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NEWS CAPSULE

Modi on 4-nation visit

NEW DELHI, May 29:
 Prime Minister Narendra Modi today embarked on a four-day tour to Germany, Spain, Russia and France with the aim of boosting India's economic engagement with these nations and inviting more investment. — PTI
 (Also see Page 4)

NIA grilling

NEW DELHI, May 29:
 The Kashmiri terrorists today appeared before the National Investigation Agency (NIA) here for questioning in connection with a case related to the funding of terror and subversive activities in Jammu and Kashmir. — PTI
Virbhadra bail

NEW DELHI, May 29:
 Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh and his wife Pratibha Singh were today granted bail by a special court here in connection with a nearly Rs 10 crore disproportionate assets case. — PTI

Office hours

GUWAHATI, May 29:
 The State Government employees, who follow Islam, can leave office at 4:30 pm – half an hour before the scheduled time during Ramadan, if they reach office half an hour earlier at 9:30 am, an official release stated. — Staff Reporter



A pygmy hog being released at Boruiali Wildlife Sanctuary under Dhansiri Forest Division in Udalguri district on Monday. — UB Photos

Govt orders probe into death of 2 Mizo students

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 29: The Assam Government has expressed deep concern over the death of two Mizo students who were reportedly run over by a train at Panikheli here yesterday.

The two students – R Lal-malsawma and C Lalmangail sanga (both 24 years of age) – hailing from the same locality of Lunglei in Mizoram were studying in the Downtown University.

As the incident triggered reactions within the Mizo

community here and in the neighbouring state, the Assam Government today ordered an inquiry into the incident. The inquiry will be conducted by Principal Secretary (Higher Education) Ajay Tewari.

Mizo Zirai Pawl, an apex student body in Mizoram, has issued an advisory asking the non-Mizo people in the neighbouring state to stay indoors to prevent any untoward incident.

The Mizoram Home Minister is monitoring the situation and has telephoned the state's Deputy Resident Commissioner here to take an update.

(See page 4)

HSLC results tomorrow

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 29: The results of the High School Leaving Certificate and Assam High Madrasah Examination, 2017 will be declared on May 31, 2017 at 10 am simultaneously in all the examination centres spread across the State.

SEBA results are also being declared through websites and phone message services. Students may download print copies of list of their marks for advance information from websites, from where the candidates can get information.

(See page 4)

Be cautious while building infrastructure in Arunachal

BEIJING, May 29: China today asked India to be "cautious" and exercise "restraint" over building infrastructure in Arunachal Pradesh, days after Prime Narendra Modi launched the country's longest bridge linking Assam with the state claimed by Beijing.

"We hope India adopts a cautious and restrained attitude on the issue before the final settlement of the border issue with China to jointly control disputes, safeguard peace and tranquillity in the border areas," the Chinese Foreign Ministry told IANS.

"China's position on the eastern section of the Sino-Indian border areas is consistent and clear," a statement in Chinese said.

Modi last week opened the

CIC against disclosure of Naga framework agreement

NEW DELHI, May 29: The Central Information Commission (CIC) has allowed the Union Home Ministry to withhold information about a 2015 peace accord between the Centre and the National Socialist Council of Nagaland.

RTI activist Venkatesh Nayak had sought details of the Framework Agreement between the Government of India and the National Socialist Council of Nagaland Isak-Muivah (NSCN-IM) on August 3, 2015.

RN Ravi, chairman, Joint Intelligence Committee, and interlocutor, told the CIC the ground situation was "sensitive and fragile", and the "premature release" of the information would be "prejudicial to national security".

"The government does not wish to lose the gains arising out of the Framework Agreement," Chief Information Commissioner RK Mathur quoted Ravi as saying.

The transparency panel took a dig at the ministry pointing out that it had taken the ministry months to identify that the records related to

(See page 4)

China warns India

country's longest bridge over the Lohit river that connects Assam's easternmost region with Arunachal Pradesh, claimed and dubbed by China as South Tibet.

"China and India should resolve territorial disputes through negotiations and consultations between the two countries," the Foreign Ministry said.

China and India have a dragging border dispute.

The 9.15-km Dholna-Sadiya bridge, which has been named Dr Bhupen Hazarika Setu, will cut the distance and travel time between Assam and Arunachal Pradesh by 165 km and five hours.

