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5152.2017

AASU stir tomorrow against Centre's move to amend Citizenship Act

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 30: The All Assam Students' Union (AASU) will stage a huge demonstration along with 29 other indigenous bodies in Guwahati on April 1 in protest against the Union government's move to amend the Citizenship Act.

A number of organisations of the State have also extended their support to the protest rally, to be staged in the Latasti playground here from 11 am.

To solve the issue of illegal influx of foreigners, the student body has demanded

proper implementation of the Assam Accord, to Assam after the cutoff date of 1971 irrespective of caste, creed or religion must be treated as a foreigner and no attempt to grant citizenship to them in the name of religion will be accepted by the people of Assam."

AASU president Dipankar Kumar Nath said.

The 29 ethnic groups that will take part in the demonstration include All Assam Tribal Association, All Assam Tibetaan League, All Assam Students' Union, All Ahom Students' Union, All Adivasi Students' Union among others. The

groups grounds.

Sadou Asam Karmachari Parishad (SAKAP) has also extended its support to the protest demonstration.

The other hand, leaders of five organisations - Purvottar Marowari Sammelan, Purvottar Hindustani Sammelan, Purvottar Marwari Yuba Mancha, Purvottar Hindustani Yuva Samaj and All Assam Bhojpuri Parishad at a meeting with the AASU leaders, extended their support to the student body.

"We are the signatories of the Assam Accord and registered their protest against giving citizenship to illegal migrants on reli-

Computer donated

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 30: Members of the Assam Forest Officers' Wives Welfare Society today donated a computer to the children of Saranbari Bagdhwan Deaf and Dumb School for enabling them to take up the cause of education.

President of the society, Nivedita Brahma handed over the computer to the students in presence of the school Principal, teachers and guardians, a press release said.

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People asked not to spit inside ATM booths

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 30: The Kamrup Metro district administration has warned of strict action against people found spitting betel nuts and other tobacco products inside ATM booths.

It has been observed that some members of the public spit betel nuts and other tobacco products inside the ATM booths and thereby cause dirtiness and create unhygienic atmosphere inside the booths. Hence, the district administration requests people not to indulge in such activities," said a statement issued by Dr M Angamuthu, Deputy Commissioner of Kamrup Metro.

He added, "If anyone is found engaging in such activities through CCTV recording, then strict action will be initiated against the offenders as per law."

Valedictory function

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 30: The valedictory ceremony of the month-long gardeners' training under skill development programme organised by the Assam Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium in collaboration with the Department of Horticulture and Food Processing and Krishii Vigyan Kendra, AAU, Kahikuchi, was held here on Wednesday.

The ceremony was attended by Dr KM Bujarbaruah, Vice Chancellor of AAU; Amlan Baruah, Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam, Agriculture Department and departmental officials and scientists of AAU.

Around 50 individuals from different districts of Assam took part in the month-long programme.

Smart India Hackathon

GUWAHATI, March 30: Three groups of students from the Assam Don Bosco University (ADB) will be taking part in the Smart India Hackathon 2017 competition to be held on April 1 and 2, said a press release today.

MARUTI SUZUKI



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| Programme Details of the Central Function at Guwahati (31.03.2017 - 04.04.2017) | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| DATE | LOHIT CONFLUX AREAS (Sukreswar Ghat) | DHANSHRI AMPHITHEATRE (Sukreswar Ghat) | MAIN DOME GYM | MANAS SYNTHETIC CENTER (Kachanari Ghat) | JAI BHIMALI THEATRE (Kachanari Ghat) | DOKHON SHIKHATS ARENA (Kachanari Ghat) | XNU ECO ZONE (Sukreswar Ghat) |
| DAY 1 31.03.17 | Opening Ceremony | 360 degree Immersion multiple shows | Movie Screening 1 Slot | Indigenous Sports | Open | Open | Open |
| DAY 2 01.04.17 | Tribute to Assamese Industry | Cultural Performance 1 Kuchipudi Sammelan | Movie Screening 4 Slots | Indigenous Sports | Painting Competition & Essay Competition Multiple Shows of Documentary Movie | Open | Open |
| DAY 3 02.04.17 | Tribute to the Art of Assamese Music | Cultural Performance multiple shows | Movie Screening 4 Slots | Indigenous Sports | Photography Competition & Multi-Genre Competition Multiple Shows of Documentary Movie | Open | Open |
| DAY 4 03.04.17 | Dr. Bhupen Hazarika | Cultural Performance & Puppet Show | Movie Screening 1 Slot | Indigenous Sports | Quiz Competition & Multi-Genre Competition Multiple Shows of Documentary Movie | Open | Open |
| DAY 5 04.04.17 | Closing Ceremony | Cultural Performance | 360 degree Immersion multiple shows | Movie Screening 1 Slot | Indigenous Sports | Creative Writing Competition & Story Narration, Multiple Shows of Documentary Movie | Open |

Disclaimer: The Event Schedule is subject to change without any prior notice. The images shown here are just for reference.

Event Highlights: Grand Opening & Closing Ceremony in Guwahati | Industry Symposiums | Yoga | Cultural Performances | Indigenous Sports | Laser Shows | Tea Festival | Local Cuisines | Exhibitions and more

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MESSAGE FOR TODAY

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The Assam Tribune**Triggering uncertainty**

The fateful moment has finally arrived. After 44 years of remaining in the European Union, while not giving up on issues such as having a common currency even while accepting migrants from other EU nations, Britain is all set to steer its course alone. With Prime Minister Theresa May invoking Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union and formally notifying European Council president Donald Tusk of Britain's intention, the divorce papers, so to speak, have been filed. In broader terms, the Brexit decision was an outcome of a conflict between people of 'Great' Britain who still cherish notions of past glory and pragmatists who saw the country's global status as it really was. Commencing from the 18th century this tiny island nation had planted its imperialistic flag across a huge chunk of the planet, making such an enormous impact that English has assumed the guise of the unifying language of the world. Yet today she is a shadow of her former self; the imperial heights she achieved during the 19th century have become irrelevant; the occurrence of two World Wars crippled her economically. Though she in theory retains her 'superpower' tag, she is actually a second-string one, perhaps the reason why her pragmatic politicians had decided to join the European Union and fought so hard but in vain to prevent her exit from that entity.

Yet, in triggering Brexit, May has also triggered an uncertain future. At the pre-Brexit stage, pessimists predicted that Britain, by voluntarily giving up its favoured status in the enormous EU market, would not only deal a blow to globalization, but also bring about economic disaster upon herself. Others had focused on the security angle, asserting that in a world confronting terrorism, Britain's security would have been better served if she had remained within the bloc of 28 countries that constitute the EU. Socially, Brexit has exposed the undercurrents of ultra-nationalistic chauvinism existing in Britain and might boil off the multicultural ethos which she flaunts. Little wonder that Scotland is already crying foul and has expressed her desire to exit from the UK! It would, of course, require two years of tough negotiations for Britain to know what she get out of the deal after exiting, but the very fact that she would be deemed a EU member during that period, forestalling her from cutting deals with other countries, might further handicap her economy. India is likely to suffer due to Brexit – Indian multinationals, due to reasons of familiarity and easier access, had made the UK their business gateway to Europe and had invested heavily in the expectation that it will make intrusion into Europe more viable. Now these companies are worried that the British market by itself was not worth the investment and are scrambling to work out an alternative strategy.

Embankment repair

While the recurring phenomenon of floods in Assam warrants matching and timely arrangements for preventing the damages to standing crops, human settlements and vital infrastructure like roads, such an approach remains conspicuous by its absence. As of now, we have a vast stretch of embankments with a total length of km as the chief flood control measure but unfortunately, maintenance and repair of these structures have left a lot to be desired. Over the years, the strange practice of our governments to release funds just ahead of the rainy season has been a big stumbling block for effective flood control. This is despite the fact that the lean winter season provides the authorities enough time in which to complete such work. Even today, the ongoing repair work of damaged embankments has been abysmally slow even as there are indications that the pre-monsoon season could arrive sooner than anticipated. According to Water Resources Department itself, only nine of the 98 schemes have been completed so far. It's more than apparent that the department would struggle to get the works completed before the monsoons, leaving thousands of families to fend for themselves once the floods start. Late release of funds apart, factors such as delay in getting various clearances also act against efficient execution of flood control projects but more than anything else, this points to sheer lack of coordination among government departments, and hence cannot be a tenable excuse.

The huge network of existing embankments is worn out, with over 70% of the embankments not witnessing any maintenance since the past five-six decades. It is hardly surprising that the several waves of floods last year had caused breach of a number of embankments, inundating large swathes of settlement and cropland. Similarly, anti-erosion measures, too, have fallen short of meeting their objective, with huge landmass eroded by the Brahmaputra every year. Resolving the twin menace of flood and erosion undoubtedly entails huge expenditure but it is also true the worthiness of the existing measures was put to scrutiny. Rather than persisting with conventional means, the Government should consider experimenting with emerging technologies for tackling the menace. We need to evolve a mechanism that is long-term, scientific, and with due thrust on environmental aspects that are known to aggravate flood conditions. On the whole, the increasing magnitude of flood and erosion calls for a rethink on our flood management. Merely pumping in funds is unlikely to serve any long-term purpose unless a foolproof protection mechanism is worked out with thrust on expertise, planning and execution. A complete overhaul of the Brahmaputra Board which is entrusted with the job of preparing flood and erosion control projects is another must, as it lacks the technical expertise to deal with what is essentially a very complex problem of flood and erosion in the State.

Trump's inconsistent 'grand' strategy

■ Obja Borah Hazarika

Debate about with regard to the US President Donald Trump's worldview and possible foreign policy actions. Allies and foes alike are apprehensive about the strategies which Trump may adopt to tackle the challenges to the US as perceived by his administration. Three primary challenges to the economy, society and culture of the US have been identified by Trump. The first is the rise of immigration which has been identified as the sole cause behind the fall in the standard of living as well as a job crunch of Americans. The second challenge identified by the US is the threat of terrorism posed to the Americans and their way of life by the rise of Islamic radicalism. The third challenge has been identified as the US' economic and military engagements and the economic practices of countries like China as these have been considered responsible for the less than exemplary economic situation in America.

Trump's 'America First' doctrine has been enunciated to tackle these challenges. First, with regard to tackling the perceived downturn in the US economy, Trump has proclaimed several statements which are protective in nature to ensure that the Americans are the first beneficiaries of all policies in the economic realm pursued by the US. To this end, the US has withdrawn from the negotiations on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and threatens to withdraw from the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), stating that the US does not benefit from such multilateral economic engagements. Other eco-

nomic protectionist measures include threats to impose economic barriers against countries like China and penalize US companies which outsource jobs. Trump has also enunciated that the US would no longer subsidize the security of its wealthy allies in Europe and Asia as such involvement of the US is seen as draining its wealth.

In a bid to tackle terrorism emanating from radical Islam, the next tenet of the America First doctrine includes the US military campaign against the Islamic State, cooperate on counter-terrorism with Russia, embark on a hard-line and militaristic approach against Iran and North Korea, and ban the illegal and even in some cases the legal entry of people and, most recently, disallow the entry of electronic gadgets from certain countries into the US.

Trump intends to buttress the US naval, air and ground forces, cyber warfare capabilities and nuclear weapons. Even American Muslims who have been viewed by Trump's team as susceptible to be favourable towards the IS may be subject to overt surveillance.

With regard to tackling illegal immigrants, who have been identified as one of the main reasons for the job and wage crisis of Americans, especially those which come in through and from Mexico, the Trump team intends to erect a border wall and undertake mass de-

portation of illegal immigrants.

Trump's strategies, which resorted to a break with past policies of the US, have led to consternation among both foes and allies of America. Most of the strategies outlined by the Trump team however do not seem to be viable in tackling the triple threats of the economic downturn, radical Islam and illegal immigration as identified by the current administration.

For instance, the intention to co-

The isolationist decision of Trump to withdraw from the negotiations on the TPP may lead the countries which are involved in the TPP to view the US as unreliable and unpredictable and may in turn lead them to view partnerships, both economic and strategic, with China to be more feasible....

operate with Russia on counter-terrorism without conditioning such cooperation on the latter's withdrawal of its support to Assad in Syria is tantamount to the US tacitly conceding to Assad's authoritarian reign. In addition, a hard-line stance towards Iran that is being contemplated by Trump including the possibility of withdrawal from the Obama era nuclear agreement could lead Iran to complicate the US endeavours to tackle the threats emanating from the IS in Iraq.

Further, instead of enabling the US to tackle the terrorist threat

originating from the IS, measures such as banning the legal entry of citizens from countries with overwhelming Muslim populations could further the rift between the US and these nations which would effectively scuttle the possibility of cooperation of such nations with the US to tackle the threat of terrorism. Other Islamophobic measures such as increasing surveillance on the Muslim population in the US could also augment tension and hostility between citizens in the country leading to the possibility of clashes between communities.

Additionally, Trump's intention to decrease US support to its allies in Europe and Asia, which is considered to be a waste of resources, is also problematic as such actions could lead the US' allies to question its reliability as a strategic partner and they may become less willing to cooperate with the US on countering terrorist or cooperating with it in case of financial crises.

The US' allies in Europe and Asia have played a vital role in upholding the liberal order, free trade and democracy which forms the framework that has thus far ensured the continuation of the liberal capitalist system, the key beneficiary of which has been the US. The US runs the risk of undoing the liberal capitalist order and causing harm to its economy, image and overall strength, if it withdraws support to such allies.

Moreover, Trump's decision to hard-line stance on China with regard to the unfair trade practices followed by the latter may antago-

nize the overall relations between the two which may lead to the even greater militarization of China and prevent the two nations from cooperating on threats emanating from North Korea. The isolationist decision of Trump to withdraw from the negotiations on the TPP may lead the countries which are involved in the TPP to view the US as unreliable and unpredictable and may in turn lead them to view partnerships, both economic and strategic, with China to be more feasible given that China, unlike the US, has continued with the negotiations on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, a free trade agreement similar to the TPP. Furthermore, building a wall along the US-Mexico border will not be as effective as providing aid to tackle crime and poverty in Central America which is the root cause of illegal immigration into the US.

Countries like India which has cordial ties with the US may also be concerned about the US policies under Trump pertaining to changes in the H1B visa regime; its possible return to isolationism; its intransigence on climate change; its intentions to mediate the Kashmir issue and its Islamophobic attitude towards Muslims.

Trump's strategies embedded in his 'America First' doctrines are thus riddled with inconsistencies. Instead of alleviating the challenges faced the US, the Islamophobic attitude towards the challenges of radical Islam and immigration, its intention to be isolationist in anachronistic manner and threats to build economic and physical barriers around it, may instead lead to their grave escalation with acute domestic and international reverberations.

Assam tourism development: still a long way to go

■ Jupi Gogoi, Rituraj Borah

The immense potential and scope of tourism in Assam can be compared to a hidden trove ready to be unearthed. Assam, which boasts of an exceptional biodiversity affluence, has myriad things to offer in bio-tourism, cultural tourism, adventure tourism and the like. After a long period of slack and lackadaisical steps, the recent initiative from the Government of Assam to promote tourism is definitely a welcome step. However, when Priyanka Chopra was appointed as the brand ambassador of Assam tourism, it presented a series of questions. There cannot be any doubt about her calibre and appeal when it comes to acting. Her recent rise to fame with her international projects has made Chopra a household name in India. However, since she is mostly based out of Los Angeles now, wouldn't it be difficult to schedule an endorsement commercial shoot? Wouldn't someone from Mumbai be a better choice for the job? The fact that the photo shoot of the advertisement was done the same

day and in the same attire in which she met the top authorities in the State only indicates that her moving abroad for international projects will definitely hinder her availability for the tourism campaigns of the Government, thus negating the Government's earnest efforts.

The hasty execution of the advertisement which depicts Priyanka Chopra in a black and white dress against the backdrop of a rhino and forest does not fully justify the State's intent and the land's potential. The visual imagery has to be catchy and the background, costume and other nitty-gritty have to be synchronized to make it appealing to the masses.

The most disagreeable part of the advertisement however was the travel slogan 'Naturally wild, *Kyukti yeh Assam hai'*. Do we want to depict our tourism only based on wildlife and national parks? We definitely take pride in our one-horned rhino and we derive immense gratification from the fact that Assam's tiger density is among the highest in the world. Our *ghars, satras, Bihu, cuisine, di-*

verse culture, et al., fill our hearts with as much pride and joy as our wild. Hence, while crafting an advertising campaign for our tourism, we must holistically include each aspect of Assamese culture, tradition and biodiversity.

Another important angle to the entire '*Kyukti yeh Assam hai*' slogan is the fact that we are already narrowing our focus to travellers from northern India. Wouldn't a slogan in English be a better choice for travellers across India and abroad?

A good travel slogan/tagline serves both as the identity and fervent advertisement of the place. The obvious goal of the advertisement campaign is to convert the reader of the tagline into a tourist. By using specific psychological and linguistic techniques, travel slogans can be made highly persuasive and enticing. In order to create a strong brand identity for Assam tourism, there is an immediate need to craft a slogan which is catchy, unique, easy to remember and subtle yet bold. Important and concrete steps are to be taken in that regard.

It is very satisfying to note that steps are finally being taken to promote tourism in the State. While

all the aforementioned steps are necessary to take the efforts to the next level, we appreciate the Government's role and eagerness for the initiative.

There is one more aspect to this whole tourism promotion business that cannot be ignored. In order for tourists to have a first-class experience, there is a need for an internal mechanism to deal with the needs and grievances of tourists. Information centres, grievance redressal mechanisms, state-authorized travel agents, travel maps and brochures, etc., must be created and distributed on a mass scale. Assam's places of interest are not well published among the nation's travel journals and blogs. An initiative has to be taken to write exhaustively about them while explaining the routes, best time of journey, preparation, etc. The focal points of Assam's tourism need to be developed and promoted. In order to make the places accessible, transport and logistics have to undergo an extraordinary advancement.

The role of the local population is equally crucial to give a head start to the State's tourism industry. Local communities must be encouraged to actively participate and volunteer for the different resourcing roles so that in a spread of time, they can be entrusted with broader responsibilities. A global tourist population also brings an array of cultures to our lands. Local communities must be imparted sensitivity training to keep a receptive mind and a positive attitude towards the different cultural exposures.

There is a Herculean task ahead of setting up of world-class accommodation centres, hotels, guest houses, restaurants serving global cuisines while maintaining a high level of hygiene. Local cuisine using high quality ingredients must be promoted and made available.

