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NEWS CAPSULE

Mishap claims 4

NALBARI, June 28: Four persons were killed and two others critically injured in a mishap this evening when an Alto car ran over a group of people sitting along the road. The deceased are Bharat Thakuria (65), Niralika Deka (55) and sisters Dikshita Deka (5) and Ankita Deka (6). — Correspondent

APSC scam

GUWAHATI, June 28: Dibrugarh police has called seven invigilators of the 2014 APSC examination for recording their statements as witnesses in the cash-for-jam scam. The statements will be recorded at the Special Branch headquarters here tomorrow. — Staff Reporter

Adhaar link

NEW DELHI, June 28: Individuals having PAN will have to link it to their existing 12-digit biometric Aadhaar number from July 1, a government notification said. — PTI

AI disinvestment

NEW DELHI, June 28: The Union Cabinet today cleared the disinvestment of debt-laden Air India but the final modalities, including the quantum of state sale, will be decided by a group of ministers. — PTI (Details on page 11)

GSAT-17 launch

BENGALURU, June 28: India's communication satellite GSAT-17 will be launched early tomorrow onboard ArianeSpace rocket from Kourou in French Guiana. The satellite will be launched at 2:29 am (IST) on June 29, the ISRO said. — PTI

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Floods hit over one lakh people in nine districts



A flooded village under Borkhola constituency in Cachar district on Wednesday. — UB Photos

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 28: In all 1,35,369 people in 267 villages of nine districts of the State have been affected by the current wave of floods. Karimganj district being the worst-hit.

According to the evening flood bulletin issued by the Central Water Commission

(CWC) today, the Brahmaputra is maintaining a rising trend at Tezpur, Guwahati and Goalpara, while its tributaries Dharanir (South) and Jahanbari have been flowing above their respective danger levels.

Tributaries Ranganguri, Subansiri, Dikhow, Dhansiri (South), Kopili, Manas, Beki and Sankosh are also maintaining

a rising trend.

In the Barak Valley, the Barak, Katakhal and Kushiyara are also flowing above danger levels. However, they are maintaining a falling trend, said the CWC bulletin.

According to the flood bulletin, the flood-hit districts are Lakhimpur, Sivasagar, Golaghat, Karbi Anglong, Jorhat,

Sonitpur, Hojai, Karimganj and Cachar. Six relief camps and 76 relief distribution points have been set up to provide succour to the flood-hit people in various parts of the State. A total number of 4,320 people are taking shelter in the relief camps, said the bulletin.

The current wave of floods (See page 4)

Biometric devices to detect foreigners

SANJOY RAY

GUWAHATI, June 28: The Assam Police is expected to introduce nearly 30 hand-held biometric devices aimed at capturing photo and finger print of suspected illegal foreigners by the end of this year even as nearly 41,000 declared foreigners of post-1971 origin continue to evade arrest.

The instant finger print registration and identify verification system is being introduced for Border Police as a measure to put a check on the vanishing act of the illegal migrants and also to enable the border staff to match the identity of any suspected foreigner if he or she is caught at a later stage.

The process of creating an exclusive database is expect-

Recommendations of pay panel okayed

NEW DELHI, June 28: The Union Cabinet today approved recommendations of the Seventh Pay Commission (CPC) related to allowances, with 34 modifications — in a decision that will benefit 34 lakh central employees and 14 lakh defence personnel.

The decision, taken at the meeting of cabinet presided over by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will result in additional financial implication of Rs 30,748.23 crore per annum to the government.

Briefing reporters after the cabinet meeting, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said that house rent allowance (HRA) will be paid at 24 per cent, 16 per cent and eight per cent for X, Y and Z cities respectively.

He said HRA will not be less than Rs 5,400, Rs 3,600 and Rs 1,800 for X, Y, Z cities calculated at 30, 20 and 10 per cent of minimum pay of Rs 18,000.

"The CPC recommended revision of HRA when DA reaches 50 per cent and 100 per cent. The government decided to revise rates when DA crosses 25 per cent and 50 per cent respectively," he said.

HRA is admissible to Central Government employees depending upon classification of the city/town where they are posted. Cities and towns are classified 'X', 'Y' and 'Z' based on their population.

Jaitley said that fixed medical allowance for pensioners has been increased from Rs 500 to Rs 1,000 per month. (See page 4)

Court allows Indrani to lodge complaint

MUMBAI, June 28: A special CBI court today allowed Sheena Bora murder case accused Indranji Mukerjee to approach the police to lodge her complaint that she was beaten up and threatened of sexual assault by Byculla jail officials for joining a protest in the prison over the death of a convict.

Indrani, who has been booked along with around 200 other inmates for rioting in the prison, today produced in the court, a day after she moved an application alleging she was roughed up by jail officials when the inmates protested the death of 45-year-old woman prisoner Manju Govind Shetty.

Special CBI judge JC Jagdale (See page 4)

Database to keep tab on rhino poachers

RITURAJ BORTHAKUR

GUWAHATI, June 28: The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau is making a database of rhino poachers active in the State, a move which besides

facilitating the investigations will also help keep a watch over the habitual offenders.

While the agency has already compiled a list of over 2,000 poachers, which include names of former cadres of militant groups like NDFB(S), KPLT and KLNLE, the count is likely to cross 500.

The WCCB will then classify the habitual ones and keep an eye on their activities.

WCCB is a statutory multi-disciplinary body established by the Government of India under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) to combat organized wildlife crime in the country.

The number of poachers getting caught is increasing. In 2013, 71 were caught in and around Kaziranga, the following year, 47 were arrested and in 2015 the number of arrests was 88. Last year, 59 poachers were arrested. But it is only recently that a few accused

(See page 4)

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DGP calls for synergy among NE police forces

R DUTTA CHOUDHURY

GUWAHATI, June 28: There is an urgent need for improving synergy between the police forces of the states of the North East which meet here tomorrow, the DGP said that as the militancy and criminals do not respect the inter-state boundaries and trans-border crimes have become a common feature, there is need for better coordination between the police forces of the states of the

region. He said that the coordination between the police forces has improved a lot over the years, but there is still scope for improvement and the two-day conference would try to evolve strategies to deal with crimes, which are affecting all the states.

Sahay pointed out that several states of the region are facing the problem of militancy and the active militant groups of the region have already joined hands. There have been movements of militants from one state to another and under the circumstances, the police forces of the states must have better coordination to deal with the situation. He pointed out that among the states of the North East, Sikkim is totally free from militancy, while, Assam and Manipur are badly affected, while, militancy (See page 4)

Tackling militancy, crimes

Talking to *The Assam Tribune*,

on the eve of the two-day conference of the heads of the police forces of the states of the region, which meet here tomorrow, the DGP said that as the militancy and criminals do not respect the inter-state boundaries and trans-border crimes have become a common feature, there is need for better coordination between the police forces of the states of the

Sikkim stand-off

Correct your errors, China tells India

BEIJING, June 28: Amid a stand-off in the Sikkim sector of the border, China today warned India that future visits of its pilgrims to Kailash Mansarovar through the Nathu La pass will depend on whether it will "correct its errors".

Beijing also termed the construction of a road in the Sikkim sector of the Sino-Indian border as "legitimate", asserting that it was being built on Chinese territory that neither belongs to India nor Bhutan and no other country had the right to interfere.

"Donglang is part of China's territory. This is indisputable.

The Donglang area belonged to China since ancient times and it doesn't belong to Bhutan," Chinese Foreign Minister spokesman Lu Kang told the media here.

"India wants to raise an issue with this part. I should say it doesn't belong to Bhutan, nor it belongs to India. So we have completed legal basis for this. Chinese construction of the road project is legitimate and normal action on its territory. No other country has the right to interfere," he said while responding to a question.

Lu defended China's decision

Meira Kumar files nomination

NEW DELHI, June 28: Opposition presidential candidate Meira Kumar today filed her nomination in the presence of top Congress and other opposition leaders and said it marked the beginning of her "fight of ideology".

Kumar, 72, who filed her papers with Congress chief Sonia Gandhi and former prime minister Manmohan Singh by her side, will launch her campaign from Sabarmati Ashram in Gujarat on June 30.

Accompanying the former Lok Sabha speaker as she filed her nomination in Parliament House were a host of opposition leaders, including NCP's Sharad Pawar and CPI-M general secretary Sitaram Yechury.

"For us, it is a battle of ideologies, principles and truth and we will fight it," Gandhi said after the nomination filing. — PTI

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GJM activists torch GTA office, Darjeeling Hills remain tense

DARJEELING, June 28: GJM supporters set ablaze an office of the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) prompting the police to briefly detain two central committee members of the party and held a demonstration today demanding a separate state.

The two Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) leader Samel Gurung and RB Bhujal were released after two hours of the torching of the GTA's Engineering Division office last night, the police said.

A day after setting ablaze the house of the chairman of a development board in Kalimpong district and burning copies of the GTA Accord, GJM activists ransacked a panchayat office in Bijanbari area, 25 km from here, they said.

Meanwhile, the Army has been withdrawn from the re-

tive hills after the State government sought a pull-out of the contingents, a defence spokesman said in Kolkata.

"Six columns of the Army (around 300 personnel) were deployed in the hills on June 8 on requisition from the State government. The Army was withdrawn on June 24," he said.

The GJM held a demonstration at Chowkbari here demanding a separate Gorkhaland carved out of West Bengal.

Children in traditional dress were also seen in the demonstration carrying placards which read "We Want Gorkhaland".

With violence returning to the hills, the security forces kept a strict vigil on Darjeeling and adjoining areas which remained tense on the 14th day of the indefinite shutdown.

Internet services, which were shut on June 18, re-

mained suspended.

Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Gautam Deb slammed the GJM for wanting the children to serve their interests.

"Do the children understand anything about Gorkhaland? It is a violation of human rights. We condemn it," Deb, who is also the State tourism minister said.

An all-party meeting has been called by the GJM tomorrow in Kalimpong to discuss

the next course of action.

"We have demanded withdrawal of the security forces from the hills and restoration of Internet services, but nothing has been done. So we will discuss how the agitation can be intensified," a top GJM leader said. - PTI

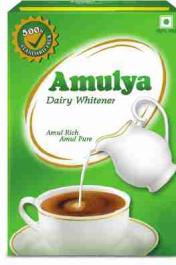
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ADMISSION NOTICE FOR GNM COURSE SESSION 2017-18

Applications are invited from interested female candidates for admission to the three years General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) course in VKNRL School of Nursing, Numaligarh.

1. How to apply for admission to GNM?

10+2 with English and math must have obtained a minimum of 40% at the qualifying examination and English individually from any recognized board i.e. CBSE, Board/State/Central/Other equivalent courses. However, Science is preferable.

10+2 with English, having 40% of marks, with vocational ANN courses from a recognized board by Indian Nursing Council (INC).

10+2 with English, having 40% of marks, with Vocational Stream- Health Care Science from a recognized CBSE Board/State/Center.

• Registered ANN with pass mark.

• 5% total marks is relaxed for STC/ST candidates.

2. Reservation:

• For disabled candidates: 3% reservation to be considered as a concession. • For SC/ST candidates: 30% of the total seats will be reserved for SC/ST candidates. • For OBC candidates: 25% of the seats shall be reserved for the candidates from Golaghat District out of which 50% (i.e. 37.5% of the total seats shall be reserved for SC/ST candidates from 5 blocks of Numaligarh. In case of non availability of suitable candidates from 5 blocks of Numaligarh, these seats shall be filled from the merit of Golaghat District and in case of non availability of suitable candidates from Golaghat District the same shall be filled from open merit list.

• Seat reservation as per Govt. of Assam norms. (SC-7%, ST (P)-10%, STH-5%, OBC-15%).

3. Students shall be medically fit.

4. Minimum age for admission will be 17 years as on 31.12.2017. The upper age limit is 35 years. For ANN and LHV, there is no upper age limit.

5. Selection Process:

• Selection shall be based on the percentage of marks scored in the qualifying examination. In case of Science stream students, 5% marks shall be added to the percentage of marks obtained in their qualifying examination.

• The provisional merit list, taking all criterion into consideration, shall be prepared and published in the school website at www.vknrlnursingschool.in latest by 31st August, 2017.

6. Date of Issue of Prospectus & Application Form (Online/Offline Mode): From 20th June 2017.

7. Last date of Application Form Submission (Offline): 1st August 2017. Prospectus & Application Form can be collected from the office of VKNRL School of Nursing, Ponkaganj, Numaligarh, Golaghat-785699, Assam. Address: 5th floor, 5th road, Ponkaganj, Numaligarh, Assam-785699. Application Form is also available in VKNRL School of Nursing official website at www.vknrlnursingschool.in in free of cost.

Office Time: Monday to Friday 09:30 AM to 04:30 PM

Saturday 09:30 AM to 12:00 Noon.

8. Mode of Admission and Counseling:

• Data Counseling & Medical Checkup: 4th September 2017.

• Date of Admission: 7th September 2017.

• Venue: VKNRL School of Nursing, Numaligarh

• Time: 10 AM to 5 PM

9. Candidates once admitted in the GNM course will not be permitted to pursue any other course of studies simultaneously and will automatically forfeit the GNM seats if they do so.

