should have good knowledge in Assessments e) Proficiency as a performer in the line	ST (H)

Last date of receipt of Application - Application along with self attested photo copies or Certificates, mark sheets, Other testimonials and 2 (two) copies of recent photograph (in color) in support of the Certificate issued by the Office of the undersigned or before 21/4/2017 by 5.00 pm during office hours. Departmental certificate should apply to the proper officer.

The age limits have been fixed as 16 years and Maximum 45 years as on 01/01/2017. The upper age limit is relaxable upto 5 years in case of SC/ST/PH/PIWD/SC/ST/Tribe as per Govt. OM ABP/02/2004 dated 03/3/2018.

Candidates must enclose Treasury Challan for General Categories an amount of Rs 250/- & SC/ST/PH/SC/ST/Tribe/MOCB/UR Rs. 150/- as per Govt. Notification No. FEG/32/20/69 dated 28/10/2018.

Application forms can be downloaded from the website www.assam.gov.in/online-application-forms/2002_Education_Sports_Art Culture_44-280 others receipt.

Submission of application forms after specified date and time will not be entertained. Candidate should attach (one) self addressed envelop of size 28 cm x 15 cm affixing thereupon a postage stamp of Rs 5/- (five) alongwith the application.

Candidacy of above posts will have to appear in the tests & interviews as and when called for No TA/DA will be borne by the Govt. for the purpose. This is for kind information of all concerned that the earlier advertisement of the Office of the undersigned regarding filling up of the vacant posts of this Directorate published through Directorate of Information and Public Relation vide Jansvery 1/2015 hereby stands cancelled in view of Govt. of Assam, Personal/B/Depts Notifications No. ABP/9900/15 dated 27/3/2018.

Sd/- Director of Cultural Affairs, Assam, Ganesh-1

CAIT to train 5,000 trade leaders on GST

Tripura, Arunachal, Kerala take States' list under UDAY to 26

NEW DELHI, March 29: Twenty-six States are now part of the UDAY scheme, meant for the revival of debt-stressed discoms, after Kerala, Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura formally joined the programme.

The drive will educate traders on how they can embrace technology for easy compliance of GST by upgrading their existing business format, CAIT Secretary General Preneen Khandelwal said.

He said, in the first phase of its national drive, CAIT has so far conducted more than 100 GST conferences in various States and 50 more are on the agenda to train trade leaders to take the initiative in next two months, he said.

However, CAIT in association with Tally Solutions (TSL), a software product company, has initiated a national drive to help traders across the country understand the

impact of GST on their businesses and to help them aware of the procedural compliance under the new taxation system.

The drive will also educate traders on how they can embrace technology for easy compliance of GST by upgrading their existing business format, CAIT Secretary General Preneen Khandelwal said.

He said, in the first phase of its national drive, CAIT has so far conducted more than 100 GST conferences in various States and 50 more are on the agenda to train trade leaders to take the initiative in next two months, he said.

According to a presentation made by Rural Electrification Corp on the scheme, State bonds worth Rs 2.09 lakh crore and DISCOM bonds worth Rs 0.24 lakh crore have been issued till date.

Under the scheme, the States are to repay 75 per cent of debt by issuing bonds while for remaining 25 per cent loans, DISCOMS are required to raise funds through issuance of securities.

The analysis of the performance reveals that under the scheme, 85 per cent of the debt has been restricted through issuance of bonds out of total debt of Rs 2.72 lakh crore under consideration. - PTI

Dabur commissions plant at Balipara

Burman and Chief Executive Officer Sunil Duggal.

In his speech, Dabur India Chairman Dr Burman said, "I am extremely proud to announce the commissioning of Dabur's most modern factory in Tezpur. This factory will become the largest manufacturing facility for Dabur worldwide and possesses state-of-the-art technology to make world class products. The Tezpur plant reflects our confidence in the continuous growth

and expansion of our FMCG business in India and our strong commitment to Assam as a strategic manufacturing hub."

The manufacturing facility, located in Balipara industrial area, will manufacture the entire range of Dabur's ayurvedic medicines, health supplements, hair oils, etc.

Spread across 30 acres, the state-of-the-art manufacturing facility is expected to give a quantum leap to the capacity of Dabur India to meet the growing demand for its products.

Colin Angle, Chairman and CEO of iRobot, said in a statement. "The latest updates for the iRobot HOME App make cleaning with an iRobot Roomba vacuuming robot even more user-friendly, with voice-activated commands, enhanced mapping features and useful post-cleaning reports," Angle added.

Leveraging 'Dirt Detect' – an iRobot patented feature only found on



iRobot's Roomba gets smarter with app update

NEW DELHI, March 29: US-based advanced technology company iRobot has announced an update to the iRobot HOME App that will let its Roomba robot provide visual post-cleaning maps that display information about its performance.

The new Clean Map reports now include information such as the dirtiest floor areas and total space cleaned. Its integration of Amazon Alexa voice-activated controls will make communicating with a Roomba vacuuming robot even easier.

"iRobot is aggressively pursuing opportunities within the connected home to improve our customers' ex-

perience with our cleaning robots," visual localisation, iRobot Roomba 900 Series vacuuming robots build a map of a home as they clean. Clean Map reports make these maps visible to customers in the iRobot HOME App after a cleaning job is completed, showing total area and duration a Roomba 900 Series vacuum cleaned – for up to 30 cleaning jobs.

Clean Map reports can be viewed in the History tab of the iRobot HOME App.

With Amazon Alexa, customers can start, stop and pause Roomba cleaning jobs with simple voice activated controls.

The Alexa skill for Roomba vacuuming robot will be available to US customers in the second quarter of 2017 for both Android and iOS devices. - IANS

Disappointed with ban: BBC

NEW DELHI, March 29: The British Broadcasting Corporation today said it was "disappointed" with the Centre's reaction on a "balanced" report covering the successes and challenges of India's rhino conservation policies.

The Centre had yesterday said that a BBC documentary on Kaziranga National Park "misrepresented" the immunity provided to forest staff as a "shoot-to-kill" policy. It also has been banned from filming in tiger reserves for five years.

"The authorities' reaction to a report on an important global issue like the appropriate way to combat poaching is extremely disappointing."

The programme was a balanced and impartial report which covered both the successes achieved through India's conservation policies and the challenges, which includes the impact on communities living next to the parks," a

BBC spokesperson said in a statement. The Corporation, the spokesperson said, had approached the relevant government authorities to ensure their position was fully reflected but "they declined to take part". Union Environment Minister Anil Madhav Dave had yesterday said in Lok Sabha that there were several "inconsistencies" between the synopsis provided by the BBC producer and the final documentary released for airing.

"The government is aware of a documentary released by the BBC in which they misrepresented the immunity provided to forest personnel under section 197 of CrPC as 'shoot-to-kill' policy."

"The BBC has been discontinued from filming in tiger reserves for a period of five years. The permission granted before making the film included the condition for preview before its release. However, the documentary was not submitted to the authorities for a preview," Dave had said.

The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) had recently asked the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to bar the BBC from filming in protected areas for five years, claiming a documentary produced by it "distorted" the government's anti-poaching strategy. It had also sought revocation of visa of the journalist, who produced the documentary and other crew members for an identical period. The South Asia Bureau of the BBC had made the documentary "Killing For Conservation".

The NTCA had earlier suggested "blacklisting" the BBC producer for "grossly erroneous" reporting, while issuing a show cause notice asking the broadcaster as to why permissions granted to it should not be revoked after the documentary termed the government's anti-poaching policy at Kaziranga as one of "shoot-to-kill".

NTCA, which functions under the Environment Ministry, in a memorandum earlier had said that producer Justin Rowlett and others committed a "breach of trust" by submitting "false and misleading synopsis" to obtain filming permissions and producing a documentary which shows India's conservation efforts in "poor light".

Dave had recently said the Assam government had taken a series of steps to curb poaching at the Kaziranga National Park, including empowering the forest staff to use firearms without prior sanction while providing them immunity from prosecution. - PTI

Kaziranga fallout

Surya Namaskar similar to Namaz: Adityanath

LUCKNOW, March 29: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath today said 'surya namaskar' was similar to 'namaz' (prayers) offered by Muslims and those performing the yogic exercise wanted to divide the society on religious lines.

Adityanath, who had in the past lashed out at a section of Muslims for terming the practice of 'surya namaskar' as un-Islamic, said the sun salutation was a beautiful example of religious harmony. "The namaz offered by Muslims resembles different postures and asanas of surya namaskar including pranayama."

"What a beautiful example of harmony (between two religions), But some 'bhagis' who do not believe in yoga, indulged in dividing the society on lines of caste, creed, religion and region among others," he said.

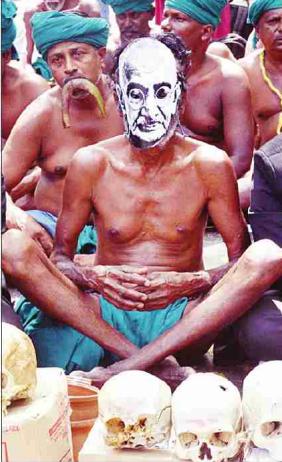
"All asanas (postures) in surya namaskar, pranayama activities are similar to the way Namaz is offered by our Muslim brothers. But nobody ever tried to bring them together because few people were interested only in 'bhoga' not 'yoga,' he said.

Adityanath was addressing a gathering on the inaugural day of the three-day UP Yoga Matsava here.

Taking a jibe at the previous governments at the centre and in the state, he said, "If permission for a similar programme was sought, it would have been dubbed as communal." "Before 2014, even talking about Yoga was considered communal. But things changed after Modi took steps to make Yoga popular across the world," he said, praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

After various state governments decided to make yoga and surya namaskar compulsory in schools, the All India Muslim People's Law Board (AIMPLB) had launched a nationwide campaign against it.

Adityanath had come out full throttle in support of surya namaskar after a controversy erupted over the inclusion of the exercise in the government's yoga protocol with a section of Muslims saying that their faith does not allow them to practise it. - PTI



Farmers from Cauvery Delta districts of Tamil Nadu staging a demonstration demanding for the write-off of farmers' bank loans in New Delhi on Wednesday - UNI

Shiv Sena shuts 500 meat shops in old Gurgaon

GURGAON, March 29: As many as 500 meat shops, including a KFC outlet, in old Gurgaon were allegedly shut down by over 200 Shiv Saniks for nine days on account of Navratri.

They also threatened the shop owners yesterday to shut their establishments on every Tuesday.

"We have served notices to meat shop owners, including KFC, and other fast food outlets to shut their shops till Navratri ends and on every Tuesday," Gautam Saini, the president of Shiv Sena, Gurgaon, told PTI.

