

SC talks tough, asks States to curb violence

NEW DELHI, Sept 6: Talking tough, the Supreme Court today asked all States to take stern steps to stop violence in the name of cow protection by appointing a senior police officer as nodal officer in every district within a week and act promptly to check cow vigilantes from behaving like they are "law unto themselves".

Such acts "must stop", directed a bench headed by Chief Justice Dipak Misra which asked the States to form a

Tushar Gandhi.

"The people should not take law into their hands and they should not behave as if they were law unto themselves."

Cow vigilantism

This must stop. Such acts are not permissible," the bench said in a stern message.

The bench asked the Centre to respond to the submission that it could issue directions under Article 256 (Obligation of States and Union) of

the Constitution to all State governments on issues related to law and order.

"Steps have to be taken to stop this. Some kind of planned action is required so that vigilantism does not grow. Efforts have to be made to stop such vigilantism," the bench said, adding "how will they (States) do it, is their business but this must stop."

The court also asked State governments to ensure high-way patrolling after it was

pointed out that such incidents took place on highways on the pretext that vehicles are carrying beef.

At the outset, senior advocate Indira Jaising, appearing for Gandhi, referred to several incidents of mob lynching and assaults in the name of cow vigilantism.

She said such incidents were "no longer a law and order issue" and have become a nationwide phenomenon which need preventive action. - PTI

Have set up a panel on data protection: Centre

NEW DELHI, Sept 6: The Centre today told the Supreme Court that an expert committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of former apex court judge Justice BN Srikrishna to identify key data protection issues in India and recommend methods to address them.

The Centre told a five-judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice Dipak Misra that after the committee's report is submitted, "there is a possibility that the law shall be passed reg-

ulating data protection".

Additional Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, said the committee would study various issues and make specific recommendations for consideration of the government on the principles to be considered for data protection. Mehta told the bench,

also comprising Justices AK Sikri, Amitava Roy, AM Khanwilkar and MM Shanmugam, that the panel would also recommend a draft data protection bill.

2 sent to 10-day NIA custody for stone pelting in Kashmir

NEW DELHI, Sept 6: Two men, including a freelance photo-journalist, arrested yesterday for alleged stone-pelting in Kashmir Valley and mobilising support against security personnel through the social media, were today sent to 10-day NIA custody for interrogation.

District Judge Pooman A Bamba allowed the National Investigating Agency (NIA) to quiz Javed Ahmed Bhat from Kulgam and Kamran Yusuf from Pulwama till September 16 after the probe agency said they were required to be confronted with the other accused in the case, court sources said.

During in-chamber proceedings, the NIA also said the two had to be taken to various places in relation to the ongoing investigation, the sources said.

Continuing with its probe in the funding of terror and separatist activities in the Kashmir Valley, the NIA had yesterday

arrested Bhat and Yusuf. According to the agency, they were involved in stone-pelting incidents besides organising groups of youths who would throw stones at security personnel involved in counter-insurgency operations.

Yusuf, who had often been warned by the local police, was allegedly mobilising the youth and clicking their pictures for circulation in local and national newspapers, it had said.

The two also circulated pictures and videos on social networking sites that sparked widespread rumours in the valley, the officials alleged.

The NIA has arrested seven people in the case of alleged funding of terror and subversive activities in the Kashmir Valley to fuel unrest there.

The case was registered on issues of raising, receiving and collecting funds through various illegal means, including hawala channels, for funding such activities. - PTI

He said the government was aware of growing importance of data protection and the need to ensure growth of digital economy while keeping the personal data of citizens secure and protected, he said.

Besides Justice Srikrishna, the other members in the panel include Aruna Sundararajan, Secretary of the Department of Telecom, Ajay Bhushan Pandey, CEO of UIDAI, Ajay Kumar Additional Secretary of Ministry of Electronics and

Information Technology (MeitY) and Gulshan Rai, National Cyber Security Coordinator.

During the hearing, the lawyer appearing for the petitioners who have challenged the 2016 WhatsApp privacy policy, claimed in the court that WhatsApp was sharing user data with other entities.

Senior advocate KV Vishwanathan, appearing for one of the parties challenging the privacy policy, and lawyer Madhavi Divan, appearing for petitioners Karmanya Singh

Sareen and Shreya Sethi, said there should be no injunction restraining them from sharing data with third-party.

Senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Arvind Datar, appearing for WhatsApp and Facebook respectively, denied the allegations and said they were not sharing data with any third party. Facebook had acquired WhatsApp in 2014.

Later, Sibal said that they were only sharing details like "last seen", telephone number and device details. - PTI

Lucknow Metro train stuck for an hour

LUCKNOW, Sept 6: Over 100 passengers today got stuck inside a Lucknow Metro train for more than an hour due to a technical snag on the first day of its commercial run.

At around 7:15 am, the train, on the way from Charbagh to the Transport Nagar Metro Station, developed a technical snag and emergency brakes were applied, Lucknow Metro Rail Corporation senior PRO Amit Kumar Srivastava said.

The lights and the air-conditioning system were not working when the train stopped near the Mawana Metro Station.

As many as 101 passengers travelling on the train were rescued through the emergency rear exit and were taken to the Durgapuri Metro Station safely, he said. They travelled to the Transport Nagar Metro Station on a different train.

"During the intervening period, LMRC officials provided proper care and support to

all passengers on the train. The staff/officials at the Durgapuri Metro Station ensured the commuters didn't face further inconvenience," he said. - PTI

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বিশ্ববৰেণ্য শিল্পী, অসম ৰত্ন
ড° ভূপেন হাজৰিকাদেৱৰ
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।। পুৱা ৯:৩০ বজাত ।।
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Palaniswami claims support of 'all AIADMK MLAs'

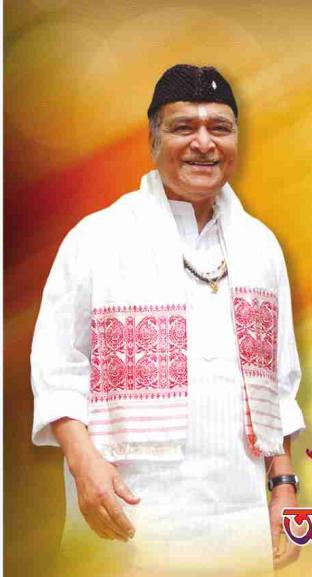
COIMBATORE, Sept 6: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami today claimed his government enjoyed the support of "all the AIADMK MLAs" in the Assembly even as the legislators loyal to sidelined party deputy general secretary TTV Dhinakaran continued to stay put at a Puducherry resort.

"There are 135 MLAs in the party, including the Speaker, and the government has the support of all of them," he told reporters at the airport here, before leaving for Erode by road.

Stating that 109 MLAs had attended the meeting convened by him in Chennai yesterday, Palaniswami said the other party legislators could not be there due to various reasons. But he asserted that his government had the support of all of them.

His comments come a day after State Fisheries Minister D Jayakumar claimed that 111 MLAs had attended the meet convened by the Chief Minister. According to reports, as many as 17 rebel AIADMK MLAs are currently lodged at a resort in neighbouring Puducherry.

A group of 19 MLAs, loyal to Dhinakaran, had met Governor Ch Vidyasagar Rao on August 22, expressed lack of confidence in the Chief Minister and demanded his ouster. This was a day after the merger of the AIADMK factions, led by Palaniswami and current Deputy Chief Minister O Panneerselvam respectively. - PTI



Janasanyog/D7269/17

UN chief urges Myanmar to give legal status

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 6: UN chief Antonio Guterres has called on Myanmar government to grant either nationality or legal status to the Muslims of Rakhine state and voiced concern over the violence that has forced nearly 125,000 people to flee to Bangladesh.

Secretary General Guterres said he is "deeply concerned" about the security, humanitarian and human rights situation in Myanmar's Rakhine State, saying everyone is aware of the long-standing history of discrimination, hopelessness and extreme poverty in that State.

Catalonia set for clash with Madrid over independence vote

BARCELONA, Sept 6: Catalonia is expected to pass a law today laying the groundwork for an independence referendum on October 1 which is fiercely opposed by Madrid, setting off a course for Spain's deepest political crisis in decades.

The looming showdown comes three weeks after jihadist attacks in Barcelona, the capital of Catalonia, and a nearby seaside resort that killed 16 people and wounded more than 120 others.

A man stood near the Catalan parliament today morning holding a large sign in English, French and German reading "Freedom for Catalonia".

Nearby another small group of men held another sign against the referendum which

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Tender documents are invited under two bid systems for Architectural and Engineering Consultancy services for Establishment of Research and Development Center of Unani Medicine (PRUM) at Silchar by 22/09/2017. Estimated Cost of work is Rs. 47.88 Cr (Approx.). Tender document can be seen and downloaded from our website www.rpc.gov.in & CPM Portals.
Dy. General Manager (CM&W)

"I have condemned the recent attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army. But now we are receiving constant reports of violence by Myanmar's security forces, including indiscriminate attacks," he told journalists here yesterday, expressing concern about the security, humanitarian and human rights situation in Rakhine.

"This will only further increase radicalisation."

Guterres said he has officially written to the Security Council to express his concern and to propose vari-

ous steps to end the violence, adding that the grievances of Rohingyas – the Muslims in the Rakhine State – "have festered for far too long and are becoming an undeniable factor in regional destabilisation."

Muslims in Rakhine State

He called on the international community to prevent further escalation and to seek a holistic solution, and urged the authorities in Myanmar to provide security and aid to those in need and safe access to life-saving aid.

"At the same time, it is no longer

possible to delay an effective action plan to address the root causes of the crisis," Guterres said.

"It will be crucial to give the Muslims of Rakhine State either nationality or, at least for now, a legal status that will allow them to have a normal life, including freedom of movement and access to labour markets, education and health services," he added.

He added that nearly 125,000 people – "victims of unbearable suffering and desperation" have sought refuge in Bangladesh adding that the

recommendations of the report of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine led by his predecessor Koofi Annan, and which the Government has signalled it accepts, must be fully implemented. When asked if it is now

time for Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi to use her moral authority and political power to speak out against the human rights abuses against the Rohingyas, he said "we are facing a risk. I hope we don't get there" and his appeal to all civilian and military authorities in Myanmar to put an end to the violence that is creating a situation that can destabilise the region. – PTI



Russian President Vladimir Putin and his South Korean counterpart Moon Jae-in shake hands during a meeting at the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok, Russia on Wednesday – UNI

Suu Kyi slams 'iceberg of misinformation' over Rohingya

YANGON, Sept 6: Global outrage over Myanmar's treatment of its Rohingyas is being fuelled by "a huge iceberg of misinformation", Aung San Suu Kyi said today, after the UN led violence for that has forced 146,000 to flee to Bangladesh.

Rohingya refugees have poured over the border with Bangladesh, fleeing a massive security sweep in western Rakhine State by Myanmar forces following a series of deadly ambushes by Rohingya militants on August 25.

Suu Kyi's government has faced growing international condemnation for the Army's response with refugees bringing with them renewed stories of murder, rape and burned villages at the hands of soldiers.

In her first public comments since last month's ambushes, she said sympathy for the Rohingya was being generated by "a huge iceberg of misinformation calculated to create a lot of problems between different communities and with the aim of promoting the interest of the terrorists".

The comments were made in a statement put out by her office following a call with Turkey's president Recep Tayyip Erdogan who has been particu-

larly critical of Myanmar's treatment of the Rohingyas, dubbing it a "genocide". But Suu Kyi defended her govt's actions saying her administration was "defending all the people" in Rakhine State.

The statement highlighted a new deleted tweet last week by Turkey's Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Simsek showing a series of gruesome pictures of bodies he wrongly claimed were of dead Rohingyas. Supporters of both the Rohingyas and Myanmar's government have a track record of posting emotive images that are not from the conflict. – AFP

State records highest ...

(Contd from page 1)
road accidents in the country have decreased by around 4.1 per cent during 2016, as against 5.01,423 in 2015. However, fatalities resulting from these accidents have risen by about 3.2 per cent during the same period.

Gadkari also informed that the positive trend of 2016 is further bolstered by the accident figures for the first half of 2017, where there has been a 3 per cent reduction in road accidents between January to July 2017 along with a 4.75 per cent during the same period.

During 2016, 13 states ac-

counted for 86 per cent of the total road accidents in the country.

The 50 million-plus cities accounted for 18.7 per cent in total road accidents in the country, 11.8 per cent in total persons killed in road accidents and 16.7 per cent in total persons injured in road accidents. Chennai had the highest number of road accidents (7,486) while Delhi had the highest number of deaths (1,591) due to road accidents. Accident severity for the combined 50 million plus cities was 19.8 in 2016 as against 14.9 per cent in 2015.

Gauri Lankesh murder ...

(Contd from page 1)
freedom of press," the Editors Guild of India said in a statement.

In an audacious attack, unidentified motorcycle-borne assailants pumped bullets into 55-year-old Gauri, known for her Left-leaning

outlook and forthright views against Hindutva and rightists, as she left her car after reaching her home.

As the killing in poll-bound Karnataka sent shock waves, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced a SIT probe headed by an Inspector General.

AASU lashes ...

(Contd from page 1)
Then, as of now we are importing fish fingerlings from West Bengal but we have the potential to be the supplier, given our favourable environment. We are going to promote hatcheries in a massive way," he said, adding that it would also ensure self-reliance in fish production.

Patowary said that for developing tourism, hospitality and retail, the State government had entered into an MoU with Singapore last year. "The Singapore External Affairs Minister is coming to Guwahati in November in this connection," he said.

Stating that the government was working on the concept of a 'Skill City' in Assam, Patowary said that vocational and technical skill-imparting institutes would be set up across the blocks.

AASU president Dipanka Kumar Nath said the Central government has not maintained the spirit of the tripartite talks on Assam accord two months back. "The minutes of the meeting were incorrect. We have asked them to change it. The meeting had decided to chalk out time bound action plans with two months to implement the clauses of the Accord, but nothing has happened so far," Nath said, adding that all claims to send the Indo-Bangladesh border continue to remain a lip service.

On September 9, the AASU will stage a two-long national highway blockade, protesting the poor maintenance of the roads in the State. From September 11 to 15,

groups representing various sections of the society – senior citizens, women groups, etc., – will submit memorandum to their respective deputy commissioners demanding resolution of the illegal migrant problem.

AASU general secretary Lurijyoti Gogoi said the students' body will stage state-wide demonstrations on September 19 demanding resolution of various demands plaguing the state's education sector.

Opposing naming of the new model colleges after Deendayal Upadhyay and recruitment of non-Assamese teachers in Assamese medium schools, Gogoi said the State government was out to destroy the Assamese medium and government schools.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Government of Assam has vide notification no. PLA/497/2016/1 dated 24.10.2016 constituted a One Man Committee headed by Shri Rajiv Kumar Bora, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary to the Governor of Assam, WPT & BC etc. Department to enquire into the circumstances leading to the death of two persons and injury to many persons including Police personnel and loss of public properties due to violence which erupted during the eviction drive conducted by the District Administration of Nagaon District at Kaziranga National Park on 19.9.2016.

In pursuance of the above Government order, the Enquiry Committee has fixed 16th September, 2017 as a date of public hearing.

The Enquiry Committee hereby calls upon interested members of the public, especially individual witnesses, representatives of organisations or associations or groups etc. to appear before it at the venue on the date and time given below for verbal or written submission of any information or evidence relating to the incident.

Venue of Hearing: Kohora Forest IB, Kaziranga

Date of Hearing: 16th September, 2017,

Time of Hearing: 11:00 am onwards.

Sd/- Secretary,
One Man Committee headed by
Shri Rajiv Kumar Bora, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary to the
Government of Assam

Brazil formally charges two ex-Presidents in Petrobras graft

BRASILIA, Sept 6: Brazil has formally charged ex-presidents Dilma Rousseff and Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva with plotting to skim funds from Petrobras, the state oil giant.

The news is particularly bad for the uphill battle Lula is waging to win the presidency again. Rousseff was Lula's designated successor, and Brazil's first woman president.

"The crimes are believed to have taken place at least from mid-2002 to May 12, 2016" when Rousseff was suspended as part of impeachment proceedings, the attorney general said yesterday.

Their Workers Party allegedly fleeced \$475 million in public money, and used public entities including Petrobras, the National Development Bank (BNDES) and the Planning Ministry, according to the charges.

Attorney General Rodrigo Janot alleged that much of what became a transnational graft operation was run by Lula.

