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3. Sales Manager / Asst. Sales Manager: Having minimum three years experience with a good track record. Area : North East Vacancies: 2 Nos. Salary (P.A.): Rs. 25000/-
4. Service Technician : (Electrical Network Engineer / IT Electrical Trainee) Experience: 1 year. Training (P.A.): Rs. 12000/- Vacancies: 4 Nos
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4. Service Technician : (Electrical Network Engineer / IT Electrical Trainee) Experience: 1 year. Training (P.A.): Rs. 12000/- Vacancies: 4 Nos

5. Sales Executive / Godown In charge : (Graduate in Commerce with experience in Tally latest version. Experience: Minimum 3 yrs.) Vacancies: 01 Nos. Salary (P.A.): Rs. 24000/- (As per experience of the candidate)

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# Hurricane Maria lashes Virgin Islands, eyes Puerto Rico

WASHINGTON, Sept 20: Hurricane *Maria*, the powerful category-5 storm, has slammed into the US Virgin Islands lashing the archipelago with rain as Puerto Rico braced for the hurricane's expected landfall on Wednesday.

The hurricane's outer eye-wall lashed St Croix in the Virgin Islands, and the storm was forecast to cut diagonally, southeast to northwest, through Puerto Rico later in the day.

After slicing through the islands of Dominica and Guadeloupe, Hurricane *Maria*, described as "potentially cata-



strophic" by the National Hurricane Center (NHC), was moving west-northwest over the northeastern Caribbean Sea, with maximum sustained winds of 280 km/h, at about 1 am on Wednesday, the *New York Times* reported.

The storm was expected to produce more than 12 inches of rainfall, which will cause "life-threatening flash floods and mudslides" in Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands, the hurricane centre said.

US President Donald Trump wrote on Twitter: "Puerto Rico is being hit hard by new monster Hurricane. Be careful, our

up on food and water."

The grave warnings echo those delivered by authorities in Florida, Texas and other areas ahead of devastating hurricanes in recent weeks that have claimed dozens of lives in the US and the Caribbean.

Just over a week ago, Florida and parts of the Virgin Islands were strafed by *Irma*, a massive storm that struck the Florida Keys as Category 4. Days before that, Hurricane *Harvey* swept across the Gulf of Mexico to deliver record floodwater to Houston as the storm stagnated over Texas. The first aerial footage of the

Dominica island showed "significant damage," said Ronald Jackson of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency. Dominica had been virtually cut off with telecommunications severed. Local radio operators said more than 90 per cent of properties had been damaged.

The former British colony, which has a population of 72,000 and is less than 50 km long and 25 km wide, escaped the worst of Hurricane *Irma* two weeks ago. The storm was also blamed for at least one death on the French island of Guadeloupe. — IANS

## Madrid imposes 'de facto' emergency in Catalonia

BARCELONA, Sept 20: Catalonia's leader accused Madrid of today imposing a "de facto state of emergency" in the Spanish region, with a series of measures to prevent an illegal independence referendum taking place.

In a speech following the latest move by Madrid—the detention of 13 regional government officials—Carles Puigdemont also claimed the Spanish state had implemented a "de facto suspension of Catalonia's self-governance" by for instance tightening control over

Catalonia's emergency for instance tightening control over Catalonia's emergency for instance

Barcelona over the detentions, the reasons of which were not immediately clear though authorities have warned that officials who help stage the referendum could face criminal charges. The premier called for "a return to normality and a return to common sense because the referendum cannot take place."

Rajoy also accused Catalonia's separatist leaders of breaking the law and acting against the Spanish constitution. Tensions have spiked in Catalonia as regional leaders press ahead with preparations for the October 1 referendum, despite Madrid's ban and a court ruling deeming it unconstitutional. — Agencies



Decorated buffaloes being paraded during the last day of Pchum Ben festival, or the festival of the dead, at Virhear Sour village in Kandal province, Cambodia, on Wednesday. — UNI

## Two more arrested in London Tube attack case

LONDON, Sept 20: Two more persons were today detained by British police as part of their investigation into the London Tube "bucket bomb" attack in which 30 people were injured, bringing the total number of arrests to five.

A 48-year-old man and a 30-year-old man were detained by Scotland Yard's Counter-Terrorism Command under the UK's Terrorism Act this morning, after a search at an address in Newport, South Wales, the Metropolitan Police said.

"This continues to be a fast-moving investigation. We now have five men in custody and searches are continuing at four addresses. Detectives are carrying out extensive inquiries to determine the full facts behind the attack," said Counter-Terrorism Head, head of the Met Police Counter-Terrorism Command.

"We are asking the public to look out for anything that seems out of place, unusual or just doesn't seem to fit in with day-to-day life," he added. Today's arrests in Newport follow the arrest of a 25-year-old in the same Welsh town.

He remains in custody after the operation led by the Met's Counter Terrorism Command and supported by colleagues from Gwent Police and the Welsh Extremism and Counter Terrorism Unit (WECTU). — PTI

### RAILWAY PROTECTION FORCE

#### **WARNING**

In some what app gross fake information is in circulation regarding recruitment of Constable in RPF/RPSF. It is hereby informed that no such notification has been issued by RPF or Ministry of Railways on their official websites or through any print media. RPF or Ministry of Railways will not be responsible if anyone acts upon such false information and gets victimized in any manner.

Chief Security Commissioner/RPF, Maligaon  
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

### DIVERSION OF TRAIN SERVICES

Due to 4.00 hrs. traffic block for 15 days from 06.15 hours to 10.15 hours w.e.f. 21-09-2017 to 05-10-2017 for emergency maintenance of track, the following train will run via diverted route, as under:

1. 15958 (Howrah-Dibrugarh) Karmoi express scheduled to leave from Howrah on 29-09-2017 to 05-10-2017 will be diverted via New Coochbehar-Golakganj-Fakiragram Jn. New Bongaigaon Jn. with 2 mts stoppage at Tufanganj and Golakganj instead of New Coochbehar-Samuktala-Fakiragram-New Bongaigaon as under:

Stations	Arrival	Departure
Tufanganj	09.23	09.25
Golakganj	10.20	10.22

Inconvenience caused to passengers is regretted

General Manager (Operations), Maligaon  
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

WASHINGTON, Sept 20: The US Senate has overwhelmingly approved the nearly USD 700 billion defence spending bill for 2018 which seeks to develop a strategy for Indo-US defence co-operation and adopts a tough approach on Pakistan's action against terror outfits like the Haqqani network and the LeT.

As part of the National Defence Authorization Act (NDAA) 2018, the legislation was passed 89 to 8 votes with Senators also approving several India-centric amendments aimed at increasing the defence relationship between the two countries.

"Few partnerships in the

21st century carry more strategic significance than United States partnership with India, the world's largest democracy," powerful Republican Senator Ted Cruz, a former presidential candidate, said after the passage of NDAA on Monday.

Cruz said he believed that current bilateral cooperation and joint development needed to be more closely aligned with the shared interests of maritime domain awareness and anti-submarine warfare.

He secured an amendment that calls on the Department of Defence to reassess its approach to partnering with India and to appoint an individual

al to oversee this process. Cruz cosponsored another amendment with Senator Mark Warner, Co-Chair of the Senate India Caucus, which asks the Pentagon to develop a strategy of defence cooperation between the US and India.

The House of Representatives has already passed NDAA 2018.

Given the differences between the two bills, NDAA 2018 would now be considered by a joint House and Senate Committee to make it identical, which needs to be passed by the two chambers of the US Congress before it can be sent to US President Donald Trump for it to

sign into law. Passed nearly a month after President Donald Trump unfurled his Afghanistan and South Asia Policy, the bill adopts a tougher approach against Pakistan, when it comes to the fight against terrorism.

The NDAA approves USD 700 million in coalition support fund to Pakistan as a reimbursement to the services rendered by Islamabad towards America's fight against terrorism.

However, USD 350 million of this amount cannot be released unless the Defense Secretary certifies to the Congress that Pakistan has taken satisfactory steps against terrorist organisations like the Haqqani network and the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). — PTI

### GST on ...

(Contd from page 1)

more than 50 per cent of the market share. This is bound to go up further given the condition of the local industry following imposition of GST," said NNN Rana Patgiri of Bolodol Regional Apex Weavers & Artisans Cooperative Federation Ltd.

Peas for tax exemption made by industry houses have fallen on the ears of the government.

Cane furniture sector is totally unorganized where artisans work from their homes in rural areas producing low value but voluminous items and selling them in government-sponsored exhibitions across India. Transportation costs further will restrict their profit margins," secretary of the Assam Handicraft Manufacturers Association, Naveen Sood said in separate representations to the Chief Minister and Finance Minister.

### Expert ...

(Contd from page 1)

appropriate time wherein the Power Ministry will be requested to send their representative so that a positive decision can be taken on the matter.

The Chief Secretary requested the representatives of the NEEPCO to find out ways to avoid the devastating situation arising out of the Rangamati project. He also requested them to ensure the presence of the NEEPCO Chairman in the next meeting.

Realising the damage caused due to release of excess water from the Rangamati project, the Chief Secretary further asked the Lakhimpur deputy commissioner to prepare and submit a proposal to the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA).

### Powerful ...

(Contd from page 1)

southern Mexico City, where a wing of the three-story building collapsed into a massive pancake of concrete slabs. Journalists saw rescuers pull at least two small bodies from the rubble, covered in sheets. Volunteer rescue worker Dr Pedro Serrano managed to crawl into the crevices of the tottering pile of rubble that had been Escuela Enrique Rebsamen. He made it into a classroom, but found all of its occupants dead. — PTI

Centre launches ...

(Contd from page 1)

river as well as national and international laboratories.

The B4 boat-lab will have capabilities to analyse soil, water, environment, plant and animal life, human health and agriculture. It will also have an equal component that involves local citizens in the experimental process of science in data generation and management. It is also proposed to have labs that will run along the tributaries of the Brahmaputra to feed data to the main B4 lab.

The mission's work-plan is being developed and ITT Guwahati is the nodal agency, Dr Dardhan said, adding, "We expect to commence development of B4 lab by December and scale up rapidly."

Asked whether the boat lab would also undertake a study on the impact of dams on the eco-system of the Brahmaputra river, the minister said they would undertake such a study but would not intervene although they would be sharing the data.

### SC, HC have ...

(Contd from page 1)

sneak into Assam and contested the elections. "This can happen only in Assam" was the observation of the High Court. This also proved that illegal migrants managed to get their names enrolled in the voter's lists of the state.

The High Court also pointed out that large number of Bangladeshi nationals staying in Assam play a major role in electing the representatives of both Legislative Assembly and Parliament. They have become king makers. If this phenomenon continues, the day is not far when the indigenous people, both Hindus and Muslims and other religious groups will be reduced to minorities in their own land and the Bangladeshis, who are freely and merely roaming around the fertile land of Assam, will intrude upon the corridors of power.

Unfortunately, despite such warnings by the Supreme Court and the Guahati High Court, the Governments at Delhi and Dispur failed to take effective measures to deal with the problem of infiltration and the recent report of the Committee for Protection of Land Rights of the Indigenous People of Assam has sounded another warning signal to the Government. Now remains to be seen whether the Central and State Governments manage to take immediate effective steps to deal with the problem.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2017

### CANCELLATION OF TRAIN

Ghorakha Jamiru Morcha (GJM) has called indefinite strike since 6.00 hrs. on 12-06-2017 and still continue. Hence it is proposed for cancellation of trains in Darjeeling Himalayan Railway section from 21-09-2017 to 27-09-2017.

Inconvenience caused to the passengers is deeply regretted.  
General Manager (Operations)  
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Mega Mission Society- Chief Minister Samagra Gramya Unnayan Yojana

(A Society of Govt. of Assam  
Assam Secretariat, 2nd floor, C Block, Dispur, Guwahati- 781006  
Mission Secretariat - Building of Officers Training Institute,  
Veterinary Complex, G.S. Road, Khanpara, Guwahati- 781006  
Telefax : 0361-2237256, Email : ceo.mmsguy@gov.in  
Website : <http://www.mmsguy.assam.gov.in>

No. CEO/MMS-CMSGUY/S/2017/16 Date : 20.09.2017  
Reruitment Advertisement

MMS-CMSGUY invites applications for the position of Junior Engineer (Civil) on contractual basis initially for a period of 3 months. The candidate should possess adequate work experience with at least Diploma in Civil Engineering. All the CV's should reach online on email at [ceo@mmsguy@gmail.com](mailto:ceo@mmsguy@gmail.com) within one week from the date of publication of this advertisement. Salary negotiable. Retired Junior Engineers of Govt. may also apply.  
Janasanyog/C363017  
Sd/- CEO, MMS-CMSGUY

### CONTINUATION OF SPECIAL TRAIN

It has been decided to run the Passanger Special Train between New Bongaigaon and Guwahati daily instead of 06 days a week as per existing timings, stoppages & composition as under -

Passenger Special Train No. 05813 from New Bongaigaon from 23-09-2017 to 30-09-2017	Passenger Special Train No. 05814 from Guwahati from 24-09-2017 to 01-10-2017
ARR. DEP STATIONS ARR. DEP	ARR. DEP STATIONS ARR. DEP
--- 14.30 New Bongaigaon 13.20 ---	---
20.00 --- Guwahati --- 08.30	---

COMPOSITION: General Second Class/General Chair Car (Eight) and SLR (Two) = 10 Coaches

**CANCELLATION OF SPECIAL TRAIN**  
It has been decided to cancel the service of DEMU Fast Passenger Special Train No. 07532 / 07531 Guwahati-Dudhnoi with effect from 22-09-2017 due to poor patronization.  
Inconvenience caused to the passengers is deeply regretted.  
General Manager (Operations)  
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

### RESTORATION OF TRAIN SERVICES

It has been decided to restore the service of the following trains as under.

TRAIN NO.	FROM	W.E.F
15651 Guwahati-Jamini Tawi Exp	Guwahati	25-09-2017
15652 Jamini Tawi-Guwahati Cantt	Guwahati	25-09-2017
12510 Bangluru Cantt-Guwahati	Guwahati	27-09-2017
12509 Bangalore Cantt-Guwahati	Guwahati	27-09-2017
15653 Guwahati-Jamini Tawi Exp	Guwahati	27-09-2017
15654 Jamini Tawi-Guwahati Exp	Guwahati	27-09-2017
12516 Guwahati-TVCE Express	Guwahati	27-09-2017
12515 Thiruvananthapuram-Central-Guwahati Express	Thiruvananthapuram-Central	24-09-2017
15644 Kamakhya-Puri Express	Kamakhya	28-09-2017
15643 Pur-Kamakhya Express	Puri	30-09-2017
12509 Guwahati-TVCE Express	Guwahati	29-09-2017
12507 Thiruvananthapuram-Central-Guwahati Express	Thiruvananthapuram-Central	26-09-2017
15640 Kamakhya-Puri Express	Kamakhya	01-10-2017
15639 Kamakhya-Indore Express	Indore	01-10-2017
19306 Guwahati-Indore Express	Guwahati	01-10-2017
19305 Indore-Guwahati Express	Indore	28-09-2017
15920 Dibrugarh-Chennai Egmore Exp	Dibrugarh	01-10-2017
15929 Chennai Egmore-Dibrugarh Exp	Chennai Egmore	05-10-2017

General Manager (Operations), Maligaon  
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

### NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION ASSAM

No. NMH/C-CW/MCH/Jorhat/1578/13/PH-II/142 Dated Guwahati the 19th Sept'2017

(e-Tender Notice)  
INVITATION FOR BIDS (RFB)

The Office of the Mission Director, National Health Mission, Assam, Guwahati-5 invites for the work as detailed below on TWO BIDS SYSTEM.

Name of work	Value of work (In Rs.)	Bid Security (In Rs.)	Cost of Bid Document (In Rs.)	Period of Completion (from the date of issue of work order)
Upgradation of Neurosurgery Department in Jorhat Medical College	Rs. 96,15,445.00	4,80,772/-	10,000/-	4 (four) months

1. Eligibility Criteria  
(a) Registered APWD (Bldg) Class I(A/B/C) / CPWD/ Reputed Construction Company/ Agency registered under Govt., Public Sector undertaking

(b) Contractor must have satisfactory completed

(i) Three similar works, each of value not less than 40% of the estimated cost put on tender or

(ii) Two similar works, each of value not less than 50% of the estimated cost put on tender or

(iii) One similar works of value not less than 80% of the estimated cost, all amounts rounded off to a convenient full figure, in the last 5 years ending on the last day of the month previous to the one in which the tenders are invited.

(c) Contractor must have achieved average Annual Turnover of at least 30% of estimated cost during last 3 years ending 31st March of the previous financial Year.

(d) The contractor must have valid registration Labour License registration under EPP & MP Ad.1952 etc are eligible to participate in bid process

(e) The interested bidders will be invited to the site for the work prior to quoting their rates.

2. Cost of tender document should be drawn in favour of State Health Society, Assam, payable at Guwahati in the form of Pay Order/Demand Draft.

3. Cost security with a validity of 225 (i.e. 180+45) days should be in the form of Bank Guarantee/ FDR/CDR and Draw in favour of the State Health Society, Assam, payable at Guwahati.

4. The Contractor/ bidder must be registered with the Electronic Tendering System (ETS) of the Govt. of Assam [Website <http://assamtenders.gov.in>](http://assamtenders.gov.in). Contractors/ Bidders can download documents free of cost. Contractors/ Bidders have to necessarily download bid document from the ETS using their own ID (Digital Signature card). Bid document can be submitted through the ETS using the contractor's own user ID which will be considered invalid and summarily rejected. Contractors submitting bids online have to submit copy of the documents of technical bid required to be submitted manually along with cost of tender document before the expiry of the sequence Online Bid Submission date and time as mentioned in the tender schedule. Bid will be rejected if cancelled if Financial Bid submitted off-line/hand copy.

5. The tender will be available through the link <http://assamtenders.gov.in> from 26/09/2017

6. Tender Schedule:-

Sr. No.	Name of Event	Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time
1	Tender Download	27.09.2017	12.00 Hrs	06.10.2017	14.00 Hrs.
2	Tender Submission	27.09.2017	12.00 Hrs	06.10.2017	14.00 Hrs.
3	Technical Bid Opening	07.10.2017	15.30 Hrs	-	-
4	Financial Bid Opening				Will be intimated later on

Technical bid submitted along with Cost of Tender and Bid Security manually will be accepted till 6th Oct 2017 upto 14.00 hours.

Sd/-  
Mission Director, NHM, Assam


**WEATHER  
GUWAHATI**
**LOCAL FORECAST:**

Generally cloudy sky. A few spells of rain/thunder showers are very likely to occur, also likely to be heavy at times. The maximum and minimum temperatures are most likely to be 32°C and 25°C respectively on Thursday.

**TEMPERATURE:**  
Max 30.4°C  
Min 25.4°C

## Forum seeks passage of Motor Vehicles Bill

**STAFF REPORTER**

The passage of the Bill in the upcoming Winter Session is crucial," Ajoy Hazarika, secretary, CLPF, said in the letter to Dr Vinay Sahasrabudhe, Chairman of the Select Committee on the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2017, requesting support of the members for passage of the Bill in the forthcoming Winter Session of the Parliament.

"If this Bill is further deferred, we will be putting at risk precious lives of citizens before the next session of the Parliament can adopt it. These casualties may include thousands of innocent children and youth in their productive years of life. We must prevent the massacre on the roads.

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**POSTPONEMENT NOTICE**

This is for general information that due to some unavoidable circumstances the Ceremonial Inauguration of construction works of 500TPD Methanol project of Assam Petro-Chemical Ltd. by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam scheduled on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2017 at APL Nanrup has been postponed.

The inconvenience caused to all invitees for the event is highly regretted.

Sd/- General Manager (HRM)

JORABAT, Sept 20: A gang of thieves stole over Rs 50,000 in cash along with three ATM cards, a PAN card, a cheque book, wrist watch, one mobile phone, a leather bag, and crockery and grocery items from the residence of one Kushal Talukdar of the Baruabari village under the Sonapur Police Station. The incident took place in the wee hours today.

Dibyajyoti Medhi, adviser to the Dimora regional unit of the AASU, said the law-and-order situation in the Sonapur area has worsened in recent times as thefts cases have been increasing. — ANN Service

## Ex-Union minister calls for dredging of Brahmaputra

**STAFF REPORTER**

GUWAHATI, Sept 20: Former Union minister Bedarbari Barua today said that the bed of River Brahmaputra should be dredged scientifically to solve the vexed problems of flood and erosion caused by the river. He further said that he would write to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, requesting his intervention in this matter.

