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3. Consultant in the Department of Paediatrics Cataract (1 Post)

**Essential Qualification:**- Post Graduate in Ophthalmology (DMB/ MS) with minimum 5 years experience in various departments. Experience candidates will be preferred. Interested candidates may apply with their CV and contact phone no. email ID or before 14.08.2017 to

The Manager (HR)

Sri Sankaradeva

Nethralaya

96, Basistha Road,

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Tel # (0361) 223344/2228921

Email: ssnhrm@gmail.com  
N. B.: All candidates must bring their original documents on the day of Interview.

The decision of the Selection Committee will be final and binding.

CD/SV/1887/1

**WANTED EXPERIENCE PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY & MATHS FACULTY FOR ITANAGAR QUALIFICATION: M.Sc., SALARY: NEGOTIABLE PLUS ACCOMMODATION. CONTACT: 09436291291, 9436046767. INTERESTED CANDIDATES SHOULD SUBMIT RESUME AT nimbusTutorial@gmail.com SV/P/29164**

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CD/SV/P/A231/1

Wanted DTP Operator having job work experience, Dighalipukhuri. Call: 7662360440.

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Wanted a Cleaner-cum-Cook with 3 years' experience in Hotel Industry to work in a restaurant in a European Country. Interested candidates with valid passport may contact 757980148 immediately. SV/P/A2945/1

Walk in interview for Graduates in Science preferably with PCM combination and having B.Ed. degree to teach Science & Maths subjects A.D.A.V. High School (English Medium), Dr. B. Baruah Road, opposite Nehru Stadium, Ulubari, Guwahati-7. (Phone Nos. 0881307076/90850-86616) on 30/07/2017 (Sunday) at 10.00 am. SV/P/A2943/1

Required Sales Executive for Telecom distributor candidate having experience in FMCG/ Telecom can call 9126122342 for interview. Salary 7000. SV/P/A2956/1

A reputed Nursing School in Kahimpur looking for Female Trainee Graduate with pleasing personality can call 7002708206 for interview.

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Walk-in-interview: For the Post of Computer Assistant in the Icm Academy, Raghbari Road, Guwahati-03. Qualification: Commerce Graduate with at least 1 year experience in computer works.

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Urgent requirement of retired bankers for part time job as a Financial Advisor for Guwahati location. Ph. 9120764930. SV/P/PA0418

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Vacancy for experienced (1) Software Developer (2) DTP Operator at a CEC Centre, Guwahati. Part time/full time. cecsoftdevs@gmail.com. Ph: 7086014601. SV/P/15012/1

Required immediately Residential teacher for Chemistry for a school in Barapani, Meghalaya. Candidates should have M.Sc. as minimum qualification. Those with experience would be preferred. Food and accommodation would be provided free along with decent salary. For details please call +919859002355. SV/P/15012/5

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## Work unitedly to realise Kalam's dream of developed India: PM

RAMESWARAM (TN), July 27: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today urged the people to work together to fulfil former president APJ Abdul Kalam's dream of seeing a developed India by 2022 when it celebrates its 75th Independence Day.

"There are 125 crore people and if each one takes one step, then the country would be 125 crore steps ahead," he told a public meeting near this island, the home town of the late 'Missile Man', after inaugurating his national memorial.

Various schemes launched by Central government, whether it was 'Stand up India' or 'Start up India', 'Smart' cities or Smart Cities or Clean India projects would go a long way in realising Kalam's dream of "developed India", he said.

### No official info on issue of visa to Kulbhushan's mother: India

NEW DELHI, July 27: India has no official information on Pakistan's position on providing visa to Kulbhushan Jadhav's mother, the External Affairs Ministry said today.

There has not been any reply from Pakistan either to the request handed over by the High Commissioner or the letter written by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj to her Pakistani counterpart Sarraj Aziz for grant of visa to Jadhav's mother, Avantika, the ministry's spokesperson Gopal Bagay said.

"We have no official information on the change of status of the request made to grant the visa to Jadhav's mother," he said when asked if there was any formal communication from Pakistan on India's request for a visa for Avantika to meet her son.

India has moved the ICJ against Jadhav's death penalty by a Pakistani military court. The ICJ had on May 18 restrained Pakistan from executing the death sentence.

While Pakistani claims that its security forces arrested Jadhav from its restive Balochistan province on March 3, 2016 after he reportedly entered from Iran, India maintains that he was abducted from Iran where he had legitimate business interests. - PTI

In a reference to epic 'Ramayana', Modi said even a small squirrel had helped Lord Ram in constructing the 'Ramasethi' (bridge) for him to cross over to Sri Lanka.

That squirrel, the country can scale

great heights," Modi said addressing a gathering at Mandapam, about 15 kms from here.

He urged the youth and pilgrims

visiting this town to include a visit to Kalam's memorial, designed and built by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) with which the former President was associated for a long time.

Modi heaped praise on labourers involved in the construction of the memorial, saying they had not

charged for the extra two hours they had put in every day. After sweating it out from 8 am to 5 pm, they would later take a break for one hour and put in two additional man hours.

They had refused payment for these extra two hours, saying it was their way of contributing towards the memory of Kalam, Modi said, adding this deserved a standing ovation.

The audience was immediately on their feet applauding the labourers, architects and workers who had toiled in raising the structure.

Paying rich tributes to Kalam, whose second death anniversary was observed today, Modi said the former President continues to inspire scores of countrymen. "Peo-

ple from every corner of the country come here (mostly on pilgrimage). I urge them, the tour operators and youth – whenever you come here, add to your programme a visit to this memorial," Modi said.

The Prime Minister pointed out that Kalam loved the youths and the students very much, and it was for their benefit that Stand Up and Start Up schemes had been launched.

The Mudra Bank loan scheme had been launched to provide loans for the youths without any guarantee and it had benefited over eight crore people, including one crore from Tamil Nadu, he said.

A new India and a new Tamil Nadu could be developed with the cooperation of the Central and State governments, he said.

Ten cities in the State had been chosen for the Smart City project and 33 towns for development under the AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation) scheme, he said.

The Central government had allocated Rs 900 crore for the Smart City and Rs 4,700 crore for the AMRUT scheme, he said the latter would ensure availability of better power, water, sanitation and other essential infrastructure.

The Prime Minister hoped that the 'Sagar Mala' scheme, linking the coastal areas spreading through the country's 7,500 km coastal line, would bring more investments and benefit people in a big way. - PTI



Students paying tribute to a sand sculpture of former President APJ Abdul Kalam, on his second death anniversary, in Chennai on Thursday. - UNI

## Engagement with China multifaceted: India

NEW DELHI, July 27: India's engagement with China is multifaceted and issues having differences of perception by both sides are a factor of stability at a time of global uncertainty.

Singh's comments came a day after National Security Advisor Ajit Doval arrived in Beijing to attend a BRICS meeting of top security officials. Doval is expected to hold talks with Chinese State Councillor Yang Jiechi on the ongoing Sikkim stand-off.

Talking about Astana consensus, Singh said India and China must not allow differences to become disputes.

Chinese and Indian troops have been locked in a face-off in the trijunction area for more than a month since Indian troops stopped the Chinese army from building a road in the area.

China claimed that it was constructing the road within its territory. India protested the construction, fearing it would allow China to cut India's access to its northeastern States.

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Singh's comments came a day after National Security Advisor Ajit Doval arrived in Beijing to attend a BRICS meeting of top security officials. Doval is expected to hold talks with Chinese State Councillor Yang Jiechi on the ongoing Sikkim stand-off.

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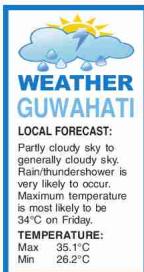
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## Man held for trying to sell daughter

**CORRESPONDENT**

JALUKBARI, July 27: In a shocking incident, one Rakesh Ranjan (35) of Lanekswar, Jalukbari allegedly kidnapped his four-year-old daughter last night in a bid to sell her at Siliguri.

According to sources, Rakesh, a drug addict, demanded money from his wife last night. When she refused, he snatched his daughter and told his wife that he would sell her in Siliguri. His wife immediately dialled telephone number 100 and informed the police.

Rakesh was intercepted and arrested from ISBT by Gorchuk police and handed over to Jalukbari Police Outpost. The minor was also recovered. Police have registered a case against the accused under Section 369 of IPC for kidnapping and criminal conspiracy.

## Taxi driver missing

**CORRESPONDENT**

JALUKBARI, July 27: Police are on the lookout for Dulal Das (28) a local taxi driver of Ghatnagar area who went missing on July 24.

According to the family of Dulal, somebody had booked his Maximo vehicle bearing registration number AS 01 GEC 8334 from Gorchuk to Golaghat on that fateful day. His mobile phone too has remained switched off since then. Police investigation is on.

## SSB function

**STAFF REPORTER**

GUWAHATI, July 27: The inaugural ceremony of the rescue and relief team of Sashasstra Seema Bal will be held at Digighatkuri on July 29.

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju will be the chief guest during the event. Assam Minister for Irrigation, Handloom and Textile Ranjeet Dutta will be the guest of honour.



Birth anniversary function of poet Hiren Bhattacharyya at Rabindra Bhawan at 7 pm.

## 'Big change in higher education sector'

GUWAHATI, July 27: State Education Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said a big change has come in the field of higher education in Assam with the establishment of a number of new medical colleges, engineering institutes and private universities.

Sarma said the State would become a centre of higher education and a commercial hub of Southeast Asia in the near future. He was speaking at the first orientation programme of the Royal Global University (RGU) held here on Wednesday after inaugurating the programme, stated a release.

Sarma further suggested that the curriculum should put stress on learning Assamese and Sanskrit which, in turn, would make the students aware of the richness of Assamese and

# CITY

## New school building raises safety concerns

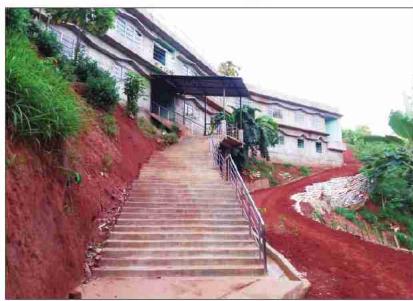


Photo: Jorabat Correspondent

### CORRESPONDENT

JORABAT, July 27: Just one rain-induced heavy landslide will be enough for the new building of Fairyland School built on a hillock near the Ganesh Mandir at 8th Mile under Dispur Revenue Circle, to come crashing down, as safety norms seem to have been flouted during construction of the structure.

Building construction in hilly regions requires comprehensive planning, site selection and design for slopes. But local residents have alleged that the Fairyland School authorities had not done proper planning in constructing the building. The entrance to the school building too has been made by cutting the hill and no retaining wall has been constructed along the path. Interestingly, Mustaziba Ahmed,

Principal and proprietor of the school was approached for her comment, revealed that the school has not obtained the legal written permission for construction of its new building at 8th Mile.

She said the plot where the school building has been constructed is government land, but they have applied for allotment of around 10 bighas and have also received the trace-map.

Though the land has not been officially allotted as yet, the school authorities went ahead with the construction and even commenced classes (classes VI to X) in March this year.

It may be noted that Fairyland School was established in 1986.

Meanwhile, Ranjit Konwar, Circle Officer of Dispur revenue circle has directed an official to visit the spot and find out if the school authorities have floated safety norms in construction of the school, and report to him in detail.

On the other hand, the AASU's Jorabat unit has expressed wonder as to how the school authorities could have carried out the construction work without obtaining proper legal written permission from the authorities concerned.

## Call for free Hepatitis C treatment

### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 27: Doctors and activists working on awareness about the hepatitis virus have proposed to the State government to take a cue from the Punjab government and make treatment of Hepatitis C free of cost on humanitarian ground.

As per a study done about five years back, the prevalence rate of Hepatitis C was 0.9 per cent in the North East. However, it is believed that an up-to-date study would bring to the fore an even grimmer picture.

Health experts have also proposed to the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) to facilitate a population-based study on those affected by the virus in the North East.

Talking to mediapersons here today, head of the Department of Gastroenterology, Gauhati Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) Dr BD Goswami said they are hopeful that both the State government and the ICMR would soon come up with some positive steps in this regard.

The idea is to strengthen prevention,

screening and control of viral hepatitis and its related diseases, increasing Hepatitis B vaccine coverage and integration into national immunisation programme and coordinating a global response to hepatitis.

Dr Goswami further added that they are organising continuous medical education programmes for doctors, and are also conducting public awareness programmes in different places throughout the week. The All Assam Students Union is also partnering the organisers.

A rally 'Run for your liver' is also being organised from GMCH to Nehru Stadium at 6 am on July 30 to commemorate World Hepatitis Day.

More than two billion people have been infected with Hepatitis B and C worldwide, while India has around 40 million patients with Hepatitis B.

Former principal of GMCH Dr NN Barman, who was also present on the occasion, dwelt at length on the infectious nature of the virus, which is 100 times more fatal than an HIV virus.



Students performing at the closing ceremony of an acting workshop at SB Deora College in Guwahati on Thursday.

— UB Photos

## Will the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan ever be a success in Guwahati?

### DR AMIT GOSWAMI

Swachh Bharat is a noble venture initiated by the Government of India. Crores of rupees have been allocated by the Government for this important cause. The Swachh Bharat tax has also been levied on services as well as goods. But do we follow the mission with heart and soul to make it a success? Unless we change our attitude, the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan will never be ever successful.

A few days back, Union Development Minister Venkaiah Naidu unveiled a survey report of the Quality Council of India against the ranking of clean cities. Almost all the capital cities, except Gangtok in NE India, fall under the category of dirty cities and Guwahati's position has fallen from 50 in 2016 to 134. Finance Minister Narendra Modi himself expressed his apprehension in this regard as the NE is considered as the corridor of South East Asia and Guwahati is the nerve centre of NE India. Tourists and diplomats from different countries of South East Asia and other parts of the world are expected to visit Guwahati in the near future.

But what do we see around us every day? So-called educated people come out for morning walks with their pets and get their

pets defecate by the roadside. Some people even spit in the middle of the road and urinate in full public view. The roads are in a poor shape, the manholes are uncovered, vendors occupy footpaths and the roadsides, keeping no space for pedestrians, and the dustbins are spilling.

The premises of different offices, banks, institutions, bus stands and railway stations are littered with garbage, waste paper, etc. On the roadside, one can see completely exposed dustbins. The whole Brahmaputra bank in the city is used for defecation or urination. Lawmakers, ministers, officers and bureaucrats are well aware of all this, but maintain a stoic silence. Either they do not notice it or they deliberately avoid it. Everybody's business is nobody's business. On the other hand, we, the common people, are not at all concerned and sincere.

We think that cleanliness is the word to be strictly followed in our own homes and we forget everything the moment we come out of our homes. How can Guwahati become a smart city in such a scenario?

It may be mentioned in this context that Indian-origin Nobel laureate in literature Sir VS Naipaul has written somewhere in his book, *An Area of Darkness*, published in 1964, that



An unfenced power transformer at 12th Mile in Ambhere area poses a serious threat to life, especially children and animals. Local residents rue that despite electrocution of several people in the State in the recent past, the Assam Power Distribution Company Limited authorities have not bothered to raise a fence around the transformer for the safety of children and grazing animals. — Photo: Jorabat Correspondent

## Huge quantity of ganja seized

JORABAT, July 27: In a joint operation conducted by the Narcotics department and Jorabat Police, around 200 kg of ganja were seized from a truck (No. NL 01L 6999) here around 10.30 pm on Wednesday. Four persons were arrested in this connection.

"Around 200 kg of ganja were seized from the truck on the NH-37 in Jorabat last night.

**Retired GMC cashier held for revenue misappropriation**

**STAFF REPORTER**

GUWAHATI, July 27: More than 20,000 youths got registered in the two-day job fair organised by the State Government. Of the 42 industrial establishments, 14 firms (employers) shortlisted 700 candidates and the rest will submit the list shortly to the Industry department, an official release quoting Director of Employment and Craftsman Training RR Bora stated.

However, a section of job aspirants who visited the fair ruled that a chaotic scenario prevailed in the fair, and that the venue virtually turned into a "war zone" with aspirants pushing one another in the long queue for form submissions.

"The fair was organised fairly. Further, there were no separate queues for girls, which made it even more difficult for them. Many of us could not get to the desks meant for job seekers," alleged a job aspirant.

**Special drive**

**STAFF REPORTER**

GUWAHATI, July 27: During a special drive on the use of high security registration number plates today, the police realised instant fine in 312 cases. As per the official figure, fines to the tune of Rs 84,900 were realised during the drive and 43 non-FIR cases sent to the court. Commissioner of Police, Guwahati, Hirun Nath has asked commuters to use high-security number plates, which secure vehicles from theft and help in their quick recovery in the event of theft.

Sengupta who is one of the co-ordinators of the Global People's Health Movement, will deliver the keynote address at the function. He will also interact with the audience.

A brief outline of the State's health scenario will be presented at the function by Dr Amit Choudhury, while CRU-NER secretary Rahut Purkayastha will make a presentation on generic medicine. EVM president Dr Chandranandan Sarma and Assam Science Society president Dr Sonowar Sarma will preside over the function, said the organisers.

**Seminar on Health Policy**

**STAFF REPORTER**

GUWAHATI, July 27: Four constituent organisations of the All India People's Science Network (AIPSN) will hold a seminar on the National Health Policy 2017 at the Pragjyoti IT Centre for Performing Arts, Machhidhoka here on July 30 at 3 pm, the organisers said.

The organisations, which include the Assam Science Society, Ellora Vigyan Mancha (EVM), Jnan Bijan Samiti, Assam and Commercial Representative Union (NER) (CRU-NER) said that Dr Amit

singh is one of the co-ordinators of the Global People's Health Movement, will deliver the keynote address at the function. He will also interact with the audience.

A brief outline of the State's health scenario will be presented at the function by Dr Amit Choudhury, while CRU-NER secretary Rahut Purkayastha will make a presentation on generic medicine. EVM president Dr Chandranandan Sarma and Assam Science Society president Dr Sonowar Sarma will preside over the function, said the organisers.

At the same time, in other government institutions and offices, there should be a separate wing with trained manpower for maintaining cleanliness.

Hotels and restaurants should also be brought under such rules and regulations. The kitchens of restaurants should be made visible to customers so that they can see the cleanliness maintained by the restaurant managers. It should also be made mandatory on the part of food inspectors to visit these places once a week and take action for any sort of wrongdoing.

There should be a sufficient number of public toilets on the roadside, in hospitals, colleges, offices, etc.

It is a fact that the Indians cannot be motivated by giving walls, wall writings, posters, leaflets, street plays or advertisements, particularly with regard to cleanliness.

Public places, hospitals, medical colleges, institutions, government offices, etc., should be brought under CCTV camera surveillance and the strict supervision of the police. Whenever a person is found involved in any foul play, he or she should be immediately caught and fined. If needed, the Government should frame rules and empower the police to catch such people.

## MESSAGE FOR TODAY

If you make it plain you like people, it's hard for them to resist liking you back.

— LOIS MCMASTER BUJOLD

## The Assam Tribune

### Well-crafted coup

When it comes to political manoeuvring, Bihar's Nitish Kumar can teach a thing or two to the State's other supreme, Lalu Prasad Yadav, about strategy. Nitish has shown for over two decades that he can sniff the way the wind blows and move accordingly, coming up trumps each time. It may be recalled that he had been an ally of the BJP and his Janata Dal (United) (JD(U)) had remained in power in Bihar in partnership with the former till 2013. No one quite knows what made Nitish drop the alliance in 2013 when Narendra Modi stepped into the national political scenario, speculators offering personal animosity to be one possible reason. The overwhelming win of the BJP in the 2014 Lok Sabha elections and the indubitable rise to power of Narendra Modi had coerced Nitish to join forces with Lalu and form a *mukhatbandhan*, which to everyone's surprise succeeded in warding off the Modi wave in Bihar and attain a sizeable majority. However, though Nitish was made the Chief Minister he had to play the second fiddle because Lalu's Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) had secured greater number of seats, and create a post of Deputy Chief Minister to accommodate Lalu's son, Tejashwi Prasad Yadav. Now, to prove the adage that in politics there are no permanent friends or enemies, Nitish had once more switched sides and aligned with the BJP!

It was, indeed, a well-crafted coup, though Nitish could not have carried it out without the aid of the BJP! This came in the form of an FIR of corruption charges lodged by the CBI against Tejashwi, giving Nitish a convenient pretext to ask for the Deputy CM's resignation, though Lalu's son has not yet been proven guilty in a court of law. Expectedly, the RJD refused to oblige, which has now prompted Nitish to go back to square one and align once again with the BJP! Not that political observers had not seen it coming, for of late there have been perceptible signs of warming up of relations between Nitish and Modi, with the former choosing to break the Opposition ranks in voting for the NDA's presidential candidate. In fact, this development has come as yet another blow to the Opposition's bid to present a united front against the NDA and build up an alliance which can stop the Modi juggernaut in the Lok Sabha elections due in another two years. The developments are quite in tune with the BJP's avowed aim of ridding the country of the Congress party thereby ensuring that it emerges as the uncontested entity in Indian politics. This, in a way, is regressive, for history has shown that democracy remains dynamic only when there is a viable Opposition which can stymie a ruling entity from acting in an unfettered manner.

### Rivers at peril

In what is now a frightening trend, major rivers across the globe are getting depleted and polluted. The situation is likely to trigger an alarming scarcity of freshwater – already a reality in many countries. As on today, only 21 (12%) of the world's 177 longest rivers run unimpeded from source to sea, their strength negated by dams, canalization for irrigation and water supply purposes, and pollution. The problem is more acute in the populous developing countries, where the livelihoods of millions are directly linked to rivers. Rapid population growth, economic development and industrialization have led to unprecedented transformation of freshwater ecosystems (including streams, lakes, ponds, groundwater, wetlands and floodplains) and consequent biodiversity loss. According to a WWF report, at risk are the world's top 10 rivers due to over-extraction, dams, navigation, pollution, overfishing, invasive species and climate change. It is sad and disturbing that a serious question mark looms large over the survival of these great rivers that had been instrumental in giving birth to human civilization and also their sustenance for thousands of years.

It is against this bleak backdrop that we need to look into the critical issue of managing our water resources. Assam has been blessed with a large network of rivers dominated by the mighty Brahmaputra and its numerous tributaries that has been responsible for the fertile floodplains of the State. However, these benevolent rivers have now acquired a hugely damaging dimension with floods and erosion destroying standing crops, settlements and infrastructure every year. At the same time, there has also been a noticeable reduction in the flow in most of these rivers during the lean winters compared to what had been the case a few decades back. This is a serious situation with implications cutting into the region's economic and social spheres and therefore needs urgent intervention from the scientific community and the Government. Indeed, the abundant water resource present in the North-east calls for enhanced cooperation and coordination among all the stakeholder States to ensure judicious and sustainable harnessing, especially in matters like hydro-power generation, flood control, irrigation, sharing of river water, etc. Rivers do not recognize man-made boundaries, and developments taking place during the course of a river in a particular State are known to affect another. The complex dimensions of inter-State and inter-nation river systems definitely warrant a consensus among the States as also with the neighbouring nations of China, Bangladesh and Bhutan on the crucial issue of water sharing. The absence of cooperation in sharing of rainfall data, flood forecasting, and most importantly, making major intervention in upstream rivers without addressing the legitimate concerns of the downstream States, are factors that complicate the flood situation in riparian States. It would be in the interest of the North-east as a whole that an integrated water resource management policy is put in place with due emphasis on environmental concerns.

## Assam floods: need for an inevitable investment

■ Indrajit Borah

**T**he perennial floods in the landlocked alluvial plains of Assam conjure up technological and socio-economic understanding of anthropogenic 'negative externalities' towards a harmonious coexistence with one of the world's largest river systems – the Brahmaputra. This unique river system boasts of diverse environments – the cold dry plateau of Tibet, the rain-drenched Himalayan slopes, the landlocked alluvial plains of Assam, and the vast deltaic lowlands of Bangladesh. As per current studies, the climate change can increase the peak flow of the Brahmaputra leading to increase in flood vulnerability towards the downstream areas of the basin. The Brahmaputra river basin, almost annually ravaged by floods, has the largest concentration of disaster-affected people in South Asia.

