

The Assam Tribune

79 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE NATION

PUBLISHED SIMULTANEOUSLY FROM GUWAHATI & DIBRUGARH

RN-1127/57 TECH/GH - 104/2015-2017, VOL. 79, NO. 92, GUWAHATI, THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017, Pages 16 + 8

Price Rs. 6.00



ADVERTORIAL

WELCOMING
72 MILLION+
JIO PRIME MEMBERS

RECHARGE
DEADLINE
EXTENDED TO
15TH APRIL

JIO WILL
**WALK THE
EXTRA MILE**
FOR CUSTOMERS

**JIO
SUMMER
SURPRISE**
RECHARGE BY PAYING
₹303
OR MORE
BEFORE 15TH APRIL AND
AFTER PAYING ENJOY
**COMPLIMENTARY
SERVICES FOR
3 MORE
MONTHS**

RETAIN YOUR EXISTING
NUMBER WITH
**MOBILE NUMBER
PORTABILITY
(MNP)**

GET
**THE BEST
INTERNATIONAL
ROAMING
RATES**

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

Dear Jio Family Member,

Last month, I announced a special membership program – JIO PRIME – for all Jio customers who signed up before 31st March.

JIO PRIME offers many attractive benefits – the absolute best data tariffs in the industry, free voice calling, access to all Jio apps, and many more periodic surprises going forward. JIO PRIME members will always get the very best of what Jio has to offer.

In just one month, over **72 MILLION** (and still counting!) Jio customers have signed up for JIO PRIME. I want to personally thank you for choosing Jio, and for being a founding member of the Jio movement – a movement to transform India.

Over the past few days, we have been deluged by millions of customers queuing up to purchase Jio's popular ₹303 and other tariff plans. This nationwide trend indicates that many customers are still in the process of purchasing JIO PRIME and their first paid tariff plan.

I am committed to **WALKING THE EXTRA MILE** for my Jio Family members. We have heard your voice, and we are **EXTENDING** the deadline for purchasing Jio's ₹303 (and other) plans till **15th APRIL**.

Customers who could not enrol for JIO PRIME by 31st March for whatever reason can still do so by paying ₹99 along with their first purchase of Jio's ₹303 and other plans till 15th April.

Jio's free service period is **COMING TO AN END**. Users who do not recharge by the extended date of 15th April will experience degradation and/or discontinuation of services.

Dear Friend,

In India, we have the fine tradition of SHAGUN – offering gifts on auspicious occasions. For us, your first recharge is an auspicious moment. Therefore, we want to offer a token of our appreciation and gratitude to all JIO PRIME members... the **JIO SUMMER SURPRISE**.

Every JIO PRIME member – when they make their first paid recharge prior to 15th April – will get services for the **INITIAL 3 MONTHS** on a **complimentary basis**. Your paid tariff plan will be applied only in July.

All JIO PRIME customers who have already done their first recharge of ₹303 (or higher) before

31st March will get the benefit of **JIO SUMMER SURPRISE** without any further action on their part.

Dear Family Member,

Jio has created the world's largest greenfield 4G LTE wireless broadband network, with over 100,000 mobile towers. And we will add another 100,000 towers to our network in the coming months. This greenfield investment – of over ₹200,000 crores – is **the largest anywhere in the world**. We are acutely aware that we have small pockets of congestion on our network. With our investment in network expansion, you will see a dramatic improvement in service quality in the coming weeks.

Mobile Number Portability (MNP), which allows you to retain your existing mobile number when you switch to Jio, is available for all consumers. Lakhs of consumers have already used this facility. If you have not done so already, I invite you to do MNP and make Jio your permanent home.

For International travellers, **Jio's International roaming service** is now available across the world, with the best voice and data rates in the industry.

Dear Jio Family Member,

For me, Jio is a mission to enable each one of you to live and experience Digital Life in all its destiny-reshaping possibilities. Jio provides opportunities for every Indian to prosper and live a better life.

Isn't it time for us, together, to strengthen the Jio Movement for creating a New India?

Yes, it is!

May you and your family members continue to live a beautiful digital life.

God bless you, and God bless our beloved nation.

With warm regards,

Mukesh D. Ambani,
Chairman
31st March, 2017

JIO LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL

**THANK
YOU
INDIA** FOR MAKING JIO THE LARGEST
AND MOST SUCCESSFUL FREE
TO PAID SERVICE MIGRATION
IN THE WORLD

THIS IS AN ABRIDGED VERSION OF THE CHAIRMAN'S LETTER. FOR THE COMPLETE LETTER AND DETAILS OF JIO SUMMER SURPRISE, VISIT WWW.JIO.COM

SITUATION VACANT

(Vacancy for HSCL/HS/ Graduate) MNC company recruits 250 freshers (M/F below 28) for 250 Post at Guwahati and all districts of North-East facilities free lodging + bonus earning 7,500/- to 35,000/- Contact: Christianbasti, #8876126442, 7896825978, 757594563, SV/P/7078

WANTED FEMALE CONVENT EDUCATED TEACHERS FOR KIDZEE, B A M U M I A M A D M . CONTACT: 9435049695, 9864094384, SV/P/71753

Experienced Web/Mobile Application developer expert in PHP, Codeigniter & related software scripts & designer required immediately. Email your Bio-data to softapplicants@gmail.com. SV/P/59/2

Requirement of Customer Care Executive, Minimum 3 yrs experience & Salary negotiable. Contact mail @ threeguys.in, 8404083301, SV/P/AC0093

Hindi & Assamese DTP compositors required at Jorhat immediately with experience in designing, pre-press & post-works. Send your detail resume to- htsrc@rediffmail.com. SV/P/58/2

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

OKD Institute of Social Change and Development looking for about 60 Field Investigators to conduct an extensive survey in the Ministry of Social Desires of Assam regarding the rural areas as required by the Government of Assam. Interested candidates with minimum graduate degree in Social Sciences may appear in the walk-in-interview to be held at the Institute on April 8, 2017 from 9:00am to 1:30pm along with all testimonials. No TA/Da will be paid for appearing in the interview.

Director
OKD Institute of Social Change and Development, VIP Road
(Near Hotel Ginger)
Guwahati - 781036

CD/SV/775/1

Vacancy-Gym Trainer, Personal Trainer (Certified/Fresher), Dietitian, Nutritionist, Physiotherapy, Massager (Male/Female), Floor Manager, Gym Manager. Interview date 9th April 2017, 2pm onwards, Nxt Gym, ABC Bus Stop, Guwahati. Contact- 88222-00088. SV/P/719/2

Work from a home a Data Entry Operator, Rs. 10,000/- per month. Assignment Rs. 950/- per month at Basihali Main Road, Maci Capitalita Market, 1st floor, Ghy-9, Ph. 97601-22027 & 87619-01022. SV/P/AC0912

Required Convened educated Faculty (B.Ed.) & Tutors around Guwahati. Residential facilities. - AVL, Dispur (9954029888), SV/P/A0653/8

100% job guaranteed Medical Representative training for Graduate below 25 years 'Careers' Silphukuri, Ph. 90850-57111, SV/P/5571/15

100% Job opportunity for Medical Representative after a short Training. Graduates below 25 years. Address: Succeeders, Opp. Volvopoint, Ulubari, Guwahati-7. Contact- 9508366076/757899857. SV/P/0A0189

Required Office Staff, Receptionist, Showroom, Driver, Security, Packaging, Receptionist. 8486272376, 9508914096, SV/P/AC111/1

Walk in Interview situation vacant for PRO/Marketing Executive. Qualification: Graduate & above with good knowledge of English. Experience in similar field will be preferred. Medi Care Hospital, near Circuit House, Dibrugarh. (M) 9435032154, SV/78/1

Walk in Interview for the Post of PGT (Chemistry) requisite qualification M.Sc. preferably B.Ed. (Salary Rs. 15000/-). Interview Date- 8th April 2017, Time- 10 am to 1.00 pm. Interested candidates may report to the Principal- SAI RNS Academy, Kalijhar, Ghy-19, Contact No. 0361-2308520/ 94351-02975. SV/P/7252/1

Direct joining Dataentry, Receptionist, Back Office, Showroom, EMI Collection, Hotel, Bill Collection- 9127061237, SV/P/7275/1

Walk in Interview for the Post of PGT (Chemistry) requisite qualification M.Sc. preferable B.Ed. (Salary Rs. 15000/-). Interview Date- 8th April 2017, Time- 10 am to 1.00 pm. Interested candidates may report to the Principal- Sreeram Academy, Pathala, Contact No. 94355-9752, 94765-18250. SV/P/7253/1

For pick up of Classified Advertisements from your doorstep ...

Urgent requirement Vice Principal (M.Sc/MB.A/H.R) Head In Charge (Army Ex Man) Management (MBA/H.R) Biology Teacher (M.Sc/Biology) Chemistry Teacher (M.Sc Chemistry) Physics Teacher (M.Sc Physics) Science Teacher (B.Sc/M.Sc) Math Teacher (B.Sc) Geography Teacher (B.A, in Geography) Ass't. Teacher (Royal B.Sc) Assamese Teacher (B.A. in Assamese) Primary Teacher (B.A/B.Sc) Physical Instructor (B.Ped/M.Ped) Gen Warden (H.S.) Lady Caretaker (H.S.) Sales Executive (H.S.) Graduate (O.T) For (Buying Home) Receptionist (Graduate with Computer Knowledge) for: Dibrugarh, Moran, Digboi & Jorhat. Contact: 9854042644, 9613203477 (M). SV/P/777/1

SBI Life requires IA for Ghy branch preferably retired persons, teachers, housewives. For interview - 9706512614, SV/P/2258/2

MNC required below mention candidates H.Q in South Asia Guwahati. 1. Project Manager (M.F), Qualification: MBA (3), Fresher can also apply 2. Asst. Project Manager (M.F) Qualification: MBA (3), Fresher (H.R., Financial, Marketing, M.F), Qualification: MBA (1- 2) yrs experience 4. Marketing (M.F), Qualification: MBA (1), 2-3 yrs experience. Submit bio-data to email: romesneogi@kdgroupp.in. SV/P/728/1

Urgently looking English Teacher, Counsellor (M/F), Hostel Warden (M/F), Security (M/F) for a Junior College in Guwahati. Call: 9455480601, SV/P/7261/1

URGENTLY REQUIRE CUSTOMER CARE EXECUTIVE/TELE CALLER FOR DEALERSHIP WORKSHOP AT LOKHRA, GUWAHATI WITH KNOWLEDGE OF MICROSOFT EXCEL. EMAIL: mmplphy@outlook.com, SV/P/AC103/2

URGENTLY REQUIRE CASHIER CUM TALLY OPERATOR GUWAHATI WITH KNOWLEDGE OF INVENTORY, PURCHASE & SELLERS ALSO SHOULD HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF DOING V-LOOKUP IN EXCEL. EMAIL: mmplphy@outlook.com, SV/P/AC104/1

UNITED INDIA INSURANCE COMPANY LTD. Bhopal, Guwahati - 05 8822344044/8822201804 CD/Edu/490/1

ASIA'S NO.1, INVOTECH PRECISION ENGINEERS, FIRE & SAFETY INSTITUTE, LEPETAKTA BORBORUAH DIBRUGARH, DGF ASLI GOVT. OF INDIA APPROVED, ADMISSION GOING ON FOR THE SESSION OF 2017-2018. www.healthsafety.co.in, ph. NO. 7576841688, 9954220818, E-ID: friendstechbarboruah@gmail.com, 8876026198, 7907187451, Edu/79/1

ST. Xavier's Public School (Residential) Chalanpatrapur, Pongaianga District, Assam - 783388. Requirement: 1. TGT (Social Science, Science) I/ MA/ BA (Social Science) with B.Ed. II/ MA/ BA (Science) 2. PRT (Science) I.B.Sc/M.Sc. II. TTC/ Nursery Trained Teachers. Experience: At least 3 months to 3 years of teaching experience as TGT till class X in a CBSE School with good Communication skills. For further Information Contact: Ph. 8137917846/03642-227067. Email: stxavierschalanpatrapur@yahoo.com, SV/P/AC05/1

Wanted Office Staff for Office Administration and Tealling, Male or female, salary 8000 (Rs.) per month plus incentives, minimum qualification graduate in any discipline for a Nationalized based Educational consultancy for Guwahati Office. Contact: 7896422836/ 7896424507. SV/P/AC107/1

Required - Male Cook & Helper for Hotel in Shillong. Contact: 8575091050 between 9 to 12 noon. SV/83/3

Walk in Interview for the Post of PGT (Chemistry) requisite qualification M.Sc. preferably B.Ed. (Salary Rs. 15000/-). 1 post for TGT Computer Faculty. Qualification required BCA/ MCA (3 yrs. Rs. 8000/-). Interview date- 7th April 2017. Time- 10 am to 12 pm. Interested candidates may report to the Principal- SAI RNS Academy, Kalijhar, Ghy-19, Contact No. 0361-2308520/ 94351-02975. SV/P/7252/1

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NEWS CAPSULE

Gold seizure

GUWAHATI, April 5: The Government Railway Police last night recovered 26 gold bars weighing 4 kg from a passenger boarding the Howrah-bound Indrani Express at Guwahati railway station. The accused, Sury Debnath, hailing from Barakganj, told the police he was asked to deliver the consignment in West Bengal by a person from Nagaland. — Staff Reporter

Cancer Institute

The Centre has proposed to take over the Dr B Borborah Cancer Institute in Guwahati, said Minister of State for DoNER Dr. Jyoti Singh Priyadarshini today. A note has been submitted on March 3 to Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi in this regard, he added. — Spk Correspondent

PM greetings

GUWAHATI, April 5: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today greeted the State Government on the occasion of 'Guru Purnima', a programme to improve quality of school education in the State. "I am sure this effort will improve education standards across the State," he said. — Staff Reporter

AASU demand

GUWAHATI, April 5: The All Assam Students Union today demanded a fresh investigation into the Silapathar incident after Senior Superintendent of Police (CID), Dr N Rajamarthan, who was leading the investigation team, was condemned on charges of sabotaging the probe. — Staff Reporter

Aadhaar data

NEW DELHI, April 5: Aadhaar data cannot be leaked as the UIDAI system is foolproof, said today amid controversy over leakage of crocheted MS Dhoni's personal details on social media. "There is no leakage and it cannot be," Minister of State for Electronics and IT PP Chaudhary said in Lok Sabha. — PTI

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

India never used me against China: Dalai

BOMDILA, April 5: Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama today emphatically said India has never used him against China, remarks that came amid loud protests by Beijing against his ongoing visit to Arunachal Pradesh.