Addressing a press conference here this afternoon, the former Union minister, who was close to renowned water resources expert and former Union Water Resources Minister late Dr KL Rao, said that Dr Rao had suggested dredging at the confluence points of the six major northern tributaries of the Brahmaputra like the Subansiri and the Dhangiri

(North) as a measure to control flood and check erosion caused by the Brahmaputra.

Dr Rao, who had solved the problem of flood in the Tennessee Valley of the USA, had reasoned that the northern tributaries of the Brahmaputra deposit huge quantities of silt at their mouths and this silt raises the Brahmaputra bed, pushing the Brahmaputra channel southward. The rise in the Brahmaputra bed was at the root of the problem of flood, while the migration of people from the course of the Brahmaputra towards the south bank was causing erosion on this bank. Dr Rao had observed.

He suggested that dredging should be carried out in the Brahmaputra to solve the above problems and initially six points should be selected

for conducting dredging operations on a trial basis.

There were two dredgers available with the Union Government at that time and it was no problem convincing the then Prime Minister of the country, late Indira Gandhi, to send the two dredgers to Assam for the purpose. But since the dredgers were meant for Kerala, Dr Rao and Barua had to talk to the then Chief Minister of Kerala, late EMS Namboodiripad. The consent of Namboodiripad was also obtained and one of the dredgers was sent to Guwahati, while the other was kept stationed at Calcutta (now Kolkata). This was in 1973.

But the then Assam Chief Minister, late Sarat Chandra Sinha, did not use the dredgers, each of which was bought at the cost of Rs 20 crore by the Union Government. The dredgers were kept idle for one year and then sent back, said Barua.

Barua said that experts of world class competence should be encouraged to excavate the Brahmaputra bed now with an aim to solve the twin problems of flood and erosion caused by the river. If done scientifically, dredging will enable the Brahmaputra to activate its self-dredging capacity.

Scientifically carried out dredging operations can never be detrimental to the interests of the riparian people and the river as well, he asserted.

Barua was Union Deputy Minister for Company Affairs between 1971 and 1976 and Union Minister of State for External Affairs for eight months in 1979.

began with a cultural rally.

The second day of the event witnessed folk dance, quiz, photography, painting, clay modelling, Bishnu Rabha Geet, Parbati Prasad Baruah Sangeet, Bhupendra Sangeet, Jayanta Hazarika Sangeet, Jyoti Hazarika, etc. The third day witnessed programmes like mime, skit, classical and folk dance, folk songs, Bongeet, chorus, western songs, folk orchestra and poetry recitation. In the valedictory function today, GU VC Dr Mridul Hazarika, who was the chief guest, awarded certificates and prizes to the winners of various competitions.

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KOLKATA-700 042, INDIA.



Musician JP Das paying tribute to Jayanta Hazarika on the 74th birth anniversary of the late singer, in Guwahati on Wednesday. — UB Photos

## Plea to retain Mahatma statue at Gandhi Mandap

**STAFF REPORTER**

GUWAHATI, Sept 20: Several prominent citizens here have urged the State Government not to replace the existing statue of Mahatma Gandhi in front of the Gandhi Mandap atop the Sarania hill with a new statue.

In a letter drafted by the Heritage Conservation Society of Assam, the citizens who signed the letter, termed as shocking the media report that a meeting chaired by Kamrup (Metro) DC Dr M Angamuthu on August 7 decided that the existing statue of the Mahatma should be replaced.

The reason cited by the participants of the meeting was that the existing statue has 'distorted' the physical image of the Mahatma. The existing statue was sculpted by legendary sculptor late Ramkinkar

Baj following a special request from the Assam Government on Gandhi's birth centenary.

It was sculpted on the basis of the Mahatma's historic march to Nteilkhali, which was undertaken in 1947 to pacify communal passions. Noted sculptors late Atul Barua and Janak Jhankar Narzary were witnesses to this creation of Baj. This sculpture is considered one of the ten best creations of Baj, said the leading citizens in their letter to the Chief Minister.

The signatories to the letter include noted poet and art critic Nilamoni Phukan, noted artist Nilapan Baruah, Beno Mishra, Nani Barpujan, Madhusudan Das, Dr Jabeen Ghosh Dasidtar, Sonaram Nath, Champak Barbara, senior journalists DN Chakravarty, Shashi Phukan, Munin Bayan and RD Choudhury and art-critic and filmmaker Manik Bora.



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## MESSAGE FOR TODAY

To the soul, there is hardly anything more healing than friendship.

— THOMAS MOORE

## The Assam Tribune

### 'Indigenous' concerns

Even as the vexed issue of deportation of Bangladeshi migrants living illegally in Assam is nowhere near any resolution, the threat posed to the State's indigenous people who risk marginalization by an expanding foreigners' population continues to mount. The recent interim report by the Committee for Protection of Land Rights of Indigenous People is strongly indicative of an impending situation in which the indigenous would be outnumbered by the immigrant population. The panel headed by former Chief Election Commissioner HS Brahma states how land ownership is shifting from the hands of the indigenous to the immigrants – often with active connivance of corrupt political leaders and bureaucrats. This is a serious matter and the alleged illegal transfer of land needs to be probed and remedies put in place. While cross-border infiltration from Bangladesh and the presence of a large number of illegal foreigners in the State is a harsh reality, yet tarring the entire immigrant Muslim population with the same brush as Bangladeshis is not likely to resolve the issue. The single-most important intervention under the circumstances would be to distinguish the illegal migrants from the legal immigrant settlers (those entering the State before the cut-off date of March 25, 1971) through the judicial process and then to ensure that they are deported to their country of origin. Just as not all immigrants are foreigners, it is also a fact that many illegal migrants have been enjoying the benefits of bona fide Indian citizens by having their names registered as Indian citizens through dubious means. All this needs to be thoroughly probed. The ongoing updating process of the NRC is likely to throw light on the number of illegal migrants masquerading as citizens.

It is against this disturbing backdrop that the issue of providing constitutional safeguards for the indigenous populace of the State assumes significance. Regrettably, the matter continues to hang in balance even after 30 years of the signing of the Assam Accord – the culmination of a six-year anti-foreigner stir. If necessary, the Government needs to ensure a stringent protective mechanism for the indigenous on matters of land right. As detection and deportation of illegal migrants is inextricably linked to the enjoyment of political rights and socio-economic privileges by the indigenous people, it is highly imperative that the post-1971 migrants are identified and their names deleted from the voters' list even when their immediate deportation is not possible. Such an exercise will ensure that illegal migrants do not come to enjoy political rights. Last but not the least, the indigenous communities would also do well to develop a vibrant work culture rather than resorting to agitations and sloganizing for protecting their identities. The Assamese people as a whole fare poorly when it comes to hard work and perseverance. It will not be normal for outsiders to dominate us as long as we do not assert our presence in diverse fields through hard slog and excellence. Neither constitutional safeguards nor sound and fury will be enough to save a community from marginalization unless it wakes up to its self-inflicted dangers.

### Trump's trumpet

A trumpet is a loud instrument, which perhaps is responsible for the phrase to blow one's own trumpet! Playing the piano or blowing the flute does not indicate a propensity for braggadocio, but blowing a trumpet does. However, while one can blow this inimitable instrument at celebratory events, there are certain occasions in which blowing the trumpet does not quite fit in. For instance, trumpet-blowing is perfectly appropriate when one is on the campaign trail, but hardly so when one is at a funeral. Donald Trump's trumpet is extraordinarily loud and the glare it made during the US Presidential campaign still reverberates months after he was actually declared elected. One has, naturally, heard the bragging before – how America is the greatest nation in the world and the most powerful to boot, capable of bringing down "fire and fury" on anyone who dared oppose her! However, reiterating such campaign rhetoric in, of all places, the United Nations, was a faux pas with potentially dangerous consequences. This international body had been formed to try bringing peace and stability to the globe; the speech delivered by the US President was designed to create instability and discord. The open threat directed primarily at North Korea has the potential to ignite a conflagration in South Asia, given the instable nature of Kim Jong Un, while that to Iran too can bring about unfortunate consequences.

It is a well-known psychological syndrome that a bully indulges in braggadocio because he is conscious of his own impotence. This is true of Donald Trump, for despite his assertion that the US has many options in North Korea he, in fact, does not have any. Even hard-line American politicians and service men readily concede that a pre-emptive strike against Pyongyang is out of question, whereas flexing of US muscles in the past had failed to cow down 'Rocket Man' Kim! As for Iran, it is moot if even his fellow Republicans would support withdrawing from the nuclear deal the US had struck with that nation, given the disruption it would cause in the international domain and Iran's proximity to Russia. Rather than deliver a speech full of bluster and bravado, Trump would have done better to have given a sober one befitting the stage set for him. India would only be half pleased with the threat against Pakistan since she well appreciates the flip-flop the mercurial Trump is capable of. While the American President's warning that the US would lessen its contribution to the world body would impact UN-sponsored humanitarian aid agencies, more ominous was his refusal to refer to the gravest threat confronting mankind, that of climate change. Trump's trumpeting before the UN is yet one more illustration of the truism that Kim is not the only 'rogue' in the international arena.

# India's North-east: the homeland debate

**ROUGHT & TUMBLE**  
Patricia Mukhim

**W**hile the whole country is debating whether or not to grant refugee status to the Rohingyas who are fleeing persecution in their country of domicile – Myanmar – the people of North-east India are battling their own demons. It seems like the Pandor's Box has been opened and stinging bees are being let loose. In Mizoram a Chakma minister, BD Chakma, resigned from the Cabinet recently when the Government deprived the Chakma students of medical seats after they had qualified. In the 40-member Mizoram Assembly, there are two Chakma MLAs. The Chakmas numbering about a lakh in population today already enjoy citizenship rights in Mizoram and also the Scheduled Tribe status. On the other hand, the Chakmas in Arunachal Pradesh is a driving passion and an issue on which elections are won or lost. In Meghalaya too, later there was a similar clamour that the State was being engulfed by illegal immigrants from Bangladesh which usually also include those that have come prior to 1971 when Bangladesh was East Pakistan. In a situation where job creation is hardly evident and resources are scarce, the tribes fear that the migrants who have nothing to lose will only encroach on their living spaces but even eat up whatever jobs are available since they are considered more enterprising.

And now that the question about rehabilitating the Rohingyas has come up, we have sections of the metropolitan intelligentsia and some loud-mouthed politicians known for their inherent communal stances such as Assaudin

hope that their intermingling with the tribes would also become a civilizing mission and that the syncretic culture would add value to the indigenous tribal culture of Tripura. That things have turned out as they have today is something that the Tripura royalty perhaps never imagined could happen. But the fact is that the indigenous tribes of Tripura today have no voice. To give themselves that political agency, they resort to strikes and other shenanigans which the more progressive Left Front Government there has learnt to deal with. And that is what helps their adversaries.

The quest for a designated homeland and attempts to secure that homeland from further incursion by "aliens" as they are termed in Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh is a driving passion and an issue on which elections are won or lost. In Meghalaya too, later there was a similar clamour that the State was being engulfed by illegal immigrants from Bangladesh which usually also include those that have come prior to 1971 when Bangladesh was East Pakistan. In a situation where job creation is hardly evident and resources are scarce, the tribes fear that the migrants who have nothing to lose will only encroach on their living spaces but even eat up whatever jobs are available since they are considered more enterprising.

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And now that the question about rehabilitating the Rohingyas has come up, we have sections of the metropolitan intelligentsia and some loud-mouthed politicians known for their inherent communal stances such as Assaudin

Owaisi asking why India should not accommodate them in this country. Those who speak are normally people who have no experience of what it is to deal with waves of illegal immigration and the fear of becoming a minority in one's homeland, although the term 'homeland' could often become a contested political jargon. But the problem one sees in such situations is India's 'soft borders' policy. Even before that word was coined to denote borders be-

ware resources in health care, education, agricultural production and infrastructure. How can the country then accommodate more non-citizens whose intent once they set foot here is to gain citizenship status by using our faulty and corrupt administrative structures?

The Assam Government's report on illegal immigration in that State from across the Bangladesh border is an indictment on its past governments and the Centre's own lack of a clear policy. The propensity to create vote banks out of illegal immigrants irrespective of their religious affiliations is itself highly flawed and opportunistic and it exposes the fact that all political parties will cash in on immediate gains without looking at the long-term impacts on the original Indian citizens. What is tragic is the selective silence when speaking of a particular community of immigrants such as the Bangladeshi Hindus but the repeated castigation of the Bengali Muslim as being at the root of all of Assam's problems. This reeks of schizophrenia! The story repeats itself in Meghalaya and elsewhere. Are there reliable statistics of the number of illegal immigrants that have come in before 1971 or after that? Is it easy to get those figures? No, it is easier to stereotype the Bangladeshi immigrant as a perpetual threat even as they are used to till the soil and labour in the construction firms across the region. These schizophrenic reactions have to give way to a more systematic resolution of the present crisis. And for that to happen, India must have a decisive policy on how to tackle illegal immigration and clearly define the status of such persons. If the Chakmas in Mizoram are citizens, why are the same people in Arunachal Pradesh non-citizens?

## The greatest achievement of humanity

■ Prem Rawat

**W**e live in the era of modern technology and have made many impossible things possible. We reached the moon; climbed the highest mountain peak and measured the depth of the ocean; invented aircraft and many more machines to make our life happier and more comfortable. This was not easy, but we thought that it was important, so we did it. We have not yet begun to think that it is important to have peace. Unfortunately, we have become so good at living without it. We think if our problems are solved, we will be in peace. But the fact is, if we are not in peace more problems will come. Of course there will also be more problem solvers – but no less problems. Technology will offer us solutions, but ultimately will our life get easier? Are we content with what we have achieved? What is the greatest achievement of humanity?

The greatest achievement of humanity is contentment; it is to

be in peace. Peace is not a luxury which can be purchased. It is not a thing that can be found on a mountain peak or deep inside the ocean. It's a feeling within us. Contentment is a feeling that emanates from within ourselves. If someone asks, "Are you satisfied?" One can say, "Yes, I have a good family, good job, good car, great friends, even my pets listen to me, hence I am satisfied." But is he/she content? Has/he/she seen the seed of contentment?

There is a story. Once, there was a remote village. The people in this village were very simple. One day a tourist arrived and stayed for a night. The next morning, he took out his mirror and put it up on a wall so he could shave. He cleaned up and shaved, but forgot to take the mirror off the wall before he travelled on. An elderly villager with grey hair, bright eyes and shiny face saw the mirror on the wall and looked into it. He had never seen a reflection of himself, so when he saw his face

in the mirror, he was mesmerized, and said to himself, "Today I have seen the face of God." He left – completely happy, saying, "I have seen God." Then along came a young girl. When she saw herself in the mirror, she was taken aback and exclaimed: "I have seen the most beautiful woman!" Since I grew up, this is how I wanted to look like." And then came along a man who had lost his father not too long before. He looked into the mirror and said, "Oh, my god! I have seen my father again." Now, each of these three people wanted to keep this mirror with them because they had their own reasons to it. The older man wanted the mirror because he had seen the face of God. The young girl wanted the mirror, because into it she has seen, how she wanted to look like. And the third man wanted the mirror because into it he had seen his father again. They started arguing, and long fights were breaking out all over the village, because whoever looked into the mirror and whatever they saw – he had never seen a reflection of himself, so when he saw his face

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the mirror for themselves.

Finally, a wise man happened to come there. When he saw the fight, he asked: "Why are you all fighting?" Different people answered, "I want this thing because this is my God," "This is who I want to be," or "This is my father," etc. The wise man asked for the mirror to be brought to him. He looked at it and said, "Don't you know what this is? This is a mirror." He called the old man, the young girl and the third man and told them that they have been themselves into the mirror. It reflects the image of anything that is in front of it."

How does this story relate to peace and contentment? Actually, peace begins with each one of us; but we have forgotten our own self, our own need. Who is the face of peace? Some people will tell you that the face of peace is the absence of war, but that doesn't mean the presence of peace. The face of peace is none other than your own face when you are in contentment when you are in peace – when peace dances upon

your face. Look at how much money governments spend on trying to make society amiable; but when we are content, that happens automatically. We have spent so much money, time and energy; however, we need to also realize this simple and basic human quality that when we are content, we are nice and when we are not content, what happens is anybody's guess. Forget it. If somebody is in your lane and just looks at you implying, "Can I come in front?" You will drive your car a little further ahead, "Don't even think about it!" Because you are no longer stable. You become different. This is the importance of contentment; this is the importance of peace.

Without contentment, we are unrecognizable. Life begins to become easier the day there is the understanding of peace in our lives. With contentment and peace, the symphony begins to play, everything begins to dance in the sweetest and the most beautiful way.

(Published on the occasion International Peace Day today)

## Letters to the EDITOR

Sir, — Apropos your editorial 'Unardonable error' (AT, Sept 17), I thank the Guwahati-based journalist who initiated an online petition towards rectifying the disgraceful definition of Assamese given by the *Oxford Dictionary of English*. The Assamese phrase /x/ distinguishes Assamese uniquely not only from Bengal but also from other languages of India. The Kamrupi language of Kamrupa was "found a little different from the languages of mid-India" by Hui Tsang way back in 643 AD (Bankanta Kakati, 1941). The name 'Kamrupa' was changed to 'Assam' (meaning the land ruled by the Ahoms) much later during the Ahom's rule. Arguably though, Kamrupi is the origin language from where all other dialects of Assamese, even the standard colloquial Assamese of upper Assam, sprang up. Hence, the standard Assamese is actually a recent variety, evolved and is spoken largely in Guwahati and other towns, especially in formal situations, postulating a hypothesis that at

## Disgraceful definition of Assamese

### Preventable suicides

Sir — Almost since the beginning of the Saraghat bridge in 1964, there have been regular suicides at that place by jumping onto the Brahmaputra. The security guards manning the two security posts at both the ends of the bridge have not been able to prevent this unfortunate social menace over the years. These guards are seen talking very casually to such persons and allowing them to walk freely which is against the rule. One young girl committed suicide jumping back in this way. The guards talked to her and then allowed her to walk alone and she jumped from the bridge. These guards should be punished very severely for negligence of duty. Except students in groups on educational excursions escorted by teachers, no single person or a pair of persons should be allowed to walk on this bridge. Moreover, two more security posts in the middle of the bridge need to be created for effectiveness of the security system. Yours etc., SANJIB SABHAPANDIT, Mother Teresa Road, Guwahati.

### Lohapuja

Sir — Nagaland is entirely a Christian-dominated State and Biswakarma Puja is typically coined as Lohapuja in Nagaland. The spirit of Lohapuja is particularly simple in Dimapur in the sense that people from all castes, tribes, ethnicities and religions congregate together to celebrate Lohapuja. Somebody's religious identity is entirely secondary as against the spirit of Lohapuja. All equally take part in every aspect of the puja. It is truly cerebrated as a 'puja for all'. The commonality of Lohapuja is commendably distinctive. The uniqueness of Lohapuja is truly the triumph of human festivity against all odds. Yours etc., RANJAN DAS, Mirza.

### History books and NE

Sir — North-east India serves as a strategic location for the country's development. Its natural resources are widely known but its importance has lost in the hands of mainstream historians. The various rulers of this region, peasants and the people in general played a great role in making India what it is today. The NE also suffered during the British rule like any other province of the country. However, the role of the freedom fighters from this region like Maniram Dewan, Kushal Konwar, Tirok Singh, Rani

Gaidinliu, Matmuri Jamoh, Paona Brajababu, Kuangchera, Umesh Lal Singh and many others did not get the attention they deserved. The role played by the masses, especially the womenfolk, in the freedom movement is missing from the history books. Hence, our educationists should encourage more academic research in this field. Yours etc., OPANG PADUNG, Mizoram University.

### Dreadful PCOS

Sir — I have read the article relating to PCOS (AT, Sunday Reading, Sept 17). The disease is indeed dreadful with late appearance of the symptoms. The writer Ayona Barthakur has dealt with the matter in detail, but she did not speak on the effect of the disease on elderly women, i.e., women in their late 80s. Elderly women suffering from diabetes face such problems which affect gall bladder, pancreas and sometimes kidneys. And the treatment differs on the basis of age. Yours etc., RINKU KAKOTY, 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.

## UCO Bank officers' stir

GUWAHATI, Sept 20 : As part of the all-India programme called by All India UCO Bank Officers' Federation, an affiliate of All India Bank Officers' Confederation (AIBOC), officers of NE States, including Guwahati, resorted to a strike today against the "unilateral and autocratic attitude" of the UCO Bank management.