The water resource management is intended to dampen the extreme realities – the overflowing water in the monsoon and the scarcity in the dry season. Except short-term measures like embankment and micro power projects on the hills, constructive human interference is yet to be seen. The domain of water resource management has to afford flood control and use of water resources at basin level for power, irrigation, agriculture, allied and transport sectors beyond the primitive dependency on water resources. It is critical that the social and environmental impacts of such intervention are assessed at cumulative basis and certainly there is no room to look for short-term piecemeal approach for anything less than the whole Brahmaputra basin itself.

Gradually, in the first half of the 20th Century, floods changed in character from relatively harmless inundations to highly damaging disasters. The structures that were erected to protect the people from flood, namely dams and embankments, have also aggravated the damage potential of floods. Therefore, in today's world, any critical area that requires institutional knowledge upgrade mechanism is the Environmental Management System. The 'environmental impact assessment report' is the only mandatory study under the government clearance mechanism with a component of socio-cultural impact assessment.

The hard reality is that no piecemeal project can be techno-economically viable without a mandate to understand the overall impact on the river system.

Historically, our national flood management policy has progressed through various stages with comprehensive understanding of the problem. As per the policy statement in the Parliament in 1954, the objective was to rid the nation from the menace of floods by containing and managing floods, which was later modified as technically and economically justifiable 'reasonable protection'. This called for greater emphasis on flood forecasting, flood warning and flood management. However, within two years of the above policy announcement, in 1956,

the Union Minister of Irrigation and Power said in the Parliament that absolute immunity from flood damage was not physically possible because of unpredictable natural forces and that adaptability to an extent is unavoidable.

Now, the macro-economic problem today is to deal with the people's welfare. How is the welfare of future generations taken into account in current economic decisions? In this regard, the sustainable growth fund

Again, what will be the social discount rate for the cost-benefit analysis at the micro-economic and sectoral levels? This has a bearing on how these climate change initiatives are going to be financed. The discount rate that is used to value the welfare of future generations by averting or adapting to the climate change impacts – the loss of biodiversity or the deterioration of water systems, natural calamities, etc., in current economic decisions.

Therefore, using a high discount rate significantly reduces the social profitability of taking mitigation actions today, favouring delayed action or even no action at all. However, the social discount rates used for investment decisions are inherently linked to ethical debates on inter-generational equity. But, in case of the Assam flood, it is a case of suffering also by the present generation with an equal concern for future generations of continuing climate change. It can be understood that the investment in Assam flood is also an investment for sustainability with added advantage of guaranteed return. Leaving aside the human lives, innumerable cattle and wildlife, the estimated yearly monetary figures of loss in property are the prospective returns on investment. Even in modern industrial life, safety is not coined as the physical assets, rather of every human being working in the premises. For instance, if we have to lose even a billion dollars' worth of an asset for saving a single

**The 1988 flood broke all previous records of damage, and affected 3.82 million hectares of land, nearly 12 million people, five lakh households and 1.43 million hectares of cropland. Besides, it claimed lives of 226 humans, and innumerable cattle and wildlife.**

## Viral hepatitis a global health problem

■ Dr Dharmakanta Kumbhakar

**V**iral hepatitis that is caused by Hepatitis A (HAV), B (HBV), C (HCV), D (HDV) and E (HEV) viruses gives rise to a major public health problem globally. HAV and/or HEV are predominantly transmitted through contaminated water and food and cause acute viral hepatitis. Majority of people with acute viral hepatitis recover with supportive and symptomatic treatment within a few weeks, without any residual consequences. However, a very small proportion of people infected with HAV and/or HEV could die from acute liver failure. Of course, epidemics of HAV and/or HEV infection can be explosive and cause substantial economic loss. HAV and/or HEV infection can be prevented by using safe drinking water and proper sanitary measures. A safe and effective vaccine is also available to prevent HAV infection.

Though infection with HBV and/or HCV may present as acute viral hepatitis some time, but they cause mostly chronic viral hepatitis and create more problems worldwide. HBV and/or HCV slowly destroy the liver over time without causing noticeable symptoms. If left untreated and unmanaged, they can lead to advanced cirrhosis, primary liver cancer and liver failure. An estimated

57% of cases of liver cirrhosis and 78% of cases of primary liver cancer in the world result from HBV and/or HCV infection. Most of the persons infected with HBV and/or HCV are unaware of their infection, and many are unknowingly passing the viruses to their family and friends. HDV can cause infection only in the presence of HBV infection.

Chronic viral hepatitis caused by HBV and/or HCV infection is a major global health problem, affects hundreds of millions of people worldwide. There were approximately 325 million people living with chronic viral hepatitis at the end of 2015. Globally estimated 257 million people were living with HBV infection and 71 million people were living with HCV infection in 2015. In 2015, hepatitis B resulted in 8,87,000 deaths, mostly from complications (including cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma). But on today, the figures are raising.

Approximately 350 million people worldwide are living with chronic viral hepatitis today. About 280 million people are chronically infected to HCV. About 1% of persons living with HBV infection (2.7 million people) are also infected with HIV. HBV infection prevalence is highest in the WHO Western Pacific Region and the WHO African Region, where 6.2%

and 6.1% respectively of the adult population is infected. In the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region, the WHO South-East Asia Region, the WHO European Region and the WHO Region of the Americas, the estimated 3.3%, 2.0%, 1.6% and 0.7% of the general population is infected, respectively. About 620,000 people worldwide every year as a result of HBV infection.

Every year, 3-4 million people are infected with HCV worldwide. As on today, about 70 million people worldwide are chronically infected to HCV. About 2.3 million people of the estimated 36.7 million living with HIV globally have serological evidence of past or present HCV infection. HCV infection prevalence is the highest in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean and European Regions, with the prevalence of 2.3% and 1.5% respectively. Prevalence of HCV infection in other WHO regions varies from 0.5% to 1.0%. Approximately 3,39,000 people worldwide live every year from HCV-related liver disease.

Every year 1.4 million people die worldwide due to HBV and/or HCV infections and many more become newly infected. In fact, HBV and/or HCV infection is more infectious and kill more people worldwide than they would from HIV/AIDS. Yet, there is neither high level of awareness nor the political momentum seen regarding prevention, control and elimination of HBV and/or HCV infection as we see in case of HIV/AIDS. It is the high time to create awareness among the people globally about HBV and/or HCV infection, its consequences and ways to prevent the spread of this dreadful and fatal disease. With better awareness and understanding of how we can prevent HBV and/or HCV infection, we can eliminate this disease from the world and save 4,000 lives a day.

The risk of HBV and/or HCV infection can be reduced by avoiding their routes of transmission. Unsafe blood transfusions, unsafe injections, sharing drug injection equipment, by contact with blood or bodily fluids – all these can result in HBV and/or HCV infection. Infection also occurs from a mother to a child, or through sexual contact. Infection through all these routes of transmission can be prevented through proven and effective interventions.

A safe and effective vaccine can protect from HBV infection for life. Antiviral medicines can cure more than 95% of persons with HCV infection, but there is currently no vaccine for HCV prevention. An individual protected against HBV is also protected against HDV. The good news is that the chronic hepatitis B can be diagnosed with a simple blood test. For those who test positive,

there are treatments available that can help control the virus and prevent further damage to the liver. Those who test negative can be vaccinated against the disease. A pregnant woman who has HBV infection can pass the viruses to her infant without timely intervention. To address the problem of spreading HBV infection from mother to her infant, all pregnant women and mother should be routinely screened for HBV. If a pregnant woman has HBV infection, health care provider should take extra effort to make sure her newborn gets timely vaccination to prevent this deadly disease. Complete HBV vaccine series can prevent transmission of the virus in over 99% of infants born to infected women. To protect every infant from HBV infection, all babies must get the first shot in the HBV vaccine series before leaving the hospital, and complete the vaccine series as recommended. Widespread infant vaccination programmes can dramatically decline the number of new hepatitis B cases.

On World Hepatitis Day today, events will take place around the world focusing on prevention, control and elimination of viral hepatitis from the world. It will be possible only through better awareness, services that improve vaccinations, blood and injection safety, and avoiding their routes of transmission.

## Power sector revamp and State experts

power station, work for which has been initiated by the APGCL.

The accidents that occurred recently during the floods have tarnished the image of the APDCL to some extent. Flood is not a new thing in Assam and the people of Assam should not forget that in the past, the AEGL or APDCL have maintained power supply in extreme conditions also. It is not understood on what basis the PGCL claims that there is no technical expertise in Assam.

The state utility can always claim the credit for successfully commissioning the first gas-based power station in Asia, which is still running for more than 50 years, perhaps thereby creating a world record. In addition, crossing of the 220 KV transmission line over the mighty Brahmaputra in Tezpur and Goalpara have been executed by the state utility through local firms. The recent feather in the cap of the AEGL is the commissioning of 400 KV substation at Mirza to receive power from the newly-commissioned Palatana project of Tripura. It is under-

stood that like the ongoing World Bank-funded project, PGCL also tried to implement the 400 KV substation project, by creating an impression at the Centre that the state utility lacks in technical expertise. Similar campaign led to the handing over of the gas-based Kathalguri power station to NEEPCO, another Central Government undertaking, in 1985-86, although conventionally NEEPCO was formed to execute projects in the NE.

The people of Assam should be aware that although PGCL, being a Central Government undertaking, could manage to encroach upon the jurisdiction of state power utilities in this particular case, but it is not in a position to implement the revamping process on its own. The land acquisition part for construction of a substation, obtaining right of way for construction of lines, which are the most important part of a project, will have to be taken care of by the state power utilities. The interesting part of this project is the amount earmarked under the consultancy

head, which is 12%, although conventionally the same is 0.5-1.0% of the project cost. Surprisingly, PGCL itself is the consultant for the project and at the same time, the implementing agency of it, following the adage, 'eat your cake and have it too'. Yours etc., PARTHA PRATIM GAUTAM, Guwahati.

### Welcome move

Sir – Like the passing years, floods have created havoc in Assam this time as well. More than 70 precious lives have been lost during the floods this year with massive devastation. In order to express solidarity, the NF Railway authority has recently issued a notification to its employees to donate one or two days' salary in aid of the flood victims. It is an extremely welcome move. But, of late, few anti-local union leaders are pressurizing the administration against such a humanitarian move vehemently. By dint of that pressure, the administration was compelled to publish an 'unwillingness' form. All those so-called leaders are campaigning strongly

to fill up the unwillingness form by all employees so that the salary cannot be donated in aid of the flood victims. Most of the right-thinking employees of the railways are critical of these leaders for such sinister act.

Yours etc., RANJAN DAS, Mirza.

### MPs' suspension

Sir – Through the columns of your esteemed daily, I would like to appreciate the bold step taken by Sumitra Mahajan to suspend the six Congress MPs from attending the ongoing Parliament session for five days, including Gaurav Gogoi and Sushmita Dev of Assam, because of their conduct. The issue of ruckus in Parliament has been going on for more than a decade. These MPs agitate only for the sake of agitation. This was indeed a bold and appreciable step in order to maintain the dignity and honour of the Parliament. Kudos to Sumitra Mahajan. Yours etc., GAURAV GAUTAM SAHA, MG Road, Nagpur.

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

## Letters to the EDITOR

Sir – This has reference to the news item 'Powergrid to revamp power infrastructure in NE' (AT, July 17) and also to the subsequent views expressed by Mani Haazika vide his letter (July 18) under the heading 'Power sector revamp'. As per information available, funds received from ADB or Government of India (GoI) have been utilized by the State power utilities for strengthening the transmission and distribution network, which was in a very bad shape, as no investment was made in this sector for a long period. As a result the transmission sector now is in a position to handle more than 2,000 MW of power, which was around 500 MW 10 years back. Similarly in the distribution sector also, the loss component has come down significantly. Till now the ADB or GoI has not funded any generation project. However, it is understood that recently the ADB has sanctioned one hydel

**CM unveils university plaque**

GUWAHATI July 27: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today unveiled the Assam Royal Global University plaque at Janata Bhawan here.

AK Panarsi, Chancellor, RGU; AK Modi, Pro Chancellor, RGU; Prof SP Singh, Vice Chancellor, RGU; Prof OK Mehta, former VC, Gauhati University; Angira Miman, Registrar, RGU; Ankur Pansari, executive vice president, RGU; Prof R Banerjee, Principal, RSET; Prof Anuradha Devi, dean, Royal School of Applied and Pure Science and other distinguished guests were present at the function, according to a press release.

**Man missing**

JORABAT, July 27: One Sonaram Tati (54), went missing while crossing the Digaru river in Sonapur Nortap area under Sonapur Police Station yesterday. Sonapur police and an SDRF team conducted a search in the Digaru, but the exercise went in vain. – Correspondent



*Perilous! An electrician of the APDCL working at a lamp post without wearing any safety gear, in Guwahati on Thursday – UB*

**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GUWAHATI  
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Walk in interview for the post of JRF (GATE) under a DST sponsored project in the Department of ME, IIT Guwahati. For detailed advertisement may please visit <http://www.iitg.ernet.in> Dy. Registrar (R&D)  
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**OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR :: ASSAM WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY  
ROWRAIH: JORHAT-785004**

Assam Women's University invites eligible candidates as per UGC norms to attend a walk-in-interview on 11th August, 2017 for the posts of Assistant Professor (Contractual) in Computer Science and Assistant Professor (Contractual) in English. Details can be found in the University website: [www.awu.in](http://www.awu.in)  
Sd/-Registrar  
Assam Women's University  
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**MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES  
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Commander Works Engineer Shillong, SE Falls, Shillong – 11 on behalf of President of India invites online item rate bids on Single Stage Two Cover Bid System for the following work:-  
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Name of Work : SPECIAL REPAIR TO BLDG NO. 394 AND PROVISION OF MODIFICATION IN OPS ROOM, COMPLEX AND PROVISION OF WORKING PLATFORM AT BLDG NO. EMR- 29 AT AMUROI MILITARY STATION UNDER GE (P) SHILLONG.  
Estimated Cost : 40.00 Lakhs.  
Period of completion : 6 Months.  
Tender ID No. : 2017\_MES\_126136\_1.  
For further detail refer web site [eprocurement.gov.in/](http://eprocurement.gov.in/)  
eprocurement.gov.in  
dscrp.10202/11/0753/1718

**Opp in Assam still shy of unity**

PRANJAL BHUYAN

GUWAHATI, July 27: Even as Bihar Chief Minister and JD (U) president Nitish Kumar discarded the RJD and Congress and embraced the BJP to form a new government in Patna, thus heralding the end of the much-hyped 'grand alliance' or 'mahaabandhan' of the anti-saffron forces, Opposition parties in Assam claim that it will not impact their strategies there though they admit that the Bihar developments are a setback for the 'secular' ideology nationwide.

Leaders of various Opposition parties told *The Assam Tribune* that the political landscape and ideological parameters in Assam are vastly different from those in Bihar. Major Opposition parties in Assam seem reluctant to embrace the idea of a united front against the BJP-led NDA, at least as far as the electoral arena is concerned.

"The grand alliance in Bihar was formed on the basis of ideology and JD (U) was the

major stakeholder in it. Now that Nitish has broken ranks with the Opposition and embraced the BJP, there will no doubt be at least some effect on the Opposition consolidation everywhere in India. But as far as Assam is concerned,

**No lesson learnt from Bihar development**

there is no Opposition unity here as yet and so the situation is different. Congress remains the principal Opposition in Assam and we are steadfast in our fight against communal forces," Pradyut Bordoloi, vice president of Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) told this newspaper today.

He said that Congress in Assam has already made it clear that it does not want to have any dealings with the BJP. "However, if in future, parties like the CPI, CPI (M) and even the AGP want to reach some minimum understanding with

us on an anti-communal platform, we may be open to the idea. There is much resentment within the AGP over its alliance with BJP," Bordoloi said. He added that the BJP's strategy is to gobble up regional forces and smaller parties in Bihar along with happenings in states like Meghalaya, Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh, as examples.

Hafiz Bashir Ahmed Kasimi, leader of the AIUDF Legislative Party in the Assam Assembly, said the Bihar developments point to the aggressive 'Hindutva' agenda of the BJP which wants to finish off regional forces.

"It will have an effect on Assam and the rest of the country at least to some degree. But in Assam the effect will be marginal because there is no such grand alliance. Here the AIUDF and Congress are the only Opposition forces having any formidable bases of their own. So our leader Badrunnisa Ajmal has time and again called for having at least some co-

nnection between the two parties as both are opposed to the communal ideology," Kasimi, who is also general secretary of the AIUDF said.

Deben Bhattacharya, secretary of the CPI (M) Assam State Committee, said, "Assam is different and so the effect will be minimal. But it is a cause of concern that many regional outfits are moving towards the BJP. That will harm the cause of secularism everywhere."

He said that the CPI (M) is part of the 11-party Left Democratic Front in Assam and there is no question of attempting a Bihar-style grand alliance in here. "The Left and democratic forces in Assam are against both the BJP and the Congress," said the Marxist leader.

**Protest over unusual hike in electricity bill**

CORRESPONDENT

JORABAT, July 27: Around 50 BPL people of Matiagog village today staged a protest outside the Assam Power Distribution Company Ltd (APDCL) office at Sonapur against the extreme hike in their electricity bills in the last two months.

The protesters alleged that while earlier the average bill per household used to be of Rs 200/Rs 300, of late it has shot up to Rs 10,000/Rs 5,000 per household. It is to be noted that there are around 100 BPL families in the village and the government has given them BPL connection.

The SDO of Sonapur electricity office interacted with the protesters and

clarified that the error had occurred because the person who was supposed to note down the meter reading, used to submit the meter reading of the consumers without visiting the village.

Meanwhile, the residents of the village have threatened to resort to hunger strike outside the APDCL office if the matter is not resolved within 15 days.



*The SDO of Sonapur electricity office talking to the protesters. – Photo: Jordabit Correspondent*

**Head and Neck Cancer Day**

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 27: The Department of Head and Neck Oncology of Dr B Borooah Cancer Institute (BBCI) today observed World Head and Neck Cancer Day (WHNCD) by organising a programme on its premises.

Speaking on the occasion, BBCI Director Dr Amal Chandra Kataki said celebration of WHNCD would create the necessary awareness about

the prevention and early diagnosis of this group of cancers.

"In India, there are limited cancer treatment hospitals and in view of that, early diagnosis of cancer assumes greater significance, as many of the early cancers can be managed in peripheral or district hospitals itself," he said.

Head and neck cancers occur in the lips, tongue, oral cavity, larynx, and pharynx and it comprises 20-30 per cent of all cancers in the country.

Dr Tashmin Rahman, professor and in-charge of the Department of Head and Neck Oncology of BBCI, said that tobacco consumption is the single most important risk factor in the causation of head and neck cancers.

"Head and neck cancers can be prevented to a large extent by reduction of tobacco consumption among our population," said Dr Rahman.

The celebration was attended by the tributes to the martyrs and the observation of two minutes silence.

DIG Radha Mohan Meena (Commandant, CRPF GC, 9th Mile today.) On the occasion, Upgal Mani Baishnabi, Commandant, GC, Guwahati welcomed the chief guest Radha Mohan Meena, DIG, CRPF GC, Guwahati. The celebrations for the Raising Day began with the tribute to the martyrs and the observation of two minutes silence.

DIG Radha Mohan Meena awarded one officer with a letter of appreciation and commendation disc and one CRPF personnel with a 'Compendium for Gallantry Medal', published by the Directorate General, CRPF, New Delhi.

In his speech, DIG Meena highlighted the glorious history of the CRPF and inspired the jawans to do their duties with more dedication.

The celebration was attended by all the jawans and the officers of the CRPF.

Later, a mass lunch was organised, followed by few sporting events and cultural programmes. The students of the Kendriya Vidyalaya and the Montessori School here took part in the cultural programmes.

DK Singh (Commandant,

Sandeep Singh (Commandant), Naresh Kumar Mehta (Deputy Commandant), PI (Assistant Commandant), Leena Nagawashi (Assistant Commandant), Sisupal Singh (Assistant Commandant) and few others were also present in the programme.

DIG Radha Mohan Meena speaking on the occasion. – Photo: Jordabit Correspondent

**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, GUWAHATI  
GNB Road, Ambari, Guwahati: 781001**

**WALK-IN-INTERVIEW**

Post: Junior Research Fellow (JRF-I), Salary: 25000 per month Qualification: M/E/M Tech/B/E/B Tech in CSE or ECE Date and Time: 7th August 2017, 10:00 AM For more details please visit [www.iitg.ac.in](http://www.iitg.ac.in) or contact Dr. Shirshendu Das at [shirshendu@iitg.ac.in](mailto:shirshendu@iitg.ac.in) / 943527250 Advertisment No. IITG/R&D/17/01 Sd/- Director

**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, GUWAHATI  
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**SPOT ADMISSIONS**

TO BTech PROGRAMMES Vacant Seats, if any, will be allotted on Saturday August 5 at 10 am at the Institute premises. Candidates with a valid JEE Main rank are eligible to apply. For details and other conditions, please visit [www.iitg.ac.in](http://www.iitg.ac.in) IIT, Guwahati, Assam Textile Institute Campus, Ambari, GNB Road, Guwahati 781001 Advt. No. IIITGIACAD/36/2017/01 Sd/- Director

**Oil India Limited**

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**NOTIFICATION**  
This is for the information of all the eligible candidates who have applied for admission to the GNM Course in School of Nursing, Oil India Hospital-Dulaijan that the written test for GNM admission in School of Nursing Oil India Hospital-Dulaijan scheduled to be held on 6th August 2017 at Oil H.S. School-Dulaijan has been postponed due to administrative reasons. The rescheduled date and venue will be notified soon. Sd/- General Manager Medical Services

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**ADMISSION NOTIFICATION 2017-18**  
Online applications are invited from Indian and International students for admission to Master in Physical Education (M.P.Ed) programme of the university in Regular during the academic session 2017-18. Applications are to submit online application for the programme through [www.tripurauniv.in](http://www.tripurauniv.in). Details of the programme and online application shall be available on [www.tripurauniv.in](http://www.tripurauniv.in) from 27/07/2017. Submission of application will be closed at midnight of 09/08/2017. For international students the submission of application will be closed at midnight of 15/08/2017. The entrance test will be held on 12th and 13th Aug. 2017. The online application shall start on 26th July, 2017. Sd/-  
(Sri. D. Debroy)  
Registrar (UC)  
Tripura University

**ASSAM ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
A.S.E.B. Campus, Dwarandhara, G. S. Road, Sixth Mile Guwahati - 781022, Ph.: (0361) 233442, Fax: 2334432 e-mail: [aerc\\_gov@yahoo.com](mailto:aerc_gov@yahoo.com); website: [www.aerc.gov.in](http://www.aerc.gov.in)  
No. AERC/459/2014/P/LI-6 Dated Guwahati the 26th July, 2017  
**TENDER FOR HIRING OF VEHICLES**  
NIT No. 8/2017  
Sealed quotations affixed with non-refundable court fee stamp of Rs 25/- (Rupees Eight and twenty five paise) only are invited from Reputed Companies/Firms/Agencies authorised to provide vehicles on hire basis on regular / need basis requirement of the Commission. The Tender forms may be obtained from the Commission offices and specifications can be obtained on written request. From AERC office on any working day from 28-07-2017 to 25-08-2017 between 10:00-13:00 hours or download from [www.aerc.gov.in](http://www.aerc.gov.in). Only sealed bid containing detail particulars and price under one sealed cover super scritching the NIT No. 8/2017 will be received up to 13:00 hours of 25-08-2017. The bid will be opened on the same day at 14:30 hrs in presence of intending bidders or their authorized representatives. Bid received after the due date and hours and the Bid sent through FAX/Email shall not be considered. AERC is not bound to accept the lowest offer and reserves the right to reject any/all the bids without assigning any reason whatsoever. Secretary Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission

**ADVERTISE FOR INTERVIEW.**  
Dated Kokrajhar the 27th July/2017.  
It is for general information to all concerned that the Central Selection Board (CSB), Bodoland Territorial Council has fixed for conducting the Written Examination for the post of Junior Inspector/ Auditor under Handloom & Textile Department, BTC on 30-07-2017 at right from 11:00 AM to 01-15 PM at Sister Margaret Nobell School, Kokrajhar for which the advertisement was published vide No.CSB/BTC/12017/29, Dated 20th Feb/2017.  
Call letters are being sent to the candidates in their respective address and the candidate who do not receive call letters may down load from the CSB office website [www.csbbodoland.in](http://www.csbbodoland.in) on or after 28.07.2017.  
Sd/-  
Member Secretary  
Central Selection Board  
BTC, Kokrajhar.