The Sanik workers assembled at Palam Vihar yesterday and forced the closure of meat market and dhabas such as Bismillah Khan eatery in others areas too.

However, ACP-PRO of Gurgaon Police Manish Singhel said some meat shops were shut down but they were later opened. These shops have commercial licence to sell meat. Strict action will be taken against those forcing closure of shops illegally. - PTI

Post-matric scholarship for SC, ST, OBC will continue: Nitish

PATNA, March 29: Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar today stated that post-matric scholarships will continue for students of backward class (BC), extremely backward (EB), scheduled caste (SC) and scheduled tribe (ST) to pursue higher studies.

Kumar also made it clear that the department concerned would ensure through a proper verification that scholarships must be given to only "genuine students enrolled in genuine institutions" as instances have been found that

students enrolled with "bogus institutions" too have availed of scholarship meant for SC categories.

"Misgivings are being spread vis-a-vis post-matriculation scholarship. It will continue till 2016-17. Those (students) who have been availing scholarships will continue to avail it (scholarship) till completion of their education," Kumar said.

He said this while intervening in the debate on the government's reply during the debate on state's budget 2017-18 and Appropriation Bill. Kumar said that students can not avail the benefit of both the schemes. - PTI

Sahayak system discontinued: govt

NEW DELHI, March 29: The practice of deploying 'Sahayak Sahayaks' with the officers of Central Armed Police Forces like CRPF and BSF has been discontinued, Rajya Sabha was informed today.

The 'Sahayaka Sahayaks' practice has been discontinued through an order by the Ministry of Home Affairs on March 6, 2014. Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju said in a written reply.

The 'Sahayaks' were attached to officers and junior commissioned officers. A sahayak's tasks included working with the officer or JCO for various duties.

There has been a raging controversy over use of Sahayaks or helpers by some army officers as their servants, leading to a demand that the practice should be discontinued in the army too. - PTI

Prof, wife lock themselves in flat for 4 months, rescued

KANPUR, March 29: A retired professor and his wife, who allegedly locked themselves in their apartment here for four months, were found unconscious by police and rushed to a hospital.

Sanjeev Dayal (65), who conducted coaching classes for engineering students, and his wife Vidya (58) lived a secluded life in their Twin Towers flat in Kanpur's Sharda Nagar.

Some of their neighbours noted a stench emanating from their house and alerted police, who could gain entry into the apartment only after breaking the door.

They said the couple had called a technician two days ago to get a landline phone repaired but did not open the door.

The security guard at the main gate of the building said they had also called an electrician for repair works two months ago, but he too returned when they did not open the door. - PTI

Not in Presidential race, says RSS chief

NAGPUR, March 29: RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat today dismissed suggestions that he was in the presidential race, wryly calling such reports "entertainment news".

He asserted that his name would not come up for the President's post and even if it is proposed, he "will not accept it".

"The news about me being a nominee for the upcoming Presidential elections is not true. The report that the media is running is entertainment news," Bhagwat said at a felicitation programme in Rajwada Palace here.

Claireyng in his rumoured Presidential ambition, Bhagwat said that as a member of the Sangh Parivar, he is devoted to his organisation and the society.

"When we joined the Sangh, we closed

doors for all other possibilities. We work only for the Sangh and the society, and my name would not come up for the President's post. And even if my name is proposed, I will not accept it," he said.

Two days ago, Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut had floated the name of Bhagwat for the top post and suggested that he would be a good choice. "It is the highest post in the country. Somebody with a clean image should occupy it. We have heard Mohan Bhagwat's name is being discussed for President."

"If India has to be made a Hindu rashtra, Bhagwat will be a good choice for President. But the decision (to support his candidature) will be taken by Uddhav (Seni chief Uddhav Thackeray)," he had told reporters here. - PTI

Bhagwat pitches for inter-caste marriages

NEW DELHI, March 29: RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat has backed inter-caste marriages, virtually a taboo among Hindus, in remarks that come against the backdrop of BJP's aggressive courting of backward castes and dalits in the recent UP polls.

"We insist that Swamyavaks should stand in favour of such reformative measures.

Generally, it happens and it should happen.

"If you take a survey, you will find more Swamyavaks with inter-caste marriages than anybody else,"

Bhagwat said in an interview to the pro-RSS magazine Organiser.

Shedding its Bania-Brahmin party tag, BJP aggressively wooed the backward

castes and dalit electorate in the UP assembly elections, reaping a handsome electoral harvest.

Bhagwat said wherever people in favour of social equality are in power, they should ensure the strict implementation of the constitution

and legal provisions pertaining to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. - PTI

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
INLAND WATER TRANSPORT**

BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER CRUISE

(Sunrise to Sunset)

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CANCELLATION NOTICE

For PRINTING & SUPPLY OF SCNUJ REPORTING MATERIALS

It is hereby informed to the bidders who have participated in the bid process for the work "Dr. Qt. (1 Unit) and Nurses Qt.(2 Units)

Pkg. No. NHM-DNB(BB)-Balance Work of Govt BISAMGURI Jorhat & Golaghat in District of Jorhat & Golaghat" under

the SNIT issued by this office vide NHM/C-CW/Drs & Nurses Qtr & Golaghat/DNB/B9/981/11/651 dt. 09 Feb'2017 has been treated as cancelled as there was only "(one) bid submission in each Group."

The Bid submissions with their bids can be obtained from the office of the Mission Director, National Health Mission, Assam, Christianbashi, Guwahati-5 during working hours.

NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION ASSAM

No : NHM/SCU/C/Online/Reporting/2014-15/23391 Date: 29/3/2017

CORRIGENDUM & EXTENSION NOTICE FOR PRINTING & SUPPLY OF SCNUJ REPORTING MATERIALS

Certain terms & conditions incorporated in Tender No. NHM/SCU/C/Online/Reporting/2014-15/23391 dated 17-03-2017 for Printing & Supply of SCNUJ Reporting Materials has been amended. The details of amendments can be obtained from the website: www.nhmassam.in which should be taken note of prior to submission of bids. All other terms and conditions of the tender referred to above shall remain unchanged.

End date of submission of tender is hereby extended upto 05/04/2017, 2:00PM.

Sd/-
Mission Director, NHM, Assam

NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION ASSAM

No : NHM/CH/NRC/Formals/950/2012-13/23285 Date: 29/3/2017

CORRIGENDUM & EXTENSION NOTICE FOR PRINTING & SUPPLY OF COMPLIANCE CARD

Certain terms & conditions incorporated in Tender No. NHM/CH/NRC/Formals/950/2012-13/23285 dated 17-03-2017 for Printing & Supply of Compliance Card has been amended. The details of amendments can be obtained from the website: www.nhmassam.in which should be taken note of prior to submission of bids. All other terms and conditions of the tender referred to above shall remain unchanged.

End date of submission of tender is hereby extended upto 06/04/2017, 2:00PM.

Sd/-
Mission Director, NHM, Assam

NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION ASSAM

No : NHM/FP/Printing/3017/2016-17/22393 Date: 29/3/2017

CORRIGENDUM & EXTENSION NOTICE FOR PRINTING & SUPPLY OF SCNUJ REPORTING MATERIALS

Certain terms & condition incorporated in Tender No. NHM/FP/Printing/3017/2016-17/22393 dated 17-03-2017 for Printing & Supply of SCNUJ Reporting Materials has been amended. The details of amendments can be obtained from the website: www.nhmassam.in which should be taken note of prior to submission of bids. All other terms and conditions of the tender referred to above shall remain unchanged.

End date of submission of tender is hereby extended upto 06/04/2017, 2:00PM.

Sd/-
Mission Director, NHM, Assam

BRAWFED organises NATIONAL HANDLOOM EXPO '2016-17, BISWANATH CHARIALI

(A Market Promotion Programme for Indian Handlooms)

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Biswanath Chariali

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JPR/TC/355-2016

It may be fun to converse with artificial intelligence assistants like Siri and Alexa, but an increased interaction with such human-like devices may indicate loneliness, a new study has found.

It appears these humanlike products keep

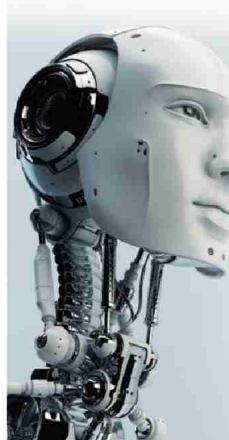
Artificial intelligence

Increased interaction with AI devices may point to loneliness, says a study

people from seeking out normal human interaction, which is typically how people try to recover from loneliness, researchers said.

However, there are limits to this phenomenon, and the long-term consequences are unclear, they said.

"Generally, when people feel socially excluded, they seek out other ways of compensating, like exaggerating their



number of Facebook friends or engaging in prosocial behaviors to seek out interaction with other people," said Jenny Olson, Assistant Professor at University of Kansas in the US.

"When you introduce a human-like product, those compensatory behaviors stop," said Olson.

In four experiments, the researchers found evidence that people who felt socially excluded would exhibit those compensating behaviors unless they were given the opportunity to interact with an anthropomorphic product.

To establish feelings of loneliness, participants either wrote about an important time in their lives when they felt excluded — such as being stood up for the prom — or they played an online game of "catch" in which other participants stopped throwing them the ball and chose others after a few initial tosses.

As part of the game, participants believed they were playing with real people online, but the other players were computerized.

However, after engaging with a Roomba vacuum whose design made it seem like it was smiling or when asked to think about their cellphone in humanlike terms, such as "how much it helps you," the participants would not feel the need to plan to spend time talking to family or friends or seek out volunteer opportunities.

However, researchers said the ability for these products to replace human contact has its limits because certain backstories seemed to snap participants back to reality.

"As soon as we tell people we know that it looks like the Roomba is smiling, they seemed to realize it was a machine and not a person," Olson said.

"The effect goes away. This seems to be happening on a very subconscious level," she said.

The research could be important for consumers to realize how these types of products could thwart their motivation to interact with real people, especially because so many new products feature interactivity, said Olson.

"If someone notices they are talking more to Siri lately, maybe that has something to do with feeling lonely," she said.

The study was published in the *Journal of Consumer Research*.

(Source: PTT)

Know your DAY

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Thursday March 30, 2017:

This year you know which direction to head in. You are not easily intimidated, either. Your fiery style often stops people in their tracks, leaving them wondering what to do. You can be very bold at times, but you have a sixth sense for when to stop. If you are single, you could break past a self-imposed barrier, which will open new doors in your social life. You could meet someone of significance at any point. If you are attached, the time of your blossoming comes this year. You sweetie has also learned to let him/her hair down. TAURUS is eager to spend your money.