Analysts say the bridge will ensure swift movement of Indian troops in Arunachal Pradesh, which, therefore, will

war in 1962 when the Chinese entered Arunachal Pradesh and unilaterally declared a ceasefire after withdrawing to the McMahon Line. — IANS

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Workers' Welfare Board

Sonowal orders probe into Rs 139-cr scam

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 29: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today ordered investigation into the Rs 139-crore scam in the Assam Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board, which is placed under the State's Labour and Welfare Department. The Chief Minister's Vigilance Cell has been asked to conduct the investigation into this scam, stated an official press release here this evening.

The Chief Minister, while reviewing the functioning of the Board here today, took note of the huge discrepancies of the Board fund and ordered

the investigation into the case. It is to be mentioned that one per cent of total construction cost of any building or construction project must be deposited into the fund of Assam Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board for carrying out various welfare activities for the construction workers. A total amount of Rs 139 crore was collected by the Board during the previous year but gross irregularities were noticed in spending the fund money.

The Chief Minister was apprised that an amount of Rs 71 crore was spent on printing leaflets, booklets, folders, etc. (See page 4)

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(v) TA/D.A will be paid to the candidates called for interview. N.E.S. Applicants with incomplete details appearing on written supporting documents will not be called for interview.

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Maoists blow up railway track

GIRIDIH,

May 29: Maoists began their day-long bandh in Jharkhand today by blowing up a railway track on the Howrah-New Delhi Grand Chord section, disrupting movement of several trains including the Rajdhani Express.

Superintendent of Police (Railway), Dhanbad, Asim Vikram Sinha said the track was blown up between Chhikital-Karmada stations under Dhanbad Railway Division at around 12.40 am, shortly after the bandh began midnight last night.

Several long-distance trains including Kailash Mail, three Rajdhani Express trains, Hati-Patna Express, Howrah-Delhi Express were stranded following the incident, Railway sources said.

Principals

for questioning in this case.

Shahabuddin was lodged in Tihar prison. The agency has told a Muzaffarpur court that his name has surfaced as an accused in the case and it needs his custodial interrogation.

The agency was granted the permission by the court to question him.

The four-time RJD MP from Siwan is alleged to have been involved in the murder of Ranjan, a journalist of a prominent Hindi daily in Siwan last year.

Ranjan was gunned down on May 13 last year. - PTI

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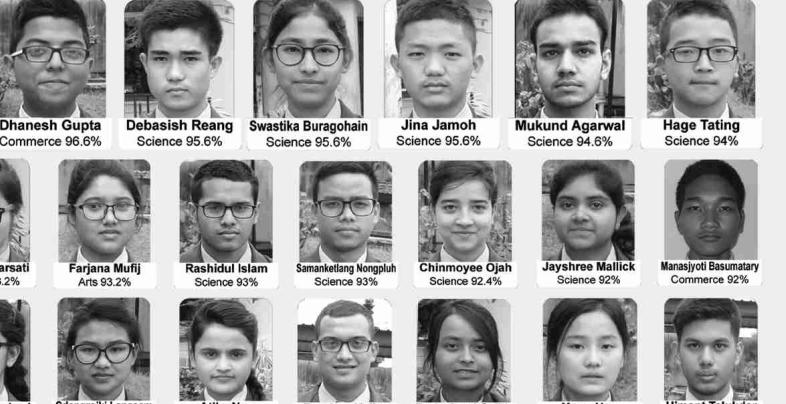
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Class XII CBSE 2017 Results

% of marks	Science	Commerce	Arts
No. of students	140	22	35
≥90%	14	02	04
≥80% & < 90%	68	08	21
≥70% & < 80%	51	09	09
≥60% & < 70%	07	03	01



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156	Dhanesh Gupta
143	Ishita Bhardwaj
128	Sdangroki Lapasam
104	Atika Naz
Mukund Agarwal	Gulshan Singh
Vishwanath Singh	Debasish Reang
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Subject Toppers





International conference at GU

CORRESPONDENT

JALUKBARI, May 29: The newly established Centre for South-East Asian Studies of the Gauhati University mandated by the Government of Assam in the State Budget 2016-17, is organising an international conference on 'India's One Belt One Road Challenge: Views From North-East India' on June 2 and 3.