A well-established and organized tourism sector in the State can contribute to the three most important aspects of economic development – generation of income, employment opportunities and foreign exchange earnings. Furthermore, investments in tourism will ascertain biodiversity protection, funds for development of roads and infrastructure, cleanliness, uplift of the local masses and many other developmental activities.

Letters to the EDITOR

Sir – The Government should

look into some practical and concrete solutions to solve the problem of riverbank erosion. Plantation of Vetiver grass (*Chrysopogon zizanioides*) using scientific methods can lead to an economical yet effective method to fight the erosion problem along the riverbanks of Assam. The roots of the Vetiver grass grow downward and has the ability to survive under flooded water; it is also drought-tolerant. We need to give stress on using Vetiver grass along the banks of the Brahmaputra river for fighting erosion. Apart from preventing erosion by the roots, the stem of Vetiver grass can also be used as animal fodder.

Instead of wasting the taxpayers' money in some undesired festivities, the Government should adopt a scientific and natural approach to curb the riverbank erosion which will be a true relief for the flood-hit people of Assam. Yours etc., JYOTI RUPAM DUTTA, Hatisila, Chandrapur.

not inspired by the English Department. Nevertheless, for making our Arts graduates fit for the changing societies, every college must have one permanent teacher of English with specialization in Linguistics and phonetics, who must be made responsible for teaching and evaluation of a compulsory phonetics and spoken English course with a progressive, learner-centred syllabus. Yours etc., Dr MUKUL KR SARMA, Sarukshetra.

Doctor-patient ties
Sir – There has been a lot of hullabaloo about this topic which unfortunately has few takers. There has been a relationship of trust between patients and doctors since long and that vibe continues even today. Every doctor worth his salt shall treat his patient to health; that is a personal redeeming factor for any doctor and authentication of his dignified livelihood. It is also true that we cannot think and act coherently when in emotional turmoil like imminent loss of our dear ones. So it is wrong to expect a caregiver to work flawlessly when in emotional turmoil like imminent threat to his person. It is justified to be angry but never to be bad. We cannot take law in our own hands. The need of the hour is tolerance,

though the context has changed. There has to be goodwill in this noble profession which is unfortunately eroding slowly. Many bright students opt out of this profession nowadays. This bodies ill for the future health scenario of the entire nation. Yours etc., Dr JBNN DUTTA, Guwahati.

Good job

Sir – Through your esteemed daily, I would like to thank the Chief Minister of Assam, the officials of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, the Assam Police concerned and all other agencies directly and indirectly involved in the arrest of Subhash Biswas, the mastermind of the Saptapuri incident and his close accomplice Subash Biswas, for their untiring and relentless efforts in this connection. Now it is time for the authority concerned to award exemplary punishment to Biswas and his gang so that no such organization can raise anti-Assamese voice in Assam in the future. Yours etc., JUNI YOTI SAIKIA, Angmo, Sivasagar.

Armed forces

Sir – In Assam, it can commonly be observed that veterans from armed forces are not given the due respect they deserve. The bureaucrats of the ACS are not

taught about the ranks of the armed forces. So, a circle officer or an ADC doesn't know his equivalent ranks prevailing in the armed forces. They even don't know the worthiness of war medals like Ashok Chakra, Shaurya Chakra, etc. The bureaucrats must be taught about the armed forces during their initial training. Yours etc., AMLESH MEDHII, Morigaon.

Naga peace pact

Sir – The framework agreement which the Modi Government signed with the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (IM) in 2015 was kept under wrap for long two years. The motive behind keeping the agreement a secret is very much apparent now. Elections are over and things have come to the fore. We believe deceit has no place in democracy. However, before making such a big decision, the Modi Government should have discussed the issues with the various stakeholders like the Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur governments and the people. Yours etc., DEEPAK MAJUMDER, 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.

Stage set for Namami Brahmaputra festival

CORRESPONDENTS

MANGALDAI, March 30: The Darrang district administration, with the cooperation from all sections of people, has completed preparations for the smooth celebration of the biggest river festival of India, 'Namami Brahmaputra' along with other districts of the State.

The five-day-long programme of the festival, organised for the first time in the State, will ceremoniously be inaugurated in Kuruwa on the northern bank of river Brahmaputra on March 31 at 9 am with ceremonial lighting of traditional lights while the Sengen Chapor and Gandhi Maidan of Mangaldai and Sipajhar in the district are also going to host different programmes of the festival showcasing the traditional culture of the district.

Besides the cultural activities, events on academic, literary and sports will also be arranged with the participation of youths, women, students and even senior citizens of the district.

Addressing mediapersons at the conference hall of the office of the Deputy Commissioner here recently, Deputy Commissioner Asok Kumar Barua said that the historically important places of the district including the ancient temples, tanks, Krishnabati memorial at Pothorughat, the residence of Koch Kings of Darrang, Orang National Park will be highlighted during the festival.

The inaugural programme at Kuruwa will include traditional sports, worshipping of river Brahma-

putra, felicitation to the distinguished persons, excellent traditional fireworks from Barpeta district and cultural activities. Intimate session for poets, competitions among students and other literary events at Sengen Chapor and Gandhi Maidan of Mangaldai will mark the second day's programme. Literary seminars, debate and quiz competitions, on-the-spot drawing competitions among the students will be other events of attraction.

In the cultural function to be organised at Gandhi Maidan, a cultural team from friendly neighbouring audience besides singer Manas Robin. The budget for the mega event has been estimated at Rs 12 lakh approximately.

The Army operating in the district will also organise a display of equipment and a career counselling programme for the students and the youth of the district. The district administration has also made arrangements for a conducted tour at a minimum rate for the tourists.

The press conference was followed by the ceremonial release of the audio album of the theme song of the festival composed by veteran artiste Dindubon Salariah with lyrics of the DC's office and sung by a few prominent radio singers including Pranjal Sarma, Rinti Monika Deka, Jibendra Mohan Deka Sarma and additional deputy commissioner Kapan Deka, among others.

The Deputy Commissioner in presence of chief executive officer



A large number of devotees welcome Satradhikar of Uttar Kamalabari Satra Sri Sri Janardan Deva Goswami and other Satradhikars as they reach Biswanath Ghat on a boat on way to Guwahati for Namami Brahmaputra Festival, at Biswanath on Thursday. — UB Photos

of Darrang Zila Parishad Bhupesh Chetia Das, additional deputy commissioners Bidyut Bikash Bhagawati, Namaryan Nath and Kalpana Deka respectively, assistant commissioners Meenakshi Perney and DIPRO Samal Kaliya ceremonially released the Darbar.

GOALPARA: The five-day-long Namami Brahmaputra Festival, the biggest river festival of the nation, gets under way in Goalpara Kacharibagh in the 'Borukh' Samanay Khetra' on March 31.

The mega festival, which is a part of the strategy to promote tourism potential as well as investment in the district, will be used to explore and showcase the rich attractions of the district like the *salt pati*, terracotta art, handicraft, blackberry, strawberry cultivation, international theatre (Baudhngulpa) etc. Art and cultural activities, exhibitions, sporting activities like boat race will be held on the occasion.

The river festival, which is expecting a huge turnout of the local people as well tourists, will also showcase 14 tourism sites in the district and, in this regard, five tourist circuits have already been prepared with trained guides.

A promotional video has been prepared besides brochures on various archaeological sites and important places.

The Deputy Commissioner

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The major attractions of the festival here are – Brahmaputra van-dana, community yoga, cultural programmes, traditional sports, magic shows, ethnic food festival exhibition, seminar, kabitar dupori, green quiz, river cruise and adventure sports.

Tinsukia district administration has made all the preparations for smooth conduct of the festival. But the adverse weather condition has affected the preparation of the festival.

The Deputy Commissioner of Tinsukia district, Ranjan Chakravarty has urged all section of people to be part of this five-day-long mega cultural festival, which will create an environment for reconnecting the people of Assam with their roots and rejuvenate the Brahmaputra civilization.

NORTH LAKHIMPUR: Elaborate arrangements have been made for the celebration of Namami Brahmaputra Festival, which has been conceptualised by the Chief Minister of Assam, will be full of activities which will carve a niche for Goalpara as an important destination for trade, culture and tourism.

DOODOMOON: Tinsukia is all set for Namami Brahmaputra Festival to be celebrated from March 31 to April 4 at Hatigul, Dholna with an aim at cherishing the pristine beauty and blessings of the mighty Brahmaputra which epitomises the culture, heritage and civilization of Assam.

The festival has been organised by the Tinsukia district adminis-

tration with the support of the people of Tinsukia.

The second day of the festival will see competitions like beach volleyball, cock fighting, egi-kunam, drawing contest etc. Cultural programmes like Bihu dance, Tai bihu, Goonrag, Selyo dance, Karbi and Tiwa dance and playing of dholi by ojas will also follow on the evening of the second day.

The third and fourth day's pro-

grammes will have kabaddi, tachkando, tug-of-war and traditional forms

of games like earthen pot-breaking contest, netting contest and cultural programmes like Deori bihu, Bodo dance, Jhumur, Galo dance, Nyishi dance, Lo'sa Sonam, Nepali dance, Zikir, Mibu Dagman, Bhor taal dance, mime and bhason. The souvenir of the festival will also be inaugurated on the third day. On the final day of the festivities, sporting events for veterans will be held followed by the open session. Fashion show on ethnic and traditional attires and a cultural night will also be held in the evening of the last day's programme.

The programme will start on March 31 with the *yogabhyas* at 7

Forest land encroacher nabbed
CORRESPONDENT

Resentment over poor road condition at Pathsala

ANN Service

PATACHARKUCHI, March 30: Strong resentment prevails among commuters, especially people from the northern part of Pathsala railway station as the approach road towards the level crossing and after the level crossing has deteriorated to such an extent that it has become dangerous for travellers on this road.

At the time of filing this re-

port, the employees and students, those who use the road frequently, face untold miseries.

Mention may be made here that thousands of people from a huge rural area comprising a number of villages use this road from dawn to dusk risking their lives. The road has deteriorated to such an extent that the potholes have turned into a death traps for the commuters and chances of accident have increased.

As the rainy season commences, the road becomes more accident prone. An accusing finger has been pointed at the Railway authority as it has failed to pay heed to the problems of the people. It is also alleged that the quality of construction work done by the contractors on this road has been very poor. People here demand early repair of the road for the greater interest of the general people.

Biennial meet of Dhubri dist MV school teachers held

CORRESPONDENT

GAURIPUR, March 30: The 29th biennial conference of the Dhubri district MV school teachers was held at the premises of Balajan MV School with a day-long programme recently.

In the morning, Basanti Sarkar, president of the association hoisted the flag and was followed by *smriti tarpon* by Ajrul Haque, president of the reception committee. The delegates

meet chaired by Momor Ali, working president of the RC adopted a number of resolutions including revised pay scale.

The open meeting held in the afternoon was presided over by Basanti Sarkar and the objectives were explained by Sohrab Ali, secretary of the RC. A large number of invited guests including Kshitindra Nath Ray, Abdul Kalam Ahmed, Biraj Das, Zabed Ali, Jahir Ali Mandel, Jagadish Jagad Ray,

have increased.

Anowar Hussain addressed the meeting and told the teachers to render their services with sincerity and dignity. An executive body of the association was also formed with Sabrah Ali and Abdul Mannan Khan as president and secretary respectively with another 19 members. The meet was attended by more than a hundred delegates coming from different MV schools of the district.

ABSU awareness programme on blood donation

CORRESPONDENT

KOKRAJHAR, March 30: The All Bodo Students' Union (ABSU) organised a training-cum-awareness programme on blood donation at its head office Bodola House Conference Hall, Kokrajhar recently.

ABSU president Promod Boro presided over the awareness programme. Dr Sunil Mukherjee and Dr Amit Chakraborty, Voluntary Blood Donor's Association, Jharkhand and Dr Sunil Kaul, the ANT, Chirang attended the programme and spoke on the occasion. Around 150 ABSU volunteers from Chirang and Kokrajhar district participated in the programme.

It may be mentioned here that ABSU is planning to organise blood donation camps in Bodoland region from April 23, 2017 to April 23, 2018 in connection with the Bodoland movement and the initiative will continue until the Bodoland State is created, ABSU sources said.

Rosheswar Saikia: a tribute

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

DRIBURGARH, March 30: An ex-Servicemen's rally and *Veer Naris* interaction programme was organised by the Dibrugarh battalion of the Indian Army under the aegis of Divo Division at the Rang Ghar Auditorium of Dibrugarh University recently.

The event was attended by over 750 people, which included 374 ex-Servicemen, 58 widows and two *Veर Naris* from the district. Senior Army

officers of Dao Division, Indian Air Force officers, civil dignitaries, government officials and corporate representatives also participated in the rally, a release stated.

The rally provided a platform to the ex-Servicemen, widows and *Veर Naris* to interact with Army and civil officials and seek redressal of their grievances. A medical and dental camp was also organised for the veterans and *Veर Naris*.

Assistance and information

stalls on health, pension and other financial benefits and employment opportunities were put up by ECHS and the Zilla Sainik Welfare Office. Various civil employment agencies were also pooled in to widen the post-retirement employment arena for ex-Servicemen and their wards.

All the *Veर Naris* present during the event were felicitated. An entertainment programme was also organised for the veterans and *Veर Naris*.

With simple living and high thinking along with straight talk, he could attract the respect of others.

As a commitment to his

age of 77, He was an example for Dergaon youths as he had faced immense challenges to get established in life.

Born in 1941, he started his schooling at Garmarah LP School situated at a remote flood-affected village, 10 km off Dergaon town. After completing his primary education, he started his business at Dergaon

with no capital. With his dedication, effort and honesty he could establish his business at par with other established businesses of Dergaon town. His establishment titled, 'Saikia Furniture' became popular within a short period of time and later he became an established businessman from the Assamese community.

With simple living and high thinking along with straight talk, he could attract the respect of others.

—Sanjoy Kr Hazarika

LP teachers' training ends

CORRESPONDENT

JAGIROAD, March 30: A six-day teachers' training camp of lower primary school students under Major block was organised at the Swami Lakshmi Deka HS School premises here, which concluded on March 27.

Altogether 115 teachers from 80 LP schools under the block participated in the training camp. Kandarpa Deka and Lakhimpur Saikia imparted training on various factors like pro-layering, writing, reading, etc.

A valedictory function was also organised on the occasion under the chairmanship of Madhuram Pator, HM, Swami Lakshmi Deka ME School in which Dr Hema Chutia, HoD, Education, Jagadron College released a souvenir titled *jyoti*.

The programme was also organised on the occasion under the chairmanship of Madhuram Pator, HM, Swami Lakshmi Deka ME School in which Dr Hema Chutia, HoD, Education, Jagadron College released a souvenir titled *jyoti*.

After the ceremony, the trainees were Dr RK Borah, senior scientist, who taught the youth about the role of youth on environment conservation; K Vlhipoi, DDM, NABARD, who spoke about different schemes of bank and cashless transaction; GP president of No. 2 Bhogamukh GR, Pramod Boro who talked about Panchayati Raj; Jagannath Agui Bora, Ambedkar award winner, who spoke about registration process and documentation of youth clubs; Ramen Saikia, Prajnal Dutta, Biraj Barrah, journalists, who spoke about communication skills, role of print media and electronic media; Director, RFRI, RSC Jairai, who spoke on character building and keys of success to youth participation; senior scientist of RFRI Rajib Kumar, who stressed on youth participation in nation building and Biju Sarmah, who shared his views on information technology and responsibilities of youth towards society.

The field visit was guided by Bibhuti Deka, scientist of RFRI. The whole programme was run under the guidance of Dilip Sarmah, DYC, NYK, Jorhat and Biju Kr Sarmah, president of Rengoni: A Hope along with Pranjal Borah (chief

secy) and Girinda Saikia (secy). During the training programme the best youth (boy) was awarded to Gun Gun Baruah and best youth (girl) was awarded to Muskan Sultana.

The closing ceremony was presided over by Director, RFRLRSC Jorhat. In his speech, he told the trainees that reading, writing, visiting and interacting with others, are the most important points for youths to become leaders.

Dilip Sarmah, DYC of NYK, Jorhat, said that 'Nation First-Character Must,' was the main motto of organising the programme.

Lawyers threaten legal action against BSNL

CORRESPONDENT

MANGALDAI, March 30: Coming down heavily on the poor service by the post office by the BSNL in the greater Mangaldai area over the last couple of months and the alleged apathy of the BSNL authorities towards addressing the grievances of customers, a section of lawyers of the Mangaldai Court recently served a notice to the General Manager, BSNL, Tezpur, demanding him to restore the service within a period of seven days or face legal action.

In the notice signed by Madhab Rajbongshi, senior advocate and former MP of Mangaldai, and his colleagues, the

including Narayan Chakraborty, Hanif Ali and Saberul Ahmed, among others, stated that they had earlier moved the local BSNL authorities for streamlining service without any positive outcome, which compelled them to approach the General Manager at Tezpur.

The petitioners set a seven-day deadline from the date of receipt of the notice to ensure regular service and warned of taking legal action, including claim for compensation or damages, if the service was not restored.

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The closing ceremony was presided over by Director, RFRLRSC Jorhat. In his speech, he told the trainees that reading, writing, visiting and interacting with others, are the most important points for youths to become leaders.

Dilip Sarmah, DYC of NYK, Jorhat, said that 'Nation First-Character Must,' was the main motto of organising the programme.