The Star Show that Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Possitive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

**** A recurring dream is laden with a desire that your subconscious soul would like to fulfill. Start writing down your dreams. Your temper could be close to the surface when dealing with a very controlling person. Tonight: Test out a different way of thinking.

TAURUS (April 20-May 18)

**** I have the wherewithal to make a long-endure and much-needed change, if you so choose. Opt to take the road less traveled. Break out of your patterns. A potential trip connected to your daily life is likely to present itself. Tonight: Be more spontaneous.

GEMINI (May 19-June 21)

**** You have had enough! Your hectic pace demands a lot of attention. One-on-one relating needs to be done with care, or else an argument could break out. Everyone seems to feel that he or she is right; don't try to convince them otherwise. Tonight: Make it early.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

**** You could be in a point where you need to follow through on a problem. You are no longer put off by a decision. An associate could be very demanding, he or she believes that he or she is absolutely right. No one will convince them otherwise, not even you. Tonight: Find your friends.

LION (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** You'll meet someone else's expectations. You seem to care about this person's assessment more than others'. Someone could be quite aggressive toward you. You naturally will choose the right words to calm this down. Tonight: Wherever you go, the spotlight is on you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

**** You are always honest about yourself and your knowledge. At this point in time, you might feel the need to learn more about an issue that is affecting you. Reach out to an expert who is willing to offer some feedback — you'll be happy you did. Tonight: Hop on the internet.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** Tired of friending directly? Don't use a messenger or any type of go-between. You could trigger a loved one's anger. Be prepared to water down the flames. Make a point of having a caring conversation afterward. Tonight: Spend some quality time with a family member.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

**** Your generosity emerges when dealing with a loved one who appreciates special times with you. Anger seems to pop up from out of nowhere. Intuitively, you know that everything will work out in a way that will please you. Tonight: Have an important yet difficult conversation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** You would be in a situation that allows more flexibility than usual. Unfortunately, you still have a lot of ground to cover. You might not have the time to deal with a matter that is close to your heart. However, you can make a call to those involved for help. Tonight: Squeeze in some exercise.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

**** You have an obligation to keep things in perspective. Your ability to open up allows others to get to know you well. Avoid being too me-oriented and stubborn, as it could backfire at the last minute. Tonight: Get into weekend mode ASAP.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 18)

**** You need to be able to air with someone quickly. Once you do, you will feel much better. Notice that you have a tendency toward a generosity of spirit, in addition to being financially generous. What others know about you is that you care. Tonight: Your home is your castle.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)

**** Keep conversations moving, and you'll find out a lot more than you initially thought was possible. Ask a key question or two, but say nothing controversial. You have a lot to share; however, you might not be willing to share it yet. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

* * *

Though I've belted you and layed you,
By the livin' Gawd that made you,
You're a better man than I am, Gunga Din.

- KIPLING

Kids

CN

13:00 Kid Ko Exam Tips

14:30 Homeless/Muktangan

15:30 Lava

16:00 We Bare Bears

16:30 The Powerpuff Girls

17:00 Teen Titans Go

18:00 Larva

18:30 Team Uptight

21:00 Teen Titans Go

21:30 Larva

22:00 Dragon Ball Z

23:00 The Tom And Jerry Show

13:30 Yo Kai Watch The Movie

14:30 Yo Kai Watch

15:00 Yo Ki Yo Ki

16:00 Chhota Bheem

17:00 Chhota Bheem Show

21:30 Teletubbies

22:00 Chhota Bheem

23:00 M.A.D.

23:30 Telephone

Entertainment

Z

21:00 Kamala Basu Shresti

21:30 Eksheprao - Swabhimaan

22:00 Kasm

22:30 Bhola On Tak

23:00 Eksheprao - Swabhimaan

13:00 Zindagi Ki Mahekk

13:30 Apni Apna Sa

14:00 Kumkum Bhagya

14:30 Bauli - Bauli

15:00 Dil Toh Rani Ke Rani

16:00 Biwi Kuchi Kuchi

17:00 Phir Abla

18:00 Mon Durga

19:00 Tathastu Maantra

19:30 Sanjiv

20:30 Zindagi Ki Mahekk

21:00 The Raja & The Rani

22:00 Zindagi Ki Mahekk

22:30 Phir Ga Ma Pa

23:00 Tere Rehna

13:30 Valkyrie

14:00 Inception

14:30 The Hearting in Connec-

15:00 Tom Hanks

16:00 Indiana Jones

17:00 Geomen

18:00 Valkyrie

19:30 Harry Potter and the

Deathly Hallows: Part 2

20:30 Free Willy

21:00 Ocean's Thirteen

21:30 Sex and the City

22:00 Superman Returns

Movies

Z

16:12 Shar-e-Hindutaa

17:34 Insaat Kaun Karpa

20:30 Guft: The Hidden Truth

23:08 Khausha Asraman

Star GOLD

21:55 Valkyrie

W

16:00 Valkyrie

17:30 Indian Idol: The Hearting in Connec-

18:00 Ghosts of Georgia

19:30 Geomen

20:30 The Raja & The Rani

21:00 Zindagi Ki Mahekk

22:00 Star Gold: India's Best Live

23:00 Geomen

23:30 Khuda Kasam

STAR GOLD

21:55 Khuda Kasam

22:00 Movie

SONY

15:00 Movie

18:00 Movie

21:00 Movie

STAR

23:00 Stealth

STAR MOVIES

13:37 DOA: Dead or Alive

15:30 The Great Hunt for the

17:35 Blood Orchid

19:30 Orizhe the Great and Powerful

21:00 John Rambo

23:00 John Rambo

23:30 Inside the POGA Tour

23:30 POGA Grand Prix Gold...

23:30 EWF Superstars/Hits

23:30 EWF Superstars/Hits

24:00 POGA Tour World

NED

14:00 POGA Tour Special Show

17:30 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

18:00 China Open 2016 HMs

19:00 WWE Raw

20:00 EWF Superstars Special

21:00 Star Gold: India's Best Live

22:00 Badminton United

23:00 Best of ISL 2016

23:30 Star Gold: India's Best Live

24:00 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

15:00 Best of ISL 2016

17:30 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

18:00 China Open 2016 HMs

19:00 Badminton United

20:00 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

21:00 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

22:00 Badminton United

23:00 Best of ISL 2016

24:00 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

15:00 Badminton United

17:30 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

18:00 China Open 2016 HMs

19:00 Badminton United

20:00 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

21:00 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

22:00 Badminton United

23:00 Best of ISL 2016

24:00 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

15:00 Badminton United

17:30 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

18:00 China Open 2016 HMs

19:00 Badminton United

20:00 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

21:00 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

22:00 Badminton United

23:00 Best of ISL 2016

24:00 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

15:00 Badminton United

17:30 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

18:00 China Open 2016 HMs

19:00 Badminton United

20:00 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

21:00 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

22:00 Badminton United

23:00 Best of ISL 2016

24:00 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

15:00 Badminton United

17:30 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

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15:00 Badminton United

17:30 EWF Superstars/Tour 2017 Hals

18:00 China Open 2016 HMs

19:00 Badminton United

Nepal, India discuss issues of mutual concern

KATHMANDU, March 29: The army chiefs of India and Nepal today discussed issues of mutual concern and ways to step up military-to-military cooperation.

Army chief Gen Bipin Rawat, who is on a four-day visit to Nepal, called on his counterpart Rajendra Chhetri at the Army headquarters here.

Issues of mutual concern and bilateral relations were discussed in the meeting, according to a statement issued by the Directorate of Public Relations.

During a special function, India gifted seven horses to Nepal. Rawat handed over a stallion light breed, two broad mares, two gelds and two donkey stallions to Chhetri.

The Indian army chief is in Nepal currently to receive the honorary general title of Nepal Army, *Himayati Times* reported.

Rawat had also held a meeting with other senior officials of the Nepal Army. Rawat also laid a wreath at the Bir Memorial at the Army Pavilion today.

The Indian Army chief will be conferred with the honorary general of Nepal Army by president Bidya Devi Bhandari in a special function at the Rashtrapati Bhawan. — PTI



(L-R) Crown Princess Mary of Denmark, Queen Mathilde and King Philippe of Belgium and Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark, wave during their sailing tour in Copenhagen Harbour in Copenhagen, on Tuesday. — UNI

Trump signs order to roll back Obama's climate change measures

WASHINGTON, March 29: US President Donald Trump today signed another controversial executive order to radically change his predecessor Barack Obama's climate policies, dealing a body blow to the international efforts to combat global warming.

Trump signed the order at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), keeping his campaign promise to support the coal industry.

Trump said the order will "eliminate federal overreach" and "start a new era of production and job creation".

"With today's executive action, I am taking historic steps to lift the restrictions on

American energy, to reverse government intrusion and to cancel job-killing regulations," Trump said after signing the order.

"My action today is the latest in the series of steps to create American jobs and to grow American wealth. We're ending the theft of American prosperity and rebuilding our beloved country," Trump said.

White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer said Trump strongly believed that protecting environment and "promoting our economy are not mutually exclusive goals".

"This executive order will help to ensure that we have clean air and clean water without sacrificing economic growth and job creation," he said.

"Today's executive action, I am taking

historic steps to lift the restrictions on

The order directs all agencies to conduct a review of all regulations, rules, policies and guidance documents that put up roadblocks to domestic energy production.

The order did not mention new administration's stance on the 2015 Paris climate deal, but experts believe that it has implications for the agreement.

The order represents a clear difference between how Trump and former President Obama view the role the US plays in combating climate change, and dramatically alters the government's approach to rising sea levels and temperatures – two impacts of climate change, the CNN said. — PTI

Myanmar Rohingya militants call for peacekeeping troops

YANGON, March 29: A nascent Rohingya militant group whose raids triggered a bloody crackdown by Myanmar's army called today for international peacekeepers to protect the stateless Muslim minority.

Attacks on police border posts in northern Rakhine State in October claimed by the group, which now calls itself the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ASRA), sparked a crackdown by security forces that sent tens of thousands fleeing to Bangladesh.

In a statement widely shared by Rohingya activists outside of Myanmar, the outfit said it had acted to "defend, salvage and protect (the) Rohingya community in Arakan (Rakhine)".

"We have the legitimate right under international law to defend ourselves in line with the principle of self-defence," it said. AFP was unable to verify where the statement came from. The group, largely unknown until October's attacks, denied any links to terrorism, saying it was fighting to further Rohingya rights – including citizenship – and retrieve their "ancestral lands".

It also called for the international community to take "necessary measures, including sending peacekeeping forces into Arakan State".

The statement was signed by "commander-in-chief" Ataullah, who has appeared in several videos demanding political rights for Rohingya.