A total of 8,500 officers of UCO Bank throughout the country observed a circular-wish strike which was launched on Friday 16th to register their protest against the UCO Bank management's continued violation of bilaterally agreed HR policy guidelines, affecting a large number of officers and the bank management's "total apathy towards the interests of officers who are striving hard for the turnaround of the bank."

About 750 officers of UCO Bank posted in the entire North Eastern States resorted to the strike today, said Taher Ahmed, general secretary, UCO Bank Officers' Association, NE region.

- Staff Reporter

### Doctor held

GUWAHATI, Sept 20: Dr Bijoy Pratim Choudhury was today arrested by the Bharalumukhi Police after his wife, Dr Sangeta Dutta, lodged a case charging him with dowry demand, mental and physical torture. Dr Choudhury was produced in a court and remanded to judicial custody. - Staff Reporter

### City bus fire

GUWAHATI, Sept 20 : A city bus caught fire in the Aathagon area this evening. The injured driver and the handyman were rushed to the hospital. - Staff Reporter

### Water Resources Dept

## Plea to review selection of assistant engineers

### STAFF REPORTER

CTE) and the Directorate of Technical Education of the State on the issue.

The Federation said that the selection committee selected 12 junior engineers for promotion to the rank of assistant engineers. The institutions from which eight of these candidates obtained their BTech degrees do not have requisite approval of the AICTE.

Moreover, the Joint Secretary (Distance Learning) of the Union Ministry of Human Resources Development has also, through a letter, instructed withdrawal of permission granted to various institutions to conduct BTTech/BE programmes through distance mode.

The Deputy Controller of Examinations, Directorate of Technical Education, Assam, in an RTI reply, has also stated that any technical degree acquired through distance education mode is not valid, said the Federation to justify its stand on the issue.

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#### CORRIGENDUM NOTICE

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**Scrap Fund/12-13/84 Dated 19.09.2017**

**Cost of Auction Paper:** The portion may be read as "on all days w.e.f. 14:00 Hrs of 23.09.2017 to 14:00 Hrs of 03.10.2017" instead of "on all working days w.e.f. 08.09.2017 to 15.09.2017".

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**Chief General Manager (D)**  
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APS/2017/62

## Stress on road map to strengthen muga sector

### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 20: There is a need to prepare a road map to strengthen the muga silk sector. *Muga* was registered in 2006 at the initiative of the PIC of the ASTEC with the Geographical Indication (GI) Registry of India and it has been given the registration number 384 by the GI Registry.

Addressing the function, Director, Sericulture, Muhati Nath Saikia said that the phenomenon of global warming has affected the production of *muga* worms. Including the BTC areas, the State produced 150 MTs of raw *muga* last year and excluding the BTC areas, it produced 115 MTs of raw *muga* yarn during that year.

The exhibition, which aims at exhibiting the pure *muga* silk products of some authorised users and providing a scope to interested people, including fashion designers and experts among others, and the authorised users to interact, has been organised by the Patent Information Centre (PIC) of the Assam Science Technology and

the Sericulture Director.

The Sericulture Director also informed the gathering at the inaugural function that 18,335 families in the State are engaged in the *muga* sector and 11,663 hectares of the State land are covered by *som* or *soneo* plantations. *Som* and *soneo* are the two plants that act as host plants for the *muga* worms. Including the BTC areas, the State produced 150 MTs of raw *muga* last year and excluding the BTC areas, it produced 115 MTs of raw *muga* yarn during that year.

The function was also addressed by Assam Textile Institute principal Ram Chandra Das, ASTEC PIC Nodal Officer Dr Ranjita Kumar Barman and DIC official Sudhartha Devnath.

In total, ten authorised *muga* users are taking part in the exhibition with their products. The exhibition remains open for visitors from 11 am to 7 pm. At the venue of the exhibition, a small *muga* purity testing laboratory has also been installed by the Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology, Boraghat.



AJYCP activists staging a dharna in protest against the hike in the prices of essential commodities, in Guwahati on Wednesday. - AT photo

## RG Baruah-founded body to celebrate Dussehra on Sept 30

### STAFF REPORTER

nanda Sonowal will be the guest of honour. Other dignitaries will also be present.

Elaborate arrangements are being made by the organising committee under the guidance of its chairman, Ram Nirjan Goenka, who is also the president of Brilbari Fancy Bazar Sahitya Sabha.

"Ramleela, a skit by renowned dramatist and singer Navin Joshi and his team of professionals and local artists depicting various chapters of the *Ramayana* concluding with the fight between Rama and Ravana, followed by the burning of effigies and fireworks display will be among the highlights of the day. The effigies of Ravan, Kumbhakarna and Meghnad will be set free driving water to the spectators."

The occasion will be attended by Governor Banwarilal Purohit as the chief guest, while Chief Minister Sarba-

Khanupeta, conveying the message of brotherhood in the enduring spirit of Srimanta Sankaradeva and Ajan Koiri. Arun Sharma, honorary secretary, and Sudhar Saraf, president of the Mahotsav Samiti, said at a press conference today.

The members of the Gujarat Welfare Society, Assam, will perform the sacred and religious Garba dance during the *Ramleela* skit and social organisations like Maheshwari Sabha, Pareek Sabha and Assam Baidyanath Karwan Sangh will serve free drinking water to the spectators.

The organisation also appreciated the cooperation extended by the GMDA, district administration, Police Commissionerate, State Fire Service Organization, Guwahati Municipal Corporation, Guwahati Traffic Police, APDCL and other associates.

## PMAY-U scheme beneficiaries' list

GUWAHATI, Sept 20: The list of beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban (PMAY-U) will be prepared by October 15 by the Guwahati Municipal Corporation in consultation with public representatives.

This was decided at the first screening committee meeting on PMAY-U held here on Monday with Kamrup (Metro) DC Dr M Angamuthu in the chair.

It was also decided that the final list will be chalked out by October 30. The GMC is

the nodal agency for implementation of the scheme in the city. GMC Additional Commissioner D Singh is the in-charge of the project.

In Guwahati, PMAY-U,

which has been initiated for

providing housing facilities

for urban people, will be imple-

mented in the semi-urban areas.

In the first phase, no private developer will be engaged.

Individual householders

who want to build houses on

their *myudi patta* land will be

given Rs 1.5 lakh for a 30-

square-metre house under the

scheme. More than 60,000

forms have so far been re-

### OBITUARY

### Zerina Khatoon

#### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 20: Zerina Khatoon, a resident of Si-juburi, Hatigaon, passed away at the GMCH in the wee hours

today following a brief illness. She was 37.

Khatoon worked as a teacher at Dispur Jatiya Vidyalaya. Her *janaiza* was performed at Sijuburi Kabarasthan in the presence of a large gathering.

Khatoon leaves behind her

parents and a host of relatives.

## Scam accused granted bail

### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 20 : Former Director of the Social Welfare Department Dilip Barthakur, one of the prime accused in the multi-crore-rupes scam in the department related to misappropriation of funds meant for welfare schemes, was today granted bail by the Gauhati High Court. Barthakur, who is facing charges under Sections 120 B, 468, 420 and 490 of the IPC read with Section 13 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, was arrested on July 29 by the

Anti-Corruption and Vigilance Wing probing the case.

The accused has been granted bail on execution of a bail bond of Rs 50,000 with two sureties of like amount.

While public prosecutor PP Baruah appeared for the State

Government, the accused was represented by advocate BK Mahajan. Barthakur has been primarily granted bail on the ground that several other accused in the case had already been granted bail by the court in connection with the case.

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 Apollo Hospital, Guwahati (Unit: International Hospital)

## Prohibitory orders

GUWAHATI, Sept 20: With a view to maintain law and order, protect life and property of citizens as well as to ensure smooth flow of traffic, strict prohibitory orders have been imposed on the zone falling under the East Police District, Guwahati, covering Dispur, Bhangarh, Basista and Hatigaon police station areas.

As per an order issued by Mohneesh Mishra, Inspector General of Police, East Police District, under Section 144 of the CrPC, prohibition has been imposed on the assembly of five or more persons. There is a ban on taking part in agitations, demonstrations, processions and shouting of slogans in the entire zone. The order has come into force with immediate effect. - Staff Reporter

**SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA**  
**DOOM DOOMA BRANCH**  
**DIST. TINSUKIA (ASSAM)**  
**AUCTION NOTICE**

The following vehicle financed by State Bank Of India, Doom Dooma branch and seized from the concerned defaulting borrower is available for sale. Persons interested to buy the vehicle can contact the undersigned for price and details and details of the vehicle offer letter should accompany a refundable/ adjustable Banker's cheque /D.D. or pay order for Rs.5000/- (Rupees five thousands only) as earnest money for the vehicle favouring SBI, Doom Dooma Branch and payable at Doom dooma, towards interest free earnest money deposit. Intending buyers may submit their offer in sealed envelopes with superscription "Offer Quotation for purchase of car" and the same should reach the undersigned by 10.00PM on 22.09.2017. Sealed quotations will be opened at 3.00PM on 11.09.2017 in presence of intending buyers who have submitted their offer. Successful bidder will have to deposit the quote price in full within Ten(10) working days from the date of opening of the sealed quotations such terms as may be specified in the offer shall be performed and such bid will be sold forthwith. The vehicle is sold on "as is and where is" basis and will not be sold below the Reserve price fixed by the Bank. The undersigned reserve the right to accept or reject all or any of the offers without assigning any reason thereto. The intending buyers may enquire and inspect the vehicle upon written permission from the undersigned, which is parked at Near SBI Borajan Branch, Dist-Tinsukia.

SL. No	Vehicle Make	Registration No	Reserved Price
1	Maruti Swift	AR-11-7770	1,40,00/-
Date:-11/09/2017	Branch Manager	Place:- Doom Dooma	Authorised Officer

**POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD : ASSAM**  
**BAMUNIMADAM : GUWAHATI - 781021**

**SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

NIT No. WB/G-1145/14-15/1656 Dated Guwahati, the 19th Sept., 2017  
**Sealed tenders** in two-bid system are invited from experienced & registered contractors/ firms for the following works. Tenders will be issued from 3rd to 13th October, 2017 and received upto 2.00 PM of 17th October, 2017 and will open the same on the 18th October, 2017.

**Name of works** Construction of RCC Office Building (G+1) with provision for (G+3) floor for (G+2) floor O.P.C. Slab, Sivasagar PCBA at Sivasagar for Ro, Golaghat PCBA at Golaphat

**EMD** Rs. 1,95,850.00 (Rupees one lakh ninety five thousand eight hundred fifty only)

**Cost of Tender Documents** Rs. 1000.00 (Rupees one thousand only) (Non refundable)

Board website [www.pcbassam.org](http://www.pcbassam.org) may be visited for detailed NIT and Tender documents.

Member-Secretary

**National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.**  
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Regional Office: 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Agniphant Business Park, Opp. AGP Office, GNB Road Ambari, Guwahati - 781001, Tel: +91-361-2730546, 2736404. e-mail: edphnidcl@gmail.com

NHIDCL invites online bids for the following work:

SL. No.	Name of Work	Approximate Cost	Bid Document Publishing Date	Bid Submission Date
1	Repair and Maintenance of NH - 37 between Jorhat to Jhansi including temporary drainage work. (Km. 453.000 to Km. 491.050)	₹ 825 Lakhs	22-09-2017	(Up to 1400 Hrs.)
2	Repair and Maintenance of NH - 37 between Jhansi to Demow. (Km. 491.050 to Km. 535.250)	₹ 960 Lakhs	22-09-2017	(Up to 1400 Hrs.)

For further details please visit - [www.nhidcl.com](http://www.nhidcl.com) & <https://eprocure.gov.in>  
 NOTE: Any change or amendment to this notice will be posted on the above website only.

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**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
 E-Tenders are invited on behalf of BSNL by the PGMTD Dibrugarh for the work mentioned below.

**S/N** **NIT No. Dated 18/09/2017** **Name of the work** **Approximate quantity of work** **Estimated Cost (Rs)** **Amount of EMD (Rs)** **Last Date of Submission** **Tender Paper Cost (Rs)**

1 MM-690/GMTD-DR/Hired Vehicles/2017-18 Supply of TATA SUMO 6 NOS 20,01,600/- 50,040/- 16/10/2017 14:30 hrs 1150

2 MM-691/GMTD-DR/Tender/Ofc DR/2017-18 Ofc laying in Dibrugarh 16 KM 15,28,272/- 38,200/- 09/10/2017 14:30 hrs 1150

3 MM-700/GMTD-DR/Tender/Ofc DR/2017-18 Ofc laying in Tinsukia 5.5 KM 18,05,999/- 45,150/- 10/10/2017 14:30 hrs 1150

Tender can be downloaded from website: <http://tenderwizard.com/BSNL> and can be viewed in our website [www.assam.bsnl.co.in](http://www.assam.bsnl.co.in).

Asst. General Manager (PIG), O/o the GMTD/BSNL/Dibrugarh

# 'Dredging not a solution to reducing flood, erosion'

STAFF REPORTER

**GUWAHATI**, Sept 20: The proposed dredging of the Brahmaputra bed for the limited purpose of facilitating a navigational channel should not be construed as a measure to reduce flood and erosion. The channel will fall short of fulfilling the need of reducing flood and erosion caused by the river.

This was the observation of the participants of a seminar organised by the Assam Science Society recently at its Khamapara office on the problems of the Brahmaputra and their solutions.

It was the considered view of the participants of the seminar that dredging should not be thought of and considered as the single component of solution of the problem of flood and erosion in the Brahmaputra basin. A comprehensive and lasting solution spanning over years and decades will involve a combination of different technical

measures at different points in the flow regime of the river Brahmaputra. The permanent solution requires a rigorous study of all the vital scientific characteristics of the river basin.

Such a study, with the objective of ensuring ecological balance of the entire basin, should invariably consider effects on aquatic ecosystems of the river and ecosystem services, riverine fauna like fishes and dolphin, water quality, groundwater table of river bank areas, livelihoods of fishermen, riverine islands (*dhars* and *chopors*) and their inhabitants, riverine land use of local people, land acquisition, riparian culture, possible rehabilitation, resettlement and outmigration of affected people, etc.

In the absence of such a scientific study, the talk of express highways on the banks of the river Brahmaputra is without any basis. Any decision to go for large intervention on the Brahmaputra

should be taken based on the results of such a study only, the participants said.

The project proposal, when prepared, needs to undergo the same process of getting clearance from the riparian people all along the length of the river, from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and other Government authorities which are applicable to any major intervention under the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and its subsequent amendments till 2017.

A comprehensive action plan to mitigate flood and erosion of the river Brahmaputra by enhancing its water-holding capacity should evaluate measures like high-value plantation, rainwater harvesting to enrich pond economy, multipurpose storage reservoirs with low-height dams to generate power, creation of a canal system to link up the reservoirs, maintaining

enough flood plains near the banks, reforming agricultural practices where needed, they said.

Moreover, Assam Government should formulate a clear strategy for forging collaboration with the neighbouring States for sustainable river management. Such a strategy must take into consideration regular communication about river status, joint flood forecasting and flood early warning, silt retention, joint efforts to keep healthy ecosystem of upper catchment areas, exchange of hydrological data, collective scientific study of catchment areas and river hydrology, collaborative impact assessment of interventions on rivers, etc.

The Assam Government should also endeavour to formulate a Joint River Management Policy with the neighbouring States, including mitigation of erosion as a principal component of such a policy.

The inaugural session of the seminar was presided

over by Dr Soneswar Sarma, former Professor of Gauhati University (GU), and president of the Society. The purpose of the seminar was explained by Basanta Deka. The keynote address was delivered by noted Brahmaputra expert Prof Dulal Chandra Goswami.

The technical session of the seminar was conducted by Dr Barindra Kumar Sarma, former Professor of Physics of GU and Dr Chandan Mahanta, Professor of IIT Guwahati (IIT-G).

Dr Arup Sarma, Professor of Civil Engineering IIT-G, Pradip Pujari, former engineer of Brahmaputra Board, Dr Sarada Prasad Sarma, former Professor of Botany of GU, Ratul Sarma, former Commissioner and Secretary, Water Resource Department, Assam, Dr Partha Das, Head, Water, Climate and Hazards, Aranyak, Dr Abani Bhagabati, Professor of Geography, GU, presented papers on the issue.

## 5th accused in priest murder case arrested

CORRESPONDENT

**KOKRAJHAR**, Sept 20: The fifth accused in the priest murder case of Kokrajhar was arrested on Tuesday from Raniganj area under Bisaspura PS in Dhubri district.

The accused has been identified as Lajju Hoque, police sources said.

It may be mentioned here that in the wee hours of September 10 last, miscreants brutally killed Nihkil Debnath, the priest of Kokrajhar Daily Bazaar Samanidhar, near Kokrajhar Railway Station and robbed Rs 2.60 lakh along with two gold chains.

## Body recovered

CORRESPONDENT

**SILCHAR**, Sept 20: The body of a 18-year-old girl was found hanging from the ceiling of a house in a mysterious condition at Ambikapatty on Tuesday. The victim has been identified as Sanjana Das, a resident of Ashram Road.

The victim's mother lodged an FIR at Silchar Sadar police station against Ram Banik and Siddhartha Banik in whose house, her daughter was working as a domestic help.

## Timber seized

CORRESPONDENT

**TEZPUR**, Sept 20: A truck (bearing No AS-12-E-5377) loaded with illegal timber was seized at Bihaguri area on NH-15 on Tuesday evening under Bihaguri Police Outpost in Sonitpur district.

The truck was on way to Dhekaijuli to deliver the timber to a Dhekaijuli-based timber merchant. The timber was brought from Nameri area.



With the festive season round the corner, an artist busy in giving final touches to an idol of Lord Durga at Tezpur on Tuesday. —UB Photos

## Sensitisation prog on early marriage, pregnancy held

CORRESPONDENT

**DOOMDOOMA**, Sept 20: The Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (ASPCR) in collaboration with the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPGR) organised a day-long sensitisation programme on 'Early Marriage and Pregnancy' at Tinsukia recently.

The day-long programme focused on the concept of child marriage and the legal framework available to curb the menace. It also encompassed discussion on the psycho-social aspects related to early marriage and pregnancy among the youth with the health hazards related to adolescents and reproductive health.

Addressing the gathering, Dr Sunita Changkakoti, Chairperson of ASCPCR mentioned that Assam tops the list of child marriages in the country. She emphasised on an integrated approach by all stakeholders to combat the menace of early marriage and early pregnancy.

Addressing the parti-

pants, Rupa Kapoor, member of NCPGR, New Delhi, shared her experiences with regard to working at the grassroots level and emphasised on the integrated approach of providing services to the children.

The long-day programme focused on the concept of child marriage and the legal framework available to curb the menace. It also encompassed discussion on the psycho-social aspects related to early marriage and pregnancy among the youth with the health hazards related to adolescents and reproductive health.

Anganwadi personnel, CD-POs, ASHA workers and ASHA supervisors, presidents and secretaries of gaon panchayats, *gaonbhawas*, children and adolescents from various tea gardens of Tinsukia district and officials from the District Child Protection Unit participated in the programme.

## UNICEF team visits Hamren hospital

CORRESPONDENT

**DIPUH**, Sept 20: Officers and staff of UNICEF from the Guwahati visited the Hamren Civil Hospital on Monday. The UNICEF members met the doctors, nurses and the staff members. They discussed about the constraints and challenges encountered by the staff on duty. The hospital officials apprised the UNICEF about the performance of the hospital, insufficiency of staff, casualties, institutional deliveries, drugs storage and stocks.

The visiting members also inspected hospital surroundings including the doctor's room, maternity ward, indoor patients' room, dressing room and verified the availability of required instruments, pharmacy and even the toilets. Seeing the worn-out state of the hospital, the visiting UNICEF members expressed concern about the increasing number of referral cases and discussed measures on tackling the situation with the present staff members and other issues.

## CORRESPONDENT

**KOKRAJHAR**, Sept 20: Despite the rise in prices of all essential commodities the people of Kokrajhar are all set to celebrate Durga Puja, the biggest festival of the Hindu community. Puja preparations are going on in full swing at the BTAD headquarters. The office bearers of over 50 puja committees are leaving the scene of their stupa to make the puja a success.

The puja committees have already organised several meetings to chalk out plans for the puja celebration. Other works like pandal constructions, illuminations, cleanliness and fund-raising is also now going on in full swing.