The conference will be attended by various experts in the field, including Ram Madhav, Joydev Ranade, Dr K Yhone, Dr Jabin Jacob and 12 other eminent scholars from various parts of India.

The conference seeks to address issues like implications of the China-Pakistan economic corridor for India, economic and security dimensions of OBOR, etc according to Director of the centre and Head of the Department of Political Science, GU, Dr Nani Gopal Mahanta.

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GST Enrollment for Existing Dealers

Enrollment will re-open only for 15 days from 01-06-2017 to 15-06-2017

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is expected to roll out from 1st of July, 2017.

- GST will run completely on Information Technology System. All information should be furnished online in GST. There will be no paper work in GST system.
- There is no provision for automatic migration from existing registration (VAT etc.) to GST.
- Existing dealers cannot be migrated to GST unless they enroll themselves in GST Portal (www.gst.gov.in). The filled and completed Enrollment Form is required to be submitted in the GST Portal to issue GST Registration Number (GSTIN).
- With migration, existing registered dealers will be able to carry forward their transitional stock and input tax credit thereon to GST as per Rules. Without migration, dealers shall have to apply for new registration under GST, and in such cases, ITC on the transitional stock shall not be carried forward to GST.
- In absence of completed and filed Enrollment Form, GST Portal will not have the details of 'Authorized Signatory'. In such cases, the taxpayer will not be able to file any form or conduct any business on the GST Portal after 1st July, 2017.

The Enrolment window for existing dealers will re-open from 1st June 2017 for a period of 15 days.

- All the remaining Existing registered dealers are required to get themselves enrolled in GST Portal (www.gst.gov.in) between 01.05.2017 and 15.05.2017 using the GST Provisional User Id and Password issued by GST Network (GSTN).
- Existing registered dealers can have their GST Provisional User ID and Password for enrollment in GST Portal from the website www.taxassam.gov.in. They have to log in using user id and password of existing Act to view the GST User Id and Password. They can also approach their jurisdictional Assistant Commissioner of Taxes / Superintendent of Taxes for GST Provisional Id and Password.
- The filled and complete enrollment form will be considered as successfully filed if Application Reference Number (ARN) is generated. The application for enrollment and the 'saved application' or the application submitted earlier without E-Signature must be submitted with E-Signature using Aadhar or Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in order to generate ARN. Without generation of ARN, the enrollment process is not complete and migration will not be possible.

Sd/- Commissioner of Taxes, Assam Dispur, Guwahati-6

For any clarification, please contact: Commissioner of Taxes, Assam, Kar Bhawan, G.S. Road, Dispur, Guwahati-781006. Phone: 0361-2232661, 0361-2232664.

App-based taxi drivers, owners begin strike

Taxi driver assaulted, vehicle damaged at Six Mile

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 29: The driver of a taxi was assaulted and his vehicle, in which a tourist couple from Kolkata was travelling to Kaziranga, was damaged by suspected members of the All Guwahati Cab Owners/Drivers Association which began a 72-hour strike today protesting reduction of incentives per ride by the aggregator companies.

The association has, however, expressed regret at the violence and said that it could be a handwork of outside elements.

The incident occurred at Six Mile area of the city where a group of agitating members of the association gathered to register their protest this morning.

The driver of the taxi who was assaulted said that though he was registered with the cab

aggregators, he was ferrying passengers to and fro Meghalaya for the last few days. The tourist couple had booked the taxi from May 25 to 31 and after a visit to Shillong, they

were proceeding to Kaziranga when the incident happened.

Policemen picked up five members of the All Guwahati Cab Owners/Drivers Associa-

tion in connection with the incident. Meanwhile, the association said that Ola has agreed to concede to their demands but Uber has been adamant on its stand. The association may

Guwahati roads.

Meanwhile, an Uber spokesman said that the District Court here has issued an injunction restraining unions, their leaders, members and their followers from preventing Uber drivers from going about their work. 'We welcome the court's order and hope that it will enable drivers to stay behind the wheel, without fear of harassment henceforth. We are confident that the order will be effectively enforced and that action is taken against any person who attempts to block cars, confiscate devices or harass riders and drivers and that the safety of everyone using the Uber App in Guwahati is ensured. We are committed to keeping Guwahati moving and ensuring a reliable experience for riders and drivers,' the spokesman said.