The Dalai also urged China to give Tibet "obstinately" self-rule" and "autonomy".

The remarks by the 81-year-old Nobel Laureate came on a day when China alleged that India in disregard to its concerns "obstinately" arranged his visit to the "disputed" part of the eastern part of the eastern part of China's "bottom line".

Unfazed by Beijing's objections to his visit to Arunachal Pradesh, the Dalai said, "Many Chinese love India but there are some narrow minded politicians like I have mentioned, they consider me as a demon."

Articulating the Tibetan stand, the Dalai said, "We are not seeking independence. We are willing to remain within the People's Republic of China."

India, peace, harmony and secular ethics wherever I go," he said talking to reporters here on the second day of his week-long visit to the remote northeastern state.

His remarks also came against the backdrop of criticism by the Chinese state media that India is using the Dalai Lama as a diplomatic leverage to challenge China's "bottom line".

Unfazed by Beijing's objections to his visit to Arunachal Pradesh, the Dalai said, "Many Chinese love India but there are some narrow minded politicians like I have mentioned, they consider me as a demon."

The Dalai thanked Indian government for letting him visit the frontier state.

He spoke fondly of Arunachal Pradesh and said he had a special connection with the state as it served as his point of entry when he arrived in India in 1959.

(See page 4)

China vows necessary steps after Dalai's visit

BEIJING, April 5: China warned today that it will take "necessary measures" to defend its territorial sovereignty and interests after India "obstinately" allowed the Dalai Lama to visit parts of Arunachal Pradesh causing "serious damage" to the bilateral border.

China also lodged a protest with India's Ambassador in Beijing Vijay Gokhale over the Dalai Lama's visit.

"India in disregard to China's concerns obstinately arranged the Dalai Lama's visit to the disputed part of the eastern part of China-India border, causing serious damage to China's interests and China-India relations," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson

Arunachal

Hua Chunying told reporters, China firmly opposes this move, she asserted.

"China's stand on the eastern part of the borders is consistent and clear. India is fully aware of the role played by the 14th Dalai Lama.

"Arranging his visit to those sensitive and disputed areas not only runs counter to the Indian side's commitment to the issues related to Tibet but also escalates disputes over the border area," she said.

Hua stated that it goes against the momentum of the sound growth of bilateral relations and will not benefit India in anyway.

"The visit will for sure trigger China's dissatisfaction. This will not bring any benefit to India," she said.

(See page 4)

RCF to take over Namrup plant

SPL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, April 5: The stage is set for handing over of the Namrup fertilizer plant to the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF) with 26 per cent, the Government of Assam 11 per cent and the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFL) 11 per cent.

Tel said that he has informed that the Namrup II and III units have been producing fertilizer since 1976 and 1987 respectively. These units are proposed to be closed down with the commissioning of Namrup IV at a cost of 4,400 crore, Tel said.

The MP said that he has further requested the Prime Minister to expedite the establishment of a unit of the Indo-Bhutan Border Police (TIBP) that was sanctioned in 1987 to be based at Dibrugarh.

Tel later told this newspaper that the Prime Minister informed him that RCF will pick up 52 per cent stake, while Oil India Limited (OIL) will have 26 per cent, the Government of Assam 11 per cent and the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFL) 11 per cent.

The Prime Minister's remarks came at a meeting with Dibrugarh MP Rameshwar Teli, when he called on him this afternoon.

Tel later told this newspaper that the Prime Minister informed him that the Namrup II and III units have been producing fertilizer since 1976 and 1987 respectively. These units are proposed to be closed down with the commissioning of Namrup IV at a cost of 4,400 crore, Tel said.

The MP said that he has further requested the Prime Minister to expedite the establishment of a unit of the Indo-Bhutan Border Police (TIBP) that was sanctioned in 1987 to be based at Dibrugarh.

IV unit of the fertilizer plant.

The MP said that he has requested the Prime Minister to take immediate steps to set up Namrup IV unit for the benefit of farmers. The Prime Minister had earlier announced setting up of the Namrup IV at a cost of ₹4,400 crore, Tel said.

The MP said that he has further requested the Prime Minister to expedite the establishment of a unit of the Indo-Bhutan Border Police (TIBP) that was sanctioned in 1987 to be based at Dibrugarh.

The circle officer of Dispur revenue circle and the forest department have lodged separate FIRs against the school

(See page 4)

2 buried alive while cutting hill 'illegally'

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 5: Two workers were buried alive while they were cutting a trench into a hill inside the campus of Icon English School at Chapidiang under Dispur revenue circle this morning.

Around eight workers were working at the site at that time when earth from the hill slid down and buried two of them at around 9 am. The victims were identified as Roisuddin Ali and Saidul Ali, both from Khatobagor in Kokrajhar district.

Locals said the authorities of the Icon English School initially tried to push up the matter and made attempts to retrieve the bodies without informing the administration.

Police and officials of the civil administration rushed to the area and launched a rescue operation to retrieve the bodies. The circle officer of Dispur revenue circle and the forest department have lodged separate FIRs against the school

(See page 4)

Recruitment of more teachers in State soon

STAFF REPORTER

Indian Police Service (IPS) and the Indian Forest Service (IFS) officials, to visit schools as external evaluators and grade them accordingly based on various parameters.

"Once the inspection exercise is over, we would send a personal grade-sheet to each of the 9,11,588 students. As far as the government is concerned, we would prepare an action plan and initiate remedial measures to address them," Sarma said, adding that the under-

performing students will be given remedial classes in the school itself.

On the efficacy of the teachers, Sarma pointed out that Gunotsav would go a long way in making the teaching staff more accountable. "Once the assessment report is prepared, we would opt for a multi-pronged approach to address the issues in a phased manner. As per our estimate, it would take at least five years to effect a complete overhaul," he said.

The State has asked its officials, including the Indian Administrative Service (IAS),

Gunotsav

performing students will be given remedial classes in the school itself.

On the efficacy of the teachers, Sarma pointed out that Gunotsav would go a long way in making the teaching staff more accountable. "Once the assessment report is prepared, we would opt for a multi-pronged approach to address the issues in a phased manner. As per our estimate, it would take at least five years to effect a complete overhaul," he said.

The State has asked its officials, including the Indian Administrative Service (IAS),

HC denies relief to Subodh

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 5: Prime accused in the Silapathar incident Subodh Biswas and other co-accused were today denied any relief by the Gauhati High Court although the latter did issue a notice to the State Government returnable on May 8.

This was in response to Biswas's writ petition filed with the court seeking bail and quashing of the first information report (FIR) lodged in connection with the Silapathar incident. He also prayed for handing over of the investigation to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Biswas, who was arrested from West Bengal recently, also prayed for compensation alleging false implication of the accused in the case.

Special public prosecutor Bijon Kumar Mahajan while opposing the prayer for bail also placed arguments as per which the FIR (dated April 4) (See page 4)

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ACHIEVEMENT



Junuma Deori, Assistant Anthropologist, Anthropological Survey of India. M.Sc. (Anthropology) and the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) by Gauhati University for her thesis "A Cross-Cultural Study on Physical Growth among the Doroju and the Konyak Padaos". She carried out her research work under the guidance and supervision of Dr. Guria Baruah, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Gauhati University. She is the daughter of Mr. Dhronjoy Deori and Mrs. Champali Deori. She is the wife of Mr. Anupachal Pradip and wife of Mr. Deori and daughter-in-law of Mr. Dinesh Chandra Deori and Mrs. Lekha Jyoti Deori of Honegar, Moremat.

CD/Achieve/P/85/1



Nirupenda Nath Patwari, retired Professor and Head of the Department of Civil Engineering, Gauhati Medical College, Guwahati has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) by Gauhati University for her thesis entitled "A Study of Mortality Situation in Gauhati City during Last Quarter Century". She carried out her research work under the supervision of Prof. Labananda Choudhury, Department of Civil Engineering, Gauhati University. She is the daughter of Late Meheri Mohan Saikia, Ex. Addl Chief Engineer, PWD and Smt. Kiron Begum of Guwahati and wife of Monuvel Hora, retired Mme. Artist of India.

CD/Achieve/P/7240/1



Mrs. Jnanasri Goswami an Associate Professor, Assamese Department, Udaguri College, has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) by Gauhati University for her thesis entitled "Odishi Jitar Samaj Aru Sanskruti- Eti Adhyayan" in MEL & LS Department, under Dr. Golakeswar Goswami, G.U. (Retd.). She is the daughter of Late Harendra Dev Goswami and wife of Dr. Dilip Dutta and daughter in law of Late Haricharan Dutta and Smti. Basumatari of Udaguri BTAD (Assam).

CD/Achieve/P/7267/1



Mr. Kaustubh Patowary has been awarded the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) by Gauhati University for his thesis entitled "Development of Bacterial Consortium for Removal of Hydrocarbons from Contaminated Sites of Oil Fields of Assam". He carried out his research work under the joint supervision of Prof. Suresh Deka, Life Science Division, Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST) and Prof. Mohan Ch. Kalita, Department of Biotechnology. Gauhati University. Mr. Kaustubh Patowary is the only son of Mr. Rajibanta Nath Patowary and Mrs. Anupama Patowary of Jyotiagar, Pabna.

Achieve/P/7241/1



Ms. Vrinda Kakoty, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences (School of Pharmacy) has secured First position in University level Examination in the Master of Pharmacy Program specialised as Pharmacology. She was offered Inspire fellowship award from the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India. She is the daughter of Ajit Kr. Kakoty and Lini Kakoty, Ambart, Guwahati-781001.

CD/Achieve/P/7242/1



Sri Rongdeep Pathak, Assistant Professor, Assam Engineering College, Guwahati has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) by Gauhati University for his thesis entitled "Graph and Solution of Certain Problems". He carried out his research work under the supervision of Dr. Bichita Kalita, Retd. HoD, Department of Computer Applications, Assam Engineering College. He is the son of Sjt. Bhadebar Nath Pathak and Smti. Pinki Thakuria Pathak, Rupnagar, Brindaban Path, Guwahati-32, Assam.

Achieve/P/7243/1



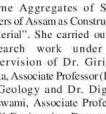
Angira Moyes-Saitia, Lecturer in the Department of Community Medicine, Gauhati Medical College, Guwahati has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) by Gauhati University for her thesis entitled "A Study of Mortality Situation in Gauhati City during Last Quarter Century". She carried out her research work under the supervision of Prof. Labananda Choudhury, Department of Civil Engineering, Gauhati University. She is the daughter of Late Meheri Mohan Saikia, Ex. Addl Chief Engineer, PWD and Smt. Kiron Begum of Guwahati and wife of Monuvel Hora, retired Mme. Artist of India.

CD/Achieve/P/7257/1



Karuna Kanta Das, Associate Professor, B.N. College, Dibruri has been awarded the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) by Gauhati University for his thesis entitled "Dhuburi jilar Samaj Aru Sanskruti- Eti Adhyayan" in MEL & LS Department, under Dr. Golakeswar Goswami, G.U. (Retd.). She is the daughter of Late Harendra Dev Goswami and wife of Dr. Dilip Dutta and daughter in law of Late Haricharan Dutta and Smti. Basumatari of Udaguri BTAD (Assam).

CD/Achieve/P/7264/1



Mrs. Indira Baruah Gogoi, Associate Professor (Retd) & Guest Faculty in Geology, Assam Engineering College, Gauhati has been awarded the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Civil Engineering by the Gauhati University for her thesis entitled "A Study of River Born Aggregates of Some Rivers of Assam Construction Material". She carried out her research work under the supervision of Dr. Girindra Deka, Associate Professor (Retd) in Geo and Dr. Diganta Goswami, Associate Professor, Civil Engineering Department, Assam Engineering College, Gauhati for her thesis entitled "Some of Assam's Construction Material". She carried out her research work under the supervision of Dr. Girindra Deka, Associate Professor (Retd) in Geo and Dr. Diganta Goswami, Associate Professor, Civil Engineering Department, Assam Engineering College, Gauhati, Dr. Indira Baruah Gogoi is the youngest daughter of late Rajeswar Baruah and late Jamuna Baruah of Nitiapukuri, Silvassa and wife of Shri Amresh Gogoi.

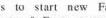
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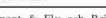
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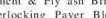
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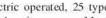
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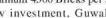
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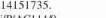
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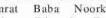
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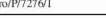
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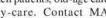
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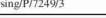
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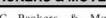
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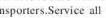
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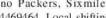
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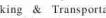
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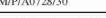
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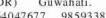
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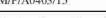
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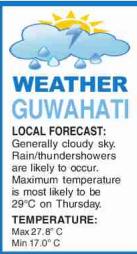
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IT Appellate
Tribunal, Gauhati
Bench inaugurated

GUWAHATI, April 5: The Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT), Gauhati Bench, was inaugurated recently by Ramesh Goenka, advocate and president of the ITAT Bar Association, Guwahati, stated a delayed press release.

With this, the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, Gauhati Bench has been e-linked with the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, Kolkata benches, Kolkata.

Speaking on the occasion, Goenka said from now on, the people of this region would get easy and speedy justice as their appeals can be heard and disposed of through video conferencing.

— Correspondent



Bob Barua
(1974 - 2017)

"A large - hearted and gentle soul with boundless courage who touched many hearts"

Family & Friends



Visitors admiring items in a stall at an ongoing exhibition at Lakhshyadhar Bora Kshetra in Guwahati on Wednesday. — AT photo



IN MEMORIAM
Dr. Sankar Talukdar
Veterinary Doctor, Office of the Deputy Director Animal Health Centre, Khanapara. From Family, Friends and Co-workers.

LGBI Airport to be upgraded

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 5: The terminal at Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport will be upgraded and its capacity raised from the existing 2,000 passengers to 6,000.

Informing this here today, Transport Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary said the Central Government would fund Rs 1,000 crore for the upgrade of the airport. "The LGBI Airport is international just in name. Only one international flight from Bhutan operates from it. We want to make the airport international in the true sense," he said.

He said the Civil Aviation ministry would also provide a plot of land adjacent to the airport to the State government for setting up a warehousing which will help avail the flight cargo facilities.

Addressing a press meet here after the conclusion of the Nammam Brahmaputra Festival, Patowary said once the Brahmaputra river is dredged, Assam "will be the hub of trade and investment."