**Ministry of New and Renewable Energy  
“PRAKRITI URJA PURASKAR YOJNA”**  
Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India, is operating ‘Prakrithi Urja Puraskar Yojna’ to encourage original book-writing in Hindi/translation of books in Hindi in the field of New and Renewable Sources of Energy. Under the scheme, there is a provision to award a first prize of Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rs. One Lakh), second prize of Rs. 60,000/- (Rs. Sixty Thousand) and a third prize of Rs. 40,000/- (Rs. Forty Thousand) for the books originally written in Hindi. For the books translated into Hindi should be published from the year 2012 to 2016. The last date of receipt of entries is Aug. 31st, 2017. Entries will be accepted in prescribed proforma only. For further details, please contact Senior Secretary (OL)/Hindi Section, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Block No. 14, C.G.O. Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003 (Phone No. 011 24360707/1002) or visit this Ministry's website [www.mnre.gov.in](http://www.mnre.gov.in). dcpav 28/01/11/0004/1718

# Flood-affected Roypur villagers crying for attention

CORRESPONDENT

SILCHAR, July 27: At a time when an inter-ministerial Central team visited the flood-affected areas of Cachar district, people of Roypur village under Borkhola constituency expressed dissatisfaction over the government's apathy to repair the one-kilometre-long embankment.

Disgusted with the abysmal condition of the village over the past 30 years, Rukun Ahmed, a resident of the village said, "We have been suffering from great difficulties since the past three decades and all the illusory promises of the governments have utterly failed to give us reasons to smile. The breaches in the one-km long embankment remained unnoticed affecting over 20 villages and more than 30,000 people here. We have great expectations from Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal."

**Borgeet, Sattriya dance workshop concludes**

CORRESPONDENT

BISWANATH CHARIALI, July 27: A 15-day-long Borgeet and Sattriya dance workshop concluded at Chariali HS and MP School here on Tuesday.

The workshop was jointly organised by Biswanath Chariali unit of AASU and Banahi Music School in which around 300 participants took part while Bhaben Borah imparted training to them. The concluding session was attended by Sangeet Natak Akademi member Pabitra Praj Baroi, AASU central assistant secretary Dulid Borakataki, musician Dhrubayoti Rajkhowa, Mitali Bordoloi and Rupan Das, among others.

Biswanath Chariali AASU president Bikram Bikash Borah presided over the session while general secretary Bhaskar Chauhan conducted the proceedings.

**Spl drive for enrolment of young voters**

CORRESPONDENT

KALAGAON, July 27: The District Election Office, Udaguri has launched a special drive for enrolment of young voters in the age group of 18 to 21 in the district.

Karpun Patir, District Election Officer, Udaguri in a press release informed that as per the direction of the Election Commission of India, the previous application format has been cancelled and a new format of application form has been made available for the enrolment of the new voters and correction of previous mistakes. The special drive will continue till July 31.

It further informed that in case old format will be accepted. The BLOs concerned have been paying house to house visit for collection of names of new voters with formats (No.6 forms).

It needs mention that several awareness meetings have far been arranged at Dimakuchi, Orangajuli, Garuahar, Udaguri etc., to attract attention of the new voters who could not enrol their names previously. The DEO also appealed all to come forward to enrol their names in the voters' list or to apply for correction with in July 31.

## Nilima Medak: a tribute

Nilima Medak, a pioneer in the expansion of educational sector in greater Dusumukhi area, who had retired as the headmistress from Dusumukhi Junior Basic School, passed away at her residence on July 18. She was 81.

Born in 1936 at Dusumukhi, a flood-affected remote village, 22 km off Dergaon town in Golaghat district, she started her schooling at Rangaghar LP School. Though at that

time women education was a cry for her but her father Late Dixi Pothori gave her admission at the school. She passed her minor school (Class V) and started her career as a teacher at Medak Gaon Junior Basic School. Later, she got the chance to join the Basic Education Training and, after that, she joined at Dusumukhi Junior Basic School as assistant teacher and took the charge of the headmistress of the school



An eroded portion of Roypur village in Borkhola constituency of Cachar. Photo: Correspondent

she can grant funds for Majuli, we hope that he will sanction funds for people of Roypur as well."

Locals of the area said that Roypur is known to be a fertile land for vegetable cultivation. But due to continuous inundation during monsoon since 1985, a major portion of agricultural land gets submerged leaving the cultivators helpless.

Meanwhile, the Central team, which included Sanjay Kumar, director NE States of NITI Aayog, AL Waghmare, director (DSD), Agriculture and Co-operation, Department of Sugarcane Development, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, BK Das, executive engineer, PWD, Assam and Rajesh Datta, engineering consultant, ASAMGDA, Government of Assam along with Cachar Deputy Commissioner S Vishwanath and officials of other departments, inspected several flood-affected areas, mainly

in Silchar Sadar Revenue Circle and Katigorah circle of Cachar district and assessed dykes in embankments and dykes, damaged roads, damaged water supply systems etc.

In Silchar Sadar Revenue Circle, the team visited areas including Roypur, Peladorh

and a few others while under Katigorah circle, the team visited areas including Gorjam, Kinnarkhola and Rangitola. In a meeting, the Cachar district administration has submitted a memorandum to the inspection team urging for a financial aid of Rs 145 crore for

restoration of the affected and damaged entities. In a release issued to the media, it has been mentioned that the flood caused major damage in sectors like water resource, agriculture, horticulture, roads and bridges, power supply, road communication, fisheries and others.

As per reports of Department of Water Resources, 14 sluice gates and 47 dykes were damaged due to flood causing a loss of more than Rs 3.5 crore. A total of 37 roads with stretches of 45.46 kilometres were submerged and damaged and Rs 4.61 crore is required for reconstruction.

Agriculture is one of the most affected sectors as per the reports of the department, more than 300 hectares of cultivable land came under flood waters affecting 253 families and the estimated loss is Rs 20 lakh. More than 80 villages across 28 GP's in the district were flooded destroying large number of paddy and other crops. Katigorah, Silchar and Sora are among the most affected areas. Department of Fisheries has suffered a loss of Rs 35.54, 400. It may be mentioned that the team will submit a report to the State government on July 28.

## Flood damage Central team visits worst-affected areas

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 27: Members of the inter-Ministerial Central team, which is visiting Assam to assess the damages caused by flood and erosion, have started visiting the worst-hit areas and speaking to the affected people.

Official sources told *The Assam Tribune* that the Central team divided itself into two units so that they can cover as much area as possible. One team went to Barpeta on Tuesday and had discussions with the district administration officials before visiting the worst-affected places and held discussions with the people of those areas. The same team reached Cachar Wednesday afternoon and they will assess the damages in all the three Barak valley districts.

The other team visited Biswanath area Tuesday evening and saw the damages in Gohpur area on Wednesday before reaching Lakhimpur. The members of the team will also visit Jorhat and Majuli before returning to Guwahati.

The members of the Central team will have a meeting with the Chief Minister and Chief Secretary on July 28 before returning to New Delhi.

## AASU asks Power Minister to resign

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

DIBRUGARH, July 27: The Dibrugarh district unit of All Assam Students' Union (AASU) on Wednesday described State's Power Minister Pallab Lochan Das as immature, incapable and inefficient in running the Power Ministry and asked him to immediately resign.

Sankaryoti Barua, general secretary of AASU's Dibrugarh district unit, said Barua and his team had fully failed to check deaths caused by electrocution and irregular power sup-

ply in the State. The members of the students' body staged a protest in front of the Dibrugarh office of the Sub-Divisional Engineer, Assam Power Distribution Company Limited, Dibrugarh Electrical Sub-Division II here. They also burnt his effigy.

Sankaryoti Barua, general secretary of AASU's Dibrugarh district unit, said Barua and his team had fully failed to check deaths caused by electrocution and irregular power sup-

## Flood relief distributed

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 27: National Care and Tourism Education Foundation and Global Educational Sports and Cultural Organisation of Guwahati jointly conducted a series of flood relief distributions across the State, beginning with Kathoniara and Kumargao in Golaghat district on July 21.

The flood relief campaign has been supported by Assam Police, Assam Forest Department, DoT, Union Ministry of Communication and IT, Frontier Engineering, Midland Capital and several other organisations and individuals including Dr Jatin Bora and singer Zubeen Garg. "We also thank the people of Guwahati for their heartfelt support for the campaign," Julin Boruah, president of the foundation said.

## Security beefed up in border areas of Dhubri dist

CORRESPONDENT

DHUBRI, July 27: To ensure peaceful celebration of the Independence Day, the police and the border security forces have tightened security of the border areas of the district.

It was informed that extra battalions have been deployed to make the bordering areas safe and to restrict any activity that may cause disturbance. Police sources also said that vehicles are also being checked in many areas and extra forces have been deployed in the sensitive areas of the district and places that remain crowded.

The flood relief campaign has been supported by Assam Police, Assam Forest Department, DoT, Union Ministry of Communication and IT, Frontier Engineering, Midland Capital and several other organisations and individuals including Dr Jatin Bora and singer Zubeen Garg. "We also thank the people of Guwahati for their heartfelt support for the campaign," Julin Boruah, president of the foundation said.

have been kept under strict surveillance," said police sources who also added that they are in regular contact with senior citizens and socially conscious people of all the areas of the district for regular reports on the activities of the areas.

Attending a meeting on preparations for the Independence Day celebration at the conference hall of the Deputy Commissioner's office, SP Longmet Terang, in presence

## Special TB drive rolled out in six districts of State

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 27: Union Minister for State for Health and Family Welfare Anupriya Patel on Wednesday rolled out a special campaign aimed at detecting fresh cases of tuberculosis (TB) in under-covered areas.

Patel inaugurated an Active Case Finding Campaign under the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme in six districts of the State on Wednesday. The

districts include Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Baksa, Barpeta, Darrang and Kamrup.

Nationwide, 50 districts in 18 States is being covered under the campaign.

As per the initiative, health workers will travel to areas like char (sand bar), tea gardens and hill areas and screen the vulnerable population.

The Minister said that in the mission to make the nation free from TB by 2025, the Northeastern States are a major concern for the government.

Every year about 4.8 lakh people die in TB in India. It is one of the top 10 causes of death worldwide. Patel also reviewed implementation of the TB and Tobacco Control Programme.

After her meeting with the State Government officials, the Minister said that she would sort out the problems the department is facing in terms of release of funds and also in regard to shortage of second line of TB treatment drugs.

The external evaluators in the institutional hall of the Kokrajhar Science College here on Wednesday.

## Training for Gunotsav held at Kokrajhar

CORRESPONDENT

KOKRAJHAR, July 27: For the successful implementation of the Phase-II Gunotsav, which is scheduled to be held in 12 districts including Kokrajhar from September 19 to 22 in Assam, the District Elementary Education Department organised a day-long training programme for

the external evaluators in the institutional hall of the Kokrajhar Science College here on Wednesday.

The training was inaugurated by the BTC Secretary, Robinson Muchahary and participated by all class-I and class-II officers of the district. In his brief inaugural speech, BTC Secretary Muchahary said that the GU-

bouring districts like Chirang and Dhubri, he said. He called upon the officers to carry out their assigned task sincerely so as to make the programme a grand success in Kokrajhar district.

BTC Education Director Robi Shankar Borgoyari and DEEO SN Goyari also addressed the gathering on the occasion.



Women workers of Demou Rajmai Tea estate returning to the garden factory after collecting tea leaves, on Wednesday.

UB Photos

## IIE takes up afforestation project at Jonai

ANN Service

JONAI, July 27: The India Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), which has been set up under the Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, along with the help of Hemajee Forest Division has taken up an afforestation project under the Joint Forest Management initiative to regenerate greenery in the degraded Poba Reserve Forest (RF) on the outskirts of Jonai town.

The IIE conducted a meeting recently with the Forest Department officials and residents of fringe villages and constituted two joint forest management committees (JFMCs) at Leku and Righi to implement the afforestation scheme. The IIE has also

taken up construction of two community halls in the fringe villages under the JFM entry plan activity.

The plantation scheme under JFM was recently launched by Hemajee Deputy Commissioner RA Korati along with plantation of saplings at the degraded forest near Leku Beat Office in Poba Reserve Forest. The Deputy Commissioner, who was accompanied by the Divisional Forest Officer Prasanta Dhanda, urged the Forest officials and JFMC members to play an active role in conservation of forests and other natural resources for the future generation.

Sources informed that a total area covering 60 hectares of degraded forest in Poba RF has been selected during the first phase, wherein the JFMC members have been engaged to regenerate the greenery through plantation of evergreen trees of different species. The Forest Department has forwarded a model estimate, including material and labour cost for the project. The department also submitted a DPR against two proposed community halls under entry plan activity with an estimated cost of Rs 2 lakh per building.

Meanwhile, the IIE is running a handicraft project under 'Livelihood Entrepreneurship Development Programme (LEDP)' involving the rural weavers of Righi village in order to make finished products from handicraft items. It has already granted six spinning machines along with 10 mechanised weaving sets to the weavers. The project aims to achieve economic em-

powerment of rural women through handloom and handicraft activities.

On the other hand, the Forest Department has submitted a project proposal for a bio-gas scheme to the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) Ltd, which is awaiting financial sanction.

Earlier in December, the Forest Department of Jonai implemented a power fencing project to minimise the incidence of man-elephant conflict in the rural areas adjacent to the reserve forest. Thus, solar panel-operated shock-emitting string was erected along the boundary of Poba RF from Bahir-Sille village to Leku Beat Office near Arunachal Pradesh covering a 10-km stretch. Funds released against the project was Rs 2.90 lakh.

## ADMISSION NOTICE

**Admission into the 1st year M.B.B.S./B.D.S. course in the Medical Colleges of Assam & Regional Dental College, Guwahati for the session 2017.**

The following category wise and college wise list of candidates who appeared in the counseling held from 17th July to 23rd July, 2017 and selected by the Selection Board are hereby allowed for provision admission into the 1st year M.B.B.S./B.D.S. courses in the Medical Colleges of Assam & Regional Dental College, Guwahati for the session, 2017.												
The candidature of all the above mentioned candidates will be valid for admission into the Principal of the respective Colleges along with their original Testimony document after giving at the time of Counseling etc. on 20th and 31st July, 2017 with the following condition. The candidates fail to report within the stipulated time, their seat allotted shall be forfeited.												
1. Candidates are to deposit their original Admit Cards, Marks Sheets, Pass certificates of HSC & HSCL or Equivalent examination and caste certificate to the Principal of the respective Colleges at the time of admission.												
2. The admission of all the above mentioned candidates will be subject to the satisfactory Medical fitness certified by the Medical Board constituted by the respective Principal of the Colleges.												
3. The WTH/HLD candidates of the following list shall be allowed for admission, only after approval by the Govt. on verification of their documents.												
4. If the original documents submitted by candidates are found to be falsified or fabricated that selection shall be canceled and Criminal proceedings shall be taken against such candidates.												
5. The candidates who were previously selected for admission in IIMBBS/BDS courses in the Medical Colleges of Assam & Regional Dental College, Guwahati against Intern orders of Hon'ble High Court, Guwahati, their admission process will be kept in abeyance till the final verdict of Hon'ble Guwahati High Court, Guwahati.												
6. All the candidates shall have to enter in to an agreement as per the admission rule of the concerned college and also available on the concerned website <a href="http://www.assam.gov.in">www.assam.gov.in</a> as Schedule-II & Schedule-III. Candidates will have to submit the agreement within 15 days from the date of their admission.												
7. College uniform is compulsory for all the students. Respective college authorities shall prescribe necessary dress code in due course of time.												
8. Admission fees is approximately Rs.30,000/-												
9. Classes will be started from 1st August, 2017.												
Sl. No.	State Rank	Roll No.	Name	All India Rank	Remarks	Sl. No.	State Rank	Roll No.	Name	All India Rank	Remarks	
<b>UNRESERVED CATEGORY</b>												
<b>ASSAM MEDICAL COLLEGE, DIBRUGARH</b>												
1	36	900814427	ADITYA SHYAM JALAN	28361		29	315	900819345	BHASKAR TALKUDAR	62231		
2	61	77	900825511	NAYANA ROY	28363		30	316	900811954	ABDUL KALAM	62238	
3	62	78	901705099	NATASHA SHARMA	2392		31	317	900816222	RESHNA AICH	62330	
4	63	79	900833909	MANSI SHARMA	28673		32	318	900813434	NAZRUL ISLAM	62351	
5	64	80	900817044	SHAFIQ-UZZICKA	28973		33	319	900805667	KHANJAH MOHD CHOURHURY	62477	
6	85	81	900812074	AMANDA	28041							
7	86	82	900811944	SHAHID AFROZI SHEIKH	29467							
8	87	83	900811875	DEEPTI YOTIHNA	29557							
9	88	84	900811875	ARIF HUSSAIN AHMED	29797							
10	89	85	900813492	SUMAYAH BEGUM	30803							
11	90	86	900813492	ANUPAMA DAS	31588							
12	91	87	900812977	SHANTANU DAS	32395							
13	92	88	900811226	KIRITI ROY	35078							
14	93	89	900810106	ABHIRUJ HATHAWAY	36405							
15	94	90	900813464	SAGARAKA D	38636							
16	95	91	900813939	SNENA SNEHA	38995							
17	96	92	900813688	NIBEDITA NATH	39174							
18	97	93	900813688	MONALIKA DAS	41057							
19	98	94	900811782	MANOHAR PRATIM NATH	43447							
20	99	95	900811782	PRIYANKA BHANU	43670							
21	100	96	900810741	PRAMILA PATAK	45628							
22	101	97	900810597	MANAB AHMED	46378							
23	102	98	900815640	KARAN FAJRUH	51361							
24	103	99	900815640	RAJESH KUMAR	51373							
25	104	100	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51374							
26	105	101	900815640	JIMMY DAS	51403							
27	106	102	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51404							
28	107	103	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51405							
29	108	104	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51406							
30	109	105	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51407							
31	110	106	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51408							
32	111	107	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51409							
33	112	108	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51410							
34	113	109	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51411							
35	114	110	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51412							
36	115	111	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51413							
37	116	112	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51414							
38	117	113	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51415							
39	118	114	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51416							
40	119	115	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51417							
41	120	116	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51418							
42	121	117	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51419							
43	122	118	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51420							
44	123	119	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51421							
45	124	120	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51422							
46	125	121	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51423							
47	126	122	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51424							
48	127	123	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51425							
49	128	124	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51426							
50	129	125	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51427							
51	130	126	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51428							
52	131	127	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51429							
53	132	128	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51430							
54	133	129	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51431							
55	134	130	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51432							
56	135	131	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51433							
57	136	132	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51434							
58	137	133	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51435							
59	138	134	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51436							
60	139	135	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51437							
61	140	136	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51438							
62	141	137	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51439							
63	142	138	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51440							
64	143	139	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51441							
65	144	140	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51442							
66	145	141	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51443							
67	146	142	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51444							
68	147	143	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51445							
69	148	144	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51446							
70	149	145	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51447							
71	150	146	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51448							
72	151	147	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51449							
73	152	148	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51450							
74	153	149	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51451							
75	154	150	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51452							
76	155	151	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51453							
77	156	152	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51454							
78	157	153	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51455							
79	158	154	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51456							
80	159	155	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51457							
81	160	156	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51458							
82	161	157	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51459							
83	162	158	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51460							
84	163	159	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51461							
85	164	160	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51462							
86	165	161	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51463							
87	166	162	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51464							
88	167	163	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51465							
89	168	164	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51466							
90	169	165	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51467							
91	170	166	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51468							
92	171	167	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51469							
93	172	168	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51470							
94	173	169	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51471							
95	174	170	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51472							
96	175	171	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51473							
97	176	172	900815640	SHUBHAM CHOURHURY	51474				</			



Lt Gen DS Ahuja, GOC paying homage to late Captain Keishing Clifford Nongrum on the occasion of Karm Diwas, in Shillong on Wednesday - UB Photos

#### BHDRA GOGOI

DIMAPUR, July 27: Election Commission of India has banned exit poll in the by-election to Northern Angami-I Assembly constituency till the polling is over. Former Nagaland Chief Minister Dr Shrihomin Liezetsu is contesting against Independent candidate Kekhrie Yhome in the by-election scheduled for July 29.

In a notification, ECI said polling will be held from 7 am to 4:30 pm. It further clarified that displaying any election matter, including results of any opinion poll or any other poll survey, in any electronic media has also been prohibited during the period of 48 hours ending with the hours fixed for conclusion of poll for the by-poll.

Addressing a press conference in Kohima today, Chief

Electoral Officer Abhijit Singh said Kohima Deputy Commissioner & Returning Officer has already classified the polling stations to ensure that everything goes smoothly. He said that VVPAT machine will be used in this by-election for the second time. The VVPAT machine was first used in Nagaland successfully during the last Assembly election in Noknang Assembly constituency.

Sinha stated that sufficient Central armed forces will be deployed in every polling station to ensure peaceful conduct of election and that in every polling station photographer/videographer will be attached in order to capture the election process. He also stated that canvassing in all forms including in the print and electronic media will be prohibited 48 hours prior to the poll.

Y Paton was re-appointed his earlier portfolio of Home & Kaito Ayo was also re-appointed Minister of National Highways and Political Affairs but his name featured first in the list of Ministers after the CM. Although some were allocated the same portfolios as in the previous Government there were also some big surprises in the current allocation. Kipili Sangtam, Personnel and Administrative Reforms with himself.

ing which comes into effect from 4 pm today.

**Zeling allocates portfolios:** Nagaland Chief Minister TR Zeling has allotted portfolios to the newly induced Ministers, advisors and Parliamentary Secretaries after nearly two days of speculation on the issue. Zeling kept a few portfolios including Finance, Personnel and Administrative Reforms with himself.

Senior NPF legislator EE Pantheao was given Rural Development, while Neikialic Niki Kire got Roads and Bridges.

Imkong L Imchen was allotted Health and Family Welfare and Tokheho Yephomi would be looking after School Education and Parliamentary Affairs.

Apart from two legislators almost all the Ministers were either expelled or suspended by NPF for violating the party's constitution. The NPF had expelled 19 and suspended 10 of its legislators.

in the dismissed Shurhozelie Liezetsu Government.

BJP legislators Manhoulo Kikon and Imthioba Sangtam were allotted Geology and Mining, Border Affairs and Cooperation, Relief and Rehabilitation and MAR-COFED respectively.