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were proceeding to Kaziranga when the incident happened.

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Mock drill on industrial disaster held

STAFF REPORTER

industrial unit.

The first battalion of NDRF took active part and assisted the plant employees in planning and coordination at the initial stage. Rescuers of NDRF demonstrated disaster response mechanism with all required response tools and equipment.

There is little or no warning of industrial chemical accidents and the loss incurred is very high. There is a huge loss to property, livelihood and environment. Moreover, hazardous materials in various forms can cause death, serious injury and damage to buildings, homes

and other properties. The areas close to an industrial setup are under immediate threat, said an NDRF press release.

Industrial disaster response and mitigation mock drills generate mass awareness in all sections of society, the release added.

NE magazine competition awards announced

STAFF REPORTER

participated in the competition.

The prizes will be distributed during the USTM Public Relations Day in the last week of June 2017.

Other awards announced today included best cover page to Cotton College Guwahati, best woman editor to Diphusha Baruah of Dibrugarh College, best woman writer to Priyanka Nath of KC Das Commerce College, Guwahati, and the best article award to Manas Pratim Roychowdhury of Nahari College.

Special jury awards went to St Anthony's College, Shillong, Meghalaya and Salesian College of Higher Education, Dimapur, Nagaland.

The members of the jury for selection were PJ Baruah, Executive Editor of *The Assam Tribune*; NI Laskar, former Executive Editor of *The Eastern Chronicle*, Bijoy Ghimire, Editor of *The Mileage* magazine and Professor Nilima Bhagawati, Dean, School of Social Sciences and Humanities, USTM.

The publication cell of the USTM had organised the competition in order to encourage young upcoming writers, editors and layout designers of different college magazines from across the north-eastern region. More than 200 colleges from all over the North East had participated in the competition recently.

The training was attended by selected young changemakers from the north-eastern states of Meghalaya, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland.

The training involved con-

Quiz contest held at city school

GUWAHATI, May 29: To mark the silver jubilee year celebration of Maharishi Vidya Mandir, Silpkhuri, the school authorities organised an All Guwahati Inter School Quiz Competition in which 10 schools participated in the junior category and 12 schools in the senior category, said a press release today.

In the junior category, the

Man held for alleged murder

CORRESPONDENT

JALUKBARI, May 29: Jalukbari police today arrested one Abdul Rejik (30) from Naharup Path, located near Kamakhya Nursery, on the suspicion of murdering one Dipali Deka, whose body was found in her house yesterday.

Rejik was the person who had informed the police of Dipali Deka's murder.

Police sources said Rejik

has been sent to five days' police custody by the court.

Investigation is on to unearth the murder mystery.

Workshop on hazards of electronic waste

STAFF REPORTER

volved in e-waste management in 10 urban areas there by encouraging environmentally sound recycling through collective efforts across all relevant stakeholders in the e-waste value chain.

The workshop was inaugurated in the presence of Pawan Aggarwalla, MD & CEO of Datamation and past president of IT Association Guwahati; TC Talukdar, president of IT Association Guwahati; Deepanskar Das, consultant, Department of IT, Government of Assam and Rohit Kumar Singh, Manager, corporate affairs, planning and strategy, CEAMA.

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OT Technology	B.Sc.		Mechanical
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MESSAGE FOR TODAY

Your fears are not walls, but hurdles. Courage is not the absence of fear, but the conquering of it.