Blocking of drain at Kharghuli

FIR against erring citizen ordered

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 5: Taking a strong view of the blocking of a drain by an individual in the Jaypur area of Kharghuli locality, the Kamrup Metro district administration today directed the Circle Officer of the Guwahati Revenue Circle to file an FIR against the individual concerned and also ordered clearing of the drain.

"The Circle Officer of the Guwahati Revenue Circle has reported that a public drain at Jaypur, Kharghuli, is blocked due to earth-filling and placing of concrete slab over the drain by Dhiren Mahanta in his periodic *patta* land, causing inundation of that locality. It is also found that Mahanta has blocked the smooth passage of the public drain by totally covering the manholes without intimation to any authority concerned," stated an order issued by Dr M An-

PWD Minister's directive to Chief Engineer

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 5: Taking strong note of the fact that the newly repaired portions of the layer on the GS Road have started disintegrating, PWD Minister Parimal Suklabaidya today directed the PWD Chief Engineer to initiate strict action against the officials and contractors concerned in this regard.

The administration said that all departments concerned and regulatory bodies would take steps to review any permission accorded during the current year and take steps to cancel the permission forthwith in the most vulnerable areas prone to landslides and flash floods considering the present

risk and vulnerability in the hilly terrains, water bodies and low-lying areas of the district.

"It is observed that unscientific and haphazard earth cutting and earth filling in the hillocks as well as in the low-lying areas of the district for unplanned construction works destabilise the natural earth slopes, block natural drains, clog natural and artificial drains, which triggers severe landslides, artificial flow, persistent waterlogging during the rainy days, resulting in substantial loss of human and cattle lives and destruction of properties."

"Haphazard human activity and wanton earth cutting lead to downslope movement of rocks, debris and earth under the influence of gravity and also trigger processes like heavy rain, storms, cyclone, floods, earthquakes etc," said the DC.

Dist admin bans earth cutting

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 5: On a day when two persons lost their lives in a landslide at Bonda, the Kamrup Metro administration ordered a ban on all kinds of earth cutting in the district.

An order to this effect was issued by Dr M Angamuthu, Deputy Commissioner and Chairman of the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), under provisions of the Disaster Management Act.

"Two persons died in a landslide incident at Chapaidang under Dispur revenue circle due to such unauthorised hill cutting today. If haphazard, unscientific and unplanned earth cutting and earth filling are allowed to continue unhindered, it may cause a catastrophe,"

MoU signed

JALUKBARI, April 5: The Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), Guwahati, and the Lokanyak Omee Kumar Das College, Dhekaijuli, Sonitpur today signed a memorandum of understanding at the IIE campus here to boost entrepreneurship and skill development activities in the targeted areas.

Speaking on the occasion, Goenka said from now on, the people of this region would get easy and speedy justice as their appeals can be heard and disposed of through video conferencing.

— Correspondent

Aftermath of landslide at Bonda

around Guwahati city, it is also hereby directed that no earth cutting should be allowed till the monsoon season is over, even if permission has been procured from the regulatory authorities like GMDA and GMC for any construction activity. It is hereby directed not to allow carrying of earth procure after hill cutting. Before procuring, the procurer should ensure that the earth is not out of hill cutting."

The administration said that all departments concerned and regulatory bodies would take steps to review any permission accorded during the current year and take steps to cancel the permission forthwith in the most vulnerable areas prone to landslides and flash floods considering the present

Chief Secy, DGP visit schools

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 5: The first day of Gunotsav in the government schools along with the learning level of the students was celebrated in Kamrup Metro district under the auspices of the education department with a plethora of programmes here today in collaboration with the Kamrup Metro district administration.

The officials expressed their satisfaction at the average attendance rate which was 91 per cent as on today. Out of 708 schools selected in Kamrup Metro, 247 schools were assessed today.

including Chief Secretary VK Pipersaria, DGP Mukesh Saray and Kamrup Metro Deputy Commissioner Dr M Angamuthu visited a number of schools in the city to randomly test the general knowledge, writing ability and numerical working skills of the students.

The officials expressed their satisfaction at the average attendance rate which was 91 per cent as on today.

Out of 708 schools selected

in Kamrup Metro, 247 schools were assessed today.

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misshap and calamity of great magnitude in the district, putting the public in general in a situation of great inconvenience and hardship," stated the order.

The administration said that all the departments concerned including the enforcement agencies like revenue circle officers, police, forest department, PWD, transport department, soil conservation department, and planning and regulatory bodies like GMC, GMDA and panchayat functionaries not to permit any earth cutting and earth filling activity in the hilly terrain, water bodies and in low-lying areas of the district.

"It is observed that unscientific and haphazard earth cutting and earth filling in the hilly terrain, water bodies and in low-lying areas of the district for unplanned construction works destabilise the natural earth slopes, block natural drains, clog natural and artificial drains, which triggers severe landslides, artificial flow, persistent waterlogging during the rainy days, resulting in substantial loss of human and cattle lives and destruction of properties."

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The administration said that all departments concerned and regulatory bodies would take steps to review any permission accorded during the current year and take steps to cancel the permission forthwith in the most vulnerable areas prone to landslides and flash floods considering the present

MESSAGE FOR TODAY

Healing takes courage, and we all have courage, even if we have to dig a little to find it.

-TORI AMOS

The Assam Tribune**Brahmaputra dredging**

The agreement between the Centre and the State Government for dredging the Brahmaputra for easing the floods and facilitating its optimum use as a national waterway is a welcome development. With recurring floods and unabated erosion wreaking havoc in the State every year, damaging crops and infrastructure worth thousands of crores and eroding cropland and settlements, the time has come for a serious rethink on the strategy to be pursued for easing the twin menace. However, one needs to proceed with caution, as the Brahmaputra's complex dynamics has its own peculiarities and any unscientific intervention can cause more harm than good. A thorough understanding of the Brahmaputra, especially its water flow and the ecology it sustains, must precede the interventions. Over the decades, the problem of flood and erosion by the Brahmaputra has acquired compound dimensions. The vast network of embankments has time and again proved its inability to withstand the growing severity of the floods. Worse, the embankments have hastened the process of silting manifold, causing the riverbeds to rise abnormally. This is having a direct impact on the floods, as the rivers are fast losing their water retention and discharge capacity. It is in this context that the issue of dredging the Brahmaputra and its major tributaries assumes significance. On the face of it, dredging of the shallow riverbeds seems a plausible option. But the technical feasibility of dredging a huge river like the Brahmaputra is another matter. Large-scale sand mining in various rivers of the State has been a disturbing concern that needs to be addressed. However, when done in strict compliance with environmental norms, sand mining can be sustainable and can even help lessening of siltation in riverbeds. This, and the entire gamut of related issues concerning possible desilting of riverbeds, is a matter that calls for scientific opinion.

Promoting Brahmaputra as National Waterway II will facilitate enhanced bilateral trade between Assam and Bangladesh due to the direct access it will ensure to Chittagong port. In spite of Assam having one of the world's largest rivers in the Brahmaputra, it is nowhere near tapping its potential as a major waterway. Also welcome is the decision to have the Brahmaputra Express Highway on either side of the river, covering a total length of 1,300 km. Notwithstanding improvement in recent years, the overall road connectivity in the State remains inadequate in terms of both availability and quality. This applies to different types of roads such as national highways, State highways, other PWD roads, and rural roads. With liberal Central assistance coming for infrastructure projects, a stringent quality-control mechanism has to be the first step for preventing sub-standard work. Poor road connectivity has slackened the growth in key sectors such as industry and tourism in the region. Besides highways, adequate thrust needs to be put on improving rural connectivity.

Complicated issue

It would be reiterating the obvious when one asserts that the current situation in Kashmir is too complex for any simplistic solution. The very fact that the killing of a dreaded terrorist, ironically considered by a broad swath of Kashmiris as a "hero" and "patriot" rather than a shedder of the blood of innocents, had sparked off widespread and prolonged protests in Kashmir, is a telling reminder of how deep the scars run. A section of youth has "progressed" beyond pelting stones at forces of law and order; now they are offering active resistance whenever militants are cornered by security forces and even dying in attempts to free them. Understandably enough, given this depth of feeling and often violent nature of protests, the Indian Army has occasionally been compelled into strong action like firing – rubble-rousers had been able to successfully incite a section of the Kashmiri people by labeling these as "atrocities". Observers of the opinion that firearms had been available many young Kashmiris would have taken them up; because these are not available they have instead picked up stones. The most terrifying thing about Kashmir is that even schoolchildren are being brain-washed into taking up the "cause", though no one appears to know what exactly the "cause" is. There is little use even attempting to explain to an obsessive populace the non-viability of an Azad Kashmir.

No doubt the "development" solution offered by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is relevant towards improving the deteriorating situation in Kashmir and finding a solution. At the time of inaugurating a tunnel on the Srinagar-Jammu national highway he had spoken directly to the youth of Kashmir asking them to choose between the path of tourism and that of terrorism. He also stated that the youths who had cut stones to build the tunnel were contributing more to the development of the State than those who threw stones at security forces. There is more than a grain of truth in such an assertion. As was seen in the Northeast, lack of development had been a fertile ground where the seeds of insurgency and separationist tendencies could be sown. However, as soon as progress towards economic development was sensed as being made, such tendencies grew relatively muted. Similarly, in Kashmir, much of the unrest is due to lack of development – ironically, the well-off section in Kashmir send their youngsters outside the State for education and professional training, and it is only amongst the less affluent that anti-Indian feelings are manifest. Thus focus on economic and industrial development in Kashmir would be one of the keys to quelling the feelings of resentment. However, given the complicated nature of the issue, opening up communications with all stakeholders in Kashmir including those demanding Azadi to work out a political solution is also imperative.

Naga framework pact: design and motive

■ Dr Akhil Ranjan Dutta

Northeast India in general and Assam in particular are being thrown into numerous vulnerabilities by the Indian State both through institutional design and also by using fringe elements. The prime objective behind such attempts is to keep the region continuously engaged into emotional issues by putting off State or community against the other and thereby keeping the region and communities divided. Only a divided region will facilitate the appropriation of the resources of the region both by the State and the corporate forces. It will entirely be mistaken to believe that one controversy after the other being designed and promoted under the auspices of the Indian State are misinformed strategic adventures. Truth is that they are genuine a part and parcel of the strategic objectives being pursued by the Centre. The State Government is reduced to an entry with no right to question and only to dance to the tunes being played by the Centre. This is true in case of all those issues which have added vulnerabilities to the region: the Citizenship Amendment Bill that attempts to give citizenship to Hindu Bangladeshi refugees; increasing number of large river dams which will convert the region into a power house at the cost of the ecological sustainability of the region; the Namami Brahmaputra festival which may end up in the ambitious river-interlinking project now silently pursued by the Union Government and the ongoing controversy around the Naga Frame-

work Agreement signed between the Government of India (GOI) and Nagaland Social Council of Nagaland (Isaac Muivah) in August 2015 which poses threat to the territorial integrity of the federal units in the region.

The general secretary of NSCN (IM) T Muivah has recently claimed that the "Framework Agreement", which has so far been strictly guarded, recognizes Nagaland as a "sovereign State" comprising the Naga-inhabited areas of the region. Such a claim immediately provoked emotional outbursts throughout the region. It indeed has created a political havoc. The Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal reportedly asserted that there has been no discussion with the State Government by the Centre on the issue of "Nagaland" or greater Nagaland as claimed by Muivah. However, such assertion bears no substance as the incumbent State Government in the region were neither taken into confidence while signing the agreement nor have they so far been informed about the contents of the Agreement. Therefore, it will only be a distant dream to have expected any prior discussion with the State Governments towards implementing any clause of the Agreement, if such an Agreement exists at all.

However, what is important to be noted here is that Muivah has claimed nothing new while referring to the sovereignty of Nagaland. He has been claiming it since the Agreement had been signed. Reappraising what both the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Muivah had said after the signing of the Framework Agreement may be relevant here. The Prime Minister had a special message to the people and the leaders of Nagas on the day the Agreement was signed i.e., on August 3, 2015, where he said: "we will not only build a bright future

for Nagaland but your talents, traditions and efforts will also contribute to making the nation stronger, more secure, more inclusive and more prosperous".

Had there been a substantive agreement permissible within the framework of the Indian Constitution, there would have been pronounced and definite constitutional and administrative initiatives to "build a bright future for Nagaland" and also to make "the nation stronger, more secure, more inclusive and more prosperous".

For Nagaland, but your talents, traditions and efforts will also contribute to making the nation stronger, more secure, more inclusive and more prosperous. You are also the guardians of our eastern frontiers and our gateway to the world beyond" (*Nagaland Post*, 4 August 2015). The language of reciprocity by Muivah is worth mentioning: "...when Indians recognized the rights of the Nagas and Na-

gas too understood their difficulties, both cannot live totally separated but should coexist through sharing of sovereign power" (*Nagaland Post*, 13 August 2015). Muivah further asserted that Indians have accepted that the Naga sovereignty would be with the Nagas and sovereignty of India would remain with Indians. He also said "we must depend on each other. We must admit the mistake of each other and we must forgive each other" (*Nagaland Post*, 13 August 2015).

Such a claim by Muivah has never been challenged by the Union Government or the notion of sharing sovereign power has not yet been explained.

Muivah's language has indeed been very explicit; he has not talked about more autonomy for the Nagas, but co-existence of two entities by sharing sovereign powers. More importantly, the language being used by Muivah indicated that the GOI is left with no discretionary power as far as Nagaland was concerned when he asserted that "the Nagas sovereignty would be with the Nagas and sovereignty of India would remain with Indians."

When Muivah had said all these things and the Chief Ministers of the concerned States i.e., Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur raised their voice of serious concerns and demanded to make the "Framework Agreement" public, all these were just thrown into the dustbin by the Union Government. Muivah's recent claim,

therefore, is not something entirely new. What he did not talk about at that point was the issue of territorial integrity of the Naga-inhabited areas. But, it was implicit in the language of Muivah. The issue must have been a part of discussion, or that issue was left without any concrete resolution which made Muivah to resurface it to bring him to the political limelight.

What is there inside in the Agreement which has made it so secretive? Or, what is the real agenda behind keeping it so secret? One may have three speculative articulations around this secrethood. One, probably there is no Agreement at all called "Framework Agreement", in black and white. There were only agreed principles in broad terms. The Agreement is rather a euphoria planted both by the Union Government and that of the NSCN (IM) as a face saving device. Second, there is an Agreement called "Framework Agreement" which has nothing substantive to offer to the Nagas.