Activists of various organisations staging a road blockade programme in demand of reconstruction of Teok-Boloma-Nakachari road, at Mariani on Thursday. — UB Photos



Ministry of Civil Aviation

Government of India



Narendra Modi

Prime Minister

Giant Strides in the Aviation Sector

Government of India Announces

THE AWARD OF REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY FLIGHTS

after the first round of bidding under

UDAN-Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik

**For 50% of the seats on every flight,
pay only Rs. 2500 per seat for one hour of flight**

| Unserved / Underserved Airport | Connected To | Likely Month of Operation in 2017* | Airline Operator |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Bathinda | Delhi | March | Alliance Air |
| Shimla | Delhi | April | Alliance Air Air Deccan |
| Agra | Jaipur Delhi | June August | Alliance Air Air Deccan |
| Bikaner (Nal) Gwalior | Delhi | June | Alliance Air |
| Indore Lucknow | September | Alliance Air | |
| | June | Air Odisha | |
| Kadapa | Hyderabad | June | Trujet |
| Bengaluru | June | Trujet | |
| | September | Air Odisha | |
| Chennai | September | Trujet | |
| | September | Air Odisha | |
| Vijayawada | September | Trujet | |
| Ludhiana | Delhi | June August | Alliance Air Air Deccan |
| Nanded | Hyderabad Mumbai | June June | Trujet Trujet |
| Pathankot | Delhi | June | Alliance Air |
| Vidyanagar | Hyderabad Bengaluru | June July | Trujet Trujet |
| Burnpur | Kolkata | July | Air Deccan |
| Cooch Behar | Kolkata | July | Air Deccan |
| Durgapur (Andal) | Bagdogra Kolkata | July July | Air Deccan Air Deccan |
| Jamshedpur | Kolkata | July | Air Deccan |
| Rourkela | Kolkata Bhubaneswar | July September | Air Deccan Air Odisha |
| Bhavnagar | Ahmedabad Surat | August August | Air Odisha Air Odisha |
| Diu | Ahmedabad | August | Air Odisha |
| Dwarka (Mithapur) | Ahmedabad | August | Air Odisha |
| Jalandhar (Adampur) | Delhi | August | SpiceJet |
| Jamnagar | Ahmedabad | August | Air Odisha |
| Kandla | Mumbai | August | SpiceJet |
| Kanpur (Chakeri) | Delhi Delhi Varanasi | August September September | SpiceJet Air Odisha Air Odisha |

| Unserved / Underserved Airport | Connected To | Likely Month of Operation in 2017* | Airline Operator |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Kullu (Bhuntar) | Delhi | August | Air Deccan |
| Mundra | Ahmedabad | August | Air Odisha |
| Pantnagar | Dehradun Delhi | August | Air Deccan Air Deccan |
| Porbandar | Mumbai | August | SpiceJet |
| Puducherry | Hyderabad | August | SpiceJet |
| | Chennai Salem | September September | Air Odisha Air Odisha |
| Shillong (Barapani) | Agartala Aizawl Dimapur Imphal Silchar | August August August August August | Air Deccan Air Deccan Air Deccan Air Deccan Air Deccan |
| Ambikapur | Bilaspur | September | Air Odisha |
| Bilaspur | Raipur | September | Air Odisha |
| Jagdalpur | Raipur Vishakhapatnam | September September | Air Odisha Air Odisha |
| Jaisalmer | Jaipur | September | SpiceJet |
| Jalgaon | Mumbai | September | Air Deccan |
| Jeypore | Bhubaneswar | September | Air Odisha |
| Jharsuguda | Bhubaneswar Raipur Ranchi | September September September | Air Odisha Air Odisha Air Odisha |
| Kolhapur | Mumbai | September | Air Deccan |
| Mysore (Mandacally) | Chennai | September | Trujet Air Odisha |
| Nashik (Ozar) | Mumbai Pune | September September | Air Deccan Air Deccan |
| Neyveli | Chennai | September | Air Odisha |
| Raigarh | Raipur | September | Air Odisha |
| Salem | Bengaluru Chennai Puducherry | September September September | Air Odisha Trujet Air Odisha |
| Sholapur | Mumbai | September | Air Deccan |
| Utkela | Bhubaneswar Raipur | September September | Air Odisha Air Odisha |
| Bidar | Bengaluru | Approval Awaited | Trujet |
| Hosur | Chennai | Approval Awaited | Trujet |

In a century of Civil Aviation, only 76 airports became operational in India with scheduled commercial flights; now, in one year, 33 unserved airports are being added

Next round of RCS – UDAN bidding commencing shortly

50 Airports being revived in next two years in small and medium cities for scheduled commercial flights

Growth rate of 23% in 2016 in domestic passenger traffic – amongst the highest in the world

Significant reduction in average airfare by about 28% in 2016

*Commencement of operations would depend on various factors such as preparedness of airlines, condition of airports, support from State Government, etc.



No plan on extending GST roll-out beyond July 1: Finmin

NEW DELHI, March 30: The government is not thinking of extending the roll-out date of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) beyond July 1, and businesses and traders must ensure preparedness by then, the Finance Ministry said today.

"So far as state of preparedness goes, both Central and State governments are ready to implement GST on July 1. At the moment there is no ground to think or for discussion on extension of date beyond July 1," Economic Affairs Secretary Shaktikanta Das told BTW in an interview.

The industry asking for more time for preparedness, Revenue Secretary Hasmukh Adhia said that businesses must step up to ensure readiness by July 1 as the roll-out date has

already been postponed from the earlier targeted April 1.

"We are saying from the first day, that we will be ready by April 1. That time also businesses said they were not ready. It is sounding strange. They should go the extra mile to be ready by July 1. Our goal is July 1," Adhia told BTW in an interview.

"It (fitment of goods) will take some time but businesses need not wait and they need to get ready by changing their Enterprise Resource Planning systems, IT systems. Even the small businesses need to hook onto some kind of accounting software. There are 34 GST software providers who have got their own accounting software. Their is one free software which will be on GSTN portal," he said.

He said that the businesses

need not be worried on the fitment of commodities in the tax slabs as these will be fitted in the nearest tax slab to their current incidence of taxation.

"I don't think businesses need to be worried as the fitment formula is already known.

Take the present incidence of taxation and we will try to fit it in the nearest available slab. For very few commodities, the Council may make some changes. But more or less it is a mechanical exercise," he said.

"Rate is not crucial for preparedness of GST. Indirect taxes can be changed anytime and businesses are used to it. Even at midnight, indirect tax rates have been changed earlier. So there is no hurry in taking decision on rates," he said.

Allaying fears on GST in-

creasing the cost of services, Adhia said that the main component of transport – petrol and diesel – is zero-rated under GST and for most of the other services, rate of tax will be less than 18 per cent.

Petroleum products though included in the GST net have been kept zero-rated for now as States were not comfortable giving up their large share of revenue that comes from these. The States will wait and see the tax buoyancy, and decide accordingly after the first year of GST implementation.

"Rate of tax will be much less than 18 per cent. Not all services will be at 18 per cent. For services which may move from 15 per cent to 18 per cent tax rate, will be able to claim input tax credit," he said. – IANS

Govt worry inconsistent with policy: TRAI

NEW DELHI, March 30: The Telecom Commission's arguments that reduced tariffs and promotional offers are lowering government revenue and hitting financials of the sector are "inconsistent" with public policy objectives, regulator TRAI has said.

In response to the Commission's letter of last month, TRAI is also learnt to have stated that consumer interest is "critical" to good regulation and cannot be substituted with revenue maximisation. It is a well-

known fact that lower tariffs help increase penetration of telecom services in rural and remote areas, TRAI has said in its letter to the Commission.

Affordable services and consumer interest are some of the key elements of the National Telecom Policy 2012, which

surprisingly appear to have been overlooked and maximization of Government revenue which is not one of the objec-

tives of NTP has been given centre-stage by the Telecom Commission in its letter dated February 23, 2017," it added.

The Telecom Commission had expressed concerns on the "serious impact" of promotional offers on the financial health of the sector and the capability of telcos to meet their contractual commitments, including payment of instalments for spectrum purchased, and

repayment of loans.

The war of words between the two bodies comes against the backdrop of telecom tariff wars following the entry of Reliance Jio a few months ago, offering free voice and data.

Incumbent cellular operators have said that Jio's freebies have hit the profitability of telecom companies. They have moved telecom tribunal TDSAT against the regulator's decision to allow Jio to continue with its promo offers. – PTI

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In view to support, strengthen and improve the quality of Elementary Education in the state of Assam in compliance with the Right to Education Act, 2009 and as per the provision of the Assam Elementary Education (Qualification) Rules, 1997 as amended in 2005 and 2012, online applications are hereby invited from the qualified candidates, who are Citizens of India as defined in Article 5(6) of the Constitution of India for filling up of 2939 Nos. of regular vacant posts of teachers in Upper Primary Schools under the Directorate of Elementary Education, Assam.

This is the approval of the Education (Elementary) Department, Govt. of Assam letter No. PMA-345/2016/94 dated 29/03/2017.

The distinctive and category-wise break-up of vacancies are shown below:

| | Assistant Teacher | Total |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------|
| Science Teacher | 1129 | 32 |
| Maths Teacher | 61 | 17 |
| Hindi Teacher | 1473 | 40 |
| Arabic Teacher | 176 | 50 |
| Total | 2939 | |

The regular teachers working in LP schools are not allowed to apply in any post in the Schools mentioned above in UP Schools are not allowed to apply in any post in UP Schools. However, regular LP teachers if otherwise eligible may apply in UP Schools through proper channel only.

7. All eligible contractual teachers may apply to any one of the posts.

8. A candidate can apply only once in any of the districts mentioned above, if found otherwise the candidature of the candidate shall be cancelled.

Qualifications:

| Sl. No. | Category | Essential Qualification & experiences | Scale of Pay |
|---------|----------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
|---------|----------|---------------------------------------|--------------|

1. Assistant Graduate degree from the UGC recognized University and UP TET and 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education or B. Ed. or D. Ed. (Special Education) or B. Ed. (Special Education)

2. Assistant Graduate degree from the UGC recognized University and UP TET and 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education or B. Ed. or D. Ed. (Special Education) or B. Ed. (Special Education)

3. Science Graduate B. Sc. degree from the UGC recognized University and UP TET qualified in Science and Mathematical stream and 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education or B. Ed. or D. Ed. (Special Education) or B. Ed. (Special Education)

4. Hindi Graduate degree from the UGC recognized University having Hindi as one of the subjects and UP TET and 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education or B. Ed. or D. Ed. (Special Education) or B. Ed. (Special Education)

5. Arabic Graduate degree from the UGC recognized University having Arabic as one of the subjects and UP TET and 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education or B. Ed. or D. Ed. (Special Education) or B. Ed. (Special Education)

6. English Graduate degree from the UGC recognized University having English as one of the subjects and UP TET and 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education or B. Ed. or D. Ed. (Special Education) or B. Ed. (Special Education)

7. Sanskrit Graduate degree from the UGC recognized University having Sanskrit as one of the subjects and UP TET and 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education or B. Ed. or D. Ed. (Special Education) or B. Ed. (Special Education)

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86. Marathi Graduate degree from the UGC recognized University having Marathi as one of the subjects and UP TET and 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education or B. Ed. or D. Ed. (Special Education) or B. Ed. (Special Education)

87. Punjabi Graduate degree from the UGC recognized University having Punjabi as one of the subjects and UP TET and 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education or B. Ed. or D. Ed. (Special Education) or B. Ed. (Special Education)

88. Assamese Graduate degree from the UGC recognized University having Assamese as one of the subjects and UP TET and 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education or B. Ed. or D. Ed. (Special Education) or B. Ed. (Special Education)

89. Bengali Graduate degree from the UGC recognized University having Bengali as one of the subjects and UP TET and 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education or B. Ed. or D. Ed. (Special Education) or B. Ed. (Special Education)

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Barpara residents foil abduction bid, save 3 girls

CORRESPONDENT

BONGAIGAON, March 30: Residents of Barpara in Bongaigaon town foiled an abduction bid by capturing two motor-cycle-borne youths today. However, another scooter-borne youth managed to flee the spot, the residents claimed. The two accused were later handed over to police. The three youths reportedly attempted to abduct three teenage girls from Barpara area today, the residents added.

Later the police arrested the accused identified as Mazul Haque (23) and Mukhlul Ali (25). Both of them are residents of Gurmurimar in Chapar area of Dhubri district.

According to the victims, Mukhlul had befriended with one of the teenagers a month ago at a dhaba near the town.

Today Mukhlul with his two friends came to Bakrapara and attempted to abduct the girl and her two friends. The youths were taken into police custody at Bongaigaon Police Station for interrogation. A parent of one of the three girls lodged an FIR at the police station this evening against the youths with a charge of abduction, the police said.

Meanwhile, local people of the town urged the police to probe the possible links of these accused with woman trafficking rackets or some fundamentalist groups.

Arun Sarma's death condoled

DOOMDOOMA, March 30: Doomdooma Press Club (DPC) condoled the death of eminent Assamese playwright and novelist Arun Sarma. In a condolence message, DPC president Anuj Kalita and secretary Abhijit Khatanai termed Sarma's death as an irreparable loss to the Assamese culture and literature. Tinsukia District Journalists' Association, Doomdooma Sahitya Sabha, Doolooma Jatiya Vidyalaya, Learners' High School and several other individuals and organisations also condoled the death of Sarma. — Correspondent

RECRUITMENT NOTICE For LDA/COPYIST/TYPIST for the District Judiciary of Dima Hasao and Karbi Anglong Districts

THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT AT GUWAHATI
(The High Court of Assam, Nagaon, Mizoram and
Arunchal Pradesh)

Website: www.gchonline.gov.in

Advertisement has been published in the official website and Notice Board of the Gauhati High Court at Guwahati inviting online applications from 12.00 PM of 01-04-2017 to 5.00 PM of 15-04-2017 from eligible candidates for filling up of 52 (Fifty two) newly created posts of LDA/ COPYIST/ TYPIST for the district judiciary of Dima Hasao and Karbi Anglong Districts, Assam in the scale of pay of Rs. 5200-20200/- with Grade pay of Rs. 2200/- The vacancy position is indicative only and may vary at the time of final selection. Detailed advertisement can be seen in the Notice Board and website of the Gauhati High Court at Guwahati.

Sd/- M.K. Kalita,
Registrar (Admin.)-cum-In-Charge,
Centralized Recruitment,
Gauhati High Court

ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited from the ex-servicemen Officers of the rank of Brigadier, Colonel or equivalent rank from Navy/Air Force for recruitment to the post of Director, Sainik Welfare, Assam. The applicant must be a citizen of India and fulfill the following requirement. Recruitment to the post shall be made through selection on merit and on the guideline issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Defence, Department of Ex-Servicemen, Sera Bhawan, New Delhi.

Qualification: The candidate must be graduate in Arts/ Science/Commerce from a recognized University.

Age:- The age of the Ex-servicemen shall not more than 60 years. 1st January will be the crucial date for reckoning the eligibility of the applicant for the post.

Terms of Service: The tenure will be for a period of 5 years.

The application complete with required bio-data should reach the undersigned on or before 20.04.2017. No T.A./D.A. will be admissible for appearing before the selection committee.

Sd/-Amarendra Barua, IAS
Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
General Administration Department

Jansanyog/10775/16

(ANEXXURE-II) ENGAGEMENT NOTICE OF HOME GUARDS VOLUNTEER IN KAMRUP DISTRICT

Application are hereby invited from the intending Home Guards volunteer of Kamrup District (Kamrup Rural and Kamrup Metro) for engagement under various Agencies in Kamrup District. Eligibility and other condition applicable to the Guards volunteer are as per rules laid down in Assam Home Guards (Engagement) Rules 2015.

1. Number of Post: 120
2. Place of Deployment: Kamrup District

3. Desirable Qualification:
(i) Minimum class VIII Pass
(ii) Home Guards volunteer Certificate from Kamrup District (mandatory) willingness certificate obtained in 2015-16 from the completed course for a period of three years as per Assam Home Guards (Engagement) Rules 2015.

4. Desirable Qualification: (1) Driving Licence Holder
(2) Good Health
(3) Extracurricular activity certificate if any
(4) any skil development certificate

5. Age Limit: 55 years maximum; preferably below 35 years

6. Important Dates:
(a) Last date for submission of application : 01.04.2017
(b) Last date of submission of application: 29.04.2017

7. Wages:
(i) Rs. 25/- per day for Basic Trained Home Guards volunteer
(ii) Rs. 45/- per day for Advance Trained Home Guards volunteer

The above mentioned wages are fixed and additional perks, my be given by different agencies subject to fulfillment of performance and size of the volunteer.

8. Selection Process:
Home Guards volunteer will be shortlisted on the basis of First Come First Serve. The final list of candidate will be prepared based on the period of volunteers whose service is not valid for engagement. The selected volunteers are engaged for fitness, enthusiasm and turnout of Home Guards volunteers. No TADA will be admissible.

The job of Assam Home Guards volunteers is purely voluntary in nature and no volunteer can claim any appointment/engagement as a Home Guards Volunteer. Every volunteer will be engaged as a Home Guards Volunteer during his/her deployment tenure. Hence volunteers are advised not to come under the influence of any third persons who is related to their engagement and thereby causing any trouble. Every volunteer will be brought back to his/her place of residence and deployment units will be brought back to his/her place of residence.

No Home Guards volunteers can dictate any terms regarding choice of deployment post. All the valid order of deployment from the competent authority are to be strictly followed and disciplinary action may be taken against those of such order.

The undersigned reserves the right to change/modify/accept/reject any application without any information to the volunteers.

Sd/- District Commandant Home Guards
Kamrup: Assam

Jansanyog/10762/16



Women in search of firewood, in Demow on Thursday. — UB Photos

Dist admin launches awareness drive for Dhemaji bypoll

CORRESPONDENT

The DC said, "This is new for our voters. We are focusing on creating awareness on the VVPAT".

However, campaigning is in full swing despite the odd situation prevailing in the district after Silapathar incident on April 9. Dhemaji district administration has launched awareness campaign to enthuse more voters to exercise their franchise in the bypoll.

The bypoll to the constituency, which is reserved for Scheduled Tribes (ST) candidates, was necessitated after it was relinquished by BJD MLA Pradan Baruah following his election to the Lok Sabha in November last year.

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Parliament completes Budget exercise before March 31

NEW DELHI, March 30: In a first, the Parliament today completed the Budget exercise for fiscal beginning April 1 well before the start of the financial year, giving the Government more time to implement welfare spending programmes and taxation plans.

Scrapping a colonial-era tradition of presenting the Budget at the end of February, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley for the first time in the history of independent India presented the annual accounts on February 1.

While the Parliament had earlier approved of the spending proposals (demands for grants) and the General Budget, it cleared the taxation proposals contained in the Finance Bill 2017 today.

The Rajya Sabha, where the ruling party does not have a majority, yesterday approved of the Finance Bill with five amendments, but the Lok Sabha today rejected all the changes and Speaker Sumitra Mahajan said the Bill was considered approved in the original form by the Parliament. This will ensure that the

proposals take effect from April 1.

To ensure that the Budgetary exercise is over before the fiscal ends, the Government had within a couple of hours after the Rajya Sabha proposed five amendments to the Finance Bill introduced them in the Lok Sabha. The Lok Sabha today got those amendments defeated by voice vote after a debate, which lasted barely a couple of hours.

The Government now has one full working day to get the President's assent to the Finance Bill.

Relying to the debate, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said the Rajya Sabha amendment capping political donation by companies cannot be accepted as it would limit the number of donors to political parties.

On the change approved by the Upper House to curb more powers to taxmen, he said the Government as a matter of "abundant caution" and to protect whistle-blowers has provided that the "satisfaction note" or the reasons for initiating a search

or survey would only be shared with court and not with the person or entity in question.

With regard to electoral funding, the minister asked the Opposition to suggest a better system which will ensure clean money and transparency.