Myanmar's government has accused the group of being terrorists whose leaders were backed by Middle Eastern money and trained by the Taliban. — AFP

Indonesian man found dead inside giant python

MAMPUU (Indonesia), March 29: An Indonesian farmer has been discovered inside the belly of a giant python after the swollen snake was caught near where the man vanished while harvesting his crops, an official said today.

The body of 25-year-old Akbar was found when local people cut open the seven metre python after it was found bloated and slithering awkwardly in the village of Salubiro, on the eastern island of Sulawesi on Monday.

"We were immediately suspicious that the snake had swallowed Akbar because around the site we found palm fruit, his harvesting tool and a boot," said Junaidi, a senior village official, who like many Indonesians goes by only one name.

Worried relatives launched a search for Akbar after he failed to return home from a trip to the family's plantation on Sunday.

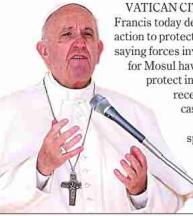
Junaidi said the snake had swallowed the farmer whole, adding that it was the only such fatality recorded in the region.

The breed of snake, which regularly tops 20 feet, is commonly found in Indonesia and the Philippines.

While the serpents have been known to attack small animals, attempts to eat people are rare.

In 2013, a security guard on the tourist island of Bali was killed by a python at a luxury beachfront hotel. — AFP

Pope demands 'urgent' action to protect civilians in Iraq



VATICAN CITY, March 29: Pope Francis today demanded "urgent" action to protect civilians in Iraq, saying forces involved in the battle for Mosul have an obligation to protect innocents following a recent spike in civilian casualties.

Francis issued a special appeal for peace in Iraq at the end of his general audience. He greeted an

interfaith group of Iraqis on hand in St Peter's Square, encouraging them in helping Iraq find reconciliation among various ethnic and religious groups.

Francis said that he was particularly concerned about Iraqis trapped by recent fighting to take Mosul back from Islamic State group militants.

"In expressing profound sadness for the victims of the

bloody conflict, I renew my appeal that everyone commit themselves to using all efforts to protect civilians, an imperative and urgent obligation," he said.

The UN human rights office has called on the US-led coalition conducting airstrikes on Mosul to minimise civilian casualties, saying at least 300 people have been killed since mid-February including 140 from

a single March 17 airstrike incident on a house.

The UN says IS militants are using human shields and setting a trap for the coalition. Amnesty International has said the rising civilian death toll suggested the US-led coalition wasn't taking adequate precautions as it helps Iraqi forces try to retake the city, though the US has denied any loosening of the rules of combat. — AP



Armed police stand outside the Houses of Parliament in London on Tuesday. — UNI


“মহাবাহু ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰ মহামিলনৰ তীর্থো০০”

**॥ আহক, আমি সকলোৱে মিলি
শান্তিপূৰ্ণভাৱে
“নমামি ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰ” উৎসৱ
উদ্যোগন কৰোঁ ॥**

**অসমবাসী বাইজলৈ শ্ৰদ্ধা আৰু শুভকামনাবে-
অসম আৰঞ্জি**

আপোনাৰ সহায়ৰ বাবে যোগাযোগ কৰক
ডি.জি.পি.কষ্ট্ট'ল : ০৩৬১-২৫২১২৪২/২৪৫৯৯৬৬, ৯৪৩৫২-১৫০২৮
এছ বি.কষ্ট্ট'ল : ০৩৬১-২৩৮১৫১১/২৩৮০৬২৯ গুৱাহাটী চিটি কষ্ট্ট'ল : ০৩৬১-২৪৬৪৫৫৭/২৪৬১৫৫৬

Brazil almost there, Messi-less Argentina crash

MONTEVIDEU, March 29: Brazil put one foot in next year's World Cup finals on Tuesday with a 2-0 victory over Paraguay as Argentina's qualification campaign took a tumble against Bolivia after the shock suspension of Lionel Messi.

Barcelona superstar Neymar scored a dazzling solo goal after Liverpool forward Philippe Coutinho had opened the scoring for Brazil as the five-time world champions notched an eighth straight qualifying victory.

The win at Sao Paulo's Arena Corinthians means Brazil are all but guaranteed to extend their record of never failing to qualify for the World Cup by securing their place in Russia.

Tuesday's victory sees them lead the 10-team standings by nine points with four games remaining.

Uruguay failed to cut the lead to seven points as they lost 1-2 against Peru on Tuesday. With the top four teams in South America qualifying for Russia, only a freak set of results can now deny Brazil a place in the finals.

After demolishing the Uruguayans 4-1 last Thursday in Montevideo, Brazil were made to wait for the breakthrough against Paraguay.

The goal they craved finally came on 34 minutes, with Coutinho playing a one-two with Paulinho before burying a low finish into the bottom corner.

Neymar had a chance to make it 2-0 in the 53rd minute from the penalty spot only to see his kick saved by Anthony Silva.

On 64 minutes Neymar doubled Brazil's tally, collecting the ball deep inside his own half and setting off on a surging run down the left flank.

Neymar's dribble ended with him curling in a

shot which took a slight deflection on its way into the Paraguayan goal. Real Madrid defender Marcelo added a late third to seal Brazil's win.

But while Brazil celebrated, Argentina and Messi were left digesting another stumble in their progress towards Russia as they slumped to a 2-

0 defeat in La Paz.

Argentina had been rocked just hours before kickoff after confirmation that Messi had been hit with a

four-match ban following a ruling from disciplinary chiefs at world governing body FIFA in Zurich.

The Barcelona superstar was stunned after being suspended for four of Argentina's five remaining World Cup qualification matches for swearing at an official in a game against Chile last week.

Messi's suspension left Argentina coach Edgardo Bauza forced to make a hasty reshuffle to his starting line-up, bringing in Atletico Madrid's Angel Correa in attack while leaving Manchester City's Sergio Aguero on the bench.

But Argentina, clearly struggling in the thin air of La Paz, which is 3,600 metres (11,800 feet) above sea level, were well beaten at the Estadio Hernando Siles.

Bolivia, desperate for three points, tore into Argentina from the opening whistle, spending long periods camped around their opponents area.

Juan Carlos Arce opened the scoring for Bolivia on 31 minutes, heading in Pablo Escobar's inviting cross before Marcelo Martins doubled the home side's lead early in the second half.

The defeat leaves Argentina languishing just outside the automatic qualifying places following results elsewhere on Tuesday.

Chile moved up to fourth place with a 3-1 win over Venezuela in Santiago, Arsenal star Alexis Sanchez opening the scoring with a stunning early free-kick. Esteban Paredes scored twice for Chile to give the hosts a 3-1 lead before Solomon Rondon pulled a goal back for Venezuela.

In Quito, Real Madrid star James Rodriguez scored one goal and set up another for Juan Cuadrado as Colombia beat Ecuador 2-0. - AFP



Brazil's Neymar celebrates after scoring against Paraguay during the Russia 2018 FIFA World Cup qualifier at the Arena Corinthians in Sao Paulo, on Tuesday.

'India lucky to have a stand-in captain like Rahane'



NEW DELHI, March 29: Ian Chappell says India are lucky to have a stand-in captain like Ajinkya Rahane, who led the side with his own aggressive way which was quite different from the leadership style of Virat Kohli.

Rahane led the hosts to a series win in Dharamsala, where he injured Kohli.

"India are very lucky to have stand in captain like Rahane. I thought he did a fantastic job," the former Australian captain told ESPNcricinfo.

"It is not easy to do the job of a captain when you know the actual captain has got a certain style. So (in that situation), you think 'what do I do? Do I try to copy that style or do I just be myself?' and Rahane did the right thing. He captained in his own way," said Chappell.

Rahane performed the duties in his own quiet way, a contrast to the usually animated Kohli on the field.

"I would say Rahane is aggressive in his own quiet way. You know you don't have to be a gang-bang captain to have the whole team behind you. You just need to do a good job and have the guys have faith in what you are doing," said Chappell.

Rahane performed the duties in his own quiet way, a contrast to the usually animated Kohli on the field.

"I would say Rahane is aggressive in his own quiet way. You know you don't have to be a gang-bang captain to have the whole team behind you. You just need to do a good job and have the guys have faith in what you are doing," said Chappell.

"And if you are making the right moves, the aggressive field placement makes that Rahane was making, that sort of thing brings the right behind the captain."

"They (Kohli and Rahane) do it totally different. But I thought Rahane did a good job and the team's right behind him because of the way he captained," added Chappell. - PTI

We have won an away gold, says Constantine after Myanmar game

YANGON, March 29: Indian football team coach Stephen Constantine today said the win over Myanmar in their 2019 AFC Asian Cup Qualifiers campaign was akin to winning an "away gold" and called it the team's biggest in recent years.

India rode on skipper Sunil Chhetri's 90th minute strike to eke out a 1-0 win and begin their campaign on a positive note yesterday.

"It puts us in the place where we wanted to be. All the teams will back themselves to win their home matches and try and nick something from the away games. In that perspective, we have won an away gold," Constantine said after a day securing three points in Group A.

He is relieved to have broken a 64-year-old jinx in the process.

"I am happy that we have broken the Myanmar jinx trap. - PTI

which has plagued over the 64 years. I am also happy that we have got rid of the tag of not being able to win away matches which we had for long," Constantine said.

The last time India had beaten Myanmar in their own backyard was way back in October 1953 when they won 4-2 in a quadrangular tournament.

Constantine revisited the shocking away defeat against Guam in the 2018 World Cup Qualifiers, saying he will not tolerate complacency while approaching a game.

"The result against Guam is something which I will not forget for a number of reasons. The complete disrespect which most people showed for Guan affected the team.

"We were too confident and casual in our approach and we cannot allow this to happen again. I will not allow myself and players to be complacent again and fall into the trap," - PTI

The Briton added, "When you look at the game most people may think it's not a major issue – Myanmar is not a powerhouse in Asian football."

"But when you look at the significance and what it means to Indian football, this is per-

Australian media slams 'classless' Kohli

MELBOURNE, March 29: Australian media today launched a scathing attack on Virat Kohli, labelling the India captain as "classless" and "egomaniac" following his no-longer friend comment at the end of a spiteful Test series.

Australian newspapers came hard on Kohli for declaring that he no longer considers Australian players as friends after what happened in the fourth match rubber, which was marred by acrimony between players of both the sides. The Australian media also took a jab at Kohli after India reportedly snubbed the visitors' invitation for a beer at the end of the series which the hosts won.

"Virat Kohli had to shake hands and move on after series win but he acted like a child," reads a headline in Sydney's *Daily Telegraph*, which also called Kohli an "egomaniac".