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WEATHER NORTHEAST	
Forecast for NE: Moderate rain/storms likely to occur at many places over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura. Heavy rain/storms likely to occur at a few places over Arunachal Pradesh.	
Warning: Heavy rainfall is very likely to occur in Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura on July 30 & 31.	
Temperatures:	
Max (°C)	Min (°C)
Dibrugarh	31.5 24.4
Dispur	30.7 25.8
Silchar	34.6 24.8
Chabua	33.0 26.2
Jorhat	33.5 25.6
NLJ	31.1 23.8
Shillong	23.7 16.3
Imphal	31.8 22.8
Itanagar	32.6 23.4
Aizawl	29.6 13.4
Agartala	34.5 25.7
Kohima	25.4 19.0
Painghat	32.5 24.9
Cherrapunjee	24.2 17.5

## 3 students drown in Siang

#### CORRESPONDENT

JNVI, JK Singh reported to Navoda Vidyalaya Samiti that some students went to Siang river side without permission from the house master and other staff, while confirming that three class IX students were drowned in the river, which was in spate. They have been identified as Aloko Borang, Bicky Pertin and Abhar Lanir.

Acting on a tip-off, the security forces nabbed the 52-year-old Langching, a resident of Rangrak village in Changlang district, with a pistol and three live rounds, a satellite phone, some cash, two mobile phones, handwritten extortion notes and other discriminating evidences, according to a release here.

It claimed the cadre, previously belonging to NSCN (K), was involved in several extortion cases in the district.

In another operation launched by the Assam Rifles based on reports about presence of cadres trying to terrify and carry out extortion in Longding, one Tulus Dharan, an ex-ground worker (OGW) of NSCN(U) was apprehended at New Forest Colony in Longding district early this morning.

**6 houses gutted:** Six dwelling houses were completely gutted in a massive fire that broke out at Sungsing village under Geku Circle of Upper Siang district early this morning.

There was, however, no report of any casualty. The cause of the fire accident was not known yet. Relief was distributed to the victims, according to an official release here.

support from the Deputy Commissioners of downstream Siang and East Siang districts.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Pema Khandu has expressed deep concern over the 'rise' in drowning incidents in the State. Expressing deep sorrow over the incident, Khandu asked all the adjoining district administrations to gear up for search operations. NDRI team has also been pressed into service. The CM is personally monitoring the rescue operation.

Khandu also expressed profound sorrow over the loss of two lives due to drowning in Papum and Pare rivers recently.

Students of some schools here recently staged a sit-in demonstration against the decision of the government. It may be mentioned that around 447 higher secondary teachers have also been transferred in the State.

Students, some students and police personnel were injured in a clash. The clash broke out when the police tried to stop the students from staging a rally in front of the school at Sanjenghong here. The students wanted to march to the Chief Minister's bungalow demanding roll back of the transfer of eight teachers from the school.

A spokesman of the CC Higher Secondary School Students' Union urged the government to cancel the transfer of the eight teachers with immediate effect in the interest of the students.

However, Principal Secretary Education Vineet Joshi clarified that the transfers were carried out in the interest of the students. He also claimed that the transfers were effected after an assessment based on the student's strength and vacancy of the schools.

The Bangladesh Border Guards (BGB) had a plan to establish 40 BOPs in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) to ensure effective vigil along Indo-Bangla border. But the plan has made no progress yet due to various reasons.

## Mass transfer of Manipur teachers flayed

#### CORRESPONDENT

yesterday last that the move was taken up to improve the education system in the State.

The All Naga Students' Association, Manipur and Democratic Students' Alliance of Manipur have also jointly submitted a memorandum to the Chief Minister demanding improvement of the education system in the State.

**Symposium:** A symposium on "Dialogue on establishing an effective Manipur State Human Rights Commission" was held here recently to discuss how to make the new State Human Rights Commission a full fledged one. The programme attended by civil society organisations made various recommendations on how to make the Commission effective. Former CM Radhabindu Koijam, former Chief Justice of Chhattisgarh High Court, WA Shishak and others attended the discussion.

**Drugs seized:** Assam Rifles based on information regarding movement of contraband items through a jungle track between Chakim and Khudelenghabi villages, detected contraband drugs worth Rs 1.34 crore, according to Assam Rifles sources.

A suspected individual was noticed recently coming on the track towards the ambush party with a backpack. On being challenged the man threw the bag and fled. On checking the bag, 20 packets of Brown Sugar weighing 335 grams was found.

## NLFT on recruitment drive

#### CORRESPONDENT

the militant group.

Reports indicate the number of NLFT cadres has come down to 80/90 even after change in guard of the banned outfit. After taking over charge as the president of the outlawed group, Subi Debbarma and self-styled chief of army Sachin Debbarma are trying hard to restore the striking strength of the outfit in order to influence the ensuing Assembly elections.

Biswamoni Debbarma, founder president of NLFT is still associated with the outlawed group as he has been appointed advisor of the outfit.

Interestingly, the law enforcement agencies as well

the intelligence wings are reluctant to give a status to militant hideouts. "Now, NLFT cadres are sheltered in their homes and have not any hideout", said a senior security official.

"The presence of militants in the State's eastern sector, once a volatile borderline, appears very negligible. Yet, we don't under-estimate the outlawed group", he said here on Thursday.

The Bangladesh Border Guards (BGB) had a plan to establish 40 BOPs in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) to ensure effective vigil along Indo-Bangla border. But the plan has made no progress yet due to various reasons.

Chief Minister N Biren Singh had informed the ongoing Assembly session on Sat-

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## Interlocutor appointed to talk with Kuki outfits

#### CORRESPONDENT

ability to maintain law and order in hill areas, Singh, who held the Home portfolio, informed the House that the State Government has a clear cut stand to bring about an early settlement as the people continue to face hardships due to the frequent violation of ground rules by the cadres of SoO signatory groups.

Informing that the government has tightened security to curb the unwanted incidents in the State, he said, so far 52 cadres of SoO groups have been arrested for violating the ground rules.

Around 33 NSCN cadres were also arrested for extortion related cases this year, he added.

KNO and UPF represented eleven and eight militant outfits respectively.

Clarifying the questions and observations by opposition Congress MLAs over the report of State Government's



Members of Hynniewtrep Youth Council taking part in a black flag campaign demanding implementation of Inner Line Permit system in Meghalaya, at Shillong on Wednesday. - UB Photos

## Indo-Bangla draft agreement on elephant conservation signed

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

the third round of talks between the two neighbouring countries.

Broadly, the two nations have decided to identify migratory routes of elephants that passes through the International borders and take necessary steps so that such migration takes place smoothly.

"We have decided to construct gates at 14 points across Indo-Bangla border wherever there is a fence. Twelve of these gates would be in Meghalaya and one in Assam," Das informed.

The final agreement would be signed in June 2018 in Bangladesh in

cided to establish a joint working group within 60 days to evolve standard procedures and protocol.

This group would involve Deputy Commissioners, Divisional Forest Officers, Range Forest Officers, Border Guards of both nations to facilitate trans-border crossing of elephants.

Das said that steps would also be taken that these points of elephant crossings or elephant corridors are not taken advantage of by anti-socials of both countries.

The two countries have also decided to share information about annual migration of elephants through the borders and also create a data base for future references.

"The use of technology for the cross border migration would be encouraged and the border guards of the two nation would be sensitised on the use of such technology," Das added.

Steps would also be taken to reduce man-animal conflict, which has increased over the years due to the

loss of habitat. In Meghalaya alone, during the last seven years, a total of 14,754 incidents of human-elephant conflict have been reported.

These incidents include six human deaths, 48 cases of human injuries, damage of L325 houses and cases of damage to crops.

"These States are home to more than 9,000 wild elephants, out of which 1,800 elephants are found in Meghalaya alone. The estimated population of wild elephants in Bangladesh is around 200," Das added.

CONT. FROM PAGE- 9	
Sl. No.	State Rank
9	2022 900702172 ANANYA MONICA SAIKIA
10	2031 900814305 GUNJANNA DEORI
1	2136 900671619 MATHIR RAHMAN
2	2149 900803303 GAURAV DEORI
<b>STRI CATEGORY</b>	
<b>ASSAM MEDICAL COLLEGE, DIBRUGARH</b>	
1	697 900702110 TAMANNA BANGTHAI
2	2173 900703369 BHASKARAYA SHYAM
3	2464 900814460 JAHANGIR TERANG
4	2470 900814461 JAHANGIR TERANG
5	2675 900814447 GLORIA RAMNEE
6	2900 900803300 RULWEE PHANGDO
7	2900 900811055 SENOKHUM SHYAM
<b>GAUHATI MEDICAL COLLEGE, GUWAHATI</b>	
1	677 900702110 JAGANNATH KEMPRAI
2	2173 900703369 BHASKARAYA SHYAM
3	2464 900814460 JAHANGIR TERANG
4	2470 900814461 JAHANGIR TERANG
5	2675 900814447 GLORIA RAMNEE
6	2900 900803300 RULWEE PHANGDO
7	2900 900811055 SENOKHUM SHYAM
<b>SILCHAR MEDICAL COLLEGE, SILCHAR</b>	
1	512 900804885 BAORING DAD KEMPRAI
2	1002 900823681 LALDEEP KUMAR
3	1777 900815975 ANUMAISHA SHYAM
4	1783 900803905 JAHANGIR TERANG
5	2007 900803693 MINDAR RATOR
<b>JOHAT MEDICAL COLLEGE, JOHAT</b>	
1	3459 900804847 ARINCON HOA
2	3733 900702172 LALDEEP KUMAR
3	3777 900813917 ANUMAISHA SHYAM
4	4026 900803693 MINDAR RATOR
<b>FAA MEDICAL COLLEGE, BARPETA</b>	
1	446 900804857 FLORINA RONGPI
<b>TEZPUR MEDICAL COLLEGE, TEZPUR</b>	
1	331 900803795 LALDEEP KUMAR SAKAHEP
2	372 900803795 FIRUZ AHMED MAZUMDER
3	377 900803795 FIRUZ AHMED MAZUMDER
<b>EX-SERVICE MANPOWER DEFENCE PERSONNEL CATEGORY</b>	
<b>SILCHAR MEDICAL COLLEGE, SILCHAR</b>	
1	2901 900811606 KHADJA BEGUM LASKAR
2	321 900816088 FIRUZ AHMED MAZUMDER
<b>JOHAT MEDICAL COLLEGE, JOHAT</b>	
1	394 900807194 FIRUZ AHMED MAZUMDER
<b>FAA MEDICAL COLLEGE, BARPETA</b>	
1	356 900815781 SHAHANI RALOM
<b>TEZPUR MEDICAL COLLEGE, TEZPUR</b>	
1	385 900801228 ARIFNA SUREEN AKAND
<b>MORAN CATEGORY</b>	
<b>ASSAM MEDICAL COLLEGE, DIBRUGARH</b>	
1	3981 Kept reserved as per Govt. Order of Supreme Court High Court, Ghy.
<b>JOHAT MEDICAL COLLEGE, JOHAT</b>	
1	4166 900702639 SHABEN MOHAN
<b>TEZPUR MEDICAL COLLEGE, TEZPUR</b>	
1	4185 900701498 ASHIM PHUKAN
<b>MOTOK CATEGORY</b>	
<b>ASSAM MEDICAL COLLEGE, DIBRUGARH</b>	
1	1125 910002653 PRINCE KOIJAM
<b>JOHAT MEDICAL COLLEGE, JOHAT</b>	
1	3052 900702640 PRINCE KOIJAM
<b>TEZPUR MEDICAL COLLEGE, TEZPUR</b>	
1	3794 900701784 PRINCE KOIJAM
<b>EXTREMIST/VIOLENCE CATEGORY</b>	
<b>ASSAM MEDICAL COLLEGE, DIBRUGARH</b>	
1	7112 900701908 PRINCE KOIJAM
<b>JOHAT MEDICAL COLLEGE, JOHAT</b>	
1	7789 900803491 PRIYANKA PEGU
<b>TGL/TCL CATEGORY</b>	
<b>ASSAM MEDICAL COLLEGE, DIBRUGARH</b>	
1	671 900702192 MOHISHA ORAON
2	957 900702192 RULWEE PHANGDO TELI
3	2079 900702000 RULWEE PHANGDO TELI
<b>SILCHAR MEDICAL COLLEGE, SILCHAR</b>	
1	1376 900813733 JINID RASHMI BARLA
2	1744 900813796 VISHAL LOHMAN ORAON
3	2859 900813292 SUMITA GOALA
<b>JOHAT MEDICAL COLLEGE, JOHAT</b>	
1	328 900702623 UDIT GOALI ORAON
2	339 900702623 RULWEE PHANGDO TELI
3	339 900815940 RULWEE PHANGDO TELI
<b>FAA MEDICAL COLLEGE, BARPETA</b>	
1	3677 900803580 PALLABI JAYEK
2	3685 900803580 PALLABI JAYEK
3	3685 900803580 PALLABI JAYEK
<b>TEZPUR MEDICAL COLLEGE, TEZPUR</b>	
1	2876 900803270 SUJANA GOALA
2	3045 900803714 SUJANA GOALA
3	3045 900803714 SUJANA GOALA
<b>PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CATEGORY</b>	
<b>GAUHATI MEDICAL COLLEGE, GUWAHATI</b>	
1	5401 900803722 KABERI RABHA (STP)
<b>ASSAM MEDICAL COLLEGE, DIBRUGARH</b>	
1	3688 900701842 GARO GOOGI (UR)
<b>SILCHAR MEDICAL COLLEGE, SILCHAR</b>	
1	2426 900814077 VARGAON LUM SHARMA (UR)
<b>SPORTS CATEGORY</b>	
<b>TEZPUR MEDICAL COLLEGE, TEZPUR</b>	
1	Kept reserved as per High Court case.
<b>Sdi-Prot. (D) A.K. Barman</b>	
<b>Director of Medical Education, Assam</b>	

## CAPSULE

## Maruti Suzuki net up

NEW DELHI, July 27: India's largest car-maker Maruti Suzuki India today posted over 4 per cent rise in net profit at Rs 1,556.4 crore for the first quarter ended June 30 as high commodity prices and GST related issues took a toll on its bottomline. The company had reported a net profit of Rs 1,499.4 crore for the same period of the previous fiscal. Net sales, however, rose 16.7 per cent to Rs 17,132.4 crore for the quarter under review, as against Rs 14,654.5 crore a year earlier. Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) said in a statement. -PTI

## ONGC profit slips

NEW DELHI, July 27: India's biggest oil and gas producer ONGC today reported an 8.2 per cent drop in its June quarter profit from a year ago, in natural gas rates took away gains made from higher oil prices. Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) reported a net profit of Rs 3,884.73 crore, or Rs 3.03 a share in April-June compared to Rs 4,222.54 crore, or Rs 3.30 per share, in the same period of the previous fiscal, the company said in a statement. -PTI

## ITC Q1 net up 7.37%

NEW DELHI, Jul 27: Diversified conglomerate ITC today reported an increase of 7.37 per cent in standalone profit at Rs 2,630.50 crore for the first quarter ended June 30, 2017. The company had posted a net profit of Rs 2,384.67 crore for the April-June quarter a year ago, ITC said in a BSE filing. -PTI

## Idea Cellular

NEW DELHI, July 27: Telecom operator Idea Cellular today posted a loss of Rs 815.9 crore in the first quarter ended June 30, impacted by sustained pressure from disruptive tariffs of Reliance Jio. This is the third straight quarter loss for the Airtel-Bharti Group firm as it has not been able to recover from the pressure of aggressive tariff war triggered by Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Jio Infocomm. Idea Cellular had posted a profit of Rs 217.1 crore in the same period a year ago. -PTI

## Axis Bank MD

MUMBAI, July 27: Seeking to put speculation at rest, Axis Bank today reappointed Shikha Sharma as the Managing Director and Chief Executive of the third largest private lender for a third term that will last till June 2021. -PTI

## LIC sets Rs 38,000-cr target for FY18

NEW DELHI, July 27: State-run insurance behemoth Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has set a premium collection target from new business on individual basis at Rs 38,000 crore in the ongoing fiscal, a top official said.

For 2016-17, the insurer had set a target of Rs 31,000 crore in new business premium collection on individual basis.

The actual collection was 22 per cent higher than the target at Rs 37,800 crore during the last fiscal.

"We hope to garner Rs 38,000 crore on the individ-

ual basis in the 2017-18 fiscal on the back of our products," LIC Chairman VK Sharma told PTI.

Its total new business premium, including pension and group business, rose to Rs 1.22 lakh crore in 2016-17, a

rise of 25.8 per cent from around Rs 97,000 crore a year ago.

However, the company registered a degrowth in terms of policies in 2016-17. LIC sold 2.01 crore policies during the

last fiscal compared to 2.05 crore a year earlier.

With higher profits from its huge investment portfolio, LIC has decided to pay 40 per cent higher bonuses and dividends to the government and its customers in 2016-17.

LIC has allocated Rs 1,387.44 crore as revenueary bonuses with profit to policyholders and paid Rs 2,494.08 crore to the government towards its share of surpluses on within-the-country business, against Rs 34,207.58 crore and Rs 1,800.40 crore, respectively, a year ago. -PTI

## New business premium collection

## Indian digital economy has big potential: Mastercard

NEW DELHI, July 27: India has emerged as a potentially strong digital economy and been categorised under the 'Break Out' segment among 60 countries in an index launched today.

The Digital Evolution Index 2017 was launched jointly by the Fletcher School at Tufts University in the US and Mastercard.

"The Break Out segment refers to countries that have relatively lower absolute levels of digital advancement, yet remain poised for growth and are attractive to investors by virtue of their potential," Mastercard said in a release here.

## LS passes Companies (Amendment) Bill

NEW DELHI, July 27: The Lok Sabha today passed the Companies (Amendment) Bill 2016, making changes, thereby, to the Companies Act, 2013, in relation to structuring, disclosure and compliance requirements for firms.

The Bill was passed through a voice vote with 43 amendments moved by Minister of State for Finance Arjun Ram Meghwal.

Repeating the debate on the Bill, Meghwal said the changes to the Companies Act

would go a long way in improv-

ing the ease of doing business in India and help the country move higher in the ease of doing business rankings.

He also said actions are being taken against entities like NSEL, PUCL, Elder Pharma, Sarada chit funds and Rose Valley chit funds.

Besides, the government has taken all necessary steps to proceed against those who are not complying with corporate social responsibility (CSR)

standards, he added.

The minister also informed

the Lok Sabha that 91 lakh new taxpayers have come into the system after demonetisation.

During the debate earlier,

Congress leader KV Thomas

said the Bill aimed at diluting

many provisions of the Act.

The Bill was passed through a voice vote with 43 amendments moved by Minister of State for Finance Arjun Ram Meghwal.

Repeating the debate on the Bill, Meghwal said the changes to the Companies Act, 2013,

set limits on the number of intermidary companies through which investments can be made in a company. Similarly, it also

limits the number of layers of

subsidiaries a company can have. The amendment Bill removes these limits.

The Act also requires an individual who has a beneficial interest in the shares of a company to disclose these.

Moreover, this Bill facilitates greater flexibility in incorporation of companies, simplifies procedure for raising capital and allows independent directors to financial interest up to 10 per cent in companies. -IANS



Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal receiving a cheque worth Rs 1 crore from NRL MD P Padmanabhan as donation to Chief Minister's Relief Fund, at Janata Bhawan in Guwahati on Thursday. - UNI

## Food processing sector attracted FDI worth \$183 mn in May-June: Badal

HYDERABAD, July 27: The food processing sector has attracted FDI to the tune of Rs 183 million in last two months, Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal said today.

"This year in the last two months (May-June 2017) alone, Rs 183 million has already been attracted in the food processing sector," she said.

Talking about investment flow after allowing 100 per cent FDI in multi-brand retail, she said there has been a 40 per cent increase in FDI in the food processing sector," she said.

"The move would also in-

crease food processing levels in the country by five per cent, she said. Currently, 10 per cent of the produce is being processed.

"The Rs 6,000 crore, which is being put in just by one ministry alone, is going to leverage an investment worth almost Rs 31,000 crore.

"The Rs 6,000 crore, which is being put in just by one ministry alone, is going to leverage an investment worth almost Rs 31,000 crore. We are going to process agro produce... 334 million metric tonnes, where the value would be almost (Rs) one lakh crore," she said.

Badal said the Rs 6,000 crore

being put in by the Food Processing Ministry under the 'Samprada Yojana' would lever-

age an investment of about Rs 31,000 crore.

"The Rs 6,000 crore, which is being put in just by one ministry alone, is going to leverage an investment worth almost Rs 31,000 crore. We are going to process agro produce... 334 million metric tonnes, where the value would be almost (Rs) one lakh crore," she said.

It would directly and indi-

rectly impact almost 25 lakh farmers and generate employment for 55 lakh people, the minister said.

The move would also in-

crease food processing levels in the country by five per cent, she said. Currently, 10 per cent of the produce is being processed.

She said Rs 6,000 crore has been allocated to put up units inside the 42 mega food parks which are coming up across the country. -PTI

Goodricket to open tea lounges across India

KOLKATA, July 27: Sterling tea company of Goodricket Group will open tea lounges pan-India to popularise the beverage among the people, particularly youngsters.

"The lounges will be opened in the metros only," he said.

Regarding acquisition of gardens, Singh said that the company in which Camellia Group Pic of UK holds 74 per cent stake, was on the lookout to purchase gardens in Assam for the last two years. "We are not getting the right garden at the right price," he said.

To a query, he said that buying gardens in West Bengal is not cost-effective. "It is not worth it. There is no profit and cost is high as compared to Assam," he said. -PTI

SIS to boost organised security business: SIS CEO

players," SIS group CEO Uday Singh said here today at a pre-IPO roadshow.

With other enabling environ-

ment, he was targeting a

growth of around 30 per cent

during the current fiscal.

Claiming SIS to be the second largest security services firm in the country, he said it will be the first such company to go public on July 31.

The target is to raise around

Rs 780 crore out of which about Rs 362 crore will come as fresh issue.

The remaining amount will go to promoters including private investors CX Partners, company officials said.

SIS said it plans to use part of

the proceeds from its IPO to

pay debt to the tune of Rs 200 crore out of a total Rs 760 crore.

Singh said it will repay the

Rs 120-crore loan raised for

takeover of maintenance com-

pany - Dusters.

For SIS, its Australian comp-

any remains as cash cow with

some Rs 2,200 crore reve-

ning from it out of the

group's total revenue of Rs 4,600 crore.

SIS is a holding company

with companies focused on

three key verticals — securi-

ty services, cash logistics and

facility management services. - PTI



Representatives of Hotel Radisson Blue hold the winner award for the Best Business Hotel during 4th East India Travel Awards ceremony at Radisson Blue, in Guwahati on Wednesday night. - UB Photos

## Maruti, Hyundai rule June passenger vehicle sales

NEW DELHI, July 27:

Country's top two car-makers Maruti Suzuki India and Hyundai Motor India dominated the Indian passenger vehicle sales segment last month with their models occupying all the slots in the top ten list.

While car market leader

Maruti has seven of its models

in the list, rival Hyundai Motor

India has three of its models

in the top ten bestselling list

of last month.

Toyota Kirloskar

Motor's Innova and Renault

Kwid which were there in the

June 2016 list have failed to find

place in this year's top ten list.

Maruti's Swift retained sixth

position with 9,902 units in

June.

It had sold 9,034 units in

the same month of the last year.

The car-maker's

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## Unease in JD(U) over ties with BJP, Sharad unhappy

NEW DELHI, July 27: A section of Bihar's ruling JD(U) is unhappy about Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's decision to walk out of the Grand Alliance and form a new government with a few party MPs openly criticising it.

JD(U) Rayya Sabha MP Ali Anwar and MP Veerendran Kumar met senior leader Sharad Yadav here and re-

ports that he was also displeased with Nitish Kumar's actions.

Yadav, a former party chief and Leader of the JD(U) in the Rayya Sabha, has so far not commented on the development.

Sources close to him said he was "unhappy" with the Bihar Chief Minister's move as he wanted the three-party Grand

Alliance, also comprising the Congress, to continue.

Anwar, who said his "confidence does not support" Kumar's action, told reporters that Yadav agreed with their "strong" views against the JD(U)-BJP alliance.

Yadav, he said, told them he would take a formal stand on the issue after speaking to other leaders.