This year some of the puja committees of Kokrajhar such as Bazar Durga puja committee, Depot Durga puja committee, Tengapara Durga puja committee, Station Para Durga puja committee, Subashpara Durga puja committee.

A strong celebration com-

Bhanupur Durga puja committee etc., have arranged various programmes to make the festival more attractive with an aim to maintain peace and joy.

Gourangar Sarbojanin Durgapuja committee is completing 50 years this time for which the committee will celebrate the golden jubilee with various programmes. During the five-day puja festival, important functions that have been included are puja inauguration by BTC Chief Hagrama Mohilary and various puja committees.

Hagrama Mohilary, Pramila Rani Brahma, Rajib Kr Brahma and Babul Sarkar as the chief patron, patron president and secretary has already been formed for the smooth functioning of golden jubilee celebration year of Gourangar Sarbojanin Durgapuja committee.

Puja marketts of Kokrajhar are witnessing a tremendous rush of customers who despite the steep prices of all articles and essential commodities are being forced to purchase clothes etc.

Meanwhile, the civil and police administration of Kokrajhar have taken elaborate arrangements for holding the four-day *Sharad Utsav* in Kokrajhar district peacefully. According to sources, the administration has already organised a meeting with the secretaries and presidents of the puja committees of Kokrajhar town and briefed them about the guidelines and maintaining law and order during the puja days.

## CORRESPONDENT

**GAURIPUR**, Sept 20: Preparations are almost complete for Durga Puja at Gauripur. This year the Durga Puja will be celebrated at 32 places here.

Besides, the 417-year-old Royal Durga Puja of the Zamindar family of Gauripur, Khudmari will observe the golden jubilee celebration of Durga Puja while the Palbari Sankha will observe the silver jubilee year of Durga Puja.

The Sangha has invited New Super Tasa Dhamaka Band of West Bengal to perform and enthrall the audience with their songs and dances. The Bazar Durga Puja Committee has also

## Mahalya observed at Gossaigaon

A CORRESPONDENT

Like in previous years, this year also, the Gossaigaon Brahma Sevashram observed 'Mahalya' Parbat on September 19 at the ashram premises.

The Harisabha Durga Puja Committee will publish an attractive souvenir to mark the occasion. Meanwhile, the district administration has issued guidance to the puja committees and advised them to celebrate Durga Puja by maintaining peace and harmony among all sections of people of the society. Security arrangements are being intensified to prevent untoward incidents during the period of the puja.

From 9 am to 10 am 'Sastrabachar' was held. From 10 am 'yajna' was performed.

The whole function was anchored by Baba Biswanath Narzary. The ashram is situated on the bank of the Moditi river. A handbook of the Gossaigaon Brahma Sevashram, was released by the incharge, SDO(C) Gossaigaon Wilberen S Daimary.

## Salary arrears released

STAFF REPORTER

**GUWAHATI**, Sept 20: The State Finance Department has released six months' arrear amounts due to the State Government teachers, officers and employees of the State Government was given effect from April, 2016 to March, 2017.

The first six months' instalment for the period between April, 2016 and September, 2016 was released during the Rongali Bihu this year. This time, the arrears against the six months between October 1,

2016 and March 31, 2017, is being paid to the teachers, officers and employees of the State Government.

The budget estimate made against this arrear amount was Rs 1500 crore, said Babu Kalita, president of the Sadou Asam Karmachari Parishad (SAKP).

and also due to invasion of technology which has dragged us off the fence of a bleak future," said Dinanath Das, a fourth generation player in his family with his eyes getting moist.

Echoing Dinanath, Bapan spoke his mind on the instances of how the drummers are often harassed by people who hire them to play drums during festivals in their homes.

Meanwhile, a noted local shehnai player of Barak Valley, Sukkur Ali, who partners with the drummers on major social festivals across the region, said that unlike in West Bengal and even in Tripura, where the drummers get ample opportunities throughout the year, drummers in Barak Valley do not get enough scope to earn money. "Even as things have not gone beyond proportion yet, the growing trend of using recorded music is adding to the woes of the drummers. We are not encouraged and neither there is any hope of financial assistance from the government to lift our spirits," Ali maintained.

In this backdrop, the Barak Upatyaka Bania Sahitya o' Sanskritik Sammelan has extended support to the percussionists and has decided to initiate talks with the Cachar district administration on this issue and place their demands before the government as well. In a recent meeting with the drummers ahead of the Durga Puja, members of the Sammelan were unanimous about pursuing the Puja organisers, both private and public with appeals to issue identity cards to the drummers hired to play. Also, the members were categorical about maximum hours, a drummer can be asked to continue playing during a day. "Realising the plight of the drummers here, we shall try to raise the issue before the Government," assured Taimur Raja Choudhury and Sangeet Deb Laskar, the district president and the town committee president of the Sammelan respectively. The Sammelan gave away T-shirts to the drummers as a token of gesture during the meeting.

## Tarun Sarma: a tribute

### OBITUARY

#### Deepa Barooah

**GUWAHATI**, Sept 20: Deepa Barooah, social activist and a versatile lady died on September 18 at her Dwarka residence in New Delhi.

Daughter of Late Jagadish Chandra Bhattacharya, founder principal of Assam Ayurved College, Guwahati she was associated with various socio-cultural organisations.

She leaves behind her husband, Kalyan Barooah, a former OIL employee, two sons and a host of relatives.

## Concern over languishing status of dhakis in Barak Valley

ARINDAM GUPTA



Dhakis taking part in a rehearsal ahead of Durga Puja at Silchar. —Photo: Staff Correspondent, Silchar

SILCHAR, Sept 20: Much as the baritone voice of Birendra Krishna Bhadra is an integral part of people on the dawn of Mahalya, *dhaki*, the traditional music instrument forms a part of the lives of the people in love with their festivals. But with the onslaught of technology, the sound of the drums which beckon the annual homecoming of Goddess Durga with her family is languishing as an art form.

For Bapan Sabdakar, Bimal Sabdakar, Dinanath

Das and other *dhakis*, even as the Durga Puja is a

time to perform and earn a sustainable income for the whole year, the seasonal demand is sluggish

forcing them and other drummers from Silchar to

opt for other odd jobs to meet their ends.

"Inspired by our former generations, we have

been entralling the people across pandals during

Durga Puja and sometimes on other major festi-

vals with drum beats. But, we anticipate that one

successive generations might not be willing to main-

the work forward, mainly because of low-income

# STATE

## Rich tributes paid to martyrs of 1942

SHAMBHU BORO

DHEKIAJULI, Sept 20: More than 30 thousand people from across the State, including Dhekiajuli and Barchala LACs in Sonitpur district, thronged the Boy's High School field here on Wednesday to pay rich tributes to the martyrs who lost their lives during the Quit India Movement in 1942.

It is worth mentioning that during the Quit India Movement, Assam witnessed an unmatched scene of tears and blood, when Kanakata Baru and Mukunda Kakati of today's Gopur subdivision in Sonitpur district and Monbar Kochari, Moniram Kachari, Ratan Kachari, Mangal Kurku, Sarathuti Sutia, Kumali Devi, Khaluhi Devi, Lerela Kachari, Dayal Das Panika, Tleswari Baruah and Mahiram Koch of the greatest Bargaon and Naharbari mousa of Dhekiajuli Revenue Circle, made the ultimate sacrifice for the nation's independence.

Kanakata, a teenage girl, and Mukunda Kakati embraced death at Gopur; while in Golaghat, Kushal Konwar, the then president of the local Congress Committee, was hanged after being falsely charged of derailing a train. The revolutionaries

decided to unfurl the Indian National Flag throwing away the 'Union Jack'. For carrying out such a plan, only the determined, courageous and dedicated members of 'Mritu Bahini' were allowed to get involved. Accordingly, on September 20, 1942, the revolutionary camp of Gopur of the then undivided Darrang district decided to unfurl the National Flag at the local police station. Hundreds of youths who had crossed 18 years of age as per the Committee rule joined the Mritu Bahini. However, the 17-year-old Assamese girl, Kanakata Baru, an orphan, begged the committee leaders to let her join. Overwhelmed by the girl's courage and irresistible urge, the Committee decided to make an exception.

The teenage girl later became the captain of the women cadres and proceeded towards Gopur police station. Despite being warned by Rehati Mahan Soni, officer-in-charge of the police station, not to move even a single step further, Kanakata marched with the Tricolour. Without any further warning, the police fired at her and Kanakata fell down on the spot. Mukunda Kakati then snatched the Tricolour from her to protect its dignity only to meet



APCC president Ripun Bora paying tribute to the martyrs of the Quit India Movement, in Gobhuri on Wednesday. - UB Photos

ognition and homage.

"Freedom fighters like Omeo Kumar Das and Puspatala Das, Bijay Chandra Bhagat, Phandihar Das, Mahadev Sarma, Biswadev Sarma, Jyoti Prasad Agarwala, Gahan Chandra Goswami, Kamala Prasad Tripathi and many leaders who played a vital role in taking forward the Movement among the public are yet to get their recognition. Moreover, it is a matter of regret that while the Gopur incident has been highlighted in the national scenario giving due honour to Kanakata and Mukunda Kakati, the same has not happened in case of the 12 martyrs of the Dhekiajuli episode, who embraced death for the nation's freedom," Ashok Singhad said.

He also alleged that from observing September 20 every year as Martyrs' Day, no proper initiative has been taken till date to establish the name of the martyrs at the national level. However, for giving adequate recognition to martyrs, the State Government in cooperation with the Platinum Jubilee Celebration Committee of 1942 Quit India Movement centrally organised the Martyrs' Day here wherein the martyrs family were felicitated and provided with assistance of Rs 5 lakh each.

Habang Kochari, who sus-

### CM's elder brother passes away

SPL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, Sept 20: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal's elder brother Girish Sonowal passed away at AIIMS here on Wednesday due to prolonged illness. He was 69. He leaves behind his wife, two daughters and a son. Sonowal's brother was unwell for some time and was admitted to the AIIMS for over three months. He breathed his last at 2.10 am, as a result of multiple system failure.

His body was embalmed at the AIIMS and was flown to Dibrugarh at 10.45 am where his last rites will be performed.

### THE ASSAM TRIBUNE, GUWAHATI 9

No. DW/T(5) 56/2017-18/8

## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR RIVER TAXI

Directorate of Inland Water Transport (IWT), Govt. of Assam, P.O. - Ulubari, Guwahati - 781007, (Phone: 0362421, email: [dwitassam@gmail.com](mailto:dwitassam@gmail.com)) invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from nationally reputed boat manufacturer for procurement of Fibreglass Reinforced Plastic (FRP) Boats of following capacity for operation as River Taxi on the river Brahmaputra at passenger ferry services of IWT, Assam.

Design, Construction, Supply, Testing & Commissioning of Fibre Glass Reinforced Plastics (FRP) Boats for River Taxi Service in the river Brahmaputra in Assam, with compliance of certification from Classification Society.

1) 35-40 Passenger Capacity Non AC FRP boat.

2) 24-28 Passenger Capacity Air Conditioned FRP boat.

Complete EOI notice shall be available in office of the Director, Inland Water Transport, Assam and also on IWT's website at [www.iwtassam.gov.in](http://www.iwtassam.gov.in)

Date of commencement of issue of EOI 20th Sept-2017

Last date &amp; Time for submission of EOI 10th October,2017 (by 3.00 pm)

Sd/- Director, IWT Assam  
Janasanyog/Cf1575/17

Ulubari, Guwahati-7.

No. C/S/T/BD/08/2017/10

## Press Notice

The Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Buildings), Assam, on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites bids from the APWD Contractor of Class - I (A) for the following work having experience in similar nature of work.

Details of the bid may be seen at e-procurement portal website i.e. [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in) and also in the office of the undersigned during office hours from 12:01 hrs of 23.09.2017 to 15:00 hrs of 12.10.2017.

The bidders must be enrolled in [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in)

Sl. No.	Pakage	Name of Work	Approx. Value of Work (Rs in lakh)	Time of completion	Bid security	Bid security to be drawn in favour of	Tender Cost (Rs)
1	Bldg.	Construction of Secretariat Building of Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council during 2016-17	490.01035	18 (eighteen) months	Rs. 9.80.021.00 (for General) Rs. 4.90.010.00 (for reserved Category)	E.E., PWD, Goalpara Bldg Divn.	Rs 12,500/-

Sd/-

Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Building), Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3

Janasanyog/C/3618/17

## CINEMA PROGRAMME

SILVER SCREEN	URAVSI CINEMA
Bijoy Nagar, Opp ICICI Bank (Digital Projection and Dolby Surround sound system) Luxurious pub back entrance. Free parking facility. 10% off on all shows.	At 11.00 am, 2.00, 4.00 & 9.00 pm 2nd Week.
MISSION CHINA (Assamese)	Sgt Zubeen Garg, Deepnila Deka etc.
St. Zubeen Garg, Deepnila Deka etc. For query please call at 87230- 8006 or 98730-8006 or 98730- 8006. For Online booking : <a href="http://www.bookmyshow.com">www.bookmyshow.com</a>	MISSION CHINA (Assamese)

GRANDE CINES	GALLERIA CINEMA
5th Floor, Grand Central Building, C/S Road, Guwahati-781001.	Tinsukia Cinema 15th Sept, to 20th Sept. 2017
(2 Curved Screens, Dolby CP750 Surround Sound System, Luxurious Pub Back entrance. All-concession and Bingo. 10% off on all shows.)	Screen-1 At 10.00 am, 2.00 & 4.00 pm
MISSION CHINA (Assamese)	MISSION CHINA (Assamese)
St. Zubeen Garg, Deepnila Deka etc. For query please call at 87230- 8006 or 98730-8006 or 98730- 8006. For Online booking : <a href="http://www.bookmyshow.com">www.bookmyshow.com</a>	Sgt Zubeen Garg, Deepnila Deka etc. MISSION CHINA (Assamese)

INOX MULTISCREEN - JORHAT	PATEL KI PUNJABI SHAHD
(Two Screens)	At 11.00 am, 2.00, 4.00 & 7.00 pm
(18th Sept to 20th Sept. 2017)	At 11.00 am, 2.00, 4.00 & 7.00 pm
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At 10.45 am, 12.45, 3.00, 6.15, 8.30 pm	MISSION CHINA (Hindi)
MISSION CHINA (Hindi) USA	MISSION CHINA (Hindi)
At 11.45 am, 12.45, 3.00, 6.15, 8.30 pm	MISSION CHINA (Hindi)
LUCKNOW CENTRAL (Hindi	

# Journalist killed in Tripura

CORRESPONDENT

AGARTALA, Sept 20: Supporters of Indigenous Peoples' Front of Tripura (IPFT) brutally hacked to death a journalist - Santanu Bhownik (23) from Mandai under Jirania subdivision today.

Three persons, including a Forest officer also suffered serious injuries in the incident.

Tension was brewing in Mandai and surrounding areas over the past few days as unruly IPFT supporters had been pressing CPI (M) cadres and workers under the banner of the party's tribal front 'Gana Mukti Parishad' (GMP) not to participate in the GMP rally here on Tuesday.

Despite the threats and intimidations, a large number of GMP workers and supporters had attended yesterday's rally. In retaliation, armed IPFT workers and supporters started to be critical.

Angered by the incident, journalists gheraoed Chief Minister Manik Sarkar's official residence one night in the evening demanding immediate arrest of the killers before the cremation of the body.

## Thanga sworn in as Minister in Mizoram

CORRESPONDENT

The swearing in of Thanga came when two posts of Minister are lying vacant.

Sources in the Congress party said, another MLA Lalmawpiu Chawngthang, the lone women legislator in the Mizoram Assembly, was supposed to be induced into the Ministry, but could not be done as she was in Delhi.

With this induction, the strength of the Lal Thanhawla Ministry has gone up to 11.

## Acharya hopeful of early solution to Naga problem

CORRESPONDENT

DIMAPUR, Sept 20: Nagaland Governor PB Acharya is hopeful that a solution to the Naga political issue will come within next two to three months.

He said this in reply to a query by reporters whether the solution to the Naga political issue would come before the Nagaland Assembly election due early next year.

Everybody was hoping that solution would come very soon, he said. "I am also hoping that solution would come soon," he added.

Observing that a trust deficit among the political parties in Nagaland has greatly affected the ongoing Naga peace process, the Governor called for resolving the issue.

## 7-year-old twins raped

TURA, Sept 20: Twin girls, aged about seven years, were sexually assaulted by their step father in Cheraon SONGGITAL village in East Garo Hills.

The accused father, identified as Raj M Sangma had sexually assaulted the twins for several months. He has, however, gone into hiding since yesterday after family members of the victims reported the matter to police. "The twins were rushed to Wilmannagar Civil Hospital for treatment and examination. Efforts are on to trace the step father," police said - Correspondent



### WEATHER NORTHEAST

Forecast for North Eastern States:

States: Moderate rain/thunder

shower is very likely to occur

at most places over Arunachal

Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya,

Meenap, Manipur, Mizoram &amp;

Tripura.

Warning : Heavy rain is very

likely to occur in isolated

places over Arunachal Pradesh

and Meghalaya on September

21 and 22 and over Nagaland,

Manipur, Mizoram &amp; Tripura on

September 21.

Temperatures :

Max (°C) Min (°C)

Tengnaf 33.9 23.9

Sikhar 36.4 24.2

Dibruri 26.4 25.8

Jorhat 31.0 25.6

N.Lakhimpur 29.8 22.5

Dibrugarh 16.5 13.2

Imphal 28.1 22.0

Itanagar 29.8 23.2

Aizawl 30.6 15.2

Agartala 31.7 25.3

Dibrugarh 25.1 18.5

Pangsak 33.8 24.8

Cherrapunji 21.0 18.4

### Arunachal signs pact to boost air connectivity

ITANAGAR, Sept 20: The

Department of Civil Aviation,

Government of Arunachal

Pradesh signed a tripartite

Memorandum of Understanding

(MoU) with the Ministry of

Civil Aviation (MoCA), Government

of India and Airports Authority

of India (AAI) for implementation

of the Regional Connectivity

Scheme (RCS).

"Arunachal Pradesh has now

been included under UDAN

scheme or the Regional

Connectivity Scheme of the

Ministry of Civil Aviation," according

to an official release here today.

The MoU was signed by

Secretary Civil Aviation

P.K. Pavle on behalf of Gov-

ernment of Arunachal Pradesh.

This would not only pave the

way for providing affordable air

connectivity within Arunachal

Pradesh and to the rest of the

country but also boost tourism

and facilitate import and ex-

port of goods, the release said.