Third, there is a "Framework Agreement", which has talked both about Nagas sovereignty and that of the bifurcation of Nagaland. Even though the issue itself fades away. Had there been a substantive agreement permissible within the framework of the Indian Constitution, there would have been pronounced and definite constitutional and administrative initiatives to "build a bright future for Nagaland" and also to make "the nation stronger, more secure, more inclusive and more prosperous".

Arun Sarma: the playwright with a difference

■ Sailen Bharali

With the passing away of Arun Sarma the Assamese theatre has lost the most powerful playwright of the post-independence era. Sarma, who started his dramatic career with a conventional play such as *Uruka paja* (Leaking roof) distinguished himself as a playwright by writing *Sri Nibaran Bhattacharya* (1967), a play that deals with the conflict between a dedicated artist and an indifferent society. Although the theme was quite familiar, it was a different play from the conventional ones not only in its style of presentation but also in its literary quality, and to be more precise, poetic flavour. In fact, the play brought in fresh air in the otherwise flat and banal atmosphere prevailing at the dramatic scene of Assam and paved the way for a new kind of drama.

In his next play, *Ahar* (Food, 1971) Sarma broke entirely new ground. He was concerned here with new theatrical modes or "avant-garde" experimentation. The plot shows that the play has the characteristic features of the absurd play in Assamese. The plot in brief is like this: the dead body of a woman has been stolen from the morgue of the medical college by four youths – Kamal, Dhiren and Nabu. They are waiting for an opportunity to bury the decomposed body under the North Brook Gate of the city. The four youths are of different interests. One of them is a poet, the second a businessman, the third a revolutionary and the fourth a habitual drunkard. They are seen waiting on four platforms engaging themselves in their actions of interest and munching fried groundnuts and exchanging dialogues. As the darkness of the evening drops, the dead woman comes to life and assumes different roles that she at one time played with

the four young men, as the beloved of Kamal, as the housewife of Dhiren and as substitute to Nabu. This causes the four young men to go back to their past and ponder over the life they lived. In a state of profound absorption, the picture of the respective woman each of the four youths associated with, flashes upon their



mind. She appears in their mind's eye with all her grace and vitality. When the state of ecstasy is over, they act in haste to bury the body. But the policemen who were in vigorous search for the corpse arrive at the spot and try to apprehend them.

The plot, apparently incoherent, has four episodes skillfully intermingled and the theme that internally binds all the four episodes is the relationship of a woman with different persons. A woman has to play different roles in different spheres of soci-

ety. She is the symbol of love, material attachment, sacrifice and physical desire. In other words, a woman satisfies our physical, mental and emotional needs and anything that meets our hunger either physical or emotional or is *ahar*, that is, food which is the main concern of everyone of us. The title of the play possibly derives its significance from that standpoint. But the image of the dead woman may convey more than one meaning. It may represent our past which we try to bury and wipe out but which persists in our subconscious mind and haunts us throughout. The past, inspite of all our efforts cannot be separated from the present.

Like all other plays belonging to the school of the absurd, *Ahar*, a play without act and scene division has a poetic flow. There is an attempt on the part of the playwright to maintain the flow throughout the play. The dialogue infused with lyricism and suggestiveness has enhanced the literary merit of the play. It appears that Arsh is intended to be more than a piece of literature than to be staged as a play.

Not only all other plays belonging to the school of the absurd, *Ahar*, a play without act and scene division has a poetic flow. There is an attempt on the part of the playwright to maintain the flow throughout the play. The dialogue infused with lyricism and suggestiveness has enhanced the literary merit of the play. It appears that Arsh is intended to be more than a piece of literature than to be staged as a play.

The variety of theme and character is another noteworthy feature in these plays. Each play centres round a character which is different from that of the other play. *Agnigar* and *Aditur Amakatho*, the two plays written towards the closing years of his dramatic career are linked with his earlier play *Sri Nibaran Bhattacharya*. The playwright himself has regarded the three plays as a trilogy. The plays are known both for their stage ability and readability. However, as good literary pieces his *Sri Nibaran Bhattacharya* and *Ahar* excel others. These two plays reveal best his depth of feeling and poetic aptitude.

Letters to the EDITOR

Sir, The contractual teachers, working in the provincialized high and higher secondary schools of Assam have been deprived of their rights and dues for a long time. They have been serving in the schools with dedication for the last seven years with minimum facilities. Everyone including the students of the schools where these teachers are working, their guardians, the students who have passed out in the last seven years, many intellectuals who have a close relationship with the education system of the State and the public in general have appealed time and again for the regularization of the services of these teachers.

Moreover, the previous government decided to regularize the services of these teachers while the honourable High Court directed the government to regularize the services of these teachers without TET and even the one-man advisory committee of the Education Department constituted by the present government has advised the

department to regularise these teachers on humanitarian grounds. Yet the Education Department of the Government of Assam has no intention to follow the mandate of the people and the court and appealed in the High Court against the decision of the previous government to regularize the services of these teachers. At this time when all teachers, and some other contractual employees are facing various difficulties, including the non-payment of their salaries and arrears of the 7th Pay Commission and contractual teachers of the Higher Secondary Schools have been doing their duties in the schools with utter confusion about their future.

Through this letter, I request the Education Minister to give justice to these teachers so that they can dedicate their time and energy to the noblest profession in the world. Yours etc., ROBIN UZ ZAMAN, Becharampur, Nagaon
24-hr pharmacies

Sir, Through your esteemed daily, I would like to bring into notice the inconveniences that are being faced in the small towns and remote villages due to the unavailability of 24-hr medical

shops in the vicinity. Even though the doctors are present the whole night at the civil hospitals, the patients can't buy the prescribed medicines due to closure of the pharmacies at night (after 8 pm). And the civil pharmacies have only the common medicines (that too at times unavailable or having expired dates). So the patients either have to run for life to the nearby city which may take an hour or more, or wait for the next morning until the shops open. I would like to appeal to the State Health Minister to take necessary measures regarding this matter.

Yours etc., P BORA, Dergaon
Aadhaar Card

Sir, The Aadhaar card has been made mandatory by the Central Government for some services. But, the authority concerned has not yet introduced Aadhaar Card for Central Government services and other State Government and private services and educational institutions and entrance examinations outside and inside Assam.

However, it is a welcome decision of the Supreme Court that

the apex court will deliberate on the pros and cons of the issue and will issue appropriate directives. Yours etc., PUTUL SARMA, Biswanath Chariali
Border disputes

Sir, Assam's border disputes with its neighbouring States namely Nagaland, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh are decades old (Ref: 'Assam Govt keen to resolve border disputes'-AT, April 4). Till now, Assam's border rows with these neighbouring states have remained unsettled. While Assam is willing to settle border disputes with Nagaland, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh through discussions, the opposite parties have rigid stances in their border talks. Rather, these States have unreasonably claimed additional lands from Assam that the latter has rejected.

Assam and Nagaland share a 434-kilometer boundary, but Nagaland has behaved aggressively

towards Assam ever since its inception in 1963 and has in fact encroached on vast tracts of land in upper-Assam districts of Sivasagar, Jorhat and Golaghat. Over the years, there have been clashes between the two States and more than 100 people from Assam were killed in those clashes too. The reports of the Sundaram Commission-1971 and the Shastri Commission-1985, constituted by the Central Government for ending border row were rejected by the Nagaland Government. Nagaland refused to cooperate in a survey of the border suggested by the Sundaram Commission. Reports say that about 66,000 hectares of land is in dispute between the two States. Assam currently has a pending lawsuit with Supreme Court on this border dispute and the court verdict is awaited.

Assam's border disputes with the States of Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh are also hanging as both these States are adamant to their stances. Meghalaya has also claimed a few areas of Karbi Anglong district of Assam. A solution will become possible only when the involved parties pursue a give and take policy. Yours etc., MAHESWAR DEKA, Rangia

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

Contractual school teachers denied justice

Demand for parity with Central Govt employees

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 5: Demanding parity of disability allowances with the Central Government employees, the State Government Disable Employees Association has requested the State government to address the grievances of the specially able employees to create better working conditions for them.

The association, which has been taking up the matter with the authorities concerned for past several months, has requested the Commissioner of Disability to take necessary action.

tion and create equal opportunities at par with the 7th Central Pay Commission due to the same market and price index.

"The State government employees are far behind so far disability-related allowances are concerned. Though we live in the same condition, where there is no condition of inflation on all, the facilities should also be at least at par with the Union government employees," said an office-bearer of the association.

"State government employees should be allowed to draw the house rent allowance, which was curtailed in the 6th

Pay Commission. Moreover, transportation allowance of a maximum of Rs 1,000 should be allowed to every State government employee, as is being enjoyed by the Central employees," a memorandum stated.

Educational expenses for two children, including expenses for higher education should be reimbursed or given free similar to Central government employees, as per the demand of the association.

"We have also urged in-

creasing the disability allowance and childcare allowances equivalent to Central government employees. It may be mentioned that 50 per cent allowances have been reduced in the 6th Asso-

cial Pay Commission. Re-

garding this, we have already submitted a memorandum to the anomaly committee under retired bureaucrat CR Das. This apart, 33 years' arrear with effect from February 28, 1984 should be released before the 7th Pay Commission

final report is implemented by the Pay Productivity Panel (PPP)," the association stated.

Its other demands include

city compensation allowance of Rs 1,000, subsidy up to 75 per cent on house building loan, a proper government policy for approximately five lakh disabled persons for creating a better and barrier-free environment for persons with disability, education facilities for differently abled children, opportunity for employment and self-rehabilitation of youths having different extents of disability.

"Addressing the needs of the

children with disability in rural areas is a must to bridge the urban-rural divide in the issues related to intervention into dis-

ability. In cities also, such schools must arrange for good transportation facilities, so that such children are encouraged to continue with their education. This is a must for ensur-

ing a life with dignity for people with disabilities (PWDs)."

The association asserted.

Other demands of the association include concession in bus fares, exemption from professional tax, income tax and special directorate for PWDs.

N-02/2017-18

NF Rly to eliminate all unmanned level crossings by March 2020

PRANJAL BHUYAN

GUWAHATI, April 5: Maha- gaon-headquartered North-east Frontier Railway (NFR) has set a target of March 2020 for eliminating all unmanned level crossings in the zone.

"By March 2010, all unmanned level crossings in NFR and Assam are targeted for total elimination," SK Ojha, Senior Public Relations Officer (SPRO) of NFR, told *The Assam Tribune*.

He said that at present there are a total of 1,723 level crossings in the NFR zone. Of the total, 1,211 are manned level crossings and 512 are un-

manned. In Assam alone, there are 917 level crossings, of which 731 are manned and 186 are unmanned.

Ojha said that during the last four years, 87 unmanned level crossings in NFR, which include 42 in Assam, have been closed down. Besides, another 240 unmanned level crossings have been converted into manned crossings or upgraded to road over-bridges (RoBs) and road under-bridges (RuBs), which include 134 in Assam, during the past four fiscal years.

"The target for closure or conversion to manned crossings in 2017-18 for NFR and Assam will be finalised later in

April. But the approximate figure is 105," Ojha said.

Asked about alternative arrangements where closure is to happen, he said, "The alternative arrangements are planned by diversion of road to the nearest manned level crossings or LHS/RuB."

With regard to accidents, deaths and injuries reported from unmanned level crossings Ojha said, "In NFR, there were 10 accidents involving 10 deaths and 65 injuries, which included six accidents, eight deaths and 18 injuries in Assam, during the last four fiscal years."

As per NFR officials, negligence on the part of road users

is the primary reason for such accidents. The NFR SPRO said that steps have been taken to prevent such accidents.

"Manning has been done on priority basis. Deployment of 'Gate Mitras' or gate counselors on vulnerable unmanned level crossings to educate road users for safe use of level crossings, has been done. Public awareness campaigning and other measures have been conducted for prevention of such accidents," he said.

Ojha added that railway authorities have also stepped up coordination with various state governments in this regard and regular meetings are being held.



Contestants walk the ramp during the Miss & Mrs Bohagi 2017 beauty pageant at Pragjyoti, Machukhowa in Guwahati on Wednesday — UB Photos

Rly retirees resent move to lower interest rates on small savings

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 5: The Northeast Frontier Railway Pensioners' Association has represented the government's decision to lower interest rates of various small savings schemes of the Indian Postal Service.

Interest on small saving schemes like PPF, Kisan Vikas Patra and Sukanya Samridhi scheme has been curtailed by 0.1 per cent for the April-June quarter and investments in the Public Provident Fund scheme and the 5-year National Savings Certificate will now fetch a lower annual rate of 7.9 per cent as against the existing 8 per cent.

Kisan Vikas Patra will bring in 7.6 per cent and mature in 112 months. Sukanya Samridhi scheme for the girl child will now offer 8.4 per cent, the same as the 5-year Senior Citizens Savings scheme.

The NFRPA also disapproved of the move by the State Bank of India and its now-merged asso-

cates to raise the minimum average balance in accounts to Rs 5,000 in the six months.

"Even for the urban and semi-urban branches, the MAB (minimum account balance) has been fixed at Rs 3,000 and Rs 2,000 respectively and in case of rural branches, the minimum balance has been fixed at Rs 1,000. Breach of MAB will attract a penalty ranging between Rs 20 and Rs 50, which will be effective from April. The association believes that taking this cut other commercial banks will also follow suit," the association said in a statement.

The association felt that the worst hit by these calibrations

will be none other than the poor and the senior citizens who depend for their livelihood on the small income from small savings on their life's earning. It urged the government to reconsider these moves and withdraw them with immediate effect.

Health camp, lectures

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 5: The Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology of Cotton College State University (CCSU) will conduct a health camp and a series of lectures by clinicians on the occasion of World Health Day on April 7.

Noted physicians Dr Anjan Saikia and Dr Jayashree Das will deliver lectures on hepatitis and depression respectively.

The theme of World Health Day 2017 declared by the World Health Organization is

'Depression', which is a leading cause of ill health and disability, affecting over 300 million people worldwide. This number represents a sharp increase of 18 per cent between 2005 and 2015.

In addition, a health camp will be held from 1 pm that day at CCSU.

All the events will be organised in the conference room of MCB Bhawan of the university. It may be mentioned that the department has also introduced two special papers on biomedical genetics and personalised medicine at the postgraduate level, said a statement.