"Bitterly: Kohli's latest classless act," another headline read. - PTI

Gerard Pique reignites Real Madrid feud

MADRID, March 29: FC Barcelona defender Gerard Pique again made comments criticising Real Madrid and the capital football club's apparently close ties with key institutions following Spain's 2-0 win away at France.

Speaking on Spanish radio, the Catalan defender, who is well known for speaking his mind, first of all spoke about his irritation at what he sees as bias in the Spanish press, reports Xinhua news agency.

"You question the fight-back against Paris Saint-Germain (Barcelona overcame a 0-1 first leg defeat with a 6-1 victory in the second leg), and you question its value, but nobody mentions that Sergio Ramos' goal for Madrid in the Champions League final was offside," said Pique.

The defender then dis-

cussed the cases brought against the club that I don't like. I don't like to see the Directors' Box at Real Madrid and see the personalities who pull the strings in this country sitting there," commented Pique.

Many Spanish politicians and important names from big business can indeed be seen sitting next to Real Madrid President Florentino Perez on a regular basis. But Pique made special reference to a recent photo showing State Proseccutor Marta Silva Lapuerta, the person who insisted the prosecution of Messi continued sitting behind Perez in a recent game in the Santiago Bernabeu stadium.

"I don't like the Directors' Box and what happens there... Charges against Messi, Neymar... nothing against Cristiano. That is how it's always been," said Pique. - IANS

Saina, Sindhu, Sameer sail into India Open 2nd round

NEW DELHI, March 29: Olympic medallists PV Sindhu and Saina Nehwal made a resounding start to their women's singles campaign but it was Sameer Verma who hogged the limelight with a stunning straight-game win over Korean Son Wan Ho in men's men's event in the opening round of the India Super Series here today.

Rio Olympics silver medallist Sindhu streamlined compatriot Arundhati Pantawade 21-17, 21-6, while London Games bronze medallist Saina defeated Chinese Taipei's Chia Hsin Lee 21-10, 21-7 in a lopsided contest.

Saina will face the winner of the match between Thailand's Porntip Buranaprasertsuk and Chinese Taipei's Hsu Ya Ching in the next round.

On the other hand, Sindhu will next take on unseeded Seana Kawakami of Japan.

Sameer, who had clinched his maiden Grand Prix Gold title at the Syed Mod International, shocked fourth seeded Korean Son Wan Ho 21-17, 21-10 in a 45-minute contest to set up a clash with Hong Kong's Hui next.

Sameer, a finalist at Lucknow and who recently recovered from a shoulder injury, staved off a challenge from Japan's Kenji Nishimoto to win 16-21, 21-12, 21-19. He will play semi-final seed Choi Tien Chen next.

National champion Rituparna Das also produced a scintill-



ating performance to eke out a 19-21, 21-15, 21-19 win over Chinese Taipei's Chiung Mei Hsi, while in women's doubles, Ashwini Ponnappa and Srikanth Reddy defeated England pair of Gabrielle Adcock and Jessica Pugh 21-16, 21-16. The duo will face fourth seeded Thai pair of Puttita Supajirakul and Sapsiree Taerattanachai.

Taiwan Ladret midway at 6-2 due to an injury, while PC Thulasi suffered a 15-21, 16-21 loss to seventh seed Nozomi Okuhara of Japan while Amura Prabhudesai lost to Sayaka Sato of Japan 21-17, 21-16.

In men's doubles, it turned out to be a disappointing day for the Indians as Vietnam Open winners Satwikshankar Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty lost 14-21, 17-21 to Denmark's Kim Astrup and Anders Skaarup Rasmussen.

Among other Indians in the fray, women's pair of Apurva Balan and Prajakta Sawant, and Jakkampudi Meghana and Poojarysha S Ram Jyoti Dewangan and Saumya Singh, Kuhoo Garg and Ninghsieh Block Hazarika, Gauri Asaji and Megha Morchana Bora, Sruthi KP and Haritha Manjunath, Mahima Aggarwal and Maneesha K crashed out in first round. - PTI

Mohammad Irfan banned for a year

KARACHI, March 29: Pakistani pacer Mohammad Irfan was slapped today with a one-year ban and fined USD 1,000 after he admitted to have failed in reporting a spot-fixing approach by bookmakers during the Pakistan Super League.

"You are aware that on March 14th the board called in and suspended me on the basis of two allegations, out of which I accept that it was my fault that I failed to let the board know when bookies approached me," Irfan said in a statement.

"PCB's code of conduct makes it clear that we have to report any such interaction immediately and I didn't do that," he added.

"I am formally asking the nation for their forgiveness and hope that I will be pardoned by them,"

Top officials of the Board said they were satisfied that Irfan had not engaged in any malpractice and that his suspension was for failing to report the approach made to him.

One official said the decision to suspend his contract for one year will be reviewed after six months at which point it may be restored. - PTI

Ronaldo heroics go in vain as Portugal lose to Sweden

FUNCHAL (Portugal), March 29: Cristiano Ronaldo scored on his emotional return home, but Portugal squandered a two-goal lead to lose 3-2 to Sweden in a friendly on Tuesday.

Ronaldo found the net 18 minutes into his first match with the national team in his hometown of Funchal on the Madeira Islands, delighting the nearly 10,000 fans who packed the tiny Estadio do Maritimo to see their local hero.

The Real Madrid striker was the main attraction from the start, getting a loud ovation from the crowd even before the match started by lifting and displaying the trophy that he helped Portugal win for the first time in last year's European Championship.

With his mother and son

watching from the tribunes, Ronaldo opened the scoring with a close-range shot after a right-flank cross by Gelson Martins. He then set up the move that led to an own goal by Sweden defender Andreas Granqvist in the 34th.

However, Viktor Claesson started the comeback for the visitors with a shot from inside the area in the 57th minute and then netted the equaliser from a corner kick in the 76th.

An own goal by Joan Capdevila in the third and final minute of stoppage time handed victory to Sweden.

"It's never good when you lose," said Portugal coach Fernando Santos, who made several changes to the squad while it had the lead. "We scored the first two goals and the game was under control, but we

lacked attention in the second half. We shouldn't have conceded those three goals."

On Wednesday, the Madei-

ral Madrid player and his relatives, Funchal already features a Ronaldo statue, a museum about the player, and a hotel complex named after him. Ronaldo grew up in the city sharing a room with his older brother and two older sisters before moving to the mainland to join the youth squads of Sporting Lisbon. From there, he made it to Manchester United and eventually to Madrid, becoming one of the world's biggest soccer stars. He received his fourth world player of the year award in January.

Ronaldo is regarded as a promoter of Madeira, which is considered one of the world's top travel destinations. The islands are located about 500 kilometres (310 miles) from the African coast, and some 1,000 kilometres (620 miles) from the European continent.

Portugal was coming off a convincing 3-0 win over Hungary in World Cup qualifying on Saturday in Lisbon, when Ronaldo scored twice and youngster Andre Silva added another. Ronaldo is the leading scorer in European qualifying with nine goals, one more than Poland's Robert Lewandowski.

Ronaldo has scored nine goals in his last four European qualifiers with the national team.

Portugal has 12 points from five matches in qualifying, three points less than Group B leader Switzerland. Hungary is five points behind Portugal. Only the group winner automatically qualifies for the 2018 World Cup in Russia.

- Agencies

SU DO KU

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

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. It uses nine digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3x3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9 without repeating any.

Rain spoils final day's play, SA win series

HAMILTON, March 29: New Zealand were left frustrated on Wednesday after rain washed out the last day's play of the final Test against South Africa, denying them a series-level win.

At the start of the day, South Africa were on the ropes at 80 for five in their second innings, still 95 runs short of making New Zealand bat again.

But the rain which had disrupted part of each of the first four days fell persistently on Wednesday, forcing the umpires to abandon play without a ball being bowled.

"Obviously very frustrating, coming into the last day with a lot to play for," said New Zealand captain Kane Williamson.

"Saying that, we were probably quite fortunate to play as much cricket as we did in this Test."

"Overall, we have to look at this game as a really positive game and one that was potentially one of our best 'Test' performances of the home summer."

South Africa captain Faf du Plessis, who was unbroken on 15, said their plan was for him to bowl all day while Quinton de Kock, also not out 15, chased the runs.

"It's a real fair assessment to say we got saved by the rain," said du Plessis.



South African skipper Faf du Plessis with the series trophy after rain washed out the last day's play of the 3rd Test against New Zealand in Hamilton, on Wednesday.

"We were still very driven in making sure we do whatever it takes to get through but if you look realistically at the odds, New Zealand can count themselves very unlucky."

The drawn outcome ensured South Africa took

Football meet begins at Dulaijan

GUWAHATI, March 29: ASEB Sports Club defeated Barpeta FC 2-0 in NFR Railway SC tournament Mizoram leg 4 in two matches on the opening day of the North East Invitational Football Tournament at Dulaijan today.

The tournament is being organised by the Dulaijan Club and patronised by the Oil India Limited (OIL). BP Sarma, Residential Chief Executive of OIL, Dulaijan inaugurated the championship which has been dedicated to Haren Chetia. Eminent former footballers Gilbertson Sangma, Arun Borukhur, Swadhin Dekaria, PK Roy Choudhury, Khami Neog, Partha Karmakar, Naren Saikia among others were felicitated by the organisers in the inaugural ceremony.

Altogether eight teams, including three from outside the State are taking part in the meet, stated a release issued here.

State archers hit silver

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 29: Assam archers Sanjoy Boro and Promila Daimary won silver medal in the 37th Senior National Archery Championship which is going on at Faridabad, Haryana from March 26.

On the penultimate day of the championship today, Sanjoy and Promila came second in the Recurve Mix Team event. The Jharkhand team, comprising of Jayanta Silakdar and Deepika Kumari clinched gold in this event.

Another Assam boy Dhaniram Basumatary of NF Railway, representing Indian Railways won a silver medal in the Double 70m event and a bronze in the men's team event, informed Jayanta Boro, president Assam Archery Association.

NF Rly prevail over NCR

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 29: Host NF Railway posted a five-wicket victory against North Central Region (NCR) and All India Inter Railways Cricket Tournament.

At the NF Railway Sports Association ground, Maligaon today, opting to bat first North Central managed to score 139 in 38 overs losing all the wickets. Akshat Pandit (30), Nishant Kushwaha (32) and Avishek Sharma (28) were their leading scorers while Dipak Gohain was the wrecker in chief with

four-wicket haul.

In reply NF Railway crossed the opponents' total in 31 overs losing five wickets.

The other match at the ACA stadium, Barapara was washed out. Karan Sharma top scored with 58 while Sibankar Roy remained not out on 46.