Dozens of senior leaders across the political spectrum and high-ranking businessmen have been investigated or convicted since the sprawling "Car Wash" corruption scandal broke in 2014. – AFP

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Filled in application complete in all respects along with supporting documents should reach "The Director, Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Lalmati, Guwahati - 781029 within 15 days of publication of this advertisement. For downloading application form and details about the assignment, please visit: www.iiie.gov.in

Sd/- (Manoj Kumar Das)
Director
Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship

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10th October, 2017 is the last date for submission of applications.

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- (i) Last date of receipt of application on 20th September/2017.
- (ii) Date of interview will be published later on.
- (iii) Candidates belonging to BTAD shall be given preference.
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LOCAL FORECAST:
Partly cloudy sky to generally cloudy sky. Rain/thundershower is likely to occur. Maximum and Minimum temperatures are most likely to be 35°C & 25°C respectively on Thursday.

TEMPERATURE:
Max 34.8°C
Min 25.0°C

Govt rules out monthly salaries to ASHA workers

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 6: The State government today said there was no question of giving monthly salaries to ASHA workers in lieu of the incentivised pay they are getting now.

"The ASHA workers are recruited as voluntary workers and providing them salaries would defeat the objective of their institution," Parliamentary Affairs Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary told the Assembly today in response to a question by MLA Abul Kamal Rashid Alam.

Though the Minister admitted that the monthly remuneration of Rs 1,000 which ASHA workers get is less, he said that many volunteers are getting Rs 18,000 a month through different incentives.

"There are 31,900 ASHA workers. On an average an ASHA worker is getting Rs 5,400, depending on various incentives provided for attending different tasks," he said.

The workers also get medical assistance of Rs 25,000 every year and in case of accidental deaths, an assistance grant of Rs 1 lakh is given to their kin.

MLAs cutting across party lines favoured a hike in the monthly remuneration of Rs 1,000 given to the community health workers.

State in touch with Centre over new industrial policy

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 6: The State government is in constant touch with the Centre with regard to formulation of a new industrial policy.

In a written reply to the State Assembly today, Minister for Industries & Commerce CM Patowary said the State government wants the new industrial policy to be on the lines of the old one of 2007.

He said that a detailed discussion was held with a team from NITI Aayog earlier this year in Guwahati.

Patowary, while admitting that so far not much positive feedback has come with regard to formulation of a new industrial policy, also added that effort is on to push the State's case and hoped for a favourable result soon.

No arsenic in Brahmaputra near Guwahati, lead content below danger level: Himanta

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 6: There are no traces of arsenic in the water of the Brahmaputra near Guwahati and the lead content is also below danger level.

This was stated by Minister for Guwahati Development Department Himanta Biswa Sarma in the Legislative Assembly today.

Replying to a Zero Hour notice by AGP MLA Benimanda Narayan Kalita, the Minister said that the State government had asked both the ITT Guwahati and the Pollution Control Board to carry out quality assessment

of the water of Brahmaputra to find out facts regarding the presence of lead and arsenic.

The Pollution Control Board said that there is no problem of arsenic as it is present only in underground water," Sarma said. ITT Guwahati also found that while arsenic is not present in the river, at certain places lead is present.

The Minister said that as per the study of the Pollution Control Board conducted at different places in Assam along the Brahmaputra, there was no trace of either lead or arsenic at Dhubri, while at Neamatighat, Jorhat, Gogapara and Majian there were small

traces of lead.

With regard to Guwahati and its nearby areas, Sarma said that no lead has been traced at Chandrapur, while at Pandu and Kacharighat it is present, but at 'below danger' level. However, lead content is high in the Brahmaputra at Sualkuchi.

"So there is no problem of arsenic in Guwahati. There is lead at some places but at levels below the danger point," he said. The Minister added that the lead content at the intake points for the four new water projects being implemented in the city is low.

"The intake points are located at safe places. But we will monitor the

situation continuously and take samples from the sites regularly to ensure that the water from the intake points is safe. As per the report of the Pollution Control Board, there is no cause for concern," Sarma said.

Earlier, raising the issue during Zero Hour, Kalita cited media reports about presence of lead and arsenic in the water of the Brahmaputra. He said that such contamination can have serious health hazard for residents of Guwahati, especially at a time when major water supply schemes, which will depend on water from the river, are being implemented.

Money release to depend on spending of earlier allocations

STAFF REPORTER

cent of the fund is spent, the rest will be released," Sarma said.

He added that the local area funds will not lapse but will be carried forward to the next fiscal in case any amount remains unspent in a particular financial year.

He said a similar procedure would also be adopted with regard to the 'Subrid' scheme under

Himanta Biswa Sarma told the Assembly today that from now on the old method of releasing money at one go for all MLAs will cease and funds will be released depending on spending of earlier allocations and submission of utilisation certificates.

He said that 60 per cent of the legislators have not been able to spend sufficient amounts from the local area development fund.

This was stated in a written reply to the State Assembly today by Minister for Skill, Employment & Entrepreneurship CM Patowary.

The entire money is not released at once under MPLADS for parliamentarians.

Now, it will be the same for MLAs in Assam.

Local area development funds will be released as per spending and utilisation.

So, the efficient

MLAs will get funds quicker... Once 70 per

which Rs 50 lakh is allocated to each MLA for providing educational and health assistance to people.

Earlier, Congress MLA Ajanta Neog raised the issue of the MLA local area development fund being not released in time.

Disrupt MLA Atul Bora pointed to difficulties faced by legislators with regard to access to and use of the local area development fund and suggested that the Assembly Speaker be tasked with handling the fund.

Bora said that accounts should be opened for all the 126 MLAs where the fund will be deposited and a high powered committee of the Assembly should be constituted to ensure that there is no misuse.

MLA local area development fund

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Spiritual leader and founder of the Art of Living Foundation Ravi Shankar in an interactive session with students at the Royal Global University in Guwahati on Wednesday. — UB Photos

JFA demands probe into Bengaluru scribe's murder

GUWAHATI, Sept 6: The Journalists' Forum Assam (JFA) has strongly condemned the murder of Bengaluru-based editor-journalist Gauri Lankesh yesterday by unidentified assailants and demanded a high level probe into the incident.

One of the senior journalists and social activists of Karnataka, Gauri was shot dead at her residence in Rajarajeswari Nagar on Tuesday evening. Gauri, 55, was critical against all kinds of communal forces in the country. She also faced convictions in two defamations.

Elder daughter of noted Kannada litterateur-journalist P Lankesh, Gauri used to receive threats from various extreme forces in the recent past, but she never bowed down. Survived by her moth-

er, sister, brother and others,

Gauri owned and edited "Gauri Lankesh Patrike", a popular Kannada magazine.

The JFA urged the Karnataka Chief Minister and also a senior Congress leader Siddaramaiah, who has already condemned her murder, to take necessary initiatives to nab the culprits at the earliest.

The forum also reiterated its demand for a special protection law for the scribes across the country.

"It may be noted that apart from non-physical attacks to silence media as the year 2017 rolls on, India stands at an awkward position over the number of journalists killed in the last nine months," said JFA president Rupam Barua and sec-

Grand celebration of art and culture organised

ANN Service

GUWAHATI, Sept 6: A total of 313 candidates got placement in various companies during the Guwahati Job Mela held in the city in July this year.

This was stated in a written reply to the State Assembly today by Minister for Skill, Employment & Entrepreneurship CM Patowary.

The candidates got placement in companies working in diversified fields like pharmaceuticals, manufacturing, hospitality, service and logistics, insurance, skill development training and banking, the Minister added.

Only 626 out of 1,316 ASTC buses in operation at present

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 6: The Assam State Transport Corporation (ASTC) has a total of 1,316 buses in its fleet but only 626 of them are currently in operation.

In a written reply to the Legislative Assembly today, Transport Minister CM Patowary said that another 440 buses are at present undergoing repairs, while 256 buses have been found to be beyond repair and steps have been taken to sell those vehicles.

Patowary added that during the past five years ASTC, on a daily basis, had 528 services.



However, 181 of them had to be cancelled due to various factors like bandh calls by different outfitts and due to operational and logistical reasons like repair of vehicles.

He said the ASTC has purchased 575 new buses during the past five years. In addition, 126 new services have been introduced during the last two years.

The Minister added that over 82,000 cases have been registered under Section 179 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 in the last five years and fines to the tune of Rs 4,10,43,500 have been imposed in this regard.

Cong MLAs stage walkout on Rohingya issue

STAFF REPORTER

have in recent times been forced to flee their homeland in Myanmar and cross over to Bangladesh. Some Rohingyas have even moved to India.

The Speaker, however, refused permission to the MLAs to raise the matter and said that the issue is not a State subject and so the House is not the ideal forum to discuss it.

However, despite the Speaker's ruling, Sherman Ali Ahmed and Sikdar had given notice for an adjournment motion to discuss the plight of the Rohingya people, thousands of whom

are still living in the House continue and added that his ruling was final.

Then Congress MLA Abdul Khalique said he was staging a walkout in protest against the Speaker's decision. A number of Congress legislators also walked out of the House.

However, some Congress MLAs, including Rekibul Hussain, Rekibuddin Ahmed and Nazrul Islam did not join their colleagues immediately but remained seated at their place for some more minutes. However, later they were also seen going out of the House.

Donation to CM's Relief Fund

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 6: The Gauhati University Teachers' Association (GUTA) donated a sum of Rs 3.18 lakh to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund recently.

The fund was collected out of the donations of the regular faculty members of the university.

The demand draft was handed over to Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal at his office by GUTA president Prof Archana Sarma along with a few representatives of the association.

The GUTA team had also

discussions with the Chief Minister on the flood situation of Assam, where the GUTA president gave a summary of the discussions held at a seminar on recent floods in Assam organised by GUTA on August 18 this year.

She mentioned the major suggestions emerging out of the discussions, particularly emphasising the urgent need for a flood management policy for the State that can address the problem from both the macro and the micro perspectives, acting throughout the year instead of

taking measures only during the flood season.

The Chief Minister spoke in an erudite, informative and sensitive manner on the issue of flood.

He also highlighted the government initiatives to tackle the issue including the details about the proposed dredging of the River Brahmaputra.

The Chief Minister also assured of further consultation on the issue with the Gauhati University for the purpose of alleviating the problem and to minimise the sufferings of the people.



Janardan Deva Goswami, Satradhikar of Uttar Kamalabari Satra, Majuli, releasing Borgeet audio CD Mohan Bawot at the Guwahati Press Club on Wednesday. — UB Photos

State's oldest college hostel reviving legacy

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 6: The State's oldest college hostel Krishna Kanta Handique PG Hostel (First Mess) of Cotton University (formerly Cotton College) will rejuvenate the legacy of its 116-year-old heritage this autumn.

The alumni of this Hostel formed an association named "Cotton College 1st Mess Alumni Association" which has been registered as a society after a series of meetings held at the hostel premises.

An alumni meet is being planned soon, which will include activities like exhibition, documentary, get-together, quiz, seminar, brainstorming sessions and publication of a souvenir. "This Assam-type hostel is now being conserved as a heritage building". We in-

clude the channelise the alumni initiative for greater public cause," it said in a statement.

The Association's president Dr Tarakeswar Choudhury has appealed to all former boarders and employees of this

hostel to get registered for the same. They may also personally submit their contacts to Dr Debajyoti Barooah, assistant professor, Department of Physics, Cotton University. Established in 1901, the

hostel is the embodiment of generations during the glorious journey of the historic Cotton College. Initially known as the "Hindu Hostel", this hostel later became well known as the "Hindu First Mess" or "First Block" or the "First Mess". Professor Indubhusan Bhattacharya was its first superintendent. It is noteworthy that stalwart like Dr Surya Kumar Bhuyan was its superintendent.

Since 1983, the Hostel has been reserved for the postgraduate boy students. In 1986, the Hostel was renamed as the "Krishna Kanta Handique PG Boys' Hostel" after the world famous Sanskrit scholar and Indologist and the first vice-chancellor of Gauhati University, Krishna Kanta Handique.

MESSAGE FOR TODAY

Destiny is no matter of chance. It is a matter of choice. It is not a thing to be waited for; it is a thing to be achieved.

— WJ BRYAN



On right track

The current Chinese leadership is pragmatic enough to concede that in the circumstances which prevail at present, confrontation with neighbours over petty issues such as dispute on the border is non-productive and self-defeating. The Chinese administrative machinery is a behemoth and occasionally it takes a while for a regional fracas to percolate to the leadership and for alternative measures to be taken. Perhaps that explains the sudden retreat, after a protracted and suspenseful stand-off, from intrusion by the Chinese army at Doka La, strategically situated at the tri-junction of China, India and Bhutan. It also explains the cordiality at the meeting between Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the BRICS summit and the latter's assertion that he wants to put China's relationship with India on the "right track". In the course of the meeting, which Modi later described as "fruitful," the two leaders agreed that their respective nations should make greater efforts to strengthen cooperation between their security forces to ensure that potentially explosive situations such as the one at Doka La do not recur. Putting aside the unfortunate incident, the two leaders focused more on creating inter-governmental mechanisms on economic and strategic considerations. The burden of the discussions were centred on the theme earlier aired at the meeting in Astana, that the two nations must not allow differences to evolve into disputes.

However, it is all very well to try and revert to the *bhai-bhai* mode, but this cannot be done by simply sweeping under the carpet all bones of contention. At the moment the Chinese leadership is vulnerable precisely because it wants to become a global leader in matters such as climate change and protectionism in trade. Indian diplomacy needs to play its cards right to put pressure and settle outstanding issues which can otherwise lead to future confrontation. That China at the Xiamen meet had agreed to acknowledge Pakistan as a harbour for terror groups reveals the extent to which China would go if it is allowed to take up the global leadership mantle, and India needs to take advantage of China's aspirations. For instance, there are a number of concerns related to the security situation in the North-east which need to be resolved. While China had made no secret of its attitude towards Arunachal Pradesh, she has also actively encouraged insurgent groups of the North-east to act as constant destabilizing elements. If China sincerely wishes to put the relationship on the right track, it must disavow these groups and desist from actively assisting them. Similarly, this year it has been seen that China has reneged on the sharing of hydrological data with India despite the heavy flooding downstream. The Indian Government cannot ignore such issues on the pretext of ensuring 'friendly' India-China relationships.

Tea workers' dues

Tea garden managements are known to exploit tea labourers by keeping them out of the ambit of many of their legitimate benefits. Hundreds of tea gardens are wilful defaulters when it comes to clear the PF and gratuity amounts due to the labourers. Ironically, the worst offenders happen to be the Government-run tea gardens with gardens under the Assam Tea Corporation owing the labourers a whopping Rs 168 crore as accumulated PF amount. This is a serious matter and it is for the State Government to ensure that all the defaulting tea estate managements—private as well as state-run—comply with these statutory provisions meant for labour welfare. There are legal mechanisms for realizing the PF and gratuity benefits from the defaulters and the Government needs to start legal proceedings so that justice is done. The abysmal level of awareness among the labourers is another irritant hindering their access to their legitimate benefits. Large-scale encroachment on government land by tea garden managements remains another disturbing concern. At a time when the Government is cracking the whip on unauthorized settlers on government land, turning a blind eye to encroachment by big tea gardens smacks of double standards. It should also be remembered that a section of encroachers are genuine landless people who have been compelled by circumstances to fall upon government land but the powerful tea garden managements are gobbling up vast stretches of government land taking advantage of the laxity of the government machinery. There is also reason to believe that underworld dealings play a big role in facilitating and sometimes even legitimizing the illegalities.

The lopsided implementation of the Plantations Labour Act aimed at securing the tea workers' dues also lays bare how the tea community has been subjected to a raw deal for decades. Various provisions of the Act continue to be flouted with impunity both in letter and spirit. While the Government is duty-bound to make a sincere effort to implement the Act in its entirety, tea garden owners violating provisions of the Act should not be spared of tough legal action. A majority of the violation cases concern infringement of provisions related to securing the healthcare and hygiene needs of the workers, especially children and women. It is a fact that fatalities from preventable diseases such as gastritis, malaria, etc., are abnormally high in tea garden areas for lack of effective intervention by the authorities. Similarly, the problem of malnutrition of children is acute amongst the tea-tribe community. The high prevalence of malnourished children in tea gardens is linked to inadequate breast-feeding. Lactating mothers are compelled to go to work barely after a week of giving birth depriving the babies of much-needed maternal nourishment and care. This inhuman practice needs to change and the Government should intervene firmly by making necessary legislation if necessary.