10. The School may arrange some sponsored scholarship for the deserving candidates.

VKNRL School of Nursing
Ponkaganj, Numaligarh
Golaghat-785699



LOCAL FORECAST:
Generally cloudy sky.
Rain/thundershower is likely to occur. Maximum temperature is most likely to be 33°C on Thursday.

TEMPERATURE:
Max 34.6°C
Min 26.3°C

Nat'l Statistics Day today

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 28: The National Survey Office, Field Operation Division, Guwahati under the Union Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation is organising the 11th National Statistics Day tomorrow at Shiligram, North Eastern Zone Cultural Centre, Panbari.

The theme of this year's Statistics Day is 'Administrative Statistics'. Prof Amit Choudhury, HoD, Department of Statistics, Gauhati University will be the guest of honour on the occasion.

In Eternal Peace



Late Tara Prasad Barua
(25 April 1925 – 28 June 2017)

Our loving prayers & fond remembrances

Family Members
Narikalbari (Guwahati)

Seminar on drug abuse and illicit trafficking

Speakers call for increased vigilance and awareness

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 28: In order to curb drug abuse and illicit trafficking, Kamrup Metro Deputy Commissioner Dr M Angamuthu today called for increased vigilance against the twin menace.

Dr Angamuthu was speaking at a seminar on the occasion of International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking at the District Library here. The seminar was organised by the Social Welfare Department.

In his speech, the Kamrup Metro Deputy Commissioner, who attended the function as chief guest, said to effectively deal with drug abuse and illicit trafficking, parents and school teachers will have to play a big role. He further said there is a need to find a workable solution to stop the twin menace and ensure the full support of the district administration in this regard.

Others who spoke on the occasion included Indranil Baruah, SP (CID), who dwelt on the scenario of substance abuse and trafficking in the north-eastern region.

Rakesh Chandra Shukla, zonal director (north-east region) of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), also highlighted



Kamrup (M) DC Dr M Angamuthu speaking at the seminar. - AT photo

among youths in the region.

Krishna Das, chairperson of Assam State Social Welfare Board, Guwahati, spoke about the role of NGOs in creating awareness on how to control and prevent drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

Rakesh Chandra Shukla, zonal director (north-east region) of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), also highlighted

the Bureau's role in demand reduction of substance abuse.

The welcome address was delivered by SS Meenakshi Sundaram, Director of Social Welfare. School students, members of different NGOs, anganwadi workers, officials of line and other departments and police personnel among others attended the seminar.

Field gear to staff of wildlife sanctuary

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 28: Aranyak, in association with the Guwahati Wildlife Division of the State forest department and the Center for Elephant Conservation today organised a field gear distribution ceremony at the Khampara Forest Range to encourage and enhance the exemplary work of the frontline staff of the Aranchang Wildlife Sanctuary.

Attending the ceremony, DFO of Guwahati EWD Pradip Baruah thanked Aranyak for its gesture towards enhancing the efforts of forest staff of different wildlife sanctuaries and national parks of the State.

Dr Bibhab Kumar Talukdar, secretary general and CEO of Aranyak along with several other staff of the organisation and Kaushik Barua of Assam Elephant Foundation were among those present on the occasion.

The frontline staff working in Amchang WLS were offered raincoats and torch-lights for field duties to enhance their efforts to protect elephants and other wildlife in the sanctuary. The programme was sponsored by Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey's Center for Elephant Conservation of United States.

APW moves CM against 2 IAS officers

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 28: Voluntary organisation Assam Public Works (APW) today urged Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal to take steps for initiating an inquiry into the alleged corruption indulged in by two IAS officers in the State's transport department. It has also alleged that the State government has not taken any step to implicate eleven senior officers of the agriculture department in a multi-crore rupee scam, despite the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of the State providing definite information on the blatant corruption they were involved in.

In a statement here, the voluntary organisation has alleged that in the State transport department, these two IAS officers, who earned notoriety as land brokers during the previous regime, have appointed an equally corrupt low-rank officer as DTO of Kamrup to perform all the irregular deals on their behalf.

The irregular dealers include the act of issuing fitness certificates to non-existing vehicles against hefty sums of money, alleged the voluntary organisation.

Theatre workshop for children

GUWAHATI, June 28: Guwahati Sishu Natya Vidyalaya (GSNV), in association with Maharishi Vidya Mandir, Pimpukuri, is going to organise a summer theatre workshop for children from July 5 to 25. Forms for the workshop are available at the main security gate of the school (Maharishi Vidya Mandir), according to a press release here today.

Since its inception in 1998, GSNV has been working for the development of children's theatre on the basis of children's theatre by the children, for the children', the release added.

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Anganwadi body's memo to CM over demands
STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 28: The Sadios Anganwadi body in memory of Sahayika Santha in a memorandum to the Chief Minister has demanded immediate resolution of its long-standing issues.

The demands raised in the memo include raising the status of the anganwadi workers to that of government employees, enhancing the remuneration of Anganwadi workers from the Central government share besides effecting a hike in the remuneration from the State government as well and stopping the practice of retirement of anganwadi workers at the age of 60 until their status is raised to the level of government employees.

The Sadios said that despite repeated appeals to the State government, various pressing grievances of the workers have remained unresolved due to the apathy of the government. "The anganwadi workers have been rendering yeoman's service to the masses in the matter of children and women welfare, but the unresponsive authorities have failed to acknowledge it and are giving the workers a raw deal. This must stop," it said.

Biker killed

JALUKHARI, June 28: A motorcyclist identified as Arsh Ali (45) of Garibon, died after being hit by a Bolero pickup van (AS 01 BC 6515) around 7.30 pm near Samtite, Jalukhali. — Correspondent

Dysfunctional street lights on new bridge

CORRESPONDENT

JALUKHARI, June 28: Most of the street lights on the newly inaugurated Saraihat Bridge on the Brahmaputra in the city haven't been working for the past several days. Pedestrians struggle to walk on the bridge at night due to non-availability of light.

Several street lights have been rendered useless as their components were found missing. These faulty light posts also increase the chances of electrocution and are not at all safe for the passersby, especially after dark.

Talking to this correspondent, some of the pedestrians said anti-social elements may take advantage of the dark and resort to illegal activities on the bridge, which poses a threat to people who use the bridge regularly.

Local people further said police patrolling teams should do their duty properly so that such types of theft do not take place in future.

Meanwhile, the Gammon authorities have lodged an FIR at the Jalukhali Police Outpost on the theft of light post components. Sources said Gammon will soon restore the missing parts of the light posts on the bridge.



Rajat Chandra Hazarika

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MESSAGE FOR TODAY

What I do today is important because I am exchanging a day of my life for it.

— HUGH MULLIGAN

The Assam Tribune**Master strategists**

When it comes to shadow-boxing, sabre-rattling or indulging in simple, old-fashioned propaganda, the Chinese are past masters! Thus one need not be surprised at the sudden spurt of tension in the India-China border at the Sikkim sector. Minor skirmishes are not uncommon on the entire length of the contentious India-China border, but the stand-offs are soon enough resolved through flag meetings of unit commanders. However, the spat at Sikkim appears to be of a graver nature than normal and there have been accusations and counter-accusations from both sides. According to India, Chinese troops encroached into the Indian territory at Dokla La on the Sikkim border, destroying two Indian bunkers in the process. The intruders jostled with Indian troops who had formed a human chain to stop their advance before returning to their original positions. More significantly, the Chinese stopped the pilgrims who were on their trek to the Mansarovar Lake, considered to be holy to the Hindus. It needs to be borne in mind that the Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra had resumed after the Chinese had given permission, and many treks have been made since then. The Chinese, on the other hand, have accused the Indian troops of trespassing into their territory! They too have warned that the Indian pilgrims who, thwarted by the Chinese from proceeding on their journey, had returned to Gangtok, would not be allowed to resume the *yatra* until India withdrew its troops!

Knowing the Chinese, experts have explained away these developments as the former's way of carrying out a psychological warfare whenever a significant event of interest to them is occurring. That the Chinese forces had not engaged in any kind of rumpus in the Sikkim sector for the last nine years underlines the nature of the timing. The intentional creation of tensions on the border has been done to coincide with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US, and is an indirect warning to both the countries, in particular the US, not to try and force the Chinese out of the equation! No doubt, President Donald Trump has seemingly befriended the Chinese President, even calling him a good person while overlooking the authoritarian nature of the Chinese regime. However, it is precisely the nature of the regime which makes the Chinese leadership feel so insecure and display signs of anxiety when rival India plays the friendship card! Not only has India and the US castigated China's close ally Pakistan for harbouring terrorists, President Trump has publicly stated that next month's naval exercises jointly by the US, Japan and India are very much on. This is uncomfortable news for the Chinese regime and they have to convey their discomfort in a none-too-subtle manner. This explains the sudden spurt of intentionally created tension on the India-China border: a device by the master strategists to make their displeasure apparent.

Farmers' income

Even as the agriculture sector is undergoing a phase of crisis across several States, the Assam Government has taken up an ambitious project Samagra Gramya Unnayan Yojana that aims at doubling the farmers' income within the next five years. For this, a holistic approach through convergence of a number of departments such as Agriculture, Veterinary, Fishery, Irrigation, etc., is being mooted with thrust on overall rural development. This is certainly a good idea to implement a project that seeks to address the different constraints plaguing rural development, as the farming community's well-being is intrinsically linked to having proper village infrastructure in addition to agro-related amenities. It is often the lack of amenities – all-weather roads, cold storages or market linkage – that prevents the farmer from getting due remuneration against his toil despite having a decent harvest. A holistic approach, therefore, can take care of the varied aspects that are linked to an inclusive agricultural growth. The idea of inclusive growth in our agricultural scenario assumes a lot of significance because despite there being an increase in both production and productivity (as per government data), a substantial segment of the tillers are not receiving adequate remuneration. This disturbing trend needs to be reversed. Then, notwithstanding the recent improvements, the State still has miles to go to realize its full potential and match the country's top agricultural States. This will happen only when a pragmatic strategy with farmers as active stakeholders is implemented with sincerity and honesty by the Government.

A major and persisting constraint for our farming sector has been the distance between the technological interventions and the farming community. In recent years we have been witnessing liberal funding from the Centre but that has failed to translate into visible results on the ground. This can be explained by the fact that these interventions are not reaching many of the intended beneficiaries, especially the small and marginal farmers with small land holdings who make up the bulk of the agriculturalists. The very fact that vast expanses of agricultural land remain idle for a long period once crop is harvested – a common sight across the State – would testify to the absence of technological interventions. With the State's population increasing every year, double or multiple cropping should have gained ground by now. The lethargy of the farming community apart, it is largely the failure of the State Government, the Agriculture Department in particular, to intervene in a proactive manner that has prevented such desirable practices from taking roots. If we look at the top crop-producing States, it is through multiple cropping and technological innovations that they have been able to sustain a high agricultural growth. With gradual shrinkage of agricultural land due to flood and erosion, and conversion for non-agriculture purposes, it is all the more imperative that we switch to multiple cropping in a big way.

Of elite clubs in a democracy

ROUGH & Tumble
By Patricia Mukhim

The intrinsic meaning of a club is an organization of people with common interests, who meet regularly and take part in shared activities. Some clubs promote socially relevant causes, such as the Rotary or Lions' Club; others are formed to promote games and sports. Journalists have their press clubs where apart from discussing issues (which hopefully we are doing), there is also the space for leisure where one can relax, have a drink or two and release the day's stress. It cannot also be denied that there is an element of exclusivity in the club culture. The British started recreational clubs in this part of the region such as the famous Shillong Club. These are legacies left behind by the colonialists because they needed an exclusive space for themselves and their clique. Those spaces apart from providing relaxation also allowed them to discuss the politics of the day including their daily encounters with the 'natives' in the most pejorative terms.

The biggest challenge for the India of today is that some of its elite are more British than the British themselves ever were. India and Indians have clung on to the colonial baggage even while professing to be a democracy. The problem with democracy lies in its promise of equity and justice – both of which are the antithesis to an exclusivist society. Now some of these elite clubs in Delhi are run on public spaces given by govern-

ments to those who run those clubs at very nominal rates. Is this a fair practice? If clubs are run on public spaces which are on lease for a very nominal rate at a prime location in the national capital, can such a club then pretend they are the cat's whiskers and treat people like second and third class citizens if they don't conform to their dress codes? Since clubs are by definition 'exclusive' they should be run on private premises. Only then can they frame rules that suit them. But even so, since clubs are supposed to be of the most culturated elites, the language used to express dissonance with any misdemeanour by members or their guests should not be cantankerous and leave a trail of bitterness behind.

This is exactly what happened with Taitlin Lyngdoh, a Khasi from Meghalaya and a helper and assistant to a doctor-entrepreneur who lives abroad and travels extensively. Taitlin was taken to the Delhi Golf Club on June 25 last for lunch at the invitation of her employer's friend. She was dressed in the Jainism, the traditional costume of Khasi women because she doesn't own a dress. Perhaps the Club assistants who were told not to allow people of a certain description and according to them, Taitlin with her dress 'looked like a maid servant' (I guess those who don't wear sarees, salwars (the heavily embroidered variety that has the insignia of money and class written all over it) and in western outfitts are all 'maid servant' variety.