Brief scores: NCR 139 (Akshat Pandit 30, Nishant Kushwaha 32, Avishek Sharma 28, Dipak Gohain 4/24, Anup Das 2/29), NFR 140 (5 (Karan Sharma 58, Sibankar Roy not out 16, Mayan Singh 3/31)).

Karate championship

GUWAHATI, March 29: The Lachit Sangha Karate Do academy organised the All Guwahati Karate Do Championship at the Lachit Sangha playground here on March 25 and 26.

Martial Art Dozang, Dispur topped the medal tally claiming 23 gold, 11 silver and 20 bronze medals. Out of the 100 individual teams were – Santipuri Karate Do Academy (12-G, 13-S, 21-B), Amurtar Karate Academy (4-G, 8-S, 8-B), Lachit Sangha Karate Academy (4-G, 6-S, 13-B), Wakado Karate Do School, Bhetapara (1-G, 19-S, 17-B).

Guwahati East MLA Siddhartha Bhattacharya, senior Assam Police officers Subrajyoti Hazarika, Rose Kalita and Lachit Sangha president Apurba Jibon Baruah were present during the opening and closing ceremonies of the championship.

Sensei Bablu Jammal, sensei Dr Neel Konwar, advisor Martin D Rosario, Dritimala Deka and Ajay Kumar Talukdar offered guidance in organising the meet. Over 200 karatekas from different organisation of the city took part in the championship.

City CCC tournament

GUWAHATI, March 29: In today's matches of the 8th City Premier League Cricket Tournament at the Dispur Parade Ground, Panther XI beat Cobra XI by eight wickets while Kangaroo XI got the better of Lion XI by 25 runs. In the third match of the day, Bull XI outplayed Tiger XI by eight wickets.

Brief scores: Cobra XI 119 (Abhijit Singh 22, Mit Rajkumar 20, Anup Bhuzel 3/19, Ran Thakur 2/45), Panther XI 122 (Anup Bhuzel 2/19, Ran Thakur 2/45), Kangaroo XI 157 (Anup Kalita 50, Samridh Deka 42, Bithin Rai Tamuly 23, Bikash Terang 5/35, Chiranjon Barua 3/18), Lion XI 132 (Bikash Terang 44, Shivam Mittal 43, Aman Kalita 2/8, Suman Deka 3/16, Chinmay Sarma 2/8).

Tiger XI 47 (N Kaushik 2/8, Uday Singh 2/9, Rupam Hazarika 2/10), Bull XI 50/2 (Uday Singh 26).

IPL will help me get back into rhythm: Shami

KOLKATA, March 29: India pacer Mohammed Shami Wednesday said the Indian Premier League (IPL) will help him get back into rhythm.

Shami has not played for India since November last year after playing against England in the third Test. He complained of soreness in his knee and has been ruled out since then.

The 28-year-old, who plays for Delhi Daredevils in the cash-rich league, featured in the final of the Vijay Hazare Trophy for Bengal and Tamil Nadu, respectively.

Tamil Nadu were at one stage struggling to 100 in the 11th over before Karthik stumped the innings with a 136-run partnership for the fourth wicket with Narayan Jagadeesan (55).

The out-of-favour India

keeper struck 14 boundaries and three sixes during his stay in the middle, while Jagadeesan found the fence four times and cleared it once.

Karthik then added 66 useful runs for the fifth wicket with skipper Vijay Shankar (21), before getting dismissed in the last ball of the 39th over.

Baba Indrajith contributed 31 of 30 balls as Tamil Nadu crossed 300.

Mumbai seamer Dhawal Kulkarni was the best bowler for India B, returning impressive figures of 5/39 in 10 overs.

In reply, India B lost Parthiv Patel early but Shikhar Dhawan and Manish Pandey added 64 runs for the second wicket to keep their team in the hunt. — PTI

Du Plessis said that apart from one day in Wellington, when New Zealand collapsed spectacularly, the two sides were evenly matched.

"This series has been one of what-if's," he said.

"It all basically came down to a Test match in Wellington where New Zealand had one bad session, similar to what we had yesterday and that determines the outcome of the Test series."

But ahead of their tests against England, following the Champions Trophy in June, du Plessis said the New Zealand series highlighted how South Africa needed to work on their top-order batting.

"I'm very disappointed. As a whole series we can look at the top six, the lack of hundreds, the lack of good starts we had. We were playing with our backs to the wall most of the time as a batting unit. That's a real concern," he said.

South Africa's best opening partnership was 18 in Wellington, and they scored a century in every Test.

Williamson scored 130 in Dunedin and 176 in Hamilton, with Henry Nicholls scoring 118 in Wellington. — AFP

Lehmann upset with Kohli's comment

NEW DELHI, March 29: Australia coach Darren Lehmann today said he is disappointed with India captain Virat Kohli for declaring that he is no longer friends with Australian players after an aggressively-contested Test series.

Australia lost 1-2 in the four-match rubber, which was marred by constant show-downs between the players of both the sides.

At the end of it, Kohli had no qualms saying that he has been proven wrong in considering Australian players his off-field friends.

Asked about Kohli's comment in a pre-departure media interaction, Lehmann said: "Disappointing that's his opinion isn't it?"

On whether he thought that the rest of the Indian team had sentiments similar to Kohli, Lehmann replied in the negative.

"No, I don't think the Indian team feels that. I too was very impressed with (Ajinkya) Rahane's captaincy. I thought he was brilliant," Lehmann said, trying to side-step the query by referring to Rahane's standing in captaincy during the fourth and final Test in Dharamsala.

Kohli had missed the series-decider owing to a shoulder injury and even that had been mocked by the Australian players.

Lehmann was lavish in his praise for Australia captain Steve Smith, comparing his superb batting run in the series with less than Don Bradman. Smith finished with 499 runs in four games.

"Smith has been brilliant; he has been unbelievable. He has been Bradman-like with the bat. I am really pleased with him and how he has brought the team as a leader," he said. — PTI

CA applauds Smith's honesty, team's fight

MELBOURNE, March 29:

Cricket Australia today lauded captain Steve Smith for his "honesty and gracious comments" at the end of a bitterly-fought Test series against India and also hailed the resilience and determination shown by the side.

Smith had apologised at the end of Dharamsala Test and conceded that emotions got the better of him several times in the series which Australia lost 1-2.

"They came very close to winning the series, but did achieve Australia's first Test win in India since 2004. There were many fine individual performances, but none better than those of the captain," CA Chairman David Peever said in a statement.

"Steve showed yet again what an outstanding leader he is becoming, and his honesty and gracious comments at the end of a bitterly-fought Test series against India and also hailed the resilience and determination shown by the side.

The Chairman said CA was proud of the team.

"As the team arrives home over the next two days, they will find that all of Australia is immensely proud of their efforts. Some gave them little chance of testing the world's number one team, but instead showed resilience, adaptability and a determination to overcome the difficulties they have experienced in recent years in such conditions." — PTI

Federer, Nadal in quarters; Wawrinka crashes out

MIAMI, March 29: Top seed Stan Wawrinka crashed out of the Miami Open, falling 4-6,

6-2, 6-1 to young gun Alexander Zverev.

Zverev's win earned him his first place in a Masters 1000 quarterfinal and he will face the winner of Tuesday's late game between Australian Nick Kyrgios and Belgian David Goffin.

Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Kei Nishikori advanced to the quarterfinals on cue.

Swiss Wawrinka, beaten by Federer in the final of Indian Wells earlier this month, looked weary as he struggled through the third set of his match.

"I had one bad game to start the second set and then it was tough for me," Wawrinka, the

reigning US Open champion, said. "I don't know. I completely went down physically and mentally, and also my tennis was completely out. I had no more gas."

"For sure it's a disappointing match. I think the level was quite up and down. We were both fighting a little bit in the first set to find good level. It was really humid, not easy to play some great tennis," he added.

Federer had to work hard for his victory against 14th seed Roberto Bautista Agut, emerging with a 7-6 (7/5), 7-6(7/4) win setting up a last eight meeting with Czech Tomas Berdych, the 10th seed, a 6-3, 7-5 winner over France's Adrian Mannarino.

"It was a different kind of match," said Federer, who is in an excellent run of form having won the Australian Open and Indian Wells already this year.

"It wasn't the big-serving match where you're only going to see so many looks, you know, so when you miss chances you always feel a bit frustrated sometimes."

"That's where you got to keep a positive mindset and make the right plays," he added.

The first set was a close and entertaining battle. Bautista broke to go 5-4 up but Federer then won every point in the next two games. The tie-break saw some fantastic tennis from both players but the Swiss delivered at the close.

Second-seed Nishikori, of Japan, survived a second set scare against Argentine Federico Delbonis en route to a 6-3, 4-6, 6-3.

Nishikori, who lost to Novak Djokovic in last year's Miami final, will face Italian Fabio Fognini who defeated American Donald Young 6-0, 6-4. — AFP



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Commercial affiliates to support FIFA U-17 WC

NEW DELHI, March 29: World football governing body FIFA and Local Organising Committee (LOC) of the U-17 World Cup 2017 conducted a workshop for the commercial affiliates of the tournament.

The presentation was conducted by FIFA and LOC members of the marketing delegation, who had travelled to each of the venues for a detailed inspection from March 22 to 27.

FIFA and the LOC presented the marketing programme, promotional plan and commercial strategy for the tournament.

FIFA Partners adidas, Coca Cola and Hyundai and National Supporters, Bank of Baroda and Hero MotoCorp were the commercial affiliates who attended the workshop.

The workshop was designed to maximise the participation of the sponsors involved in the event. A detailed discussion was held on all the promotional activities in the run up to the tournament and the activities and exposure possible for the brands during the actual event.

The workshop was an opportunity to emphasise the role of sponsors in promoting the event. One-on-one meetings were also conducted with each sponsor to sensitise stakeholders about the event, review how it would be organised, and discuss the promotional opportunities and other benefits available.

The participants also discussed the marketing of the host cities to tourists, given that India would be hosting its first FIFA tournament.

Tournament Director of LOC Javier Ceppi said, "With almost six months to the tournament, it is very important to get all the commercial affiliates on board.

"They have expressed their full support to the event and they have some great ideas on how they will be able to take the tournament to every part of the country." — PTI

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Believe it or Not!



Why? What?

Which State of the United States of America was purchased from Russia?

Alaska is the State which was bought from Russia by the USA.

A The area that became Alaska was purchased from Russia on March 31, 1867, for \$7.2 million. It took many years to go through several administrative changes before becoming an organised territory in 1912 and the 49th state of the US on January 3, 1959.

The name Alaska is derived from the Alaskan native language. It means "the land of the great bear". The name was originally "the object towards which the action of the sea is directed."