Shrinking liberal space: impact on journalism



Patricia Mukhim

The manner in which Gauri Lankesh was killed is abominable. Gauri's Facebook page reveals her politics. There is a post where she says she was taken for dinner by friends of Kanhaiya Kumar of JNU fame when he visited Bengaluru and how she wore a saree with Madhubani print since that comes from Bihar. She calls Kanhaiya her "son" and she stayed with her during his visit to the city. Pictures of her at home with Kanhaiya posing with her are on her FB page. There is obviously nothing hidden about Ms Lankesh's politics. She is vociferous in her criticism of the BJP-RSS and most of the posts are video clips of news items that lampoon Prime Minister Modi for his misadventure with demonetization and other seemingly wrong policies followed by the NDA Government since it came to power in 2014. In one post she rues all the killings/riots that have taken place in 1984, 1992, 2002 and 2016 and wonders what sort of a country India has become. And yes, Ms Lankesh edits a Kannada newspaper. Some leading television news channels on Tuesday said that she is close to Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramiah.

In a democracy, the media plays a critical role. It's a different matter that today newspapers and television news channels are owned by politicians. This is what is strangling journalism. The few journalists who wish to hold independent views and steer clear of partisan political positions are gasping for breath. Clearly their tribe is decreasing because there is a new breed of journalists today who derive vicarious pleasure from being

close to politicians, close enough to be at a back-patting distance. Such journalists derive a sense of power and people approach them when they want to reach out to powerful politicians. This is the reality of today's media world. But let me come back to why the media plays a critical role in a democracy. The simple reason is that democracy requires voters to be adequately informed about the broad ideology of a political party and whether they subscribe to that ideology and whether that ideology is healthy for democracy; for upholding civil and political rights; for delivering justice to the most oppressed; for its policies *vis-a-vis* the neighbouring countries and for its own stance on issues as granting those freedoms enshrined in the Constitution. After all, the executive, legislature and judiciary are guided by the Constitution alone.

Then political parties come up with manifestos. This is like a laundry list of promises about what they will deliver if they come to power. The media helps analyse the ideologies and manifestos through columns written by academics and established writers who are overt political leanings. This therefore helps citizens form an opinion about who and what party to vote for.

In newspaper and television, there is a clear divide between news and views/opinion. It is important for readers/audiences to understand that news is not opinion and vice versa. Those of us who call ourselves journalists should be able to keep a firewall between news and opinion. It is in the interest of journalism that journalists disclose unavoidable conflicts of inter-

est. The Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ), USA, puts out a code of ethics for practitioners of the trade. They concede that in today's overheated political environment, complete objectivity might be impossible but impartiality should still be the reporter's goal. SPJ says even those who are paid to have opinions, namely columnists and editorial writers, talk show hosts, etc., should at least be aware of all relevant points of view. Personally I find it suffocating to read

articles so coloured that the writings only please their constituents and camp-followers.

On whether journalists should engage in political activity, the SPJ categorically says: "No. Don't do it. Don't get involved. Don't contribute money. Don't work in a campaign, don't lobby and especially don't run for office yourself." Further the SPJ code tells journalists to remain free of associations that may compromise integrity or damage credibility. Hence if I am a supporter of an insurgent outfit and represent their voices, I should state that upfront. Similarly, if I am against all forms of armed uprisings, no matter what their ideological mooring (and I am) then that position too should be made public. Very often journalists have flirted with underground

outfits and even been their unashamed admirers. This is a difficult political position and needs of ambivalence. You can either be a supporter of cold-blooded killing, for that is what insurgent outfits like the ULFA, NDFB, BLT, HNL, NSCN and a host of others stand for, or you believe in peaceful dialogue. Insurgents believe blood brings governments to their feet. And that is always the blood of innocents including children killed at Dhemaji in 2004 while celebrating Independence Day. But there are also men like Kamala Saikia, a noted writer, reader, journalist who was killed for critiquing

the ULFA and whose killers remain at large. The state has failed to nab the killers of Saikia and others like him who died because they had an opinion. But this is not the first time that the state has abdicated its duty. The state too colludes with the rebels when it suits it.

Much has been talked of the current fascist ideas of the right wing in India represented by its vociferous proponent, the RSS. But there is an equally rigid viewpoint held by Left-liberal scholars and ideologues. Recently while at St Stephen's Delhi, Prof Mirnalini, a philosopher I respect and former VC of NEHU, asked a self-proclaimed Left-liberal JNU scholar what he meant by the term. Before the scholar could answer, Prof Mirni said, "How can the two words Left and Liberal go together? You don't accept that there can be another view than the one you believe in and neither do you allow others to hold alternative views, so how can you call yourself 'liberal'?" And that precisely is the sticking point in today's political positioning. Political views are deeply polarized. With the right wing these views are also embedded in religious bigotry. And these are highly problematic in a country with India's diversities. Today democracy is under tremendous strain. Those who desire to remain non-aligned are poot-pieced as lacking in spine by both sides.

The conclusions I wish to draw from this write-up is that journalism has a frame within which we are to operate. For us "liberal" means neither right, left nor centre but an objective presentation of ground realities and then leaving people to form their opinions. It is not our remit to advocate or influence for or against a political ideology. That indeed would be true freedom.

(patricia.mukhim@gmail.com)

Who is an indigenous person of Assam?

■ Dr Rohini Kr Baruah

The concept of 'indigenous' person of Assam has been unduly politicized, hyphenated and confused by certain anti-indigenous circles with a design to reap harvests that result from keeping such confusion ever alive. Actually, the definition of the word 'indigenous' is incontrovertibly established and universally recognized by the erudite philologists, linguists and researchers. Thus, the accredited English and vernacular dictionaries make its meaning and significance crystal clear and leave no scope for ambiguity whatever. Besides, the word 'indigenous' has been accepted in various national and international forums including the United Nations Organization and the Census Report of India. Significantly, the same vicious circles had created senseless controversies to stall the process of granting constitutional, legislative and administrative safeguards to the Assamese as envisaged under Clause 6 of the Assam Accord, 1985.

It must be clearly understood that an 'indigenous person of Assam' is characteristically different from other non-indigenous citizens of India living and practising their trade, business and professions in Assam. The fact that the latter have become long-time inhabitants of Assam and

have learnt to speak Assamese language does not necessarily make them indigenous persons of Assam, unless these qualifications are supplemented by other characteristic components that together make a person indigenous. For, there are established traits and characteristics to be fulfilled for acquiring the status of an indigenous person. The non-indigenous Indian citizens living and carrying on their agricultural, trade and professions in Assam, for however a long period it might be, cannot become indigenous persons of Assam, unless they acquire other associated characteristics or traits of an indigenous person, in terms of established or universally accepted norms. And yet, the political and other vested circles, who are used to reaping wind by keeping such issues ever alive by injecting endless controversies and confusions in the simple and innocent minds of those whom they have used as their voting machines, have gone too far to violate and vitiate the actual accuracy, sanctity and purity of such accredited words.

According to the *Chambers Twentieth Century Dictionary*, the word 'indigenous' means native born; native – aboriginal – ancient.

The word ancient means very old,

of former times; of long standing;

belonging to or relating to times long past, especially before the downfall of the Western Roman Empire (476 AD), i.e., a period that goes back to nearly 2500 years. According to the *Oxford Dictionary*, the words ancient, indigenous and aboriginal are same and synonymous. According to our *Hokusho*, a 'khlanjanja' (indigenous) person means an ancient person; living at a particular place for many generations, that is a person who is ancient, aboriginal, indigenous, and has been living in his land for many generations. The non-indigenous Indian citizens living and carrying on their agricultural, trade and professions in Assam, for however a long period it might be, cannot become indigenous persons of Assam, unless they acquire other associated characteristics or traits of an indigenous person, in terms of established or universally accepted norms. And yet, the political and other vested circles, who are used to reaping wind by keeping such issues ever alive by injecting endless controversies and confusions in the simple and innocent minds of those whom they have used as their voting machines, have gone too far to violate and vitiate the actual accuracy, sanctity and purity of such accredited words.

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persuade North Korea to abstain from any further missile and nuclear tests. North Korea's military agenda is known to all. It wants to be recognized as a legitimate nuclear state by the US and subsequently establish diplomatic relations with the US. For the sake of peace, North Korea should abandon its missile and nuclear tests. Yours etc., MAHESWAR DEKA, Rangia.

Demonetization

Sir,— Kudos to Shubhas Bhattacharjee for the article titled 'The misadventure called demonetization' (AT, September 4). The cat has finally come out of the bag! 99% of RBI-issued currency notes, practically rendered 'black' overnight, have at last returned to the banking system. What a 'mighty crusade' against black money! Right from the very first night of that 'brave' declaration, people have consistently voiced opinion against that so-called 'boldest decision in independent

India'. Today it is they who are feeling vindicated for being proved absolutely correct. But this is not a matter of joy or personal victory for anyone as it would not bring back the precious lives of those 150-odd innocent people who had met their premature death in hazardous conditions while

standing in bank queues. Yours etc., KAJAL CHATTERJEE, Peerless Nagar, Kolkata.

Exam result

Sir,— Through your esteemed daily, I would like to draw the attention of the authority concerned of the Gauhati High Court regarding the result of the written test of LDA/Typist/Copyst for the subordinate courts of Assam held in June 11, 2017. The result published on September 5, 2017 is utterly surprising for the aspirants as it does not mention the cut-off marks of different categories of candidates nor does it reflect the marks secured by the candidates. I

therefore request the authority concerned to publish the marks scored by all the candidates in the written test and also to publish the cut-off marks for selection to the oral interview level. This, I think, would go a long way to make the whole process transparent. Yours etc., AN ASPIRANT, Sivasagar.

Cow vigilantes

Sir,— Intolerance is a national threat as it is challenging the very fabric of our 'unity in diversity'. The activities of the cow vigilantes are very much detrimental to the greater Indian society. Considering the grave concern, the Supreme Court has asked all the States and Union Territories to appoint nodal police officers district-wise to crackdown on the cow vigilante groups. It is undoubtedly an encouraging step, particularly at a time when some western media are terming it as a nationwide assault against the minorities, claiming that the minorities are no longer safe in

India. I hope that this action against the cow vigilantes will resurrect the sense of belonging for all the Indians. Yours etc., RANJAN DAS, Mirza.

APSC exam date

Sir,— Through this esteemed newspaper, I would like to point out that in the recently revised Assam Public Service Commission exam calendar for 2017, the Commission has decided to conduct the screening test for various posts under the Industries and Commerce Department on November 5, 2017. The UGC has also decided to conduct the CBSE-NET 2017 on the same date. This would hamper a lot of candidates who are preparing for both the exams simultaneously. The APSC should reschedule the examinations in the greater interests of the candidates. Yours etc., M. KAKATI, Dispur.

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

Letters to the EDITOR

US-North Korea war looming large

persuade North Korea to abstain from any further missile and nuclear tests. North Korea's military agenda is known to all. It wants to be recognized as a legitimate nuclear state by the US and subsequently establish diplomatic relations with the US. For the sake of peace, North Korea should abandon its missile and nuclear tests. Yours etc., MAHESWAR DEKA, Rangia.

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Subansiri erosion displaces 23 families

CORRESPONDENT

NORTH LAKHIMPUR, Sept 6: Unabated erosion by the Subansiri river in the Bihupuria Revenue Circle of Lakhimpur district has left 23 families displaced.

The erosion worst-hit area is in Kolbari Chuburi under Bhagora-Dhunaguri Gaon Panchayat of Bihupuria Rural Development Block where villagers have been affected since May this year. Subansiri, which has encircled the area in its changing course, has swallowed more than 60 per cent of the land of the area making the village an island. As many as 12 families, displaced by the continuing erosion, have been now forced to take makeshift arrangements for their stay at the opposite side of the erosion where massive sand deposits are created. Many of them are

struggling for a shelter at highlands and some of them are forced to stay with their relatives – away from their original place of living.

Agriculture lands that grow mustard, pulses and rice have been lost in the erosion by the river. The erosion and recent flood have also damaged the Kolbari Chuburi LP School, the only school of the region, depriving hundreds of students from regular classes.

Fisheries damaged: The recent flood in Lakhimpur district has destroyed fisheries measuring 1449.4 hectares of land affecting thousands of entrepreneurs. According to the district Fishery Department, Lakhimpur's 7,889 fishery entrepreneurs from 298 villages of all the nine rural development blocks of the district have been hit by the loss of fisheries in floods so far.

Accountant General (Audit), Assam, Belieta, Hailakandi-781029 invites quotations in sealed cover mentioning thereon "Quotations" and "to be opened by the addressee only" from the eligible vendors for procurement of IT Hardware/Software & Peripherals which should reach the undersigned addressee in his office on or before 22.09.2017 by 3:00 PM. The sealed covers will be opened on 26.09.2017 at 11:00 AM. Necessary terms and conditions for selecting vendor and details of items to be procured, are available on our office website: <http://www.agasm.cgg.gov.in>

Sd/- S.D.Sudhivel

Sr. Dy. Accountant General (Admn. & GS).

Janasanayog/CF/1380/17

Hindustan Unilever donates Rs 1 crore to CM's fund

CORRESPONDENTS

TINSUKIA / D O O M-
DOOMA, Sept 6: The Chief Minister, Sarbananda Sonowal, in presence of the Global Chief Executive Officer of Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL), Paul Polman, inaugurated the fourth unit (Project Rhino) of the Personal Product Factory of Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) at Dooomoma on Wednesday.

On this occasion, the HUL presented a cheque of Rs 1 crore to the CM's Relief Fund for the flood-affected people of Assam with a promise of Rs 1 crore more for the cause.

The new factory will manufacture the products of HUL which has its factory since 2001 near Dooomoma town of Tinsukia district producing its brands like Fair & Lovely,

Pond's, Vaseline, Sunsilk, Clin-ic Plus, etc.

Speaking on the occasion, the chief minister termed the occasion as the historic day for the industrial sector of Assam as it would open new vistas for industrial as well as economic growth.

Addressing the gathering, the chief minister expressed hope that the new factory would be able to bring about economic progress of the region and the State as well. He urged the Unilever CEO Polman to set up two more factories of this kind at lower Assam and Barak Valley each. He also urged the Unilever CEO to set up an agro-based factory at Sadiya.

Talking about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Look East Policy, Sonowal said that his government would organ-

ise an International Business Summit in Guwahati in first part of February next year. He urged the Unilever authorities to be a part of it.

During his visit to the district today, the chief minister attended the biennial service of Barekuri Anchalik Yuba Sangha held at Barekuri ME School near Makum of Tinsukia district. He appealed to the youths to dedicate their energies for the development of the society by upgrading their own overall status. He also appealed to them to join the skill development mission of the government.

He announced that a skill development centre would be set up at Barekuri. He also announced Rs 50 lakh each for a sport infrastructure centre and for cultural development centre at Barekuri.

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Assam bandh peaceful

BONGAIGAON, Sept 6: The 48-hour Assam bandh called by Pradip Ray faction of All Koch Rajbongshi Students' Union (AKRSU) was by and large peaceful in Bongaigaon district barring some stray incidents. The picketers staged a blockade on the highway and burnt tyres on roads in support of the bandh.

Markets, shops, banks and some offices remained close during bandh hours on Wednesdays, while educational institutions were functioning with less student attendance. Rail communication was normal during the bandh. – Correspondent

Cannabis seized in Silchar

GUWAHATI, Sept 6: Acting on a tip-off that huge quantity of dry cannabis are being smuggled in a truck, the sleuths of the DRIs Silchar regional unit intercepted a truck at Katgora, about 35 km from Silchar recently.

The officials succeeded in finding a specially-made cavity between the backside of the driver's chamber and the wall of the truck from where 1,413.6 kg of dry cannabis was recovered. The total value of the seized cannabis along with the carrier truck has been estimated to be Rs 91.74 lakh. Two persons were in this connection. – Staff Reporter

Sushil Sarma: a tribute

Sushil Sarma, a senior citizen of Greenland in Panjapuri, Guwahati, passed away on August 28 last at his residence following prolonged ailment.

Born at Furkating in 1949, Sarma came to Guwahati in 1977 and settled at Greenland at an enormous plot of land with a variety of fruit-bearing trees and a couple of sprawling tanks giving shelter to a large variety of fishes-big and small. A self-made man, Sushil built up a thriving business in construction and land dealing and helped and guided a large number of people in owing land and in having their own buildings.

An accomplished and imaginative gardener, Sushil strenuously nurtured the gardens of vegetable and fruit-bearing trees and derived the innocent pleasure by showing his gardens to his friends and relatives and saw them off with packets of vegetables and fruits. He had a heart of gold and helped open handfully all those who were bodily afflicted or were financially needy. Since his wife Mandira (Mamtii) is my niece, Shushil regarded me as a senior brother-in-law and helped me very often as my errand boy. An extremely helpful citizen, Sushil was very popular among all sections of people in greater Panjabbari.