That's their level of reasoning). This incident has snowballed into a national outrage because Taitlin, a professional governess, who entered the plush Delhi Golf Club as an invitee was categorically asked to leave the Club. We can only imagine her hurt, anger and loss of self-esteem in that situation!

While all clubs have their rules, those are meant as guidelines to keep out trouble mongers and rowdy characters that pick up fights at

attitude including their loud and garulous habits which places like Delhi exhibit day in and day out, seem to be the mould that we all have to fit in. Is that fair? No way! India cannot survive as a nation if its people continue to be ignorant of its many races and cultures beyond Bengal. India is a contentious democracy. Its north-eastern region has asserted its unique identity yet the region is ballast but not brute. The people of this region do not perceive themselves as victims (at least the large majority here does not see themselves that way). It is only when we perceive ourselves as victims that we become most capable of hatred.

But each time a Delhi Golf Club type incident occurs, you are made to recede into a corner of self pity and victimhood.

I quote here what Lopita Nath, a Facebook friend and a resident of the US has to say about the Jainism. "It is so beautiful, I have always wanted one. It is indeed sad that the rest of India is so unaware about the culture of the part that is not them. The first signs of an isolationist debacle and death of a nation?"

Funnily, we are also a nation where fair skin is premium; foreigners are always treated better than Indians in any hotel or social gathering. We swoon over the white skin so much so that fairness creams for both women and men are one of the fastest selling products in this country. And then of course there is the last vestige of colonial hang-up represented by

the drop of a hat and pull out a gun to shoot and kill. Have we forgotten the Tamarind Court incident where Jessica Lal was killed? Wasn't that an exclusive club and yet didn't the Club have blood on its hands? So what is exclusively all about? Is it about dress or character? Will rowdies be allowed because they can pay membership fees?

But beyond the Delhi Golf Club debate is the larger issue of Indians being woefully ignorant about the culture and dress of this multi-cultural, multi-racial, multi-religious country. North Indian culture, cuisine, dress, style and classist

in 2009-10, it was already ready for implementation but due to certain political and other issues, GST could not create a consensus among the legislators (both at the Central and State levels). The then Finance Minister Purnab Mukherjee (2011) introduced a constitutional amendment Bill and in 2012-13, the Centre cleared it while the State finance minister rejected the plan. In pursuance of the decision taken in a meeting between the Union Finance Minister and the empowered committee of State finance ministers on November 8, 2012, a 'Committee on GST Design' was constituted. This committee did a detailed discussion on the GST design including the constitution amendment (115th) Bill and submitted its report in January, 2013. After the change of the Government at the Centre and most of the States in 2014, the Lok Sabha passed the Bill in 2015 and referred to the select committee of Rajya Sabha. The Bill stopped in Rajya Sabha and it followed inclusions and exclusions. On August 3, 2016, Rajya Sabha approved the constitutional amendment Bill to enable the introduction of GST. And, finally, the GST Act got the President's assent on April 12, 2017.

GST will replace several State and federal levies. From the big State Uttar Pradesh to the tiny seacoast region of Goa, India's States currently set their own taxes and charge

fruits of progress can reach the masses only if we control corruption. Corruption is spreading like an uncontrolled virus and eating into our very existence. If every citizen comes forward to punish the corrupt, the cancer of corruption can be stemmed. Yours etc., VINOD C DIXIT, Ahmedabad.

Modi's vow to root out corruption

fruits of progress can reach the masses only if we control corruption. Corruption is spreading like an uncontrolled virus and eating into our very existence. If every citizen comes forward to punish the corrupt, the cancer of corruption can be stemmed. Yours etc., VINOD C DIXIT, Ahmedabad.

Fear is the key

Sir – This is a section of the media and a battery of intellectuals, hiding under different masks, who were never kind to the Modi Government from day one or even before, for whatsoever might be the reason, are now trying to press the ultimate panic button to unleash a fear psychosis of an imaginary 'Emergency' taking over, as if the demonic killers of democracy are on a rampage to bulldoze the very structure of democracy of our country. If one takes a breath and just pursues the track record of these musketeers, it will not be difficult to unveil their intention. Sometimes, they offer voluntary service of 'advise' with ulterior

intentions as a pretentious measure of benevolence, and at other times, they remain ruthless and fierce critics, with their slanderous verbatim. After the Rs 1000-crone *benami* property scam of Lalu, the cats are now coming out of the bag one after another. It's now crystal clear why the hordes of Lalu are always hell bent in making a hull-a-bull on 'scandalisation'.

Now, 'Save Democracy' will be the next big slogan. Expectedly, Leftists-TMC, SP-BSP-AAP-Congress and all such odd combinations will come into a holly alliance with all earnestness and piety to save 'democracy'! Yours etc., SIBA PRASAD SARMA, Sawkuhi, Guwahati.

Kudos to Srikanth

Sir – The badminton world's top countries like Denmark, Malaysia, China, Thailand, South Korea, among others, have now realized India's power in the game. If Saina Nehwal and PV Sindhu have become world's top woman

badminton players, then our man Kidambi Srikanth notched up his second successive Super Series title with a stunning straight game (22-20, 21-16 in a 45-minute clash) triumph over reigning Olympic champion Chen Long (world No. 6 and the current All England champion) in the Australian Open summit clash in Sydney recently. It's a proud moment for Srikanth who had reached the finals of the Singapore and Indonesia Opens before this tournament; he is only the fifth player in the world to contest three successive Super Series finals. Kudos to this shuttler. Yours etc., BIDYUT KUMAR CHATTERJEE, Faridabad.

Delay in result

Sir – I appeared for the exam conducted by the APSC for the recruitment to the posts of Assistant Engineer (Civil) for the PHE Department on February 26, 2017. But the result of the screening test is yet to be declared. It has been four months,

and there is not a single notice related to the exam. Such delay in the declaration of result leads to difficulties for the students appearing in other exams. The APSC should take this matter seriously. Yours etc., AN ASPIRANT, Jorhat.

Ambubachi Mela

Sir – The much-hyped Ambubachi Mela is over. Certainly, it is the biggest congregation of people in North-east India and also is our pride. But, people have expressed deep anguish over the State Government's arrangements. Food, shelter, hygiene – everywhere there was chaos. Only some personal initiatives were visible here and there in the name of the services to the pilgrims. The Government's involvement was pretty poor and simply confined to the promos only. Yours etc., RANJAN DAS, Mirza.

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

**Letters
to the
EDITOR**

Sir – This refers to your report 'Modi vows to root out corruption' (AT June 26). Rampant corruption in the country has pushed us back in the path of development. It is a fact that corruption, like other social evils such as bribery, nepotism and favouritism, has found acceptance in the social psyche and behaviour. Though all politicians are not corrupt, even a very few can damage the entire system and eat away public money. So there has to be some independent law-enforcing agencies that can punish any top guns in the government machinery if the allegations against them are proved. Corruption in every walk of our lives has been destroying the democratic ethos that our forefathers had cherished for. A corruption-free system is not a favour granted to us by the politicians. It is our constitutional right. We must remember that the

**TENDER NOTIFICATION NO. LIB/3/02 DATED 23-06-2017**

Sealed tenders are invited from various Manufacturers/ Dealers / Suppliers for supply of branded furniture of newly constructed Library building of this Institute in two bid systems (Technical and Financial). The details list of items along with tender documents can be downloaded from our website www.nerist.ac.in. The interested suppliers/dealers may also collect the tender details along with Drawing Design and Specification of required items from the office of AR (S&P), NERIST, Nirjuli on any working days from 09.00 AM to 05.00 PM up to 17-07-2017. The last date of submission is 18-07-2017 up to 04.00 PM and date of opening is 19-07-2017 up to 09.00 AM. Tender fee (Non-refundable) will be Rs. 12,500/- in favour of Director, NERIST payable at SBI, Nirjuli. The Director, NERIST reserves the right to accept or reject any tender partly or fully without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

Sd/- Assistant Registrar (S&P)

Sonowal for prompt pension disbursement after retirement

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 28: To give succour to superannuating government employees, Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has instructed the Directorate of Pension to disburse pension immediately after retirement.

Chairing a meeting with officials of the pension department in the conference room of his office at Janata Bhawan today, Chief Minister Sonowal asked the Director of Pension to remove all slackness and ensure disbursement of pension immediately after an employee retires from service.

Sonowal also directed the pension department to formulate a comprehensive method comprising an exhaustive list featuring the names of the re-

tirees one year ahead and asking them to submit their documents at least six month before retirement. He also asked the Director to set up an exclusive cell which would specifically deal with disbursement of pension-related cases at an early date.

The Chief Minister also advised the Director to initiate discussions with employees to thresh out all encumbrances responsible for delaying the disbursement of pension. If necessary the Directorate of Pension should organise awareness meetings, he said. He also asked the State Chief Secretary to hold discussions with all the departmental heads to solve all pension-related disputes.

Legal Adviser to the Chief Minister Shantanu Bharali, Chief Secretary VK Pipersena, Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister Sanjay Lohiya and senior officers of the Directorate of Pension were present at the meeting.

Introductory classes will also begin at the Panbari office of the Kendra from July 11. Registration is on, a press release stated. Staff Reporter

Yoga course

GUWAHATI, June 28: Vivekananda Kendra, Guwahati branch will conduct an introductory yoga course (morning and evening classes) from July 1 to 10 at the Vivekananda Kendra Institute of Culture at Uzambazar.

Introductory classes will also begin at the Panbari office of the Kendra from July 11. Registration is on, a press release stated. Staff Reporter

ASSAM POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED CANCELLATION NOTICE

Ref: Notice Inviting Tender No. DDUGJ/VII/16-1705 (Domestic Competitive Bidding)

Specification No. APDCL/DDUGJ/VII/XII/REDB

6 Nos. of Bids of different districts of Assam for execution of REDB Works under XII Plan DDUGJY are CANCELLED due to unavoidable reasons. Details may be found in the website of APDCL i.e. <http://www.apdcl.gov.in> and e-tendering portal of APDCL i.e. <https://apdcl.tenders.in>

Sd/- Chief General Manager (RE)
 APDCL, Building Bldw, Annex Building
 Date: 27/06/2017 Paltanbazar, Guwahati-781001
 E-mail: cgmre.aseb@gmail.com

APS/2017/48

AGSU human chain

GUWAHATI, June 28: Members of the All Guwahati Students' Union (AGSU) will form a human chain on the RG Baruah Road tomorrow demanding pragmatic steps from the government authorities to ease the city's flash flood and waterlogging problem.

In a statement, the AGSU said the apathy of the authorities to what has now worsened into a life-and-death issue for the citizens, is shocking and that the authorities must come up with immediate measures to prevent waterlogging. – Staff Reporter

भारतीय विमानपत्रन प्रधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
 NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (Tender ID No.: AAU_1328_1)
 Airports Authority of India invites item rate e-tender for the "Construction of Apron, Link Taxi Way and Expansion of Isolation Bay including cost of works at Maitri Airport, Airport, Udaipur" at an estimated cost of ₹ 100 Crores with period of completion 17 months (including two months considered for rain of two monsoon seasons). Last date and time of submission of e-tender is 04.08.2017 upto 1800 Hrs. For detailed information please log on to website <http://etenders.gov.in/procurer/app>. Contract No. of Bid Manager is 011 24633953 Ext. 1527. The tender documents will be uploaded on the website <http://etenders.gov.in/procure/app>. In this regard, if any, will be put up only AA website and CPP Portal.
 N - 59/2017-18

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TENDER NOTIFICATION NO.PUR/19/CHEMICALS/2016-17 DATED 23-06-2017

Interested distributors / dealers / suppliers dealing with various items of Chemical Glassware etc. are requested to submit their offer of discount on the respective price list for different brand of Chemical Glassware etc. etc. for rate contract for the year 2017-18. The details terms and conditions along with list of items can be downloaded from our website: <http://www.nerist.ac.in>. Tender fee of ₹2,000/- in the form of Demand Draft drawn in favor of Director, NERIST payable at SBI, Nirjuli to be submitted with tenders. The last date of receiving tender is 17-07-2017 up to 04.00 PM and the date of opening is 18-07-2017 at 04.00 PM. The Director, NERIST reserves the right to accept or reject any tender partly or fully without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

Sd/- Assistant Registrar (S&P)

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA
Public Notice

In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 45-IA (6) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 (the Act), the Reserve Bank of India, by its order dated May 22, 2017 has cancelled the Certificate of Registration No. B-08.00155 dated July 17, 2003 issued to **M/s City Commercial Investment Company Private Limited**, CIN- UG592MN1998PTC005544, having its registered office at Urikop, Kangchup Road, Imphal, Manipur-795001, for carrying on the business of a Non-Banking Financial Institution as defined in Section 45-I (a) of the Act. The Company therefore cannot carry on the business of a Non-Banking Financial Institution under the Act. This is issued in Public Interest.