Meanwhile, Kerala JD(U) president MP Veerendra Kumar expressed "shock" over Kumar's decision and said the State unit would not follow the Chief Minister into the NDA fold.

He appealed to all JD(U)

MPs to "denounce the decision and quit the party".

Anwar said his reservations over the new coalition should not be seen as a rebellion

against the party and he would present his views within the organisation.

"He (Yadav) had called us to his residence. He agreed with our views against the alliance with the BJP," Anwar said. He claimed that Kumar's decision to dump the RJD and ally with the BJP was not discussed within the party, and even Yadav was not taken into confidence.

The party, however, has little at stake in Kerala and its leaders have insisted that their flock in Bihar would remain together.

A source in the JD(U)

claimed that some senior BJP

and Congress leaders had spoken to Yadav but it was not clear what transpired during their talks.

However, a senior JD(U) leader close to Nitish Kumar expressed confidence that Yadav would not go to the extent of splitting the party.

There is also talk that some JDU members would join the union council of ministers and Sharad Yadav may be placed with a Cabinet berth. - PTI

## 'Vendetta against me', says Tejashwi

PATNA, July 27: Former Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav today slammed the BJP and former ally JD(U) alleging they pursued a "vendetta politics" against him.

"My performance perturbed our ally and BJP. Vendetta against me exposes their viciousness," Tejashwi said in a tweet after the JD(U) returned to the NDA fold.

Nitish Kumar was sworn as the Chief Minister today, a day after he resigned flanking Lalu Prasad's RJD. Kumar joined hands with the Opposition BJP today to reclaim his post.

"I entered in govt with a



Former Bihar Deputy Chief Minister and RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav speaks to media after meeting the State Governor in Patna on Thursday. - UNI

## It is opportunism, treachery with people's mandate: Cong on Nitish

NEW DELHI, July 27: The Congress today described Nitish Kumar's joining hands with BJP to remain in power as "rank opportunism and treachery with people's mandate" and said it was "a black day for Indian democracy".

Congress chief spokesperson Randeep Singh Surjewala said that Kumar had pledged never to join hands with the BJP and alleged that his mask of "big talks and self professed honesty" stands exposed, with his sole principle being "power at any cost, power at all costs".

Recalling that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had questioned Kumar's "political DNA" in 2015 elections, he said, "It has been

proved today that the political DNA of BJP and JD(U) is identical – opportunism, treachery, hunger for power and disregard of people's mandate".

"Bihar, every political and democratic principle was murdered in broad daylight and a government of BJP-JD(U) has been formed today which is neither people's mandate nor does it have the authority to rule. This is a black day for Indian democracy," he said.

Surjewala said it is an affront to the people's mandate and a "double whammy" for democracy that within 20 months, the politics of opportunism was repeated "when a party rejected by the people and

a leader hungry for power at any cost formed a government overnight".

He said in November 2015, the people of Bihar rejected the leadership of Narendra Modi and the policies of BJP and the mandate of people was in favour of the policies, principles and leadership of Mahagathbandhan".

"Nitish Kumar and JD(U) were never given the mandate to rule Bihar alone by the people and the BJP was decisively rejected. The new BJP-JD(U) government is founded on political conspiracy rather than people's mandate and has no right to continue even for a day," he said. - PTI

It was not clear what was discussed between Rahul and Advani, though their chit-chat happened in the backdrop of the Bihar developments. - PTI

## Rahul, Advani talk in LS

NEW DELHI, July 27: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi today had a long conversation with BJP veteran LK Advani in the Lok Sabha when the House was adjourned following an upbore by the Opposition over a variety of issues, including alleged cow vigilanism.

Just before the House was to assemble at 11.30 am following a brief adjournment, the Congress vice-president walked over to the treasury benches and engaged in a conversation with Advani, who was sitting in the front row.

He was seen leaning back but did not sit next to Advani. After talking to the former Deputy Prime Minister for nearly five minutes, Rahul was also seen talking to Union minister Ramdas Athawale.

Then the Congress leader went up to his mother Congress president Sonia Gandhi and talked to her for a while.

It was not clear what was discussed between Rahul and Advani, though their chit-chat happened in the backdrop of the Bihar developments. - PTI

## Bypolls to 4 Assembly seats on August 23

NEW DELHI, July 27: The Election Commission today announced byolls to four Assembly seats, including Panaji, from where Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar is likely to contest.

The bylections in Bawana (Delhi), Panaji and Valpoi (Goa) and Nandiyal (Andhra Pradesh) will be held on August 23.

The notification for the byelections would be issued on July 29, Saturday, beginning the nomination process.

While August 9 is the last date of filing nominations, August 9 is the last date of withdrawing from the electoral battle, an ECI statement said.

The counting will take place on August 28.

The Banawa seat was vacated after AAP MLA Ved Prakash had resigned to join the BJP.

Parrikar had represented the Panaji Assembly seat in the Goa Assembly till he was appointed Defence Minister in the Modi government. - PTI

## PM condoles demise of former Karnataka CM Dharam Singh

NEW DELHI, July 27: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today condole the demise of former Karnataka Chief Minister Dharam Singh and said his dedicated service towards the society would be remembered.

Singh died of a massive heart attack at a private hospital in Bengaluru this morning, doctors said.

"Condolled by the demise of former Karnataka CM Shri N. Dharam Singh. My thoughts are with his family & supporters in this sad hour," the Prime Minister tweeted.

"Shri N. Dharam Singh had rich experience in Karnataka & national politics. His dedicated service towards society will be remembered," Modi added.

Eighty-year-old Singh, ailing for the last few months, fainted at his home and was rushed to MS Ramaiah hospital where doctors declared him dead about 40 minutes later.

Singh headed the Congress-JDS coalition government from 2004 to 2006. A nine-time MLA and a former Member of Parliament, he had also headed the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee. - PTI

## Attitude of men needs to change for women empowerment'

NEW DELHI, July 27: Batt

ing for gender equality, Union Minister Suresh Prabhu today said that for achieving real women's empowerment in the country, it is men who need to change their attitude, more than the society as a whole.

The minister in his address at the Indo-Japan Consultation on 'Women at Social Work and Changing Social Norms' also hailed the performance of the Indian women's cricket team in the recent World Cup, saying it was an indication of the "transformation that has happened in a big way in the country".

"Unfortunately, most of the things we see from men's eye (point of view), And that is the root cause of several social problems the world. Even, many of the so-called developed countries are not so developed, if one measures their

development on the scale of women's empowerment," he said.

Acknowledging the role of women working at home, Prabhu said, women are "always there" when men wish to go to work outside, it is men only who oppose that.

"Whether raising a family or taking care of the household or a woman in a village, they are always working. And, it is when women wish to go to work outside, it is men only who oppose that."

"Women are the half of the population ('Aadhia Aahad'), so when people say for women empowerment we need societal changes, I would say, we need to change just one half—the men—who need to change their attitude. And, that will bring empowerment," the railway minister said.

Prabhu also asserted that women's empowerment

should not be defined for them, rather women should be just facilitated and the society should just allow them to pursue what they want to do, and not what the society wants them to do.

"Just before this programme, I attended an event at this very hotel, where India's women's team, which almost won the World Cup was being felicitated," he said.

In India, they say, our life is not complete, unless we know about cricket. And therefore the so-called salvation depends on watching good cricket matches. And, the point in mind is only the men playing," Prabhu said.

"Today that situation has changed dramatically by that one woman's team at the top and rightly so at the top," he said. - PTI

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"Today that situation has changed dramatically by that one woman's team at the top and rightly so at the top," he said. - PTI

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POST OF REVENUE SHERISTADAR FOR DIBGEO

No. HUPE-17/2017-17/2017-2 – In accordance with the advertisement recorded by Govt. Of Assam vide letter No. GAG/CD/2017/2017/16, Dated 30.06.2017, applications are invited from intending candidates in the Standard Form of application for filling up the post of "REVENUE SHERISTADAR" in the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Hojai in the scale of Pay Band (PB-3) + Grade Pay Rs. 22,000/- per month. The duration of the contract will be 11 years from the date of appointment. The allowances are admissible as per provision of Rule 2017 and under the Assam Municipal District Establishment Service Rule, 1967 as amended.

The candidate should have worked at least 15 (fifteen) years of continuous service in different branches supported by attested copy of certificate, a copy of recent passport size photograph along with Address and Date of Birth. Application should be submitted with Annexure A and Annexure B and Annexure C and Annexure D and Annexure E etc. Application should be submitted through proper channel with service particulars and candidates shall have to appear before an interview board at their own expenses as and when called for.

Application stating Age, Educational Qualification, Home Address and Experience of working in different branches supported by attested copy of certificate, a copy of recent passport size photograph along with Annexure A and Annexure B and Annexure C and Annexure D and Annexure E etc. Application should be submitted through proper channel with service particulars and candidates shall have to appear before an interview board at their own expenses as and when called for.

Sd/- Deputy Commissioner  
Hojai:-Sankardev Nagar.  
Janasanyog/5786/17

Name of work	Approx value of work (Rs.)	Bid Security Amount (Rs.)	Bid Security pledged in favour of bidder	Cost of Bidding Document	Last date of Online Submission
1. Infrastructure Upgradation of DC Establishment, Majuli under Fund for the year 2016-17.	Rs. 82,61,752.00	Rs. 1,65,235.00	Superintending Engineer, PWD, Jonhat Building Circle.	Rs. 300.00	04/08/2017
2. Construction of Employee Mess Hall at Majuli under Fund for the year 2016-17.	Rs. 82,65,142.00	Rs 1,65,303.00		Rs. 300.00	06/08/2017
3. Construction of P.G+2 Provision Mess, Brumihangini under Fund for the year 2016-17.	Rs. 99,09,940.00	Rs 1,98,020.00		Rs. 300.00	07/08/2017

The details may be seen at the website www.assamtenders.gov.in. Amendment/ Addendum to the SBD, if any and further rectification shall appear in the website and also at the Office of the Undersigned during office hours. The bidders must be registered with the Electronic Tendering System (ETS) of PWD, Assam, website www.assamtenders.gov.in

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, PWD  
Jonhat Building Circle, Jonhat

## SHORT NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

The Superintending Engineer, PWD, Jonhat Building Circle invites bid on behalf of the Governor of Assam from registered eligible contractors for the below mentioned works:

Sl. No.	Contract No.	Name of Range	Location	Area (ha)	Name of minor minerals	Prospective quantity	Quantity/year	Reserved	Operation Period	Earnest Money in Rs.
1.	DIG-15-A	Sarupi-ung	Buri Dehing	4.70	Sand	35000	5250	205.00	21/2520.00	
2.	DIG-15-B	Do	Do	4.00	Sand	15000	2250	205.00	22/2520.00	
3.	DIG-15-C	Do	Do	4.80	Sand	36000	5250	205.00	21/2520.00	
4.	DIG-16	Do	Tigris River	4.44	Sand	35000	5250	205.00	21/2520.00	
5.	DIG-17	Lakhpathar	Do	4.75	Sand	35000	5250	205.00	21/2520.00	
6.	DIG-18	Do	Buri Dehing	3.60	Sand	45000	4500	205.00	18/2520.00	
7.	DIG-19	Do	Do	3.70	Sand	32000	4800	205.00	21/2520.00	
8.	DIG-21	Do	Do	2.60	Sand	20000	3000	205.00	12/2300.00	
9.	DIG-22	Do	Do	4.30	Sand	36000	5250	205.00	21/2520.00	

Sd/- Divisional Forest Officer, Dibgob Division

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Sd/- Divisional Forest Officer, Dibgob Division

# Self-diagnosing behaviours

Google searches can effectively track diabetes, finds a study

**T**he emergence of Type 2 Diabetes could be more effectively monitored using our Google searches, helping public health officials to keep a track of the disease and halt its spread, scientists say.

Researchers at University of Warwick in the UK propose that key words entered into search engines – or posted on social media – which are related to symptoms and risk-factors of diabetes, provide accurate real-time information on how likely the disease is to propagate in specific areas, and what are the underlying conditions.

They looked at diabetes risk factors from two principal UK surveillance models which monitor the disease in those who are in danger of developing it, or suffer already – including gender, age, weight, body mass index, lifestyle habits (such as smoking) and family history of diabetes.

The researchers then analysed Google Trends data from people in the Central Lon-

don area, and compared weekly fluctuation rates of searched keywords linked to these risk factors, such as “how to lose weight”, “how to quit smoking” – as well as searches on “diabetes” itself.

“Self-diagnosing behaviours online could be effectively leveraged for real-time health monitoring tools, with the biggest potential to be anticipated for chronic and non-communicable diseases,” said Nataliya Tkachenko, who led the study.

“Unlike quickly spreading diseases (e.g., flu), such slowly developing conditions are largely dependent on the personal and community lifestyles, the factors, which are currently unaccounted for in the screening models.”

“Human online behaviours could help to bridge the gap between real-world human health landscape and synthetic, predominantly bio-centric monitoring tools,” she said.

Type 2 Diabetes requires many complex diagnostic medical tests to identify, including physical tests, urine samples, blood glucose tests, and insulin level blood tests.

People are increasingly turning to the Internet to self-diagnose illnesses, researchers said. In 2015, 21.8 per cent of people in Britain chose to self-diagnose illnesses using the Internet, instead of consulting family or doctors, they said.

Search engine traces therefore constitute the growing data pool, which can be exploited by health practitioners and decision-makers in order to design new generation screening programmes, the researchers said.

The research was published in the journal *Scientific Reports*.  
(Source: PTI)



## Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, July 28, 2017.

This year you are willing to express yourself authentically. You also find that Lucy is riding on your shoulder. You have a gift for words, and you can be very diplomatic. If you are single, your status could change at any moment. You have many choices of whom to date. If you are attached, you and your sweetie seem to be more connected than in the past. Make sure to schedule plenty of dates for just the two of you. LIBRA is as diplomatic as you are, but is perhaps even more charming.

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

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

You are more calculating than in your mind you are giving the weekend. You respond in a cheerful, positive way to others. Plans could change, as there could be a last-minute problem at work. You might not be thrilled by what happens. Tonight: Liberation is worth the wait.

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

\*\*\*\* You are more likely to have a quiet evening at the office. Take the time to review an important appointment. Sometimes you don't take enough time for yourself. Change that tendency, and it will reflect positively on the rest of your life. Tonight: Go with the flow.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)

\*\*\*\* Your creativity and humor often make you seem like a real heavyweight in life, but in reality you are more like a clobbed heavyweight. Don't hesitate to let your associate know when you have had enough. Honor your needs, yet listen to what is being shared. Tonight: Time for a change.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)

\*\*\*\* Honor is a fast priority of peace. You might wonder what to do and how to handle a domestic matter involving property. Know that the situation could transform rapidly. Hold off on making a conclusive and final decision for now. Tonight: Invite a friend or loved one to join you.

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

\*\*\*\* You are in a better mood, but remain open to suggestions and different perspectives. The more positive you are, the better your message will be received. Understand that the pace might become so hectic that you will need to screen your calls. Tonight: Happy joins friends.

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

\*\*\*\* You could be in a situation where you can't quite come to terms with what is going on around you. In a sense, you'll feel as if you are in the middle of a power play that you cannot win. Being somewhat unavailable could help you get your point across. Tonight: Add mystery.

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

\*\*\*\* You are more focused and your strength and optimism make a difference in the present situation. Do not let someone undermine your decision. Know what you want and how you feel. Change might be inevitable, but it does not need to be dominant. Tonight: Treat a friend to a good time.

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

\*\*\*\* You still are. Still, you need to understand why they are so drawn to you, but they are. Still, you might need to give more definition to your various relationships. Many possibilities surround you at the present moment. You connect to others with the caring you desire. Tonight: TGIF!

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

\*\*\*\* You could be in a situation where you can't quite come to terms with what is going on around you. In a sense, you'll feel as if you are in the middle of a power play that you cannot win. Being somewhat unavailable could help you get your point across. Tonight: Add mystery.

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

\*\*\*\* You are more focused and your strength and optimism make a difference in the present situation. Do not let someone undermine your decision. Know what you want and how you feel. Change might be inevitable, but it does not need to be dominant. Tonight: Treat a friend to a good time.

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

\*\*\*\* You could be out of sync with what a boss wants as well as what a loved one wants. You also might not be in the mood to make any adjustments. Recognize the limits that you are creating. Perhaps they are OK for a little while, but not for the long run. Tonight: Cut late.

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

\*\*\*\* Reach out for more information; seek out experts, and/or brainstorm with a close friend or loved one. You have many choices, some of which you might not recognize just yet. You will get past an obstacle once you see the big picture. Tonight: Where there is great music.

\*\*\*\* One-on-one relating points to success. Others tend to be responsive to your questions, although a boss, higher-up or parent could become very manipulative or controlling. Do not give in to this person's demands. Do only what you want. Tonight: Respond to a loved one's request.

\*\*\*

Thought for today:  
Of all days, the one most wasted is the one on which one has not laughed.

— NICOLAS-SEBASTIEN CHAMFORT

### Kids

CN



12:30 Roll No. 21  
14:00 Boys 21  
15:00 Who We Bare Bears  
17:30 Crime Patrol - Satark  
18:30 Teen Titans Go  
19:00 Crime Patrol - Satark  
21:30 Crime Patrol - Satark  
23:00 Crime Patrol - Satark

21:30 Home Honey  
22:00 Ban 10  
22:00 Dragon Ball Z

23:00 Talespin - Central

12:30 The Animated Series

13:00 The Tom And Jerry Show

14:00 Mighty Raju

15:00 Mighty Raju

17:30 Chhota Bheem

19:00 Chhota Bheem Show

21:30 Takshayi Castle

23:00 Chhota Bheem

23:00 Crime Patrol - Satark

23:00 M.A.D

12:00 Crime Patrol - Satark

19:00 Yeh Mere Men Ki Dhag

19:30 Peshwas Bajrangi

20:30 Pehlwan Fiyu Ki

21:30 Bhagya Kalyan

22:00 Bhagya Kalyan

22:30 Ek Shringar: Swabh.

23:00 Bhaga Bala Bhag

12:00 Piya Abela

12:30 Kumkum Bhagya

14:00 Whoops A Sa

14:30 Adhira Ke Ehsaas Ki

14:30 Zindagi Ki Mahak

## Humans made of matter from distant galaxies: study

WASHINGTON, July 27: Humans may be made of particles that travelled from distant galaxies, say scientists who found that more than half of the matter in the Milky Way was transported through intergalactic winds.

Researchers from Northwestern University in the US, using supercomputer simulations, found a major and unexpected new mode for galaxies, including our own Milky Way, acquired their matter: intergalactic transfer.

The simulations show that supernova explosions eject copious amounts of gas from galaxies, which causes atoms to be transported from one galaxy to another via powerful galactic winds, researchers said.

Intergalactic transfer is a newly iden-

tified phenomenon, which simulations indicate will be critical for understanding how galaxies evolve.

"Given how much of the matter out of which we formed may have come from other galaxies, we could consider ourselves space travellers or extragalactic immigrants," said Daniel Anglés-Alcázar, a postdoctoral fellow at Northwestern University.

"It is likely that much of the Milky Way's matter was in other galaxies before it was kicked out by a powerful wind, travelled across intergalactic space and eventually found its new home in the Milky Way," Anglés-Alcázar said.

Galaxies are far apart from each other, so even though galactic winds propagate at several hundred kilome-

tres per second, this process occurred over several billion years.

Researchers developed sophisticated numerical simulations that produced realistic 3D models of galaxies, following a galaxy's formation from just after the Big Bang to the present day.

They then developed state-of-the-art algorithms to mine this wealth of data and quantify how galaxies acquire matter from the universe.

"This study transforms our understanding of how galaxies formed from the Big Bang," said Claude-André Faucher-Giguere, professor at North-western University.

"What this new mode implies is that up to one-half of the atoms around us – including in the solar system, on Earth



and in each one of us – comes not from our own galaxy but from other galaxies, up to one million light years away," he said.

By tracking in detail the complex flows of matter in the simulations, the team found that gas flows from smaller galaxies to larger galaxies, such as the

Milky Way, where the gas forms stars. This transfer of mass through galactic winds can account for up to 50 per cent of matter in the larger galaxies.

"In our simulations, we were able to trace the origins of stars in Milky Way-like galaxies and determine if the star formed from matter endemic to the galaxy itself or if it formed instead from gas previously contained in another galaxy," said Anglés-Alcázar.

"Our origins are much less local than we previously thought. This study gives us a sense of how things around us are connected to distant objects in the sky," Giguere said.

The study was published in the journal *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*. – PTI



Finnish President Sauli Niinistö welcomes Russian President Vladimir Putin at the Hotel Pankaharju in Savonlinna, Eastern Finland, on Thursday. Both the leaders are slated to discuss bilateral and international issues while commemorating Finland's 100-year independence. – UNI

**B'deshi twins born joined at skull to undergo surgery**

### New security measures removed from Jerusalem holy site'

JERUSALEM, July 27: Israeli police said today all new security measures installed at a sensitive Jerusalem holy site after a July 14 attack and which sparked deadly unrest have been removed.

"The police returned the security measures to how they were before the terrorist attack at the Haran al-Sharif, before July 14," police spokesman Luba Samri told AFP in a statement.

The compound encompasses the revered Al-Aqsa mosque and scaffolding where cameras were previously mounted were also removed early on Thursday from the Haram al-Sharif compound, known as the Temple Mount.

The removal of the installations overrompted Palestinian crowds to celebrate in the streets near the site.

Israel installed the new security measures after an attack nearby that killed two police officers on July 14.

Muslims have refused to enter the site and have prayed in the streets outside for more than a week after Israel installed the new security measures.

Palestinians view the move as Israel asserting further control.

Israeli authorities said metal detectors were needed because the July 14 attackers smuggled guns into the compound and emerged from it to attack the officers.

Deadly unrest has erupted since the new measures were introduced, with clashes breaking out around the compound and in the occupied West Bank, leaving five Palestinians dead.

A Palestinian also broke into a home in a Jewish settlement in the West Bank last week and stabbed four Israelis, killing three of them. – AFP

despite the removal of metal detectors on Tuesday, with concerns of major unrest surrounding Friday prayers if no resolution is found.

Newly-installed railings and scaffolding where cameras were previously mounted were also removed early on Thursday from the Haram al-Sharif compound, known as the Temple Mount.

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Muslims have refused to

Myanmar seeks WHO help to combat deadly swine flu outbreak

YANGON, July 27: Myanmar health authorities have asked the UN's health agency for help to combat a deadly outbreak of swine flu that has sparked alarm in the commercial capital.

At least six people have died and 30 more have been infected over the past week, most of them in the country's biggest city Yangon, a senior health ministry official said today.

Fearful rumours have swirled on social media since the first deaths were reported and many Yangon residents have donned surgical masks in the hope of warding off the virus.

Government officials have called for calm and warned the public to avoid crowded places such as shopping malls.

"We have requested help from the WHO," including diagnosis equipment and medicine, deputy director general of the public health department Than Tun Aung told AFP.

"Thirty people have tested positive for H1N1 as of this afternoon, out of 50 suspected cases registered since July 19. And six patients have died."

The WHO did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Swine flu is the common name for the H1N1 virus, a respiratory disease contracted through contact between humans and pigs and transmitted between people through inhalation. – AFP

### Senate rejects full Obamacare repeal without replacement

WASHINGTON, July 27: The United States Senate has rejected a Republican bill to repeal the Affordable Health Care, popularly known as Obamacare, but Republicans viewed it as an overreach of the federal government and said patients had less choice and higher premiums.

Yesterday, seven Republicans, including Senator John McCain, voted no to the move to only repeal Obamacare and giving a two-year window for a new healthcare bill for the replacement.

Portman was one of the seven Republican senators who voted against the repeal-only Obamacare bill. – PTI

I support repealing and replacing Obamacare, and I voted to do so last night. I'm not giving up on doing both of those things," Ohio Senator Rob Portman said.