Today, on the day of his ashram�idha, I pray to God for his eternal peace.

– DN Chakravarty

One killed

GORESWAR, Sept 6: One Nara Bahadur Prodhan (60) of Bangalipara village under Goreswar Police Station in Baksa district died in a road accident on Wednesday at Bangalipara Chowk on the Dhaligarh-Tamulipar Road when a car hit him and sped away towards Tamulipar. Prodhan died at Naokata on his way to the GMCH. The car was later apprehended at Lakhari by Nagaland police. – ANN Service

EDUCATIONAL NOTICE

This is for information of all the candidates who have appeared in the Entrance Examination conducted by this University on 27th August, 2017 for selection of candidates in M.Sc. Nursing Course in Regional College of Nursing, Guwahati for the session 2017 that the result of the said Entrance Examination is available in the University website www.susuh.in.

Sd/- Registrar & Controller of Examinations (i/c)
Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences
Janasanayog/D/729/17

CORRIGENDUM CUM EXTENSION NOTICE

It is for general information to all concerned that Bid published vide E-procurement Notice/Invitation for BID(FB) Vide No.EE/G/690/2017-B/87-689-93 dtl. 17/08/2017 is hereby extended up to 14/09/2017 due to heavy rain.

1. The Bid security (General Category) for Sl. No-3, Gr. No.3 may be read as Rs. 94,258/- instead of Rs. 99,258/-
2. Sl. No.13 group no 19 is hereby extended due to error occurred of the bid document issued by Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences instead of Sl. No. 44,184/-
The bidder will be liable to pay the fine as per the notice cum extension issued by the concerned authority.
The bidder will be liable to pay the fine as per the notice cum extension issued by the concerned authority.

The bid tender will be valid till 14/09/2017. Date & Time of opening/decrypt of bid is at 12.00 hours of 15/09/2017.

Terms & Conditions for the remaining group of works will remain same.

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
INDUSTRIES & COMMERCE DEPTT,
ASSAM:- GUWAHATI-21.

Janasanayog/D/727/17

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, PWWD

Nagpur Road Circle, Nagpur

| Sl. No. | LAC | Name of Road | Approximate value of work (in Lakh) |
|---------|----------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | Morigaon | Repair & Maintenance of road from Lothabori Dechukhous to Doudna Road (from ch.0.00m to ch.5200.00m) | 90.00 |
| 2 | Morigaon | Maintenance of road from Arparbari to Marugaon (from ch.0.00m to ch.1500.00m) | 22.88 |
| 3 | Morigaon | Maintenance of road from Marupi M.E. School to Forest Gate (from ch.0.00m to ch.1700.00m) | 24.61 |

Janasanayog/C/138/4/17

Dated:05/09/2017

Extension Notice

The Submission of online Tender for the following works are extended due to some unavoidable reason up to 12th Sept. 2017 at 14:00 am. in the website <https://assamtenders.gov.in>

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, PWWD

Nagpur Road Circle, Nagpur

WRITTEN TEST RESULT NOTICE

For LDA/COPYIST/TYPIST of the Subordinate courts of Assam

THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT AT GUWAHATI

(The High Court of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh)

The results of the Written Test held on 11.06.2017 for the posts of LDA/Copyist/Tyrist for the Subordinate Courts of Assam have been declared along with the Schedule of Viva Voce.

The viva voce for all the categories of posts will be held in the precincts of Gauhati High Court, Guwahati on 14.09.2017, 15.09.2017, 16.09.2017 and 18.09.2017 from 1.00 PM onwards.

The relevant notification dated 05.09.2017 has been published in the official website of the Gauhati High Court (www.ghconline.gov.in) and Notice Board of the Gauhati High Court at Guwahati.

Sd/- (A. Hazarika)
Registrar (Admin)-cum-
In Charge Centralized Recruitment,
Gauhati High Court, Guwahati, Assam

Janasanayog/D/729/17

NOTIFICATION

Dated: 22/08/2017

WHEREAS a Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice B. K. Sharma, Former Judge, Gauhati High Court has been constituted under Sec (3) of the Commission of Inquiry Act 1952 to inquire into the matters connected with Gorchuk P. S. Case No 19/12/2017, UTS 38/24/34 IPC registered consequent upon the FIR lodged by complainant one Shri Biren Haloi, S/o La Madhab Haloi of A. K. Deb road under Gorchuk Police Station on 15.05.2017.

AND WHEREAS the terms of the reference of the Inquiry vide Govt. notification no HMA-423/2017/14 dated 9th June 2017 are as follows:

- To inquire into the above referred case registered in Gorchuk P. S.
- To inquire and identify the persons (both Police and Public) involved in the alleged extortion of money by indulging in Criminal intimidation.
- To ascertain the involvement of the then ADGP (STF) Shri S. N. Singh, IPS or any of his predecessors in such kind of alleged extortion from public persons.
- To inquire into any possible involvement of the then ADGP (STF) Shri S. N. Singh, IPS or any of his predecessors on the STF in Conniving or in giving any form of instructions / directions instigating their subordinates in any other manner to carry on such acts of extortion by indulging in criminal intimidation.
- To examine whether the STF is functioning properly as mandated by the Government.
- To suggest measures to enhance the functional efficiency and public friendliness of the STF (Special Task Force).
- Any other matters which are relevant to the Inquiry as may be decided by the Commission during the course of Inquiry.

Now, therefore the Commission hereby invites written statements of facts from the State Govt., District Administration, Assam Police, Concerned Officials, Grievous Persons, Organizations, Associations and Members of the Public acquainted with the subject matter of the Inquiry. Every such statement shall state therein such information as may be relevant to the subject matter of the Inquiry in sufficient details, which may be filed either individually or collectively by a group of persons.

Every person filling written statement / memorandum shall file along with the statement:

- A list of witness to be examined in support of the facts stated therein.
- A list of documents he intends to rely along with such of the original or copy of the documents as are in his possession, and in case of any document not in his possession, name and address of the person(s) from whom such document may be obtained.
- Written statement should be filled preferably with an affidavit in support of the facts stated therein.

Written statement shall be submitted along with three copies thereof to the undersigned personally or through representative during office hours or by registered post on or before 20th September 2017 in the following address -

PRASANTA PROTIN KATHKOTIA, ACS
Secretary, to Justice B. K. Sharma
Commission of Inquiry into the matter relating the affairs of STF (Assam), Room no - 29, Circuit House, Guwahati-781001, Assam.

Sd/- Prasanta Protin Kathkotia, (ACS)
Secretary, to Justice B. K. Sharma Commissioner of Inquiry &
Addl. Deputy Commissioner,
Kamrup Metropolitan District, Guwahati

Janasanayog/D/728/17

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N.B.: 1. The Commission will not be responsible for any printing mistakes.

Sd/- (Dr. Babu Sahariah, ACS)

Principal Controller of Examinations, APSC

Janasanayog/D/728/17

No. HSPB/03/Furniture/2016-17/155

e-TENDER NOTICE FOR SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF FURNITURE IN

DIFFERENT HEALTH INSTITUTIONS UNDER THE
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES, ASSAM

e-Tenders in bid system affixing court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 for bidders within the State of Assam and IPO of Rs. 10/- for bidders located outside the State of Assam only, are invited from reputed manufacturers for Supply and installation of furniture in different health institutions under the Director of Health Services, Assam. The complete e-tender documents may be obtained from the website <http://assamtenders.gov.in>. The participating bidders should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) and have to register in the portal <http://assamtenders.gov.in>. The tender should be submitted online in the portal <http://assamtenders.gov.in> or before 26/09/2017 up to 14:00 hours. The bidder shall also submit the proof for payment like non-refundable tender fees of Rs. 1000.00 in the form of demand draft and EMD in the form of Demand Draft from any Nationalized Bank and the same should be drawn in favour of 'Director of Health Services, Assam' payable at Guwahati.

The original Demand Draft for tender fees, EMD and Court fee along with hard copy of the Technical bid must be submitted to Director of Health Services, Assam, Hengrabari, Guwahati-36, on or before the last date and time of submission of tender.

Important dates of the tender

S.No. Scheduled Start date Start time End date End time

1 Tender Publishing 06/09/2017 1:00 PM — —

2 Pre Bid meeting at Conference Hall of DHS, Assam 11/09/2017 11:00 AM — —

3 Bid Submission 13/09/2017 11:00 AM 26/09/2017 2:00 PM

4 Bid Opening 26/09/2017 3:00 PM

Sd/- Director of Health Services, Assam

Hengrabari, Guwahati-36.

Janasanayog/C/333/17



WEATHER NORTHEAST

Forecast for North Eastern States: Moderate rain/rain shower is very likely to occur at many places over Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur & Nagaland. Light to moderate rain/thunderstorms is very likely to occur at a few places over Arunachal Pradesh.

Warning : Heavy rain is very likely to occur at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

Temperatures : Max (°C) Min (°C)

| | | |
|-------------|------|------|
| Dibrugarh | 31.2 | 22.3 |
| Turpuri | 30.6 | 26.2 |
| Silchar | 34.0 | 25.7 |
| Dibr | 33.0 | 26.0 |
| Jorhat | 31.5 | 23.6 |
| N Lakhimpur | 32.0 | 21.0 |
| Shillong | 23.8 | 15.3 |
| Imphal | 32.2 | 21.3 |
| Itanagar | 30.2 | 21.7 |
| Aizawl | 30.6 | 14.0 |
| Agartala | 34.4 | 25.6 |
| Kohima | 25.2 | 18.2 |
| Pasighat | 32.8 | 23.8 |
| Cherrapunji | 23.7 | 18.0 |

Arunachal Pradesh shares 1,126 km border with China of the total 3,488 km long Sino-Indian border.

To redress the situation arising out of lack of infrastructure along the border with China, the Central Government has decided to undertake construction of 73 roads of operational significance along the forward areas.

Out of these 73 roads, 27 roads involving 804.93 km length are being constructed by Ministry of Home Affairs in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs 1,937 crore, a Home Ministry official said.

"We have discussed about the roads and other infrastructure along the border," Gen Rawat told reporters after the hour-long meeting.

The work of construction of these

27 roads has been assigned to the Border Roads Organisation (15 roads), Central Public Works Department besides others.

Out of 27 roads, eight roads have been completed. Two roads are maintained by the Ministry of Defence. Construction work of other roads is in progress. As on April 30, 2017, 672.46 km of formation work and 409.53 km of surfacing work has been completed.

On August 28, India and China ended more than two month long stand-off in Doklam which started after Indian troops stopped the Chinese army from building a road in the disputed area. — PTI

Govt reviews infrastructure projects along China border

NEW DELHI, Sept 6: The Centre has reviewed the progress of ongoing roads and other infrastructure projects in Arunachal Pradesh in the wake of recent stand-off with China, a Home Ministry official said.

Union Ministers Kiren Rijiju, General VK Singh (retd) and Army chief General Bipin Rawat and senior officials reviewed the ongoing projects along the Sino-Indian border on Monday.

"We have discussed about the roads and other infrastructure along the border," Gen Rawat told reporters after the hour-long meeting.

Arunachal Pradesh shares 1,126 km

One held in Kohima taxi driver murder case

CORRESPONDENT

DIMAPUR, Sept 6: One person suspected to be involved in the September 2 murder of a taxi driver Swidhu Nakro from Kohima district was arrested by Zunheboto police yesterday. The police also recovered the victim's vehicle.

The arrested person, identified as one Toishe (28) and a resident of Satakhia town under Zunheboto district, is suspected to be the main accused in the case. The vehicle was recovered from the outskirts of Satakhia.

Nakro was found dead on September 2 near Dziviziwe, under Kohima district, about 24 hours after he informed his wife over phone that he got passengers to go to Wokha. Police said the victim bore injuries on his head, suspected to have been caused by a blunt object.

All Nagaland Taxi Association (ANTA) on September 4 had threatened to launch an indefinite Statewide taxi service ban if the authority with-in one week, failed to book the perpetrators responsible for the murder.

ANTA in a representation submitted to Kohima DC has urged the authority to provide safety and security measures for all taxi drivers especially at night. It also appealed to the authority to provide ex-gratia to the bereaved family.

Elderly couple charred to death

CORRESPONDENT

DIMAPUR, Sept 6: An elderly couple was charred to death in a fire incident at Umya village in Mokokchung district.

According to family sources, the fire broke out at around 3 am yesterday from their house while they were asleep. The fire engulfed the entire house before the neighbours came to rescue them but it was too late.

It was reported that the husband aged 100 years and his wife 92 were found dead holding each other. The villagers reportedly prevented further spread of the fire with their timely action. Two houses were burnt to ashes in the incident. The fire was suspected to have started from the kitchen.

Arunachal Health Minister laid to rest



Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu paying tributes to Health and Family Welfare Minister Jomde Kena, at his funeral in hometown Gensi in West Siang district on Wednesday. — Photo: Correspondent

CORRESPONDENT

ITANAGAR, Sept 6: Arunachal Pradesh Health and Family Welfare Minister Jomde Kena, who passed away last at a Guwahati-based hospital on Monday following a prolonged illness, was laid to rest at his hometown Gensi in West Siang district on Wednesday with full State honours.

Thousands of mourners thronged Kena's residence to pay their last respects to the departed leader, who despite hailing from a poor background rose up the ladder of success to become a Cabinet Minister and an inspiration to the youths.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu, who was away in Delhi, cut short his visit and aashed to Gensi, along with Union Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju and State BJP president Tapir Gao, to see off his Cabinet colleague on his last journey.

Kena remembered late Kao, who shared a good rapport with the late Minister, broke down while recalling his last conversation with Kena over phone.

Before being laid to rest with full State honour, the body, covered with the tri-colour, was brought to the funeral site.

Deputy Speaker Tunmuk Bagra, former Chief Minister Gengg Apang, Home Minister Kumar Wai and several other Ministers, MPs and officials attended the funeral.

Country's secular fabric being changed: Sarkar

CORRESPONDENT

AGARTALA, Sept 6: Tripura Chief Minister Manik Sarkar has alleged that there were efforts to change the country's secular fabric to create a "Hindu Rashtra".

"Those who betrayed India's Independence movement and acted as agents of the then British Government are now active to change the secular fabric of the country and form a Hindu Rashtra," he said at a Teachers' Day function on Tuesday but did not name any organisation or party.

Sarkar said his party (CPI-M) was not against Hindus or Hinduism or any religion.

"The country should be for all people irrespective of reli-

gion, caste and creed," he said, adding that democracy and secularism, which are the mainstays of the country are now under attack.

Sarkar also expressed dismay over education being turned into business enterprises.

"Educational managements are now privatised as a result of which it has turned into a business, which is disastrous for the people," he said.

Sarkar handed over this year's Pandit Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar Award, the State Government's highest award for a teacher to renowned educationist and writer, Aparajita Roy. — PTI

On the sorry state of air con-

Mamta's effigy burnt

GANGTOK, Sept 6: An effigy of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamta Banerjee was burnt amidst shouting of slogans at Sadam in South Sikkim district today, in protest against the alleged burning of Chief Minister Pawan Chamling's effigy at Siliguri.

The effigy of West Bengal Tourism Minister Gautam Deo was also burnt at Sadam for his recent comments accusing the Sikkim Government and police administration of helping GJM supremo Bimal Gurung against whom a look out notice had been issued by Bengal Government, and his associates to file, police said. The effigies were burnt at the place where Kalimpang police allegedly shot dead a GJM member who was in Sikkim to attend the central committee meeting of GJM called by Gurung on Friday. — PTI

Zeliang said the Government of Nagaland would soon be submitting a comprehensive plan in this regard.

According to Zeliang, the printing of a CM press release, Zeliang also highlighted the plight of some 2,000 odd Hindhi teachers in the State whose services are on the verge of termination due to its co-terminus nature as per guidelines of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes. He urged the Central Government to give special impetus to the matter.

On the sorry state of air con-

nnectivity in the State, Zeliang called for urgent improvement without further delay, while adding that "Visa Checking System must be installed in NE region to ease the movement of goods and citizens across the international borders of South-East Asian countries without which tourism, trade and commerce is being hampered."

The Chief Minister was accompanied by Lok Sabha MP and NPF president Neiphiu Rio and president of NPF Manipur Awangbow Newmai.

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Trade, economy with Russia top priority: Sushma

Vладивосток (Russia), Sept 6: India shares the "best" political relations with Russia, and trade and economic ties are a top priority. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj said on Wednesday.

Speaking at the India-Russia Business dialogue during the Eastern Economic Forum, Sushma Swaraj also said that the dialogue was a continuation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin's meeting in St. Petersburg in June. India was the Guest Country for the first time, she said.