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक
सार्वजनिक सूचना

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक अधिनियम, 1934 (अधिनियम) को धारा 45-आरए (6) के अंतर्गत प्रदत्त शर्तेयां का प्रमाणपत्र काल हुए दिनों 08 मई, 2017 के अन्ते आरए के द्वारा मैसर्स सिटी कार्पोरेशन इंडेपेंडेंट कंपनी प्राप्तवेति, सी-आरए- UG592MN1998PTC005544, जिसका पैंजीकृत कावालत अरिको, कैंगचुप रोड, इम्फाल, मणिपुर- 795001 में है, को उक्त अधिनियम को धारा 45-आरए (ए) में व्यापारिंग और बींकिंग वित्तीय संस्था का कारोबार करने के लिए दिनों : 17 जुलाई 2003 को जारी पंजीकरण का प्रमाणपत्र सं. धारा 08.00166 को निरस्त कर दिया है। अतएव, कंपनी उक्त अधिनियम के तहत गैर बींकिंग वित्तीय संस्था का कारोबार नहीं कर सकती है।

यह आम जनता को जानकारी के लिए धारी किया गया है।

Intending parties may collect the application from the Assistant General Manager, SBI, Regional Business Office, Bongaigaon or from SBI, Hatisingimari Branch during office hours and submit their offers to the above address in **two separate sealed covers** super scribed "Technical Bid" and "Price Bid" for building within 21 days from the date of this advertisement. No brokerage shall be paid by the Bank. Priorities will be given to the premises owned by Public Sector Units/Govt. Departments. The Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any offer without assigning any reason thereof.

Place: Bongaigaon
 Date: 29.06.2017

Sd/-
 Assistant General Manager, RBO-II

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UN Brahma Soldier of Humanity Award to Prof Ganesh N Devy

CORRESPONDENT

KOKRAJHAR, June 28: The 14th UN Brahma Soldier of Humanity Award, 2017 will be conferred or renowned educationist Prof Ganesh N Devy at a function to be held at Guwahati tomorrow. The decision was taken in a meeting of the Upendra Nath Brahma Trust (UNBT) which was held recently at Kokrajhar. Dr Subung Basumatary, chairman of the Trust informed in-formed.

The UNBT has decided to confer this prestigious award on Prof Ganesh N Devy for his immense contribution towards languages of the tribes in India besides his relentless pursuit for protection, preservation and development of tribal languages and specially on languages of the denotified tribes which has earned him laurels across the globe, Basumatary said.

The UN Brahma Soldier of Humanity Award is presented annually to a person who has

an immense contribution towards the development of the down-trodden people and humanity. The award consists of a memento, citation, cash, shawl and a traditional *arona*.

It may be mentioned here that Prof Ganesh N Devy was born on August 1, 1950. A former professor of English in the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, a renowned literary critic and activist he is the founder director of the Bhasha Research Publication Center, Vadodara and Adivasi

Academy at Tejgadh, Gujarat, established to create a unique educational environment for the study of the languages of tribal communities. He was educated at Shivaji University, Kolhapur and the University of Leeds, UK.

It may be further mentioned here that Prof Ganesh N Devy has also received some prestigious awards like the Padma Shri on January 26, 2014, Sahitya Akademi Award, SAARC Writers Foundation Award, Prince Claus Award etc.

Nagaon district Tribal Sangha meet concludes

CORRESPONDENT

NAGAON, June 28: The two-day 30th conference of Nagaon district Tribal Sangha was held at Kamchari Palastal High School premises recently.

Speaking on the first delegate session held on the opening day, State secretary of the sangha Aditya Khaklari demanded the implementation of a proper land policy to keep tribal belt and blocks free. He alleged that land of tribal belt or blocks have been unlawfully occupied by illegal Bangladeshi or persons from outside the State.

Central observer Dhiren Engi, central youth leader Rinal Amri, district office bearers Umananda Khaklari, Pankaj Deuri, Kehlum Dekaora and others took part in the discussion.

The delegate session was chaired by Biren Lalung and was formally declared opened by writer Bhaskar Bardali. Arjun Bardali welcomed the guests.

Former MLA Dr Durjoy Chakraborty formally declared the deligate camp open.

Union Minister of State for Railways Rajen Gohain attended the concluding day of the conference. In his address, he appealed to the tribal people not

to sell their lands to other people because lands is the only identity of a person. He criticised the AGP regime for allotting lands in *char area* to the people without cross-checking their identity.

Addressing the concluding session, Nagaon SP Devraj Upadhyaya called upon the tribal people to avoid the drinking habit which is common among them. Besides Khaklari, a number of tribal dignitaries including Rinal Amri, Bidyut Vishwanath Senapati, Prasanta Kumar Borka, Indrajit Dekharia and others graced the session.

Educationist Bhulan Muhun Deka formally released the souvenir *Sunaporia Sisuli Saffron* published to mark the occasion.

A new committee was formed with Prabhad Mashrang as president and Pankaj Deuri as general secretary.

Conference on wildlife trafficking: A day-long conference on wildlife trafficking and concern to biodiversity of NE India was organised by the Zoology Department of Dibring College in collaboration with the Aranyakata Science Centre, Bokakhat.

Prof Jogen Kalita of Gauhati University was the chief guest resource persons. All of them

threw light on the topic from various angles.

Park renovated: A park established at Nehruhalli in memory of renowned artist Pranab Borooah few years back and which was not maintained properly by the authority was renovated recently.

On June 25, Union Minister Rajiv Gohain had the foundation stone of the renovation work of the park which will be renovated at a cost of Rs 1.80 crore and will be financed by the Central Government under its Amrit project.

Gohain stressed on maintaining cleanliness at every step. The Kolong river which is the life line of Nagaon should not be polluted, he added.

Nagbon Deputy Commissioner Samsher Singh also addressed the gathering.

The Government has also allotted a sum of Rs 1.20 crore for the renovation of Te Mahendra Nath Dekhapukar park and Sarada Kanta Bordoli park of the town.

Chairman of Nagaon Municipal Board, Diganta Das, ADC Jayanta Kumar Bora, Arati Borooah, wife of late Pranab Borooah and others graced the occasion.



Artists performing jhumur dance on the occasion of Tea Employees' convention at Tezpur District Library on Tuesday. — UB

KADF alleges massive rigging in KAAC elections

CORRESPONDENT

DIPHUA, June 28: The Karbi Anglong Democratic Forum (KADF) has expressed its deep dissatisfaction as a result of the last KAAC elections.

The KADF has alleged that there was high percentage of rigging and other unfair means adopted by the ruling BIP to win the elections to the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC), the results of which were declared on June 22.

It may be mentioned here that KADF is a forum formed by the former EMAs, MACS and leaders who did not get party tickets from BIP to contest in the elections. The KADF had put up 15 candidates out of whom two managed to win. D Uping Maslai from Amri, West Karbi Anglong and

Richard Tokbi won from Duarabgori constituencies respectively.

The KADF through a statement said that the elections have undermined the democratic values of the voters by resorting to strategic rigging and manipulation of the polls in selected polling stations and constituencies so that the nominees of State ruling party would return. Condemning the election process, it said that most of the polling nominees have won through strategic rigging by poll officials and the nominees of the KADF have been victimised in the process.

The unprecedented win of the KADF despite the 'rigging' by the ruling party proved that people are still keen to defend the autonomy of the hill people, it said. KADF convenor and former

EM, KAAC Surjyo Rongphar said that in a particular polling station at Piti Adlong in Sumerupur MAC constituency, there were additional 101 ballot papers found in the ballot box. A complaint was lodged with the poll officials, but no constructive response was received. After the counting ended, the result was withheld for hours and after 12 pm, BJP candidate Jagat Singh Englai was declared the winner. "We found no use of complaining as the Election Commission itself is involved. If we approach the State Election Commission it will be a waste of time and energy as it is not going to take up the matter. The whole election process has undermined the democratic values and is suppressing the autonomy of the people," Rongphar contested as a KADF backed inde-

pendent from Deopani, but lost.

Another KADF convenor and former EM, KAAC D Uping Maslai, who had won the election as KADF candidate defeating BJP candidate Dhamiram Maslai from Amri MAC constituency in West Karbi Anglong said, "Even during the ASDC movement which was at its peak in 1980, the party had won 22 seats out of total 26 seats and 21 in 1996. The ruling BIP party has used unfair means by involving the State Election Commission to win maximum seats."

Rongphar further said that the KADF is trying to re-group the regional forces in order to reclaim the lost glory of autonomy and self rule to defend and preserve the rights and autonomy of the hill people of the two hill districts of Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao.

Trade union leader Paritosh Dey passes away

CORRESPONDENT

SILCHAR, June 28: A former employee of Silchar Municipal Board and a frontline trade union leader in Barak Valley, Paritosh Dey passed away Monday at the Silchar Medical College and Hospital at 11:15 pm after suffering a massive cardiac arrest, he was 63.

He is survived by his brothers and sisters. Popularly known as Shiba da among his colleagues and peers, Paritosh Dey was actively associated with Barak Uppotyika Banga Sahitya O Sanskritik Sammelan as the secretary of the Sammelan's Cachar District Committee.

Meanwhile, the news of the

demise of Paritosh Dey cast a pall of gloom across Silchar and around the district. Known to be an amiable person to young and old, the mortal remains of Paritosh Dey was brought to the Banga Bhawan on Tuesday where members of the organisation paid their last tributes.

A large number of people who were closely associated with the departed union leader, carried the mortal remains of Paritosh Dey to Silchar Municipal Board where the chairperson of the civic board NN Tagore, commissioners and other staff members of the board offered their last respects. His last rites were performed at the Silchar crematorium later in the day.

14-year-old rescued from child marriage at Raha

DIBYA J BORTHAKUR

RAHA, June 28: In a dramatic move, following an input a team of Raha police on Monday night rescued a 14-year-old girl, who was to be married off to a 37-year-old man from Haryana.

According to police, following an alert that a child marriage was going to take place at Pohupuri Khati village, Dighaldori under Raha PS on Monday, a police team along with the village head rushed to the spot and met the family members of the girl. They found that the family from a poor background had decided to marry their daughter to a 37-year-old businessman

named Bajrang Lal, son of Late Ram Narayan of Nunuwali village in Mahendra Garh district of Haryana.

With the help of the village head and the local people, the police spoke to the parents and explained to them the legalities for marriage and the consequences of violating the law. The team also provided counseling to the parents. Subsequently, they stopped the marriage which was about to take place at the bride's house.

Talking to this correspondent, Moloy Kumar Acharjee, officer-in-charge of Raha PS who led the police team said that the girl was not interested in the marriage and was forced into the marriage by her uncle

Initially, the girl's family prevented the police from stopping the marriage, and only after the police warned them of the serious consequences of child marriage, they agreed to stop the marriage, the police officer said.

Mahendra Nath who provided shelter to the man from Haryana in his house for about a month. As the girl's father had died several years ago, her mother ridden by poverty found the girl a burden and agreed to marry off the girl to Bajrang Lal. Though the girl, a student of class IX, kept frequently going on fast protest against the marriage, her family even became more stubborn to go ahead with his decision.

Initially, the girl's family prevented the police from stopping the marriage, and only after the police warned them of the serious consequences of child marriage, they agreed to stop the marriage, the police officer said.

Meanwhile, the news of the

Boljang villagers transform wasteland into green forest

CORRESPONDENT

HAFLONG, June 28: At a time when destruction of forests all over the State at its peak, the villagers of Boljang village of Dima Hasao have taken a pledge to transform a wasteland into a green forest by planting trees to make their village self-sufficient, said KC Singh, the gomorhbar of Boljang.

Boljang, a village located 55 km from Haflong in the Mahur-Laisong road was established in the year 1954 and having 39 houses with 318 inmates lacks basic amenities like water supply, medical facilities etc.

As the village has failed to draw the attention of the developmental agencies despite repeated reminders, the villagers decided to stand on their own by generating income with the help of mother nature while preserving and protecting the nature as their mother. "We are farmers. Nature is our mother. We know the land

as a mother knows her child. We knew that it would require some preparation but our efforts would yield fruit. That's what gave us the courage to start." They started the planting of trees from 2015, and by this time they have planted 40,000 trees and they aim to extend the plantation by 20,000

trees each year. Encouraged by the growth of the trees, Singson said we are planning to transform the entire wasteland in and around our village into a green hill so this project has been named 'Green Hill'. After five or six years, we will be getting huge returns out of these trees which will be used

for the development of the village. Along with the plantation, we have also banned poaching, hunting of wild animals and even using traps to catch birds. We have also decided to develop the natural lake in our village after which the village is named, 'Bo' means lake in the Kuki dialect and 'Jang'

means hill and thus the name Boljang has come up.

Singson said that Dima Hasao district has always been blessed by Nature and is also considered as the greenest district of Assam with the highest coverage of forest despite continuous plough cultivation. But to retain the name and fame of our district, we can do a lot by transforming all the wasteland into a green forest. In this process, the Government can play the role of a catalyst. He appealed to all the people of Dima Hasao not to allow the wanton destruction of the nature, forest and the environment with the false promises of development.