"I am only hearing adjectives like 'it must be clean,' 'it must be transparent.' Please give me an ideal combination of the two. We are willing to consider it. I will wait for a

classification of expenditure under plan and non-plan heads and also merged the Railway Budget with it, ending a nearly century-long practice.

Advancement of the Budget will give government departments more time to spend as well as allow companies time to adapt to business and taxation plans.

The five amendments, as was passed by the Rajya Sabha, included deletion of two clauses that provided more powers to taxmen for requisition books of account of an assessee and power to survey.

The Rajya Sabha had also approved of an amendment that there should be a cap of 7.5 per cent of net profit of the three-stage Parliament approval process used to get completed some time in mid-May, weeks ahead of the onset of the monsoon rains. This measure gives the departments that start spending only from August-end or September after the monsoon ends.

Besides, advancing the presentation date, the Budget also scrapped the specific suggestion," Jaitley said.

Previously when the Budget was presented at the end of February; the three-stage Parliament approval process used to get completed some time in mid-May, weeks ahead of the onset of the monsoon rains. This measure gives the departments that start spending only from August-end or September after the monsoon ends.

On the change approved by the Upper House to curb more powers to taxmen, he said the Government as a matter of "abundant caution" and to protect whistle-blowers has provided that the "satisfaction note" or the reasons for initiating a search

mandated Rs 3 lakh, biometric identifier Aadhaar has been made mandatory for filing tax returns and cheque-only contributions has been allowed to electoral trusts as part of its campaign against black money. An amendment to the Companies Act of 2013 made donations by companies to electoral trusts only through account payable cheque, bank draft or electronic transfer.

It also allows for dissolution of as many as seven appellate tribunals with their work being taken over by other existing tribunals. The tribunals scrapped include the Competition Appellate Tribunal, whose functions will be taken by the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT).

The Airports Economic Regulatory Authority Appellate Tribunal and Cyber Appellate Tribunal will be replaced and their functions will be taken over by the Telecom Disputes Settlement Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT). Also, the Copyright Board will be dissolved and its functions will be taken over by the Intellectual Property Appellate Board. - PTI

BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED (A Govt. of India Enterprise) OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TELECOM DISTRICT, BSNL BHAWAN: TEZPUR - 784001

NO. PH-101/T2/Stationery/Tender/2016-17/29

Dated at Tezpur the 29/03/2017

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

On behalf of GMTD, BSNL, Tezpur, West Sealed Tender are hereby invited from authorized manufacturers/distributors/dealers/Indian companies for supply computer stationery for Tezpur SSA as detailed below:

- Date of issue of tender document from 31/03/2017 to 20/04/2017 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM.
- Last date of submission of tender documents is upto 14.00 hrs on 21/04/2017.
- Cost of tender document Rs 575/- (Rupees Five hundred seventy five only).
- Details are available in BSNL website www.assam.bsnl.co.in.

Sd/-, Divisional Engineer (Pig),
O/o the GMTD, BSNL, Tezpur

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited Assam Asset, Sivasagar

Chief Manager (MM), MM Section, OT Complex, Drilling Services, ONGC, Assam Asset, Sivasagar invites e-bids as per details given below:

Tender No. R1CS017001, Description: Procurement of FOVS & Kelly Cook: Tender fee: ₹6,000.00/USD 100.00, Delivery period: 120 days from the date of LCA. Period of sale of tender documents: 31-03-2017 to 25-04-2017/1400 hrs, Techno-commercial bid closing/opening date: 25-04-2017 at 1400/1500 hrs

Assam Asset, Nazira

GM-IC MM, ONGC, Assam Asset, Nazira invites e-bids from Indigenous bidders tender under Two Bid system for the following services:

Tender No. R16TC17001, Description: Hired Hand-in Services/Supply of LT Cables, Category: 2000-2500 m, Period of sale of tender document: 01-03-2017 to 25-03-2017, Contract period: 03 years from the date of NOA. Tender fee: ₹500/- Period of sale of tender document: 31-03-2017/00 30 hrs. to 25-04-2017/1300 hrs. Techno-commercial bid closing / opening date & time: 25-04-2017 at 1400 / 1500 hrs. Last date for submission / opening of physical document: up to 25-04-2017 at 1400 / 1500 hrs. Note: In case of exigencies ONGC at its option may decide to extend tender sale/closing/opening date/time in future which will be posted on the referred website for information.

Bidders are requested to check tender website for latest information in this regard. New vendors shall ensure to approach ONGC for issue of vendor code along with all the required documents minimum 5 working days prior to bid closing date. For details of above tender including compensation if any, please log on to website: tenders.ongc.co.in & etender.ongc.co.in

UNITED BANK OF INDIA



Nagaon Regional Office
Haladhar Bhuyan Market
Natura Bazar Chariali, Nagaon 782003.

PREMISES REQUIRED

United Bank of India requires suitable ready built and well constructed half type office accommodation having Carpet Area of around 1000 sq ft on lease basis preferably in the groundfloor with good frontage and all facilities including adequate power along with space for Vehicle parking, V Sat & Generator for our Mission Chariali Branch located in Mission Chariali. Interested Landlords/Power of Attorney Holders of such premises in the desired locality may send their offers under two bids system i.e Technical & Financial bid in the prescribed format available on Bank's Web Site www.unitedbankofindia.com or the same may be obtained from the above address during office hours. The offer should reach us undersigned on or before 20/04/2017 at the above address.

No Brokerage, Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers at its sole discretion without assigning any reasons thereof.

Sd/-Chief Regional Manager,
Nagaon Regional Office

HDFC AUCTION SALE NOTICE

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED

LAST DATE & TIME of Submission of EMD and Documents on/before 13.04.2017, up to 3:00 P.M.

Sale of immovable property (s) mortgaged to Bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Leasing of Immovable Properties, the Authorised Officer of Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (HDFC Ltd.) has taken possession of the following properties pursuant to the notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 (hereinafter referred to as "the Rules"). The Authorised Officer of HDFC Ltd. plus dues interest as detailed hereunder and where necessary upon failure to repay the dues, the undeposited in excess of power conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act proceeds to realize HDFC Ltd.'s dues by sale of the said property in accordance with the rules under Section 13(5) of the said Act.

No Brokerage, Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers at its sole discretion without assigning any reasons thereof.

Date: 30.03.2017

For details & conditions refer www.hdfc.com

TERMS & CONDITIONS : (1) It shall be the responsibility of the bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the asset and documents referred to in the auction notice and the terms and conditions of sale mentioned therein. The auction will be held on 11.04.2017 at 3:00 PM on 12th April 2017. The auction is being held on "AS IS WHERE IS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS". (2) To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on any property. However, the interested bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding any encumbrances, title of property put up for auction and the nature of the same. The Authorised Officer/Secured Creditors of the concerned property (as mentioned above) by Demand Draft in favour of "HDFC Limited" payable at par should be deposited in the Tender Box at the reception of the Authorised Officer/Secured Creditors of the concerned property (as mentioned above) by 10:00 AM on 11th April 2017. 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India refuses to categorise attacks on Africans as racial

NEW DELHI, March 30: India today refused to categorise the attacks on African nationals in Greater Noida as racial and said pending probe, it is not correct to draw a conclusion on "the nature and the reason" of these acts.

On the alleged attack on a Kenyan woman yesterday, External Affairs Ministry spokesman Gopal Baglay said Kenya diplomats had a meeting with officials of the Ministry concerned and it has been conveyed to the Indian side that the reported incident "does not correspond with reality." Asserting that such attacks were "completely unacceptable and have been condemned," he said the Government is engaged with the authorities concerned as well as the students.

Asked if these were racial attacks, Baglay said, "Pending the investigation, it is not correct to go into the nature and reason for these particular activities." There will be a better understanding after the outcome of the probe, he said.

Baglay said the External Af-

fairs Minister has spoken to the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and Minister of State for External Affairs MJ Akbar who has spoken to the acting High Commissioner of Nigeria.

"We are in touch with the Nigerian High Commission in New Delhi. The students who were hurt during the incident have been treated in a local hospital and have already been released," he said.

Law enforcement authorities of the district have made arrests and a large number of persons are under watch, he said, adding, "The investigation is on and the law of the land will prevail."

The ministry sees these acts as "the action of the uninformed and misguided few," Baglay said they do not detract from the deep belief of the Government and the people of India of "vasudena kutumbakam" (the world is one family).

"We will continue to welcome African people, including students and youth, as valuable partners. Our engagement with Africa, embodied among others in the implementation of the historic IAFS-III, will continue to grow," he said.

Baglay said the External Af-

NATIONAL

Centre urged to recall Lt Governor Kiran Bedi

PUDUCHERRY, March 30:

Members of the ruling Congress party and Opposition AI-ADMK (Ammu) today hit out at Puducherry Lt Governor Kiran Bedi in the Assembly for "disrespecting" the Government, MLAs and delaying development works and demanded that the Centre recall her.

Participating in a debate set in motion by AIADMK's A. Anbalagan after the Vote on Account Bill was passed by voice vote on the opening day of the two-day Assembly session, the MLAs wanted the House to adopt a resolution to urge the Centre to recall Bedi.

Anbalagan alleged that the Lt Governor delayed the approval of Cabinet decisions once they were placed before her and added that this affected the development works in the union territory. Congress legislators K Lakshminarayanan and RKR Anandanarayanan also criticised Bedi and called for a resolution to persuade the Centre to recall the former IPS officer.

The members also sought action against Municipal Commissioner R Chandrasekar, who they alleged was acting on Bedi's "directives" to "disrespect"

them and the Government.

Recently, a meeting was held by the Commissioner with the members of self-help groups in Madalapet without informing AIADMK's A Baskar, the local MLA. The Commissioner had also lodged a police complaint against Baskar after he raised questions about the meeting.

Anbalagan said the MLA has approached the Privileges Committee seeking action against the Commissioner for holding the meeting without informing him.

Chief Minister V Narayana Samy said whenever any such event was held, it was the duty of the officers to inform the legislator concerned and associate him or her with it.

In response to the appeal for a resolution to urge the Centre for recalling Bedi, Speaker Vaithilingam asked Anbalagan to table it in the House for consideration.

Regarding the Municipal Commissioner approaching the police with a "false complaint" against a legislator, he directed the Government to replace him and keep him under compulsion wait till the privilege issue was disposed of. - PTI



Members of All India Democratic Students' Organisation taking out a protest rally in Patna on Thursday. - UNI

82,048 houses built under PM Awas Yojana-Urban

NEW DELHI, March 30:

A total of 82,048 houses have been constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY-Urban) as on March 20, 2017 and of these 16,42,885 have been sanctioned in March 2017. These include the subsumed projects under the Rajiv Awas Yojana, it said.

According to the details provided by the Government, under PMAY-Urban, a total of 16,42,885 have been sanctioned in March 2017. These include the subsumed projects under the Rajiv Awas Yojana, it said.

Minister for Planning Rao Inderjit Singh said Uttar Pradesh was one of the States relatively lagging behind in the implementation of the scheme.

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During the Question Hour in the Rajya Sabha, several Opposition members raised concerns that at the present pace,

Minister for Planning Rao Inderjit Singh said Uttar Pradesh was one of the States

relatively lagging behind in the implementation of the scheme.

According to the details provided by the Government, under PMAY-Urban, a total of 16,42,885 have been sanctioned in March 2017. These include the subsumed projects under the Rajiv Awas Yojana, it said.

Minister for Planning Rao Inderjit Singh said Uttar Pradesh was one of the States

Oil cos asked to stop plying BS-I, BS-II vehicles in NCR

NEW DELHI, March 30: The National Green Tribunal directed the public sector oil companies today to immediately stop plying Bharat Stage-I and Bharat Stage-II vehicles in the National Capital Region for transporting petrol or petroleum products.

A bench headed by NGT chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar ordered Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd and Hindustan Petroleum to immediately stop such vehicles from plying and directed the authorities not to renew their registration.

On the issue of BS-III vehicles, the green panel directed the managing directors of these companies and representatives of their contractors to hold a meeting and devise a plan to phase out BS-III vehicles.

The tribunal directed the Special Commissioner of Delhi Police (Traffic) to ensure compliance with this order without default and delay.

"We direct that all the vehicles of these companies which are working under different contracts in Delhi-NCR and the diesel vehicles which are admittedly more than 10 years old and are BS-I and BS-II compliant shall be withdrawn forthwith from the road. They shall not be plying at all in NCR, Delhi. The Managing Directors of all these companies shall be personally liable for compliance norms come into force.

During the hearing at the NGT, the counsel for Bharat Petroleum told the bench that the contractors working under the company own 99 diesel vehicles out of which 30 vehicles are BS-II compliant and 69 vehicles are BS-III compliant.

The counsel appearing for the Indian Oil Corporation informed the green panel that the contractors working under the company own 640 diesel vehicles out of which two vehicles are BS-I compliant, 622 vehicles are BS-II compliant and 16 vehicles are BS-III compliant. - PTI

Petrol transportation

With this order," it said. "As far as BS-III compliant vehicles run by contractors under the tenders are concerned, within two weeks from today, the Managing Directors of all the three companies along with representatives of the contractors shall hold a meeting and submit to the Tribunal a complete programme with regard to phasing out of all the diesel vehicles which are more than 10 years old and are BS-III compliant," the NGT said.

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Duterte threatens top newspaper, broadcaster

MANILA, March 30: Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte today described two major media outlets as "sons of whores" and warned them of karma repercussions for their critical coverage of his deadly drug war.

Duterte's verbal attacks on top television broadcaster ABS-CBN and the Philippine Daily Inquirer newspaper came in a pair of speeches in which he also lashed out at the European Union for criticising him over alleged human rights abuses.

"I'm not threatening them but someday their karma will catch up with them," Duterte said to the two media outlets.

"They're shameless, those sons of whore journalists."

Duterte named the Prieto and Lopez families that own the Inquirer and ABS-CBN respectively, calling them "oligarchs" who use the media to promote their chosen political candidates.

"That is what ails the Philippine society: it is the corrupt media, the face of Prieto and Lopez and their money and the church," he said.

He also threatened to use the government TV station to shame those two families.

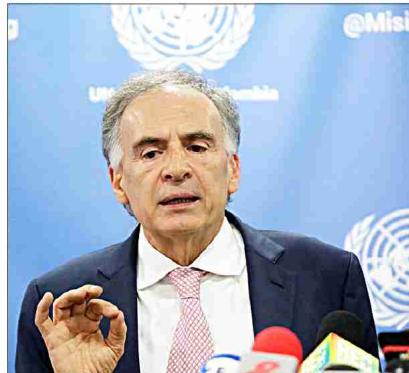
"I will give you your due also. I will go through your lives and those of your children," on government television, he said.

Duterte easily won presidential elections last year after vowing to eradicate illegal drugs in society by killing tens of thousands of people.

Since taking office in June, police have reported killing at least 2,564 people in drug raids while more than 4,200 others have been killed in unexplained circumstances, according to official figures.

Rights groups have warned he may be overseeing a crime against humanity, while the European Parliament has been among other extremely critical foreign institutions.

Duterte frequently responds to critics with foul-mouthed defiance. He also branded then US president Barack Obama a "son of a whore" last year. — AP



Jean Arnault, Chief of the UN Mission in Colombia, holds a news conference in Bogota, in Colombia on Wednesday. — UNI

China wants to survey seas to its east: Philippines

MANILA, March 30: The Philippines said today that China wants to survey potentially resource-rich seas off the country's northeast coast but Manila will agree only if a Filipino scientist is allowed to observe.

Acting Foreign Secretary Enrique Manalo told ABS-CBN News Channel that a number of Chinese requests to survey Benham Rise have been denied because China rejected that condition. Some requests are still pending.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana has said that Chinese survey ships were spotted crisscrossing the Benham Rise area from July to December last year.

It was not clear what the ships were doing. Chinese officials have said their ships have the right of innocent passage through the area.

Benham Rise is on the opposite side of the Philippines from where the countries are locked in a dispute over ownership of islands and shoals in the South China Sea.

The UN Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf confirmed in 2012 that Benham Rise is part of the extended continental shelf of the Philippines, where it has sovereign rights to explore and exploit oil, gas and other mineral resources, including sedimentary species.

Manalo said after the Chinese ships' presence in Benham Rise was reported the Department of Foreign Affairs sent a diplomatic note to China to inquire what they were doing there.

"China replied that number one, they fully respect and recognize sovereign rights of the Philippines on Benham Rise and secondly, it is not an area under dispute," he said, adding they were satisfied with their explanation. — AP

13 missing in Bangladesh boat tragedy

DHAKA, March 30: Bangladeshi authorities today said 13 persons still remain missing in a major boat tragedy that has claimed 12 lives in south-western Bagerhat district.

The incident took place on Tuesday when the boat, carrying over 70 passengers, sank in the Panguch River in the district, which is 370 kilometers from Dhaka, while it was heading towards Purano Thangra ghat from Srombaria.

The bodies of 12 people, including women, have so far been recovered while 13 others still remain missing, said Rashedul Islam, officer-in-charge of Moreganj Police Station.

Of the deceased, four have been identified, the *Daily Star* reported.

A team of Fire Service covered the seven boats from different points of the river today, said assistant deputy director of Bagerhat Fire Service and Civil Defense Masud Sarwar. — PTI

Pak Nobel laureate kin gunned down

LAHORE, March 30: A prominent leader of minority Ahmadi community and relative of Pakistani Nobel laureate Abdul Salam was gunned down here today by Lashkar-e-Jhangvi militant group which said it had sent another "infidel" to hell.

According to police, popular advocate Malli Saleem Latif and his son advocate Farhan were going to court in Nankana Sahib, some 80 kilometres from Lahore, when unidentified men opened fire on them, killing Saleem on the spot while seriously injuring Farhan.

He was taken to local hospital where his condition was stated to be critical.

Saleem was the cousin of Nobel laureate scientist Abdul Salam. He was president of Jamaat-e-Ahmadiyah Nankana Sahib. — PTI



Models present creations by Tibetan designer AJ Namu during a fashion show at China Fashion Week in Beijing, on Thursday. — UNI

How 'wrong-way' asteroid avoids collision with Jupiter decoded

WASHINGTON, March 30: Scientists have found how an asteroid orbiting the wrong way around the Sun has been avoiding slamming into Jupiter, despite being on an apparent collision course with the giant planet and about 6,000 other asteroids.

The asteroid, nicknamed Bee-Zed, is the only one in this solar system that is known both to have an opposite, retrograde orbit around the Sun while at the same time sharing a planet's orbital space, said Paul Wiegert from Western University in the US.

All but 82 of the million or so known asteroids in our solar system travel around the Sun in what is called a prograde motion; that is, counter-clockwise when visualised from above.