- Correspondent

## NOTICE

This is for information of all concerned that the Cooperation Department of Government of Assam has undertaken construction of 244 numbers of Rural Godowns for 244 numbers of Cooperative Societies of Assam with funds provided by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF). The works have been executed by contractors of HOUSEFED. This notice is in conformity with the decision of the meeting Chaired by Addl. Chief Secretary, Finance Assam on 18.08.2017. The names of the cooperative societies which have been benefited are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of Cooperative Society	District	Name of the Contractor of HOUSEFED	Total Project Cost
1	Dakshin Kumarikata B.S.S Ltd.	Baksa	Dhren Kalita, Rangia	25.00
2	Pachim Tamulpur Bahumuhu SS Ltd.	Baksa	Dhren Kalita, Rangia	20.00
3	No. 1 Utta Baksa SS Ltd.	Baksa	Lachit Medhi, Patna	49.84
4	No. 2 Utta Baksa B.S.S. Ltd.	Baksa	Lachit Medhi, Patna	30.00
5	Salkukut Village Council M.C.S Ltd.	Baksa	M.S. H.A. Enterprise, Guwahati	24.87
6	Dakshin Baksa BSS Ltd.	Baksa	Debjoyoti Choudhury, Pabna	30.00
7	Paschim Kumarikata BSS Ltd.	Baksa	M/S. Sunrise Enterprise, Nasrai	25.00
8	Utar Behari GPSS Ltd.	Borpeta	M/S. I.S. Trading Co., Gauhati	20.00
9	Pub-Borbari GPBM SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Durban Ali, Barpeta	20.00
10	Dighirpar GPSS Ltd.	Borpeta	Debjoyoti Choudhury, Patha	20.00
11	Haidha GPSS Ltd.	Borpeta	Kushan Choudhury, Jorhat	20.00
12	Srimpari GPSS Ltd.	Borpeta	Jyanta Dutta, Guwahati	20.00
13	Dharampur Bhatapara SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Hemladdu Ahmed, Banbes	20.00
14	Galis GPB SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Babul Ch. Deka, Barpeta	20.00
15	Gobardena SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Hemu Rajbangsi, Golpara	20.00
16	Chesa GPSS Ltd.	Borpeta	Mujir Ali, Barpeta	20.00
17	Manikup GPSS Ltd.	Borpeta	M/S.G.P. Enterprise, Nafani	20.00
18	Agmardia GPSS Ltd.	Borpeta	Azadur Rahman, Guwahati	20.00
19	Kamargao GPBM SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Purjali Das, Barpeta	20.00
20	Keokutki GPBM SS Ltd.	Borpeta	M/S. MAA Karmakhy Association, Guwahati	20.00
21	Dongra GPSS Ltd.	Borpeta	W.G. T. Trading Co., Gauhati	20.00
22	Barbilla GPSS Ltd.	Borpeta	Angsudip Pathak, Guwahati	20.00
23	Bhakuchi Bahumuhu Mahila SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Angsudip Pathak, Guwahati	20.00
24	Niz Chenga GPBM SS Ltd.	Borpeta	M/S.H.A. Enterprise, Guwahati	20.00
25	Dakshin Pub Sarukhetri SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Alien Ahmed, Guwahati	20.00
26	Azad SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Hemladdu Ahmed, Ajanta	20.00
27	Pub Chenga SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Path, Gauhati	20.00
28	Pachim Betur SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Medhu Das, Barpeta	19.00
29	Pachim Chenga SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Madru Das, Barpeta	20.00
30	Pub Sonukhetri SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Bishnujyoti Path, Guwahati	20.00
31	Pachim Jania SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Kushan Choudhury, Gauhati	20.00
32	Dakshin Bagarbari SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Habibur Rahman, Ajanta	20.00
33	Hastinapur SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Bishnujyoti Path, Guwahati	20.00
34	Uttar Gebarsana SS Ltd.	Borpeta	M.S. N. Niranjan, Barpeta	20.00
35	Pachim Bhabanpur SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Purnil Das, Guwahati	19.98
36	Uttar Ghilaijan SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Mrigen Das, Guwahati	20.00
37	Monbar SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Altab Hussain, Barpeta	19.98
38	Uttar Tippani SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Ahadulla Khan, Barpeta	20.00
39	Dhaklin Gobardena SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Rugyoti Bhuyan, Barpeta	18.10
40	Bagher SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Reed	19.00
41	Pub D.B.Cauchi SS Ltd.	Borpeta	John Mohammad Ali, Gauhati	19.98
42	Fulari Chella SS Ltd.	Borpeta	Mamoni Churisia Sakia, Gauhati	19.98
43	Pub Bajali SS Ltd.	Borpeta	M/S. G.M. Enterprise, Guwahati	19.98
44	Uttar Bajali SS Ltd.	Borpeta	M/S. G.M. Enterprise, Guwahati	19.98
45	Bongaiang Whole Sale Consumers CS Ltd.	Bongaigaon	Hiru Boru, Bongaigaon	25.00
46	Rangapani H.S.S. Ltd.	Bongaigaon	Abdul Baten, Guwahati	40.00
47	Udherban CS Ltd.	Bongaigaon	M/S/ Debaniyal Construction, Cacher	20.00
48	Rangirkhan Bajantipuri CS Ltd.	Cacher	Primal Biswas, Cacher	20.00
49	Parbatia CS Ltd.	Cacher	Rahul Mistry, Cacher	21.00
50	Pitangia CS Ltd.	Cacher	Debrajit Paul, Cacher	22.00
51	Katigowai CS Ltd.	Cacher	Debrajit Paul, Cacher	19.52
52	Dupchali SS Ltd.	Cacher	Rahul Yadvay, Cacher	20.00
53	Borjatinga CS Ltd.	Cacher	M/S. Hi-Tech Engineers, Gauhati	19.52
54	Tanupi CS Ltd.	Cacher	Babla Deb Roy, Silchar	20.00
55	Amjughat Nutan Rammagar CS Ltd.	Cacher	Abhijit Paul Choudhury, Silchar	20.00
56	Jungfurlal SS Ltd.	Cacher	Abhijit Paul Choudhury, Silchar	20.00
57	Lakhipur CS Ltd.	Cacher	Abhijit Paul Choudhury, Silchar	20.00
58	Borjatinga CS Ltd.	Cacher	Babla Deb Roy, Silchar	22.00
59	Silcoine CS Ltd.	Cacher	Rahul Yadvay, Cacher	19.46
60	Dholai CS Ltd.	Cacher	Prasanta Gogoi, Guwahati	20.00
61	Joygoraj Jatrapur CS Ltd.	Cacher	Babla Deb Roy, Cacher	20.00
62	Rangpur CS Ltd.	Cacher	M/S. Hi-Tech Engineers, Gauhati	20.00
63	Fulban CS Ltd.	Cacher	Almudin Tapader, Kachar	20.00
64	Khaspur CS Ltd.	Cacher	Prasanta Gogoi, Guwahati	20.68
65	Sonai SS Ltd.	Cacher	M/S. Debaniyal Construction, Cacher	23.22
66	Bhuban Hill CS Ltd.	Cacher	Rahul Yadvay, Silchar	17.80
67	Gumrah CS Ltd.	Cacher	Lokesh Ali, Cacher	20.00
68	Jatinga CS Ltd.	Cacher	M/S. Debaniyal Construction, Cacher	20.00
69	Bini SS Ltd.	Chirang	Kumud Das, Guwahati	16.00
70	Borongia SS Ltd.	Chirang	Kumud Das, Guwahati	16.00
71	Changpeliyah Bahumuhu Mahila SS Ltd.	Chirang	Muthu Mohan Das, Darrang	20.00
72	Dordulajah Bahumuhu Mahila SS Ltd.	Darrang	J.N. Nath, Darrang	20.00
73	Bamjhima SS Ltd.	Darrang	J.N.K. Nath, Darrang	20.00
74	Bhakpara SS Ltd.	Darrang	Jyoti PD. Saharia, Darrang	20.00
75	Chepai SS Ltd.	Darrang	Nazul Islam, Mangaldoi	26.22
76	Jorai SS Ltd.	Darrang	Muhi Borgohain, Dhemaji	22.00
77	Bordoloi SS Ltd.	Dhemaji	M/S. N.K. Enterprise, Dhemaji	22.00
78	Jorai SS Ltd.	Dhemaji	Biren Deba, Guwahati	22.00
79	Sisiborgon SS Ltd.	Dhemaji	M/S. N.K. Enterprise, Dhemaji	22.00
80	Pachim Jonai SS Ltd.	Dhemaji	Muhi Borgohain, Dhemaji	20.00
81	Sukchar SS Ltd.	Dhubri	Durban Ali, Barpeta	22.00
82	Mankachar SS Ltd.	Dhubri	M/S. Bulidrite Construction, Gauhati	25.04
83	Daklin Salmaria SS Ltd.	Dhubri	Trideep Kr. Singh, Gauhati	25.00
84	Banikur SS Ltd.	Dhubri	Debjyoti Choudhury, Gauhati	22.93
85	Husdoni SS Ltd.	Dhubri	Makbul Rehman, Guwahati	20.90
86	Agomoni SS Ltd.	Dhubri	Makbul Rehman, Guwahati	20.00
87	Jorua Bandhene SS Ltd.	Dhubri	M/S Pioneer Enterprise, Chajagoan	20.00
88	Bidyapara SS Ltd.	Dhubri	Hiru Rabansri, Golpara	25.32
89	Gauripuri Primary Consumer Coop. Society	Dhubri	M/S. Pioneer Enterprise, Chajagoan	21.02
90	Kejakata SS Ltd.	Dhubri	Narayan Debnath, Golpara	20.00
91	Hukukura SS Ltd.	Dhubri	Narayan Debnath, Golpara	21.15
92	Dibrugarh Coop. Consumer WS Ltd.	Dhubri	Hemanta Singha, Tinsukia	20.00
93	Laru SS Ltd.	Dibrugarh	M/S. M.N. Enterprise, Guwahati	19.02
94	Mancotta SS Ltd.	Dibrugarh	M/S. M.N. Enterprise, Guwahati	19.02

Contd. on Page - 11

# Steps soon to boost economy: Jaitley

NEW DELHI, Sept 20: Finance Minister Arun Jaitley today hinted at a package of measures to boost the economy, while virtually ruling out any cut in duties on petroleum products to check the spike in fuel prices.

"We have taken note of all the economic indicators that are available. This has been a proactive government on the reforms agenda. Over the last two days, I have had a series of discussions with

ministerial colleagues and various secretaries.

"The government will take additional measures in the coming days after consulting the Prime Minister. Whenever the measures are taken, you will come to know of it," Jaitley told reporters here following a meeting of the Union Cabinet.

On Tuesday evening, the Finance Minister chaired a high-level meeting to review the economic situation and discuss measures, in-

cluding a possible stimulus package, to be taken amidst an economic slowdown.

The meeting was attended by, among others, Railway Minister

Piyush Goyal, Commerce Minister Suresh Prabhu, Chief Economic Adviser Arvind Subramanian and Secretaries in the Finance Ministry – Ashok Lavasa, Subhash Chandra

Garg, Hasmukh Adhia, Rajiv Kumar and Neeraj Kumar Gupta.

On the current high transport fuel prices, Jaitley said it was caused due to hurricanes that hit the US coast.

Asked about the possibility of a cut in excise duties on petroleum

products, he said government needed money for public spending to push growth and for social sector schemes.

"States are taking so much tax... earlier under the fortnightly pricing regime... when two years back we lowered fuel prices, States like Delhi, Haryana would immediately raise VAT to earn more money. States under the Left and Congress should take steps to lower cesses," he said.

Jaitley's high-level meetings follow a sharp fall in latest key macro indicators such as the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and industrial production, as well as a widening Current Account Deficit.

Pulled down by sluggish manufacturing growth in the Indian economy in the first quarter of this fiscal fell to 5.7 per cent, clocking the lowest GDP growth rate since Prime Minister Modi assumed office in May 2014. – IANS

## NPPA fixes ceiling prices of 39 more drug formulations

NEW DELHI, Sept 20: Drug price regulator NPPA today said it has fixed the ceiling prices for 39 more drug formulations, including those used for treatment of cancer, tuberculosis, malaria and hepatitis B, among others.

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) said while the ceiling prices of 18 scheduled formulations have been fixed, that of 21 have been revised.

"The NPPA has fixed/revised ceiling prices of 39 scheduled formulations of Schedule-I under Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013...," the regulator said.

With the latest price revision,

the prices of around 821 formulations that are under the national list of essential medicines (NLEM) 2015, have been capped, the NPPA said in a tweet.

The range of reduction is between 10-30 per cent.

The NPPA is mandated to fix/review the prices of controlled bulk drugs and formulations and to enforce prices and availability of the medicines in the country.

It also monitors the prices of decontrolled drugs in order to keep them at reasonable levels.

The regulator implements and enforces the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order.

The regulator is also entrusted with the task of recovering amounts overcharged by manufacturers for the controlled drugs from the consumers. – PTI



The steps are in continuation of the government's drive to make affordable quality medicines available to patients across the country.

According to a senior government official, the normal



Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, Union Health and Family Welfare Minister JP Nadda and Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports (iic) and Information & Broadcasting Col Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore briefing mediapersons on Cabinet decisions, in New Delhi on Wednesday. – UNI

### Big Bazaar to launch 100 stores in next 12 months

JAMSHEDPUR, Sept 20: Future Group's hypermarket chain Big Bazaar is planning to launch around 100 stores in the next 12 months across the country under its expansion plan, a senior official of Big Bazaar today said.

"Altogether, we have 300 stores in over 100 cities across the country and have plans to launch 100 more in the next 12 months," said Manish Agarwal, Business Head (East Zone) of Big Bazaar.

Addressing a press conference at the inauguration of its second store in the steel city here today, Agarwal said Big Bazaar already has eight stores in Jharkhand including two in Jamshedpur while more stores will be opened in the State soon. – PTI

### IUC cut to hit telcos' business by Rs 5,000 cr: COAI

NEW DELHI, Sept 20: Regulator TRAI's decision to cut interconnection usage charge (IUC) rate by more than half, if executed, will hit earnings of mobile operators to the tune of Rs 5,000 crore in the current fiscal, industry body COAI has said.

"Rajan S Mathews, Director General, Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), in an interview to PTI, demanded that TRAI should explain the calculation model it had used to arrive at the figure of 6 paisa for the interconnection usage charge, which will be effective from October 1.

The detailed methodology on which TRAI's calculations are based is part of the explanatory memorandum to the

regulations all of which have been placed in the public domain now, TRAI Chairman RS Sharma today told PTI.

Mathews contended that the assumption of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) that all operators should move towards VoLTE technology is not practical as it will hit services for 2G users who account for 70 per cent of the total subscriber base in the country.

"In the last financial year, industry revenue from IUC at 14 paisa was around Rs 10,000 crore. At 6 paisa, we expect it to decline to Rs 5,000 crore," Mathews added.

VoLTE (Voice over Long-Term Evolution) is a high-end technology and latest version of calls that

are made on internet-based networks.

TRAI on Tuesday announced slashing of the mobile call connection charge to 6 paisa from 14 paisa and said no rate will apply from January 1, 2020.

Established telecom operators have argued that every call on the network has a cost, and expenses of an incoming call on their network should be borne by the operator from whose network the call has originated.

TRAI has asked "why telecom operators are not migrating to newer technologies such as VoLTE" when clear demonstrable large differences exist in the cost of providing same services. – PTI

### IPO opens

#### SBI Life garners Rs 2,226 cr from anchor investors

NEW DELHI, Sept 20: SBI Life Insurance Company has raised Rs 2,226 crore from anchor investors as its initial share sale opened for public subscription today.

BlackRock, Canada Pension Fund, Government of Singapore, Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, HSBC, HDFC MF, ICICI Prudential MF, Kotak MF, Reliance MF, Axis MF and UTI MF are among the 69 anchor investors.

The leading insurer would allot 3.18 crore shares to 69 anchor investors at an average price of Rs 700, garnering Rs 2,226 crore to the company. SBI Life informed to the exchanges.

**IPO opens:** The initial share sale offer of SBI Life Insurance Company was subscribed 9 per cent on the first day of the three-day bidding today stock exchange data showed.

The Rs 4,000 crore initial public offer (IPO) received bids for 83,67,555 shares against the total issue size of 8,82,00,000 shares, data available with the NSE showed.

The category reserved for qualified institutional buyers (QIBs) was subscribed 6 per cent, non-institutional investors 1 per cent and retail investors 16 per cent.

The IPO received over 1,6 lakh applications on the first day, investment banking sources said. – PTI

### Topcem idol immersion prog

#### BUSINESS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 20: As in previous years, Topcem Cement, in association with Guwahati Scooter Motorcycle Garage Owners' Association, organised its Biswakarma idol immersion programme here on Tuesday.

This year's immersion programme was inaugurated by Padmasree Ajay Dutta, chief adviser, Guwahati Scooter Motorcycle Garage Owners' Association, and Dr Anil Kapoor, President (Sales and Marketing), Meghalaya Cements, in presence of Gautam Pathak, president, Shyam Banik, general secretary, Guwahati Scooter Motorcycle Garage Owners' Association.

In his speech on the occasion, Dutta thanked all the organisations and people for supporting this noble cause which was started 20 years ago, and appealed for more participation from all walks of life.

Dr Kapoor on his part expressed happiness to be associated with this campaign, saying such small steps would enable the people of Guwahati to live in a clean city.

### CAPSULE

#### ONGC oil discovery

NEW DELHI, Sept 20:

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) has made a significant oil discovery to the west of its prime Mumbai High fields in the Andhra Sea, a senior official said today. The discovery in the well WO-24-3 is estimated to hold an in-place reserve of about 20 million tonnes, he said. – PTI

#### Gionee X1s

GUWAHATI, Sept 20: In view of the Durga Puja celebrations, smartphone major Gionee India launched its latest device, X1s, today. X1s comes as a successor in the X series after X1 was launched in August this year. X1s has improved user experience through a 13MP rear and a 16MP selfie camera accompanied by selfie flash. The device will be available at Rs 12,999 from tomorrow, a press release said.

#### OnChat transactions

BENGALURU, Sept 20: HDFC Bank's OnChat, the Facebook Messenger chatbot created in partnership with Niki AI, has recorded a 160 per cent month-on-month growth in transactions since its launch on December 2016. The chatbot is the bank's maiden foray into conversational banking. – PTI

Cont'd from Page - 10				
Sl. No.	Name of Cooperative Society	District	Name of the Contractor of HOUSEFED	Total Project Cost
190	Pathori SS Ltd.	Nagaon	Md Salim Ahmed	20.00
191	Lowkhwa GPSS Ltd.	Nagaon	Mazumder, Nagaon	23.92
192	Jarabari SS Ltd.	Nagaon	Ramawati Agarwalla, Nagaon	30.00
193	Dakhinpat SS Ltd.	Nagaon	Ramawati Agarwalla, Nagaon	27.72
194	Singla SS Ltd.	Nagaon	Ashok Kr. Agarwalla, Nagaon	25.00
195	Kachameri SS Ltd.	Nagaon	Ashok Kr. Agarwalla, Nagaon	20.00
196	Juria SS Ltd.	Nagaon	Hussain Ahmed	25.00
197	Degan Ali Tangi SS Ltd.	Nagaon	Mazumder, Nagaon	20.90
198	Kothiatoi SS Ltd.	Nagaon	Mazumder, Nagaon	20.00
199	Sahai Mouza SS Ltd	Nagaon	Saurabh Barot, Nagaon	20.00
200	Brahmpur SS Ltd.	Nagaon	M/S. Avinash Associates, Nagaon	20.00
201	Nil Bagar SS Ltd.	Nagaon	Imran Hussain, Hojai	24.00
202	Bratadaku Satra SS Ltd.	Nagaon	M/S. UCN Construction, Nagaon	20.00
203	Madhabpur SS Ltd.	Nagaon	M/S. UCN Construction, Nagaon	20.00
204	Dakshin Charpur BSS Ltd.	Nalbari	Dinamoni Haloi, Nalbari	25.00
205	Narmberhag Mouza Bahumukhi SS Ltd.	Nalbari	Bhubaneswar Saikia, Guwahati	20.00
206	Natur Dehar Mouza Bahumukhi SS Ltd.	Nalbari	Dinamoni Haloi, Nalbari	23.52
207	Pub Upor Barbagh BSS Ltd.	Nalbari	M/S. P.G. Enterprise, Nalbari	18.56
208	Dopdar SS Ltd.	Sivasagar	M/S. Saumar Associates, Sivasagar	19.80
209	Borucher SS Ltd.	Sivasagar	Jitiraj Baruah, Sivasagar	13.95
210	Dakshin Maharma SS Ltd.	Sivasagar	Jitiraj Baruah, Sivasagar	19.00
211	Pabbari Trading Cooperative Society Ltd.	Sivasagar	Pranjal Konwar, Guwahati	20.00
212	Biswanath Dagon SS Ltd.	Sivasagar	Biren Das, Biswanath	20.00
213	Baripara SS Ltd.	Sivasagar	Sidhartha Borgohain, Chirang	20.00
214	Doom Dooma GPSS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Siddhertha Borgohain, Chirang	20.00
215	Borbhogla Borolla S.S. Ltd.	Sonskpur	Kragesh Buragohain, Chirang	20.00
216	Borgaon SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Kragesh Buragohain, Chirang	20.00
217	Rangepara SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Sharmila Barakata, Jorhat	20.00
218	Belsin SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Imran Hussain, Hojai	20.00
219	Mizbari SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Diganta Saikia, Dhemaji	20.00
220	Chamdhara Cooperative Societies	Sonskpur	Jogesh Kalita, Sonskpur	20.00
221	Murhad SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Debjani Goswami, Sonskpur	20.00
222	Sirajuli SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Biswajit Charnali, Sonskpur	20.00
223	Misamari SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Jogesh Kalita, Sonskpur	20.00
224	Amiyapuri SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Mudit Kr. Bora, Nagaon	20.00
225	Nagsarker SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Shaben Bora, Guwahati	20.00
226	Singri SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Saptadeep Goswami, Nagaon	20.00
227	Panbari SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Sunita Baruah, Nagaon	20.00
228	Naharbari SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	M/S. Joytish Enterprise, Nagaon	19.00
229	Gohpur CS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Bholi Bora, Gohpur	19.50
230	Sootea No. 1 SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Utpal Bhuyan, Sonskpur	20.00
231	Bhairabpura SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Subrata Kr. Bora, Nagaon	20.00
232	Pachim Behal SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Debjani Goswami, Tinsuka	19.45
233	Brahmaj SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Biswamoti Chariati, Tinsuka	19.50
234	Kalangur SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Bholi Bora, Gohpur	19.50
235	Sakumatha CS Ltd.	Sonskpur	M/S. N.G. Construction, Guwahati	20.00
236	Heiem CS Ltd.	Sonskpur	Salen Pemek, Guwahati	19.50
237	Thakurbari SS Ltd.	Sonskpur	M/S. N.G. Construction, Guwahati	20.00
238	Laijuli GPSS Ltd.	Tinsukia	Pabitra Saikia, Sibsagar	20.00
239	Mazikuchi SS Ltd.	Udalguri	Sonari, Dibrugarh	20.00
240	Sekhri SS Ltd.	Udalguri	Dimonam Haloi, Nalbari	20.00
241	Dalkus SS Ltd.	Udalguri	Dimonam Haloi, Nalbari	20.00
242	Mazbet SS Ltd.	Udalguri	Rantu Kalita, Guwahati	19.00
243	Orang GPSS Ltd.	Udalguri	Rantu Kalita, Guwahati	19.87
244	Barsilajher SS Ltd.	Udalguri	Dimonam Haloi, Nalbari	25.00

Sd/- Sri Rupak Kr. Mazumdar, I.A.S.,  
Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Assam,  
Khanapara, Guwahati - 22.