Russian Far East is one of the richest regions in the world and India is among the fastest growing large

relationships with Russia. We have been partners for seven decades, and our friendship has expanded to almost all sectors of human activity," Sushma Swaraj said.

"Both our governments have identified trade and economic relations as a top priority in our overall partnership. This year India has the unique record of participating in all major forums in Russia. In St. Petersburg in June, India was the Guest Country for the first time," she said.

Russian Far East is one of the richest regions in the world and India is among the fastest growing large

economies of the world, she said.

"There is lot that can be done together. When other markets are closing we need to find new ones and create virtuous cycles of investment. Investment is in the ultimate analysis an act of faith."

The Minister added that there is a need to identify what actions the two governments should take to further facilitate investments and trade.

She added the great trade, commerce and investment with the Russian Far East will help "us in achieving the target of \$30 billion that we have set for our bilateral trade by the year 2025". - IANS

Politically, India has the best of

NITI Aayog sets up task force on employment

NEW DELHI, Sept 6: The NITI Aayog on Wednesday constituted an Expert Task Force led by its Vice-Chairman Rajiv Kumar to boost employment in the country through increased exports.

The task force would propose an action plan to create well-paid, formal sector jobs and alleviate underemployment in both goods and services sectors, the planning body said in a statement.

"Given the importance of exports in generating jobs, India needs to create an environment in which globally competitive exporters can emerge and flourish," the National Institution for Transforming India said.

It said the task force would also address the issue of low wages by boosting India's exports in key labour-intensive industries.

The other responsibilities of the task force include recommending sector-specific policy interven-

tions, identifying key macroeconomic factors constraining exports and suggesting methods to address these constraints, and assessing the effectiveness of existing schemes to promote exports.

The task force would also address issues related to logistics, export credits and trade facilitation, recommend measures to enhance trade in services with high employment potential, and suggest ways to enhance the availability of reliable, timely and globally comparable data on trade, the NITI Aayog said.

"While the Indian workforce has high aspirations, a majority of the workers are still employed in low-productivity, low-wage jobs in small, micro and own-account enterprises. An urgent and sustained expansion of the organised sector is essential to address India's unemployment and under-employment issue," it said. - IANS



External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Minister of External Affairs of Russia Sergey Lavrov at a bilateral meeting in Vladivostok, Russia on Wednesday. - IANS

Panasonic launches new smartphone

NEW DELHI, Sept 6: Panasonic India on Wednesday launched a new smartphone 'P9' at Rs 6,290. The 5.5-inch HD device with 'Asahi IPS' display sports an 8MP rear camera and 5MP front camera.

"P9 is targeted towards consumers who are always on the go, look for durability in display screen and want a smooth multi-tasking experience with the latest Android Nougat 7.0," said Pankaj Rana, Business Head-Mobility Division, Panasonic India, in a statement.

The phone is powered by 1.1 GHz quad-core processor paired up with 1GB RAM and an internal memory of 16GB that is expandable up to 32 GB. The phone has connectivity features including GPS, Wi-Fi, Dual SIM (4G/3G+2G) and micro-SIM. - IANS

Tata Motors to start Nexus bookings

NEW DELHI, Sept 6: Tata Motors today said bookings of its upcoming compact SUV Nexus would commence from September 11.

The model can be booked at any authorised dealership of the company with an amount of Rs 11,000 from September 11. Tata Motors said in a statement,

"With the Nexus, we have set new benchmarks in India's fastest growing SUV segment." Tata Motors President Passenger Vehicle Business Unit, Mayank Pareek said.

The Nexus will compete with the likes of Maruti Suzuki's Vitara Brezza, Ford EcoSport, Honda WR-V and Hyundai Creta which are priced in the range of Rs 7.1 lakh and Rs 14 lakh. - PTI

CAPSULE

Ashok Leyland

CHENNAI, Sept 6: Hinduja Group flagship company Ashok Leyland today said its defence entity had signed a memorandum of understanding with Rosoboronexport, Russia, to supply tracked vehicle solutions to the armed forces. - PTI

LIC stake

NEW DELHI, Sept 6: State-owned Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has reduced its stake in textile and apparel major Raymond by 2.01 per cent, selling 12.37 lakh shares in the open market. - PTI

Ruchi Soya

MUMBAI, Sept 6: Leading agri and food FMCG company Ruchi Soya Industries today announced it is looking at restructuring its business units as part of an overall corporate strategy. - PTI

Sonalika's target

KOLKATA, Sept 6: Sonalika International Tractors Ltd is eyeing over 30 per cent sales growth this fiscal to touch 1 lakh units, a company official today said. - PTI

H&M plan

NEW DELHI, Sept 6: Global fashion retailer H&M is planning to expand its presence in India with stores in Indore, Coimbatore and Amritsar. - IANS

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Nestle to consolidate product portfolio

MANESAR, Sept 6: FMCG major Nestle India today said it is consolidating product portfolio to focus on performing brands, having introduced 43 products following the Maggi crisis about two years ago.

The company is in the process of reviewing products in chocolate, confectionery, coffee, milk and some other segments, which were launched 15-18 months ago as part of its drive to introduce "innovation-based" products.

"Now we are in the process to see what is working and what is not working. We cannot support so many products going forward," Nestle India CMD Suresh Narayan told reporters here.

He said the company will take stock of brands, which are per-

forming well in some regions or at national level or even at some channels.

"You need to prioritise on what you need to focus on, and that core exercise is happening," he added.

Post-Maggi crisis in 2015, Nestle had ramped up innovations to expand its portfolio beyond the noodles business, which contributed over one third of its total sales.

"The process is now happening because 12 to 15 months of exercise has taken place and that's really what we are in," Narayan said, adding that the next step could not "happen without looking what you have on the plate".

However, he also added that many of the categories have a long way to go in terms of penetration. - PTI

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Non-disclosure of action on politicians' assets hike irks SC

NEW DELHI, Sept 6: The Supreme Court today took strong exception to the Centre's "attitude" of not disclosing information on action taken by it against politicians, some of whose assets have seen a massive jump of up to 500 per cent between two elections.

It also directed the government to place the necessary information in this regard before the court.

The apex court said though the government was saying that it was not aware to elect-

total reforms, it has not placed the necessary details. Even the information furnished before it in an affidavit by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) was "not complete", it added.

"The information in CBDT affidavit is not complete. Is this the attitude of the Government of India? What have you done till now?" a bench comprising J Chelameswar and S Abdul Nazeer said.

"The government is saying they are not aware to some reform. Necessary information

should be there on record (in the court)," it said and asked the government to file a detailed affidavit before it in this regard by September 12.

The top court was hearing a plea on disclosure of sources of income by the candidates contesting elections when they file nomination for elections. The arguments remained inconclusive and will continue tomorrow.

During the hearing, the centre said free-and-fair election was integral to the democratic

structure of the country and they would welcome any direction passed by the apex court on this aspect.

"The Union of India is having Swachh Bharat (Abhiyan) which will also cover this field.

It is not about cleaning of garbage only," the counsel said, adding "the intention of the Government of India is in the right direction".

When the counsel referred to the affidavit filed by the CBDT on the issue raised by the petitioner about an alleged jump of up to 500 per cent in

politicians assets which they have declared in the nomination paper, the bench said the information given in it was not complete.

"When an affidavit was placed before this court, all information about any inquiry going on (in this regard) should be placed," the bench observed.

"You better file a detailed affidavit. This affidavit which you have filed is nothing but typed papers. Do not make vague statements. If the CBDT has some action, please disclose what action has been taken," the bench said.

The top court also said the government could also furnish the information in a sealed cover before it.

"If you want that certain information cannot be disclosed to public, you can file it in a sealed cover with reasons why you do not want it to be made public. But please disclose it to the court," the bench said.

The Centre's counsel told the court that he would file an affidavit after taking instructions on the issue. - PTI

Nomination papers of Yogi, deputies valid

LUCKNOW, Sept 6: The nomination papers of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and his two deputies for Legislative Council by-polls were found valid during scrutiny today, making their victory a foregone conclusion.

Besides Adityanath, his deputies Keshav Prasad Maurya and Dinesh Sharma, two more State ministers had filed their nomination papers yesterday. There are five vacancies in the Upper House of the State and with no other candidate in the fray, they are all set to be elected unopposed.

The nomination papers of Yogi Adityanath, Keshav Prasad Maurya, Dinesh Sharma and Swartanta Dev Singh were found valid during scrutiny today. Principal Secretary UP Vidhan Sabha Pradeep Dubey said.

Of the five seats for which by-polls will be held, four were vacated by SP MLCs Buggal Nawab, Yashwant, Sarojini Agarwal and Ashok Bajpai. The fifth fell vacant when Jayveer Singh resigned from the BSP and joined the BJP.

Adityanath, who took over as the CM on March 19, has to become a legislator within the stipulated six months of assuming office. The deadline expires on September 19. - PTI



A man collects items thrown as offerings by worshippers into the Sabarmati River, a day after the immersion of idols of Lord Ganesh, in Ahmedabad on Wednesday. - UNI

Shops reopen in Darjeeling Hills areas

DARJEELING, Sept 6: After nearly three months of shutdown, a large number of shops today reopened in the Darjeeling Hills, braving threats and intimidation by the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM).

The development comes two days after shops and markets opened in Mirik and Kurseong, today this was replicated in Darjeeling. People are against the divisive politics of Gurung. They want peace and stability," he said.

Deb urged people to restore normalcy and peace in the Darjeeling Hills where the GJM-sponsored indefinite strike entered the 84th day.

The TMC also distributed food among people who had gathered in large numbers at the Gadikhola near Sikkim.

The GJM leadership, however, refused to comment on the development.

Two leaders of the GJM's women's wing 'Nari Morcha' - Sabita Rai and Pampa Lama - joined the Trinamool Congress chief Bimal Gurung.

(TMC) this morning, GJM treasurer of Rohini tea garden Bhimsen Oron along with 150 tea workers also joined the TMC, party sources said.

Search operation to trace the absconding GJM chief, against whom cases have been lodged under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, continued in the Darjeeling Hills and adjoining areas.

Rallies in support of Gorkhaland and the ongoing shutdown were taken out in parts of Darjeeling, Sonada and Kalimpang.

Picketing by GJM supporters was strengthened in some areas, and posters and leaflets were distributed in support of the strike. Internet services in the hills remain suspended since June 18. - PTI

AP signs MoU for Hyperloop

AMARAVATI, Sept 6: Having jibed the proposed metro project from Vijayawada, the Andhra Pradesh government today joined hands with a US-based company to introduce the futuristic 'Hyperloop' transportation system in State capital region, Amravati. If everything goes well, this will be the first Hyperloop project to be implemented in India. - PTI

No sign of Honeypreet, Aditya; police hopes to nab them soon

CHANDIGARH, Sept 6: Two key followers of jailed cult leader Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh continued to evade the police, which today said it was conducting raids in Mumbai and areas near Nepal in search of the fugitives.

The Haryana Police said it was in touch with forces in other States and was hopeful the two Dera Sacha Sauda functionaries, Honeypreet Insan and Aditya Insan, would soon be arrested. "We are hopeful of nabbing them soon," Haryana Director General of Police BS Sandhu said.

The DGP said the Dera Sacha Sauda had also appealed to the two to cooperate with the police.

Sirsia-headquartered Dera chairman Vipassana Insan had earlier said Honeypreet and Dera spokesperson Aditya Insan should help the investigations. She had also claimed the Dera had no contact with them.

To a query on the whereabouts of the two, the DGP said the police was working on some leads. "We are making efforts to nab them. We have some leads," he said.

The police initiated efforts to trace Honeypreet, the adopted daughter of Gurmeet Ram Rahim. - PTI

PUBLIC NOTICE

No. SSA/TI/State Pool/AT/1236/2017/3048

Date: 05.09.2017

This is for general information that the list of eligible candidates for engagement as Asstt. Teacher (Lower Primary, Upper Primary-Social Science, Upper Primary-Maths & Science) on contractual basis under the scheme of Strengthening Elementary Education of Assam vide communiqué of Govt of Assam No. PMA648/2017/36, dtd 06-09-2017 and in respect of this Office Advertisement No. SSA/TI/Engagement of Asst. Teacher/1095/2017/1218, dated 30.06.2017, shall be uploaded at 12 noon on 7th September, 2017 in the official website of SSA, Assam (www.ssassam.gov.in).

The engagement orders will be distributed on 8th September, 2017 at Veterinary Playground, Khanapara, Guwahati-22. The process of distribution may continue till 9th September, 2017 depending on numbers of candidates of the district concerned. The candidates will come prepared for halting on 8th September, 2017, at their own cost , if required.

An induction level orientation programme has also been organized for these candidates on 8th September, 2017 at Veterinary Playground, Khanapara, Guwahati-22 in collaboration with Krishna Kanta Handique State Open University . All selected candidates are requested to report in the venue at 12 Noon positively and attend the Orientation programme invariably.

Sd/- Mission Director,
SSA, Assam, Kahilpara, Guwahati-19

Janasanyog/DF/1417/


অটল অমৃত অভিযান

অসম চৰকাৰৰ স্বাস্থ্য আৰু পৰিয়াল কল্যাণ বিভাগৰ
জনকল্যাণকাৰী অভিলাসী আঁচনি অটল অমৃত অভিযানৰ
হিতাধিকাৰীসকলৰ চিকিৎসা সাহায্য প্ৰদানৰ বাবে

সমূহীয়া চেক বিতৰণ অনুষ্ঠান

স্থান : পশ্চ চিকিৎসা বিজ্ঞান মহাবিদ্যালয়
খেলপথৰ, খানাপাবা, গুৱাহাটী

তাৰিখ : ৭ ছেপ্টেম্বৰ ২০১৭

অটল অমৃত অভিযানৰ অধীনত এইবাৰ চিকিৎসা সাহায্য লাভ কৰা মুঠ হিতাধিকাৰীৰ সংখ্যা : ৬০৯৩

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| মুঠ হিতাধিকাৰীৰ মাজৰ পৰা | ১০৬০ |
| হাদৰোগীৰ সংখ্যা | ৩৪৫৯ |
| কক্ষ বোগীৰ সংখ্যা | ৮৮১ |
| বৃক্ষজনিত বোগীৰ সংখ্যা | ৩৫ |
| নৱজাতক বোগীৰ সংখ্যা | ৬০৬ |
| মাঝুরোগীৰ সংখ্যা | ৫২ |
| জুইয়ে পোৰা | |

**ইতিমধ্যে সংশ্লিষ্ট জিলা স্বাস্থ্য সেৱা কৰ্তৃপক্ষৰ কাৰ্যালয়ৰ পৰা
ফোনযোগে আমন্ত্ৰণ জনোৱা হিতাধিকাৰীসকলক পূৰা ১১.৩০ বজাৰ
ভিতৰত চেক বিতৰণ অনুষ্ঠানত উপস্থিতি হ'বলৈ অনুৰোধ জনোৱা
হ'ল। লগতে বাইজৰ উপস্থিতি আন্তৰিকতাৰে কামনা কৰা হ'ল।**

বিঃদ্র: হিতাধিকাৰীসকলক অনুদান থহণৰ বাবে প্ৰযোজ্য ফটো পৰিচয় পত্ৰ সহ
প্ৰতিলিপি লগত লৈ আনিবলৈ অনুৰোধ জনোৱা হ'ল।

Practicing brief sessions of Hatha yoga and mindfulness meditation can significantly improve brain function and energy levels, a study has found.

Hatha yoga is one of the most common styles of yoga practiced in Western countries. It involves physical postures and breath-

tereo in Canada.

"These two functions might have some positive carryover effect in the near-term following the session, such that people are able to focus more easily on what they choose to attend to in everyday life," Hall said.

Thirty-one study participants completed

25 minutes of Hatha yoga, 25 minutes of mindfulness meditation, and 25 minutes of quiet reading (a control task) in randomised order.

Following both the yoga and meditation activities, participants performed significantly better on executive function tasks compared to the reading task.

"This finding suggests that there may be something special about meditation – as opposed to the physical posing – that carries a lot of the cognitive benefits of yoga,"

said Kimberley Liu, lead author of the study published in the journal *Mindfulness*.

The study also found that mindfulness meditation and Hatha yoga were both effective for improving energy levels, but Hatha yoga had significantly more powerful effects than meditation alone.

"There are a number of theories about why physical exercises like yoga improve energy levels and cognitive test performance," said Liu.

"These include the release of endorphins, increased blood flow to the brain, and reduced focus on ruminative thoughts. Though ultimately, it is still an open question," she said.