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Managing Director



স্বাস্থ্য কর্মসূচি



স্বচ্ছ কামৰূপ মেলা ২০১৭

আয়োজক

কামৰূপ জিলা পানী আৰু অনাময় সমিতি

তাৰিখ - ৭ এপ্ৰিল ২০১৭

সময় - পুৱা ৯.৩০ বজাৰ পৰা

স্থান - বাজীৰ গাঁথী ইনড'ৰ ষ্টেডিয়াম, আমিনগাঁও

“আহক আধি সকলোৱে মিলি, এখন স্বচ্ছ আৰু সুস্থ কামৰূপ গড়ো”

Janasanyog143/17

APOLLO GYNAECOLOGIST
DR. MEENAKSHI SUNDARAM
on 22/04/2017 (Saturday)
Apollo Hospitals Information Centre
Opp. Guwahati Club Bus Stop, GNB Road, Ghy-J
0361-2661977, 9706131992, 9864064167, 9435010146
Dibrugarh : 955410632, Kharbar : 789965132, Ranaghat : 9967801046

AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
NOTICE INVITING EOI (No. 10000 21779)
Airport Authority of India (AAI) invites Expressive Bidding for "Empowerment of Agencies for Construction of Pre-Engineered/Prefabricated Buildings at Airport". Last date of sale & submission of applications is 20.04.2017 upto 17:30 Hrs. & 01.05.2017 upto 17:30 Hrs. respectively. For detailed information, log on to AAIs website <https://e-tender.aai.aero/jsp/portal> or www.aai.aero. Further clarifications / corrigendum in this regard, if any, will be uploaded only on AAIs website/portal.

N-02/2017-18

Recommed/NHM/2016

ডেংগুৰ পৰা সারধান হওক

ডেংগুৰ বোগৰ লক্ষণসমূহ

- অতিপাত জ্বা
- চকু বঙা পৰা
- গাঠিৰ বিষ
- মূৰৰ বিষ
- ঘাস পেশীৰ বিষ
- চকু শিষ্কাল বিষোৱা

ডেংগুৰ পৰা বক্ষা পাবলে ল'বলগীয়া সারধানতাসমূহ

পানী থকা পাত্ৰৰ মহে কঢ়ি পাবল নোৱাৰাকৈ ঢাকি বাখ

অলাগটীয়াল বাচন-বৰ্তন (কোগজৰ কাম-প্ৰট্ৰ), ট্যাবাৰ, নাৰিকলৰ খোলা আৰি য'তে তাৰে নেৱেলাৰ। এইবৰতে পানী জমা হ'লে মহে বক্ষ বৃদ্ধি হয়

ডেংগু মহে নিনত কামোৰে: সেয়েহে নিনত শোঁতেও আঁচুৰা ব্যৱহাৰ কৰক

সম্পূৰ্ণ শৰীৰ ঢাকি বক্ষ বক্ষ পৰিধান কৰক

জ্বৰ হ'লৈই তৎক্ষনত উপৰ্যুক্ত চিকিৎসাৰ বাবে ওচৰ চিকিৎসালয়ে লৈ যাওক।
চিকিৎসাৰ পৰাৰ্থ অবিহুে কোনো ঔষধ সেৱন নৰিব

যোৰ বাহিৰে তিতে মহে বক্ষ বৃদ্ধি বোধ কৰক, ডেংগুৰ পৰা বক্ষা পাঁতক

সকলো জিলা, সদৰ চিকিৎসালয় আৰু চৰকাৰী চিকিৎসা
মহাবিদ্যালয়সমূহত এই বোগৰ বিনামূলীয়া পৰীকাৰ উপলক্ষ

NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION

বাটীয়াল স্বাস্থ্য অভিযান, অসম

স্বচ্ছ কামৰূপ মেলা ২০১৭

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Janasanyog143/17

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পৰ্যাপ্ত আৰু সুস্থ কামৰূপ গড়ো



Activists of Jatiya Mohila Parishad staging a demonstration against price rise of LPG cylinders, in Jorhat on Tuesday — UB Photos

Right wing members protest

SILCHAR, April 5: Members of right wing body Hindu Sanghati staged a demonstration in Silchar against the comments made by Debachary Shome, a resident of College Road Silchar and a student of Jadhavpur University on the recent seminar conducted by the RSS. Sanjib Nath, a cadre of the Hindu Sanghati, claimed that Debachary has made unconstitutional comments against the RSS which has hurt their sentiments. — Correspondent

45 per cent growth in revenue collection of Raha electricity office

ANNA Service

RAHA, April 5: The electricity subdivisional office of Rauna has recorded more than 45 per cent growth in revenue collection during the last financial year that ended recently, compared to the previous year.

Dev Dulal Sharma, SDO, ASEB office, Raha, said that they have collected Rs 9.27 crore during the last financial year.

"The ASEB Raha office was managed to cross the target of Rs 9 crore this year compared to the previous financial year. Last year we collected Rs 6.37 crore," he said. The subdivisional office was able to collect revenue of Rs 1 crore alone on March this year from its consumers.

"We have launched a massive drive against unpaid bill amount and electricity theft related offences like illegal connection, overload, etc., in

various places of Raha and during the drive, the department not only collected revenue, but also created an awareness about using electricity as per their need," Sharma added.

"The drive will go on until and unless the department can control all those offences related to electricity in the entire areas falls under ASEB Raha," the SDDO added. However, he expected that within some months the offences would come under control.

Foundation day celebration of Daria Bagicha School concludes

CORRESPONDENT

DERGAON, April 5: The 35th foundation day celebration of Daria Bagicha ME and High School in Khamta LCA, established in 1981, concluded recently.

The open meeting, chaired by educationist Biren Thakur, was inaugurated by the president of Golaghat District Sahakari High School Ranjan Karmindi and secretary of GD CMS Tapan Karmakar.

In the meeting, the president of the organising committee as well as social worker, Dino Chaura, presented his welcome address, while the secretary, Chandrakanta Chaura, presented his secretarial report.

Several resolutions, including demand for amalgamation and upgradation of Daria ME and High School to Higher Secondary School, appointment of sufficient teachers and opening an open school at Daria High School etc., were taken in the meeting.

Arun Sarma: a tribute

My god of small things

They know you for the bigthings—as the giant who straddled the literary world of Assam and dazzled it for decades. They knew your story too—from Halem through Dibrugarh to All India Radio Guwahati where you worked for nearly four decades and wove magic with words. And they definitely know you for the countless awards you have been feted with: from the Sahitya Akademi to Sangeet Natak Akademi to Padma Shri— you have richly deserved them all. I wonder, however, if they will ever know you for the small things that you did and the way that you perceived the world in its wondrous little elements. For the unalloyed joy and symphony in life's little things that only the most exalted souls like you possibly perceive and enjoy.

You trained me fairly early in these little moments of life: the first time was the day I walked up to you with that pink nursery class report card in hand. Your finger ran down the 'A's and 'A+'s and stopped at the 'C' I got for drawing. "Oh, we got a C in drawing? Never mind—we will get an A in Class KG in drawing too!" and you had beamed at me. I was thrilled and beamed back at my father Late Nirun Barua who grimed back. In the two of you, I had found my life-long heroes. Yes—I had to better in drawing in Class KG only because you had said that I would do better! Your words mattered more than anything else. And that is what your words have been for me throughout my life: my anchor, my compass and my yardstick in my quest of excellence. No achievement—not matter how big or small—was worth it until it was shared with you. No life-event seemed important until your words had sealed their import. Wish I could tell you how much they mattered—those little gestures and those words that made a profound impact and showed me how much you really cared:

Father-figure to literary society

Arun Sarma, the well-known literary figure of Assam who gave Assamese drama a new direction in the 1960s, brought the curtain down on his illustrious career on March 27 last, incidentally on World Theatre Day.

Known as a people's man, this down-to-earth person with simple and happy demeanour could make anybody at ease. A liberal humanist as he was, Arun Sarma could attract all and sundry with his amiable nature. He was a huge repertoire of knowledge, very well-read and always positively inspiring for anybody who came in close contact with him.

Born to Tilak Chandra Sarma, the then editor of *The Times of Assam* and Narada Devi on November 3, 1931 in Dibrugarh, this eldest son of six children initially had education in Halem of Biswanath district, then at Chatra, Tezpur and Guwahati. He switched jobs from being an editorial staff of *The Assam Tribune* in Guwahati to be a teacher back in Halem and then to the All India Radio, finally to retire as the Director, AIR North East Service.

Arun Sarma authored more than 50 radio plays, several trend-setting unconventional classic plays like *Ashar, Sri Nibaron Bhattacharya, Kukurnesta Manuh, Parashram, Purush etc.*, six novels including the award-winning one *Ashishbar Rong*, poems and many articles in different times of his illustrious career.

This accomplished author of repute was recognised for his contribution to Assamese literature with the Padmashree Award in 2010, and among many other awards and honours, he has the rare distinction of winning both the Sahitya Akademi and Sangeet Natak Akademi awards.

Arun Sarma was a guide and father-figure not only of the entire Assamese literary society, but also for his extended family.

Today, on this day of his *adva shradha*, I pray to the Almighty to grant eternal peace to the departed soul.

—Dr Suranjan Barua

—Dr Protim Sharma

Protest over death of student storms Barpeta

CORRESPONDENT

BARPETA, April 5: A massive rally stormed Barpeta on Tuesday protesting the alleged wrong treatment of doctors of Fakhruddin Ali Medical College leading the death of Sonali Sarkar, a meritorious student of Madhab Choudhury College and demanding adequate compensation to the family of the deceased.

Hundreds of students assembled at the MC campus on Tuesday morning

and took out the protest rally.

The procession first moved towards the Fakhruddin Ali Medical College, but the police intercepted the rally midway. Later they moved towards the town and blocked the busy Panchali Point for a while. Then the protesters went to the office of the Deputy Commissioner where they submitted a memorandum demanding a probe into the incident and urged the administration to punish the doctors who were responsible for the

death of the student.

The death of Sonali Sarkar is not a single incident of wrong treatment of the FAAMC Hospital here. There have been frequent allegations of wrong medical treatment as well as the poor behaviour of doctors and other staff of the hospital.

In other words, the medical college has miserably failed to fulfil the hopes and aspirations of the people who mostly belong to economically underprivileged class.

Over Rs 46 lakh house tax collected in Nalbari

CORRESPONDENT

NALBARI, April 5: The Nalbari district administration has geared up for better development of the town, especially the drainage system and waste management. It has also helped the municipal board to collect pending house and trade licence tax.

The Nalbari Deputy Commissioner, Ananta Lal Gyani, has taken specific measures for increasing collection of tax by the Nalbari Municipal Board and entrusted Assistant Commissioner Slipika Kalita to collect the pending house tax and trade licence tax.

In February and March, the board collected a huge amount of Rs 46.26 lakh as house tax. Earlier, the tax was collected by the Nalbari Municipal Board through their officials. The tax amount collected by the municipal board officials in January was only Rs 82,120. According to the official sources, 80 per cent house tax under Nalbari Municipal Board area has been pending for the ages.

On the other hand, in case of trade licences, most of the Nalbari business establishments were running their trade without licences or without renewal licences. However, this time the administration has collected Rs 16.65 lakh since January. In December, the amount collected by the Nalbari Municipal Board official was only Rs 32,200.

While talking to this Correspondent, Deputy Commissioner Gyani said that with the increasing amount through the tax collection process, he has decided to speed up the development works of the town. Besides, the increase in tax collection will help payment of pending salaries of the employees of municipal board, he added.

Gyani said that for the expansion of drainage system in the town and for waste management, he entrusted another Assistant Commissioner, Darshana Bora, to monitor the development works. The initiatives of the Nalbari Deputy Commissioner were highly acclaimed by the Nalbari citizens.

Locals raise eyebrows over police occupying inspection bungalows

CORRESPONDENT

KALAGAON, April 5: The Darrang district Agriculture Department distributed government-subsidised power tillers to the selected beneficiaries under National Food Security Mission (NFSM).

On this occasion, a public function was organised on the district agriculture officer premises here on Tuesday where Guirujyoti Das, MLA of Mangaldoi, participated as the chief guest, gave away the power tillers keys to 46 beneficiaries in presence of Bhagawan Ch Bharali, District Agriculture Officer, Darrang; Jayoti Ch Nath, SDO of Mangaldoi Subdivision and other senior officials of the department.

Speaking on the occasion, he expressed hope that the power tillers, distributed at subsidised rate of Rs 75,000 each, will be properly utilised resulting in the increase in agricultural productivity of the district.

It has now been like a police transit camp causing damage to the building, the locals alleged. Local BTC EM Jagadish Sarkar also expressed his displeasure over the issue.

On the other hand, Tangla

Hailstorms damage tea industry in Barak Valley

CORRESPONDENT

HAILAKANDI, April 5: The tea industry of Barak Valley was hit hard by hailstorms. While the hailstorms damage has been intense in the district of Hailakandi, severe damage has also been reported from the other tea growing districts of Barak Valley.

In a press statement, the secretary of the Barak Valley branch of the Tea Association of

India (TAI), Dorodi Bhattacharjee, said that the widespread damage has been reported from gardens such as Aenakhal, Borojingal, Polkorbor, Rampose, Bhulbandil, Bickrapore etc.

Hailstorms damage are not uncommon during this period of the season, but what has impacted the industry is the timing and the scale of damage. This is bound to retard the prospect of early flush and make dent in the overall production scenario of this year.

The tea industry of Barak Valley was looking forward to improve production this year and the extent of damage prompt this association to urge the district administration to approach the State government to declare this hailstorm damage as a 'natural calamity' in garden areas so that some succour is received by the tea industries of Barak Valley, the release added.



A cultural procession being taken out to mark the Sri Sri Ram Mahotsav organised by Vishva Hindu Parishad, in Biswanath Chariali on Tuesday. — UB Photos

Malandevi becomes cleanest village in Dhubri district

CORRESPONDENT

DHUBRI, April 5: In the Swachh Assam Mela, organised at the Raja Prabhat Chandra Baruah Playground on Tuesday by Dhubri district administration, Malandevi village under the Raniganj Gram Panchayat was declared as the cleanest village in the district.

It was declared that the Malandevi village with 111 households has actively participated in the Swachh Bharat Mission and made the village free from open defecation with clean roads and garbage-free lawns of the houses.