However, asteroid 2015 BZ509 ("Bee-Zed" for short) circles clockwise, in a ret-

rograde motion - moving against the flow of all other asteroids in the giant planet's orbital entourage.

It is as if Jupiter is a monster truck circling the sun, and the asteroids in Jupiter's orbit are sub-compact cars all whizzing along in the same direction," researchers said.

Jupiter's gravity actually deflects the asteroid's path at each pass so as to allow both to continue safely on their way, Wiegert said.

Little is known about the asteroid, which was discovered in January, 2015. It has a diameter of about three kilometers and it may have originated from the same place as Halley's comet, which also has a retrograde orbit. — PTI



a track circling the sun, and the asteroids in Jupiter's orbit are sub-compact cars all whizzing along in the same direction," researchers said.

Bee-Zed is the rogue - driving around the track in the wrong direction - steer-

ing between the 6,000 other cars and swerving around the monster truck," he said. It has been doing this in every single lap for thousands of laps for a million years or more.

Western University asteroid expert Paul Wiegert explains how recently discovered asteroid Bee-Zed has managed to avoid slamming into Jupiter, despite its being on an apparent collision course with the giant planet.

Jupiter's gravity actually deflects the asteroid's path at each pass so as to allow both to continue safely on their way, Wiegert said.

Little is known about the asteroid, which was discovered in January, 2015. It has a diameter of about three kilometers and it may have originated from the same place as Halley's comet, which also has a retrograde orbit. — PTI

Japan ruling party urges strike ability

TOKYO, March 30: Japan's ruling party urged the government today to consider amending the country with more advanced and offensive capability, such as striking enemy targets with cruise missiles, further loosening the self-defense only military posture Japan has had since the end of World War II.

The Liberal Democratic Party's council on defense policy urged the government to immediately start studying ways to bolster Japan's capability to intercept missiles with a system such as the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD system, that the US and Seoul have agreed to install in South Korea.

The panel noted that North Korea's recent missile launches have shown advancing technology, with a capability to launch from a mobile facility or submarine, use solid fuel, as well as fired to a high-altitude trajectory a * which makes it harder to trace and respond.

With higher levels of threat coming from North Korea, Japan should consider possessing "our own capability of striking back an enemy base, with cruise missiles for instance, to further improve deterrence and response as part of the Japan-US alliance," according to the proposal.

The panel cited the government should immediately start studying a possibility of introducing THAAD and the shore-based Aegis missile defense system, among other equipment, while pursuing upgrades to two existing missile defense systems ship-to-air SM-3 interceptors and the ground-based PAC-3. It said necessary budget should be allocated for the possible new options. — AP

N Korea threat

ballistic missile defense."

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Tillerson visits as Turkey says its Syria campaign over

Syrian Kurdish militia fighting against the Islamic State group.

Ankara views the Syrian Kurdish People's Units (YPG) as a "terror group" linked to Kurdish separatists waging an insurgency inside Turkey since 1984, but Washington regards them as the best force fighting ISIS.

Turkey has suggested it wants to join any operation to capture the IS bastion of Raqa but without involvement of Syrian Kurdish militia.

Speaking to NTV television on the eve of Tillerson's visit, Yildirim said Turkey was not yet officially informed if it would take part in a planned Raqa campaign.

"The developments give an impression that the (Trump administration) is following the path of the past administration," he said, referring to the same tensions of the Obama years over the Syrian Kurdish militia role. — PTT

Pak accuses India of terror financing, interference

ISLAMABAD, March 30: Pakistan today accused India of interfering in its internal affairs and funding terrorism on its soil.

Foreign Office Spokesperson Nafees Zakaria, at his weekly briefing, said the arrest of alleged Indian "spy" Kulbhushan Jayaram in Pakistan was proof of New Delhi's support to militancy.

"The whole world is aware of India's interference in Pakistan and the fact that they are involved in funding terrorism in the country," he said.

Zakaria also expressed concern over the safety of "Jinnah House", the residence of Pakistan's founder Mohammad Ali Jinnah in south Mumbai, after Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA Mangal Prabhat Lodha demanded that the building be demolished and a cultural centre built in its place.

Zakaria said that the Indian government should realise the importance of the building and show respect towards it.

"We have clarified our position on the Jinnah House matter to the Indian government," he said.

Zakaria said that the United Nations and the international community should take notice of "grave human rights violations" by Indian forces in Kashmir.

"We are deeply saddened, shocked and strongly condemn the continued bloodshed of innocent and defenceless Kashmiris," he said.

Talking about the killing of three civilians and a militant in Kashmir on Tuesday, Zakaria said the incident happened when the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation's Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC) was visiting PoK to "gather personal account of those Kashmiris who suffered from Indian brutalities". — PTT

ADVERTISEMENT-A

In view to support, strengthen and improve the quality of Elementary Education in the state of Assam in compliance with the Right to Education Act, 2009 and in pursuance of the provisions of the Assam State Council of Educational Research and Training, 1997, an amendment in 2003 and 2012, the state government has issued a circular regarding the admission of students in Lower Primary Schools under the Directorate of Elementary Education, Assam.

This has the approval of the Education (Elementary) Department, Govt. of Assam vide letter No. PMA-345261654 dated 29.03.2017.

The district wise category wise break-up of vacancies are shown below:

| SL. No. | DISTRICT | SC | STP | STH | OBC / MOBC | Total LP |
|---------|--------------|-----|-----|-------|------------|----------|
| 1 | Bongaigaon | - | 92 | 120 | - | 212 |
| 2 | Borjalganj | - | 27 | 34 | - | 61 |
| 3 | Cachar | - | 241 | 89 | - | 330 |
| 4 | Darrang | - | 30 | 29 | - | 59 |
| 5 | Dhemaji | 51 | - | 71 | - | 122 |
| 6 | Dibrugarh | - | 125 | 204 | 33 | 362 |
| 7 | Dhubri | 33 | - | 123 | - | 162 |
| 8 | Golaghat | - | - | 44 | - | 44 |
| 9 | Golaghat | - | - | 111 | - | 111 |
| 10 | Hailakandi | - | 106 | 31 | 42 | 201 |
| 11 | Jorhat | - | - | 138 | - | 138 |
| 12 | Kamrup | - | - | 81 | - | 81 |
| 13 | Kamrup Metro | - | - | 49 | - | 49 |
| 14 | Karimganj | - | 198 | 107 | - | 305 |
| 15 | Lakhimpur | 14 | - | 158 | - | 172 |
| 16 | Morigaon | - | - | 85 | - | 85 |
| 17 | Nagaon | - | 25 | 124 | - | 149 |
| 18 | Nabbari | - | 47 | 100 | - | 147 |
| 19 | Sivasagar | 30 | - | 67 | - | 97 |
| 20 | Soniapur | - | - | 121 | - | 121 |
| 21 | Tinsukia | - | - | 80 | - | 80 |
| | Total | 128 | 893 | 1,992 | 75 | 3,088 |

Criteria for admission:

1. An applicant must be less than 18 years of age and not more than 45 years of age as on 1st January, 2017. Relaxed upper age limit will be considered for SC, ST (P), ST (H) and PH candidates for another 5 years, as per the Govt. of Assam Circular No. AGP/06/2016/07 dated 26.09.2016.

2. A candidate must possess the ability to read, write and speak in the medium of instruction pertaining to the district in which the candidate is applying to.

3. The eligible candidates are required to appear in the written examination of the concerned school.

4. The Online Applications and documents submitted by the candidates will be verified along with original certificates till 05.06.2017 or 20.06.2017, the exact date will be intimated by the TET authority.

5. The candidates have to deposit an amount of Re. 200/- (Rs. 150/- for SC, ST/P, ST/H/OBC/MOBC & Physically Handicapped) and free of BPL candidates in the name of Indian Postal Order in the name of Director of Elementary Education, Assam, Kaliabati-19.

The candidates must have to submit the IPO in original form along with documents.

6. The candidates will be admitted in LP Schools and regular teachers working in LP Schools are not allowed to apply in any posts in UP Schools. However, regular LP teachers if otherwise eligible may apply in UP Schools through proper channels.

7. All the contractual teachers may apply to any one of the posts.

8. A candidate can apply only in one of the posts mentioned above, if found otherwise the candidate of the candidate shall be cancelled.

Qualification:

| SL. No. | Category of post | Essential Qualification & experiences | Scale of Pay |
|---------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. | Assistant Teacher for Lower Primary School | 50% in Higher Secondary (or its equivalent) with LP/TET and 2 Year Diploma in Elementary Education from recognized Institutes. OR Graduate degree from IGCSE recognized University with LP/TET and 2 Year Diploma in Elementary Education from recognized Institute. (5% relaxation of marks for SCST (P) / ST (H)/OBC/MOBC & Physically Handicapped) | Pay Band II / Rs. 20,200/- Grade Pay |

(Candidates who have passed TET for 6th Scheduled Areas and not eligible as per Govt. letter vide No. PMA/345/2016/Ph/19 dated 08.12.2016 and candidates, who have passed TET for 6th Scheduled Areas and not eligible for the post of Assistant Teacher per Govt. Notification vide No. ASE/675/2013/38 Dated 17.10.2015)

Documents required to be uploaded (in JPG Format):

1. Passport Size Colour Photograph (30 KB to 40 KB)

2. HSSLC Mark-sheets and Certificate (80 KB to 100 KB)

3. TET Marksheet and Certificate (80 KB to 100 KB)

4. caste Certificate (in case of SC/ST/P/STH/OBC/MOBC) (80 KB to 100 KB)

5. Caste Certificate (in case of SC/ST/P/STH/OBC/MOBC & Physically Handicapped) (80 KB to 100 KB)

6. Certificate NCC (only for C Category only). Sports & Cultural (if represented state at National Level etc. if any. (80 KB to 100 KB)

7. Signed Signature (30 KB to 40 KB)

8. BPL Certificate from concerned authority, by BPL Candidates (40 KB to 50 KB)

Please Note:

After successful submission of the online form, candidates shall take a print out of the form and submit the same along with self-attested copies of mark-sheets and certificates in support of educational qualification, caste, disability, TET, DEEd etc. at the time of document verification before the Selection Committee.

Candidates should be cautious while submitting the online application form as once the application is submitted against a particular Roll Number of TET examination, they will not be allowed to submit the online application form for second time.

After entering the online application form, the candidates will get a Unique Number against the submitted application and will keep a copy of the unique Number for all future references.

Candidates may note that failing to appear before the Selection Committee for verification of documents on the scheduled date and time will result cancellation of their candidature. No further communication in this regard will be entertained.

The office will not be responsible for any lapse in submission of online application due to any technical problem.

The following self-attested copies of certificates and documents to be submitted with the print-out copy of the online application and original testimonials to be produced before the Selection Committee.

► Mark sheet of H.S. (Senior Secondary) / Graduation Examination.

► Pass Certificate of H. S. / Graduation Examination

► Pass Certificate of H. L.C./H. S. L. C. Admit Card in support of age.

► Certificate and Mark sheet of TET.

► Certificate and Mark sheet of DEEd.

► Certificates in support of Schedule Castes / Schedule Tribes (Pains or Hills) / OBC / MOBC.

► Candidates with disabilities will have to enclose certificates of disabilities.

► Certificate of NCC (B & C Category only). Sports and Cultural. (Representing State or Nation)

► Certificate of Ex-servicemen issued by the Director, Sainik Welfare Board.

Sd/- Director,

Elementary Education, Assam

Kahilpara, Gauhati-19

Suicide truck bombing kills 15 in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, March 30: A suicide truck bomb targeted a police checkpoint in southern Baghdad, killing 15 people and wounding 45, according to Iraqi officials.

The bomber yesterday detonated the vehicle, an oil tanker laden with explosives, security and hospital officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity under regulations. Three policemen were among the dead while the rest were civilians, and a number of policemen were also wounded, the officials said.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, but the Islamic State group has carried out similar attacks as their territorial hold in Iraq weakens.

Iraqi forces are fighting IS in western Mosul, where some 2,000 IS fighters are launching fierce counterattacks.

After the beginning of the operation to retake Mosul in October, Iraqi authorities in January declared they have liberated eastern Mosul, which is separated from the city's western neighborhoods by the Tigris River. — AP

12 killed, 3 hurt in Texas bus and truck crash

UVALDE (US), March 30: A small shuttle bus carrying Texas church members home from a retreat collided head-on with a pickup truck, killing 12 people and injuring three others on a two-lane highway in south-western Texas, officials have said.

All of the victims who died were senior adults who attended First Baptist Church of New Braunfels, Texas.

A total of 14 senior adults were on the bus and the driver was the only person in the pickup when the vehicles collided about 12.30 PM on US 83 outside Garner State Park in northern Uvalde County, according to Texas Department of Public Safety Sgt Conrad Hein and a church statement.

The area is about 120.7 km west of San Antonio.

Hein yesterday said two other bus passengers and the pickup driver were injured and hospitalized. It was not immediately clear what caused the collision about 193.1 km from the church, where the members were headed. — AP

India using Kashmir to oppose Silk Road project: Chinese media

BEIJING, March 30: India sees China's Silk Road initiative as a geopolitical competition and is using the Kashmir issue as an "unfounded excuse" to oppose the ambitious project, Chinese state media today alleged and asked New Delhi to "abandon" its "cliche mentality".

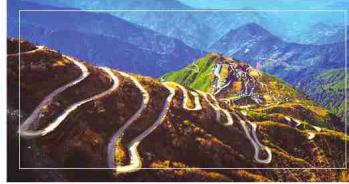
"India sees the Belt and Road initiative as a geopolitical competition," the article said, criticising India for hindering Beijing's push into South Asia and the world with multi-billion Silk Road project which is also known as the 'Belt and Road' (BR).

"Whether to continue to boycott

or join the Belt and Road remains a conundrum for New Delhi," it said adding that, India is the only one which can help itself. The article said that India should give up its "biased" view on the BR initiative.

"It is high time to abandon the cliche mentality of associating everything with geopolitics. India will surely see a different world if it does," the article said.

Referring to India's reservations to attend the BR summit called by



Chinese President Xi Jinping, the article said it may be an "embarrassing occasion" for India as the meeting is backed by "China's peripheral countries, notably Russia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan and Pakistan".

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi recently said 20 heads of state will attend the summit, together with over 50 leaders from international organisations, over 100 ministerial officials and more than 1,200 guests from around the world. — PTI



German Chancellor Angela Merkel takes part in a European People's Party (EPP) summit in St Julian's, Malta on Thursday. — UNI

Arab leaders denounce 'foreign interference'

SWEIMEH, March 30: Arab leaders meeting yesterday at a summit in Jordan denounced "foreign interference" in their affairs, in reference to Iran, and called for the settlement of conflicts that are tearing the region apart.

As at previous summits, the leaders of the 22-member Arab League criticised Iran, but without naming the Shiite-dominated main regional rival of Sunni-ruled Saudi Arabia.

"We reject any intervention in the internal affairs of Arab countries," they said in a declaration at the end of their one-day meeting in the Jordanian town of Sweimeh on the Dead Sea coast.

In their statement, they also called for a revival of "serious and productive peace negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians" and renewed their commitment to a

two-state solution.

Since taking office in January, US President Donald Trump has sent mixed signals over how his administration will address the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including a break with decades of US policy by saying he would open to a one-state solution if it meant peace.

Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas told the leaders he would refuse to accept "temporary or regional" attempts to solve the conflict.

Ahbas, who met yesterday on the sidelines of the summit with Trump adviser Jason Greenblatt, is expected to visit the White House next month.

Arab League head Ahmed Abul Gheit told the summit he regretted the fact that member states were watching "events in Syria without the possibility of intervening," calling the conflict "shameful". — AFP

Polite also raided a militant hideout in Comilla municipality where at least two militants are said to be hiding with huge explosives.

Today's operation was launched after the chief of neo-JMB, a terror outfit linked to the country's worst attack in Dhaka, was killed along with three terrorists in Operation Twilight in Sylhet.

Cops fired tear gas shells at the house.

During the 70-minute raid yesterday at Nasirpur, more than 300 shots were fired but police could not confirm if any of the militants were killed.

The SWAT team will begin

next operation at Borobhati Sadar headquarter after wrapping up the Nasirpur part, he added.

Authorities have enforced a cordon in the areas, barring onlookers in the vicinity.

The decision most likely was prompted after security lapses led to casualties during the Sylhet operation.

Six people, two of them police officers, were killed when militants hurled grenades on the onlookers during the raid.

The chief of Islamic State-inclined neo-JMB claimed responsibility for the deadly July 1, 2016, attack on an upmarket Dhaka cafe that left 22 people dead, including an Indian.

ISIS has claimed several attacks in Bangladesh, but the government rejects the presence of foreign terrorist groups in the moderate Muslim-majority country, blaming home-grown groups such as the neo-JMB for terrorist attacks.

Bangladesh has been witnessing a spate of attacks on secular activists, foreigners and religious minorities since 2013. The country launched a massive crackdown on militants specially after the Dhaka cafe attack. — PTI

Bangladesh police find eight bodies in militant den

DHAKA, March 30: Eight militants blew themselves up when police stormed their hideout in an eastern Bangladeshi city today following a two-day stand-off, police said.

Eight bodies were found scattered at a militant den in Moulvibazar Sadar upazila, Nasirpur, they said.

The militants might have blown themselves up inside the hideout, Chief of Counter Terrorism and Trans-national Crime unit Monim Islam said.

Earlier in the day, police launched Operation Hit Back to flush out militants from their hideouts.

The SWAT team will begin

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A trio of researchers with Oregon State University and Monmouth University has conducted experiments with cats and has found that they appear to like humans more than expected. In their paper published in the journal *Behavioral Processes*, Kristyn Vitale

first and how and for how long it interacted with it.

The researchers report that they found clear variability among the cats regardless of home type, but overall social interaction with humans was the stimulus most preferred – half of the cats chose interacting with a human above anything else offered, which included food – they spent on average 65 percent of their time interacting with a person. This, the researchers suggest, shows that cats really do like being around their human owners, despite how they might behave around them.

Earlier, researchers affiliated with several institutions in Japan found that cats are able to remember events in a way observed in both humans and dogs. They worked with 49 cat volunteers, feeding them using multiple bowls of food over time, and learned which types of foods the cats liked best and served it to them in a specific bowl, allowing them to create memories of what was served and when. Later, by switching up the bowls the researchers were able to ascertain whether a given cat remembered such details.