### Hero MotoCorp crosses 75 mn sales

NEW DELHI, Sept 20: The country's largest two-wheeler maker Hero MotoCorp has crossed 75 million cumulative sales milestone, a senior company official said today.

The company, which has set a target of achieving cumulative sales of 100 million units by 2020, is also targeting a double-digit growth during the festive season this year.

"We have crossed the significant milestone of 75 million units in cumulative sales and will be rewarding our customers for reposing their faith and trust in our products and service," a senior Hero MotoCorp official told PTI.

The 75 million sales milestone is in line with Hero's vision of surpassing 100 million two-wheelers in cumulative sales by 2020, the official added. – PTI

### India replaced China as top retail destination in 2017: Study

MUMBAI, Sept 20: India has replaced China as the numero uno retail destination in 2017 as part of the global retail development index, according to industry experts.

"India has replaced China this year as the top retail destination as part of the study on global retail development index," AT Kearney partner Subhendu Roy said on the concluding day of the two-day India Retail Forum 2017.

The change in ranking was an outcome of four factors including increased consumer spending beyond essentials, rising mobile and internet penetration, favourable foreign investment climate and local action on cashless transaction and GST, Roy explained.

"This has triggered the entry of global brands into India with transparency and ease," he added.

According to India Retail Report 2017,

over the past 12-15 months, 100 per cent cash and carry operations are gaining significance in India with Thailand's Siam Makro being the latest entrant in this space following Metro, Walmart and Booker.

Furthermore, Swedish furniture maker IKEA plans to open its lone distribution centre or warehouse in the country in Pune by end-2017 and its first store in Hyderabad by early 2018 with overall plans to invest \$1.56 billion to set up 25 stores in India.

In addition to the bigger retailer and brands, the mid-size brands from across the world are also looking to cash on the relaxed retail policy in India. – PTI

### Check noise levels in Delhi mosques: NGT

NEW DELHI, Sept 20: The National Green Tribunal has directed the Delhi government to inspect mosques in East Delhi and check if the noise levels generated by loudspeakers during 'azaad' were exceeding the permissible limit.

A bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar asked the AAP government and the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) to take appropriate action against them in case of violation.

The counsel for various mosques submitted that they were using loudspeaker without exceeding the prescribed parameters.

"Counsel for respondent No. 6 to 10 and 12 (mosques) submits that they are using loudspeaker but they are not exceeding the prescribed parameters. They further state that they have no intention of disturbing the public at large or to violate the prescribed decibel standards."

"Counsel for the NCT of Delhi and the DPCC submits that they would conduct the inspection to check the noise level from different mosques stated in this application and would test the ambient air quality and noise level. If noise levels are found to be exceeding the prescribed decibel, they would take action in accordance with law," the bench said.

The tribunal passed the order as it disposed of a plea by NGO Akhanda Bharat Morch alleging that illegal use of loudspeakers at such places adversely affected the health of the residents living in their vicinity. - PTI

### Rain batters Mumbai, 108 flights cancelled

MUMBAI, Sept 20: Torrential rain battered Mumbai and its suburbs for the second day today, causing massive disruption in flight operations, delaying suburban train services and forcing a large number of people to stay indoors, officials said.

However, no deaths or major damage to property were reported.

Schools and colleges in Mumbai metropolitan region were ordered closed in view of heavy rains.

"Several parts of the metropolis, including South Mumbai, Borivali, Kandivli, Andheri and Bhandup, received heavy rainfall. However, no untoward incident has been reported so far from any part of the city," an official of the BMC, the city's civic body, said. - PTI

### Special court to hear 2G scam cases on Oct 25

NEW DELHI, Sept 20: A special court today deferred till October 25 the hearing in 2G spectrum allocation scam cases in which former Telecom Minister A Raja and DMK MP Karimzah are among the accused.

Special Judge OP Saini, who is exclusively dealing with the cases arising out of the 2G spectrum scam, has been hearing the three cases – two filed by the CBI and the third by the Enforcement Directorate. - PTI

## HC extends stay on floor test in TN Assembly

CHENNAI, Sept 20: The Madras High Court today extended till further directions its stay order on a floor test in the Tamil Nadu Assembly for the Palaniswami government.

Justice M Duraiswamy gave the interim order on petitions filed by 18 rebel AIADMK MLAs loyal to sidelined party leader TTV Dharmakaran challenging the September 18 order of Assembly Speaker P Dhanpal disqualifying them under the anti-defection law.

However, there was no di-

rection by the court on the issue of stay on the disqualification of the MLAs.

After hearing lengthy arguments by senior counsels for the petitioners and the respondents, the judge in his order said: "the respondents shall not conduct floor test for the trust vote until further orders of this court".

He also ordered: "There shall not be any election notice for conducting the election for the 18 Legislative Assembly constituencies pursued

ant to the impugned order dated 18.09.2017, which are the subject matter in the writ petitions until further orders of this court."

The judge said the directions were being passed by "consent of both sides" (petitioners and respondents) and posted the matter to October 4 for final hearing.

He had on September 14 ordered there will be no floor test for the Palaniswami government to prove its majority till today.

The order was passed after one of the Dharmakaran camp MLAs P Vetrivel and DMP working president MK Stalin, who had filed a petition for a floor test, had then expressed apprehension that the Speaker might disqualify the 18 MLAs and it may go in favour of the Chief Minister in the event of a confidence vote.

Eight of the 18 disqualified MLAs moved the court yesterday challenging the Speaker's action against them under the anti-defection law.

The petitioners contended the Speaker's order was "unauthorised" and "illegal" and sought to restrain the respondents – the Speaker, government chief whip S Rajendran, Chief Minister K Palaniswami and the Assembly Secretary – from interfering with their rights as elected representatives. The other 10 disqualified MLAs filed their petitions this morning. The judge had yesterday agreed for an urgent hearing if petitions were filed. - PTI



Traditionally attired Garba performers rehearsing ahead of Navratri festival in Ahmedabad on Wednesday. - UNI

## Concealment of criminal record by NSUI candidate serious: HC

NEW DELHI, Sept 20: The Delhi High Court today termed as "very serious" the alleged concealment of criminal record by NSUI presidential candidate who won the recent Delhi University Students Union (DU) election.

The court was informed about the alleged concealment and suppression of facts from the authorities by Rocky Tuseed, who was elected as DU president, by opponent ABVP candidate Rajat Chaudhary.

"It is very serious. It is concealment," Justice Indermati Kaur said while issuing notice to Tuseed and Delhi University on an impeachment application filed by Chaudhary.

The application was filed in a pending petition by Tuseed in which he has challenged the Delhi University (DU) Election Commission's order rejecting his nomination for the polls on the grounds of disciplinary action.

The court sought Tuseed's and the university's responses on the plea and listed the matter for November 15.

Chaudhary said as per the guidelines of the Lyngdoh committee, the candidate shall not have a previous criminal record, nor tried or convicted of any criminal offence and shall not have been subject to any disciplinary action by the university authorities.

The plea claimed that Tu-

seed has not disclosed to DU authorities that an FIR was lodged against him in 2014 at Rajouri Garden Police Station in West Delhi for the alleged offence of causing hurt, attempt to murder, trespass and common intention and that he had remained in judicial custody from August 28, 2014 to September 15, 2014. A charge sheet was also filed in the case.

The RSS-backed ABVP candidate, in his plea filed through advocates Jyesh Tiwari and Suman Chauhan, said there was "deliberate suppression and misrepresentation of facts and narration of false facts by the petitioner (Tuseed) in the proceedings". - PTI

## Plea in SC to stall NIA probe into marriage of Kerala woman

NEW DELHI, Sept 20: A plea has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking recall of its order directing the NIA to investigate a controversial case of conversion and marriage of a Hindu woman to a Muslim man in Kerala.

The Kerala High Court had annulled the marriage terming it as an instance of "love jihad", following which the man had approached the apex court.

The top court had on August 16 directed the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to probe the incident under the supervision of retired apex court judge Justice RV Raveendran.

The man has now approached the apex court seeking recall of its August 16 order besides a direction to Kerala Police to produce the woman, who is residing in her father's house, before the court. Petitioner Shafin Jahan, in an

interim application filed in his appeal against the high court order, has referred to media reports and claimed that NIA has already started its probe "without the guidance of Justice Raveendran".

In the plea, filed through his lawyer Hiraan Behera, he has claimed that as per these reports, "Justice RV Raveendran has refused to oversee the said probe by the NIA" and the agency should be directed not to proceed further with its investigation.

"Therefore, now since the above reports are surfacing that NIA has already commenced investigation and already found a link, all without the guidance of Justice Raveendran, the worst fears of the petitioners have therefore been realised," the plea said, adding, "such an investigation is clearly not fair and is

against the orders of this Court".

Jahan has claimed in his plea that the Kerala Human Rights Commission has received several complaints regarding the detention of the woman at her father's house.

He has also claimed that the woman has made it clear that she accepted Islam on her own free will and after the May 24 order of the high court, she has been detained against her will and her rights have been violated.

"The detainee (woman) clearly wishes to leave her parents' home and that she is being physically abused while being under house arrest," the plea alleged.

The apex court had directed the NIA to submit its final investigation report in the court to enable it to arrive at any conclusion in the matter. - PTI

## Bhagalpur canal breaches, Bihar govt orders probe

PATNA/BHAGALPUR, Sept 20: The Bihar government today ordered a probe into the breach of a canal in Bhagalpur, which led to the cancellation of inauguration of an irrigation project today by Chief Minister, and a barrage of criticism from Opposition RJD and JD(U) rebel Sharad Yadav.

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar was scheduled to inaugurate today the Rs 389.31-crore Bateswarwan Ganga Pump Canal Project, aimed at providing irrigation facilities to the State and neighbouring Jharkhand.

The wall collapsed after be-

ing forcefully hit by the Ganga river waters when the pump was switched on for a trial run.

He said stringent action would be taken against officials found guilty and the project would be inaugurated "after two months", during which the deficiencies would be addressed.

Meanwhile, Lalit said, "It has come to light that the NTPC had constructed an underpass below the canal in the past," which could have weakened the canal. The probe would look into all the angles."

The Principal Secretary said the department is yet to check the papers to ascertain if a no objection certificate was

taken before constructing the underpass.

NTPC Kalaghat Executive Director Rakesh Samuel, who met the Principal Secretary, said the underpass was constructed long ago and he was yet to check old records. He, however, added, "The NTPC does not do any work without obtaining NOC."

The minister said the canal was built during 1985-88 and the government just did the mechanical part of the project by constructing the pump station in the past two years to lift Ganga waters for irrigation purposes. - PTI

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**A**t 4.64 million square kilometres, this year's Arctic sea ice minimum extent is the lowest in the consistent long-term satellite record, which began in 1979, NASA's satellite data analysis shows.

Arctic sea ice appeared to have reached its yearly lowest extent on September 13, the US space agency said.

Its minimum summertime extent, which

experienced strong summer storms that hammered the ice cover and sped up its melt. "In all of those cases, the weather conditions contributed to the reduced ice coverage. But if the exact same weather system had occurred three decades ago, it is very unlikely that it would have caused as much damage to the sea ice cover, because back then the ice was thicker and it more completely cov-

ered the region, hence making it more able to withstand storms," Parkinson said.

On the other side of the planet, Antarctica is heading to its maximum yearly sea ice extent, which typically occurs in September or early October, according to NASA.

This year's maximum extent is likely

to be among the eight lowest in the satellite record – a dramatic turn of events considering that 2012, 2013 and 2014 all saw consecutive record high maximum extents, followed by a sudden large drop in 2015 and a further decrease in 2016.

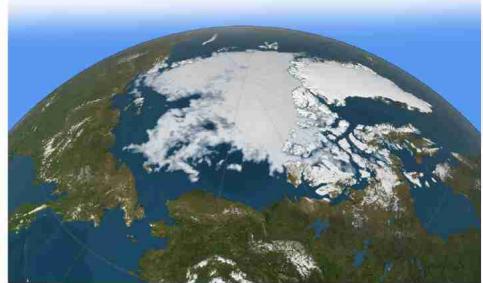
So far, the September Antarctic ice extents this year are comparable to those of a year ago, NASA said.

"The weather conditions have not been particularly noteworthy this summer," said Clarke Parkinson, senior climate scientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

"The fact that we still ended up with low sea ice extents is because the baseline ice conditions today are worse than the baseline 38 years ago," Parkinson said.

The three years with the lowest Arctic ice extents on record – 2012, 2016 and 2007 –

(Source: PTI)



## Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Sept. 21, 2017:

This year you often send mixed messages. Others react accordingly. Avoid a difficult friend or loved one who seems to always distract you. You need to surround yourself with people who make you feel good and not feel bad about themselves. You like being single and meeting people more easily. Communication flows. If you are attached, the intensity that draws you and your sweetie together become greater and greater. You often have heavy, meaningful periods together. LIBRA tends to date on you.

The Star Show the Day of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic, 4-Possessive, 3-Average, 2-So-so, 1-Difficult.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)

\*\*\*\* A loved one or a business partner knows how to get quite a reaction from you. Do not be surprised if you find yourself yelling and screaming. Let go and take a deep breath. You might want to retreat to a quiet corner tonight. Tonight: Enjoy a fun visit.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20)

\*\*\*\* Your imagination soars, and an obstacle only enhances this gift. You are able to take an idea and put it to work almost immediately. Your analytical skills merge well with your creativity. Walk away from those who bring you down like a thorn in the tissue. Tonight: Face yourself.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21)

\*\*\*\* You could feel as if there is no turning back. You might question whether it serves to keep a bond so tight and easy. Perhaps the relationship is too casual for your taste. Re-evaluate your thoughts here. Speak less, and listen more. Tonight: Make plans to visit with a loved one.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22)

\*\*\*\* You exhibit a great sense of humor at the moment. Fatigue plays a significant role as the days age. You have made an effort to get past a problem and in having to deal with the other party involved. A new beginning becomes possible. Tonight: Head home early, if you can.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

\*\*\*\* Your innate sense of mischief seems to emerge. You might be concerned about a loved one, as he or she keeps you to be out of sorts or confused. You will find it difficult to team up and maximize your ideas. Don't worry; your time will come. Tonight: Worry less, and pray more.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

\*\*\*\* You'll want to pull back and seek out more information.

Providing some distance between you and others might be a wise idea. You will gain more insight into what makes you tick. You will want to review your thinking. Tonight: You could have difficulty keeping to a tight budget.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\*\*\* Your positive attitude leaves an impression on others. You will be able to influence those around you. Your sense of humor emerges in the midst of having a very hard conversation. You might want to keep a straight face, no matter what goes on. Tonight: Meet a friend for drinks.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\*\*\* You are better behaved by everyone that others are requesting. You might want to pull back some. If you are in the middle of the uproar, you won't be able to gain the same perspective as if you were to do so. Revise your thinking. Tonight: Happiest at home.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

\*\*\*\* You are experiencing a mopping session. You will notice the diversity within your inner circle. Use care with spending. You might be considering revising your budget and choices. Try to come to terms with a boss's requests. Tonight: Try not to make a judgment.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

\*\*\*\* You will need to deal with a public or professional master with the help of a close partner or loved one. You like working with this person for many reasons. The interaction between the two of you will be unusually significant. Tonight: Let it all hang out.

**TAURUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

\*\*\*\* You can be one of the most social signs of the zodiac, yet at times you are stone silent. You might swing back and forth as you attempt to come to terms with your mood and a certain situation. Know that you can let go and the world will resolve itself. Tonight: Be positive.

\*\*\*

Thought for the Day  
At evening, casual flocks of pigeons make Ambiguous undulations as they sink. Downward to darkness, on extended wings.

— WALLACE STEVENS



### LOCKHORNS

"LET'S SEE... I WALKED TO THE GYM, THAT'S 42 STEPS... THEN INSIDE TO ASK ABOUT THEIR RATES, ANOTHER 25 STEPS... I WALKED OUT, THAT'S 35 STEPS..."



### THE PHANTOM

R

By Lee Falk



### BLONDIE



### HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



### Kids

CN

13:00 Benji No. 21  
14:00 Oggy and the Cockroaches  
14:30 Benji Omaverse  
15:00 Robot No. 21  
16:00 Benji  
17:00 Benji  
17:30 Benji and the Cockroaches  
21:00 Teen Titans Go!  
22:00 Benji  
23:00 Dragon Ball Z

LUGG

13:00 The Lugg Show  
13:30 Super Sheep  
15:30 Tik Tak Tail

Entertainment

Entertainment

22:30 Kumkum Bhagya

23:30 Ishq Men Marawan

## Suu Kyi faces mounting world anger over Rohingya



UNITED NATIONS, Sept 20: Aung San Suu Kyi faced mounting criticism over what some world leaders are now calling the "ethnic cleansing" of Myanmar's Rohingya minority, despite her plea for patience from the international community.

The head of Myanmar's civilian administration pledged to hold rights violators to account over the crisis in Rakhine state, but refused to blame Myanmar's powerful military for the attacks that have driven 421,000 Muslim Rohingya out of her mainly Buddhist country.

But her speech, delivered in English and clearly aimed at deflecting interna-

tional anger as world leaders gathered at the United Nations General Assembly in New York, failed to quell international anger at reports that the Rohingya are being burned out of their homes.

"The military operation must stop, humanitarian access must be guaranteed and the rule of law restored in the face of what we know is ethnic cleansing," French President Emmanuel Macron told world leaders gathered for the week of high-level diplomacy yesterday.

The United States has been careful not to blame Myanmar's civilian leadership for the attacks because the country's military retains control of secu-

rity operations in troubled areas like northern Rakhine, but Secretary of State Rex Tillerson was moved to call Suu Kyi.

While Tillerson welcomed the pledge to crack down on abuses, he also urged both the government and the military "to address deeply troubling allegations of human rights abuses and violations" during the telephone conversation, his spokeswoman said.

Macron and Tillerson's concerns echoed those of UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, who issued a blunt demand that Myanmar halt military operations and of Britain, which

suspended training courses for the Myanmar military in light of the violence in Rakhine.

"The authorities in Myanmar must end the military operations and allow unimpeded humanitarian access," Guterres told the General Assembly.

"They must also address the grievances of the Rohingya, whose status has been left unresolved for far too long."

Annenyi International joined the outcry, saying Suu Kyi was "burying her head in the sand" over documented army abuses and claims of rape, murder and the systematic clearing of scores of villages. — AFP

### \$15 million for Rohingya refugees

WASHINGTON, Sept 20: Saudi King Salman has allocated \$15 million (Dh55 million) aid for Rohingya refugees fleeing persecution in Myanmar and taking refuge in neighbouring Bangladesh.

"A specialised team from the centre will be heading to Bangladesh to assess the condition of Rohingya refugees there and find out their urgent needs and provide them with relief assistance, humanitarian help and shelter," said Abdulah Bin Abdul Aziz Al Rabiah, General Supervisor of Riyadh-based King Salman Centre for Relief and Humanitarian Aid on Tuesday. "As per the directive of the King, the centre has carried out a number of projects, while some others are in various phases of implementation," he was quoted as saying by the Saudi Press Agency.