By the late 1850s, after Russia lost the Crimean War against Britain and France, the government became convinced that it could ill afford the luxury of an American colony. Russia decided to sell its American colony to the USA for a sum of \$7.2 million.



My viewpoint

What is the future of Kaziranga?

Lucky Hazarika, Class-V, Assam Residential School, Bagarama

The Kaziranga National Park (KNP) is a world heritage site, famous for the one-horned rhinoceros and other animals. If the Central and the State Governments, along with the Park authorities, work with a mission spirit, it will be wider implications for example, if there is food, many wild animals migrate outside the Park. Since the migration of animals to the hilly regions within the Park is a must. This will not only save wildlife, but also enhance the scenic beauty of the Park. I am sure that the KNP can become a paradise on earth, if effective measures are taken.

Monisha Katta, Class-IV, North East Regional Institute of Education and Research, Dibrugarh

The Kaziranga National Park is a world heritage site, famous for the one-horned rhinoceros and other animals. But, our animals might go extinct due to severe poaching. One such reason is the flooding caused by the river Brahmaputra – because of which many animals die every year. Another important factor is poaching. The poachers kill rhinos and sell their horns and this is a big threat to the species. If these things continue, then the future of Kaziranga will be quite dark.

Harshita Medhi, Class-V, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Maligaon, Guwahati

The Kaziranga National Park, known for its one-horned rhinoceros, is a pride of Assam. But, our animals have become just a headline on every news channel. Every day, there is something to mourn about. Many animals are being killed for their body parts. If we continue to turn a blind eye to such incidents, Kaziranga will soon become a barren land, where there will be no animals or birds left. And, this will be the future of Kaziranga!

Vishrarna Gogoi, Class-VI, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Dibrugarh

Kaziranga, the pride of Assam, is rapidly undergoing changes. Its major attraction – the one-horned rhinoceros are being killed by greedy poachers for their precious horns. If this continues, then the number of these innocent animals will become extinct. Tourists, who come from far and wide to witness the natural beauty of Kaziranga, will not visit the place any more. The State's economy will deteriorate due to the poor revenue collection of the Assam Tourism Department. Hence, to maintain its dignity, both the government and the citizens of Assam should take urgent interventions.

PLANET YOUNG

GUWAHATI, THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017

I, ME, MYSELF



Monalisa Jana is the winner of the Central Sahitya Akademi Award for Translation last year.

The person who has influenced me the most, I grew up in a village, surrounded by the hills, with cows, goats, etc., with an enormous repository of tales, myths and power of narrating these... I was curious about them.

The biggest turning point of my life, The day I came to the city of my home to explore Assam; I realised my world would never be the same again. I knew there lay a different world of Nature, of culture and arts.

The happiest moment in my life, It is difficult to recall a single moment for me so far. But the day I realised my writings had moved many hearts and that I was recognised as a writer, it was a blissful moment for me.

The changes that I would like to see in the society,

Cultural transformation by way of respecting values in life is the need of the hour. The present generation lacks in certain culture. Imagine a gentle society where people don't talk in raised voices, no dirty looks, rosi rage, no complaining character, but only patience, calmness, and the ability to listen to other's views.

My message for today's youth, Let them dream their own dreams, and explore. They are sensitive, they are the channels leading to our future.



A brave rescue

They walked faster than their feet could take them. Ria and Samee moved the door. There was a sound. A strange sight gripped their eyes. Ria gasped. She could not get into this blaze." But, Samee, pretending as if he didn't hear her, called out loud, "Mishit! Mishit, here I am!" Samee! The whole house was engulfed in flames. The wooden stairs had burnt down to ashes. The only thing untouched was the roof above and the floor, though unburnt, had burnt its sides. As Samee was pulled out of this sudden pull he slipped and fell down on the ground hard and lay there unconscious.

Samee stopped foaming and tried to peer through the flames to trace Mishit. From the room next to the kitchen, he heard a cry. And then he drew himself towards the corridor. And Ria shouted out loud, "Samee! Is it too dangerous?" Samee ignored her cry and ran towards the kitchen. Ria followed silently. Reaching the door, he saw Meena – the six-year-old sister of Mishit's friend Dimpy. He walked through the burning debris and reached the kitchen. He found Meena in the corner of the room, crying. He asked her, "Where is Mishit?" The girl pointed outside. Samee turned to Ria. "She is too tiny. She can't say where she is. Please help her. Find her home... she will find Mishit herself." "But, Samee, you..." Samee interrupted her and said, "She is a little girl. Both your lives are in danger. Go fast! Don't worry about me." Ria picked Meena up in her arms and rushed out of the door.

Due to the accident, he had suffered only minor injuries, but he had broken his leg.

The noise of the short circuit of Dimpy's house really frightened him. I rushed to save Mishit, but she was already safe. I suppose, God wanted me to save Meena. That's why she had Mishit only after Meena was taken out. God, your calculations are undoubtedly unique!

Winners All

CONTRIBUTOR OF THE WEEK
Bitopan Das, Guwahati.

Poem OF THE WEEK
Prapti Bhuyan, Guwahati.

Sketch OF THE WEEK
Neha Bhattacharya, Tezpur.

Creative Endeavour OF THE MONTH
Shalashree Sarma, Guwahati.



Dear Ishani Aunty,
Our father sleeps and boasts us for the smallest reason. We are terrified of him. Sometimes, I want to run away from home. What should we do?

- Asha

Dear Asha,
You must get a family member to talk to him. Hitting one's own children, who are weak and dependent on him, is a disgrace. Sometimes, you just have to tell him what a wicked thing he is doing.

Dear Ishani Aunty,
My mother often compares me to an aunt who is rather plain. Though my friends call me pretty and smart, my mother's words hurt me a lot. Please help.

- Nita

Dear Nita,
I wonder what your mother gets by behaving that way. It is a vicious comment to make. People she will one day, see what she is doing. Just cheer up and surround yourself with people who appreciate you for who you are.

Dear Arpita,
I hate drawing and my maps of India are pathetic. Due to that, I get less marks in Geography. What should I do?

- Arpita

Dear Arpita,
This is a challenge you must overcome. Practice drawing every day. Don't give up easily. Learn to enjoy the process of drawing. Impossible is not a word you should cultivate.

JUNIOR PUZZLERS

1) Is dash, mush, or hash a slang word for money?

My DAD SAYS TIME IS MONEY, SO HOW MANY DASHES CAN I BUY FOR 11.30 am?



2) Although orange in colour, are flight memory recorders in an aircraft called the black, yellow or brown box?

WE CAN'T FIND THE FLIGHT RECORDER.



3) Do we get the word cappuccino from the German, French or Italian language?

DOES THAT MEAN THE PLANE HAS LOST ITS MEMORY?



Did You Know?

In India, a light meal or snack is called a tiffin.



THIS WEEK'S WINNER

Ashish Patir, Class-IV,
Army Public School, Jorhat.

PicSpeak

NEXT WEEK'S PICTURE

Please collect your certificates from our office.
(Send your entries to planeyoung@assamdhoni.com)

Mini M@ths

Calculate the clue and fill in the grids with the answers.

JOKES

1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.
7.	8.	9.
10.	11.	12.
13.	14.	15.
16.	17.	18.
19.	20.	21.
22.	23.	24.
25.	26.	27.
28.	29.	30.
31.	32.	33.
34.	35.	36.
37.	38.	39.
40.	41.	42.
43.	44.	45.
46.	47.	48.
49.	50.	51.
52.	53.	54.
55.	56.	57.
58.	59.	60.
61.	62.	63.
64.	65.	66.
67.	68.	69.
70.	71.	72.
73.	74.	75.
76.	77.	78.
79.	80.	81.
82.	83.	84.
85.	86.	87.
88.	89.	90.
91.	92.	93.
94.	95.	96.

by John Martin

Nib

A nib is a part of a pen which comes into contact with the writing surface in order to deposit ink. The nib is fitted with a quill for a pen or reed for a reed pen. Nibs vary in their purpose, shape and size, as well as the materials from which they are made.

In the early Middle Ages, the nib replaced the reed pen across Europe and remained the main writing tool of the West for nearly a thousand years until the 15th century. Quills were fashioned by hand, a single feather of a bird was obtained from a fairly large bird, such as a goose, traditionally from its left wing. A quill has the advantage of being durable and more flexible than a steel pen, as it also retains ink in the hollow shaft of the feather, known as the calamus, allowing more writing before ink dippings. Until the 19th century, the quill was in common use, till the advent of the metal nib. For business purposes, the quill was fairly quickly overtaken; however, it remains popular for personal use and artistic work.

One of metal nibs can be traced back to ancient Egypt - which were made of metals like copper and bronze. However, the quality of writing that could be achieved with these pens was inferior to that of the pens. With the establishment of a factory in 1822 by James Mitchell in Birmingham, England, to manufacture steel nibs, the popularity of use of nibs took off. The metal nib retains a sharp point or edge longer than the quill, which wears out more quickly and requires frequent sharpening. Metal nibs are also easily manufactured to have different properties for different purposes. Also, they can now be attached and removed from nib holders, allowing one to switch between nibs with relative ease.

(E-mail: only4_poi@yahoo.co.uk)

What's the BUZZ?

Stand-up comedy by kids

AMAZING FLOOD
This man was caught in a flash flood. Despite being stuck in the middle of the river, he used his rescue helicopter to him?

Kids' Stuff BRAIN TEASERS

By Dave Aye

WHAT A JOKE!

Q: What do you call a crazy kangaroo? Ans: A cockpit clutch.

Q: When do kangaroos celebrate their birthdays? Ans: When they hop out of bed.

WITH FACTS

John Montagu, the fourth Earl of Sandwich, is believed to have invented the sandwich in 1762. **FACT:** He thought of it while EASY JEEZ USED HIS LOAF.

MARINE IN THE DARK AGES, PEOPLE THOUGHT CATS HAD MAGICAL POWERS.

I'M GOING TO TURN MY CAT INTO A DOG.

COUNT THE TOMATOES

ANSWER: 32

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

ANSWER: 5

Tangled words

ANSWER: 1. LATISSPORA
2. OATIPRA
3. KECTETIS
4. TILL
5. CHUN

Clue: You cannot leave the country.

Clue: I need holes to live.

Clue: Need holes to live.

Clue: A company that connects planes.

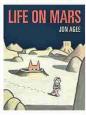
**word
search**

1 Obsolete a) Old-fashioned b) Out-of-date c) Current d) Time-oriented	4 Zero hour - relating to a) Termination b) Conclusion c) Beginning d) Frequency
2 Perpetuity a) Eternity b) Time warp c) Immortality d) Time capsule	5 Protract a) To measure out b) Extend c) To extend d) Shorten
3 Stasis a) Staring b) Standing c) Excessiveness d) Time or state of inactivity	6 Quid pro quo a) Trade or exchange b) Reward c) Exchange d) Quid

Solve this free form crossword, where the words are represented by pictures.