The researchers report that the cats are able to recall the details of when and where, which, they suggest, shows that much like dogs, they are able to access memories of events and at least some of the details surrounding them. They suggest that it might be possible that cats are able to recall such memories on demand. (Source: PTD)

Misunderstood felines

Cats like humans more than thought, finds a new study

Shreve, Lindsay Mehrkam and Monique Udell describe their experiments and their plans for conducting additional experiments to better understand cat motivations.

Cats have a reputation as being stand-offish and somewhat distant – some have suggested they only hang around their owners because of the easy meals. But they may actually like their owners more than their reputation suggests, the researchers with this new effort found.

They also point out that cats may simply be misunderstood, noting that recent research has found that cats have complex socio-cognitive and problem solving abilities. They suggest further that the common held belief that cats are less reactive to social stimuli might be due to a lack of knowledge regarding the things that cats actually find stimulating.

To assess the degree to which cats like (or are stimulated by) certain things, the researchers tested reactions from two groups of 19 cats each – those living with people and those living in shelters. The cats were kept sequestered for two-and-a-half hours and were then watched as they were presented with three items from one of four category types: food, scent, toy and human interaction. The researchers mixed up the stimuli for the different cats to get a better read on which they found the most stimulating. The degree of preference for any one stimulus was judged by which stimulus the cat went for.



Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, March 31, 2017.

This year options appear when you are relaxed, yet also sensitive to those around you. To many people who have observed you over the past few years, you seem more centered and less vulnerable to impulsive and/or irritable whims. If you are single, you attract the attention of others. Friday night is a good time to sit on what type of bond you are seeking. If you are attached, the two of you often want to experiment and try out new places together. You might surprise others when you and your sweetie decide to take an exotic or even SEMI-luxury vacation for the moment, just like you do.

The Star says the Year of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

**** You are in the mood to chat and share news. Take a hard look at your finances before the weekend starts. You could feel as if you don't have enough funds to let go in the way you would like. Be open to a range of plans. Tonight: You hear more mixed feelings about your love life.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

**** You seem more stable than you have been in a while. You might decide to change direction if you are not content. Express your caring side. A professional community event demands your presence. Once you're up, tonight: How a long-overdue chat.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

**** You might decide to change your plans. Touch base with a friend with whom you often discuss important decisions, and remember to remain sure of yourself. What you come up with might be more valuable than anything else tonight. Go for what you want.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

**** Pay attention to what is being discussed. You might feel as if someone is pushing you so hard that you have to respond. Use care with an emotional issue that could be fragile as you are. Try to explain what you are either too blind or anyone. Tonight: Express your feelings.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** Your judgment about a money matter will be right-on. A discussion with a partner or loved one must be solid and come from strong logic. Emotions might run high. Express your feelings about what seems to be the best way to move someone else's ability to let go.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

**** You are a force to be dealt with. Your public persona is more secure than how you feel most of the time. Somehow, you'll manage to impress yourself and others that you are grounded. Express your more logical side. Popularity is at a high point.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** You might have a desire to take off. Some menial chore could be holding you back. Detach from the present moment and recent hassles, and try to relax. If you're considering going out of town, you will be more successful in finding nice places. Tonight: Follow the music.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

**** Others are expressing their interest in being as dominant and accessible as possible. You know that everyone's personality is different, thus making them all very different. Allow those around you to make their own decisions. Tonight: Go along with a loved one's suggestion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** Your efforts to relate to someone else could go way beyond the call of duty. Look within yourself and see whether you might want to adjust your plans accordingly. An interaction with a partner might be touchy, but you are a naturally-oriented. Tonight: Do your thing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

**** If you want to clear out a lot of work, now is the time; your efficiency is at a high point. Consider checking out a thrift shop or two. Do not hesitate to make your feelings known. Try not to have the expectation of getting something for nothing. Tonight: Make it an early night.

PISCES

**** You clearly have a lot of ground to cover. It appears as though your popularity is soaring this week, which could be a source of frustration for someone else. This person probably is jealous, but don't let it get to you. You can't be tipped up right now. Tonight: Let it all hang out.

Thought for the day

I teach you beyond *man* (*superman*). *Man* is something that shall be surpassed. What have you done to surpass him?

— NIETZSCHE

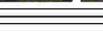
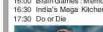
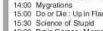
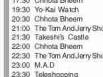
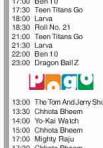
first and how and for how long it interacted with it.

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The researchers report that the cats are able to recall the details of when and where, which, they suggest, shows that much like dogs, they are able to access memories of events and at least some of the details surrounding them. They suggest that it might be possible that cats are able to recall such memories on demand.

(Source: PTD)



Nadal in semis, Nishikori shocked by Fognini

MIAMI, March 30: Rafael Nadal took a step closer to a possible final against long-time rival Roger Federer in the Miami Open after a straight sets win over American Jack Sock on Wednesday



Rafael Nadal of Spain plays a forehand against Jack Sock of the United States during a quarterfinal match at the Miami Open, on Wednesday.

Rly cricket ties abandoned

GUWAHATI, March 30: Both the matches of the 92nd All India Inter Railways Cricket Tournament were abandoned today.

At the ACA stadium in Barpeta, Metro Railways was to play against East Coast Railway while at the NFIRSA Stadium in Maligaon, North West Railway was scheduled to face North East Railway. All the teams shared points.

EZ kho-kho tourney in city from tomorrow

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 30: On behalf of the Assam Kho-Kho Association, Saptarupan, an NGO, will host the 20th East Zone Kho-Kho Championship at the Saptarupan School premises here from April 1 to 3.

Throwing light on the championship in a press conference here today, the organising committee president Krishnajan Chanda revealed that altogether 10

States - West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand, Tripura, Sikkim (only women), Manipur, Nagaland, Assam will offer contest in the three-day meet open for both men and women.

All the matches, to be held in the judges' Field here last evening, Navarang won Bajali Cricket Club by nine wickets.

In the one-sided man rain hit the tournament.

The matches, to be held in the league-cum-knock out basis, will be played at the South Point School. The men teams will be accommodated at the Saraswati Sports Complex while the women teams will stay at the South Point School premises.

Meanwhile, the preparation of the Assam teams are going on at the Saraswati Sports Complex. Supriya Gogoi, who represented the India team in the Sikkim Kho-Kho competition, gave away the prizes.

Individual prize winners: Chandan Deep Das (Navarang, Mym), Mano Rabnjan Bharali (Bajali CC, MoS), Nayan Choudhury (Bajali CC, BeS), Bikash Chettri (Royal's Club, Best Bowler), Hrishikesh Tamuly (Navarang, Best Wicket-keeper), Chanakya Sarma (Navarang, Best Fielder), Royal's Club (Fair-play).

Brief scores: Bajali CC 66 (Debeshi Saikia 34, ChandanDeep Das 3/10, SekharjeeBarman 2/6), Navarang Club 69/1 (Hrishikesh Tamuly 28, Pratam Debnath 21).

Top bodybuilders for Mr Saraighat contest

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 30: Almost all the leading bodybuilders of the country will be seen in action in the 28th edition of the Star Cement Mr Saraighat RG Baruah Memorial Classic Bodybuilding Championship scheduled to be held at the ITA Centre here on April 2.



Bhabajyoti Goswami (2nd R) flanked by A Bobby Singh (3rd R), Basanta Das (R) addressing a press conference on Mr Saraighat contest in Guwahati, on Thursday. - UB Photos

SU DO KU

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

Solution of last problem

Originating from Japan, 'su do ku' is a mind game and a puzzle that can be solved by using reasoning and logic. Fill the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3 x 3 box accommodates the digit 1 to 9 without repeating any.

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

ATA tennis officiating course

GUWAHATI, March 30: The All Assam Tennis Association (ATA) is organising a tennis officiating course from May 12 to 14 at its own complex at Chachal here.

This All India Tennis Association approved course will be conducted by tutors from International Tennis Federation. A maximum of twenty five participants will be allowed to undergo the course. Interested candidates, in the age group of 17 to 55 years, may apply for the course before May 1. This was stated in an ATA press release issued by secretary Ankush Dutta.



Assam boy Rohan Ho (R), a member of the Indian floorball team, which won gold medal in the World Winter Games of Special Olympics held in Austria recently, being felicitated by the Special Olympics Bharat, Assam Chapter in Guwahati, on Thursday. - UB

Venus downs Kerber to set up Konta clash in Miami Open

MIAMI, March 30: Venus Williams rolled back the years to send world number one Angelique Kerber crashing out of the Miami Open on Wednesday and advance to a semifinal showdown with Britain's Johanna Konta.

Williams, at 36 the oldest woman in the field, downed Kerber in straight sets, winning 7-5, 6-3 while Konta fought back to beat Romania's Simona Halep 3-6, 7-6(7), 6-2.

Both results had the element of surprise about them with Kerber the top seed and Halep the third and in good form, but they set up what should be a fascinating contest on Thursday.

The other semifinal pits Denmark's Caroline Wozniacki against second-seed Karolina Pliskova of the Czech Republic.

With the local crowd behind her, Williams, a three-time winner at Miami clearly believed she could topple the German but the first set saw both players struggle to hold their serves.

The American broke Ker-

ber four times while Williams failed to hold serve twice, but the contest was more one-sided in the second set.

Williams raced to a 4-1 lead before Kerber broke back and started to produce some great shots as she battled in vain to save the match.

The victory over Halep means Konta becomes the first British woman to reach the last four at Miami.

"I'm really happy that I've come through and I am just looking forward to my next round - it's going to be a tough one," said Konta.

Konta settled well in the opening set, with her powerful forehand dominant, but Konta fought back well in the second.

The Australia-born Konta broke early to establish a 3-0 lead but the gritty Romanian clawed her way back winning the next three games while her opponent failed to make the most of her openings in what was an error-strewn contest.

Nonetheless, Konta stuck at her task and was able to break again when Halep was

serving for the match and force a tie-break which she eventually won 9-7 to take the pair into the third game.

There was a tense discussion between Halep and her Australian coach Dar-

ren Cahill.

Konta broke in the fifth

game of the deciding set and visibly growing in confidence she broke again to take a 5-2

lead and serve out for the

match. - Agencies



Venus Williams of the United States celebrates after winning her quarterfinal match in straight sets against Angelique Kerber of Germany at the Miami Open, on Wednesday.

Sameer stuns Hu Yun to reach quarters at India Open

NEW DELHI, March 30: Sameer Verma continued his rampage in the India Open Super Series, notching another stunning win over higher-ranked Hu Yun of Hong Kong in straight games to enter the quarterfinals and emerge as the lone Indian hope in men's singles competition, here today.

The Hong Kong Open finalist, Sameer reached the quarterfinals with a shocking 21-17, 21-15 win in a 40-minute match. The 22-year-old from Dhar, who had clinched his maiden Grand Prix Gold event at Syed Modis Internationals in January,

will face either Denmark's Anders Antonsen or German Marc Antweiler next.

The elder of the Verma brothers, Swapnil, was engaged

in a fierce battle with another Hong Kong shuttler when Sameer took the court and while he completed his victory with consummate ease, Sourabh

brought the second game where

he had lead from start to finish.

In the end, the scoreline read

19-21, 21-14, 20-22 in favour of

sixth seed Ng Ka Long Angus

as Sourabh left crestfallen.

Before the Verma brothers could finish their engagement, another Indian was facing an exceptionally unusual day where nothing seemed to go his way.

Former champion Kidambi Srikanth had such an off day that he completely misjudged the length of the shuttle and struggled with his strokes and got buried in a heap of unforced errors.

After 25 minutes, Rio Olympic bronze medalist Viktor Axelsen ended Srikanth's agony with a 21-7, 21-12 win.

The Indian had some words

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Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

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Baraigram - Dullabcherra Section
of Northeast Frontier Railway

by
Rajen Gohain
Minister of State for Railways

by remote from GM Conference Hall,
N.F. Railway Headquarter, Maligaon

Guests of Honour

At NFR Headquarter, Maligaon

Parimal Suklabaidya

Minister - PWD, Fishery, Excise, Assam

At Baraigram Jn. Station

Radheshyam Biswas

MP, Lok Sabha

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Aziz Ahmed Khan

MLA, Assam

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Quinton de Kock's absence big loss going into IPL: Dravid

GURGRAM, March 30: Delhi Daredevils coach Rahul Dravid today admitted that missing a batsman of Quinton de Kock's calibre along with seasoned player JP Duminy will affect the balance and composition of the team going into the 10th edition of Indian Premier League (IPL).

Duminy has cited personal reasons for pull-out while De Kock has a fractured finger sustained during the Test series against New Zealand at Wellington.

"It is obviously a big blow when you lose big players like JP Duminy and Quinton de Kock. If these things happen before the auction, then it is easier because you can plan better. But then this is how it goes and you cannot help it. We do have talented players like Sam Billings and hopefully they can go up and perform," Dravid told PTI during an interaction at Delhi Daredevils' academy ground.

Dravid is now banking on experienced international all-rounders like Corey Anderson of New Zealand and Sri Lankan captain Angelo Mathews to fill Duminy's void but admitted that Quinton de Kock is a bigger loss considering he was built into a player to give the team momentum.

tum at the top of the order.

De Kock was Daredevils' top scorer during last IPL.

"We have all-rounders like Corey Anderson and Angelo Mathews so we hope that these boys can stand up and perform and in some way replace JP. But yes, Quinton is a big loss because he played so many games for us and was one of our main batsmen. He had built him up for this season, but this is how life is and you cannot do much about it," the chief coach did look dejected.

Dravid is hopeful that the Indian core group of batsmen like Shreyas Iyer, Karun Nair, Sanju Samson and Rishabh Pant will have a good season which will see them at least making it to the last four since 2012.

Asked how does he expect Pant's second season after a terrific opening season, Dravid smiled and said, "Hope it is better than last season from our perspective. Well I won't say Rishabh is our only X-factor. We have guys like Karun, Sanju, Shreyas and Tare."

Dravid hopes that he will be able to strategise better giving youngsters more opportunity.

"We will also look to strategise better

and give the players good opportunity. In a format like the IPL, it is also important to rest the players and keep them fresh and we will also look at that and give our best and be successful."

Daredevils were in contention last season for a top four berth till the last match where Royal Challengers Bangalore outplayed them. The former India captain is hopeful that is what the team can plan and try and improve further."

Dravid also feels that Zaheer Khan's decision to play from IPL to IPL will not hurt the balance of the team as the former India fast bowler is an inspiration for many.

"We have a lot of youngsters in the team and that is where we needed Zaheer as he brings in that knowledge and sense of calm in the dressing room. You need that when you are playing a tournament like the IPL. Also a lot of the youngsters look up to Zaheer as he is an inspiration," Dravid signed off. - PTI

Rahul zooms to career best rank of 11th

DUBAI, March 30: India opener Lokesh Rahul, who hit two half-centuries in the deciding Dharamsala Test against Australia, today jumped 11 places to a career-high rank of 11th in the latest ICC chart for Test batsmen.

The 24-year-old Karnataka batsman had started the series in the 57th position and has gained 46 places over four Tests following scores of 64, 10, 90, 51, 67, 80 and 51 not out.

Rahul is now India's third highest-ranked batsman after Cheteshwar Pujara (4) and Virat Kohli (5), who lost two and one place respectively.

Rahul is ahead of Ajinkya Rahane (14th, up by three plac-

es) and Murali Vijay (34th, down by four places).

In the bowling table, spin duo of Ravindra Jadeja and Ravichandran Ashwin have retained the top two bowling spots, while paceman Umesh Yadav has claimed a career-high 21st position following his player of the match performance in the fourth Test.

Yadav took two for 69 and three for 29 in the match, earning him a rise of five places.

In the all-rounders' list, Jadeja replaced Ashwin in the second position to be behind top-ranked Bangladeshi Shakib Al Hasan. Jadeja took four wickets and scored 63 runs in Dharamsala to walk away with the player of the series award. - PTI

State associations to get IPL funds before league

NEW DELHI, March 30: Re-modelling the Indian Premier League (IPL) payment method, the Committee of Administrators (COA) today agreed to release match funds to State associations before they host their first match.

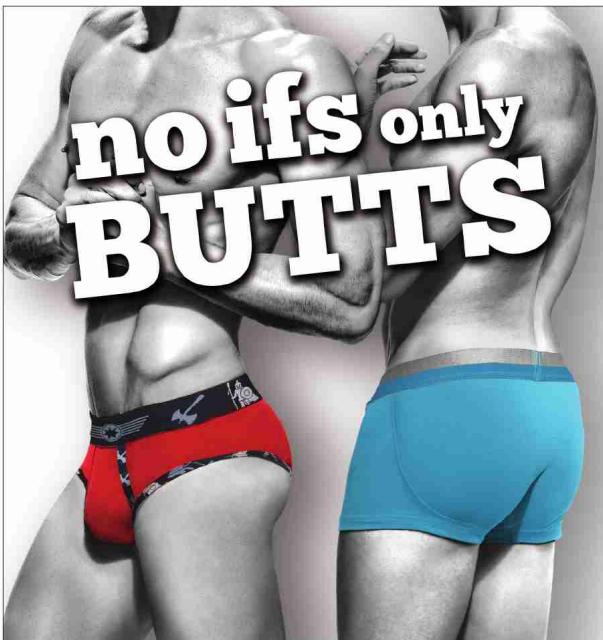
As per norm, each staging association gets Rs 60 lakh to host every IPL match. From the total amount, Rs 30 lakh is paid by the IPL franchise before the start while BCCI used to pay its share two weeks after the completion of the League.

However, in a departure from the current norm, the COA after a meeting with the officials from 10 State associations has decided that the

BCCI's share will also be paid before the start of the IPL season.

"We will get the entire amount before the first match at each centre. The COA was very receptive to our suggestions and said that from this edition the Rs 30 lakh per match that BCCI disburses for staging associations, it will be paid before the first match," President of a State unit told PTI on the condition of anonymity.

The representatives of 10 staging units (Delhi, Karnataka, Mumbai, Maharashtra, Bengal, Punjab, UP, Hyderabad, Saurashtra, MP) met the COA to discuss disbursement of funds. - PTI



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A tribute to the cradle

Srishti Saikia writes about the importance of conserving our rich heritage.

To all my brothers and sisters of the State of Assam, and then to the others all over India, a very warm, *Abhinandati*. Meaning? Find out!

After 70 years of Independence from the *pukka-sabhs*, do we share even a bit of our freedom struggle's rage? Yes, only if we were at all commiserative of their struggle. Unfortunately, we have forgotten all and have moved on by following them, while loosening our roots. Our language, culture, tradition, economy, science, health has all been successfully super-inscribed into the English way with the help of our submission to them. It is alright if we speak poorly in our vernaculars, but not when we speak the Zedland language wrong; it makes a wrong impression on the speaker. Yes, we should inherit the good from others, but what when we have the best within us?