"Although the meditative aspect might be even more important than the physical posing for improving executive functions, there are additional benefits to Hatha yoga including improvements in flexibility and strength," said Liu.

"These benefits may make Hatha yoga superior to meditation alone, in terms of overall health benefits," he said.

(Source: PTT)

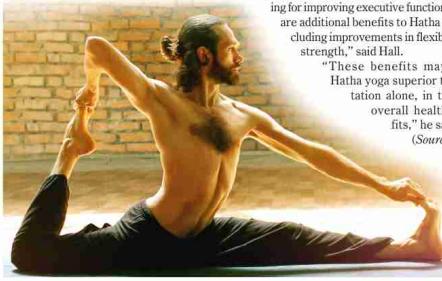
Boosting brain function

Yoga, meditation can boost brain function, says a study

ing exercises combined with meditation. Mindfulness meditation involves observing thoughts, emotions and body sensations with openness and acceptance.

The study found that practicing just 25 minutes of Hatha yoga or mindfulness meditation per day can boost the brain's executive functions, cognitive abilities linked to goal-directed behaviour and the ability to control knee-jerk emotional responses, habitual thinking patterns and actions.

"Hatha yoga and mindfulness meditation both focus the brain's conscious processing power on a limited number of targets like breathing and posing, and also reduce processing of nonessential information," said Peter Hall, associate professor at University of Wa-



Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Sept. 7, 2017:

This year you often feel as if you are forging a new path, destination unknown. You will take a risk at least one area of your life. Many of you will succeed. You will also find your life far more exciting once you add something new to it. If you are single, now when you become possessive of someone you care for, you may want to stay and see what is happening. You obviously value the person in question. If you are attached, the two of you could decide to separate your finances in order to have a more peaceful bond. You will find relating to your significant other becoming increasingly a happier experience. ARIES can push you to act, but only you can act.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

***** Opportunities seem to pop up. Extremes mark your plans, decisions and choices. You are far more direct than you normally are. Be willing to share your ideas. You are clearly interested in someone else's feedback. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

***** You obviously have something on your mind. Share your thoughts, and you will get positive feedback. You have more support, perhaps from those you thought originally thought. Remain caring with a relative who might be withdrawn. Tonight: Some matters must be kept hush-hush.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

***** A group or gathering together could draw some of your friends together. You might feel far more confident with this group. You trust that their comments are authentic. Be direct as possible. Tonight: Let your hair down.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

***** Reach out for someone at a distance or an expert who openly shares his or her thoughts with you. Question which way to go. Do you want to blaze a new path? What would you prefer to do? Recognizing you can only control so much of what is going on and need to let it go. Tonight: Try to relax a bit.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** Stretch and do whatever you must to get past an immediate problem. How you see a personal matter could change as a result. Perhaps you got stuck in a rut. Recognize what is happening with a child or loved one. Tonight: Relax to a movie.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

***** A key person in your life wants what he or she wants. This person can become very needy without intending to. Do you know exactly what you desire, the same vein? You cannot proceed if you don't know or are willing to defer. Be aware there is no lack of caring between you and this person. Tonight: Make plans for the weekend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

***** Don't worry. They appreciate being able to make the choices. In some way, they will reveal more of themselves, and you will see their caring toward you. You have the ability to charm nearly anyone into agreeing with your point of view. Try not to interfere with someone's process. Tonight: Letting others be the lead.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

***** A creative person or associate spoils ideas left and right. You might not be able to absorb these ideas with ease at the moment. Express your appreciation. Meanwhile, clear what you must do. Once a decision is made, participate in what is going on around you. Tonight: Off to the gym.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 20)

***** Your fiery side encourages more openness. As a result, you'll gain a great deal of insight into the other party. Tonight: Head Go with adventure.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

***** You are in a position where you need to have a conversation without triggering. You might want to see another perspective, because when you do, you will naturally find a solution. Tonight: Head home early.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

***** Don't stand on ceremony. You may get past a situation if you stay open. Listen, and you will learn a lot more about the person and his or her needs. Keep communication flowing. You could hear from a close family member. Tonight: Speak your mind.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)

***** You must extend the same courtesy. A partner or close friend clearly enjoys getting together with you. Make plans as soon as possible. Your efforts count. Tonight: Buy a new item for your home or wardrobe.

Thought for the day

Every one lives by selling something.

— ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

terloo in Canada.

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(Source: PTT)

Kids CN

Entertainment

Movies HBO

Comedies

Star Movies

Colors

Infotainment

Animal Planet

Discovery

Rai 9

HISTORY

STUPID

SPORTS

WB

WB

STAR GOLD

SONY

ESPN

STAR CAFE

Regional

NEWS LIVE

WB

WB</h

5 Indian Americans among 2017 Politico 50 list

WASHINGTON, Sept 6: Five Indian Americans, including four women, have figured in the 2017 Politico 50 list for their note-worthy contributions to the US politics.

Led by US Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley, the list also comprises Seema Verma who heads a top health care position in the Trump administration, lawyer Neal Katyal, economist Aparna Mathur and lawyer Neomi Rao.

Describing Haley as "Trump's foreign policy good cop", the magazine said yesterday that the former South Carolina governor had quickly emerged as the security blanket that Republicans and even some Democrats can cling to when trying to grasp where the Trump administration stands on global affairs.

She is ranked at number 22.

"Haley's commitment to both her boss in the White House and a traditional foreign policy can sometimes induce cognitive dissonance. She is focused on human rights, sounding off on everything from Venezuela to South Sudan, but dismisses suggestions that Trump - who seems indifferent to the topic - doesn't care," the magazine said in its report.

Haley, 45, is followed by Verma at 26th spot as Administrator, center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

She has been described as Medicare rollback engineer.

"Now Verma leads a 6,500-person federal bureaucracy that oversees not just Obamacare but Medicare for seniors and Medicaid for the poor. She has promised more flexibility for states to experiment with new Medicaid approaches that would let them skirt federal requirements, and signalled a willingness to green-light policy ideas she helped shepherd in Indiana," the report said. - PTI



Pope Francis waves as he boards a plane for his 5-day pastoral visit to Colombia at Fiumicino international airport in Rome, Italy on Wednesday. - UNI

Syria behind sarin gas attack in April: UN

GENEVA, Sept 6: United Nations war crimes investigators said today they had evidence that Syrian government forces were behind the chemical attack that killed dozens of people in Khan Sheikhun in April.

In the first UN report to officially blame Damascus, the Commission of Inquiry (COI) on Syria said it had gathered an "extensive body of information" showing the Syrian airforce was behind the horrific sarin gas attack on April 4.

"All evidence available leads

the Commission to conclude that there are reasonable grounds to believe Syrian forces dropped an aerial bomb dispersing sarin in Khan Sheikhun," the report said.

At least 83 people, a third of them children, were killed and nearly 300 wounded in the attack on Khan Sheikhun, a town in the opposition-held northern province of Idlib, it said.

Other sources have given a death toll of at least 87.

Syria's government has denied involvement and claims it no longer possesses chemical

weapons after a 2013 agreement under which it pledged to surrender its chemical arsenal.

A fact-finding mission by the UN's chemical watchdog, the OPCW, concluded earlier this year that sarin gas was used in the attack, but did not assign blame.

A joint UN-OPCW panel is currently working to determine whether Syrian government forces were behind the attack.

But today's report is the first from the UN to officially lay blame for the attack on Damascus.

India-Russia friendship rock solid: Swaraj

VLADIVOSTOK (Russia), Sept 6: External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj told her Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov that the "rock solid" friendship between the two countries cannot be weakened by anyone.

Swaraj met Lavrov on the sidelines of Eastern Economic Forum being held in Vladivostok.

She said the ties between the two nations were solid like a rock, according to a tweet by the Indian embassy in Russia.

Details of their discussion were not immediately available.

Earlier in the day, Swaraj attended the India-Russia Busi-

ness Dialogue at the forum. She said India was keen to expand its economic ties with Russia's resource-rich Far East and sought Russian government's assistance in facilitating Indian investors in the region.

Swaraj said under the 'Make in India' and 'Start-up India' programmes the Indian government has made concerted efforts to attract technology, investments and best practices from around the world. - PTI



N Korea nuclear test 10 times more powerful than Hiroshima: Japan

TOKYO, Sept 6: Japan today again upgraded its estimated size of North Korea's latest nuclear test to a yield of around 160 kilotons – more than ten times the size of the Hiroshima bomb.

This marked Tokyo's second revision higher after previously giving estimates of 70 and 120 kilotons.

Defence Minister Itsunori Onodera told reporters that his ministry's upward revision to 160 kilotons was based on a revised magnitude by the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation (CTBTO).

"This is far more powerful than their nuclear tests in the past," Onodera told reporters.

The US bomb that destroyed Hiroshima in 1945 carried a yield of 15 kilotons. Japan's latest estimate far exceeded the yield of between 50 and 100 kilotons indicated by UN political affairs chief Jeffrey Feltman at the UN Security Council.

Early Wednesday, Onodera held telephone talks with US Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and both agreed to step up "visible pressure" on North Korea, the ministry in Tokyo said.

"North Korea's nuclear and missile development is at a new stage of grave and imminent threats," Onodera told Mattis, the ministry said, adding that his US counterpart shared the view.

Pongyong's Sunday test of what it described as a hydrogen bomb designed for a long-range missile triggered global alarm and has divided the international community as it scrambles for a response. - AFP

Indian varsities fall behind in global rankings

LONDON, Sept 6: India slipped in world university rankings as its share of such institutions marginally fell from 31 to 30 in the global 1,000 list topped by the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, according to a new assessment.

The annual World University Rankings released by Times Higher Education

found India's flagship Indian Institute of Science fell from previous year's 201-250 band to 251-300.

This was attributed to drops in its research influence score and research income. The Indian Institutes of Technologies in Delhi, Kanpur and Madras also dropped by at least one band. "It is disappointing that

Science moves further away from the elite top 200," said Phil Baty, Editorial Director, Global Rankings.

"However, there is some really positive news in that India's overall research income and research quality has risen this year, and the country's world class university plan shows that it recognises the importance of

investing in higher education, which may reverse India's decline in the rankings in future years," he said.

Indian universities performed poorly on the "internationalisation pillar", with all except one dropping places when ranked on this measurement, mainly due to other universities rising at a faster rate. - PTI



অসম চৰকাৰ
প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষা বিভাগ

‘প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষা সৱলীকৰণ আঁচনি’ৰ অধীনত

নৰ-নিযুক্ত প্ৰাথমিক পৰ্যায়ৰ শিক্ষকৰ নিযুক্তি পত্ৰ বিতৰণ অনুষ্ঠান তথা প্ৰশিক্ষণ কাৰ্যসূচী

শিশুক গুণগত শিক্ষা প্ৰদানৰ উদ্দেশ্যে ৰাজ্য চৰকাৰৰ গ্ৰহণ কৰা পদক্ষেপৰ অংশ

হিচাপে প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষা বিভাগৰ অধীনত প্ৰাথমিক পৰ্যায়ত ১১,৩১৯ গৰাকী

‘টেট’ উত্তীৰ্ণ প্ৰাৰ্থীক নিযুক্তি পত্ৰ প্ৰদান কৰা হ’ব।

তদুপলক্ষে ৮ ছেপ্টেম্বৰ, ২০১৭ তাৰিখে অনুষ্ঠিতব্য নিযুক্তি পত্ৰ বিতৰণ তথা এদিনীয়া প্ৰশিক্ষণ অনুষ্ঠানলৈ সমূহ নৰ-নিযুক্ত প্ৰাৰ্থীক নিজৰ ‘টেট’ উত্তীৰ্ণৰ প্ৰমাণ পত্ৰৰ সৈতে দুপৰীয়া ১২-০০ বজাত

নিম্ন উল্লিখিত প্ৰশিক্ষণস্থলীত উপস্থিত হ’বলৈ অনুৰোধ জনোৱা হ’ল।

মুখ্য অতিথি : শ্ৰীযুত সৰ্বানন্দ সোণোৱাল

মাননীয় মুখ্যমন্ত্ৰী, অসম

প্ৰশিক্ষণস্থলী : গুৱাহাটী পশ্চিম চিকিৎসা মহাবিদ্যালয় খেলপথাৰ, খানাপাৰা, গুৱাহাটী-২২

সময় : দুপৰীয়া ১২-০০ বজাত

(বিঃ দ্রঃ নৰ-নিযুক্ত প্ৰাৰ্থীৰ সংখ্যাধিকালৈ লক্ষ্য বাবি নিযুক্তি পত্ৰ বিতৰণী অনুষ্ঠান ৯ তাৰিখলৈকে সম্প্ৰসাৰিত কৰাৰ সিদ্ধান্ত লোৱা হৈছে।

গতিকে প্ৰাৰ্থীসকলক নিশা থাকিৰ পৰাকৈ প্ৰস্তুত হৈ আহিবলৈ অনুৰোধ জনোৱা ইল।)

অৰূপা ৰাজোৱিয়া, আই. এ. এছ

মিছন সঞ্চালক, সৰ্বশিক্ষা অভিযান, অসম



সঘানীয় অতিথি : ডঃ হিমন্ত বিশ্ব শৰ্মা

মাননীয় শিক্ষামন্ত্ৰী, অসম

সঘানীয় শিক্ষামন্ত্ৰী, অসম

আয়ুক্ত সচিব, প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষা বিভাগ

অসম চৰকাৰ

Devendro targets C'wealth, Asian Games glory

KAUSAV BARUAH

GUWAHATI, Sept 6: After finally being conferred with the Arjuna Award recently, L Devendro Singh is even more determined and has set his sights on the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games to be held next year.

The Assam Tribune had a Commonwealth Games silver-medalist spoke about his future plans as well as his journey so far.

Despite past rejections and near misses after being nominated for the Arjuna Award in 2015 and 2016, Devendro was the lone boxer among 17 Arjuna awardees this year.

"I was nominated earlier also. Finally I have been awarded and I am really very happy about it. It's great to be awarded after all these years of hard work," said the 25-year-old Subedar in the Indian Army.

Regarding his next target, Devendro said: "My next target is to do well in the Nationals this year but my main focus would be the

Commonwealth and Asian Games in 2018. The Olympics in 2020 is my target and to get a medal there is the ultimate goal. There have been changes in the rules so accordingly we are preparing with our coaches."

The former No. 3 is very much happy with the assistance from the Boxing Federation of India (BFI). During the period of last two years from 2014-16, the sport suffered the most. Though the boxers were allowed to participate in international events, the Indian flag was not allowed to fly in boxing arena. The boxers were not allowed to represent the country and participated under the AIBA banner only.

"I am training at the Army Sports Institute (ASI) in Pune and we get the best of facilities there. Earlier we had some problems as the federation was banned but now we are getting the best facilities. There have been a lot of improvements after the new federation came into existence and the exposure tournaments have been a very good experience."

At a time when some of the leading boxers are turning professional, Devendro insists his focus would still be the three major events.

"I am not thinking about turning professional at this point of time. My main target is the Commonwealth Games, Asian Games and the Olympics," Asian Games silver-medalist, Devendro also has two Asias and a bronze in 2015 and 2016.

Asked regarding the change in weight category, the diminutive tempo-boxer said: "I changed my weight category during the last Nationals held at Guwahati as I was playing in the light weightfly category for the last eight to nine years. Everyone changes the weight category after a certain point of time. Most of the light weightfly opponents have also made a switch to weightfly category now."

Reflecting on his journey so far, Devendro said: "I started boxing in 2000 and my sister is also a boxer. She is a former international boxer and I used to watch her fights. I didn't play much in Manipur and it was I think one year before moving to ASI in Pune. Two coaches came to Imphal to spot talent and I was among the selected group. My boxing journey basically started from ASI."



Brazil police say Rio Olympics were bought in corrupt scheme

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept 6: Brazilian officials said that the country's Olympics chief was the "lynchpin" in a plot to bribe the International Olympic Committee into awarding Rio de Janeiro last year's Games.

Brazilian police yesterday said in a statement they were probing "an international corruption scheme" aimed at "the buying of votes for the election of (Rio) by the International Olympic Committee as the venue for the 2016 Olympics."

Revealing a nine-month investigation spanning several countries and dubbed "Unfair Play," police said Carlos Nuzman had been taken in for questioning and his house searched.

Nuzman, who was the pointman for Rio's successful bid to become the first South American host of the Olympics, left his house in Rio's posh Leblon neighbourhood while police officers exited with bags of evidence.

Prosecutors said Nuzman was detained to give testimony and although not arrested he had his passport confiscated.