"We need to roll up our sleeves and come up with a better healthcare system. Just kicking the can down the road adds more uncertainty to the failed status quo," he said.

Portman was one of the seven Republican senators who voted against the repeal-only Obamacare bill. – PTI

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Portman was one of the seven Republican senators who voted against the repeal-only Obamacare bill. – PTI

Don't blame Syria for chemical attack without visit: Russia

UNITED NATIONS, July 27: Russia says the United States and its Western allies rushed to judgment and blamed the Syrian government for using sarin nerve gas in an attack on an opposition-held town in Syria without even visiting the site and ignoring two witnesses presented by Damascus.

It also criticised the report by the fact-finding mission from the chemical weapons watchdog that investigated the incident in Khan Sheikhoun on April 4 which killed more than 90 people, calling it "very biased."

A letter from Russia's UN Mission to Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and the UN Security Council circulated Wednesday contains Russia's assessment of the status of the investigation into the incident in Idlib province.

The attack sparked outrage around the world as photos and video of the aftermath, including quivering children dying on camera, were widely broadcast.

The United States blamed the Syrian military for the attack and launched a punitive strike days later on the Shayrat air base

where it said the attack was launched. Syrian President Bashar Assad, a Russian ally, has denied using chemical weapons.

The Russian assessment says one thing is clear: sarin was used and this was confirmed by analysis of samples from the site received by Syrian authorities.

However, one important question remains unanswered: by whom, in what circumstances and how it was used," the Russian report said.

A fact-finding team from the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons investigated the Khan Sheikhoun attack and reported on June 30 that sarin was used. It is now up to a joint UN-OPCW body known as the Joint Investigative Mechanism or JIM to determine responsibility.

"It will be impossible to establish the truth without a visit to Khan Sheikhoun by the experts of the fact-finding mission and the Joint Investigative Mechanism, although the perpetrators and organizers of this horrific act of provocation have already done a lot of clearing up and manipulation," the Russian report said. – AP

Supporters of the far-right National-Radical Camp (ONR) protest against EU plans to start legal action against Poland over judiciary reform, in front of European Commission Representation office, in Warsaw, Poland on Wednesday. – UNI

2 abducted Pak diplomatic officials rescued in Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD, July 27: Two abducted diplomatic officials of Pakistan's consulate in Afghanistan have been rescued in an operation conducted by Afghan security forces, the Foreign Office has said.

The officials, posted at Consulate General of Pakistan in Jalalabad, were abducted on June 16 while travelling from Jalalabad to Torkham border crossing, the Foreign Office said yesterday.

"(Afghanistan) President Ashraf Ghani personally phoned Pakistan's Charge d'affaires in Kabul to inform that the Afghan security forces had recovered the two Pakistani officials in a security operation," it said.

The officials were handed over to the Embassy of Pakistan in Kabul by the Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

They would be flown back to Pakistan to join their families as soon as possible, the Foreign Office said.

Foreign Secretary Tehmina Janjua talked to Afghan Deputy Foreign Minister Hekmat Karzai and conveyed Pakistan's deep gratitude to the Afghan Government for safe recovery of the two abducted diplomatic officials. – PTI

## Japanese who helped save Angkor Wat awarded 'Asia's Nobel'



regarded as Asia's version of the Nobel prize, organisers said today.

Yoshiaki Ishizawa, 79, honoured for decades of work in helping preserve the historic landmark after the 12th-century temple complex barely survived years of war and civil strife, the award foundation said.

Aside from rallying international support to preserve the structures, the Japanese scholar was also cited

for raising awareness among Cambodians of Angkor Wat's importance to their heritage.

"The protection and restoration of the sites of Cambodia should be carried out by the Cambodians, for the Cambodians," the award foundation quoted him as saying.

The Philippines' Educational Theater Association was also honoured for 50 years of work in developing a national theatre, staging "protest" plays during the dictatorship of the late president Ferdinand Marcos and helping other Southeast Asian countries use the arts to advocate for issues related to sexuality, HIV-AIDS

and gender.

Gethsie Shanmugam, 83, a Tamil psychological counsellor, also received the award for addressing emotional damage, particularly among women and children, who suffered from violence and disasters in her native Sri Lanka.

Her work covered the brutal Sinhalese-Tamil civil war and the 2004 tsunami, the foundation noted.

Indonesian Abdun Nababan, 53, also received the award for organising indigenous people in his country to assert their rights on issues like the forest lands in their territories. – AFP

MANILA, July 27: A Japanese historian who helped save Cambodia's renowned Angkor Wat temple complex was among the winners of this year's Magsaysay Awards, widely

# Man City romp to 4-1 friendly win over Real Madrid

LOS ANGELES, July 27: Pep Guardiola's Manchester City has spent big to bolster their defence this summer, but showed they will be a force to reckon with at the other end this season in a 4-1 friendly win over Real Madrid.

A second-half blitz in front of 93,000 fans at Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum saw City secure their first pre-season victory in style.

Real were unable to contain Guardiola's side once they got their noses in front early in the second half.

The £28.5 million (£32 million euros, \$37 million) spent by City on Nicolas Otamendi two years ago now almost seems like small change after City have splashed out around £50 million each on Kyle Walker, John Stones and Benjamin Mendy over the last 12 months.

But after Otamendi pounced from a couple of yards out to smash the ball into the net, the entire complexion of the International Champions Cup encounter changed. Until that point, Real had been the more dangerous side in an end-to-end encounter, with Isco, in particular, causing City's back five problems with his range of passing.

City's new £32 million keeper Ed-



Raheem Sterling of Manchester City celebrates after scoring a goal to make it 2-0 during the International Champions Cup match against Real Madrid at Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, on Wednesday.

## Argentina, Uruguay go ahead with 2030 World Cup bid

BUENOS AIRES, July 27: Argentina and Uruguay have gone ahead with plans to make a joint bid to host the 2030 World Cup despite expected competition from China and others. The South American neighbours are counting on sentimental support with Uruguay hosting the first World Cup in 1930.

Argentine sports secretary Carlos Mac Allister said in a Wednesday interview that the presidents of both countries and leaders of the two national soccer federations had agreed to move ahead.

Politicians will face questions about potentially spending billions on soccer stadiums. South American neighbour Brazil hosted the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympics and was roundly criticised for building "white elephant" sports venues and ignoring run-down schools and hospitals. – PTI

## CoA notice to BCCI on Johri ouster from SGM

NEW DELHI, July 27: A miffed Committee of Administrators (CoA) today served a notice to top BCCI office-bearers, including acting president CK Khanna, for not allowing CEO Rahul Johri to attend its latest SGM.

Acting secretary Amitabh Choudhary and treasurer Anirudh Chaudhary also received the notice.

As per the third Status Report of CoA, dated April 6, Johri is considered its representative in all BCCI meetings but during the board's Special General Meeting yesterday, acting secretary Amitabh requested Johri to leave the meeting premises along with other employees of BCCI.

The acting secretary's contention was that since the Supreme Court, in its July 24 judgement, has strictly mentioned that only office bearers of State associations can attend the SGM, they were following the apex court's directive "in letter and spirit".

"Yes, Mr Khanna, Mr Amitabh Choudhary and Mr Anirudh have all received e-mail communication from the CoA. The CoA wants to know how Rahul Johri was debarred from the meeting. Till date, Johri, in his capacity as the CEO, has attended all SGM since joining BCCI," a BCCI official, who did not wish to be quoted, told PTI today.

Apart from Johri, general manager MV Sridhar was also not allowed to attend the meeting.

It has been a general convention that most of the executive staff of BCCI attend such meetings. Apart from CEO, who is a part of the decision-making process, his team also provides all the necessary secretarial services during the meetings. To exercise caution, the acting secretary only allowed office-bearers after checking authorisation letters from the representatives of the various State units.

It must also be mentioned in this regard that one of the five "practical problems" in Lodha Reforms that BCCI has apparently found out is the distribution of power between office-bearers and executive functionaries.

As per the Lodha Committee reforms, the CEO will be the most powerful executive functionary of the board (like all other cricket boards). Traditionally, however, secretaries and presidents wielded absolute power in the BCCI. – PTI

**Rahul Johri**

## Post 50-over success, Mithali says India must play more Tests

NEW DELHI, July 27: Twenty20s and one-dayers are the formats driving women's cricket forward but it is only the ultimate challenge of playing Tests that will help India produce more world-class players, said skipper Mithali Raj who has played just 10 Tests in an 18-year-old career.

Speaking at the felicitation function organised by the BCCI, where each of the squad member was presented Rs 50 lakh by the Board, Mithali spoke of the impor-

tance of playing more Tests. The Ashes between Australia and England is the only regular Test fixture in women's cricket while other teams mainly play the shorter formats.

India have played just five Tests in the last 10 years. "Test matches are the ultimate test for cricketers, whether it is your temperament, skill or endurance. However, women's cricket needs promotion and so far it has been mainly through T20s and ODIs by the respective cricket boards," said Mithali at a special felicitation ceremony organised by the BCCI.

"As of now, it seems every board wishes to mar-

ker - culpable in last week's friendly defeat to neighbours Manchester United - was forced to produce smart saves to deny Isco, Karim Benzema and Casemiro, with the latter also heading against the post.

Gabriel Jesus and Sergio Agüero both went close at the other end, but once Otamendi found the net in the 52nd minute, on the rebound after Stones' header was saved, City were rampant.

Substitute Raheem Sterling calmly tucked away a lovely through-ball from the impressive Kevin De Bruyne just moments after firing a shot inches wide. The advantage was then extended to three after Stones scuffed a shot into the far corner from a De Bruyne corner.

The icing on the cake arrived for Guardiola's side in the final 10 minutes, when 17-year-old Spanish Brahim Diaz cut inside off the right and curled a beauty into the top corner from the edge of the area. – AFP

# Neymar scores as Barcelona beat Manchester United 1-0



WASHINGTON, July 27: Neymar, seen here amid a frenzy of transfer speculation, scored the first-half goal that gave Barcelona a 1-0 victory over Manchester United today in an International Champions Cup friendly.

The 222-million-euro (£206.6 million) move to Paris Saint-Germain, shown why the French club would be willing to pay a

world-record price to get him.

He delivered his third goal in two matches in the exhibition tournament as Barcelona handed the English Premier League club their first defeat of the pre-season.

After a bright start Manchester United struggled to contain Barcelona's star duo of Neymar and Lionel Messi. Ney-

mar broke through in the 31st, stripping

the ball from Antonio Valencia in the penalty area, turning and finding the net.

The goal proved enough to give a second straight victory to new Barcelona coach Ernesto Valverde. Valverde made sweeping changes to the team that beat Juventus 2-1. Luis Suárez, Jordi Alba, Samuel Umtiti, Nelson Semedo, Sergio Busquets and 19-year-old midfielder Carles Arena were included in the line-up headed by Messi and Neymar.

There were eight changes to the Manchester United team that defeated Real Madrid on penalties on Sunday with captain Michael Carrick, Marcus Rashford and Jesse Lingard the only players to retain their starting spots.

It was Manchester United who threatened first, when Rashford's cross found Romelu Lukaku in the area, but the Belgian couldn't find the net.

Barcelona inexorably took control, and United goalkeeper David de Gea was given plenty of work by Neymar, Messi and Suarez.

Messi came close in the 12th minute, his low effort sliding wide. – AFP



Shiva  
Shiva, 3 others enter semis of Czech boxing tournament

NEW DELHI, July 27: Asian silver-medallist Shiva Thapa (60kg) was assured of at least a bronze medal as he entered the semifinals along with three others on an all-win day for India at the Grand Prix Usti Nad Labem boxing tournament in Czech Republic.

Shiva defeated local favourite Erik Hulev in an unanimous verdict to enter the last-four stage last night. Three others were also assured of bronze medals after getting byes. They were Gaurav Bidhuri (56kg), Kavinder Bisht (52kg) and Amit Phangal (49kg).

Advancing to the quarter-finals after winning opening bouts were Sumit Sangwan (91kg) and Manish Panwar (81kg). While Sumit defeated Czech Republic's Jiri Horvay, Manish got the better of Belgrade's Bassine Aydin.

Entering the last-eight stage owing to bye-round byes were Satish Kumar (+91kg), Manoj Kumar (69kg) and Ashish Kumar (64kg).

Seven of the nine Indian boxers competing in this tournament have qualified for the World Championships in Hamburg, Germany from August 25 to September 2. The World Championships-bound boxers are Amit, Kavinder, Gaurav, Shiva, Manoj, Sumit and Satish.

Vikas Krishan (73kg) has also qualified for the mega-event but he is not travelling with the team right now. He is currently training in Pune. – PTI

## CA ready for arbitration in pay row

MELBOURNE, July 27: Cricket Australia said today it will take its long-running pay dispute with players to independent arbitration if agreement cannot be reached by early next week, with a tour to Bangladesh looming.

Chief executive James Sutherland said unless a period of intensive negotiations over the next few days produces a compromise his organisation will seek the intervention of an industrial umpire to resolve the impasse.

"We are at the stage now where we need to address this situation and cricket needs to get on with the game," he told reporters in Melbourne.

"We need players employed, contracted, focused not only on upcoming tours, but indeed an exciting season of cricket ahead."

It has been a general convention that most of the executive staff of BCCI attend such meetings. Apart from CEO, who is a part of the decision-making process, his team also provides all the necessary secretarial services during the meetings. To exercise caution, the acting secretary only allowed office-bearers after checking authorisation letters from the representatives of the various State units.

It must also be mentioned in this regard that one of the five "practical problems" in Lodha Reforms that BCCI has apparently found out is the distribution of power between office-bearers and executive functionaries.

As per the Lodha Committee reforms, the CEO will be the most powerful executive functionary of the board (like all other cricket boards). Traditionally, however, secretaries and presidents wielded absolute power in the BCCI. – PTI

## Govt spent Rs 32.81 cr on TOP, no targets yet for Tokyo 2020

NEW DELHI, July 27: Sports Ministry today said it has spent a total of Rs 32.81 crore so far under Target Olympic Podium (TOP) scheme, which was rolled out in March 2015, for assisting athletes preparing for the Olympics.

"A total amount of Rs 32.81 crore was released till date under the scheme for training and other support of these selected athletes," Sports Ministry said responding to a question in the Parliament. The ministry also made it clear that it has not yet set any medal targets for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics as of now although it has set up a Task Force for the next three Olympic Games (2020, 2024 and 2028).

It has however earmarked Rs 302.18 crore for National Sports Federations for financial year 2017-18.

"The Budget Estimate provision for 2017-18 under the Scheme of assistance to NSFs is Rs 302.18 crore," it said.

The Government in March, 2015 had rolled out its ambitious TOP scheme to provide financial assistance to the 2016

Government's performance in the international standard.

"The selection was not just on the basis of reputation, national ranks, performance in Commonwealth and Asian Games only, but their current performance, consistency, fitness and the laid down bench mark," – PTI

**James Sutherland**

**SU DO KU**

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

### Solution of last problem

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

# Pandya, pacers put India in command against Lanka

GALLE, July 27: Bowlers put their foot on the pedal after a flamboyant innings from debutant Hardik Pandya enabling India to be in firm control of the proceedings in the first Test against Sri Lanka here.

At stumps on the second day, Sri Lanka were struggling at 154 for 5 after Pandya's 49-ball-50 helped the visitors reach a mammoth first-innings score of 600. Shikhar Dhawan with 190 and Cheteshwar Pujara's 153 were the cornerstone of the gigantic total. Sri Lanka need another 246 runs to avoid the follow-on with former skipper Angelo Mathews batting on 54.

Mohammed Shami (230) had an impressive comeback to Test arena while Umesh Yadav (1/50 in 8 overs) was erratic and unable to hit the right length. Ravichandran Ashwin (149 in 18 overs) was economical and Abhinav Mukund's alertness in the field contributed to a run-out.

The Lankan slide started with opener Dimuth Karunaratne (2) being trapped leg before by Yadav in the second over of the Lankan innings and the batsman wasted a DRS review in a bid to reverse the decision.

The Indian team upped the ante in the final session where they got four wickets. Post tea break, Shami got reward for hitting the right length.



*Indian pacer Mohammed Shami celebrates picking up the wicket of Danushka Gunathilaka during day two of the 1st Test in Galle, on Thursday.*

First Shami accounted for Danushka Gunathilaka (16) in the 15th over and then four balls later, he sent back Kusal Mendis (0), both batsmen caught at first slip by Shikhar Dhawan. Veteran opener Upul Tharanga (64 runs, 93 balls, 10 fours) stroked his way to an attacking eighth Test half-century.

He reached 50 in 44 balls, which included 10 fours, and put on 61 runs for the second wicket with Gunathilaka before the latter was out caught.

Afterwards, he put on another 57 runs for the fourth wicket with Mathews (54) hitting 91 balls, 8x4 as the duo battled hard against Ashwin.

Scoring at a steady rate, the hosts reached 100

in the 25th over. Shortly afterwards, Tharanga was run-out as his bat was found hanging in the air and Mukund stationed at silly point showed smartness to hit the stumps, effecting a run-out.

Mukund's sharp reflexes helped India get another wicket as he held on to a fine one-handed catch at silly point again to give Ashwin his first wicket of the match. Niroshan Dickwella (8) being the batsman.

Easier Pandya's rollicking innings consisted of five fours and three sixes which was the difference between a score of 550 and 600. He added only 14 runs with Ravindra Jadeja (15) after lunch before the latter was clean bowled by Nuwan Pran-

deep (6-132). Pandya was dropped at first slip off Rangana Herath (1-159) when he was battoning on 4. But thereafter, he did not give any chances to the opposition, unleashing his full array of strokes as he stormed to his half-century.

Shami (30) gave him optimal company and the duo put on 62 runs for the 8th wicket as they attacked the Lankan bowling. The latter fell to Lahiru Kumara (3-131) but not before making sure India built on their commanding position.

Pandya was the last man out, after he reached his maiden Test half-century off 48 balls, while also bringing up India's 600 in the 134th over as before the latter was clean bowled by Nuwan Pra-

## SCORE CARD

**India 1st Innings (overnight 393-9 in 90 overs):** Shikhar Dhawan, Mathews b N Pradeep 190, Abhinav Mukund c Piyumi Perera b N Pradeep 12, Cheteshwar Pujara c Dinesh Chandimal b N Pradeep 153, Umesh Yadav c Dinesh Chandimal b N Pradeep 10, Ajinkya Rahane c Dinesh Chandimal b N Pradeep 47, Widithman Saha c Piyumi Perera b N Pradeep 57, Ravichandran Ashwin c Dickwella b N Pradeep 47, Mohammed Shami c Tharanga b Kumara 30, Umesh Yadav not out 11. Extras: (B-2, W-6, NB-3, LB-6 Total: 160. For 7 wickets in 117 overs) 600. Fall of Wickets: 27-1, 280-2, 286-3, 4-423, 5-432, 6-491, 7-495, 8-517, 9-579, 10-600, 11-600, 12-600, 13-600, 14-600, 15-600, 16-600. Kumara 25-3 131-3. Dilruwan Perera 30-130. Rangana Herath 40-4 159-1. Danushka Gunathilaka 2-41-0.

**Sri Lanka 1st Innings:** Dimuth Karunaratne lbw b Yadav 2, Upul Tharanga run out 64, Danushka Gunathilaka c Dhawani b Shami 16, Kusal Mendis Dhawan b Shami 0, Angelo Mathews batting 54, Niroshan Dickwella c Mukund b Shami 18, Dilruwan Perera batting 6. Extras: (W-1 LB-3) 4. Total: (For 5 wkt in 44 overs) 154. Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-68, 3-68, 4-125, 5-143. Bowling: Mohammed Shami 9-2 30-2, Umesh Yadav 8-1-50, Ravichandran Ashwin 18-2 49-1, Ravindra Jadeja 9-1-22-0. PTI



Players under the age of 16 years pose for a photograph during a summer cricket coaching camp organised by the Lakhimpur Cricket Association at Government Higher Secondary School field in Lakhimpur on Thursday. — UB Photos

## Udit, Ishika sail into OIL-AITA meet finals

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 27: Assam players Udit Gogoi and Ishika Chakma sailed into the final of the boys and girls U-16 singles events of the ongoing OIL-AITA Super Series Tennis Tournament.

In the semifinals played at the All Assam Tennis Association complex here today, top seed Udit defeated Anurag Reddy Julapoguri of Maharashtra 4-6, 6-2, 6-3.

In the girls category, Ishika rallied to beat Pavani Pathak of Maharashtra 4-6, 6-2, 6-3.

Udit will play for the crown against 2nd seed Nihili Nirajan of Karnataka while Ishika will face top seed Hrudaya Shah of Maharashtra in the summit clash.

**Today's results:** (Boys U-16, Q/F) Top seed Kavin M Patel (GJ) bt Akash Deb (AS) 6-1, 6-0; 8th seed Arjun Kundu (GJ) bt 3rd seed Aarya Zaveri (GJ) 7-6(4); 4th seed Nikhil Nirajan (KA) bt 4th seed Vaibhav Bhagat (GJ) 6-1, 6-0; 2nd seed Udit Gogoi (AS) bt 5th seed Deveni (KA) 6-2, 7-6(3). (Boys U-14, SF) Top seed Udit Gogoi (AS) bt Anurag Reddy Julapoguri (MH) 7-5, 6-2; 2nd seed Nikhil Nirajan (KA) bt 4th seed Arjun Kundu (GJ) 6-3, 6-2. (Girls U-16, SF)

## Mini National Roll Ball from today

SPORTS REPORTER



Assam boys and girls teams

## State Taekwondo meet begins

TINSUKIA, July 27: The 34th All Assam Taekwondo Championship got underway at the Katchujian field here today. The championship has been organised by the Tinsukia District Taekwondo Association in collaboration with the Tinsukia District Sports Association, under the guidance of the all Assam Taekwondo Association.

The championship was formally inaugurated by the Agriculture Minister Atul Bora. MLAs of Sadiya, Tinsukia and Naharkatia, Bolni Chetia, Sanjay Kishan and Naron Sonowal respectively were also present on the occasion.

Altogether 1221 competitors in different categories from different districts are taking part in the championship which will conclude on July 30. — Correspondent

### Grappling medals

GUWAHATI, July 27: Assam grapplers won nine medals in a national level tournament held at the Charatas Stadium, New Delhi from July 21 to 23.

The tournament was organised by the Grappling Federation of India. The team was led by Monjeet Dhangria, Ganesh Das and Nur Alom Sonkar as officials, stated a release.

The medal winners are: (Grappling G Jr) Rabin Mechi (19 gold, Mukul Das (19 bronze) (Grappling G Sr) Malash Das (23 gold, 18 silver, 19 bronze) (Grappling B) Nitish Agarwal (23 bronze) (Grappling Nogi Sr) Sanjana Baruah (24) gold, Niraj Baruah (26) silver, Nitish Agarwal (23) bronze.

— Correspondent

## Strength lifting c'ship

GUWAHATI, July 27: Around 700 participants from 24 States and one Union Territory will vie for different titles in the 24th National Strength Lifting Championship which will begin at the RG Baruah Sports Complex here tomorrow.

In the championship 40 world and Asian champions will be in action in different weight categories, informed organising secretary Kalash Sarma in a release.

## Indian colts win

CHESTERFIELD, July 27: Manoj Kalram slumped a century and Kamlesh Nagarkoti picked up a 10-wicket haul as the Indian U-19 team notched up a crushing 334-run win over England U-19 in the opening four-day Test here today.

Put into bat, Harvick Desai (89) and Manoj (122) produced superb knocks as India posted a massive 511 all out in their first innings. Pritihi Shaw (86) and Riyan Parag Das (68) also contributed with respective fifties.

Josh Tongue (3/69), Henry Brooks (3/85) and Amar Virdi (3/134) took three wickets each for England.

In reply, England U-19 were bundled out for 195 in 54.2 overs, conceding a superb five-wicket haul by Nagarkoti and Shivan Mavi's four scalps.