It was also informed by the villagers that they use their traditional system of disposing garbage in their village. "We have kept traditional bamboo baskets in various plac-

es of the village roads and also in the households and lawns for throwing the garbage and trash. Each household collects the garbage and throw it in a pit made at the backyard of their houses. When the pit is about to be full, it is then filled with earth," said Mojar Rahman, the president of the Raniganj Gram Panchayat under which this clean village is located.

It was also informed that each household in the village has been equipped with proper sanitation system. Joymoti Roy, ASHA worker of the village, also confirmed that since the time they have adopted these cleanliness methods, the healthy habits in the village has drastically declined.

While addressing the gathering in the Mela, the Deputy Commissioner, Dhriraj Chaudhary asked every village in the district to take Malandevi as their inspiration. "If a small village like Malandevi can, why can't other villages adopt such healthy habits and make their village a Swachh Village," said Chaudhary.

He also added, "It was possible for Malandevi because in this village people from all strata of life participated and within few weeks they made their village a clean place where each villager uses a sanitary latrine."

The Mela was inaugurated by Chaudhary in presence of Executive Engineer (PHE) Hritesh Deka, Additional Deputy Commissioner Palash Baruah, Boro, Assistant Commissioner Jitendra Bora, Commissioner of Municipal Board Pranjit War-

Miraculous recovery for comatose commander

NEW DELHI, April 5: Comatose commander Major Subodh Cheetah, who had slipped into coma after being shot nine times during an encounter with terrorists in Kashmir, has made a "miraculous" recovery and was discharged from AIIMS today. Cheetah was first wheeled in on February 14 at the trauma centre of the hospital after he was being shifted from Srinagar. Doctors attending to him said he has shown a steely resolve to respond to their intensive medical care that went on for close to about two months.

Professor of Trauma Surgery Sohail Khan, while announcing his recovery said it was "nothing short of a miracle". Cheetah was in coma for 16 days and spent a month in the ICU. He was discharged today." Amit Gupta, Additional Medical Superintendent at the Trauma Centre, said Gupta said the Commanding Officer of the CRPF's 45th battalion in Kashmir had suffered multiple bullet injuries.

According to doctors, the hope for vision returning to Cheetah's right eye is "bleak" although his left eye which was also injured due to splinters has been restored. "When he was brought in, he was in coma, had bullet injuries in his head, badly fractured torso and the globe of his right eye had ruptured," Gupta said.

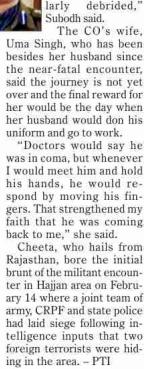
Described as a trooper prone to fits of rage in the last 1.5 months, Subodh said within 24 hours of admission, surgery was conducted to remove a portion of the skull which had bullet injury. After that he underwent multiple surgeries.

"Cheetah also developed signs of sepsis due to his wounds which were treated by critical care specialists in ICU. His wounds were regularly debrided," Subodh said.

The CO's wife, Uma Singh, who has been besides her husband since the near fatal encounter, said he was not yet over and the final reward for her would be the day when her husband would don his uniform and go to work.

"Doctors would say he was in coma, but whenever I would meet him and hold his hands, he would respond by moving his fingers. It strengthened my faith that he was coming back to me," she said.

Cheetah, who hails from Rajasthan, bore the initial brunt of the militant encounter in Hajar area on February 14 where a joint team of army, CRPF and state police had laid siege following intelligence inputs that four terrorists were hiding in the area. - PTI



EVM 'tampering' issue rocks RS

NEW DELHI, April 5: Opposition parties today forced a brief adjournment of Rajya Sabha proceedings protesting over alleged tampering of EVMs to favour the ruling BJP, even as the government told the Lok Sabha that it was collecting information in this regard and other related issues.

Members of the Congress, SP and BSP trooped into the Well of the Rajya Sabha calling the government a "cheat", forcing Deputy Chairman PJ Kurien to adjourn the proceedings briefly.

The government vehemently denied the charge, saying if anybody had problem, they could go to the Election Commission (EC) as Parliament was not the forum to agitate

In the Upper House, Congress and SP members gave as many as four notices under rule 267 seeking suspension of business to take up the issue which the treasury benches vehemently opposed.

Mayawati (BSP) called the ruling party *beinav (cheat)*, a comment that led to a ruckus in the House with Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Muluk Abbas Naqvi saying the BSP supremo had "insulted the people of the country and democracy".

Opposition members protested saying the bar was directed at BJP and not against the people, but the protests from treasury benches led Kurien to say he would expunge such remarks from the records.

Angry exchanges were also witnessed between Naqvi and Leader of the Opposition Ghulam Nabi Azad. Naqvi said the general elections in 2004 and 2009 and the assembly polls in Bihar, Punjab and Delhi where the BJP lost, were all conducted using EVMs and the Congress did not seem to have any objections then.

As Adash took saying the governments under the Congress rule did not tamper with EVMs and it was only now that such practices have crept in, Prakash Javadekar said the EC has made it clear there can be no manipulation of EVMs and if the opposition had any problem they should go to it and not waste Parliament's time. -PTI

PUBLIC NOTICE

No. DE/11/BE/Assembly/DMJ/2017
As per instruction of the Expenditure Observer of Bye-Election of 113 No. Dhemaji (ST) LAC Sri Prakash Kumar Kapoor – a meeting will be held on 25th March, 2017 at Circuit House, Dhemaji regarding the inspection of expenditure of Candidates with his agent and the fixed date of inspection of account reconciliation meeting are following below—

Sl. No.	Date	Venue	Time
1.	28/03/2017	Chamber of expenditure, DC Office, Dhemaji	11:00 AM
2.	01/04/2017	Chamber of expenditure, DC Office, Dhemaji	11:00 AM
3.	07/04/2017	Chamber of expenditure, DC Office, Dhemaji	11:00 AM

(Bimal Deka, ACS)
Addl. Deputy Commissioner & Officer-in Charge, Expenditure & Monitoring Cell, Bye-Election of 113 No. Dhemaji (ST) LAC, 2017

Janasanyog/133/17

Rajnath, Akshay to launch portal for donations to CRPF kin

NEW DELHI, April 5: Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh and actor Akshay Kumar will launch an exclusive website later this week that would allow common people to make monetary donations to families of paramilitary troops killed in action.

The Home Ministry has worked on a proposal and prepared the online platform after Kumar had floated an idea in this regard some time back suggesting that bonafide details of such families should be put on a public platform so that anyone could help them financially.

The website will be rendered operational, a senior official said, after it is launched by the duo on the annual CRPF 'Valour Day' event to be held here on April 9.

A blueprint prepared in this

regard, accessed by PTI, had said the website, that will be hosted under the Home Ministry, will have "information on martyrs and their families along with bank details so that anybody willing to extend financial support can donate money online".

The blueprint has proposed that the upper limit of making such a public donation to a family of a trooper killed in action should be kept at Rs 15 lakh and once this ceiling is reached, the contacts of the family will automatically get "deleted" from the website.

This assistance from the public will be over and above the service compensation provided to troops killed in the line of duty, a senior official said.

The website will also have brief details about the operation in which the trooper was

killed, his age and address of his native village, name of the next-of-kin as provided in service records and complete details of at least one bank account of the family.

It is also being planned that some instances where a trooper is critically injured and requires financial assistance for specialised medical treatment can also be put on the website for people who want to contribute directly in this regard.

A nodal officer from one of the paramilitary forces of CRPF BSE ITBP CISF SSB and NSG will be nominated for responsibility for updating of data on the web portal. Kumar had recently donated Rs 9 lakh each to the families of 12 CRPF personnel who were killed in a Naxal ambush in Chhattisgarh's Sukma on March 11. - PTI

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31st Mar. to 10th April 2017 with following

timings:

NAAM SHABANA

Encyclopaedia (9:00 AM to 9:00 PM)

Encyclopaedia (9:00 AM to 9:00 PM)</

Mopin fest celebrated in Arunachal

CORRESPONDENT

ITANAGAR, April 5: Mopin, the most popular festival of Galo community was today celebrated across Arunachal Pradesh with traditional gaiety and religious fervour.

Clad in their traditional attire, Galo men and women, young and old alike came out in large numbers to celebrate their annual harvest festival. Apart from rituals, smearing of rice powder on each other's face, mega dance (Popir), cultural presentations, community fest, etc., marked the day-long festival.

Joining the Mopin festival at Naharlagun as the chief guest, Assam Agriculture Minister Atul Bora while greeting the people of Arunachal in general and the Galos in particular, said that festivals fostered love, harmony, brotherhood and peace.

The chief guest recalled the age-old

relations between the two neighbouring States – Assam and Arunachal Pradesh – and opined that all the people of North East should unite to build a strong, vibrant and self-reliant NE. He said that all the differences, if any, should be hammered out through meaningful dialogues.

The Minister also conveyed the best wishes of Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal. He later participated in the Popir dance and witnessed the traditional ritual including Mithun sacrifice and cultural competitions.

The guest of honour Tado Ete, a senior citizen from the community, passionately appealed the Galos, especially the youth to spare no effort to jealously safeguard the rich traditional culture and heritage of the Galos.

In his welcome address, president of Mopin Celebration Committee Kento Jini urged all to preserve the rich traditional culture of the Galos.



Assam Agriculture Minister Atul Bora and other dignitaries performing the Popir dance during Mopin festival celebration at Naharlagun in Arunachal Pradesh on Wednesday. — UB Photos

Govt moves Bill in LS to raise NABARD's capital to Rs 30,000 cr

NEW DELHI, April 5: A Bill to enable exit from NABARD and increase authorised capital of the development institution six times to Rs 30,000 crore was introduced in the Lok Sabha today.

The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Amendment) Bill, 2017 introduced by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley also seeks to amend certain clauses in the light of reference of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006 and the Companies Act, 2013 in the proposed legislation.

As per the statement of objects and reasons, the Bill proposes to empower the Central Government to increase authorised capital of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Bank (NABARD) from Rs 5,000 crore

to Rs 30,000 crore.

Increase in authorised capital will happen in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as deemed necessary from time to time, it said.

Besides, it would also enable the trans-

fer

for the RBI's balance equity of Rs 22 crore in the hand to the Central Government.

RBI currently holds 0.4 per cent of the paid-up capital of NABARD and the re-

maining 99.6 per cent is held by the Cen-

tral Government and this causes conflict

in the Central bank's role as banking regu-

lator and shareholder in NABARD.

RBI sold almost all its holding in NAB-

ARD to the Central Government in 2010.

The National Bank for Agriculture and

Rural Development Act was enacted in

1981 for setting up of a development bank

to be known as NABARD for providing and regulating credit and other facilities for the promotion and development of agriculture, small-scale industries, handicrafts in rural areas for promoting integrated rural development.

The proposed increase in authorised capital would enable NABARD to respond to commitments it has undertaken, particularly in respect of the Long-Term Irrigation Fund and the recent Cabinet decision regarding on-lending to co-operative banks.

Further, it will enable NABARD to augment its business and enhance its activities which would facilitate promotion of integrated rural development and securing prosperity of rural areas including generation of more employment. - PTI

CAPSULE

BHEL beats target

NEW DELHI, April 5: State-owned power equipment maker BHEL today said it had added 45,274 MW capacity during the 12th Five Year Plan period (2012-17) beating the targets set for the country, marking the end of an accelerated project execution. BHEL has achieved a capacity addition of 45,274 MW of utility sets during the 12th Five Year Plan, surpassing the Government's capacity addition target by 9 per cent. BHEL said in a statement today. - PTI

Qatar Airways

MUMBAI, April 5: The Persian Gulf carrier Qatar Airways has engaged an executive search firm to scout for talent for its proposed airline business in India. The Doha-based airline is planning to hire fresh talent as well as professionals from the existing domestic carriers, sources said. - PTI

YouTube Go'

NEW DELHI, April 5: Tech giant Google will make available its new app 'YouTube Go' for Indian users that will enable them to watch videos even in areas with poor Internet connectivity. The product was announced in September last year. It has now been launched in a beta phase. - PTI

Amazon warehouses

NEW DELHI, April 5: E-commerce giant Amazon.in said today it has set up seven new warehouses (fulfillment centres or FCs) to cater exclusively to its large rural customer base in the tier-II and tier-III categories, a move that will create 1,200 new jobs. The company, which has committed an investment of \$5 billion in India, will also set up 35 delivery stations to meet the demand in the said category. - PTI

IDBI Bank MD

GUWAHATI, April 5: Mahesh Kumar Jain has assumed charge as Managing Director & CEO of IDBI Bank with effect from April 1. Prior to the current assignment, Jain was the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Indian Bank. He was a member of the Steering Committee on Risk Management of IBA and a member of the IBA working group on Risk Management, a press release said.

Realty award

GUWAHATI, April 5: Exotica Greens, a project of Exotica Developers, was honoured at the CNBC Awaaz Real Estate Awards 2016-17 as the 'Best Promising Upcoming Project of the North East'. In the award ceremony handed over to the partners Rohit Kumar Deorah and Rajat Deorah of Exotica Developers by Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister of Shipping, Road Transport & Highway at a function in Mumbai recently, a press release said.

FIEO office-bearer

GUWAHATI, April 5: Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) nominated Nan Kalwanji of Asian Leather Pvt Ltd as Regional Chairman (Eastern Region) and secretary at 24th managing committee meeting held in Chennai with effect from April 1, 2017 for a period of two years, a press release said.

\$175-mn ADB loan to India for solar transmission boost

NEW DELHI, April 5: The ADB will offer \$175 million loan to India to support construction of high-voltage transmission systems to evacuate power from new mega solar parks to the inter-state grid and improve reliability of the national grid.

The Manila-headquartered Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the government today signed an agreement to this effect.

"The loan will be given to the PowerGrid Corporation and will include sub-projects in various locations in India," the multilateral organisation said in a statement.

ADB Country Director

Kenichi Yokoyama said the project will support the continued expansion of solar energy in India in line with the government's objectives.

"By supporting the construction of inter-state transmission systems for the mega solar power projects, the project will provide a means of exporting excess solar energy from States with surplus power to power-deficit States and those seeking to meet their renewable purchase obligation requirements," said Raj Kumar, Joint Secretary, Finance Ministry, after signing the pact.

ADB Country Director

Jio's 72 mn paid users credit positive for Reliance: Moody's

NEW DELHI, April 5: Newcomer Jio's 72 million paid customers are "credit positive" for parent Reliance Industries as subscriber enrolment reduces cash flow uncertainty of the telecom business, Moody's Investors Service said today.