One of the oldest and richest cultures is the Indian culture. The culture which teaches to live for people, think for people and on which Indians used to take pride. But this capitalist world has so far encapsulated us Indians that there seems no way out. Ethics and values are all vanishing into thin air. For the greed of deep pockets, humanity is losing its identity.

In Assam, the red river Brahmaputra meets the sun while rising in the confluence of its many tributaries. Our one-horned rhinos, a one-of-its-kind, are dying out every day and it shows what we will be left with a decade later. Fortunate are we to have shared the same land with them. We are taking their

lives and at the same time affecting the richest eco-systems – Manas National Park and Kaziranga. Even the festivals of Assam worship animals and nature. For we are, because of them.

The *muga-silk* variety that can only sustain in Assam has also been affected by other avenues. The *ganocha*, given to honour one's loved ones, is woven by the mothers, daughters and wives of Assam, having their typical styles and designs in it. But even this production industry has been taken over by other Indian states and neighbouring countries for they are using a feasible synthetic material that produces in bulk, nullifying its ethnicity. We are loosening our grip on our own assets and going beyond the held hands. We will have to have a strong grip on our own, only then can we proceed to conquer the world.

Born at dawn, and left with grandmother Kherusiti as an orphan, this boy blooded as a scholar, scientist, philosopher, reformer, and preacher, becoming the founder of many diverse artistic forms like music, drama, poetry, dance, painting and sculpture. It was *Mahepurush Srimanta Sankaradeva* who ushered in an era that gives some of us ample reasons to be proud of our culture today. Enlightened with liberal ideas, he gave us a unique identity. The concept of feminism is well known to us today. Recently at a seminar on the glories of Srimanta Sankaradeva, I learnt that no other philosopher or scholar of Sankaradeva's time had spoken of or written about gender equality. Be it Kalidasa or

Shakespeare, their scripts had, intentionally or unintentionally, established male superiority. Sankaradeva, meanwhile, positioned women as equal to men, and sometimes even higher in certain aspects. Can we not call this feminism in the 15th century? It is time we take him beyond Assam and India.

It is embarrassing to see how the present generation does not like to fit into our Assamese framework. Excessive involvement in foreign cults or trends has left us all lost, confused, and tormented by what to follow and what not to, to keep up with the times. The saddest part is that a few parents are taking pride in this western blinding of their children. Some others are against this inclination that the children of these parents are rebelling. No doubt, modern ideas are opening our minds, our horizons; our children are gaining independence and confidence, but all these at the expense of our culture? Our language is debilitating in our own hands. The conservation of our rich heritage is on us. If we don't try to learn and practise them today, there will be nothing left for our successors to proceed with.

If we draw an analogy here, every individual root holds on to the soil strongly with the help of sunlight and air (western influence), and the leaves will nurture well, so will the fruits. In the same way, when we hold on to our roots tight, we will be able to prevent erosion and stand beautifully under the same sky that the entire universe shares.

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Have a hobby



Ashwajeet Dive

No person is without interests. She loves music. His thing is politics. And, of course, watching TV will be your favourite pastime. Hobby is essentially an activity pursued outside of one's business in downtime.

From cooking to scrapbooking, hobbies come in all shapes and sizes. And no matter what yours is, two things are sure: it gives you pleasure. And you follow it no longer. Or else you wouldn't be reading this, right?

We are all too busy and time is money. Maybe that is why we don't consider spending it on something we think isn't worth a dime. But not being able to pursue a hobby doesn't always reflect a demanding schedule. It also results due to falling enthusiasm (mostly with age) and/or poor time management. Whatever the case may be, we ought to reconsider indulging in hobbies, for these aren't just leisure pur-

suits. These are much more:

Hobbies can turn into professions

Only because one can, George Bernard Shaw had said, "Happy is the man who can make a living by his hobby". Hobbies of such potential include photography, writing, singing, etc. Pretend that you began something for bliss, relaxation or the like. Not only did you find it interesting, but you are also starting to get the real hang of it. Now, make it a vocation. Or brush up on your skills and turn it into a profession. Do as you please.

Useful distraction

There is no escaping distress. Its degree may differ, but we all experience the unwanted. Hobbies keep you occupied. They momentarily take your mind off stress. The useful distraction thus caused restores the mind and relieves you of grievances and concerns. Plus, engaging yourself in a hobby provides you with refreshment and rejuvenation, required especially after a long tiring day so you can again hit the ground run-

ning.

Helps you make friends

Do you remember how Carl befriended Ellie in Pete Doctor's classic animated film *Up*? What the two shared in common was passion for adventure and exploration. And this brings them closer. The exercise of meeting someone with the same interest can be uncontrollable. Victor Borgie called 'smile' the shortest distance between two people. So, how good are hobbies can that make you laugh together? Clearly, they expand your circle.

Hobbies provide company

If you are an introvert, you would know the importance of a hobby more than anyone else. You prefer solitude over socialising. And yet, you need a partner. What better than a book to read, a film to watch or an instrument to play? You might be alone, but these certainly keep you from being lonely. And while others may think of it as weird, who cares? For you the company they give is perfect and one hun-

dred percent real.

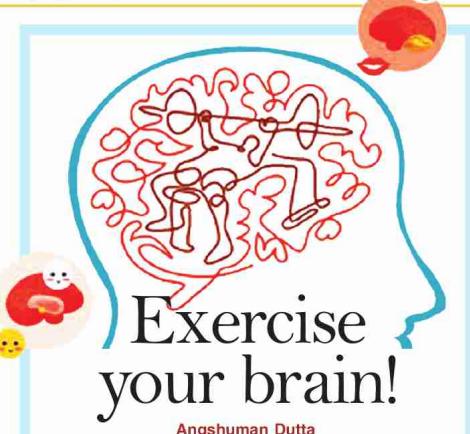
Mean for all

When was the last time you were asked about your hobbies? It was probably when you were a kid, isn't it? There is a false belief that hobbies can only be owned by children. As you grow up, you are supposed to focus on career and income. All else is waste of time. This isn't the fact, though. Hobbies are meant for everyone. They don't discriminate. As beneficial as they are to adolescents, they are to working men and women, or even an elderly retired person.

Always rewarding

To conclude, there are more than enough reasons for you to stop making excuses and start sparing some time for hobbies. If not anything, you will be repaid for it in the form of contentment and satisfaction, which are in short supply these days. So, you can't afford to miss out on the bargain, can you?

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Angshuman Dutta

We all know exercise has manifold positive effects on our health, including burning fat, reduction of high blood pressure and control of blood glucose levels. But one of the most important benefits of exercise can be seen in improving brain function. Scientists have been long studying the effects of exercise on the brain and the results are out there.

You may have noticed that on the days that you go for your morning walk or jog, or hit the gym, you feel better, relaxed and can handle the work stress better. So what is the connection of deadlines and jumping jacks on your work life?

Exercise has shown to improve neuroplasticity; neuroplasticity is the ability of the brain to change and grow by generating more neurons and also producing or preserving existing neural connections. Neuroplasticity decreases as we age. Research confirms that exercise helps increase BDNF (Brain Derived Neurotrophic factor), a growth factor responsible for improving neuroplasticity. Recent research shows that exercising can trigger the positive changes in your brain's ability to learn new skills, retain information and improve creativity.

A study conducted on high-intensity runners in the age group of 50-60 years also throws some light on the connection of exercise and brain. These athletes were asked to take rest and do very little activity for ten days. It was observed that after the period of rest there was decreased blood flow to eight regions of the brain, including the hippocampus. For the uninitiated, the hippocampus is the part of the brain responsible for memory and spatial navigation. In people suffering from Alzheimer's, Hippocampus is the region which is the first affected. So, there is a direct correlation between you remembering your wife's grocery list and your morning workout sessions!

You may have noticed that when you are exercising, it is easier to stick to your diet and not go on binges. You are less likely to grab a tub of finger chips while you watch the telly on days you are working out. Exercise has shown to improve grey matter, particularly in the Pre-frontal cortex (PFC). This is the part of the brain responsible for, amidst other things, self-control. So a well-developed PFC can connote better self-control and less inclination towards inconsistent or undesirable behaviour.

Most of our motor movements, like drinking a cup of tea, walking or running are controlled by the cerebellum. The cerebellum coordinates all voluntary movement, ensuring coordination and balanced movements; it is also responsible for a plethora of important functions, including social interactions, emotions and language. Research confirms that lack of exercise reduces the size of the cerebellum; not something you would want, right? So exercising regularly can help you learn new languages, skills and make better social connections.

So much how exercise should you do? Moderate aerobic activity of at least 150 minutes and high intensity exercise 60-75 minutes a week can help you reap in the benefits. So that roughly translates into working out three to four times a week. Not a bad investment of your time, considering the huge positive impact it can make in the overall quality of your life. So next time someone says that exercise is for dumb people (we used to get it often as youngsters), you can be pretty sure they have never exercised in their lives!

(The writer is a fitness consultant. He can be contacted at angshundutta@hotmail.com)



Northeastern perspectives

If Indian politicians keep even half of the promises that they make during their election campaign rallies, the country would have resolved most of its challenges. But from what I could make out from the candid and thoughtful provoking speeches from Chandra Mohan Patowary, Minister of Industries, Transport and Commerce; and Ravi Kapoor, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Assam, delivered at the Northeast Roundtable, organised by the *Business Standard* at Tat Vivian on March 28, 2017, it appears that the duo mean business. It was refreshing to witness mutual respect and adulation between a seasoned politician and a veteran bureaucrat.

The focus of the conference was to share different perspectives on the challenges and opportunities for Northeast India to become one of India's most economically prosperous regions. The minister gave an overview of the various initiatives that the State government has undertaken to create an environment that attracts big ticket investments in several high potential areas, creating avenues for employment generation and sustainable business ventures.

The vision and clarity of the thought process of the minister managed to create a lot of positive vibes amongst the audience. Ravi Kapoor, in his candid best, dissected the basic lacuna of artificial bottlenecks created by misplaced inward looking policies that somehow failed to explore the tremendous potential of Assam and the Northeast to become a manufacturing hub within the South East Asian countries. Echoing the sentiments of the minister about pre-independence Assam having a higher per capita income than other parts of India, the veteran bureaucrat emphasised on how post-independence, the natural business linkages between the Northeast and the neighbouring countries got adversely impacted due to the disruption of the age-old business routes and various other policy-level barriers. Thankfully, the central and state government have realised that one has to look beyond the popular catch phrase of 'Look East' to 'Act East' policy. The recent steps taken by the Government of Assam to set up a skills institute with a tie up with Singapore is a move in the right direction.

But amidst all the hope and exclamation that was evident in the thoughts of the politician and bureaucrat duo, there were also other speakers who had equally valid reasons to view the future with scepticism. For quite some years now, we have been led with the notion of how the Northeast could become India's most happening region in terms of economic growth with its proximity to the ASEAN countries, but somehow the ground realities were not reflecting the desired picture. The lack of adequate infrastructure coupled with the lethargic pace at which developments were taking place, and the stereotypical projection of the region in national media as a law and order nightmare didn't do any good.

Hopefully, things will move much faster with the political dispensation convinced of revisiting key policies like the North East Industrial Policy, eliminating the fundamental flaws in policy perception and ensuring focussed interventions in areas critical to converting this region into a manufacturing hub. For that to happen all the key stakeholders must join hands, heart and mind to create a synergy that helps in creating the right atmosphere for development to make its way into the Northeastern frontiers of India.

In many ways, the Namami Brahmaputra, which is projected as the biggest river festival of India is also a test of how the people of Assam and the government join hands to give true meaning to such a mega event. Just like the Hornbill Festival in neighbouring Nagaland, in its own way, such an ambitious festival can add value to the efforts in showcasing the rich cultural heritage of a State blessed by the mighty river, presenting an opportunity for ensuring sustainable global tourism while opening up several other avenues for trade and commerce in the process.

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World Theatre Day is observed every year on March 27 to draw attention to the power of the stage. The day was initiated in 1961 by the International Theatre Institute, the world organisation for performing arts. The day is a celebration for those who can see the value and importance of theatre as an art form. It aims to act as a wake-up call for governments, politicians and institutions which have not yet acknowledged its value and have not yet realised its potential for economic growth.

Tanushree Pareek from Rajasthan has become the first woman field officer in the Border Security Force (BSF), the country's largest border guarding force. She was inducted into the BSF after a convocation ceremony in the BSF Academy at Teknupur in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district. Primarily, the BSF is tasked to guard two of the most sensitive Indian frontiers with Pakistan and Bangladesh while it is extensively deployed for conducting anti-Naxal operations and rendering other duties in the internal security domain. (Information sent by Nita Sarkar, Hallikandi)

In today's Master's Choice section, do try out a set of questions on technology (Tech Extravaganza) compiled by Himangshu Lahkar, Carmel School, Digha.

Meanwhile, keep writing to us with quiz reports, questions (with answers and full postal address) and interesting bits of information at: Quizone, Horizon, C/o The Assam Tribune, Maniram Dewan Road, Guwahati. SMS at: 98640-26322 and email to tosailen@gmail.com or quizonesallen@gmail.com. To read Quizone online, you can log on to epaper.assamttribune.com.

MASTER'S CHOICE

- Invented by Swedish telecom vendor Ericsson in 1994, this wireless technology standard for exchanging data shares its name with a 10th century king of Denmark and Norway. Which technology is it?
- WhatsApp messenger was founded in 2010 by Jan Koum and Brian Acton. In which company did they work earlier before founding the messaging app?
- The American company, headquartered in Seattle, was founded in 1994 and is the world's largest provider of cloud infrastructure services. Name the company.
- This app, created by Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger, was the runner up for best mobile app at Techcrunch 2010, and was acquired by Facebook in April 2012. Name the app.
- This former Product Chief at Google was born in Madurai in a Tamil family at Lakshmi and Regunatha and earned his degree from IIT Kharagpur in Metallurgical engineering. Who is this Indian American?

Namami Brahmaputra

In him flows the Mighty 'Trideva,'
Namami Brahmaputra!

On his enormous shoulders,
Still rests in harmony
Both Hayagriva Madhava
And the Paa-Mecca;
Namami Brahmaputra!

On his mighty shores
We live to love and bloom,
As the one *Bor-Axomia*,
Namami Brahmaputra!

From him,
The soul of each,
Rich flora and fauna;
Namami Brahmaputra!

A rare gift of his own free will,
This beloved land of mire,
Our humble and sweet
Unplugged lives;
Namami Brahmaputra!

O colossal son of
The eternal Lord Brahma,
Bless us always and
Harm us not;
For we are all but
Your own daughters
And sons;
Namami Brahmaputra!

Swapanjyoti Bordoloi,
Dibrugarh

SCIENCE ZONE

Violina Kalita



The treatment procedure costs Rs 4,000 per session and a diabetic will need at least 10 sessions to see some improvement

The development process of the device has undergone a total of three generations, subdivided in six steps before being made available in market.

First generation: The first generation (steps 1-3) focusses on preventing unsafe high and low-blood sugar levels and aims to maintain the blood sugar between approximately 70 and 180mg/dL.

Second generation: Steps 4 and 5 of the plan represents Second-Generation product

QUIZ ZONE

Sailen Baishya

Picture clue:

- She is the current Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations. Identify her. (Gwshad Basumatary, Kokrajhar)



ANSWERS

- Bluetooth, 2. Yahoo, 3. Amazon, 4. Instagram, 5. Sundar Pichai, 6. Electronic Arts, 7. Tim Berners Lee, 8. Firewall, 9. Cache memory, 10. OnePlus, 11. Russia, 12. Conrad Gessner, 13. Madrid, 14. *All's Well That Ends Well*, 15. Qatar, 16. Nishad, 17. Mumtaz M Kaz (45 years of age); presently pilots suburban local trains of Central Railway along the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, 18. India, 327 BC, 19. Amina J Mohammed, 20. Detective Hercule Poirot.

FEELINGS

Abandoned temples

Stark stone temples of antiquity, Silent witness to a tradition of piety, But where are the sacred deities? Time has cruelly robbed them their sanctity!

Towering hills and stately deodars, Companions from a time long past. Once abuzz with chants and hymns, Now no conch shell blows, or any bells ring.

No lamps alight or flowers adorn, Only a moorish sky, their silhouette form. On its rocky bed the river flows past, No pilgrims gather for a holy bath.

Enthusiasts flock, follow rave reviews, Selfies galore and photoshoots, Sans the deities, the priests, the devout The spirit, the fervour is sadly doused.

Amrita Chatterjee,
Aizawl, Rajasthan

Soul on fire

In her lived a soul, Young, wild and free. Living her dreams, Fuelled with glory. Freedom was her second name, Risks she took, Every time to win the game. With a smile, she accepted failures, Yet nothing curtailed her from emerging victorious. She lived a dream others dreamt of, Yet she was on her own. Appeased, unbothered and well sought for.

Ursmita Bhuyan,
Guwahati

A little too pale

And then you wonder if it's all fake, Because it's too good to be true, Because the sun is a little too bright, The moon, a little too pale, And the night, a little too serene.

Moving to the light from the dark, That too in a matter of seconds! Before you know it, you are blinded.

Four times! Four times the snow buried everything. Those leaves, green leaves. But they never fail to grow again, To reassess their existence. To let their presence felt.

And at night, when the moon, Which is a little too pale these days. Weeps into the still, silent air of a quiet midnight, Lamenting the loss of its love for a bright, clear sky. The dark, evil night weeps too! But ever so silently.

Garima Barman,
Guwahati

She

She's lost, but she'll find her way. Out of breath, but has a will to say. Frozen in the dark cold, with a fire inside that's too bold. Broken into pieces. Yet on her way, fulfilling wishes. Dragged down even more, But she isn't going to give it away. Her eyes are filled with the tears of yesterday. Yet she smiles and talks about a beautiful new day. She needs a story to call her own, She dreams of places she has never been before. Writing the songs caged in her soul. Give her the sunshine and she will be your shadow. The brightest light when you lose your way home. Take her as a dream, and you'll feel alive. Hold her tight 'cause you will never want to kiss her goodbye.

Dony Sangma,
Guwahati

Artificial Pancreas Project-II

concept with Step 4 referred to as a 'Hybrid Closed-Loop' product because it will target a specific blood sugar level instead of a range. The next advance (Step 5) would eliminate manual pre-meal boluses to result in a fully automated, closed-loop artificial pancreas product. This product concept will require research and development of advanced insulin and improved glucose sensing technologies.