**Brief Score:** India U-19: 510 and 736; England U-19: 195 and 163 — PTI

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## ON YOUR PUNYA TITHI



Late Krishna Kanta Choudhury

Died on : 03.08.2003

Late Saraswati Choudhury

Died on : 11.01.2014

You will remain in my heart and memory as a ray of light forever.

Ananda Choudhury (Son)

Birendra Choudhury (Son)

Prasanta Choudhury (Son)

Devajani Choudhury (Daughter)

Gagana Choudhury (Daughter-in-Law)

Kumarika Choudhury (Daughter-in-Law)

Shilvey Choudhury (Daughter-in-Law)

Chitralekha Choudhury (Daughter)

## STUDENTS - BE ALERT !

The drastic shift in higher education from "Service" to "Business" is a growing concern for the students / parents / guardian / Society at large. The consequences of this concern is deep and damaging for the career and future of the students yet goes undetected at the time of choosing an institute/ college/ university for admission. The students realise the reality regarding the general reputation, accreditation status of programmes taught, the validity / credibility of degrees awarded and adherence to rules / regulations of apex bodies like UGC, AICTE, Pharmacy Council of India, Medical Council of India, BCI, COA etc. by the institute, when it is too late and all their hard earned money / educational bank loans are wasted / lost.

Students / Parents / Guardians are cautioned hereby to verify whether the particular college / institute / university is an option only to make money rather than providing quality education by ascertaining the following facts: -

1. The institute is started with the approval of the Government.
2. The institute is affiliated to a University from the state where it is located and the said University is a: (in order of preference)
  - a) Central University; b) State University; c) Deemed University; d) Private university with a good reputation.
3. The institute is approved by a statutory apex body (like AICTE, MCI, BCI, UGC, Pharmacy Council of India, Indian Nursing Council etc)
4. The programmes of the institute are accredited by accreditation bodies like NBA, NAAC etc. (Programmes which are NBA accredited meet the standards set by the AICTE and are at par with international programmes. There are only two engineering colleges and one university in Assam with engineering programmes accredited by NBA.)
5. The students are admitted as per eligibility norms provided by the government, affiliating and approving bodies with a fair and transparent admission procedure and that the institute concerned is not resorting to payment benefits to the existing students for attracting new students for admission to the institute.
6. The institute has the required student-teacher ratio and cadre ratio as per norms.
7. The institute has sufficient eligible, qualified and competent faculty members as per norms and has a good number of faculties with Ph.D.
8. The institute has sufficient laboratories and equipments as per norms.
9. The institute, without having sufficient infrastructure, resort to frequent advertisements through print, electronic and social media and puts up hoardings and kiosks for popularising the institute/ college/university as a brand among the public, in place of outreach to the student community through academic good practices leading to excellence and promotion of quality education.
10. The institute has an authentic placement record and the companies visiting for campus recruitments are genuine.
11. The students of the Institute perform well in national eligibility exams like GATE, CAT, MAT, CSIR-NET, Civil Services Examinations etc and opt for higher studies in institutes of national repute.
12. The institute has a strong alumni base which is actively involved in the development of the institute.
13. The institute involves all the stakeholders for the development of the institute.

"WE SHOULD NOT DISTORT THE PURPOSE, CONTENT AND PROCESS OF EDUCATION."

*Issued in public interest*  
SHRIMANTA SHANKAR ACADEMY SOCIETY

Nature does not readily yield up her secrets, humans have to seek, inquire and work tirelessly to unwrap the mystery and majesty of the natural world. There is no better place to look than Mother Nature to develop sustainable systems and solutions for our greatest issues. There are scientists who discerned the fundamental principle of nature and thus changed the way we understand the world around us.

Nikola Tesla could be the greatest mind of the 20th century. He invented many of the technologies we use today; the foremost among them being electricity. While Thomas Alva Edison is commonly credited with inventing the light bulb, it was Tesla who formed the basis of modern electricity. The primary difference and subsequent feud between these two iconic inventors was over whose electrical system would power the world – Tesla's alternative cur-

hibit. It is said that Tesla was greatly influenced by Vedic philosophy and Vivekananda.

Recently, there has been renewed interest in Tesla's work both from Industry and Academics. More and more academics have been tapping into his unfinished work, drawing on his underlying principles and ideals, and one of them is Dr Rukmini Dutta of the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia. Rukmini is a native of Nagaon town. Born in Fauzdar Patty, one of the heritage neighbourhoods of Nagaon, she comes from a family of teachers. Her parents planted the value of education in her at a young age, and since her days in high school she wanted to become an engineer so that she could contribute to the development of the human society through technology. Power-cut, energy shortage, load-shedding were some of the common phrases with which she grew up. "Perhaps, in such a frustrating moment, I thought I will be an Electrical Engineer and solve all these problems".

The wishful thinking may have very well helped shape her aspirations. But it wasn't until she moved to Australia and got the opportunity to research at UNSW that her dreams got realised.

Climate change is the biggest problem of humanity. It is expected that introduction of electric vehicles on our roads will reduce the amount of pollutants released to the air significantly. At UNSW, Rukmini Dutta is currently working on development of electric motors and drive systems for electric vehicles. She also recognises that the use of renewable energy resources such as wind, solar, hydro, instead of coal, for producing electricity will be necessary to have a meaningful impact on climate change. Thus, my research work is two-folded. In one hand, I am trying to develop electric motors and drives that will be able to replace the combustion engines of the vehicle. I am also working towards developing more efficient and compact generation systems that are compatible with renewable energy sources."

Rukmini recently published a book titled *Interior Permanent Magnet Machine Technology*, which is based on her prior field-based research. In February 2002, Rukmini joined UNSW as a post-graduate research student. At that time, her supervisor was working on a project related to the hybrid electric car. The challenge was to design a new electric machine that can integrate the functions of the starter motor and the alternator into one single device. "This had become my PhD thesis topic, and I successfully designed a Permanent Magnet Motor, which is highly efficient, compact in size and can satisfy the stringent power-speed requirement of a car. A design, similar to the one I proposed in my PhD project was also developed by Toyota, and they have adopted this machine for their hybrid electric car — Toyota Prius".

There has recently been an announcement that India will phase out gas-powered vehicles and will start selling only electric cars by 2030. It's a matter of immense pride that a young Assamese woman, Rukmini Dutta is contributing in this emerging field. She shows that a person can reach the pinnacle of any profession or vocation she chooses if she is willing to keep fighting for her vision. Dutta, in her communication, emphasised especially to girls and young women growing up today the idea that there is a world of opportunities out there for them, and it is ultimately upon them to establish their goals, to set their sights high, stay focussed and determined and convert their dreams into reality.

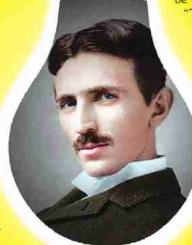
(ankurbora@hotmail.com)

## Lighting up the world

Ankur Bora profiles a young Assamese talent in Australia.

rent (AC) system against Edison's direct current (DC) electric power. The problem with DC was that the power generating station needed to be in the middle of the city centres. This would also require laying expensive thick copper cables to connect to consumer houses. That was not only economically infeasible but would also cause toxic pollution in all the cities or town centres. The world needed a visionary and the breakthrough for mankind came from Nikola Tesla.

Tesla had spent a great deal of time and energy investigating phenomena in nature. He found that a rotating magnet in and out of a coil of wires would induce an electric current in the coil. This, in a nutshell, is the basic principle of AC current. Subsequently, Tesla realised that unlike DC, AC could be stepped up to very high voltages with transformers, sent over thinner and cheaper wires, and stepped down again at the destination for distribution for mass consumption. Finally, it was in the year 1887, Tesla came out with an alternative system of generators, transformers, transmission lines, motors and lighting which solved, forever, how to distribute electricity safely and efficiently to homes, shops, and factories. Tesla's idea and profound vision stunned the world when AC current illuminated thousands of light bulbs at the 1893 World Fair and Parliament of Religion in Chicago. Tesla brought the world to light, literally. It is worthwhile to mention that Swami Vivekananda delivered his groundbreaking speech "Sisters and brothers of America!" at this very ex-



## Virtual reunions

Dr Navani Barua

**T**he boom in internet and information technology has touched almost everyone's life. When I see friend suggestions on Facebook, I see my driver, my barber, etc., all having FB accounts. Young and old, all are smitten by the love of social media, namely Facebook and WhatsApp. Also, I now see a new phenomenon of reunions among batchmates from schools, colleges, universities or even members of the same profession. I happen to find myself in six such WhatsApp groups and innumerable Facebook groups.

Let me analyse and give my own take on reunions. While in school, one makes lots of friends. They are inseparable. As one progresses to the next level of education, some friends part ways as a natural process. New friends get closer and again the same process is repeated. After that comes the further subtraction and addition of friends in professional or general degree courses. The process continues till one gets a job or employs himself in business, etc. At this point, priorities change. Friends are now keeping utility, common interests or profession in mind. We tend to veer away from the friends we made in school, colleges, universities, unless of course, we are in touch due to work, common hobbies, or mutual utility. Why does the friends list change at this stage of life? If one observes closely, at this stage of life, a person is fully dedicated towards making a career, earning money, creating assets and starting and managing a family. In the process, there is no time for friends. This phase of life continues up until one enters middle age. It is at this point that life again changes its course.

Middle-age is peculiar in the sense that one is neither too old for certain things, nor too young for others. One gets into a kind of self-denial too. It is precisely at this stage of life that one tends to look back. Look back at things gone by, look back at people left behind, look back at things not done or ambitions not achieved. The basic needs of life like a home, car, children's education, etc., have already been consolidated. So what do we do? We look back and search for the golden days of yore. And what better way than to meet up with old friends and classmates! If one analyses reunions, it'll be seen that the most vibrant and active reunions happen when people enter into their middle ages, say after forty.

What actually happens in these reunions? We get to see that our fellow classmates have also become fat and (or) bald. That much-sought-after girl from college has today changed beyond recognition. Sometimes we find that the girl whom we had a secret crush on is suddenly so friendly and uninhibited. Besides, all the forgotten stories of class anecdotes, pranks are remembered. The teachers get discussed and the once 'unspeakable' things of yesteryears transform into jokes today. The bonhomie resurfaces. Interestingly, those old classmates whom we never had any special fancy for suddenly become our best of friends. New bondings develop through these reunions. The logical follow-up to these reunions is either through an e-mail group or a WhatsApp group.

Now what decides the content and behaviour of members of these social media groups? I see a particular pattern in these groups. There are a few who are members initially, but exit as soon as the volume of messages goes up. These are people who are busy with their lives; believe that classmates are okay in yearly reunions but not beyond. Then there are members who read every post but never post anything themselves. They are generally quiet, private individuals who love to keep a barrier even within friends. Another set of individuals exist who usually do not respond to others but do share their creativity or ideas relentlessly. These are people who feel that they are immensely talented or have great ideas but have never really got their due. Thus, they unload their 'talent' on their classmates. Another category is a little too aggressive and gets involved in debates on almost everything under the sun, especially politics. This group feels they have lot to say and because they know, they deserve to be heard. They often cause friction in the groups and are a nightmare for the admins! The people who keep these groups alive and active are very few in number but they are almost insanely dedicated to social media groups. They post with frightening regularity, discuss everything, including their food and clothes, post relevant or irrelevant pictures of friends and family, forward anything received from others, have a comment on anything someone else posts. They also burden other members of the group with their sense of humour or the lack of it and sincerely believe that all others in the world share the same interests as them! They would sometimes make the notifications so irritating that many a member is forced to leave the group. This set of people have the most interesting personalities. They are basically loners and slightly or totally depressed. They find solace and company in this virtual meets. They do not have much of a world beyond their classrooms.

Having said all these, we must also keep in mind that none of these types are superior, inferior, good or bad. They are simply types with classic traits. All of them are good, are needed and is a reality. If you are sceptical or upset about these social media groups, do ponder over how these tools of IT have brought us together, how we have fought loneliness. So, let's enjoy our reunions in social media till something new hits the scene.

(mamoringoswami@gmail.com)

## THE BEATLES stories behind the songs

JP Das



### I Want To Hold Your Hand

It was on October 16, 1963 that *I Want To Hold Your Hand* was recorded on the basement den in Wimpole Street where Lennon and McCartney used to compose songs. The song was especially meant for their teenage girl fans for whom hand holding and kissing gave the ultimate thrill. The song finally made it to the US No. 1 in January 1964. The only British artistes to reach the No. 1 spot in the US during this same year were Vera Lynn with Any Wiedersehens in 1952, Acker Bilk with his trumpet solo *Stranger On The Shore* in 1961; and the Tomatoes with the instrumental number *Tekstar* in 1962.

### Hard Day's Night

In the early '60s, almost all pop stars made a film on themselves after they earned fame. *Hard Day's Night* was a film made on The Beatles by Dick Lester. The songs in the film do not bear any relation to its story. They were just numbers. The phrase *Hard Day's Night* was attributed to Ringo, who said in 1964, "It just means that we went to do a job and we worked all day and then we happened to work all night. I came out to do it on my last day and said - 'It's been a hard day and looked around and saw it was dark and so added the word 'Night' - it became 'Hard Day's Night'.."

**T**here are very few amongst us who wouldn't know The Beatles. Many of us, in fact, may have grown up listening to the songs by the famous English rock band. With members John Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr, The Beatles is widely regarded as the foremost and most influential act of the rock era. While you may be familiar with the songs, let me shed some light on the stories behind five all-time great songs by the band.

**All My Loving**  
he was shoving. He put music into it only at the end of the day when he had finished his daily work. John Lennon was all praise for the lyrics and called it "a damn good piece of work".

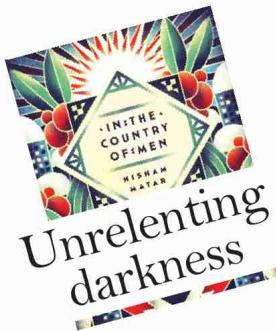
**I Saw Her Standing There**  
The song was originally titled *Savagery*, a simple story of a boy who sees a 17-year-old girl dancing at the local ballroom and deciding that he looks were "way beyond compare" and that he'll "never dance with another" except her. The

song was composed by McCartney and John Lennon in September 1962. It was one of the five songs the Beatles performed in the celebrated *Ed Sullivan Show* on February 9, 1964, watched by 70 million people, the largest TV viewership back then. In November 1974, John Lennon performed the song along with Sir Elton John at the Madison Square Garden.

**Me Do**  
In the United Kingdom, *Love Me Do* was The Beatles' first hit. Written by Paul McCartney, the

**lyrics of Love Me Do** were as basic as could be with words consisting of only one syllable and the word 'Love' being repeated 21 times in the song. Paul considers this song as their greatest philosophical song.

**Hard Day's Night**  
In the early '60s, almost all pop stars made a film on themselves after they earned fame. *Hard Day's Night* was a film made on The Beatles by Dick Lester. The songs in the film do not



In Tripoli, the Libyan capital in the later decades of the 20th century, things aren't going right for a generation that has seen life turn full circle. The arrival of Muammar Qaddafi at the seat of power creates a counter movement that finds willing ones moving against the despot. A young boy, Suleiman, whose awareness of the testing times is borne out by the many questions that occupy him, is a witness to circumstances he cannot quite fathom. Yet, the questions are stubborn, and linger deep, making him pursue his father's absence and his neighbour Ustath Rashid's elimination with a persistence that challenges his very sense of being: "How could it be so easy? What was absent in the Stadium? What didn't intervene to rescue Ustath Rashid? Perhaps it was all the cowboy films with their logic of happy endings that made me think that way, that just at the point when the hero had the rope round his neck, suddenly, and with the Majesty of God, a shot would come from nowhere and break the rope. Where were the heroes, the happy endings, that God didn't leave him in his hour of need, that the world worked in the ways we expected it to work and didn't falter?" It is not simply the question of death, but the impregnation of life by a harrowing fear that marks his understanding of who he is in such a trouble-torn society. Suleiman's loss of innocence is fraught with the sense that this is a centre-less world, things collapsing atop another, without reason, and that the reasonable logic of morality is what no longer appears sensible. He finds his understanding fail him, and all that he learnt as a child about the 'good' of life and living, is torn apart beyond recovery. His solitary existence with his mother Najwa who struggles to give him a direction by moving him to the Egyptian capital Cairo does not yield much.

Suleiman's experience as a nine-year-old is recollected much later, from a vantage point of 24, an age from which he can place matters in a wider perspective. In situating Suleiman as a witness to such a critical period in the history of his homeland, Libyan writer Hisham Matar evokes the changing contours of life in *In the Country of Men* (Viking, 2006) with a poise that is quiet yet impactful. Commenting on the process of representation and the purpose it serves for Suleiman, Hisham Matar states in an interview: "The story is actually told not by a boy of nine but by an exiled young man of 24 recalling and evoking the past, hoping by some magic that the telling alone would return him to the place and the people he as a boy had left. He is trying to mend the fracture, the point at which his personal narrative had been amputated. This is why the prose shifts between the contemplative, reflective voice of an adult and the bewilderment of a child."

Themes that have now become commonplace through the recurrence of global violence operate in this novel through nuanced layers which draw upon the specificities of tradition, cultural difference, religion, identity, and above all, individual freedom. This chronicling of absences and unanswered questions take turns to surface in ways which surprise by the sheer power of the unexpected: nothing is trustworthy, and the brutality of authority impacts by instillation of fear, the security of the family a mirage which remains out of reach. In *The Country of Men* presents a picture of unrelenting darkness, the pressure on the mind weighing as heavily as the fear of physical elimination. The book is a reminder of how regimes that run berserk with power ruin lives way beyond the visible damage it inflicts, where minds are beset with fear that refuse to subside even after troubles are seemingly kept at bay.

(outenga@gmail.com)

**B**hilar, a tiny hamlet in the Satara district of Maharashtra is all set to become India's first 'book village'. The concept of book village is inspired by Britain's Hay-on-Wye, which is a Welsh town located in the United Kingdom, famous for its bookstores and literature festivals. Under this initiative, tourists and locals can come and read books, magazines, newspapers stacked at 25 artistically decorated locations around the village. The books on wide-ranging subjects, and 15,000 books in Marathi would be made available on these premises. Some of the books that will be available for the readers are very rare and out of publication, including novels, reference books about Maharashtra and Marathi culture written by prominent authors. To make sure that the books are returned by the tourists, they will be made to pay a nominal deposit. Bhilar has been chosen as it attracts a large number of tourists who throng the village to taste the locally produced strawberries. The State government has chosen Bhilar to further promote tourism and the Marathi language.

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

#### MASTER'S CHOICE

- The Battle of Gettysburg resulted in the largest number of casualties of the entire American Civil War. Who led the Confederate forces?
- Port Arthur was one of the largest penal colonies of the British Empire; in which part of Australia was it?
- Which name is shared by a dwarf planet and the ruler of the underworld in classical mythology?
- How many years of marriage would you be celebrating if it was your Emerald Anniversary?
- Which actor played Albus Dumbledore in the film adaptations of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* and *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*?
- Which European river flows through four capitals and forms some of the borders of 10 countries?

#### LOVING LITERATURE

Bibhash Choudhury

ess of representation and the purpose it serves for Suleiman, Hisham Matar states in an interview: "The story is actually told not by a boy of nine but by an exiled young man of 24 recalling and evoking the past, hoping by some magic that the telling alone would return him to the place and the people he as a boy had left. He is trying to mend the fracture, the point at which his personal narrative had been amputated. This is why the prose shifts between the contemplative, reflective voice of an adult and the bewilderment of a child."

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#### The last time we met

**T**he last we met, you weren't taller than me,  
You wore your shoelaces wrong,  
And your hair, too short...  
I'd have thought you'd run into my dreams...  
Back then, when we last met,  
In a broken wagon beyond the fields,  
Where we'd share the lunch you wouldn't eat,  
I was a silly girl, you tell me now,  
The last time we met, you were siller than me.  
Back then, they called you different names,  
To me you were always the same,  
A funny boy who wouldn't eat,  
Who spoke of famous men and all they did.  
Back then, we loved the rain,  
We wouldn't care if our bags were wet.  
I'd made you a wind-chime out of ice-cream sticks,  
You'd made me a promise you meant to keep.  
We would meet again – you had said,  
You tell me now that things have changed...  
It's been awhile since the last time we met,  
... back then... we knew we'd meet again...

Rutvi Padhy,  
Via e-mail

#### And she goes...

(In memory of my grandmother)

**I**ndeed she's in a better place,  
Yet we all are lonesome,  
And in fathomless grieve,  
As for her affectionate and serene smile,  
Is still pristine.  
It feels as if she is near, roving around  
Turning up with her splendid, luminous shine.  
Astonishing, the way she kept her head  
Up high, and spirit so strong.  
She stood stout, like an old tree  
Spreading her twigs for one and for all.  
And now she has gone for long,  
Leaving space measureless that is solitary for all,  
A void we can fill, by only  
Living through her works.

Uddipta Kumar Talukdar,  
Barpeta

#### SCIENCE ZONE

Dr Dharmakanta Kumbhakar

**A**bility is done to diagnose a problem or to help determine the best option of therapy. If a condition has already been diagnosed, a biopsy can be used to see what stage it is at.

## Biopsy: what you need to know

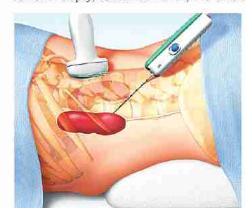
**A**bility is a medical process that involves the sampling of cells or tissues taken from the body of a living subject in order to examine them microscopically by a pathologist. The term biopsy is of Greek origin – *bio* meaning life, and *opsis* meaning 'to see'. French dermatologist Ernest Beuken introduced the word 'biopsy' to the medical community in 1879.

#### What is the purpose of a biopsy?

Biopsies can diagnose diseases, determine the extent of the disease and adequacy of surgical removal. It can determine whether a lesion is benign or malignant, and can help differentiate between different types of cancers. Biopsies can help identify many other conditions such as inflammatory conditions, kidney diseases, metabolic diseases, rejection of transplanted organ, causes of infertility, etc. In most cases, a biopsy is done to diagnose a problem or to help determine the best option of therapy, if a condition has already been diagnosed, a biopsy can be used to see what stage it is at.

#### Types of biopsies

There are several types of biopsies: bone marrow biopsy, gastrointestinal tract biopsy, lung



like breast biopsy, lymph node biopsy, muscle biopsy, skin biopsy, etc.

Some biopsies involve removing a small amount of tissue with a needle while others involve surgically removing an entire lump or suspected tumour. Biopsies may also be performed using imaging guidance such as ultrasound, Computed

#### A tale of lost dreams

**B**attered, mangled my dreams were,  
In the fierce battle of life and heart;  
A few endangered dreams were,  
Incarcerated in the dungeons of oblivion.  
Recalcitrant was my conscience,  
To relinquish them,  
As vagrant was my feisty thought,  
To explore novel possibilities,  
In the gloomy gulags.

Pritam Raja Sharma,  
Abhayapuri

#### Loveless bond

**I** live with a skeleton,  
Without any emotions and feelings.  
I'm imprisoned in a dark cell,  
Surrounded by a heap of burden;  
Caught in a web of innumerable promises,  
Trapped in a loveless bond,  
Pricked as a cactus pricks.  
I even water it every day;  
I can be called a thirsty sapling,  
Planted in your dry, barren land.

Bandana Bargoyari,  
Baksa

#### Freedom

**I** am the tide,  
That you can never hold;  
I am the story that never unfolds,  
Let me get out of your mind –  
Free your thoughts,  
Set me free,  
Forgive your heart;  
As I am the tide,  
That you can never hold.

Kalyani Baruah,  
Via e-mail

Tomography (CT), or MRI and endoscopy guided for deep and smaller masses.

Surgical biopsy is a more extensive procedure and may require hospital stay. In 'excisional biopsy', an entire lump or suspicious area is removed with a rim of normal tissue (to evaluate cancer free border). In 'incisional biopsy' only a sample of tissue is removed with preservation of the histological architecture of the tissue's cells.