Ujjwala Yojana inaugurated: Member of Parliament, RP Sarma inaugurated the ceremonial launching and distribution of LPG connection by the IOC to BPL families of Dima Hasao as per the 2011 Census under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) at a ceremonial func-

tion held on the premises of the Cultural Institute Hall on Tuesday.

The inaugural function was attended by the Chairperson Ranu Langthasa, Deputy Chairman HB Chetri, Executive Members Debojit Bathani, Kulendra Daoagupu, Samuel Changsan, ST Jem Hrangkhola, Deputy Commissioner, Dima Hasao Ranjit Hazarika, Principal Secretary Amerendra Barua and others.

Representatives of IOC attending the function detailed the objectives of the scheme which would help the womenfolk of the country to a great extent.

All the speakers appreciating PM Narendra Modi said under this scheme, five crore LPG connections will be provided to BPL families in the country to provide clean cooking fuel to women belonging to BPL households across the country. RP Sarma while appreciating the organisers appealed to the people to avail the benefits of this scheme.




**WEATHER
NORTHEAST**

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

Warning : Heavy rain is very likely to occur at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh on June 29, 30 and July 2, over Assam and Meghalaya on June 29, over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura on June 29 and July 1. Heavy to very heavy rain is very likely to occur at many places over Arunachal Pradesh on July 1, over Assam and Meghalaya on June 30 and July 1 and 2 and over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura on July 2.

Temperatures :

	Max (°C)	Min (°C)
Dibrugarh	33.8	25
Tezpur	32.3	26.9
Silchar	33.6	25.6
Dhubri	33.7	28.0
Jorhat	35.1	26.2
Lakhipur	36.4	26.3
Shillong	26.8	16.4
Imphal	32.0	22.5
Itanagar	34.9	25.0
Aizawl	28.5	14.2
Morapara	34.2	25.3
Kohima	28.0	18.2
Pasighat	34.4	24.7
Cherrapunjee	24.6	17.9

CAPSULE**SBI Mutual Fund**

MUMBAI, June 28: SBI Mutual Fund, the fifth largest (by AUM) asset management company, is completing three decades of operations tomorrow, making it the oldest entity in the country. As of June 2016, its AUM is over Rs 1,57,600 crore (excluding domestic fund of funds) as on March 2017. SBI MF was also the first bank-sponsored MF to have been registered with SEBI. — PTI

Corporation Bank

NEW DELHI, June 28: State-owned Corporation Bank today said it has got shareholders' nod for raising up to Rs 3,500 crore through share sale. The lender's annual general meeting "approved raising of capital of the bank by issue of preference of fresh shares and/or issue of additional Tier I or Tier II capital as per Basel III guidelines to the extent of Rs 3,500 crore," Corporation Bank said in a regulatory filing to stock exchanges. — PTI

Godrej Industries

NEW DELHI, June 28: Godrej Industries Ltd will sell shares in the initial public offer (IPO) of its group firm Godrej Agrovet to raise up to Rs 400 crore. Godrej Industries owns 60.8 per cent in Agrovet. In a filing to the BSE, Godrej Industries said that its board "has decided to participate in the IPO of equity shares by Godrej Agrovet Ltd". — PTI

Tata Sky service

MUMBAI, June 28: Tata Sky, the pay-television operator Tata Sky today launched a new interactive service "Tata Sky Classic Cinema", in partnership with film content and entertainment business provider Sheramco. "The service is targeted at not only the lovers of classic films but also gives the audience of today an opportunity to connect with the glorious era of Indian cinema," Tata Sky Chief Commercial Officer Pallavi Puri said. — PTI

Allahabad Bank

KOLKATA, June 28: Pravin Rao, chairman of Allahabad Bank, today obtained shareholders' nod to raise equity capital aggregating up to Rs 200 crore through different modes like QIP, FPO or a rights issue. MD and CEO of Allahabad Bank Usha Ananthasubramanian told shareholders at the AGM here that the bank was facing challenges in the business growth and the environment we are operating in. "But I would not say we are very comfortable. We need to raise capital." — PTI

Cabinet gives in-principle nod to Air India divestment

NEW DELHI, June 28: Moving ahead on the proposal for privatisation, the Union Cabinet today gave its in-principle approval for divestment of Air India, whose debt has mounted to Rs 50,000 crore, besides huge losses.

"In-principle approval for Air India divestment has been given," Finance Minister Arun Jaitley told a press briefing after the Cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"The Civil Aviation Ministry's proposal for formation of a group under the chairmanship of the Finance Minister to decide the modalities of divestment process has also been accepted," he said.

Apart from Jaitley, the group will include Civil Aviation Minister Ashok Gajapati Raju and some other ministers to be decided by the Prime Minister.

The group will guide the process on strategic divestment and decide on treatment of unsustainable debt of Air India and divesting off certain assets to a shell company, officials said.

The demerger and strategic divestment of three profit-making subsidiaries, the quantum of divestment and the universe of bidders will also be taken up by the ministerial group to be headed by Jaitley.

Jaitley has in the recent past expressed strong views on the need to divest Air India considering that it had acquired heavy losses over a long period.

"There are many private airlines like Jet Airways, IndiGo, GoAir. If 86 per cent of the aviation market can be handled by private sector, then 100 per cent can also be handled by the private sector," Jaitley had said.

National passenger carrier Air India currently has a market share of 14 per cent and a debt of Rs 50,000 crore. The private airlines enjoy 86 per cent of the market share.

"Air India has a debt of Rs 50,000 crore. Its valuation of aircraft will be at Rs 20,000-25,000 crore. The Civil Aviation Ministry is exploring all possibilities," Jaitley had said.

Minister of State for Civil Aviation Jayant Sinha had also said that Air India's debt needs to be reduced and balance sheet restructured as part of its financial transformation.

"Air India's balance sheet has to be restructured and debt reduced. The other issue is that corporate governance and professional management need to be put in place. Besides, it has to be seen how best use can be made of the non-core assets of Air India," Sinha had said.

In a recent report to the Civil Aviation Ministry, the NITI Aayog recommended strategic divestment in the loss-making Air India by which government control would be transferred to a private owner.

Currently, Air India's international network consists of 41 destinations across the US, Europe, Australia, Far East and South East Asia and the Gulf.

The airline's domestic network covers 72 destinations, including far-flung areas of the North-east, Ladakh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands. — IANS

AI Express posts Rs 297-cr profit

NEW DELHI, June 28: Flying in the black for the second year straight, Air India Express today reported a net profit of Rs 296.7 crore for 2016-17, helped primarily by higher revenues and reduced costs.

The low-cost arm of state-owned Air India however saw its net profit fall from Rs 361.68 crore earned in the financial year ended March 2016.

The results were approved by the airline's board during the meeting held here today.

"The net profit earned in 2016-17 is particularly significant as the competition from Indian private carriers increased considerably during the year," Air India Express CEO K Shyam Sunder told PTI.

Under-construction property

Realtors' body moves PM for 6% GST

NEW DELHI, June 28: Realtors' body National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) has written to the Prime Minister seeking a lower GST of 6 per cent on sale of under-construction property from 12 per cent as higher tax will lead to price rise and affect sales.

It has also sought exemption of good and services tax (GST), to be rolled out from July 1, on affordable housing which has gained momentum after getting infrastructure status and interest subsidy.

"The GST regime proposes to tax sale of under-construction real estate property at 12 per cent on the total sale value (including the land value). This is in addition to the stamp duty levied around 5-6 per cent on the sale value."

"The total tax burden of around 18 per cent on the sale of under-construction real estate property will lead to inflationary impact on the cost of property," NAREDCO said in the letter. — PTI



Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Kalraj Mishra chairing a meeting of the National Khadi and Village Industries Board, in New Delhi on Wednesday. — UNI

PSUs should ensure cyber security, says Prasad

NEW DELHI, June 28: IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad today exhorted state-owned firms to be "vigilant" while securing digital infrastructure even as he emphasised that cyber attacks should not be a deterrent to building information superhighways in India.

His comments come against the backdrop of a global malware attack that has disrupted functioning of some central banks and many large corporations in Europe. In India, the attack has impacted the functioning of one of the terminals of India's largest container port JNPT.

Likening the information superhighway to a national highway, Prasad said that while accidents may occur on roads at times, it only means that users have to be more cautious.

"On the national highways there are accidents... You have to drive carefully, wear seat belts, not drink and drive... But how can you say that there should be no national highways because accidents occur. The same is with information highway..." he said.

Proactive measures have already been initiated following the latest attack and the

government is keeping a close watch on the entire situation, he said, maintaining that there is no large-scale impact on India yet.

The minister was speaking at the national convention on Digitalisation: Opportunities and Challenges'.

Terming cyber security as extremely important, he referred to the Prime Minister having stated that cyber war is like a bloodless war.

"We have got Cyber Swachita Kendra, or the Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre, is part of the Digital India initiative and focuses on detection, cleaning and securing systems from botnet infections.

"I would like the PSUs (public sector units) to be particularly vigilant in ensuring cyber security in their full digital ecosystem," Prasad said. — PTI

India needs single regulator to govern energy sector: NITI Aayog

NEW DELHI, June 28: Government think tank NITI Aayog has made a case for a single regulator to govern India's energy market to make 'India's economy ready' in the year 2040.

The National Energy Policy (NEP) released by NITI Aayog proposes actions to meet the objectives in such a way that India's economy is 'energy-ready' in the year 2040.

"Coal and upstream petroleum sectors have lacked independent, statutory regulators. Due to several reasons, including strong presence of PSUs and limited number of private operators, it was so far not found useful to place the latter in the position," said the draft National

Energy Policy (NEP) on which NITI Aayog has sought public feedback till July 14, 2017.

"But, now with increased private activity, the time is appropriate. Ideally, there ought to be a single regulator to govern the energy market," it added.

With regard to new regulators (coal and upstream petroleum), the draft NEP said the statutory provisions will be so made to provide for effective regulators.

Noting that energy is handled by different ministries—coal, power and petroleum that have the primary responsibility of setting their own sectoral agenda, the draft also said, "An omnibus policy is required to achieve the goal of energy security through coordination

between these sources."

"This is also expected to mainstream emerging energy technologies and provide consumer energy choices," it added.

In the light of the energy challenges faced by the country and the global energy revolution, the draft NEP proposed to set out the national energy objectives and the strategy to meet them.

The draft pointed out that India is heavily dependent on oil and gas imports while also importing coal.

"So far as imports may be disrupted... In due course, we may also consider building strategic reserves as insurance against imported supplies," it said. — PTI

According to the airline, the offer will allow passengers for an extended travel period spread over almost eight months.

Following suit, low-cost carrier IndiGo announced a week-long 'Mega Monsoon Sale' with one-way all-inclusive fares starting at Rs 745 on selected destinations, including Delhi-Goa, Madurai-Chennai, Delhi-Guwahati, Kochi-Hyderabad, Bangalore-Mumbai and Chandigarh-Srinagar, amongst many more," it added.

On Monday, another budget carrier AirAsia had launched a mid-year sale coinciding with other airlines offering more soon offers.

The airline offered bookings from June 26, 2017 till July 2, 2017 for immediate travel between June 26, 2017 and November 23, 2017 for fares starting at Rs 950 for domestic travel and Rs 7,499 for international travel on select flights operated by its group network. — IANS

ket at \$13 billion, growing by 13 per cent over the next four years.

Additionally, as more people come online, smartphone penetration increases and use of digital payment goes up, the report estimates that India's online hotel market will grow to \$4 billion with 31 per cent penetration at a growth rate of 25 per cent annually.

"India's domestic travel market is on an acceleration path. One of the key findings of the report is that by 2020, one in three hotel rooms will be booked on-

line. This is a clear indicator of the growing importance of digital medium in travel research, planning and booking," Google India's Industry Director Vikas Agnihotri said in a statement.

The report noted that consumers typically spend 46 days on average planning their trip. They spend 49 minutes online on travel research and visit it as many as 17 touch points during their booking journey, it said.

However, it found that the length of each online session is less than three

Domestic airlines offer monsoon special fares

NEW DELHI, June 28: With the arrival of the monsoon season, major domestic airlines have announced special fares starting as low as Rs 699.

Budget passenger carrier SpiceJet today announced a 'Mega Monsoon Sale' with one-way all-inclusive fares starting at Rs 745 on selected destinations, including Delhi-Goa, Madurai-Chennai, Delhi-Guwahati, Kochi-Hyderabad, Bangalore-Mumbai and Chandigarh-Srinagar, amongst many more," it added.

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E-Tender No. SMT-10-LMC-17

Open - E-Tender is invited by Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/ N.F. Railway Lumping for and on behalf of the President of India for the work as detail below:

Name of work: Restoration & Maintenance of 12 nos. of 12.5m long concrete track circuiting and other associate signalling works in connection with TRR (P) & ISD in Sehore - Shilhpuri Town & Lumbra - Lumbra section under FCA&CO, N.F. Railway Mainline. Manual payments through Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, D.R.D etc are not allowed.