An arrest warrant was issued for Arthur Soares, a businessman who won lucrative pre-Olympics contracts from Rio's government when it was headed by the now imprisoned state governor Sergio Cabral. He lives in Miami.

A former Soares associate, Eliane Pereira Cavalcante, was arrested in Rio and 11 properties were subjected to search and seizure raids. One of them was in Paris, French authorities said. In Lausanne, Switzerland, an IOC spokesman appeared to have been taken by surprise. - AFP

Injured Murray says likely to miss rest of season

LONDON, Sept 6: Britain's Andy Murray said today he is unlikely to play again this season due to a nagging hip injury that forced him to pull out of the US Open.

Murray, recently nudged off the top of the world rankings by Spain's Rafael Nadal, has been struggling with the injury since a five-set French Open semifinal loss to Switzerland's Stan Wawrinka in June.

The 30-year-old Scot played at Wimbledon



in July but lost in the quarterfinals to American Sam Querrey.

"Unfortunately, I won't be able to compete in the upcoming events in Beijing and Shanghai, and most likely, the final two events to finish the season in Vienna and Paris due to my hip injury which has been bothering me the last few months," the three-time Grand Slam champion said on his Facebook page.

"Having consulted with a number of leading hip specialists over the last week, along with my own team, we have decided that this is the best decision for my long-term future," the world number two said.

"Although this has been a frustrating year on court for many reasons, I'm confident after this extended period of rest and rehabilitation that I will be able to reach my best level again and be competing for Grand Slam titles next season."

"I will be beginning my 2018 season in Brisbane in preparation for the Australian Open."

Murray, who has won Wimbledon twice as well as the US Open, said he was looking forward to playing in Glasgow later in the year in a charity exhibition match against Roger Federer.

"I have a fantastic team working alongside me to help me through this process and appreciate the support from them and all of my fans over this difficult period," Murray wrote.

The men's game is currently beset by a glut of injuries to big-name players, with Wawrinka, Novak Djokovic, Kei Nishikori and Milos Raonic all missing from the ongoing US Open in New York. - AFP

Immobile lifts Italy past Israel



REGGIO EMILIA (Italy), Sept 6: Ciro Immobile's second half header got Italy back to winning ways in a 1-0 victory over Israel in Reggio Emilia to move closer to the World Cup play-offs.

Just three days after falling 3-0 to Spain in Madrid the four-time World Champions kept their bid for a place in the 2018 World Cup in Russia alive.

The three points in the Mapei Stadium helped Italy consolidate second place in Group G, six points clear of third-placed Albania, who were held 1-1 by Macedonia. Spain top the table three points clear of the Italians after routing Liechtenstein 8-0.

After losing to Spain a two-legged play-off is now looking increasingly likely for Italy if they are to reach the World Cup.

Ciro Immobile of Italy celebrates after scoring the opening goal during the FIFA World Cup Qualifier against Israel.

Italy, without injured Giorgio Chiellini and suspended Leonardo Bonucci, were far from convincing after

their demolition by Spain.

Coach Giampiero Ventura made two changes in defence from the side that were outclassed at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium bringing in AC Milan's Andrea Conti and Fiorentina's Davide Astori.

But it was an inconsistent display for the hosts who could have pulled ahead from the first minute with Torino forward Andre Belotti sending right of Ariel Harush in the Israeli goal.

Israel were playing without captain Eran Zahavi who quit international football in disgust after his side were jeered by home fans in Haifa on Saturday in a shock loss to Macedonia.

Little space created problems early for the Azzurri with Harush saving a point blank shot from Napoli forward Lorenzo Insigne just before the break.

But Immobile found the way through after 53 minutes following an Antonio Candreva cross from the right which found the head of the Lazio forward and past Harush.

The Israeli keeper did well to keep out a Belotti header after 68 minutes but the Italians still looked less than assured.

After losing to Spain a two-legged play-off is now looking increasingly likely for Italy if they are to reach the World Cup. - AFP

Venus edges Kvitova, to face Stephens in US Open semis

NEW YORK, Sept 6: Seven-time Grand Slam champion Venus Williams became the oldest semifinalist in US Open history at age 37 by defeating two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (7).

US ninth seed Williams, seeking her third US Open crown, advanced to a Thursday matchup for a spot in Saturday's final against 83rd-ranked compatriot Sloane Stephens.

Stephens, who missed 11 months with a left foot injury before returning to Wimbledon, matched her best Grand Slam showing by outlasting Latvian 16th seed Anastasija Sevastova 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (7).

Williams, who improved to 3-4 all-time against the Czech 13th seed, will return to the world top five for the first time since January 2011 after dominating the tie-break.

"I'm so fortunate to have won that match. It came down to the wire," Williams said. "I try to tell myself enjoy the competition, enjoy the battle and I think I was able to do that."

Williams, the oldest Slam semifinalist since Martina Navratilova at Wimbledon in 1994, won the 2000 and 2001 US crowns.

She was runner-up this year at Wimbledon and the Australian Open and could reach three Slam finals in a year for the first time since 2002.

Kvitova battled back from a five-month absence after a knife-wielding home intruder injured her left hand last December.

Williams swatted a backhand winner to break for a 5-3 edge and held to take the first set but Kvitova led 3-0 when rain forced a closure of the Arthur Ashe Stadium roof.

Kvitova fought off two break points in the fifth and seventh games to hold on to the way a third set, then broke to lead 2-1 only to double fault away a break to set up the tie-breaker.

If Americans Madison Keys and CoCo Vandeweghe win on Wednesday, they will produce the first all-American US Open semifinals since 1981.

"That would be huge," Williams said. "I'd love that."

"This is amazing," Stephens said. "I hope there are four Americans in the semifinals."



Venus Williams pumps her fist after defeating Petra Kvitova in the US Open quarterfinal.

Spanish 12th seed Pablo Carreno Busta, who has not dropped a set, cruised into his first Grand Slam semifinal by defeating Argentine 29th seed Diego Schwartzman 6-4, 6-4, 6-2.

Carreno Busta, the first player to face four qualifiers in any Grand Slam, booked a Friday semi-final against South African 28th seed Kevin Anderson who defeated 17th-seeded American Sam Querrey 7-6(5), 6-7(6), 6-3, 7-6(7).

"Incredible," Carreno Busta said. "It's something that I always dreamed about but something I never thought was going to arrive here. It's a great feeling."

While legends Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal are each one win from their first US Open meeting in an epic semifinal, this side of the men's draw is guaranteed to produce a first-time Slam finalist.

"It would be fantastic to play in the final," Carreno Busta said of Nadal. "But we have to play step by step."

Stephens has won 13 of her past 15 matches and matched her 2013 Australian Open semifinal run for best Slam effort.

"This is just incredible," Stephens said. "When I started my comeback at Wimbledon I could never have dreamed of coming back and having these results. It's indescribable."

Sevastova, who matched her best major run from last year at New York by ousting Maria Sharapova to reach the last eight, led 3-1 in the third set before Stephens rallied.

"I just told myself to keep fighting and stay consistent," Stephens said. - AFP

Barcelona president a 'joke': Neymar

BARCELONA, Sept 6: Neymar labelled Barcelona president Josep Maria Bartomeu a "joke" as the war of words between Barcelona's beleaguered board and the Brazilian star continued.

In interviews with Catalan newspapers *Mundo Deportivo* and *Sport*, Bartomeu claimed Barca would be better off without Neymar this season following his world record 222 million euro (\$263.7 million) move to Paris Saint-German.

With Bartomeu's handling of Barca's haphazard transfer policy being heavily criticised, he described the loss of Neymar as an "opportunity" for Barca to rebuild their midfield rather than pile resources into a superstar front three of Neymar, Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez.

"The trident was very good but it had its consequences," Bartomeu told *Sport*.

"It is an opportunity to return to the collective football in the middle of the field, which traditionally was Barca's strength."

"It is an opportunity, with a new coach, a new project. We need to stop being pessimistic!"

Bartomeu also criticised Neymar and his father and agent Neymar Sr's exit strategy.

"This president is a joke," Neymar replied in a comment about the news on social media site Instagram.

A vote of no confidence motion has been launched by former Barca presidential candidate Agusti Benedito that could oust Bartomeu if it receives enough support from the club's members in the coming weeks.

Neymar's departure sparked a shopping spree from Barca, who landed 20-year-old French winger Ousmane Dembele for an initial 105 million euro fee from Borussia Dortmund and paid him 40 million euro from Chinese club Guangzhou Evergrande.

However, Barca missed out on a host of other tar-



gets, including Liverpool's Philippe Coutinho, blaming the rampant inflation in the transfer market caused by PSG and Abu Dhabi-backed Manchester City.

La Liga has asked UEFA to investigate both PSG and City for breaches of financial fair play rules.

"Qatar and Abu Dhabi are two countries that have two clubs. If Bayern Munich, Manchester United, Real Madrid or Arsenal buy a player from you, you know (the money) comes from football."

"But these two clubs distort the market." - AFP

SU DO KU

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| 9 | 8 | 5 | 2 |
| 9 | 2 | 7 | 3 |
| 7 | 6 | 1 | |
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Solution of last problem

Originating from Japan, "su do ku" is a mind game and a puzzle that can be solved with proper reasoning and logic. Fill the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3x3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9 without repeating any.

Argentina, Chile stumble again, Uruguay on brink

MONTEVIEJO, Sept 6: Argentina and Chile's World Cup qualification hopes were left on a knife edge after the South American heavyweights slipped up once again on the road to next year's finals in Russia.

Argentina needed a second-half goal to keep them snatched a 1-1 draw against already-eliminated Venezuela in Buenos Aires while Chile crashed to a 1-0 defeat against Bolivia in La Paz.

The results left 2014 World Cup finalists Argentina and reigning Copa America champions Chile outside of the automatic qualifying places and set up a nail-biting final two rounds of matches next month.

Argentina are fifth in the standings with 24 points from 16 games while Chile are sixth with 23 points.

The Argentinians – who would face a playoff against New Zealand if they remain fifth – host fourth-placed



Argentina's Lionel Messi vies for the ball with Venezuela's Arquimedes Figueroa during the FIFA World Cup Qualifier at the Monumental Stadium in Buenos Aires.

Peru next month in Buenos Aires before an awkward final game at altitude against Ecuador.

Chile meanwhile will face Ecuador in Santiago on October 5, before heading to Brazil for their final qual-

ifier five days later.

At the top of the table, Brazil have

already qualified and assured themselves of first place. The Brazilians picked up another point on Tuesday

with a 1-1 draw against third-placed Colombia in Barranquilla.

A spectacular volleyed goal from Willian gave the Brazilians the lead on the stroke of half-time before

Colombia clawed back a share of the points with a battling second-half display capped by a headed equaliser from Radamel Falcao.

In Buenos Aires, Argentina coach Jorge Sampaoli admitted his team had blown a golden opportunity to force themselves into the automatic qualifying places following Chile's defeat earlier in the day.

Sampaoli blamed poor first-half finishing for his side's failure to take all three points against the Venezuelans.

"We have two games left against Peru and Ecuador and we need to win both of them," Sampaoli said. "We had three chances to score in the first half and everything could have been settled."

"We must continue to fight in attack and give strength to the players."

Chile coach Juan Antonio Pizzi echoed Sampaoli's sentiments after watching his side slide to a disappointing loss in La Paz.

"We will fight, we will make the greatest effort possible, we believe that we have the ability to compete with the best and we will try to obtain the results that allow us to qualify," said Pizzi.

Although Chile have a difficult run in against Ecuador and Brazil, Pizzi said his side had not lost hope. – AFP

Indian colts must use U-17 World Cup to shine: FIFA legends

MUMBAI Sept 6: FIFA legends Carlos Valderrama and Marcel Desailly today advised the Indian colts to view the upcoming FIFA U-17 World Cup as a huge opportunity to shine on the international stage and perform to their potential.

"It's a huge opportunity for the Indian U-17 team. If you want to go to Real Madrid, then this is your opportunity. All the big scouts and agents will be watching, so enjoy and grab this opportunity. You don't get too many opportunities in football. This is their moment to shine and stand out," said Valderrama, who used to be a stand-out performer with his sublime ball skills and hair style for Colombia in the 1980s.

"The Indian team playing at home is something very special. They should be prepared physically and psychologically very well because it is tough to handle pressure playing on home soil," said French World Cup winner Desailly.

"We won the World Cup in 1998 on home soil because we were able to convert that pressure into positive energy on the field and have that extra performance," he remarked while talking to reporters at the DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai.

Nigerian great Emmanuel Amuneke echoed similar views.

"Unfortunately, I haven't seen them play, being the first time they are hosting this event. It is a big encouragement, opportunity for youths to develop their game," Amuneke said.

"The U-17 boys need to believe in themselves. Their journey starts here and if they can prove themselves and believe in their abilities as a team, play collectively and see how they can make it to the group stage, the op-

portunity would be great for them," the ex-coach of Nigerian U-17 team added.

The team of five FIFA legends comprising Amuneke, Valderrama, Desailly, Spanish Fernando Morientes and Mexican Jorge Campos, trounced an Indian select 5-4 in an exhibition match held to start the 30-day countdown for the FIFA U-17 World Cup.

The tournament is being hosted by India for the first time and matches will be conducted in six cities – Navi Mumbai, Delhi, Guwahati, Kochi, Kolkata and Goa – with the first two games to be played on October 6.

Asked how the All India Football Federation should take the U-17 team ahead after the mega event, Desailly and Morientes emphasised on the basics.

"It is a tough programme and you have to start from the beginning. You have to create infrastructure, you have to have good coaches that will serve around the players who enable them to understand and read the game," said Desailly.

"Luckily, they have access to competition now, so it's an opportunity to play at the very highest level and understand the distance that you have made."

"You have to copy the model we (in France) have established in the clubs, to talk about education. That's why we are here to promote football because football is something special," he added.

"Similar to what Marcel said, the critical point is the coach, education and infrastructure, because when you create an environment and eco system conducive to have that transition between the youth and senior levels, and that's what Spain and France have demonstrated so far," said former Real Madrid legend Morientes. – PTI

Bangladesh strike back after Warner ton

CHITTAGONG, Sept 6: David Warner hit his second hundred in a row before Bangladesh fought back with quick strikes on a rain-hit third day of the second Test against Australia on Wednesday.

The visitors were 377-9 when bad light stopped play with 13 overs remaining after rain washed out the entire first session at the Zohur Ahmed Chowdhury stadium in Chittagong.

Australia now lead by 72 runs with Steve O'Keefe on eight and



Australia's David Warner kisses his cap after completing his century during day three of the 2nd Test against Bangladesh at Chittagong, on Wednesday.

Nathan Lyon, who was yet to open his account, at the crease. Bangladesh, who elected to bat first, totalled 305.

Mustafizur Rahman and Mehedi Hasan took three wickets each to bring Bangladesh back into the contest after Warner and Peter Handscomb put on 152 runs for the third wicket.

Warner showed remarkable patience during his uncharacteristically sedate 123 that came off 234 balls.

This was Warner's 20th Test century and second in successive innings, having made 112 in the first match which Australia lost by 20 runs in Dhaka. He was dismissed by left-arm paceman Mustafizur, who was

achieve the feat.

Warner, who resumed the day on 88, received good support from Handscomb, who made 82 of 112 balls before being run out by a sharp throw from Shakib Al Hasan at midwicket. Handscomb responded to a call for a single that would have completed Warner's century but was sent back from halfway down the pitch. Bangladesh were then frustrated as Mehedi dropped Glenn Maxwell on 10 gully off Mustafizur. – AFP

Fans jubilant as Saudi Arabia reach World Cup finals

RIYADH, Sept 6: Jubilant soccer fans celebrated after Saudi Arabia qualified for next year's World Cup, with many rallying behind Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's reform programme that promotes sports in the ultra-conservative kingdom.

Saudi Arabia stunned Japan on Tuesday to reach their first World Cup since 2006, with a 1-0 victory in Jeddah that consigned Australia to the play-offs.

The win prompted the government to release a new poster for its reform plan, dubbed Vision 2030, with an image of a smiling Prince Salman flashing the victory sign and embossed with the words "Ready for the Future".

"With high spirits and unlimited support, the face of luck supports the Saudi team to reach the World Cup," the government tweeted on its official Vision 2030 page.

"We congratulate our king for qualifying and the nation for its youth."

Prince Salman, often known as MBS, is the chief architect of Vision 2030, an economic and social diversification plan which he released last year to wean the kingdom off oil.

The plan calls for more entertainment, cultural and sports opportunities in a nation where more than half the population is under 25, an Internet-savvy generation that spends much of its life online away from official strictures.