Moody's calculation shows that Jio will be able to generate revenue of about Rs 213 billion (Rs 21,300 crore) for the current financial year, assuming all 72 million users pay Rs 303 per 28 days between July 2017 and March 2018.

On the enrolment of paid subscribers, Moody's Investors Service said, "This is credit positive as the subscriber en-

rolment reduces cash flow uncertainty of the telecom business, on which RIL has spent over Rs 17 trillion (Rs 17,000 crore) over the last six years."

Jio, in February, said it has enrolled 100 million users for its free services that was slated to end on March 31. The company had also announced that it would start charging for services from April 1 and introduced Jio Prime membership, a discounted set of price plans to incentivise non-paying subscribers to subscribe to paid services.

It has now extended by a fortnight the deadline for enrolment to its Jio Prime plan, and as per its last update, it has 72 million paid customers. Also, it has announced that all Prime members who subscribe to higher value plans (Rs 303 and above) will enjoy complimentary services for three months and that subscribers will only be charged for services from July 1.

"There was uncertainty about the success rate of transitioning non-paying subscribers to paid plans, but that uncertainty has now reduced to a large extent," the statement said.

It further said a significant portion of the 72 million subscribers are expected to opt for Rs 303 plan, given that it is the minimum plan that gives complimentary services for three months. - IANS

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Ministry of Shipping
Government of India



Realizing Prime Minister's Vision
of New India through Sagarmala and
Inland Waterways...

Creating new opportunities for
Employment and Investment

Foundation stone laying of

Multimodal Terminal at Sahibganj, Jharkhand
under Jal Marg Vikas Project (on River Ganga)

by

Narendra Modi

Prime Minister

on 6th April, 2017 (Thursday)

Venue: Police Line Ground, Sahibganj (Jharkhand)

Time: 12:00 Noon

—Presided by—

Droupadi Murmu

Governor, Jharkhand

—August Presence of—

Nitin Gadkari

Union Minister of Shipping,
Road Transport & Highways

Raghubar Das

Chief Minister, Jharkhand

—Guests of Honour—

Dr. Louis Marandi
Minister, Jharkhand

Raj Paliwar
Minister, Jharkhand

Randhir Kumar Singh
Minister, Jharkhand

Nishikant Dubey
MP (Lok Sabha), Godda

Vijay Hansdak
MP (Lok Sabha), Rajmahal

Anant Kumar Ojha
MLA, Rajmahal

National Waterway-1

(Allahabad-Varanasi-Sahibganj-Haldia)

- Project Cost: ₹ 5369 Crore, Length: 1620 Km.
- Multimodal Terminals to be set up at Varanasi, Sahibganj, Haldia and IWT Terminals at Ghazipur and Kalughat
- State-of-the-art Navigational Lock and River Information System at Farakka
- Employment Potential of 1.5 lakhs

Sahibganj Multimodal Terminal

- Project Cost: ₹ 280 Crore, Cargo handling capacity of 22.4 Lakh Tonnes per year
- Date of completion: June 2019
- Facilities of berthing for two vessels, stockyard, conveyor belt and barge loaders



Inland Waterways Authority of India
www.iwai.nic.in

Sagarmala: Projects of ₹ 13726 Crores initiated

The strength of a person's grip may help predict if he or she is at risk of developing diabetes at a later age, a new study has found.

Researchers, including those from University of Michigan in the US, investigated if nor-

adults, respectively, there were 49 per cent and 17 per cent increased odds for diabetes.

"Prevalence of chronic disease is highest in the US and China and there's a dire need to identify midlife predictors of disability and diabetes in both populations," Mark Peterson, Assistant Professor at University of Michigan.

"To assess someone's grip strength using a hand grip dynamometer takes less than 10 seconds, which makes it extremely attractive to adopt in a clinical or community setting at the population level," Peterson said.

The study was published in *Journals of Gerontology Series A: Medical Sciences*.

(Source: PTI)

Diabetes biomarker

Weak grip may predict diabetes risk, finds a study

malised grip strength – which is defined as a person's grip strength divided by their body mass – could serve as a biomarker for both cardiometabolic disease and physical disability in American and Chinese adults.

The team used data on middle-aged and older adults from the US National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey from 2011 to 2012 and 2013 to 2014, and the 2011 portion of the China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study. These surveys were selected because they included measures of muscle strength capacity and the necessary information pertaining to disability and cardiometabolic diseases.

Researchers analysed normalised grip strength for about 4,544 US and 6,030 Chinese study participants 50 years of age and older.

The study group also had blood samples taken for nonfasting glycated hemoglobin and answered a questionnaire about impairments of functional limitation related to mobility. A subsample of 2,225 adults had fasting measures for glucose, insulin and triglycerides.

Using weighted logistic regression models, the team assessed the association between normalised grip strength and diabetes, hyperglycemia, hypertriglyceridemia, low-high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol, hypertension and physical disability.

They controlled for age, sex and numerous socio-demographic characteristics.

Researchers found that for every 0.05 decrement in normalised grip strength in US and Chinese



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(Source: PTI)

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**Journey in pursuit of our dreams, goal and vision
Our sincere and heartfelt thanks to**

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

&

Shri Nitin Gadkari
Hon'ble Union Minister of Road Transport, Highways and Shipping

Stamami Brahmaputra
The biggest river festival of India
31st March - 4th April, 2017 | Assam

Shri Sarbananda Sonowal
Chief Minister, Assam

New routes for prosperity

- Signing of historic Tripartite Agreement for the dredging of the Brahmaputra (NW-2) and other National Waterways in Assam and for using dredged materials for construction of Highways and development of Inland Waterways infrastructure.
 - Seven new bridges over Brahmaputra / Barak and Jia Bharali at a cost of Rs. 18005 Crore.
 - Dhala-Sadia; Kalia Bhomora (Tezpur); Dolabari-Jamuguri; Dhuburi-Phulbari; Gohpur-Numaligarh; Badarpurghat; Desangmukh-Tekeliphuta-Majuli-Kamalabari- Neamatighat.
 - Initial dredging in Brahmaputra and Barak River started at a cost of Rs. 100 Crore
 - The dredging of Brahmaputra shall be completed with the dredging in Bangladesh to provide a sustainable trade route to Chittagong port.
 - Dredging and Passenger and cruise movement in Bangladesh protocol route
 - Floating Terminals at Silchar, Badarpur and Karimganj in Barak river.
 - Floating terminals at 65 new places
 - Five new Ro-Ro services
 - Dhubri –Hatsingimari, Guwahati-North Guwahati (two), Neamatighat-Kamalabari, Barak river.
 - 3000 km of new National Highways to be added in Assam in addition to existing 3000 km.
 - Works of twenty one projects covering a distance of 469 km at a cost of Rs. 11000 Crore under NHIDCL.
 - Widening of 20 km stretch between Jalukbari and Khanapara to be converted from present four lane to six lane.
 - Three logistic parks in the State, including one at Guwahati.
 - Construction worth Rs. 50000 Crore will be undertaken for development of National Highways in coming 2-3 years.
 - 1300 km Brahmaputra Express way would be constructed.
- Total investment for roads, waterways and logistics for better connectivity and speedier economic development would be around 1.5 Lakh Crore.

Legends felicitated in IPL 10 opener

HYDERABAD, April 5: The 10th edition of the IPL began today with India's four cricket icons, including Sachin Tendulkar, being felicitated for their contribution to the game by an opening ceremony that was low on glamour quotient.

British model-actor Amy Jackson produced a brief performance, gyrating to Bollywood numbers ahead of the opening match between defending champion Sunrisers Hyderabad and Royal Challengers Bangalore at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium.

Tendulkar and his three former India team-mates—VVS Laxman, Sourav Ganguly and Virender Sehwag—did a lap of honour riding on golf carts. Tendulkar and Laxman rode one cart while Ganguly and Sehwag occupied the other one.



(L-R) Sachin Tendulkar, Virender Sehwag, Sourav Ganguly and VVS Laxman were felicitated during the opening ceremony of Indian Premier League in Hyderabad, Wednesday.

Kristi sails into semis

GUWAHATI, April 5: Top seed Kristi Boru of Assam reached the semi-final girls' U-14 category of the AITA Championship Series (CS-7) today held at the Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association Stadium.

In the quarterfinal today, Kristi beat 8th seed Meher Kohli of Punjab 7-5, 6-2. Kristi also sailed into the quarterfinals of the doubles event in the U-18 years category, stated a release.

Volleyball tourney at Tihu

TIHU, April 5: A day-long State level invitation day/night prize money volleyball tournament, under the aegis of Tihu Uttaranach Rongali Billa Samiti, Halabdhbari, will be held at the Bharati High School premises here.

The teams expected to take part in the meet are—ASEB (Guwahati), Chirang District Volleyball Team, Sarbhang Volleyball Team, 24th AP Bn Samiari, Pub Nalbari Coaching Centre and Tihu Sports Association.

The champions and the runners-up will be awarded Rs 8,000 and Rs 4,000 respectively as prize money. The best player of the final will get Rs 1,000.

Jorhat CA prevail over City CCC

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 5: Central Cricket Academy prevailed over host City Cricket Coaching Centre B team in the U-14 Inter-District Cricket Coaching Centre Cricket Tournament for the Golon Hazarika Trophy. At the Dispur Parade Ground today, City CCC managed 140 before being all out in 32.1 overs. The Jorhat boys hit up 143 losing eight wickets in 27.1 overs.

Brief scores: City CC 'B' 140 (Rupam Hazarika 46, Rishan D Saikia 3/15, Pritam Hazarika 3/29). Jorhat CA 143/8 (Pritam Hazarika 35, Baranayana Kashyap 30, Amob Bora 3/23, Mit Raj Kumar 3/26, Pratibha Das 2/27).

Leander looked good but team not yet finalised: Bhupathi

BENGALURU, April 5: India's non-playing captain Mahesh Bhupathi today said he will assist Leander Paes at training before deciding on the team composition for their Davis Cup tie against Uzbekistan, starting in less than two days.

"The team has not yet been finalised. I have seen Leander for the first time today. Let us see how it goes," he told reporters ahead of India's training session here.

Bhupathi added that Paes looked rejuvenated.

"He looks fresh. He looks good. He is going to play some sets and then let us see," he said.

Bhupathi said the conditions in Mexico, where Paes won the Challengers Trophy recently, are similar to the tie he looks evenly poised."

"For the last two days we were

hearing Istomin will not be coming.

For us, losing Yuki was a big blow, but after Istomin's exit, the tie looks evenly poised."

Asked whether the tie has lost its charm after losing Istomin and Yuki, Bhupathi said it will be

known once the players battle it out on April 7.

"India is playing. I don't know if Yuki was the charm or India playing in Bengaluru is the charm, that we will see when the players come out on Friday," he said.

Bhupathi said the absence of Yuki is a great opportunity for youngsters to make an impression.

"You don't get opportunities often. They put up a good show, they are in direct contention with Yuki and Saket Myneen once they are back on the courts, fit," he said.

"From India's tennis perspective, it is a good place to be in. However, the priority is to win the match," he said.

Bhupathi said he is in a unique situation captaining the Davis Cup side because he has played with and against not only Indian players, but also the rivals. — PTI



AIFF to host MXIM festival in Ahmedabad

NEW DELHI, April 5: All India Football Federation in association with the Government of India will host a Mission XI Million (MXIM) mega football festival at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad present at the festival.

An initiative undertaken by AIFF president and chairman of the LOC for the FIFA U-17 World Cup, Praful Patel, the event will see local schools from the city of Ahmedabad present at the festival.

They will engage in a variety of activities including exhibition games. The students will get an opportunity to show off the skills they have learned through the Mission XI Million programme at their schools, and will later be felicitated.

Former Indian football captain Bhaichung Bhutia and Bolwood star Abhishek Bachchan, part owner of Chennaiyin FC and Hrithik Roshan, part owner of FC Pune City, will also be present at the event. — PTI

Pakistan name two leg-spinners in squad for Windies tour

KARACHI, April 5: Pakistan selectors today picked two leg-spinners and a rookie pace bowler in the squad for the three Test series against the West Indies later this month.

Chief selector Inzamam-ul-Haq said that the squad has been selected after consulting head coach Mickey Arthur and captain Misbah ul Haq.

"The Test team has been selected keeping in mind the conditions in the West Indies and the recent performances of players during the domestic and international season," Inzamam said.

"The team is a fine blend of experience and youth and believe that team will do well on the tour," he said.

Squad: Misbah-ul-Haq (capt), Sarfraz Ahmad, Ahmad Shahzad, Azhar Ali, Shahn Masood, Babar Azam, Younis Khan, Asad Shafiq, Usman Salahuddin, Yasir Shah, Shadab Khan, Muhammad Asghar, Mohammad Amir, Hassan Ali, Wahab Riaz, Muhammad Abbas. — PTI

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SAMKALP

Strength is life, Weakness is death

Samkalp IAS, New Delhi is organizing a "UPSC Aspirants Seminar" in Guwahati on 10/04/2017, 5 P.M. onwards which will focus on discussions relevant to preparation for UPSC. The session will also be guided by current senior officers who will share tips and guidance on UPSC exams.

Venue: Seminar Hall, 7th Floor, Building 3, down town hospital, G.S. Road, Dispur, Contact: +91- 91270 12677

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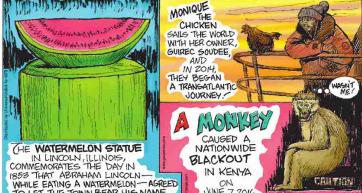
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Editor: Pralilata Govinda Barua

Believe it or Not!



Why? What?

Who is known as the father of science fiction?

H. G. Wells (1866-1946), English author and political propagandist, most famous for his science-fiction novels with their prophetic vision of the inventors of technology, as well as the horrors of the 20th-century warfare, has the honor of being considered the father of science fiction.

Wells was born on September 21, 1866, in Bromley, Kent, and educated at the Normal School of Science in London, to which he was a student from 1882 to 1886. He became a teacher and later turned into a journalist until 1885, when he became a full-time writer. Wells's ten-year relationship with Rebecca West produced a son, Anthony West, in 1914. In the same year, he published his first book, 'The War of the Worlds', which mingled science, adventure, and political comment. Later works in this genre are - *The Invisible Man* (1897), *The War of the Worlds* (1898), *The Time Machine* (1895) mingled science, adventure, and political comment. Wells also wrote novels devoted to character delineation. Among these are *Kipps* (1903), *The History of Mr. Pooter* (1905), which depicts members of the lower middle class and their aspirations. Both recall the world of Wells's youth: the first tells the story of a struggling teacher, the second portrays a draper's assistant. Many of Wells's other works can be seen as social commentaries. *Ann Veronica* (1909), promoting women's rights; *Tono-Bungay* (1909), attacking irresponsible capitalists; and *Mr. Britling Sees It Through* (1916), depicting the average Englishman's reaction to war.