A few other techniques of biopsy are fine needle biopsy, vacuum-assisted biopsy, brush biopsy, cone biopsy, core biopsy, endoscopic biopsy, percutaneous biopsy, punch biopsy, shave biopsy, stereotactic biopsy, sternal biopsy, etc.

#### Post-biopsy

After a biopsy is performed, the sample of tissue that was removed from the patient is sent to the pathology laboratory. The laboratory records the gross morphological feature of the tissue, history and clinical information of the patient. The tissue is then fixed, processed in various solvents, embedded in paraffin and an extremely thin slice of tissue is removed from the block and attached to a glass slide. Any remaining tissue is saved for use in later studies, if required. The slide with the tissue attached is treated with dyes that stain the tissue, which allows the individual cells in the tissue to be seen more clearly. The slide is then given to the pathologist, who examines the tissue under a microscope, looking for any abnormal findings.

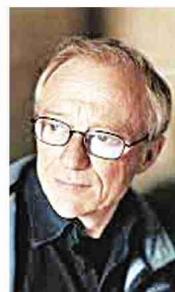
(dkdharma@ yahoo.com)

#### QUIZ ZONE

Sailen Baishya

#### Picture clue:

19. He was awarded the Man Booker International Prize this year for his novel *A Horse Walks Into a Bar*. Identify him.  
(Aditi Saha, Guwahati)



#### ANSWERS

- Gen. Robert E Lee, 2. Tasmania, 3. Pluto, 4. 55 years, 5. Richard Harris, 6. Danube, 7. She was the first African American to win an Academy Award, 8. Chile, 9. Denmark, 10. Danny Boyle, 11. Kandy (Sri Lanka), 12. Sharjah, 13. Venezuela, 14. Jaipur, 15. Nitric acid, 16. The Eiffel Tower, 17. Pininfarina, 18. Sweden, 19. David Grossman (Israel), 20. It was officially the longest war in history that lasted for 335 years. The Dutch were in support of the Parliamentarians against the Royalists, whose last naval remnants were in Scilly.

#### READERS' CHOICE

- If Rome is called 'City of Seven Hills', which other city is called 'City of the Five Hills'? (Amrita Nath, Guwahati)
- Which city has been designated as the UNESCO World Book Capital, 2019? (Gaurav S Das, via SMS)
- Where was the first establishment of the Missionaries of Charity opened outside India? (Smita Goswami, Tezpur)
- Inspired by the ancient *Shilpa Shashtra*, which Indian city was designed and constructed by Vidyadev Chakraborty? (Ningombam Duhita, Guwahati)
- Aqua fortis is the more common name of which dangerous chemical? (Bonita Phukan, via e-mail)
- It was built in 1889 by Alexander Gustavo, a French civil engineer, in the banks of the river Seine. It took two years and two days to complete it. What is it? (Samrat Ghosh, Guwahati)
- Under which brand name would Mahindra manufacture electric sports cars in their new US factory at Detroit? (Shajid Khan, Tengla)
- Which country was the first to pass laws protecting the freedom of the press in 1766? (Supriya Borah, Jorhat)

#### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

- When Dutch Admiral Maarten Tromp declared war on the Isles of Scilly on March 30, 1651, during the events of the English Civil War, no one at that time could have predicted that it would be a bloodless affair. But the subsequent events led to what unique record that only came to an end when a peace treaty was finally signed between the Isles of Scilly and the Dutch on April 17, 1986? (Arun Bikash Das, Jagiroad)

All of us are witnessing the realities of climate change in the form of rising temperatures, declining arctic sea ice, extreme weather events, heat waves, hurricanes and so on. There is a lot of debate about whether the climate will change catastrophically or if other natural factors will intervene to make the phenomena a whole lot milder. The crucial challenges facing the earth at this time, like the unprecedented change in its climate, are best understood when we see the earth as a living system. Living systems theory is a body of work that describes how all living systems function, how they sustain themselves, and how they develop and change. Living systems is actually a metaphor that represents an animate arrangement of parts and processes that continually affect one another over time, self-organising, growing, changing, and connecting. When we are able to see the intricate interconnections of the many parts of the living system, our view of the world begins to change. We must understand this that the natural world does not need humanity for its survival, but humanity cannot survive without the natural environment, the soil, water, air, sunlight, etc. Thus we should accept the fact that we are all part of the earth and not apart and separate from it.

According to climate scientists, humans are increasingly influencing the climate and the earth's temperature by burning fossil fuels, cutting down rainforests, farming livestock. All of these factors influencing climate change and environmental degradation can be directly linked to the problem of endless consumerism. The problem is that no matter how much we have, we always want more. As Mahatma Gandhi famously said, "Earth provides enough for everyone's needs but not enough for our greed." So, whether it is the industrialist billionaires looking for his next billion or the hipster upgrade to the latest smartphone, all of us are guilty of taking more than we need. Albert Einstein had rightly said that we cannot solve problems with the same level of perception that created them. For that we have to step up to a higher and more inclusive level of seeing what is going on in order to understand and solve great challenges.

It has been observed that there is often a great sense of fear among those who focus perpetually on

the problem: the doomsayers, the protesters, the motivators, researchers, and 'greens'. In spite of this great fear in a certain sector of society, there is a greater sense of nonchalance among the wider public who would rather sit on the fence, not be bothered and go about their business, ignoring the foretelling of impending doom. Such kind of people are not prepared to give up something they 'enjoy' for the sake of future generations and for main-

It doesn't mean that economies will suffer; it will mean that our economies will take on a different character. For us in India, respect for nature is an integral part of spiritualism. Yoga is an invaluable gift of our ancient tradition. Yoga embodies unity of mind and body, thought and action, restraint and fulfillment, harmony between man and nature, a holistic approach to health and well-being. It is not about exercise but to discover the sense of oneness with yourself, the world and the nature. By changing our lifestyle and creating consciousness, it can help us deal with climate change.

The inner world of thought and the outer world of physical phenomena are actually not separate worlds or systems. They are part of the same "causal continuum". We must always remember that our experiences, impressions and thoughts can change even a long held awareness. For example, the astronauts and cosmonauts would have believed they were part of a large, solid, and stable earth until the moment they found themselves in space looking out of the window of a spaceship and seeing the lovely Earth spinning slowly in the vast ocean of space like a small blue marble. After that experience, many of them spoke of Earth's vulnerability and of "Spaceship Earth". In this causal continuum, our awareness naturally produces a certain kind of attitude. Our thoughts and feelings emerge naturally from the attitude we hold and our attitude also causes us to see things in a certain way. Because we see things in this way, we take a certain kind of action, in turn creating a certain kind of world. So if we intend to find solutions to chronic problems such as degradation of the earth's environment, we must go to its roots and if we want to change the world we are continuously recreating, we need to go upstream of laws, policies, and policies designed to police actions, because with those actions we are working at the end of the causal continuum. So, we need to consider how we can work at the beginning of the continuum to change awareness, and subsequently action, on a massive scale.

(nikunji@gmail.com)



## Human consciousness and Nature

### MIND'S EYE

Rajyogita Borthakur

taining the status quo. And the reason for this is deep-seated. The attachment of the senses to the things they enjoy is so strong that one's 'better judgement' is not enough to turn the tables and change habits and put a stop to the endless consumption that is driving the changes in our climate.

Prime Minister Modi in his speech at the UN said, "We can achieve the same level of development, prosperity and well-being without necessarily going down the path of reckless consumption.

This disconnect has also created a void in the lives of the young ones, because they get exposed to various emotions at a very tender age. Girls and boys alike, when they should be playing with dolls and cricket bats, start playing with emotions that they do not understand fully, which create depression and subsequent harmful acts.

## Back to basics

Ronjoy Bordoloi

I was talking to a friend of mine about the time we used to climb guava trees, swim and bathe in small streams, play outdoor games (kite flying and cricket being favourites), help our fathers and mothers in daily chores, including planting various flowers, vegetables, trees, etc., ride with the wind on bicycles, climb down into dirty drains to get that most wanted ball, break windows, play hide and seek, ice-prize *diwappi* etc., created small hills and lakes and placed toys on them during the festival of *Jhulan-Jatra*, and so many other nostalgic memories.

Those were wild days, full of energy, enthusiasm, look for the next day and the next trip into Nature. But the society today is falling into a whirlpool of illusion. And this illusion has been created predominantly by a surge in information technology and the resurgence of various gadgets that initiate the incessant flow of information. Although this information is valuable to a person seeking knowledge about a subject or topic of study, when this same pool of information is utilised only for self-gratification and useless time pass, the same information system becomes harmful.

Information Technology has ruined young minds. Virtual Reality has replaced the nature trips we used to have in our childhood days. They can go to distant places with the click of a button, without actually going there. Where is the adventure in that?

It is to be noted here, that this disconnect has also affected the health of the normal child today. Obesity, depression, anxiety, even dreaded diseases like diabetes have gripped tiny bodies. The same effects also apply to adults who have become victims of these high-tech horrors.

Furthermore, this disconnect has created a void in the lives of the young ones, because they get exposed to various emotions at a very tender age. Girls and boys alike, when they should be playing with dolls and cricket bats, start playing with emotions that they do not understand fully, which create depression and subsequent harmful acts.

It is an ardent urge to parents to not let their babies and children fall into the dark abyss of virtual reality and to bring them ever closer to the one thing from whence we all have come into existence, the real reality, Mother Nature. They should be acquainted with

Nature and her many facets.

(ronjoy\_cosmos@rediffmail.com)



## WhatsApp has 1bn daily active users globally

**W**hatApp has garnered one billion daily active users around the world who transfer over 55 billion messages and one billion videos every day, the company said on Thursday.

The monthly active users of Facebook-owned WhatsApp are over 1.3 billion and it supports 60 languages globally. Over 4.5 billion photos are shared around the world on WhatsApp every day.

The introduction of video call, Status [posts that disappear after 24 hours], two-step verification security and a revamp in design has helped WhatsApp attract more users since last year when it had just one billion monthly active users.

Facebook recently updated the file sharing feature, letting users share a file of any format. Users can also share multiple videos and photos at a time and send files up to 100MB size. Users can now easily make their text bold or italic and also send GIFs which they can choose from app's in-built gallery.

Facebook bought WhatsApp for \$19 billion in early 2014.

**“W**hat is 'phishing'?" That is simple... people go fishing to catch fish, don't they?" "Not 'fishing', it is 'phishing' with 'ph'. Phishing is a kind of fraud in which attackers send e-mails in order to get information about your credit card number, password and other details. A spelling of 'fishing', it has its origin in the 1990s, used on the pattern of 'phreaking'."

"Phreaking. It is informal alteration of 'freaking', and refers to the practice of hacking into telecommunication systems. The 'ph' is due to association with 'phone'."

"I see. And what is 'hacking'? You know, my brother's e-mail has been hacked!"

"Oh... To hack something or hack into something is to secretly look at or change information on somebody else's computer system without permission. A 'hacker' is one who does hacking. He can hack into a bank's computer system or hack some secret data from a computer. By the way, how was his e-mail hacked?"

"Don't know... He can't log on to his Hotmail account as the password has been changed by those hackers."

Note: Readers can contribute anecdotes, funny quotations, puns or word play, and interesting bits of information about the English language to MYE. Send contributions to: 'Mind Your English', Horizon, The Assam Tribune, Chandmari, Guwahati-781003 or to: protimsharma@rediffmail.com. Contribute via SMS to: 9435055497.

## NASA builds prototype for deep space habitat



**T**he first prototype of NASA's deep space habitat will be made up of a recycled aluminum cargo container and will help the space agency to develop life-support systems that can protect astronauts when they travel beyond low-Earth orbits, the media reported.

The cargo space container, named Donatello built 15 years ago, will be refurbished into a habitat prototype by Lockheed Martin – a global security and aerospace company – at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, The Washington Post reported on Wednesday.

From the outside, Donatello looks like just a massive cylindrical metal container, about 21 feet long and 15 feet in diameter. (NASA)

"Oh, so spam mails must have been sent from that account."

"Spam mails?"

"Well, spam mails or junk mails are those mails that are sent to a large number of people who have not asked for them. These spam mails normally carry advertising materials, and the practice of sending such unwanted mails is known as 'spamming'."

"Yes, a few of my brother's friends have reported receiving such spam mails asking for money!"

"As I thought."

"My brother has lodged a complaint. But it will be a long process."

"Yes. The police will refer it to the CID. There are people in the CID who have knowledge about cyber crime."

"Cyber crime is committed using computers?"

"It is a crime committed using the Internet. It is a fast growing area of crime, like stealing your personal or bank details or infecting your computer with a virus."

"That seems scary..."

"Yes. It is. Hackers are smart people. For now set your brother to spread the word personally or on social media that his e-mail account has been hacked!"

From Baidurya Medhi: 'Cybernetics' is the scientific study of communication and control, especially concerned with comparing human brains with machines.

### GRAPHIC PICK

Deborshee Gogoi



## Picking the perfect gift

If you've ever had trouble choosing a gift for a friend or loved one, you're not the only one – but scientists say they have the answer. Researchers have found that choosing between a sentimental or superficial gift is one of the most frequently confronted gift giving conundrums.

Gift-givers choose superficial gifts more often because they're unsure whether a sentimental gift will be liked, and they tend to think that a superficial gift aligning with someone's interests will be enjoyed – but what recipients really prefer are sentimentally valuable gifts.

Based on three experiments, researchers at Carnegie Mellon University found that gift-givers view a sentimental gift as having the potential to be very well liked or not at all. "People spend billions of dollars every year on gifts, and the data suggests that they're not spending money in the best way possible... We are also finding evidence in a different project that people feel closer to others when they receive sentimental gifts, so people should keep this in mind the next time they're making gift-giving decisions," says Julian Givi, a PhD candidate in marketing at CMU, and the lead author of the study. – Agencies





Page 4

# HORIZON

THE ASSAM TRIBUNE  
GUWAHATI, FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2017

## Head held high!

**T**his week let's take a look at the different kinds of hats that one can wear. A hat that is slightly too big can be made to fit with adhesive hat inserts. These act like heel grips, only they are thicker and give your hat a better fit.

**Hats should stay on your head:** Make sure your hat fits and stays on. A hat that is slightly too big can be made to fit with adhesive hat inserts. These act like heel grips, only they are thicker and give your hat a better fit.

**Choosing a hat:** Choose a hat that suits the shape of your face. A black hat will make a lined face look older. The colour of the brim will reflect on your face, so choose a complementary colour. If you have a small framed face, a small to medium-sized hat will suit you best. Short women will be most comfortable in upturned brims. Avoid huge brims if you are going to be standing in a crowd. If you are not

### FASHIONABLY YOURS

Prasant Ghosh

tall enough to look over crowds, your hat and your temper will be crushed by the end of the day.

**Make the most of decorations:** Fascinators and flowers look best when worn off centre. Something perched square on the top of your head will simply look like it landed there from nowhere! Wear these items slightly off centre on your head.

**Match with outfit:** Make sure your hat matches your outfit. A traditional suit looks best with a traditional hat.

**Avoid hat hair:** To avoid hat hair, put the top layer of your hair up and loosely twist it into a top knot under your hat. At the end of the day when you take your hat off, this section of your hair will be wavy, but it will not appear flattened by your hat.

(The writer is a fashion designer and choreographer and can be contacted at dkreativepeople@gmail.com)

### WEST SIDE STORY

#### Craig to return as Bond in 2019

**H**e said he would rather slash his wrist than play James Bond a fifth time. And yet Daniel Craig, 49, will be returning as 007 according to a report from *The New York Times*.

In 2015, he told *Time Out* magazine, "I'd rather break this glass and slash my wrists... We're done. All I want to do is move on."

The publication reported the British thespian's return to the big screen in 2019 was a "done deal". The highly-anticipated flick will be the 25th movie in a franchise that has thrilled generations of cinemagoers.

#### Nicole's slogan tee

**I**n 2015, it was reported that she enjoyed a secret fling with Harry Styles, 23. Yet Nicole Scherzinger, 39, has truly laughed in the face of the rumours a whole two years later as she took to Instagram recently to share a snap in which she sported a T-shirt adorned with cartoon images of celebrities and the words: 'Hairy Styles'.

The 39-year-old former *X Factor* judge posed playfully in the tee, while also sporting a chic black biker boy cap and high-waisted cream coloured jeans.

A source said, "They had a dalliance at the end of the *X Factor* in 2013 and met up again early last year. Harry was obviously very taken by Nicole who is stunning and he had always looked up to her."

#### Robert Pattinson engaged!

**R**OBERT Pattinson, 31, has admitted that he is 'kind of engaged' to FKA Twigs, 29, while chatting on *The Howard Stern Show*. The *Twilight* actor proposed to the singer in early 2015, a few months after they were first photographed together. Pattinson also confessed that he prefers to keep their relationship out of the limelight.

AGENCIES

[TRAVEL]  
Ankur Gogoi

## In the city of palaces

Last year, an opportunity to present our research findings at the 103rd Session of the Indian Science Congress (ISC), organised at the University of Mysore took us – Dibyajoti Baruah and me, to the city of palaces.

We planned to explore the city without affecting our scheduled technical sessions of the ISC.

After the day's work, we went to see the Mysore Palace,

which is the official residence of the Wodeyars – the royal family. The family ruled the princely State for nearly six centuries, from 1399 to 1950 (except for a brief period in the late 18th century when Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan were in power). The palace houses two *durbar halls* (ceremonial meeting halls of the royal court) and incorporates a mesmerising and gigantic array of courtyards, garde-

ns, and buildings. The palace is in

the central region of inner Mysore,

facing the Chamundi Hills eastward.

We were fortunate to witness the illumi-

nation of the palace in the evening.

The next evening, we went on a

stroll and noticed that all the govern-

ment buildings have a princely tint.



headed to the Chamundeshwari Temple, located on the top of Chamundi Hills, about 13 kms from the city. The temple was named after Chamundeshwari or Durga, the fierce form of Shakti, a tutelary deity held in veneration for centuries by the Maharajas of Mysore. From there we went to the Brindavan Gardens, which is situated adjoining

the Krishnarajessagara dam built across the river Cauvery. The core attraction of the park is the musical fountain. There is also a lake within the garden with boating facilities available for visitors.

After the technical session the follow-

ing day, we went to the Dariba

Daulat Palace in Srirangapatna, about

14 kms from Mysuru. It was

built in 1784 amidst fabu-

lous gardens called the Dariba

Daulat Bagh by Tipu Sultan

who was also known as the 'Tiger of Mysore'. The palace is mostly made out of teakwood with spectacu-

lar colourful frescoes on its walls, pillars, canopies and arches.

After conclusion of the

ISC, we went to visit the CSIR-Central Food Techno-

logical Research Institute (CFCRI), one of the 40 pre-

mier national research labora-

tories in India. It was pre-

viously known as the Chelu-

varamon Monsoon built by Ma-

haraja Krishnappa Wodeyar

IV for the princess of Mysore - Chelu-

vammon. Then the Prime Minister

Jawaharlal Nehru formally received the

building on December 1948 and it was

opened in the year 1950 as CFCRI.

With loads of memories of the city of

palaces in our hearts, we moved on to

our next destination – Ooty.

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## Super women!

**T**hey may have failed to bring the winners' trophy home, but their fairytale run in the World Cup has captured the imagination of the entire nation, creating a now-or-never opportunity to elevate the status of women's cricket in India. Now, it has become clear to everyone, thanks to television coverage which wasn't in the scheme of things before, that they are not just poor cousins of their male counterparts, but an exciting bunch of cricketers in their own right, whose sterling performance on the big stage makes it imperative for the cricket board now to give women's cricket much more respect, and this respect must translate into not just a better financial deal but also an improved domestic set-up for women's cricket in India.

After all, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) cannot let go of this opportunity by coolly forgetting about their fabulous show month hence, especially because the heroes of the likes of Mithali Raj, Jhulan Goswami and Harmanpreet Kaur are now most likely to inspire a generation of young girls to take up the sport, much like what PV Sindhu and Saina Nehwal's performances have done in the field of badminton, and the Board has to make enough room in the system for this positive change.



mi and Harmanpreet Kaur are now most likely to inspire a generation of young girls to take up the sport, much like what PV Sindhu and Saina Nehwal's performances have done in the field of badminton, and the Board has to make enough room in the system for this positive change.

### SPORTPOURRI

Debashish Bezbarrah

For a start, the BCCI may immediately chalk up a roadmap to launch the women's version of the Indian Premier League, something that skipper Mithali Raj has also talked about, and make it commercially viable through some great marketing strategies. With fantastic foreign cricketers also coming into the mix, a women's IPL, in all probability, would be an exciting proposition. The cricket mandarins may also consider seeking the services of some of the male legends of Indian cricket to coach the women's cricket team and create a robust bench strength. It is deemed necessary because in order to sustain women's cricket and secure its future in India, the Board has to look beyond the Mithalis and the Jhulans, who certainly do not have another decade of cricket left in them. Harmanpreet Kaur, who seems to have single-handedly changed the language of the discourse on women's cricket with that monumental knock of 171 in the semifinal, could be the next big star to keep the Indian flag flying. Although destiny eventually prevented us from having the 1983 moment, the BCCI can still use this as an opportunity to remove the current arbitrariness involving women's cricket in India and streamline it by following the same processes that have enriched men's cricket in such a spectacular fashion. They must shape the iron when it is red. If they fail to do it now, they probably never will.

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### AT THE THEATRES

Sanjoy Ray

**I**t is a filmmaker's take on stereotypes that women in various pockets in India are still subjected to, and the suppression of choice that the fairer sex has to deal with in a male-dominated society.

After a long run with controversies, *Lipstick Under My Burkha* finally made its way to the theatres and like its central characters, the movie too attempts to break free from the run-of-the-mill stuff in the world of greaspaint.

With the movie, director Alankrita Shrivastava certainly arrives with an announcement of change.

The movie chronicles the secret lives of four ordinary women, who despite being at different stages of life, are caught between unwritten silly societal rules, and their world of yearning. Konkona Sen Sharma, Ratna Pathak, Aahana Kumra and Plibita Borahkar who play the four protagonists light up the screen with their perfect pitching.

However, it is Ratna Pathak who stands out while essaying the character of a 55-year-old widow, a lover of erotic books, and goes through a reawakening of her sex life and in the process falls for a young swimming coach.

Gripping to the core, *Lipstick Under My Burkha* is a lady-oriented film essentially made for men.

### MUNNA MICHAEL

DIRECTOR: SABIR KHAN  
STARS: NIDHI AGARWAL,  
TIGER SHREFFER, SAHL ANAND,  
NAWAZUDDIN SIDDIQUI, JINA

**A** directed Michael Jackson fan (Roni Roy) adopts a child living abandoned on the streets on a rainy night and names him Munna (Tiger Shroff). However, for his love for the King of Pop, Munna suffuses Michael after his name.

Sabir Khan's *Munna Michael* is about Munna who grows up idolising MJ and even agrees to get into tangles to realise his dream and make it big in the world of dance.

The movie, despite starting on a promising note, fails to keep the audience engaged and ends up squandering the prospect within half an hour of screening.

Munna's tryst with Mahinder Fatzi, a lout, played by Nawazuddin Siddiqui, who the former agrees

to help pick up some dancing moves, lacks conviction and often feels flat. There continues to be a question mark over Tiger Shroff's acting prowess and here too he seems to be struggling with his expressions. Somehow, even Nawazuddin could not put his stamp of authority which we are so accustomed to.

Debutant actress Nidhi Agarwal who plays the bone of contention between Munna and Mahinder hardly impresses. The shot-sequences, including the cinematography, too are not up to the mark. Continuity appears to be the biggest drawback of the movie and this is certainly not a movie which either Tiger or Nawazuddin or for that matter any member of the cast and crew would be proud of. If there is anything that makes the movie worth it, it is the dancing ability of Tiger.

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