Al Rabiah made the statement following a meeting with members of the National Council on US-Arab Relations and the Committee on cooperation between US Partnerships and GCC Countries at the US House of Representatives in Washington. — IANS

### Japan hails Trump's threat to destroy North Korea

TOKYO, Sept 20: Japan on Wednesday welcomed US President Donald Trump's speech at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in which he vowed to destroy North Korea if the US was compelled to defend itself.

Referring to Trump's maiden speech at the UNGA on Tuesday, government spokesman Yoshihide Suga said Japan greatly appreciates the US President's renewed confirmation of his policy on North Korea that seeks to change the regime's position and achieve its denuclearisation, Efe news reported.

Trump condemned the Kim Jong-un regime for its nuclear and missile programme, adding that if the US is "forced to defend ourselves or our allies, we will have no choice but to totally destroy North Korea".

The Japanese spokesman also referred to the US President's mention of the abductions of Japanese citizens by North Korea in the 1970s and 1980s.

Trump said the regime "will be forced to eat" 13-year-old Japanese girl from a beach in her own country to enslave her as a language tutor for North Korea's spies".

Trump was making a reference to Megumi Yokota, who was kidnapped by North Korean agents in 1977 while she was 13 years old, and who later became a symbol of the country's mission to locate at least 17 other Japanese nationals allegedly kidnapped by Pyongyang. — IANS



Paramedics wait as rescue personnel search for people in the rubble of a collapsed building after an earthquake hit Mexico City, Mexico on Tuesday. — UNI

### India ready to work above and beyond Paris climate deal:Swaraj

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 20: India today reaffirmed its commitment to the landmark Paris climate change agreement, saying it is willing to "work above and beyond" the pact to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, during a UN 'Leadership Summit on Environment and Climate Change', said that India had been at the forefront of the debate on environment and development.

Her remarks came amid uncertainty over the role in the deal after President Donald Trump said America was willing to work "above and beyond" the Paris agreement.

deal, arguing that it gives undue advantage to countries like India and China.

India, which is the world's third largest carbon polluter, along with more than 190 nations reached a pact in December 2015 with an aim to prevent an increase in the global average temperature and keep it well below 2 degrees Celsius.

"We also mentioned that Indian and France are working together on international Solar Alliance," he said.

During the day, Swaraj had a series of bilateral meetings with leaders from Mexico, Norway and Belgium wherein focus was primarily on bilateral relations. — PTI



### Sindoor may contain unsafe lead levels: US study

WASHINGTON, Sept 20: Sindoor, a powder widely used in Hindu religious ceremonies, may contain unsafe levels of lead which is associated with lower IQ and growth delays in children, a study of samples from India and the US has found.

Researchers from Rutgers University in the US reported that 83 per cent of the samples collected from the US and 78 per cent collected from India had at least 1.0 microgramme of lead per gram of cosmetic powder.

Meanwhile, 19 per cent of the samples collected in New Jersey and 43 per cent of the samples collected from India exceeded the 20 microgramme of lead per gramme



of cosmetic powder limit imposed by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

"There is no safe level of lead. That is why we believe sindoor powder should not be sold or brought into the US unless it is lead-free," said

Derek Shendell, associate professor at Rutgers.

Researchers tested 118 samples of sindoor, a scarlet-coloured powder that is applied by women to place a bindi, or red dot, symmetrically on their forehead. Married women also put it in their

hair parting and it is used by men and children for religious purposes.

The results indicated about one-third of the samples, which include 95 from South Asian stores in New Jersey and 23 from stores in Mumbai and New Delhi in India, contained lead levels above the limit set by the US FDA.

Although other cosmetics such as kajal and tiro, eye products used in India and Nigeria, have been banned by the FDA because of elevated lead content, the FDA only issued a general warning about sindoor after testing by the Illinois Department of Health a decade ago discovered a high lead content in one brand. — PTI

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2017

### Fire in Bangla textile factory kills 6 people

DHAKA, Sept 20: At least six workers, including a woman, were killed today when a fire ripped through a four-storey textile factory on the outskirts of the Bangladeshi capital, the latest lethal industrial accident in the country.

The Ideal Textile factory in Charkatpur area in Munshiganj district was closed but some workers were inside when the fire erupted, apparently from its chemicals storage in the first-floor.

"Six bodies, one of them being a woman worker, have been recovered from the scene after the blaze was extinguished. Searches inside are underway," a fire official told reporters.

The blaze has left the factory near the district town severely damaged, police said.

Four fire-fighting units from Munshiganj and Narayanganj

were working at the scene to put out the blaze, said Md Joyal Abedin, in-charge of Muktarpur police outpost. "A few other workers are still missing, so the death toll may rise. Renovations were going on the same floor, where welders were at work," Abedin was quoted as saying by bdnews24. — PTI

#### NOTICE

No. Agri/Engg/FOE/4402/Pt. Solar Pump/2017-18/82  
Dated: 19.09.2017  
"e-FOE for supply, installation, commissioning and after sales service of Solar Photo voltaic (SPV)-Pump set system for irrigation purpose", invited bids No. Agri/Engg/FOE/4402/Pt. Solar Pump/2017-18/24 Dtd. 30.08.2017, is hereby cancelled. New e-FOE for the same will be notified shortly.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, Agriculture  
Janasanayog/CF/1570/12

#### CANCELLATION OF TENDER

No. AASC (B) 4/92-93/Pt. — VIV/133  
The Notice Inviting Tender No. AASC (B) 4/92-93/Pt. — VIV dated 26th of May, 2017 issued for providing cleaning and maintenance services at Administrative Building, the Hostel Block — A and dunes, pathways and passages etc of Assam Administrative Staff College, Jawaharnagar, Kharanpara, Guwahati—781022 is hereby cancelled.  
Sd/- Director of Training  
Assam Administrative Staff College,  
Jawaharnagar, Kharanpara, Guwahati—22  
Janasanayog/C/3623/17

#### No. FEB (WB-PMU)/13/2015/121

### NOTICE INVITING BIDS (NIB)

Assam Society for Comprehensive Financial Management System (AS-CFMS) invites eligible vendors participate in the National Competitive Bidding for Supply of Server, Software and Network Hardware at the Directorate of Accounts and Treasuries.

The bidding documents can be found at [assamtenders.gov.in](http://assamtenders.gov.in) from 20.09.2017 for download. Last date for submission of bids is upto 1400 hrs on 23.10.2017 through [assamtenders.gov.in](http://assamtenders.gov.in).

Sd/-  
Project Director  
AS-CFMS  
Janasanayog/CF/1572/17

#### No. DSC/TENDER/129/2017-18/3

### E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE (To be published in newspapers/Website)

The Director, Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Assam, Guwahati-6 invites bids in e-tendering system for supply of Package No. 1) Tractor and Package No. 2) Diesel Engine Centrifugal Pumpset from material of iron and steel required for construction of the building documents. The bid document is available online from 21.09.2017 at 05.00 pm to 12.10.2017 upto 02.00 pm, and the bids should be submitted online in <https://assamtenders.gov.in>. The bidder is required to get registered in the website. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities as indicated in the website: <https://assamtenders.gov.in>.

Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 12.10.2017 upto 02.00 pm.  
For further details please log on to <https://assamtenders.gov.in>

Sd/- Director  
Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Assam  
Guwahati-06  
Janasanayog/C/3642/17

#### RECRUITMENT NOTICE. For Grade-III Assam Judicial Service

THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT AT GUWAHATI  
The High Court of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh)  
Website: [www.ghconline.gov.in](http://www.ghconline.gov.in)

Advertisement has been published in the official website and Notice Board of the Gauhati High Court at Guwahati inviting online applications till 5.00 PM of 09.10.2017 for 35 (thirty five) vacancies in Grade-III of Assam Judicial Service.

Detailed advertisement along with syllabus can be seen in the official website ([www.ghconline.gov.in](http://www.ghconline.gov.in)) and Notice Board of the Gauhati High Court, Guwahati.

Sd/- (M.K. Kalita)  
Registrar (Vigilance)-cum-In-Charge, Recruitment Cell, Gauhati High Court, Guwahati  
Janasanayog/D/8040/17

#### NOTICE INVITING TENDER

No. AACQ/1223/2017-18/29  
Sealed tenders in two- bid system affixed with non-refundable court fee stamp of Rs.825/- (Rupees Eight and twenty five paisa only) only are invited from reputed registered vendors or their authorized dealers/ manufacturers for supply of the following item/items-

Sl. Description of the job	Specifications	Quantity
1 Installation and configuration of latest version of a library management system on server with multiple independent library instances, each having its own IP address and memory holding an Administrative Staff College.	Library management system 1 as per requirements and capacity	1

The tenders will be received till 02.00 pm of 11th of October, 2017 and will be opened on the same day at 03.00 pm. In case that day happens to be a holiday, the tenders will be opened on the next working day. The firms or their authorised representatives may be present at the time of the opening of tenders.

The interested firms may collect the tender documents from the Administrative Officer, Assam Administrative Staff College during office hours. The amount of payment of Rs 500.00 which will be non-refundable till 9th of October, 2017.

The tender documents may also be downloaded from the website, [www.assasc.gov.in](http://www.assasc.gov.in). However, the payment of Rs 500.00 only in cash only will have to be made in any case.

The Director of Training, Assam Administrative Staff College reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender papers without assigning any reasons thereof.

Sd/- Director of Training  
Assam Administrative Staff College  
Janasanayog/C/3636/17  
Guwahati - 781 022

## OIL to meet Laban SC in semis today

CORRESPONDENT

KALIGAON, Sept 20: Oil India Limited (OIL) Dulajan and Laban Sports Club, Shillong will clash in the first semifinal of the 22nd Bodoland Gallant Gold Cup Football Tournament being played at Dimukh Stadium in Udalguri district tomorrow.

In today's last quartfinal match, SSB Silguri defeated Jhalagati Sports Club, Morigion 3-0 in a well-attended match. The final match will be played on September 24.

## ASEB storm into final

CORRESPONDENT

MANGALDAL, Sept 20: Former champions ASEB Sports Club stormed into the final of the 38th Amba Mehta Football Tournament.

In the one-sided second semifinal played at the Mangaldal Stadium here today, ASEB boys thrashed Assam Police Radio Organisation, Guwahati 7-0. Arpita Phookan started the proceedings in the 20th minute and they continued their rampage on the opponent's goal till the final whistle. Alkrang Nurzary (21st and 31st minute), Bishal K Sonar (41st minute), Samujal Rabha (46th and 56th minute) and Laldu Houda (63rd minute) found the back of the net. In the final on Friday, ASEB will lock horns with the Kabirali FC, Udaguri.

## Karate C'ship

GUWAHATI, Sept 20: The United Karate Do Association, Assam (UKAA) will organise the 11th State Karate Championship, for Sub-junior (8-13 years), Cadet (14-15 years), Junior (16-17 years) and Senior (18 years and above), for both male and female at the Bhogeswar Pukunan Indoor Stadium here on October 14 and 15.

Altogether 686 players have already qualified from different zonal inter-district karate championships for participation in the State championship, stated a release.

## Shillong boys in final

UDALGURI, Sept 20: Returning to action after a week's break, Saina Nehwal and Kisanthri Srikanth made positive starts to their campaign at the Japan Open Super Series, advancing to the second round with contrasting wins, here today.

Saina, who bagged a bronze medal at World Championship, had skipped the Korean Open due to a slight thigh strain. She took 39 minutes to dispatch Thailand's Pornpetch Choochong 21-17, 21-9 in the women's singles opening round.

London Olympics bronze medallist Saina will take on reigning Olympic champion Carolina Marin in the next round. Saina has a 4-3 record against the Spaniard, having lost thrice in the last four meetings.

While Prannoy got the better of Denmark's Anders Antonsen 21-12, 21-14, Sameer took 40 minutes to subdue

titles at Indonesia and Australia, also dished out a superlative performance to overcome China's Tian Houwei 21-15, 21-12, 21-11 to improve his 1-6 record against the World No. 10.

The eighth seeded Indian, who had reached the finals at Singapore Open, will face Hong Kong's Hu Yun next. The World No. 8 Indian has a 2-2 head-to-head count against Yun, having lost twice in the next round.

US Open Grand Prix Gold Champion HS Prannoy and Syed Modi Grand Prix Gold winner Sameer Verma also advanced to the second round with straight-game wins over their respective opponents in men's singles here.

While Prannoy got the better of Denmark's Anders Antonsen 21-12, 21-14, Sameer took 40 minutes to subdue

Thailand's Khosit Phetpradab 21-12, 21-19 in another match.

Prannoy will now take on the winner of the match between Chinese Taipei's Hsu Jen Hao and Hong Kong's Ng Ka Long Angus, seeded sixth.

Sameer, on the other hand, will square off against either France's Brice Leverdez or second seed Chinese Shi Yuqi in the next round.

Sameer's elder brother, Sourabh, however, bowed out of the tournament after his fight against seventh seed and two-time Olympic gold medallist Lin Dan of China ended with a 21-11, 15-21, 21-12 loss.

Singapore Open champion BS Saini Francoise also found the going tough as he went down fighting to Lee Dung Keun of Korea 23-21, 17-21, 14-21 in a thrilling contest. - PTI

Srikanth, who had won ti-

"Now against Genoa (on Sunday) we have to go back and win at home. With our fans we have an extra player. We have to go back to continue the positive streak."

Iнтер have emerged as one of the title challengers to rival Juventus and Napoli who also had maximum points after four matches.

Now with 13 points, Inter move provisionally top but Juventus and Napoli can pull ahead when they play Fiorentina and Lazio respectively on Wednesday.

A win by Lazio – sitting fourth – would however put the Romans equal on points with Inter.

"There are two lost points, we will see what went wrong this week," said Inter striker Eder.

"We have to look at

ourselves not Napoli and Juventus, our goal is the Champions League and we have to fight at all costs."

Spalletti had made just one change to the side that beat Crotone on Saturday with Japanese defender Yuto Nagatomo in for Brazilian Dalbert.

But Inter suffered in the first half with Icardi just failing to get on the end of an Ivan Perisic cross before Verdi got on the scoresheet after 32 minutes after half a dozen early shots at goal.

Inter gained momentum after the break but failed to find a way through until the controversial foul by Ibrahim Mbaye on Eder which was confirmed by the video assistant referee.

Eder won the spot-kick, as he was running away from

goal when Mbaye tripped and accidentally landed with his arm on the forward's heel.

"He scored tonight, so we'll shave his head every day now," joked Spalletti of Icardi who had failed to score against Crotone.

"It's not a scandal for a team to draw," added the Inter boss. "We were slower than usual, unable to make the ball move well in vertical lines, especially in midfield, so we gave Bologna the chance to close down our channels."

Bologna move up two spots to 11th as they bounced back from the weekend defeat at Fiorentina.

"We deserved something more, on the pitch we showed it," said Verdi.

"There are still many doubts about that penalty." - AFP



Lionel Messi celebrates after scoring his first goal of the evening for Barcelona against Eibar at the Camp Nou.

## Messi hits four as Barca maintain perfect start

MADRID, Sept 20: Lionel Messi added four more goals to his soaring early season tally as a much-changed Barcelona maintained their 100 percent start to Eibar by routing Eibar 6-1 on Tuesday.

Paulinho and Denis Suarez also netted for the second consecutive game as Barca stretched their lead at the top of La Liga seven points over Real Madrid, who host Real Betis on Wednesday.

"That Messi scored four goals now isn't news," said Barca boss Ernesto Valverde after the Argentine's 43rd career-trick.

"He has done it so many nights, in so many games. To keep repeating it is the most difficult thing. He is an extraordinary player. I have run

out of words for him."

Messi played in a more central role as Valverde heavily rotated his side for the first time since taking charge with Luis Suárez dropping to the bench among six changes from Saturday's hard-fought 2-1 win at Getafe.

And contrary to their fortunes last season, Barca's back-ups proved Valverde could take the luxury of resting some of his star names with Paulinho particularly impressive on his first start.

Messi opened the scoring in nonchalant fashion from the penalty spot on 21 minutes after Nelson Semedo had been fouled by an ungainly challenge from Alejandro Galvez.

Paulinho also played his part in Barca's third with a cure dummy that freed Messi and, when his shot was parried by Marko Dmitrovic, Denis Suarez fired home the rebound.

Chinese side Guangzhou Evergrande was one of a series of moves that drew stinging criticism for Barca's board following Neymar's world-record departure for Paris Saint-Germain.

However, Messi quickly restored Barca's three-goal lead with a lovely measured finish from the edge of the box.

The five-time world player-of-the-year completed his hat-trick just after the hour mark by prodding through Dmitrovic's legs from Paulinho's pass.

And he added his 12th goal in just eight games this season three minutes from time after a neat one-two with Aleix Vidal.

Barca lead second-placed Sevilla, who host Las Palmas on Wednesday, by five points with Valencia now just a point further adrift as they moved up to third thanks to Simone Zaza's seven-minute hat-trick in a 5-0 thrashing of Malaga. - AFP

## New Pak coach eyeing Asia Cup title

DHAKA, Sept 20: Having missed last year's World Cup and Rio Olympics, Pakistan are eager to make their presence felt in the upcoming Asia Cup football tournament here with newly-appointed coach Farhat Khan setting his sights firmly on their fourth title.

Being the second most successful team with three Asia Cup titles, Pakistan will go into the tournament as one of the favourites along side World No. 6 India and South Korea, who have won the coveted tournament four times.

"We have already qualified for next year's World Cup in India, but our main focus will be on performing well in the Hero Asia Cup," said Khan, who has recalled some experienced players in the national camp.

"Our performance in last Asia Cup was not bad as we won all our three pool matches quite convincingly. However we lost to South Korea by a goal in the semifinal and eventually finished third by beating hosts Malaysia. But we failed to achieve our target."

"We will need to make improvement in all areas of our game if we want to achieve our goal this time. We have faced a tough time in recent years as we failed to qualify for the last World Cup, and then 2016 Olympic Games, therefore we want to deliver our best starting from Hero Asia Cup 2017," he added. - PTI

## India drub Palestine in AFC U-16 qualifier

NEW DELHI, Sept 20: The Indian cricket board has nominated Mahendra Singh Dhoni for the country's third highest civilian award – the Padma Bhushan – for his contribution to the game.

A senior BCCI official confirmed that the Board has only sent one name for the Padma awards this year and it was a unanimous decision to nominate India's most successful captain.



"Mahendra Singh Dhoni has been nominated by the BCCI for the Padma Bhushan award. It was an unanimous decision by the members. He has been one of the greatest names in contemporary cricket and the most appropriate choice of the Indian cricket board," BCCI acting president CK Khanna told PTI today.

Dhoni's credentials are impeccable and as the only Indian captain with two World titles (2011 50-over World Cup and 2007 World T20), the BCCI did not have to ponder over likely names.

"He is one of our greatest ODI cricketer with nearly 10,000 runs. Not many players have played 90 Test matches. There is no one better than him, who could have been nominated," Khanna added. - PTI

## India drub Palestine in AFC U-16 qualifier

NEW DELHI, Sept 20: India rode on a stirring second-half show to blank Palestine 3-0 in the AFC U-16 Championship 2018 Qualifiers at the Halchowk Stadium in Kathmandu today.

Givson opened the scorecard from the impeccable free-kick in the 51st minute. It was followed by a strike from Bekay in the 72nd minute. The last nail in the coffin was put by skipper Vikram in the 79th minute.

India came very close to drawing the first blood in the 8th minute but Bekay's shot whizzed past the crossbar.

In the 25th minute, Givson, who was operating as a free-player at the middle, cut into the middle but his cutting-edge could have been dealt better by Ricky.

Perhaps the biggest moment of the first-half for India came in the 28th minute when Harpreet's volley ricocheted off the crossbar to leave the India dugout agast.

Gurkiran also tried his luck from 30-yards out but the Palestine goalkeeper collected it without any trouble.

Changing over, Givson stunned the Palestine goalkeeper in the 51st minute when his right-footed free-kick found the target leaving him stranded at the other end.

Bekay converted the tick-tac-tac cross from Ricky to double the lead in the 72nd minute. - PTI

## Wrist spinners are vital

**T**he Indian team will have their tails up going into the second game at the Eden Gardens. Weather permitting, I expect Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav to continue their dominance.

On the other hand, it's difficult to understand why the

There is no point in preparing during a tour. Calling young wrist spinners now to train, looks more like a gimmick rather than a proper plan. I can understand the English batsmen having difficulty in picking it from the hand but not the World Champions.

Irrespective of the format, and the young duo of Chahal and Yadav are only proving it right. What I like about them is their temperament. Even while getting hit for a few, they continue to attack, and that invariably brings results. The manner in which they set up and then snipped the wicket of Warner was a treat to watch.