**Life on Mars**

In this space, still picture book for fans of Oliver Jeffers and Jon Agee, we travel to the solar system's most mysterious planet. A boy sets off on a solitary mission, determined to prove the passengers on board are not Martians. But when he arrives at the base of the rocket ship, he sees nothing but a nearby barren planet. Finally, he spots a single flower-like patch it away to take back to the rocket ship to prove that it is indeed Mars. But as he settles in for the journey home, he cracks open his capacious pocket to discover that Readers will love being in on the fun. Under the egyptian sun, a Martian has been eating flower petals. And the whole time, he got himself a delicious snack along the way.

**BOOK NOOK****Simon Thorn and the Viper's Pit**

The excitement continues for fans of animal shape-shifters with a hero worthy of Harry Potter". Simon's life is almost unrecognisable from a few months ago. Along with a surprise twin brother and an uncle he never knew he had, Simon has been sent to live with his mother, Orion, who's bent on taking over the five kingdoms. With his mother, Simon sets off cross-country with his friends to the reptile kingdom, battling rogues, Animalgams and their own doubts and torn loyalties along the way.

Quiz

Which African lake is the second deepest lake in the world?
Priya Sharma, Class-XI, St. Francis De Sales H.S. School, Saigon, H.S. Vietnam

Which singer was known as the White Lady of Soul?
Lata Mangeshkar, 2 June

Who is called the Father of Hydrodynamics?
Galileo Galilei, 15 February

Name the first Asamese colour film?
5. Shangkula, 3 March

5. Which bird lays only one egg in two years?
6. Kingfisher, 6 February

7. Name the first Asamese colour film?
8. Kingfisher, 6 February

9. Who is called the Father of Hydrodynamics?
Galileo Galilei, 15 February

10. Lata Mangeshkar, 2 June

11. Name the first Asamese colour film?
5. Shangkula, 3 March

12. Kingfisher, 6 February

13. Shangkula, 3 March

14. Galileo Galilei, 15 February

SOLUTION
1. Simon, 2. House, 3. Door, 4. Computer, 5. Postman, 6. Potbelly, 7. Scarecrow,

8. House, 9. Hammock, 10. Bed, 11. Frame, 12. Tire, 13. Computer, 14. Postman.

ANSWERS

1. Simon, 2. House, 3. Door, 4. Computer, 5. Postman, 6. Potbelly, 7. Scarecrow,

8. House, 9. Hammock, 10. Bed, 11. Frame, 12. Tire, 13. Computer, 14. Postman.

SOLUTION

ANSWERS

1. Simon, 2. House, 3. Door, 4. Computer, 5. Postman, 6. Potbelly, 7. Scarecrow,

SOLUTION

ANSWERS

In New York City, there were two brothers - John and his brother, Godzilla. They were trained to fight alien invasions. First in the city, then around the world. But, Technology Boy came to their rescue. He got hurt and fell to the ground. In this mode, he was nothing like Magnete. Amazing Firefox was also there. Both his friends were now down and he was all alone. Suddenly, he heard something that was Magnete's signature - a high-pitched tone coming out through Godzilla's ear. He got grabbed hold of a nerve. He was now in a worse condition than the others. He could evoke fire from his body.

Technology Boy could do mind-bending and create illusions. He could make things invisible or teleport them. Both the Techno Brothers knew little about Advanced Technology and therefore, they called themselves the Techno Brothers.

One day, a school trip took them to a dining hall. He started to threaten the students to eat and go and they did not shoot. The Techno Brothers were the most devious to reveal their powers in front of everyone. John and his brother had a talk between the Thug and the students. They thought about to shoot, when Robert did a break and stood in front of them, holding up the gun. He pointed the last two fingers at one, except the Technology Brothers, saw what he was doing. Also, an old hand appeared out of nowhere and held the gun, with which he hit the Thug, who

left unconscious to the floor.

After school, John directed Pedro and Robert aside, into a dark alley. He said to them, "We have to fight him". Robert asked, "What? Who?" Pedro then said, "Godzilla". Robert explained that he had superpowers and that he could control electricity. His body had magnetic powers. He also had the power to make people feel or feellessness. The Techno Brothers revealed their secret too.

They all decided to work as a team. John also did not make electric bolts for the first of them. He had named himself Technology Boy. Pedro was Amazing Firefox, and Robert was Magnete Electrics.

On reaching home, Pedro informed the Thug that he would be crossing the street when he saw the news of a huge monster heading towards New York; it was, they realized, Godzilla. They had to save the city. They had to get to who had launched the missile. They flew to the missile base only to find Technology Boy had made the missile into a bomb. But, he suddenly remembered that he could bring him back to life with his powers. Technology Boy soon regained consciousness and the three boys rejoiced their victory.

The Amazing Trio

ing Firefox, and Robert was Magnete Electrics.

On reaching home, Pedro informed the Thug that he would be crossing the street when he saw the news of a huge monster heading towards New

York; it was, they realized, Godzilla. He suddenly remembered that he had damaged Godzilla's reproductive system. He also had a good idea with him. Both of them decided that it was a good time to launch the missile. Technology Boy heard that a missile towards the base was planned. Crossing and struggling with pain, he finally reached the base and planned to stop the missile. He had to get to the ground and soon died.

He had to get to the ground and soon died. They flew to the missile base only to find Technology Boy had made the missile into a bomb. They decided to make the bomb explode.

The Amazing Trio put on their suits, flew towards Godzilla and started firing. Godzilla became angry and unleashed its new weapon. Hundreds of lasers came out of his head and started attack.

They decided to make the bomb explode.

They flew to the missile base only to find Technology Boy had made the missile into a bomb.

But, he suddenly remembered that he could bring him back to life with his powers.

Technology Boy soon regained consciousness and the three boys rejoiced their victory.

Fooling a fool!**Dear Bhatty, Bhonti,**

Most of you are perhaps readying to pull the legs of your family members and friends on April Fools' Day. It's a lot of harmless fun, but what I want to say here is that there are a lot of people who are truly fools - who do not appreciate the world, or the kindness of people around them, those who spend each working hour on concerns regarding money. Fools are also those who insist that their children become high achievers, instead of decent human beings. I could go on and on and I, too, have plans to pull tricks on people around me. And let's say it takes real brains to trick a simpleton.

With love, as always,

Hakaiolu

SKETCH
OF THE
WEEKNeha Bhattacharya, Class-X,
St. Joseph's Convent H.S. School,
TezpurVishal Das, Class-VII,
Don Bosco High School, TezpurShubhamika Miri Boruah, Class-V,
Sankidev Shishu Vidyashikshan, NarayanguriJishnu Pratim Goswami, Class-II,
Maharani VidyashikshanAnushka Salkia, Class-IV,
Gurukul Grammar Sr. Sec. School, Guwahati

Your reflection

The sun can know your feelings,
Nature knows your joys,
The fire knows the anguish,
The earth knows the lie;
Love knows the sacrifice,
The mind knows the temptations;
The heart knows revenge,
The soul knows the truth.
When the truth is so clear,
Why do we think that
"No one can see the truth?"
The stars will shine, one fine day,
While all lies will die.
And truth will always live.
Hated for hatred will not be reflected;
Neither will there be blood for blood.
People will always be kind,
Truth and love are the only ways,
To live a better life.

— Samina Yasmin, Class-X,
Miss Brownian Residential School, Guwahati.— Catherine Singali, Class-VIII,
Miss Brownian Residential School, GuwahatiDhupashika Paul, Class-VI,
St. Joseph's Convent H.S. School, TezpurBhelia Sanowal, Class-VII,
Vivekananda Kendra Vidyalaya, TinsukiaPOEM
OF THE
WEEK— Prapti Bhuyan, Class-VIII,
Maharani Vidyashikshan, TezpurAtharion Baruah, Class-VIII,
Carmel School, DigboiRishabh Bora, Class-III,
Bina's House of Children Art School, Tezpur

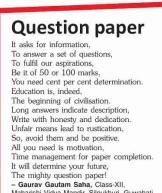
Nature's beauty

Nature is our mother,
She cares for all of us.
Do not be so rude to her,
Because she loves us very much.
The pretty flowers and the trees
Give us so much pleasure.
And when the cool breeze
Makes us feel happy.
The little butterflies
Are the flower's messengers.
And the melodious chirping of the birds
Make us feel Nature's opulence.
The hills and the plains
Convey the message of strength,
And the rivers
Teach us to be pure.
The seas and the skies
Teach us to be mighty.
So, please be my friends,
Learn to appreciate Nature's beauty.
Mother Nature is beautiful.
Please take care of her.
Avoid doing things which make her feel humiliated,
Instead, learn to admire her.

Ishank Salais, Class-IV,
Gurukul Grammar Sr. Sec. School, Guwahati

No future

Dust storm fills the sky above,
There's a dark cloud in the sky.
No more pasture land is left in the village,
Just bones and skulls of fishes before.
We thirst for life, we thirst for water.
The world is filled with misery.
We want to cry, we want to live,
But nothing can be done, nor can we give.
In this world, there is no hope, no future?
Where there's nothing but failure?
Be careful now!

— Semina Yasmin, Class-XI,
Miss Brownian Residential School, Guwahati.Bernav Bharadwaj, Class-VII,
Gurukul Grammar Sr. Sec. School, Guwahati

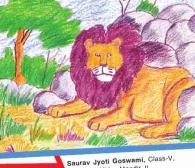
God's gift

I sat beside the tree,
The birds were singing in glee.
I could not understand just,
But don't tell till where it lasts.
I lay down on the grass, and could feel the ants
Creeping on my skin, and the sun
The river runs soft, it's truly God's gift!
It could breathe the fresh air,
This is the gift of God.
Yes! This is Mother Nature,
Who is endowed with gifts.

— Monika Baruah, Class-VII,
St. Mary's H.S. School, Guwahati.

Question paper

It asks for information,
To answer a set of questions,
To fulfil our dreams,
It is 60 or 100 marks.
You need cent per cent determination.
Education is, indeed,
The key to success and salvation.
Long answers indicate description,
Write with honesty and dedication.
Little answers indicate application,
So, avoid them and be positive.
All you need is motivation,
This will help you to complete
It will determine your future,
The mighty question paper!

— Gaurav Gautam Saikia, Class-XII,
Maharani Vidyashikshan, TezpurSaurav Jyoti Goswami, Class-V,
Maharani Vidyashikshan, Tezpur