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Date & Time of closing of E-Tender: 02-09-17 at 15:00 hrs. The complete details of E-Tender may be available in www.Irepss.com

(1) Bidder is required to submit his/her tender through www.Irepss.com

(2) Tenderer is not allowed

(3) Any such manual offer received shall be ignored.

(4) The tenderer is required to make payment towards tender cost, earnest money only through payment mode available on Irepss portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc in favour of FCA&CO, N.F. Railway, Mainline. Manual payments through Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, D.R.D etc are not allowed.

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(38) Tenderer is required to make payment towards tender cost, earnest money only through payment mode available on Irepss portal like net banking, debit card,

Naidu slams lynching on train

NEW DELHI, June 28: Union Minister M Venkaiah Naidu today condemned the lynching of a Muslim man on board a Mathura-bound train, and sought action against the culprits. Jaiswal (17) was stabbed to death while his brothers – Hashim and Sakir – were injured by a mob which also allegedly hurled slurs against them on-board the Delhi-Mathura passenger train between Ballabgarh and Mathura stations last week. "Any incident of such nature is condemnable. It is brutal, atrocious. It will not be acceptable at all. People who are responsible for the same should be identified and dealt very firmly," Naidu said here. – PTI

REJOINDER

against the news published on 27th June 2017 in "The Assam Tribune" front page as "ADB funding to tackle city flash floods".

This is in reference to the news published in the news paper "The Assam Tribune" on 27th June 2017 regarding ADB funded project as "ADB funding to tackle city flash floods". The news stating that the information available with this news paper suggests that there is no such move made by the State Government to secure a financial assistance from the ADB as false as Govt. of Assam has proposed 4 sub-packages for improving water system in State under ADB funded - Assam Urban Infrastructure Investment Program (AUIP) the second phase of loan, and were accepted by ADB. The 1st phase of loan includes the South-East Guwahati water supply project and the works of this water supply project initially got delayed due to termination of poor performing contractor M/S IVRCL in December 2015 for 2 contract packages under phase 1, which were re-bid and awarded to other contractor in October 2016. Now, the works of this water supply project has been completed.

The proposed 4 sub-project under ADB funded AUIP for improved drainage system in Guwahati are as follows:

1. Hydraulic Modeling- master plan for Guwahati Metropolitan Area to study the present structure and status of Guwahati drainage in detailed and taking up necessary measures by designing a master plan for Guwahati drainage with Hydraulic Modeling .

2. Re-siting, Charoenring & Lining of Rivers, water harvesting structure, beautification of banks in Guwahati for smooth flow of water channels like Bahini, Marbaralu, Bharalu along with existing drains in Guwahati Metro area. Rain water harvesting and Hill slope vegetation are proposed to arrest the heavy siltation during rain and thus making existing drain shallow.

3. Construction of pumping stations and sluice gate at Bharalumukh is proposed for pumping out High volume of water (10 m3/sec) reducing the accumulated water at different catchment area within 6 hours during rainy season through Bharalu river.

4. Procurement of Machinery, equipment & transport vehicle for cleaning of existing drainage in Guwahati is proposed for effective operation and maintenance of existing drains which will benefit in respect of excavation, de-siltation and transportation of de-silted/excavated material to landfill site in Guwahati.

All the above mentioned packages are under advance procurement stage and awaiting ADB approval. The cost of 2nd phase is yet to be sanctioned by ADB funded AUIP. The process has already been initiated by Govt. of Assam for 2nd phase of loan amounting to US\$149 million and is under consideration of Department of Economic affairs, Govt. of India as informed in the last TPRM held on 16th April 2017 in New Delhi.

Moreover, it is to be noted that the State Government had initially proposed the diversion of Bahini River under this loan, but later it was dropped from ADB funded project.

Sd/- Project Director

Assam Urban Infrastructure Investment Programme
Janasanyog/661/17

Key Opp parties may not attend GST meet

NEW DELHI, June 28: Leaders of some key Opposition parties may not participate in the June 30 midnight special meeting in Parliament to launch the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime, sources in the Left parties said today.

The sources contended that the official machinery was not prepared to introduce GST, but the government was rushing into implementing it.

"The dominant view among the Opposition parties is that they should not participate in the meeting, and that they will not attend the meeting," the sources said.

A Left leader sought to know what preparations the government had made for GST, holding that the ruling BJP had opposed the system in the past.

"All sections are agitating. You cannot turn it into an entertainment event when people are suffering. So that is the view of all the Opposition parties,"

the Left leader said.

CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury had earlier cryptically said his party had not boycotted the special meeting, but had not issued a whip to its MPs.

When a party issues a whip, its MPs have to obey the party position or face disciplinary action.

Yechury had earlier this week questioned why the government was "hurrying" into introducing GST and recalled that the ruling BJP had opposed the system in the past.

The government will use the circular-shaped Central Hall to launch the new taxation system that is set to dramatically re-shape the over \$2 trillion economy.

A gong will be sounded to signify the arrival of GST. Modi will be the key speaker at the function.

President Pranab Mukherjee is also likely to attend the function.

The GST Bill was originally piloted by Mukherjee when he was the Finance Minister in the UPA regime.

Meanwhile, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said her party TMC will not attend the GST roll-out programme on June 30 midnight as she flayed the "unnecessary hurry" to roll it out.

The TMC supreme termed the GST roll-out as another "epic blunder" by the Centre.

"Our Parliamentary Party has decided not to attend the 30th June, 2017 midnight programme at Parliament House to celebrate GST, as a mark of protest,"

the party said. "These allegations are part of an FIR filed against the jail staff. We are probing the matter." Deputy Commissioner of Police (Zone-3), Akhilesh Singh had said.

The police had earlier sus-

pended six jail staffers and

booked them on the charge of

murder.

Manju (45) died at the govern-

ment-run JJ Hospital on

Friday night after allegedly

being beaten up by a woman

official of the jail on June 23.

Crime branch to probe death of Byculla jail convict

MUMBAI, June 28: The Mumbai Police Crime Branch has taken over the probe into the death of a woman convict who was lodged in the Byculla prison here, a senior police official said today.

The Commissioner of Mumbai Police has issued an order, as per which the crime branch will investigate the death of convict Manju Shette, the official said.

The police had earlier sus-

pended six jail staffers and

booked them on the charge of

murder.

Following Manju's death, the enraged inmates rose in protest on Saturday, some of them went to the prison's terrace, while others made a bonfire of newspapers and documents inside the premises to express their anger. – PTI

SIMPLIFIED MIGRATION**GST IS COMING FROM
1st July, 2017**

Are you worried about how to migrate to the new tax regime?

True to the principle of improving the ease of tax compliance and ease of doing business in the GST regime, the process of migration to GST tax regime has been kept simple and easy. The migration process has been re-opened on the 25th June, 2017 and will continue for three months.

Taxpayers already registered under existing laws will be automatically migrated, and their registration under GST will be confirmed after provision of requisite additional information by them.

Category of Taxpayer	Steps	Form
Registered under existing provisions and having a valid PAN	➤ Data automatically migrated to the GST system and a provisional id (PID) and password is issued	FORM GST REG-25
	➤ Migration process to be completed by furnishing information within three months	FORM GST REG-26
	➤ Verification and acceptance by department in FORM GST REG-06 or Application for cancellation of registration if not liable to be registered under GST law in FORM GST REG-29	FORM GST REG-06 FORM GST REG-29
Registered under existing laws but not migrated due to any reason	➤ Apply on the common portal with PAN, mobile no. and e-mail id	Part A of FORM GST REG-01
	➤ Temporary reference no. generated and communicated	
	➤ Electronically submit duly signed/verified application.	Part B of FORM GST REG-01
	➤ Acknowledgement issued on receipt of application in FORM GST REG-02	
	➤ Verification and approval of the application with final issuance in FORM GST REG-06	

PROVISION FOR LOW COMPLIANCE BURDEN

Law has provided for a low compliance burden on the taxpayers and the Government is committed to further lessen the burden by creating:-

- Facilitation Centres
- GST Practitioners
- GST Suvidha Providers
- Offline utility for return filing
- Application interfaces

YOU MAY ALSO ADDRESS YOUR QUERIES TO:

- a) GST Help desk:
cbecmitra.helpdesk@icegate.gov.in; 1800 1200 232
- b) GSTN Help desk:
helpdesk@gst.gov.in; 0120-4888999
- c) You can also tweet your queries on the twitter handle @askGST_GoI and @askGSTech

**For more details please see:
<http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/gst/regn-GST-onlineversion-07june2017.pdf>**



Tweet us at @askGST_GoI for any GST related query



Central Board of Excise and Customs &
Commercial Taxes Departments of States/Union Territories
www.cbec.gov.in

Artists and architects think differently compared to other people, and use elaborate, detailed descriptions when they talk about spaces, say scientists.

Researchers found that when asked to

Talking professionally

Artists, architects wired to think differently, finds a study

talk about images of places, painters are more likely to describe the depicted space as a two-dimensional image, while architects are more likely to focus on paths and the boundaries of the space.

"We found that painters, sculptors and architects consistently showed signs of their profession when talking about the spaces we showed them, and had more elaborate, detailed descriptions than people in unrelated professions," said Hugo Spiers from University College London in the UK.

Researchers brought in 16 people who were either painter, sculptors or architects.

The participants were presented with a Google Street View image, a painting of St Peter's Basilica, and a computer-generated surreal scene.

They were then asked to describe the environment and explain how they would explore the space, and suggest changes to the environment in the image.

The researchers categorised elements of the responses for both qualitative and quantitative analyses using a novel technique called Cognitive Discourse Analysis, designed to highlight aspects of thought that underlie linguistic choices, beyond what speakers are consciously aware of.

By looking at language

systematically we found some consistent patterns, which turned out to be quite revealing," said Thora Tenbrink from Bangor University in the UK.

Researchers found that the painters tended to shift between describing the scene as a 3D space or as a 2D image.

Architects were more likely to describe barriers and boundaries of the space, and used more dynamic terms, while sculptors' responses were between the

two, researchers said.

Painters and architects also differed in how they described the furthest point of the space, as painters called it the 'back' and architects called it the 'end.'

The control participants gave less elaborate responses, which the authors say went beyond just a lack of expert terminology.

"Our study has provided evidence that your career will change the way you think," Spiers said.

The study was published in the journal *Cognitive Science*.

(Source: PTI)



Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Thursday, June 29, 2017.

This year you make a significant difference in any area you decide to apply your energy. You become more open and receptive despite having to deal with a very controlling partner or close associate. If you are single, you are attracted to people who are more independent. Do you realize that a relationship with this type of person? Choose carefully. If you are attached, the two of you have the same issues but very different ways of handling them. Learn from each other. A VIRGO in the sky could be very fussy.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

**** You bounce out of bed ready to go. Your high energy could dissolve as early as the afternoon. Use the morning well, and prioritize accordingly. A compliment from a family member will please. Someone who has clout could become controlling. Tonight: Relax.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

**** You are imagining others' caring. Anger might seem to stem from nothing, but know that there is a cause, even if you can't identify its source. You can gain a different perspective through detachment. Walk in someone else's shoes. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

**** Stay centered despite pressure from a friend to view a situation the same way he or she does. You might have difficulty if you decide to not placate this person. Be aware of a play that revolves around money, and refuse to get involved. Tonight: Respond to a request.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

**** You might want to open up a change and be more forthcoming. Be your own person, despite someone else's demanding ways. Remain caring and open, yet refuse to get involved in a controlling relationship. Tonight: Speak your mind, but also listen to what others have to say.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** Be aware of the costs of approaching a matter from a different perspective. Try not to push your ideas, or otherwise, you could be causing yourself to have a new set of problems. Maintain your integrity and remain your authentic self. Tonight: Treat a friend to mimosas.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

**** This discussion becomes easier and more successful as time goes on. You should be dragged down by a personal issue. A playful friend can help to spark your creativity. This same ingenuity can come out in a project as well. Tonight: Catch up on a loved one's news.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** Assess your priorities, and come up with a plan that might work better for you. Before moving forward, however, you are going to have to be able to be reflected. You might be testing the validity of certain approaches. Tonight: Get some extra R&R.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

**** Remain in touch with your goals and preferences. Friends surround you and support you in maintaining a peace you feel is necessary. You are feeling secure and led. Tonight: Catch up on news.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** Excitement surrounds you, no matter what you do. Perhaps you have been feeling a bit off as of late. Nevertheless, you attract people who are fun and willing to take a risk. You have taken risks before, why not try it again? Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

**** Reach out to someone at a distance. This person might be hasty and critical, yet he or she will give you valid feedback. You could be more controlling than you have been in a while. A partner he or she is likely to be a bit of a handful. Tonight: Detach from a heated situation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

**** One-on-one time could be either significant. You have a lot of energy to complete a project. What you are thinking probably has nothing to do with what is occurring. Do a better job of listening and being present. Laughter surrounds you. Tonight: Be part of a team.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

**** Deter to others who seem to have a need to know what is happening. A close friend has strong feelings that he or she might be choosing not to share. This closed-off attitude will make this person seem quite distant. Opt to be a better listener. Tonight: Cut and about.