The hashtag "#MBS is the face of luck" soon started gaining traction on social media, with many lauding the team's victory courtesy of half-time substitute Fahad Al Muwallad's winning goal.

The livewire forward smashed his shot past a static Eiji Kawashima of Japan to take the Saudis to their fifth World Cup.

"The crazy, pulsating excitement you are experiencing right now is unforgettable... It is to celebrate this win as the nation's accomplishment," one Saudi fan said on Twitter. – AFP

Pardeshi, Vrushali win in Vietnam Open Grand Prix

HO CHI MINH CITY, Sept 6: Young Indian shuttlers Pardeshi Shreyanshi and Vrushali Gunnadi reached the pre-quarterfinals of the women's singles competition of the Vietnam Open Grand Prix today.

Pardeshi defeated compatriot Vaidehi Choudhari 24-22 17-17 to set up a clash with third seeded Indonesian Dinar Dyah Ayustina while Vrushali beat Indonesia's Jesica Mulyati 21-9 21-15 in another match. She will take on sixth seed Chen Yu of China.

Ruthvika Shivani Gadde also entered the pre-quarterfinals in women's singles with a 21-14 21-13 win over Lianne Tan of Belgium. However, Tanvi Lad lost to Sarita Suwanakaribor of Thailand 21-17 21-19 in the women's singles.

In men's singles, Lakshya Sen reached pre-quarterfinals with a 21-17 21-10 win over compatriot Abhishek Yelegar. Men's doubles pair of Arjun MR and Ramchandran Shlok, seeded fifth, eked out a thrilling 21-18 19-21 21-17 win over compatriot Arun George and Sanyam Shukla to also reach the second round.

However, it turned out to be a disappointing day for other Indians in fray. – PTI

Zubeen Garg (L) in action during a friendly football match between Media XI and Mission China XI at the Judges' Field in Guwahati, on Wednesday. – UB Photos



Abhiruchi to felicitate sportspersons on Sept 9

GUWAHATI, Sept 6: The felicitation function of the Abhiruchi Sports Day celebration committee will be held on September 9 at the Landmark Hotels here.

After hosting the mass jogging, PT and dance competitions on September 3, the organisers will conduct a seminar on the topic of "Physical education should be a compulsory subject in school curriculum" on September 9 along with a State level quiz competition for the students of Class IX to XII and the felicitation function. The quiz competition will start at 11 am at the Tarun Ram Phukan Indoor Stadium while the seminar will be held at the Landmark Hotels from 10 am onwards.

The felicitation function will start at 5.30 pm, informed organising body's president Balendra M Chakravarty in a release.

AG carrom meet from today

GUWAHATI, Sept 6: The office of the Accountant General (A&E) Assam will host the IA and AD North East Zone Carrom Tournament in the office premises at Maidamgaon, Belta town here from tomorrow.

Teams like AG Manipur, AG Tripura, AG General Sikkim, AG Meghalaya, AG Assam (A) AG Assam (B) will participate in the three-day championship which will be inaugurated by Madhumita Mondal, principal director of NF Railway Audit at 3 pm, stated a release.

Football tourney at Tihu

TIHU, Sept 6: Haina Club of Subnkhata defeated Bairathi Club of Rangia 7-6 via a breaker after playing a 2-2 draw in regulation time of the Tarun Datta, Satish Haloi and Madan Sarma Memorial Football Championship being played at Makhipabha HS School playground here.

The tournament is organised by the Makhipabha Krira Sangha in its golden jubilee year.

Calling 1960s GUWAHATI BOSCONIANS

A Reunion of the students of Don Bosco High School, Guwahati who studied during the 1960s is being organized. The dates of which will be decided soon.

All such students are requested to give their contact details- Phone Number, Whatsapp and email id- to the undersigned so that communication can start and the matter can be taken forward.

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Wchap: 8811018836

Email: raktimtennis@gmail.com

CHOWNA MIEN NIPEN MOZUMDER

Ph. & Whatsapp: Ph.: 7002743886

Wchap: 9401287820

West Indies eager to embarrass England again

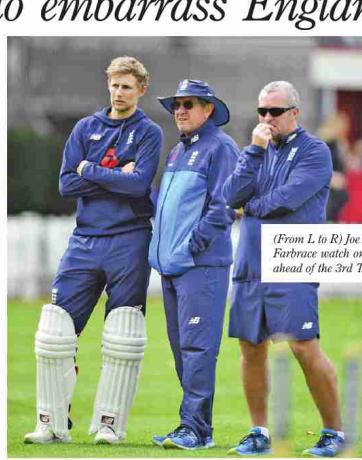
LONDON, Sept 6: Brian Lara revealed this season that Sachin Tendulkar had sent him a text message saying the West Indies' victory over England in the second Test at Headingley was "a success the entire world needed."

So what the Indian hero will say if fellow batting great Lari's Caribbean successors follow up their win in Leeds by clinching a three-match series in a decider at Lord's starting Thursday is anyone's guess.

Having dusted down the "obituaries" after the series opener at Edgbaston – understandable after England won the inaugural day/night Test in Britain inside three days by the margin of an innings and 209 runs – few pundits gave Jason Holder's novice West Indies side any chance of a revival in Leeds.

Yet despite being set over 300 to win in the fourth innings following a declaration by England captain Joe Root, the West Indies won by five wickets.

Shai Hope became the first batsman in history to score hundreds in



spectated a struggling West Indies side, did something bordering on the disrespectful at Headingley by dropping in-form seamer Toby Roland-Jones, whose three Tests this season have yielded 14 wickets – and bringing in Chris Woakes for his first Test of the home campaign after injury, seemingly to get some overs under his belt ahead of the upcoming Ashes tour of Australia.

Anglo-Australian matches be-

gan the foundation stone of international cricket but England's obsession with the Ashes has now reached a point where almost all other Test fixtures are regarded as "warm-ups" for clashes with the old enemy rather than important in themselves.

This has been all the more true of the current series, with the Lord's match England's last Test before they begin the defence of the Ashes in Brisbane in November. – AFP



Dear Ishani Aunty,
I love to eat and am, therefore, quite plump. My friends call me Fatty and it hurts. Please help.

—Aanchita

Dear Aunty,
Part of your problem may be you are eating the wrong stuff. Stay away from sweets, saturated dairy, fast food and carbohydrates. Then you have to fit in an exercise regimen to burn off the extra weight. You remain active all day and help your mom at household chores. That will ensure you are fit and in shape. All the best.

Dear Ishani Aunty,
I love to read, but books are expensive these days. How can I read without spending a lot of money?

—Biplab

Dear Biplab,
It's quite simple really. Form a book club with your friends and borrow books from each other. The internet has a whole treasure trove of great reading material, including audio books. Tell me if it goes.

Dear Ishani Aunty,
My friend came to know that I had said hurtful things about her to some common friends. She is upset. What should I do?

—Archana

Dear Archana,
You must apologize as soon as you can. Be prepared to listen to her bitter words. Promise her that you will not do that again.

JUNIOR PUZZLERS

1) Is a Granny Smith a type of apple, a type of pear or a type of plum?



2) Is a Welsh rarebit a toasted cheesy snack, a spicy casserole or a creamy dessert?



3) Do you shed approximately 2,000, 10,000 or 35,000 skin cells per minute?



by John Martin

ANSWER(S): 1) A type of apple. 2) A toasted cheesy snack. 3) 35,000 skin cells.

■ Please collect your certificates from our office.

[Send your entries to planet_young@assamtribune.com]

Mini M@ths



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

SOLUTION

(© Ken Sippe - mn102)

PicSPEAK

NEXT WEEK'S PICTURE



JOKES



Ned: "What would you call a sad berry?"
Fred: "Blue berry!"

Jim: "Do you know how to make this number 'one' disappear?"
Tim: "Add the letter 'G' to it and it's 'GONE'!"

Joey: "Which bird do you think, would like to wear a wig?"
Noel: "A bald eagle!"

Nancy: "What would you give a sick pig?"
Tim: "Some OINK-ment!"

ANSWERS

ANSWER(S):

1) Is a Granny Smith a type of apple, a type of pear or a type of plum?



2) Is a Welsh rarebit a toasted cheesy snack, a spicy casserole or a creamy dessert?



3) Do you shed approximately 2,000, 10,000 or 35,000 skin cells per minute?



by John Martin

ANSWER(S): 1) A type of apple. 2) A toasted cheesy snack. 3) 35,000 skin cells.

World Literacy Day

The advent of the World Literacy Day brings up some significant data.

September 8 is the World Literacy Day – which has been celebrated all over the world since 1965. This day is declared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Its aim is to highlight the importance of literacy to individuals, communities and societies. Celebrations take place in several countries.

At present, some 775 million adults lack minimum literacy skills; one in five adults is still illiterate and two-thirds of them are women; 60.7 million children are out-of-school and many more attend irregularly or drop out. According to the UNESCO, South and West Asia has the lowest net primary enrollment rate at 70 per cent, followed by Sub-Saharan Africa at 97.7 per cent and the US at 82.7 per cent.

Salvador Allende (97.7 per cent) and the US (82.7 per cent). Countries with the lowest literacy rates in the world are – Burkina Faso (12.8 per cent), Niger (14.4 per cent) and Malawi (19 per cent). The report shows a clear correlation between illiteracy and poverty in less developed countries in severe poverty, and between illiteracy and prejudice against women.

On the other hand, the International Literacy Day have included specific themes, in line with 'Education For All' goals and other United Nations programmes, such as the United Nations Literacy Decade. The celebration's theme for 2007 and 2008 was 'Literacy and Health'. This year also the thematic emphasis of the 2007-2008 literate theme is 'Literacy and Health'. In particular, the International Literacy Day 2008 had a strong emphasis on 'Literacy and Epidemics', with a focus on communicable diseases such as HIV tuberculosis, cholera and malaria.

For 2009-2010, the theme was 'Literacy and the Environment'.

Margaret Atwood, Paul Auster, Paulo Coelho, Amitav Ghosh, Margaret Forster, Toni Morrison, Wei Wei, Banana Yoshimoto are some of the writers who are supporting the UNESCO through 'Writers for Literacy' initiative. They are doing their bit to contribute to write awareness about the problem of illiteracy, along with the writers' engagement.

There are various organisations and charity organisations that support the cause of literacy. Some of the well-known NGOs involved in Global Literacy Day include the Global Development Research Center, Montral, the National Institute for Literacy, and Rotary International.



(E-mail: mily444@yahoo.co.in)

QUIZ

Kanjanibh Kallita, Class-VI,
Holy Child English Academy

1) What was introduced on August 15, 1972, in India, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of India's Independence?

2) Who was the first President of the Indian National Congress during the time of Independence in 1947?

3) Which Indian was the richest man in the world in 1937?

ANSWERS

4) Name the noted Indian freedom fighter who breathed his last at Lahore Jail after observing a 12-day fast.

5) Who was the first deputy Prime Minister of India?

6) Who is known as the 'Nightingale of India'?

ANSWERS

Kids' Stuff BRAIN TEASERS

THE AMAZING BOWL OF PASTA!

Fred is hungry. He looks like a big bowl of pasta with his favorite toppings. His mom asks him to show her the way to the pasta?

BRAIN GAMES

The earth's atmosphere is made up of four layers. Which layer is the highest layer? Is it the Stratosphere, Mesosphere, Thermosphere or Thermopause?

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



ANSWER(S): 1) The Pin Choc Squeezes, 4-litre Daisies, 5 Vaseline, 3 The Neem of Nature, 2 BT Superstar, 3 The Neem of Nature, 4 Lint Squeezes, 5 Vaseline, 6 Savlon Jujube.

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Illustrated by Anjali Mehta
email: anjali_mehta@gmx.co.uk

1. The Pin Choc Squeezes, 4-litre Daisies, 5 Vaseline, 6 Savlon Jujube.

2. BT Superstar, 3 The Neem of Nature, 4 Lint Squeezes, 5 Vaseline, 6 Savlon Jujube.

3. The Neem of Nature, 2 BT Superstar, 3 The Neem of Nature, 4 Lint Squeezes, 5 Vaseline, 6 Savlon Jujube.

4. The Neem of Nature, 2 BT Superstar, 3 The Neem of Nature, 4 Lint Squeezes, 5 Vaseline, 6 Savlon Jujube.

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Sketch of the week

Sabab Das, Class-VII,
Shrimanta Shankar Academy, Diphur, Guwahati



Miriani Talukdar, Class-III,
St. Mary's H.S. School, Guwahati

Protect them

I hear the sounds of crying.
They are, one by one, dying.
No place to stand
On the land.
They have no life.
Cry for their existence.
No animals can now live.
No birds can now survive.
No apples to eat.
No swings to play.
No trees to climb.
They are for the birds to build their nests.
For people to take rest.
They are the Mother Earth.
Save them, they are the trees.

Sulagna Baruah, Class-VIII,
Carmel School, Jorhat.

Poem of the Week

Sana Sonja, Class-IX,
St. Paul's School, Kota, Rajasthan.

The land of guns and shells

Silencing each word, each voice, was how they did it.
Terrorised us, so they did it.
To put forward their views.
They played with the blood of our families.
And yet, we are still here, saying,
"Our families are now good memories."

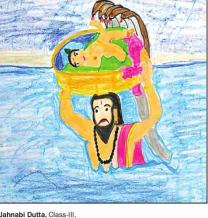
I stand here, fighting the deafening silence,
I stand here, asking, "What causes this violence?"
Even the states say, "It's not us."
You're seven, worse than half-read."
I stand here, in the land of guns and shells,
And yet, we are still here, saying,
I stand here, on the ashes of humanity,
Waiting for the Phoenix to rise...

PLANET YOUNG

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Ariyan Manish Hazarika, Class-VIII,
Shrimanta Shankar Academy, Diphur, Guwahati



Jahnbhi Dutta, Class-III,
Sauvini Point School, Guwahati



Sakhat Basak, Class-IX,
Sensita Birla Gyan Jyoti, North Guwahati



Anangshu Tamuly, Class-VIII,
Shrimanta Shankar Academy, Diphur, Guwahati

Plants – our green friends

Plants – our green friends,
Plants – our green friends,
You give us air,
You give us food,
You take care of us,
And we need your presence,
Every day, we need your force.

Adrika Gustam, Class-V,
Air Force School, Chabua.



Rocktadeep Kashyap,
Maharishi Vidya Mandir Sr. Sec. School,
Sripurhuri, Guwahati

It's night-time!

Night, night, night, night,
There is no light, light, light.
All the stars are dark,
And all dogs bark.

We see in the sky, stars and moon,
But we don't see the sun,
Seen at noon.
Here and there, fly the bats,
And mew the hungry cats.
Mother Nature said says, "Sleep,
Or the monsters will sleep." If you sleep..."

Akrithi Parashar, Class-IV,
Maharishi Vidya Mandir Sr. Sec. School,
Sripurhuri, Guwahati.

Poem of the Week

Sana Sonja, Class-IX,
St. Paul's School, Kota, Rajasthan.

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You're seven, worse than half-read."
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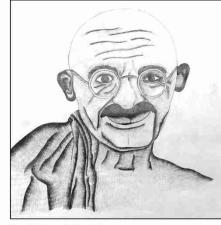
I wish

I used to climb a huge mountain,
In the bright sunlight.
But the dark sky is stopping me,
So I stopped climbing. Don't climb."
But, I am excited enough,
To look down from a certain height.
I used to sit in a quiet,
For a day or night.

Abiniket Prasad, Class-X,
Chirasan High School, Dibrugarh.



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



Dimpri Rajbangshi, Class-VIII,
Happy Child High School, Guwahati

Dear Koka

My dear Koka, where have you gone?
The darkness seems so thick and solid,
But I am still here.
As you said that – after darkness, there is always dawn.
You did all the good deeds and have earned much respect,
Don't worry, I will always be through this life
Of bitter and sweet truths.
As I don't know what is bad, nor do I know what is good.
Tech me, tell me, teach me in a smaller place,
But still, no one can find you.
Now, who will play chess and arm wrestling with me?
Who will tell me stories and make me laugh like you did?
My wrestling ring now seems to be empty.
No one can match the bravery like you had.
Oh Koka, you were my best friend, my walls.
They protect me from the storms that always come,
But now that you have gone, the house too has lost a wall.
No one can fill the hole that you have left in our souls.
My house will always have a big hole.
Where the wall had once fallen.
Aha! You were the one bringing down,
Why do I still mourn and ask,
"Dear Koka, where have you gone?"

Swagatam Bhattacharjee, Grade-VIII,
Dibrugarh Public School, Nameri, Mymensingh.



Jayashri Kalita, Class-IX,
Anandikunj Vidya Vihar, Rambpur, Nameri