My viewpoint

What is the future of Kaziranga?



The Kaziranga National Park was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is famous for its one-horned rhino. But during the last few years, illegal poaching of this endangered species has grown unabated. If this continues, there will be no rhinos left. As a result, there will be no Kaziranga, and nothing is going into the State. There are also many valuable fishes in the Park. But, deforestation has taken place at an increasing rate. In the process, the habitat of the fish may be hampered. Because of this, the pristine glory of Kaziranga may vanish from Earth.



The present scenario at the Kaziranga National Park, and the condition of its inhabitants worry us. The news of poaching, hunting led by ruthless humans, gives a glimpse of the upcoming future, where Kaziranga will have no rhinos and no fish. And very soon, this place may have no animals. Only a few birds will be left behind if the pouchers are greedy enough, even they may be poached.



In spite of enormous efforts made by the Government of Assam, it has failed to stop the poaching of one-horned rhinos at the Kaziranga National Park. Kaziranga is one of the most important areas for the one-horned rhino. Its disappearance will adversely affect our tourism industry, which will have a huge impact on the economy of the State.

Kaziranga is known worldwide for its one-horned rhino, which is the main attraction of Assam. For the last few years, the rhino population is one of the major problems in Kaziranga. The one-horned rhino is the main cause of the loss of land and loss of adequate infrastructure have also posed as a big challenge for the Park authorities. Human interference is also destroying forests. The government is trying to overcome all these difficulties. Armed forces are also being deployed in various parts of the Park.

PLANET YOUNG

GUWAHATI, THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017



Beware, it's... fish!

I all started over the Sunday brunch, over Mom and Dad's insistence upon our diet from our school, absolutely devoid of meat, potatoes and rice. So often have I wondered how tasteless and boring life would have been if it were not for my parents. They have always possessed the supreme power to make boring veggies comparatively more tolerable. But our parents are not the ones who have taught us to love veggies. My cousin's compound fracture is suspected to have reminded them of the existence of another vegetable, which my brother-in-law bro wouldn't hear the name of it, because the ginkgo-pi. If I could be made to eat, it would serve as a good example.

The nightmare started that particular Sunday. We had suspected that something was fishy. And we were right. The fishy smell of fish was seared at the table. But there was little for us to do. The sides of the fish were not appetizing. Mumma doesn't make it a point not to cook any potatoes over lunch. *Hapta* Fish curry, fish-fry... here fish, there fish... the list goes on. I am not a fan of fish at all more sad for the poor fellow who had got itself roasted and fried so as to add our parents in this ridiculous list. Fish and my brother-in-law's feelings can be one's worst enemies at times of crisis. Exactly an hour before lunch, my brother declared very seriously that he had to eat fish or he would die and would eat out. So, now it was two against one. So very unfair! What was there for me to do except eat some dinner?

It was then that a bright idea struck me. Very enthusiastically, I took some fish into my dish. "Dad, I have had it. And I am not dead." "Haven't I had it ever?" Ma said, plainly. She was more in sync with our tactics. Dad was gone.

"There, there, don't worry. You will be fine. You have some more, honey, it's delicious, a gorgeous Rohu it is." He added, putting a generous amount of the miserable stuff. At this point, dear readers,



I, ME, MYSELF

Afride Hussain is head of programming, Radio Mirchi.

The person who has influenced me the most.

My father, who has taught me how to cope up with the ups and downs of life to remain patient. Also, a few mentors are there who have guided me in every step of life.

The biggest turning point of my life.

My biggest turning point has always been my move from television to radio. I started with the first pioneer channel of the North-East as a crime reporter and then 14 years as a television journalist. After a few years of hard work and support from all colleagues and well-wishers, now I have completed one year in radio, which is again a very powerful medium and new challenges are coming. I am blessed that now I can spend more time with music. I hope to receive the same love and support from all in radio, too.

The happiest moment in my life.

Being able to move readers through my writings.

The changes that I would like to see in the society.

I dream of a secular and humane Indian society.

My message for today's youth.

Hard work, dedication and integrity will help you become successful in life. Also, humanity should come first.





Dear Ishani Aunty,
I am 12 years old and am not allowed to go anywhere on my own. Why don't my parents trust me?

- Arnav

Dear Arnav,
It is a matter of time. Life surely also goes berserk but deeply disturbed by the incidences of kidnappings, which are on the rise. They only want to protect you. Please don't hold it against them.

Dear Ishani Aunty,
My friend borrowed quite a large amount of money from me. But, now she refuses to return it. What should I do?

- Vedanti

Dear Vedanti,
You should not have lent your money to someone so irresponsible. Now that the deed is done, it would be better to take your parents into confidence and let them take care of the situation.

Dear Ishani Aunty,
I am a very talkative girl. This has made me popular in class. But, my class teacher abuses punishes me for this. I am very puzzled.

- Chanda

Dear Chanda,
Being talkative attracts friends, no doubt, but you must remember that you are not the only one in the class. With a talkative girl like you, the teacher has problems enforcing discipline in class. Remember that, won't you?

JUNIOR PUZZLERS

1) Does the fastest roller-coaster in the world travel at up to 150, 190, or 240 km/h?

2) Is the 'baggy green cap' associated with the Australian cricket, rugby, or soccer team?



THIS WEEK'S WINNER

PicSpeak



Pranamita Ghose, Class-VII,
N.P.S. International School, Guwahati.

NEXT WEEK'S PICTURE



Please collect your certificates from our office.
Send your entries to PicSpeek, Young & Aspiring India.

Mini M@ths

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



ACROSS / DOWN

1.	46 + 7	1.	49 + 4
3.	49 + 43	2.	20 + 73
5.	50 - 28	3.	8 + 12
8.	4 - 3	4.	13 - 3
10.	45 + 45	5.	58 + 29
12.	97 - 40	6.	87 + 7
15.	52 - 32	7.	40 + 10
16.	5 + 79 - 41	8.	73 + 4
18.	18 + 6	9.	15 - 56
19.	13 - 86 - 20	10.	55 - 29
20.	15 - 30 + 15	11.	14 - 56
21.	16. 9 + 7	12.	13. 14 + 56
22.	15. 9 + 7	13.	14. 32 + 14

SOLUTIONS

By Sharmin, Class-XI
St. Francis De Sales H.S. School,
Siliguri, West Bengal.



- Prerna Sharma, Class-XII
St. Francis De Sales H.S. School,
Siliguri, West Bengal.

Jack: "How many sides does a circle have?"

Tom: "No, sides."

Jack: "Wrong. It does have the inside!"

Q: "I am a room with a floor, not even a window or a door. Name me."

Ans: "Mushroom (Mushroom)." - Jack says, smiling.

Q: "Which king is very thirsty?"

Ans: "Thinking (Thinking)." - King says, smiling.

Sumit: "Why have you put your music player in the refrigerator?"

Ans: "Because I want to enjoy some cool music."

The network recently launched Sony BBC Earth, a factual entertainment channel.

Panchayat

Panchayat or Panchayati Raj is the oldest system of local government in the Indian subcontinent, and historically, this dates to the 250 AD period. The word 'panch' means 'rule' and 'panchayat' means 'assembly' of five ('panch'). Traditionalists believe that the word 'panchayat' was chosen and accepted by the local community. These assemblies settled disputes between individuals and also between villages.

Panchayat is a South Asian concept that deals with a political administrative unit of government, for mainly India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Trinidad and Tobago, and Nepal. The leader of the Panchayat was often called the Sarpanch, an elected or generally acknowledged post. The modern Panchayati Raj of India has nothing to do with the older term, which pertained to the village panchayat.

Mohandas Gandhi was the pioneer who planted the foundation of Panchayati Raj as India's political system at village level. The leader of the Panchayat is the Sarpanch, who is directly elected by the villagers. The Panchayat is chaired by the president (Sarpanch) of the village. The term of the elected representative is five years. The Sarpanch is a non-elected representative, appointed by the State Government, to oversee Panchayat activities.

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(E-mail: only4_poch@yahoo.co.uk)

What's the BUZZ?

Sony's 'Kidz' channel named 'Yay'

SONY's 'Kidz' channel named 'Yay' is soon to launch its 'kidz' channel. Named 'Yay', the channel is set to launch post the Indian Premier League (IPL). At the moment, the channel is working on its flagship property - IPL. Yay, a channel that will target kids, will only go live after IPL.

In a recent interview, N.P. Singh, chief executive officer, Sony Pictures Networks International, said: "We are looking at the market in our portfolio. One is kids and the second, education. When we launch our kids' channel, Yay, we will be targeting

the network recently launched Sony BBC Earth, a factual entertainment channel.

MPs plan to spread football fever

lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan will present every MP with a football at a special function at Parliament on April 12. She said that football tournaments in the constituency will be the most effective in attracting children to football ahead of the first ever FIFA Under-17 World Cup, to be held in India next year. The football tournament will be organised by Sports Minister Vijay Goel, to reach out to 11 million children and spread football fever across the country.

The sports ministry has already launched a mass contact sporting programme that aims to cover 15,000 schools in 29 states and union territories.

The Ministry wants the MPs to organise football tournaments at the block and district levels in their respective constituencies. In each constituency, there will be a local Sports Authority of India unit, create mini-clubs for local level games and competitions, use MPLADS funds to build infrastructure and organise sports festivals, and distribute footballs and sports kits to youth-sports in their constituencies to develop a sports culture.

governs itself for its own affairs. The term for such a vision was Gram Swaraj ('village self-governance'). Instead, India developed a highly centralised form of government. However, this has been moderated by the decentralisation of several administrative functions to the local level, empowering elected gram panchayats. These are the most different form of local government in Panchayati Raj System, that was envisioned by Gandhi, and the system formalised in India in 1992 by Constitutional amendment.

The Panchayat is to be led with the help of a Sarpanch, the head of the Panchayat. The leader of the Panchayat is the Sarpanch, who is directly elected by the villagers. The Panchayat is chaired by the president (Sarpanch) of the village. The term of the elected representative is five years. The Sarpanch is a non-elected representative, appointed by the State Government, to oversee Panchayat activities.

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There are about 2,50,000 gram panchayats in India. Gram panchayats are the basic units in Panchayati Raj. There are 63 institutions or PRAs, governed by the 73rd Amendment of 1992, which is concerned with Rural Local Governments.

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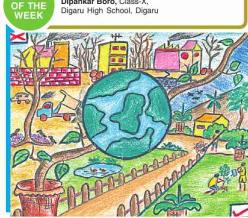
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Love you, Papa

The vegetables I have of you,
When you first held me.
In your gentle, warm arms,
That's where I used to be.
I still remember that moment,
When you taught me the "moods of life".
The way you always stood
To bravely face the obstacles and fight!
You were there when I needed you.
What a wonderful father you are!
You showed me the path of light.
From the world of darkness,
I am now in the light.
Never your love, compassion and care,
For that debt is unpayable.
And now I want to give even more!
I am very grateful that
I got a Papa like you.
I really want to thank you.
"Daddy, I love you!"
– Gergi Deka, Class-XL
Pratimani Shuker Academy, Guwahati

SKETCH OF THE WEEK



Dipankar Boro, Class-X,
Digaru High School, Digaru

A swachh Bharat

The town looks so beautiful.
Everything is so clean and tidy.
We do not throw things here and there,
My dear friends, let's do it.
Let it be the cleanest in India!
Garbage should be in the dustbin,
People should not litter.
This is swachh Bharat,
My swachh Bharat.
– Aparna Borah, Class-IV
Christ Jyoti School, Nagaon

POEM OF THE WEEK

Paper light!

In the heart of the woods,
It lies in nature.
Smaller than the seeds,
Among untouched leaves.
Its fragrance is divine.
Its friendship with the flowers is beautiful!
With life of a few weeks or months,
And its band of colours,
It's a picture of Nature's green leaves.
Paper light,
Is the butterfly!



– Horashdeep Saikia, Class-VIII
Kendriya Vidyalaya, Central
University, Tezpur.



Abhinandan Sarma, Class-V,
Kendriya Vidyalaya-I.T., Guwahati

Risabh Mallick, Class-VII,
Sri Guru Nanak National English High School, Guwahati

Dear stars

I see you every night.
Look up in the sky.
I ask my mother,
"What are these?"
My mother always tells me,
"They are stars!"
I want to catch you,
I have to catch you.
Then I go to my mother,
And I ask her,
"Why don't they come to me?"
Why don't they come to me?
Then she tells me,
"They are stars.
Where we can't go."
I cry and cry.



Subarna Singha, Class-VI,
St. Xavier's High School, Guwahati

I want to be

I want to be
The rainbow
To show off my colours
Through the world!
I want to be
The sun.
To make myself
Stranger than everyone!
I want to be
A star
To show brightness,
From afar.
– Ananya Begum, Class-III,
Kendriya Vidyalaya, Golapgarh



M. Suhana Singh, Class-VI,
Kendriya Vidyalaya, Khanapara, Guwahati



Disha Sharma, Class-IV,
St. Mary's H.S. School

A baby dove story

There was heavy rain and storm, last night. In the morning, I saw a wounded little bird lying in our garden. I picked it up and cleaned it. I applied some turmeric and mustard oil on the wound, with the help of my mother. Then I went to study. Suddenly, I heard a dove cooing near the window. I thought it was my mother. So I decided to set the baby bird free, so that it could go to its mother. But, the mother dove and I had to wait till the baby fully recovered. When the baby dove was well, I set it free. Both the doves flew off happily. I was also very happy.
– Rushad Sikdar, Class-IV,
Kendriya Vidyalaya, Gopanigaon



Adritra Chakraborty, Class-V,
Holy Child H.S. School, Guwahati



Sovabhi Barooah, Class-V,
New Look Academy, Brahmapur



Sukeena Kalita, Class-VI,
Maharishi Mehta Mandir Public School-II, Guwahati



M. Pariksha Singh,
Kendriya Vidyalaya, C.R.P.F., Guwahati