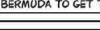
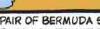
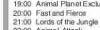
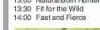
Tonight: The day

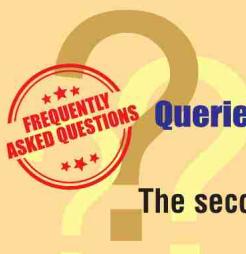
You will find as you grow older that the weight of rages will press harder and harder upon the employer.

- WILLIAM ARCHIBALD SPOONER

Entertainment

Kids



> Be GST Ready >> GST coming from 1st July, 2017

Queries relating to GST received from various Sectors have been scrutinised and developed into short FAQs.

The second part, containing 50 questions and their answers, is given below.

PART-2

S. No.	Query	Reply	S. No.	Query	Reply
Returns					
1.	What would be done on the tax paid on advance receipt if advance has to be refunded in any circumstance?	Advance refunded can be adjusted in the return.	26.	I am a trader. I have excise paid purchase invoice. Whether I can claim credit of full excise duty on closing stock of 1 st July 2017?	Full transition credit of such duty will be available on stock in hand in respect of which you have duty paying excise document subject to conditions under Section 140(3) of the CGST Act.
2.	Do registered dealers have to upload the sale details of unregistered dealers also in GST?	Generally not. But required in case of inter-State supplies having invoice value of more than Rs 2.50 Lakhs.	27.	If a trader purchases directly from manufacturer & has documents showing excise, will he get full excise credit or 40% of CGST?	Full transition credit of such duty will be available on stock in hand in respect of which you have duty paying excise document subject to conditions under Section 140(3) of the CGST Act.
3.	How to incorporate two supplies in return for Pharma with same HSN code of four digits but having different tax rates?	Returns provide for furnishing rate wise details.	28.	If a FSD (First Stage dealer) purchases directly from manufacturer and has value cum excise duty and excise duty is not separately shown will he get full credit?	Full transition credit of such duty will be available on stock in hand in respect of which you have duty paying excise document subject to conditions under Section 140(3) of the CGST Act.
Supply					
4.	Should we discharge GST liability for all reverse charge having small amounts of Transaction or any amount limit is there?	It has been decided that Rs. 5000/- per day exemption will be given in respect of supplies received from unregistered person. For supplies above this amount, a monthly consolidated bill can be raised.	29.	Is the full excise credit also available to traders who purchase directly from manufacturers and excise is separately shown in invoice?	Full transition credit of such duty will be available on stock in hand in respect of which you have duty paying excise document subject to conditions under Section 140(3) of the CGST Act.
5.	What will be the treatment of promotional items given free to end consumers by FMCG companies?	Tax will be charged only on the total consideration charged for such supply.	30.	In June 17 VAT return, no amount carried forward & held stock of Rs. 50 lakhs. Then can we take credit of that stock or not?	The supplier would be eligible to carry forward the closing balance of ITC from VAT return for June 17.
6.	How to comply with 9(4) of CGST Act if POS is in another State of the unregistered supplier?	Any person making inter-state supply has to compulsorily obtain registration and therefore in such cases, section 9(4) will not come into play.	31.	What will be the impact of closing stock which has been already paid vat on 1 st July?	The supplier would be eligible to carry forward ITC on such stock from last VAT return.
7.	Under supply from unregistered dealer the purchaser have to pay GST on RCM basis, so whether stipend paid to intern will also come under RCM?	Stipend paid to interns will be employer-employee transactions. Hence, not liable for GST.	32.	If in VAT return refund claimed in June 17 & no balance credit in GST, then what's the position of submission of Form C?	Refund claimed under existing law will be handled as per the provisions of the existing law. Form C to be submitted in terms of provision of Rule 1(1) of Transition Rules.
8.	Salary by partnership firm to Partners as per Income Tax Act liable to GST?	Salary will not be liable for GST.	33.	Some service was provided on 28.06.2017 but Invoice will be raised on 05.07.2017. Whether we have to charge Service Tax or GST?	If Point of Tax arises after appointed date, then GST will be chargeable on such supply.
9.	Sec 9(4) of CGST Act 2017. Do I need to pay under RCM if I purchase stationary worth Rs.100 from an unregistered stationery shop?	It has been decided that Rs. 5000/- per day exemption will be given in respect of supplies received from unregistered person.	34.	Would we be eligible for credit on Capital Goods in transit and received post GST?	No provision for such credit is there in GST law.
10.	What is the treatment of promotional item given free to end consumers by FMCG companies? If taxable, whether ITC is allowed?	Tax is payable on consideration received for the supply and ITC will be available accordingly.	35.	What about VAT balance pending on transition date?	Balance VAT credit in the return for June 2017 will be transferred as SGST Credit.
11.	Whether GST will be leviable in case of returnable packing material like drums supplied with finished goods?	GST will be levied on the value charged for the supply only.	36.	What about deemed export against Form H?	Form H will not be there in GST.
12.	How will disposal of scrap be treated in GST?	If the disposal is in the course or furtherance of business purposes, it will be considered as a supply.	37.	Who will bear tax difference on closing stocks as on 30th June 2017? Whether the manufacturer/dealer or government?	Closing ITC in VAT return will be allowed to carry forward in GST.
13.	I am from MP and providing service to a customer in Maharashtra. I outsource the work to a service provider in Maharashtra, what tax I need to charge?	Generally these will be two supplies where the supplier from MP will charge IGST from the recipient in Maharashtra. Whereas, the service provider in Maharashtra will charge GST from the recipient in MP.	38.	How will we get input credit on stock in hand for spare parts billed from other state, excise, CST and entry tax paid?	For all inputs with duty paying documents available respective CGST/SGST credit will be available. But credit of CST will not be available.
14.	If address of buyer is Punjab and place of supply is same as state of supplier (Rajasthan), then IGST will apply or CGST/SGST?	If the place of supply and the location of the supplier are in the same State then it will be intra-State supply and CGST / SGST will be applicable.	39.	A trader buys from manufacturer not registered in excise as his turnover is below 1.5 crore. Then in such case can traders take ITC on stock up to 40%?	Deemed Credit will be available on stock in hand provided the conditions of section 140(3) read with Rule 1(4) of Transition Rules are satisfied.
15.	Why is bifurcation of cash deposit as CGST-SGST-IGST required? Is cash held against a GSTIN, to be adjusted via return u/s 39?	Three levies are under three different statutes and are required to be separately accounted for.	40.	Whether we will be eligible for credit of duty paid on Capital Goods in transit and received post GST?	No such provision in GST.
16.	What is the difference in between 'Nil rated', 'taxable at 0%' and exempted goods and services? Especially in relation with ITC	Exempt supply includes Nil rated (taxable at 0%) and non-Taxable supplies and no ITC is available for such supplies.	41.	Can ITC of Swach Bharat Cess or Krishi Kalyan Cess be carried forward under GST?	No
17.	Will professional tax will be abolished in Maharashtra after introducing of GST?	Professional tax is not a tax on supply of goods or services but on being in a profession. Professional tax not subsumed in GST.	42.	Will Clean Energy CESS on imported Coal @ Rs. 400 PMT continue to be applicable in GST?	No. Clean Energy Cess is being repealed. Coal, however, will be subject to compensation cess @ Rs 400/- per tonne.
18.	Employer provides bus service, meal coupon, telephone at residence, gives vehicle for official and personal use, uniform and shoes, any GST?	Where the value of such supplies is in the nature of gifts, no GST will apply till value of such gifts exceeds Rs. 5000/- in a financial year.	43.	Whether closing balance of education cess & secondary and higher education cess prior to 1 st Mar 2015 can be carried forward in GST?	No it will not be carried forward in GST as it is not covered by definition of "eligible duties and taxes" under Section 140 of the CGST Act.
19.	The definition of composite supply and the description of same under Section 8 differ. Please explain consequences.	Section 2(30) defines what will be considered as a composite supply. Whereas, Section 8 provides that in case of a composite supply, the treatment for tax rate etc. will be that of principal supply.	44.	Can I clarify for 40% benefit on closing stock does 1 year limit apply or not?	Deemed credit will be available for all stock procured within a 1 year period.
20.	Whether slump sale will attract GST. If yes then under which Section?	It will have the same treatment as normal supply.	45.	Till what time is transition credit available? Where do I need to declare my input stock?	The window to declare transition credit forms is three months from the appointed day. Please refer to transition rules for more details.
21.	Whether Salary by Partnership firm to Partners as per Income Tax Act liable to GST? Partners are not employees of the firm.	Salary will not be leviable of GST.	46.	Will there be GST in A&N Islands as previously there was no VAT?	Yes. For supplies within A&N, CGST plus UTGST would be leviable.
Transition					
22.	How do I avail transition credit?	Transition credit can be availed by filing the respective forms under Transition rules.	UTGST		
23.	Please provide the clarity on area based exemption 50/2003 in UK & HP.	Area based exemptions will not be continued under GST. It will be operated through the route of reimbursement as prescribed.	47.	Whether IGST would be levied twice on high seas sales? First on high seas sales and second on custom clearance. IGT paid on one available as ITC?	IGST shall be levied only once on imports.
24.	We manufactured excisable goods. But unit availed the exemption benefits 50/2003. What about my dealers stock?	The dealer will get deemed credit @ 40% / 60% of the CGST paid on supply of such goods in GST. If the goods are branded and value more than Rs. 25,000, full credit using CTD can be availed.	48.	Will Krishi Mandi Fee (imposed in U.P.) be waived off in GST?	GST does not concern such fee so GST does not affect it.
25.	A trader buys from manufacturer not registered in excise as his turnover is below 1.5 cr. Then in such case can trader take ITC on stock upto 40%?	Yes deemed credit will be available subject to satisfaction of other conditions as prescribed.	49.	Is E-Way Bill applicable from 1 st July 2017?	The present system for E-way Bill in States to continue, till the E-Way Bill procedures are finalized.
Others					
50.	Is there a sunset clause for Anti-Profitteering law?	Yes, the sunset clause for Anti-profitteering Law is of two years.			

Disclaimer : Replies given above are only for educational and guidance purposes and do not hold any legal validity.

For more details please see <http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/gst/tweet-faq.pdf>

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Mexico face Germany in Confederations Cup semis

SOCHI, June 28: Mexico coach Juan Carlos Osorio warned against underestimating a youthful Germany in tomorrow's Confederations Cup semifinal because of the wealth of experience many of them have already gained.

Of the eight teams at the tournament the Germans brought the youngest squad to Russia's Confed Cup with an average age of just over 24.

Despite leaving their 2014 World Cup-winning stars at home, the Germans earned their semifinal place by toppling their group after beating Australia and Cameroon and fighting back to draw 1-1 with South American champions Chile.

Osorio pointed out that the likes of Paris Saint-Germain's Julian Draxler, 23, Liverpool's Emre Can, 23, and Arsenal's Shkodran Mustafi, 25, have already played in both the Bundesliga and Europe's top leagues.

"You can be young and have a lot of experience," said Osorio.

A 30-year-old who starts studying cardiology will know a lot less than a 21 year old graduate, who already works in

an emergency room in a big city and has already performed a lot of surgeries.

"Guys like Draxler and (Bayern Munich's) Joshua Kimmich, have all played Champions League and have lots of Bundesliga experience, despite their ages."

Osorio has chopped and changed the Mexico team for all three Confed Cup games so far.

Ex-Manchester United striker Javier

Herrera says whoever plays at Sochi's Fisht Stadium will be capable of beating the world champions to reach Sunday's final, against Portugal or Chile who meet in Wednesday's other semifinal.

"I have been playing for two years in the Bundesliga, we need to see where their weaknesses are and where we can hurt them," said Bayer Leverkusen striker Herrera, who has started two of Mexico's three games in the tournament.

"But we're focused on what we need to do, we don't know who they are, it's one of our qualities that anyone can come in and do the job."

"They are the world champions and we're very happy to be in this match."

Both teams remain undefeated in the competition and will be hoping to retain their 100 per cent records heading into the final.

Assessing this game on pedigree alone paints Germany as the big favourites, with the World Cup holders having only been matched thus far in the competition by Chile, against whom they drew 1-1 last week.

But Die Mannschaft made up for that disappointment with a commanding 3-1 victory over Cameroon to decide their place as Group B winners thanks to a brace from man-of-the-match winner Timo Werner.

The RB Leipzig striker was an integral part of his club's second-place finish in the Bundesliga last term and has translated that form to the international stage. But he is just one weapon Mexico must cage if they're to progress.

Mexico have hardly been slouches themselves though, and while their six-match undefeated run may be as intimidating, the fact that's just one of the two defeats they've suffered in the past two years speak volumes. - Agencies



Germany players warm up during a training session ahead of their Thursday's Confederations Cup semifinal against Mexico at Sochi.

CSA welcomes ICC's new constitution

JOHANNESBURG, June 28: Cricket South Africa (CSA) has welcomed the widespread and significant changes made to the ICC Constitution as well as the revised financial model for all member countries.