Third generation: Finally, a third generation product concept (Step 6), adds the ability to dose a second or potentially more drugs to more closely mimic the way the body maintains blood sugar levels and further improve blood sugar control. This concept will require pumps that can deliver two or more solutions, as well as the development and approval of additional hormonal drugs.

In late 2012, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released the final guidance for device makers to secure approval and commercialise the system. Outpatient trials of the first generation system are already underway. Medtronic, a medical device company headquartered in Dublin, Ireland, has announced that the 670G APP will be shipped to the US in April.

Availability in India and cost: On December 17, 2013, the Narayana Multispeciality Hospital in Hyderabad started offering treatment based on

an artificial pancreas system for diabetic patients in the State.

Dr Ford Gilbert, who holds a patent on the system that has been approved by the FDA, said the artificial pancreas treatment will help diabetics by improving their metabolism.

The treatment procedure costs Rs 4,000 per session and a diabetic will need at least 10 sessions to find some improvement. The APP device will be made available at a commercial rate in every medical institution and hospital by 2018 in India as per the declaration by Medtronic.



6. Founded by Trip Hawkins in 1982 at Redwood, it is the most popular distributor of video games. As of 2017, it is the 5th largest gaming company by revenue. Name it.

7. He was knighted in 2004 by Queen Elizabeth II for his incredible work that revolutionised the world. His famous literary works are *Weaving the Web* and *A Framework for Web Science*. Who is this British computer scientist?

8. What term is used to denote the security method that is used to protect a local area network from unauthorised access through the internet?

9. The type of memory used to increase the speed of data communication between Random Access Memory and Central Processing Unit is known by what name?

10. This Chinese smartphone company was founded in 2013 and has the slogan 'Never Settle'. Its parent company is Oppo Electronics. Name it.

READERS' CHOICE

11. From which country did India buy an aircraft carrier which was renamed as INS Vikramaditya? (Partha Jyoti Baruah, Tangle)

12. He is known as the father of bibliography and was also a Swiss naturalist, botanist, physician and classical linguist. Name him. (Sangeeta Roy, Guwahati)

13. Name the place where you can find the world's first 3D bridge, made of eight parts, each one comprising layers of fused concrete powder micro-reinforced with thermoplastic polypropylene? (Mitu Keot, via e-mail)

14. Which Shakespearean play begins with 'In delivering my son from me, I bury a second husband?' (Monikanta Mahanta, Jorhat)

15. Which country will host the 2022 FIFA World Cup Championship? (Ayesha Masooma, Guwahati)

16. In the *Mahabharata*, who is the father of Ekakalyana, who sacrificed his right thumb to Dronacharya? (Riya Borah, North Lakhimpur)

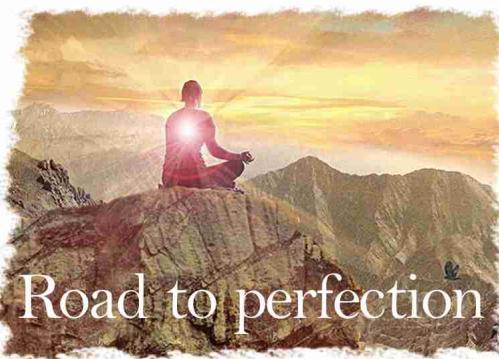
17. Three years ago, this Mumbai motor woman shot to fame as Asia's first diesel engine driver. She was among the seven top women from different fields to be honoured with the 'Nari Shakti Award' by the President of India, on March 8, 2017. Name her. (Jayanta Topadar, Dhemaji)

18. Where did Alexander the Great discover the banana? (Naina Devi, Guwahati)

20. The New York Times carried an obituary on its front page on August 6, 1975, after the release of Agatha Christie's novel *Curtain*. Whose was it? (Surjjeeta Deka, Guwahati)

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

20. The New York Times carried an obituary on its front page on August 6, 1975, after the release of Agatha Christie's novel *Curtain*. Whose was it? (Surjjeeta Deka, Guwahati)



Road to perfection

P Phukan

As human beings, what we strive for is perfection in every aspect of life, be it in our studies and gaining knowledge, learning skills, working in one's own profession or as a homemaker, or simply in living life. Perfection is, however, generally considered relative to an already observed benchmark in human judgement. Nothing can be perfect in the absolute sense, as the absolute nature of everything is beyond human understanding or visualisation. Success is one attribute which is generally targeted, and some feeling of perfection comes to those who attain it. But then, success and failure are again human indicators and yardsticks. This rift in the human mind is creating unhealthy competitive feelings and eroding the mindset of people. We normally say, 'do your best', or 'give your best'. But what is that best? It is obviously not a quantitative yardstick to hold on, as the situation is dynamic. There can only be an approximation that the 'best' at a point of time and perspective could be a state in our continuous approach to evolving in the ladder of perfection.

Perfection in living and life is largely governed by our attitude. As human beings we are born to live with minimum resources given by nature. Nature is perfect and bountiful; it gives as much

as required for survival, but not for misuse. We are largely lacking in educating ourselves in conscious living practices. Physical resources are limited. We misuse most of them indiscriminately – be it food, water, energy and all other items of comfort living in modern time. Have we ever thought of the responsibility of this madness? Have we ever thought about our children, their life, their future, resource security, and humanity and life on earth at large? Probably not. It is due to this that we are great wasters of resources.

What about our inner resources – our mind, intellect, wisdom and values? We usually misuse, rather abuse them. In fact, perfecting or mastering the use of resources is the true crux behind naturally developing a sense of perfection in doing everything in life.

Root of doing everything is a 'thought'. Thought leads to action, repeated action leads to a habit, habit leads to a character and character weaves our destiny – both individual and collective. In developing a character of resource consciousness, we have to correct the thoughts in our living and life. Righteousness in thought is possible only by living a life with an ideal and higher purpose of perfection of one's inner faculties. How can a healthy pattern of thinking, right thinking for right cause be developed to-

day when our endeavour is only to compete, fight and succeed in all fronts of living, ignoring the common fate of humanity tomorrow? If human perfection is the goal of life, obviously it is inner perfection which has to be the base in whatever we do.

Inner perfection starts with right thought and nothing else. Right thought, right action and right conduct of life – these are three cardinal secrets of perfection in life. Our mind takes thoughts depending on the inner desires and goal of life we pursue, as well as outer conditions and circumstances of living. If we look at the rising thoughts we may observe that most of these thoughts are restless, lacking in direction and we are not mindful about this behaviour in us. It drains mind power and potent energy – a resource we do not bother about. Stillness and steadiness of mind is extremely necessary for a healthy thought.

All this sounds fine, but how to develop such a state when life is now so complex, so much to do, so much to attain and so much to compete in? The wisdom of universal teachings of all great personalities says – 'simplify your mind' and 'make your attitude heartful'. Simplification of mind can be easily achieved by removing the complexities through an effective process of meditation. We have to be careful about the process though. The meditation process must remain simple and simplification of mind into a state of permanency and focus, otherwise it is of no use to us. Meditation should never be practised as a relief from stress which is not the objective. Meditation must be for a higher purpose, to develop purity and naturalness in attitude. In order to develop a healthy attitude of life, meditative presence has to be heartful. It is the heart which is the seat of ultimate resource, ultimate perfection.

Meditation with heartfulness is the only way of establishing the lost contact of mind with its source and keeping this connection conscious in our living. It is impractical to meditate with the mind ignoring its root and, in fact, the wisdom is to meditate on the heart to secure its lost connection and make it progressively lively, consistent and conscious all the time. Heartfulness is transformative of attitude, and the mind becomes strong being connected to the essence in us. This is the art of simplifying the mind with full potency, consciousness and alertness for right thought, and right action, leading to an evolving sense of perfection in life.

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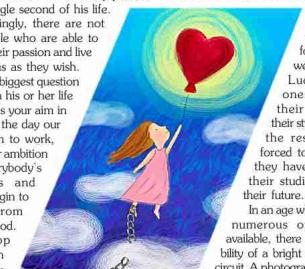
Passion forward!

Anurag Barman

It is often believed that a successful person is one who is able to build his profession out of his passion. It is true that the phenomenal journey of life becomes soulful if a person can live his life with his passion. Passion is a very strong desire which navigates our entire life. Be it music or literature, it is the faith which haunts every person in every single second of his life.

But surprisingly, there are not many people who are able to perceive their passion and live their dreams as they wish.

Well, the biggest question one faces in his or her life is – 'What is your aim in life?' From the day our minds begin to work, the quest for ambition riddles everybody's life. Ideas and opinions begin to strike us from our childhood. We develop interests in several dif-



ferent activities and tasks, which titillate and give us a sense of happiness. Some of these interests eventually turn into hobbies but the ones which make a space in the soul become our passion. It can be in any form, not necessarily being a specialised one. Someone may be very passionate about football, while others may find their passion in working for humanity. But the world we live in is very unfair because it never succumbs to our destined place so easily. Right from the day we step into school till we finish our formal education, our brains are subjected to many transitional stages where a good

Lucky are the ones who find their passion in their studies. And for the rest, they are forced to believe that they have to excel in their studies to secure their future.

In an age where there are numerous opportunities available, there is high possibility of a bright career in any circuit. A photographer can earn five times more than an officer if he or she can click something great in the right time. Designers can earn millions if they can create something unique in the glamour market. Even people with a good sense of humour are earning lakhs of rupees as stand-up comics. Starting from sports and entertainment to the rising world of entrepreneurship, now age individuals can walk into any sphere of their wish, rather than following the trend of attaining degrees which do not fulfil their dreams at the end. All that is required is a little bit of confidence and faith to follow your heart.

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Hypochondriasis and psychotherapy

Hypochondriasis is a condition characterised by excessive concern about one's health and a morbid preoccupation with diseases. It is seen in 3-14 per cent of patients. People experiencing hypochondriasis augment and amplify somatic sensations and their threshold and tolerance for physical discomfort are lowered.

'Abnormal illness behaviour' includes hypochondriasis and another related disorder known as Somatoform Disorder. Both of them can be considered along a same spectrum of illness behaviour. In somatoform disorders, physical symptoms suggest a medical condition, but they are not fully clarified by the medical condition.

Patients suffering from hypochondriasis present a formidable challenge to the healthcare system. One such patient was an 18-year-old boy who complained of being unable to speak. He also had breathing and communication problems, aggressive behaviour, and believed he was suffering from cancer.

Over a 13-month period, he consulted five Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) specialists and two oncologists. All medical investigations conducted by the doctors ruled out the possibility of cancer. His symptoms persisted along with cough, swelling, and burning sensation in his throat.

His relationship with his family members as well as loved ones was strained, and his academic performance suffered. He felt sad and faced difficulty in concentrating on tasks.

Psychologists Shilpi Aggarwal and Prashant Srivastava intervened in this case with the aid of psychotherapy. They started with psychoducation, supportive psychotherapy, and Jacobson's Progressive Muscular Relaxation (JPMR). Later on, cognitive restructuring and cognitive distraction techniques were introduced.

This case report of successful therapeutic intervention in hypochondriasis has been published online in the *Open Journal of Psychiatry and Allied Sciences* (www.ojpas.com).
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The year 2016 couldn't have been worse for Korean chaebol Samsung. Before its de facto leader Jay Y Lee was taken to stand trial on charges of embezzlement and of bringing South Korea's embattled president, the company's flagship Galaxy Note 7 explosions rocked the reputation of the company. That was one of 2016's biggest tech headlines. Now, the multimillion dollar question is whether Galaxy S8 has the goods to win back shoppers who bolted after the Note 7 debacle? You don't need to wait anymore to know the answer, for even as you read this, Samsung will initiate the 'Unbox Event' in New York City.

As with every phone maker, Samsung hasn't been able to keep up with the Galaxy S8's design and specs secrets. What has been leaked so far is that Samsung Galaxy S8 will feature Samsung's new AI assistant, Bixby. It will also use Samsung's revised eight-point batter testing procedure, while Samsung will leave more space inside for the battery.

The leaked images of S8 portray a much narrow bezel and bigger, dual-curved display; ultra high definition 4K resolution; a revamped home button that is virtual or located on the rear of the phone; facial recognition and/or iris scanning; a Qualcomm Snapdragon on S35 or Exynos 9 processor (depending on the re-

gion); dual rear cameras; video capture at 1,000 frames per second; headphone jack; USB-C port; SIM card or microSD slot. Colour options include black, white, blue, gold, silver and violet.

The Korean company recently confirmed that Bixby, its new digital voice assistant, will debut on the S8 with its own dedicated button on the side of the phone. It will take a different tack than other digital assistants, helping us control our phone in a way that combines touch and voice.

According to another leaked info, the S8 may be capable of capturing video at 1,000 frames per second (fps). If true, a 1,000fps video frame rate could make the Galaxy S8 the clear standard-bearer in any category. It would probably record slow-motion 1080p video at 120fps (and 720p video at 240fps), thereby outperforming Sony Xperia XZ Premium, which shoots slow-motion video at a max of 960fps. Another report suggests that the phone will have two front cameras – one to scan the iris and the other for selfies.

Here is an interesting info: In a damage control measure, there is noise in the air that Samsung may offer Galaxy S8 buyers a three-month unconditional return policy to boost consumer confidence on S8. I find it an interesting offer.

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S8 redemption

Tech Trends
Devol Kumar Nath

Two years ago, during a horticulture exhibition organised by the Assam Agriculture Department, I came upon a group from Meleng, Jorhat. Their leaflet read 'Annapurna Seed Lending Library' with the slogan – 'Save our soil and seed for our future food security; join hands to protect the seed and agro diversity of NE India'. Working as custodians of traditional seeds, Annapurna's endeavour has brought back many heirloom seeds almost from the brink of extinction. Unfortunately, we do not have many organisations or individuals working for preservation of traditional seeds. It is of utmost importance to go beyond the craze for organic, and explore, preserve, collect, distribute and grow our traditional seeds, as we are fast losing our 'heirloom' seeds, and our traditional food culture that is the collective learning of thousands of years!

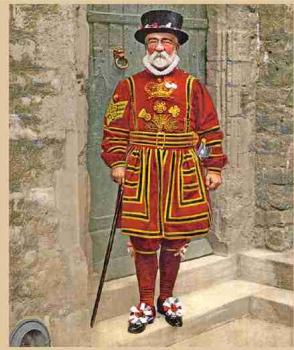
The Northeastern region is the richest gene pool of many rice varieties as well as many endemic and heritage species of crop plants that include fruits, vegetables, millets, legumes, oil seeds and spices. However, much of these traditional rice varieties and endemic species of fruits and vegetables are already gone. The onslaught of hybrid seeds developed by large corporations pushed much of the crops that were grown from seeds – seeds that were handed down generation after generation through families or communities – to oblivion. There is

rapacity on our agriculture and horticulture sectors. Now that the seed market is dominated by big multinational companies and even governments have no say in this industrial control of our food supply, what we need is a homegrown movement to fight back against the industrial control of our seeds – our food supply. If only we could increase the number of people as preservers, collectors, lenders, distributors and growers to keep the seeds of hope alive! Hopefully, I could see people, rather farmers, tirelessly working to collect those native specimens at a very personal level. Padma Kantha Nath, who hails from Borthaga, Kaliabari, in Nagaon district has ceaselessly worked to collect more than 110 traditional rice varieties!

Akhil Gogoi, leader of Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti (KMSS), who is spearheading the anti-mega dam movement in Assam is also leading another movement, this time to fight back the industrial control of our seeds. Gogoi led me to a repository of more than 200 indigenous varieties of rice in the Kaziranga National Orchid and Biodiversity Park. Protection of indigenous plants, fishes and crops is one of the key agendas of KMSS and the organisation has started its initiative to preserve the resources and natural heritage of this land. The Kaziranga National Orchid and Biodiversity Park preserves more than 600 varieties of wild orchids, a medicinal plant garden, a fishery for indigenous fishes, an extensive forest of native trees, a garden for native flowers and fruits and a rice museum. Gogoi has also said that very soon KMSS would encourage farmers to cultivate those varieties in their fields.

Surprisingly, saving the seed will not only guarantee our future food security but will keep alive our culture, diversity and our identity. — newlifetowers@gmail.com

Preserving seeds for posterity

SEEDS OF CHANGE
Mubina Akhtar

YEOMAN was a member of a social class in medieval England. Yeoman was the term denoting an attendant in a noble household. They used to take part in battles too but without any rank, and no recognition was given to them for heroic feats. Some of these roles, like service in the royal households, were carried down for generations but they hardly find any mention in history books. They were small landholders too and tilled their land on their own. From these facts, a term 'yeoman service' has come to be used in literary context to mean the selfless service rendered by someone without any expectations.

WORDSPeAK The story behind words

Bibekananda Choudhury



JARGON is the technical terminology or characteristic idiom of a special activity or group. It is a sort of codified language used by people in certain trades to communicate within themselves with custom-built terminology for specific purposes. These specific terms may not be understood by people outside of the particular industry or profession. It comes from Old French 'jargon', describing the warbling of birds, and in medieval English meant 'twittering, chattering' and also 'gibberish'. The main driving force in creation of technical jargon is precision and efficiency of communication, making it specific and brief. It also helps in maintaining secrecy.



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HORIZON

THE ASSAM TRIBUNE
GUWAHATI, FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017

The forbidden sins - II

You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough" - Mae West.

Remember, who you are today, it is not who you have to be tomorrow.

Give up short term mindset

Successful people set long-term goals, and they know these aims are merely the result of short-term habits that they need to do every day. These healthy habits shouldn't be something you do; they should be something you embody.

Give up on playing small

Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightening about shrinking so that other people will not feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine. It is not just in some of us; it is in everyone, and as we let our light shine, we unconsciously give others permission to do the same. If you never try and take great opportunities, or allow your dreams to become realities, you will never unleash your true potential.

And the world will never benefit from what you could have achieved. So voice your ideas, don't be afraid to fail, and never doubt you're not afraid to succeed.

Give up the fixed mindset

The future belongs to those who learn more skills and combine them in creative ways. People with a fixed mindset think their intelligence or talents are simply fixed traits, and that talent alone creates success. They are wrong. Successful people invest an immense amount of time to develop a growth mindset, acquire new knowledge, learn new skills and change their perception so that it can benefit their lives.

Give up multi-tasking

You will never reach your destination if you stop and throw stones at every dog that barks. Successful people know this. That is why they choose one thing and then beat it into submission.

Need to be liked

Think of yourself as a market niche. There will be a lot of people who like that niche, and there will be individuals who don't. And no matter what you do, you won't be able to make the entire market like you. This is entirely natural. The only thing you can do is to remain authentic, is to value every day, and know that the growth of 'haters' means you are doing something special. - anjanchowdhury74@gmail.com

CHARISMA CHRONICLE

Anjan Chowdhury