Kris Srikkanth should continue with their attacking brand of cricket and should always look at dominating the course of play. If I was the captain, one change I would strongly suggest is KL Rahul to open and Ajinkya Rahane at No. 4. The Mumbai batsman did well in the 2015 World Cup and with the next edition England, Rahane is one who can provide stability to the middle-order.

I have always believed, wrist spinners are match-win-

ers, irrespective of the format, and the young duo of Chahal and Yadav are only proving it right. What I like about them is their temperament. Even while getting hit for a few, they continue to attack, and that invariably brings results. The manner in which they set up and then snipped the wicket of Warner was a treat to watch.

Kris Srikkanth should continue with their attacking brand of cricket and should always look at dominating the course of play. If I was the captain, one change I would strongly suggest is KL Rahul to open and Ajinkya Rahane at No. 4. The Mumbai batsman did well in the 2015 World Cup and with the next edition England, Rahane is one who can provide stability to the middle-order.

- TCM



Mauro Icardi of Inter Milan scores during the Serie A match against Bologna FC in Bologna, Italy.

## SU DO KU

8			3	9
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1	2		5	

### Solution of last problem

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

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T&Cs

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Fun... — Believe it or Not!

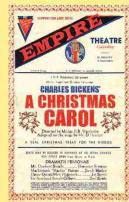


### Why did the idiom 'to pinch pennies' originate?

The idiom to pinch pennies means 'to spend as little as possible'. The origin of speech comes from the idea of pinching – meaning to squeeze. Ebenezer Scrooge, for instance, the main character in Charles Dickens' 1843 monthly tale A Christmas Carol, became known for his miserly ways because they were once called in Victorian England, who undergoes a transformation from bad-tempered penny pincher to happy and generous big spender over the course of one Christmas Eve.

The image of the greedy businessperson pinching sticks of money in his hand is usually developed into a noun 'scrooge', which refers to a mean-spirited miser (a synonym for penny pincher). Scrooge is also the name of Jacob Marley's rich uncle, Scrooge McDuck (Dagbert Duck).

Synonyms of 'to pinch pennies' are: conserve, cut back, cull, economise, cut down, manage, retrench, save, scrimp, skimp, skimp.

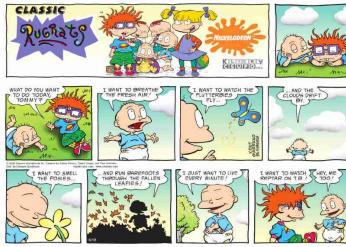


### Why? What?

thing between the finger and thumb — even penny before letting go of it. And someone who pinches pennies is naturally thrifty. Ebenezer Scrooge, for instance, the main character in Charles Dickens' 1843 monthly tale A Christmas Carol, became known for his miserly ways because they were once called in Victorian England, who undergoes a transformation from bad-tempered penny pincher to happy and generous big spender over the course of one Christmas Eve.

The image of the greedy businessperson pinching sticks of money in his hand is usually developed into a noun 'scrooge', which refers to a mean-spirited miser (a synonym for penny pincher). Scrooge is also the name of Jacob Marley's rich uncle, Scrooge McDuck (Dagbert Duck).

Synonyms of 'to pinch pennies' are: conserve, cut back, cull, economise, cut down, manage, retrench, save, scrimp, skimp, skimp.



### Why should children carry out household chores?

In a house, there are many household chores. Sometimes children are asked to do a few of them. Most of us refuse to do so, only a few do willingly. But these household chores are important for children like us. They help us in the future.

In the future, we might land up in a position where we have to do some of the household chores for us. In some cases, if the parents are both sick, it is the child who has to take care of the house. Nowadays, only girls are responsible for all the work around the house but we boys should at least do the minimum work to help our girls.

We children, who spend more time with the technological world than with our real life, should try to help our parents with household chores.

Household chores should be carried out by us as it becomes a lesson for our parents. And we should be responsible and will get to know how to deal with different tasks in life. Moreover, this will have a positive impact on our mental abilities to know what their elders do. Also, it helps us to escape laziness. Therefore, children should carry out household chores for their own benefit.

Children avoid doing housework because they are tired of their laziness. Laziness and excessive use of technological devices can lead to a lesser interaction between family members. We should help our parents in carrying out household chores because it can strengthen family bonds. Also, household chores can help the body to work more efficiently, which can prevent muscle fatigue.

Home is a child's first place of learning. A child's physical and mental development starts at home. To go in life, all kinds of household work are to be learnt by a child. We should learn to do some household chores like cutting the plants, cleaning the room etc. It will also help us to stand on our feet. By doing household chores, we can become mentally and physically. It is also a way of helping our parents. It is a stepping stone towards developing a good character.

Saptashree Bagophare, Class-VII, St. Mary's H. S. School, Dibrugarh.

**CONTRIBUTOR OF THE WEEK**

Jyotishmitra Kalita, Class-XI, Anandashram Baroohi Academy, Pathasala.

**POEM OF THE WEEK**

Jyotishmitra Kalita, Pathasala.

**SKETCH OF THE WEEK**

Salat Basak, North Guwahati.

**CONTRIBUTOR OF THE WEEK**

Jyotishmitra Gogoi, Guwahati.

**POEM OF THE WEEK**

Jyotishmitra Gogoi, Guwahati.

**SKETCH OF THE WEEK**

Jyotishmitra Gogoi, Guwahati.

The Assam Tribune

# PLANET YOUNG

GUWAHATI, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2017



A person has to treasure his roots — his family, place of birth, language, customs and traditions.

### I, ME, MYSELF

Public intellectual and journalist

Haider Hussain dreams of an ideal world.

The person who influenced me the most...

Was none other than my father. A simple farmer, his hard work, integrity and values made a deep impression on me and I became a better human being.

The turning point of my life...

There was a time when I used to eat at a food stall on credit, on my way back from school. The owner demanded his money and I paid him with my school fees. As I did not pay the school fees, I was asked to leave the school. Desperate to keep the matter hidden from my parents, I left home every day and went to the local library and stayed there for hours. All the books there. This had a profound influence on me and I began to see the world with new eyes.

Happiest moments of my life...

Are when I see a smile on the face of a neglected and exploited person, when he is rewarded for his hard work.

Changes I would like to see in the society...

I would like to see the return of human values and tolerance, unitingutherfordianism and universalism. A person has to treasure his roots — his family, place of birth, language, customs and traditions.

Message for today's youth...

We can't afford to be selfish, but are prejudiced and narrow-minded in our outlook. Social media, technology are just the means. It is up to us to create a just and free society.

It is up to us to create a just and free society.

— Ozone (O)

### Obesity linked to neighbourhood food joints

**C**hildren who live near fast food outlets are more likely to gain weight compared with those who live far away from such food joints. This is worrying, as a recent Indian study found that in 35 years, obesity has doubled among children. Moreover, an international journal predicted that there will be 17 million obese children in India by 2025.

Researchers from the University of the West of England (UWE) Bristol found that children under 1,500 who attended primary school aged 5 to 11. The study, which will be published in the Journal of Public Health, claims it is the first to show a link between access to fast food outlets and weight gain over time. The study's researcher, Martin Peacock, said: "Obesity is driven in many countries by food. Our study adds to existing evidence that the neighbourhood environment plays an important role in the development of obesity."

**D**ear people,

At the very outset, please accept my love. You are well informed about me in books, newspapers and on the Internet. I am writing this letter to you from a very fatal disease. It is fatal for you all too. Some steps are also being taken.

The giant UV rays come down to attack you. And I stop them like a breast-god. And I stop them like a breast-god. These rays have penetrated my body. Money and time are being spent to help me recover, but the problem persists. Please help me. Please do a big hole on that part of my body which covers Antarctica.

Chlorofluorocarbons or CFCs — are the ones to blame for this plight of mine.

**CONTRIBUTOR OF THE WEEK**

Jyotishmitra Kalita, Pathasala.

**POEM OF THE WEEK**

Jyotishmitra Gogoi, Guwahati.

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Jyotishmitra

Shubhang Agarwal, Class-V,  
Devi Public School, Kharaspur, Guwahati**Dear Ishani Aunty,**  
These days, I feel very bored by life. Nothing interesting seems to happen. Please help.

— Aryaman

**Dear Aryaman,**  
You need to do something new. Take up an interesting hobby, make a new friend, look at the woods, go for a walk. Adventure is never given on a platter. You have to go after it.**Dear Ishani Aunty,**  
I have a friend who is very weak in studies. My mother is unhappy with me being close to her, as she says my grades will fail, too.

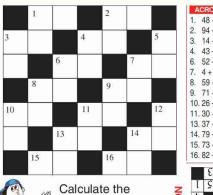
— Asha

**Dear Asha,**  
I am proud of you. You are a legal friend. Instead of abandoning her, you could help her in her lessons. That way, she would revise her subjects. All the best.**Dear Ishani Aunty,**  
I can't sleep at night. This makes me feel weak and irritable throughout the day. Please help.

— Vinayak

**Dear Vivek,**  
First, you need to find out why you can't sleep at night. You may be having some issues that trouble you. You may be playing too many games on your phone. You may not be getting enough exercise. Confide in your parents and let them help you.■ Please collect your certificates from our office.  
[Send your entries to planet\_young@assamtribune.com]

## Mini M@ths



Calculate the clues and fill in the grids with the answers.

SOLUTION

© Kim Egan - Puzzles

ANSWERS: 1) Features; 2) The hindbrain and the midbrain; 3) Graphite.

## PicSPEAK



NEXT WEEK'S PICTURE

## JOKES

Marley: "Do you know what's a Mummy's favourite music?"  
John: "No. What?"  
Marley: "(W) Rap music?"Ned: "Fish have holidays?"  
Fred: "No. They are always found in schools."Tim: "Do you know why the orange juice always walks across the road?"  
Jim: "No. Why?"  
Tim: "Because it ran out of juice!"Ned: "Do you know how music and fish are the same?"  
Joey: "No. How?"  
Ned: "They both have scales!"

by John Martin

Did You Know  
The first product to have a barcode was Wrigley's chewing gum.

3) Is the 'lead' of a pencil made from granite, graphite or dolomite?

ANSWERS: 1) Features; 2) The hindbrain and the midbrain; 3) Graphite.

## International Day of Peace

A day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace.

Each year, the International Day of Peace or World Peace Day is observed on September 21. The United Nations General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and cultures. The United Nations General Assembly declared, in a resolution sponsored by the United Kingdom and Costa Rica, the International Day of Peace, to be devoted to promoting and strengthening the ideal of peace. The United Nations General Assembly also organized the annual sessions of the General Assembly, on the third Tuesday of September. But this was changed in 2001, to the current annual celebration on September 21, each year.

The International Peace Day was first observed on September 21, 1982. The theme of the first International Day of Peace was the Right to Peace of Peoples. This theme was also chosen in the UN's 2014, marking the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the UN Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace, which recognises the promotion of peace is vital for the full enjoyment of all human rights.

The theme of the International Day of Peace is 'Respect, Safety and Dignity for All'. This theme is based on the 'together' global campaign that aims to promote safety and dignity for everyone forced to flee their homes in search of a better life.

(E-mail: [matrixvly\\_1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:matrixvly_1@yahoo.co.uk))

## Kids' Stuff BRAIN TEASERS

### QUIZ

Bhabani Rabha, Class-IX,  
St. Mary's English Sr. Sec.  
School, Maligaon.

1 In which year was 'The Ministry of Human Resource Development' created by the Indian Government?

2 When did the Bhopal Gas Tragedy take place?

3 Which major steel and iron centre of Jharkhand, India, was earlier known as Sakchi?

4 Which crop is also known as the 'golden fibre'?

5 Name the major hub of the IT Industry which is part of the Santa Clara Valley.

ANSWERS

4 Which country has no known mineral deposits?

### TOTAL RECALL

Study the six drawings in the box. Then answer the questions and see if you can guess what the picture is. **Solve it, Don't cheat, it's Very Good!**

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46. Utterdome 47.

**Wordwatch**

Pick the word that is closest in meaning.

1 Enfblade	4 Perveror
a) Raking gunfire b) Long valley c) Smoothness d) Sharpness	a) Inspector b) Overseer c) Supervisor d) Bounder
2 Balifal	5 Summary
a) Absurd b) Overflowing c) Stuffy d) Menacing	a) Gruffly b) Promptly c) Carelessly d) Unfairly
3 Chary	6 Pugnacious
a) Kindly b) Shady c) Contused d) Cautious	a) Speedy b) Spiteful c) Lascivious d) Aggressive

## BOOK NOOK

The Hate U Give

By Angie Thomas



## Towards the summit

## PLANET YOUNG

of the Bolting Pass, crossing many avalanche-prone areas. From there, we carried our backpacks, too heavy for our young shoulders, and trekked for around 16 kms and reached Rok – our

second time, as part of reduced route. It was the final day for the summit attempt. We had noodles with soup for breakfast and carried dry fruits, chocolates and soft drink with us. We started trekking at around 6 a.m. and reached the base camp and two guides from the Indian Mountaineering Federation. After six hours of climbing on steep mountain slopes, we reached the top at 10.45 a.m. I felt ecstatic on reaching the top and unfurling the school bag there.

There were numerous moments during the climb where we found it very tough and I felt like giving up. There were many hardships, but I kept faith in the Almighty. Finally, we summited at 10.45 a.m. and unfurled the flag of our school.

Then next day, we descended to Maranji

Cdt. Dheenj Narayan Yadav, Class XI,  
Sarki School, Gitaria.



activities like rappelling, river crossing, Berma bridge crossing, zipping, and many more activities, including acclimatization training. The next day, we advanced towards the summit. We reached the top of the Jyoti Falls, at a height of about 3,900 feet. The scenery was marvellous, but climbing was difficult for lack of oxygen at such high altitude. Then, on June 8, we proceeded for the expedition. We were taken in a booked vehicle until the end

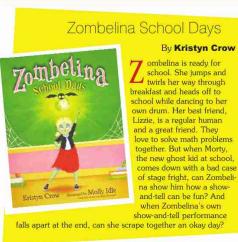
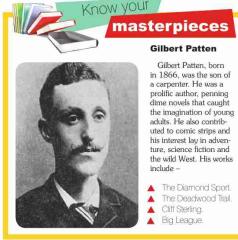
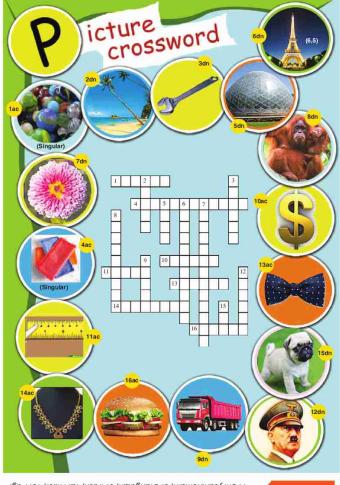
first place of halt for the night. Then we proceeded towards our base camp at 'Lady Leg'.

From the last day, our advanced and basic mountaineering training started. We were taught the various techniques and skills of ascending and descending the mountain, including vertical, cross vertical, horizontal, etc., and also preventive measures. After all the training, we were taken quite close to the summit

the next day, we marched to Maranji and stayed there for two more days. We were taken to the nearby hills to collect lemons for its natural hot water springs. Then we returned to Sarki School, Kurihara, where the closing ceremony was held. Then with a lot of satisfaction and happiness on our achievement, and with a plethora of unforgettable memories, we bid adieu for our school.

The mountaineering expedition lasted for only 20 days, but it has given me a lifelong experience.

"You can't fall if you don't climb. But there is no joy in living your whole life on the ground."



### IDIOM OF THE WEEK

Foot in the mouth



**T**he put one's foot in the mouth is to say something embarrassing, foolish, tactless. The phrase also means putting one's foot in one's mouth from about 1900 and is sometimes expressed as having foot-in-mouth disease, such as "He has a bad case of foot-in-mouth disease". This is a play on the foot-in-mouth (sometimes called hoof-and-mouth) disease that still exists.

In the fight against unclear and bewildering application of the English language, British community activist Christine Maher launched the Plain English Campaign in 1994, lobbying hundreds of government forms in London's Parliament Square. In addition to its lobbying efforts, the Plain English Campaign sponsored the Plain English Awards for the most baffling quotes by public figures.

British super model Naomi Campbell: "I love England, especially the food. There's nothing like more than a lovely bowl of pasta."

### When tomorrow comes

Dear Bhaiti, Bhonti,

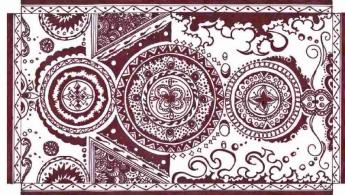
Many of us wait for tomorrow, expecting good things to happen to us. But the best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today. We admire great achievers and are amazed by their deeds. But while the rest of the world was sleeping, they were preparing to give their best shot.

With love, as always,

Nakash

*Sketch of the week*

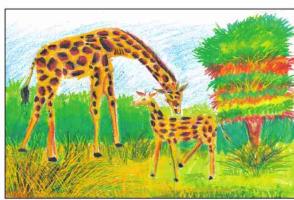
Sakat Basak, Class-X,  
Samiti Brata Gyan Jyoti, North Guwahati.



S. Sai Prasad, Class-XI  
B. Boronai College, Guwahati



Diksha Sarma, Class-V,  
Maharani Vidya Mandir, Banjara, Guwahati



Rockadeep Kashyap,  
Maharani Vidya Mandir, Birkuchi, Guwahati

**A busy life**

In a busy life,  
Time is a fixed income.  
In a busy life,  
Time is like a coin.  
In a busy life,  
Man is full of stress and tension.  
No man can switch movies on television.  
In a busy life,  
Man has no time to talk.  
In a busy life,  
Man has to always work.  
In a busy life,  
Man has to always be so busy.  
With all his work and duty,  
Making him go dizzy.  
Sometimes, in this life,  
Man forgets about humanity.  
He adheres in infidelity,  
Forgetting about humanity.  
In a busy life,  
Man is full of burden and pressure.  
No man can find delight or pleasure.  
In a busy life,  
We should find happiness  
And should have life  
A life of success.

Manali Rabha, Class-VIII,  
Delhi Public School, Nurmangalpur, Delegat.



Jyoti Moyee, Class-V,  
Vivekananda Kendriya Vidyalaya, Nazira, Swesagar

*Poem of the Week*

Jyothishma Gogoi, Class-IX,  
Diksit Public School, Guwahati.

**Her beautiful song**

Can you hear her beautiful song?  
The one which attracts the largest throng?  
Can you see her scarlet crest?  
Posture which is most erect?  
Can you feel the soft, delightful warmth?  
When she peeks upon the morning morn?  
So happy she is in her attire,  
As if she is the queen and the tree's her castle.

Can she be real too?

Together we will enjoy and

Lay happy with all.

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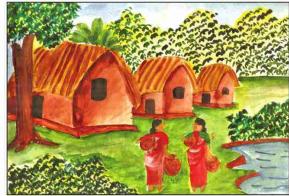
*My dream doll*

Do you dream every day?  
I do.  
Each night, when I go to sleep,  
I always want to dream of a princess doll.  
So beautiful and charming you are,  
I do dream of you...  
I love you.  
I want to play with you.  
Why do you come?  
Only in my dream?  
Can't you be real too?  
Together we will enjoy and  
Lay happy with all.

Mahoush Dutta, Class-I,  
Holy Child H.S. School.



Orpha Deb, Class-I,  
Happy Child High School, Guwahati



Dakshayani Sarma, Class-VI,  
Kendriya Vidyalaya, NIT, Silchar

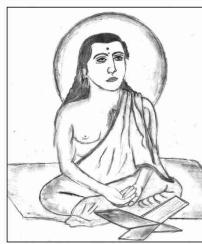


Shaila Tasnim, Class-VIII  
Don Bosco High School, Mangaldoi

**Be positive**

Experiencing life and  
Turning the pages of a novel,  
Curious minds relate to both.  
Next second of life is a stranger,  
And it is unpredictable.  
Be positive and spread positivity  
To defeat negativity.  
Blessings.  
Life is unpredictable.

Prarthana Devi, Class-XII,  
Sri Sri Aurobindo Kendriya Vidyalaya, Guwahati.



Jintu Deka, Class-VIII,  
Sri Sri Aurobindo Kendriya Vidyalaya, Guwahati



Kanja Neeli Kalita, Class-VI,  
Holy Child English Academy, Morigaon