CSA was one of the fiercest opponents of ICC's plan to share revenue disproportionately among members.

"We are very pleased that the ICC have accepted a new model for doing business that is in line with accepted standards of corporate governance and this will benefit the growth of the game globally," CSA president Chris Nenzani said here yesterday.

"What was particularly important is the fact that all the changes were accepted unanimously by members and this show of unity is very pleasing. There is also a much better model in terms of the share of finances to ICC members."

"I also wish to take this opportunity to thank (ICC chairman) Mr. Shashank Manohar for the amazing work he has done and also congratulate Imran Khanwa on his election as the ICC deputy chairman," he added.

CSA played a lead role in challenging the previous ICC resolutions that had concentrated power and money in the hands of a few members boards, such as India and England and had been working towards a more acceptable model for governance and revenue sharing.

"Compared to where we were a few years ago, the recent changes at ICC level have been very pleasing and it is now up to our chief executives to put in place a new international cricket structure that will ensure the sustainability of all three formats at the international level," the CSA chief said.

Nenzani also welcomed Afghanistan and Ireland as full ICC members on behalf of all South African cricketers, stakeholders and fans. - PTI

FIFA set to shift India's U-17 World Cup games to New Delhi



NEW DELHI, June 28: The U-17 World Cup is set to shift India's Under-17 World Cup matches from Mumbai to the national capital New Delhi, as the apex soccer body has taken the host government's request "very seriously".

The All India Football Federation (AIFF) initially wanted Mumbai to host India's home matches but later asked FIFA to shift them to New Delhi due to pressure from the sports ministry as it felt it was appropriate that the capital hosts the home team's games.

"Together with the AIFF and the Government, this World Cup will change the future of football in India. We are convinced to reach a decision which will satisfy all parties,"

Yarza said.

The first FIFA event in India will be held across six cities from October 6 to 28.

Though he did not reveal the names, Yarza said at least two top players will be present on the day of the official draw in Mumbai on July 7.

"Well, we cannot spoil the fun for the fans. We will have two top players for the official draw on July 7, as well as some other appearances until the start of the tournament."

"But it's difficult to find time on the agendas of such football legends, so we'd rather work carefully to make sure that these legends make an impact on the Indian fans. But one thing we can confirm: football fans will not be disappointed!"

Even as the response to ticket sales continues to be lukewarm in centres such as Goa and New Delhi, Yarza sounded confident that it would pick up after the draw. - PTI

bronze in 50m breaststroke.

On the other hand in Group IV, the Assam girls team clinched a silver in 4x50m freestyle relay. In girls Group III, Assam had to be content with a bronze in the 4x50m relay. In Group IV, the Assam boys team won the silver medal in 4x50m freestyle relay.

Chess coaching camp in city

GUWAHATI, June 28: Jahnabi Kashyap clinched gold in the 50m freestyle event on the opening day of the 34th Sub Junior National Aquatic Championship at Pune today. She also bagged a silver medal in the 50m backstroke.

Among other Assam swimmers, Basit Ahmed won a silver in the 50m freestyle while Rehan Mirza secured a

bronze in 50m breaststroke.

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Roll ball selection trial

GUWAHATI, June 28: To prepare the Assam boys and girls teams for the

Jahnabi bags gold in national aquatic



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Dear Iashani Aunty,
My younger brother likes swear words even when talking to elders. My parents and I feel embarrassed. What can we do?
— Aditi

Dear Aditi,
You have to make your brother understand that using such words is socially unacceptable. You can't change his image, but also get him into trouble. You could have a frank talk with him. If he does not listen, then maybe he will have to face the music in school.

Dear Iashani Aunty,
My handwriting is illegible. Due to this, I get less marks in exams. How can I improve my handwriting?
— Sudeshna

Dear Sudeshna,
Have you heard of the phrase "practice makes a man perfect"? Take a free-line exercise book and copy passages from your textbook or even better, a story book for as many days as you like and deliberately. Make sure every word is legible. Then work at writing at a faster pace. Last but not least, you will get over your handicap. Good luck!

Dear Iashani Aunty,
Our maid's younger sister has been kidnapped from her home in the village. The maid is scared and cries frequently. What can I do to help?
— Amit

This is unfortunate. I think you should let her go home and find out who has happened. Tell her to contact the nearest police station without delay. Her sister's photograph will be required for the purpose. I am glad you are concerned.

JUNIOR PUZZLERS

1) Is Egypt in Europe, Africa, or Asia?



2) Were the 2004 Olympic Games held in Australia, Greece, or Spain?



3) Is parachuting from tall buildings called crazy jumping, base jumping, or ace jumping?



by John Martin

DID YOU KNOW?
The costume of Big Bird from Sesame Street is made from dyed turkey feathers.

ANSWERS: 1) Africa; 2) Greece; 3) Base jumping.

JP66

Please collect your certificates from our office.

[Send your entries to planet.young@assamtribune.com]



MINI M@THS

CROSSWORD

DOWNS

ACROSS

DOWN

1. 78 - 47 1. 73 - 43
2. 50 - 9 2. 54 - 10
3. 98 - 28 3. 62 + 12
4. 71 - 19 4. 81 - 20
5. 99 - 18 5. 79 - 47
6. 8 + 54 6. 91 - 70
7. 8 + 15 7. 42 + 25
8. 9 + 33 8. 54 - 27
9. 10 + 44 9. 70 - 42
10. 11 + 18 10. 79 - 28
11. 20 + 18 11. 33 + 3
12. 14 + 33 12. 22 + 5
13. 13 + 13 13. 22 + 5
14. 19 - 10 14. 14 - 5
15. 97 - 40 15. 49 - 4
16. 4 + 21 16. 14 - 51

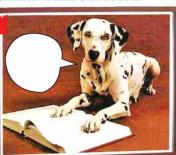
Calculate the clues and fill in the grids with the answers.

SOLUTION

© Henk Elgan - minnows

PicSPEAK

NEXT WEEK'S PICTURE

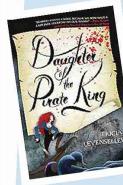


ANSWER: A dog.

wordwatch

1	Hoist a) To lift up b) Raise c) Move swiftly d) Complain bitterly	4	Sanctimonious a) Sacred b) Self-righteous c) Self-sympathy d) Pure
2	Impale a) Punish b) Lighten c) Place underwater d) Pierce	5	Digression a) Gloominess b) Split personality c) Financial loss d) Detour
3	Meticulously a) Sloppily b) Carefully c) Quickly d) Politely		1 (a) to (b) 2 (c) to (d) 3 (d) to (a) 4 (b) to (c) 5 (d) to (b)

BOOK NOOK



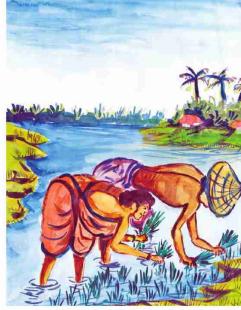
Daughter of the Pirate King

By Tricia Lennard

Alos is the daughter of the pirate King of the ruthless, violent underworld cutthroats who have been terrorising the seas. Allos considers herself the most ruthless cutthroat of all. Together with her crew, the other pirates often fail to take their prey alive. Allos may look like a girl, but she is pretty, dastardly, but she is as hardened as the male pirates she so frequently battles with. It is for this reason that the Pirate King has trained her to be his right-hand man on a secret mission to locate the ship of rival pirate Captain Jack Sparrow, who has an ancient and valuable treasure map. Allows herself to be kidnapped, manhandled, and locked in the brig, all so that she can escape and search the ship in her own sweet time.

Farmer's toil

Jyotsnaika Kalita
Arunodam Baroah Academy, Pathia



Have we ever thought about how much hard work is needed to produce rice, which is our staple food? Cultivation of rice is no easy task. As the farmers have to prepare the soil. This tilling or ploughing process is done by using a plough. The plough is generally drawn by cattle, and a man is engaged to control the plough in the right way. The big pieces of soil, called crumbs, which remain even after ploughing, are removed using a plough. The seeds are sown in the soil. The seeds are prepared through agricultural processes, ploughing is done by using a tractor. But those who cannot afford it have to choose the traditional methods. Then comes the next step - sowing. Before sowing, only the good quality seeds are selected by the farmers. These seeds are sown by the farmers from the previous year's production. The seeds are evenly sown on muddy soil. Within a period of one or more months, yellow-green seedlings appear. These seedlings are then uprooted by the cultivators. And to remove the mat, they hit the seedlings on their legs. This is a painful procedure. After that, the seedlings are planted in another muddy field, which has been prepared by ploughing and irrigating. Here too, when there is lack of rain, water is supplied manually or through canals. When the seedlings grow

and become full-grown, pesticides and fertilisers are added to protect the plants.

When the plants fully mature, it is time to harvest them. After three or four months of hard work, there comes the day of the harvest. The sight of the golden fields is令人惊叹. As the farmers are happy to prepare the soil. This tilling or ploughing process is done by using a plough. A machine called a harvester. The grain seeds are then separated from the chaff and this process is known as threshing.

The remaining task of storage. The crop grains need to be kept safe from rats, moisture, microorganisms, etc. The grains may get spoilt by organisms if they are stored in a dry area. So, the farmers dry the produce in the sun and then preserved them in these grains in mills or through other household methods. After such a long process, we get the rice that we eat. So, do respect the farmers and try to understand their hard work. It is really hard work in our country to face terrible conditions like droughts, floods continuously. And most of them do not get their desired education.

Once a man goes fishing, he will eat for a day, but teach him how to fish, he will eat for the rest of his life."

The case of a farmer is similar to this. When a need is a must to be fulfilled, then they have to do it, without having to face the desperation that a

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Sketch of the week



Nishant Malia Buzbaranah, Class-X,
Don Bosco School, Panbari, Guwahati



Nalipendu Phukan, Class-III,
Bengaliagon H.S. School, Borgalganj

Poem of the Week

Dibasmita Kar, H.S. 1st year,
Cotton University, Guwahati.

TWO SOULS

Two souls,
Both souls, lived apart.
One a youngster, the other mature.
Two souls,
Two identities, two faiths.
One Hindu, the other Muslim.
Two souls,
With ambitions.
One for school.
The other for college.
Two souls,
Had a chance meeting.
Near the State Zoo on a rainy day.
The youngster was in danger.
The mature one rushed to help.
But, both embraced death.
And –
Left for heavenly stode.

(In memory of Prashan Kalita, a student, and Anowar Hassan.)



Amrita Sharma, Class-VIII,
Shrimanta Shankar Academy, Dispur, Guwahati

Rhythm of the rain

The rain is falling in little drops,
Like a tidal海潮 of happiness,
It's falling in the sky, like a waterfall.
Somewhere to the sky, with the butterfly.
I get wet in the rain.
But I am free and clean.
My mother stops me from doing so.
She fears I may catch a cold.
But the rain envelope me in its sweet warmth.

Rashmita Kashyap, Class-V,
Srimanta Shankar Jyoti Vidyalya, Bihaguri, Tezpur.



Niley Baruah, Class-V,
Bina's Art School, Tezpur

Innocent trees

Taking our burden,
It never leaves back;
But deceived by man,
Lacking humanity.

Our evil designs of greed,
Make us cut them for merciless loot,
Leaving the earth with no seeds.

Harsikha Saha, Class-IX,
Koneriya Vidyalya Central University, Tezpur.



Kanjanav Ojha, Class-VIII,
Shrimanta Shankar Academy, Dispur, Guwahati

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Umesh Ummora, Class-III,
St. Mary's School, Panigrahi, Nalbari

Poem of the Week

Upashare Tarukder, Class-XI,
Tezpur Gurukul School, Tezpur



Upashare Tarukder, Class-XI,
Tezpur Gurukul School, Tezpur

The exam time barter

The exam month,
That time of the
year when all our
hard work will finally pay
off. But we have to leave
the house, go to school
and leave our parents.

But there are some
cases that except in a
few cases, nobody works
that hard at all. This is the
time when people start
cheating in exams, becoming
in miracles, because the
most religious people
on the planet are treated
like liars. They start
in some cases like mind,
become the most philo-
sophical people, question-
ing our very existence,
our purpose in life. And

almost every time, consider-
ing ourselves, by saying
that one exam doesn't
define one's destiny!

God is with us every
moment of the night
before an exam – the
barter system that goes
on between us students
and God, in which the stu-
dent offers every delicacy
leftover to him kind to
God on his side. (P.S. –
God puts on stake every time
he loves for mere marks!
The truth is, God's just
smiling up there, saying
– Yes, You Go on. I'm

Listening... by the way, you
forget your habit of biting
your nails.

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Sona Sonika, Class-IX,
St. Paul's School, Kora,
Rajasthan.



Riddhima Bora, Class-II,
FALPS. (DPS), Kuwait



Aritree Dey, Class-VII,
Christ Jyoti School, Nagaon



Muskan Deekha, Class-III,
North East Public School, Guwahati



Yugabratna Mahanta,
Sensai Birla Gyan-Jyoti, Amlongon, Guwahati