— DAN MILLMAN

The Assam Tribune**Possible option**

Violent protests, initially triggered by the killing of Hizbul commander Burhan Wani but later fuelled by other issues, had paralysed normal life in Kashmir for many months. Though undercurrents of tension had been palpable throughout, there were occasions when these exploded into almost unmanageable violence, leading to death of civilians at the hands of the security forces. Such a phenomenon was last seen during the attempt to hold by-elections in the seat Mehboba Mufti of the People's Democratic Front had vacated! In the latest incident, the killing of two Hizbul Mujahideen militants, Sabzar Bhat and Faizan Muzaffar, the former thought to be the successor to Burhan, has once again seen total shutdown in Kashmir and renewed challenge to the security forces by stone-throwing demonstrators. For quite a while the Centre had decided to shed the velvet glove to show the iron fist in Kashmir against objections from individuals like Mehboba and Omar Abdullah. Despite the continued state of near anarchy in the region, there is no indication that the Centre will change its hard-line stance. The Chief of the Indian Army has, in fact, stoutly defended individuals like Major Leetul Gogoi for adopting "innovative measures" such as tying a man on the bonnet of his jeep as a shield against stone-throwing mobs, asserting that it was a "dirty war" which was being fought in Kashmir and needed extraordinary measures!

That the Centre is determined not to change its hard-line policy against separatist protesters in Kashmir has been borne out by the assertion made by the BJP president Amit Shah that there would be no dialogue in Kashmir till the stone-pelting ends. The contradiction such a stand evokes has Catch-22 connotations; continued crackdown without measures like dialogue to quell roused passions would witness continued discontentment, thus the conditions mooted by Shah where dialogue can take place will never be created! Hard-line stances had never led to peace, a truth mirrored by protracted conflicts like the one between Hamas and Israel. It is time for the NDA Government to think out of the box and search for options to mere containment of civilian violence. There are certain elements in the complex chessboard that Kashmir has become who are either fed up with the protracted unrest which has led to economic hardships, or are separatists who want 'Azadi' but for an independent Kashmir and not to merge with Pakistan since they are cognizant of the squalid conditions in which Kashmiris in PoK live. One possible option might be to initiate dialogue with these elements and offer choice of autonomy while totally isolating the pro-Pakistan separatists. After all, the Nagas too had demanded separation but the Centre has brought them to the table to negotiate a peace deal, and there is no reason why such an attempt cannot be made in Kashmir.

A new beginning

Established over a century ago, Cotton College came to attain an iconic status in the North-East. It used to be the region's best recognized educational institution, serving its academic interests in an exemplary manner. Now, with the merger of the college in the newly-formed Cotton College State University (CCSU), the revered institution will cease to exist and become a part of the larger entity of CCSU. It is natural that many, particularly those associated with the hallowed heritage of Cotton College, will be a sad lot gripped by nostalgia. But the need now is to look up to the future and prepare for the challenges that lie ahead, and facilitate the emergence of CCSU as an ideal house of learning and a centre of excellence. It is time, therefore, to take stock of the challenges that await the institution as it enters a new, crucial phase in its march towards excellence. Higher education is undergoing transformations the world over, and CCSU – bearing the heritage of Cotton College in its identity – can hardly afford any complacency. The changing circumstances demand that CCSU expand and make forays into new areas, and break new grounds in the realms of study and research. The administration, too, will have to be efficient and discharge its responsibilities with dynamism and transparency.

The emerging challenges naturally warrant greater autonomy for CCSU so that its potential is not constrained by bureaucratic shackles and myopic visions of the Government. With the required autonomy, the institution can freely structure its courses and change contents to meet the needs of changing times. Another critical test for it would be to promote research activities. All this, however, entails a matching infrastructure, adequate finances and the best of faculty. Although it will enjoy State finance, CCSU would also do well to explore new means to be as self-sufficient as possible in money matters. The planners and administrators of the institution must chalk out a long-term strategy with due consideration on futuristic perspectives to prepare the university to meet the emerging challenges. The sluggish growth of higher education in the State continues to be a major concern. Technological innovations have made infrastructure a critical component of modern education. It is hardly surprising that those who have failed to keep pace with the emerging trends are lagging behind. Serious infrastructural constraints apart, lack of professionalism and administrative discipline in our institutions of higher education has been a bane in the qualitative growth of this vital sector. The State Government, too, has done precious little in consolidating higher education over the years. There is an urgent need for formulating a pragmatic policy to boost higher education in the State.

Act East Policy: Are we looking at a myth?**■ Swapnani Barua**

There is an immortality in the sayings of William Shakespeare, which find relevance not only in literature, but also in life. His famous quote may now apply to the Act East Policy of the Government of India especially with relation to the north-eastern States. As the quote goes, "There is a tide in the affairs of men, which taken in a lead foot leads to fortune. Omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries. On such a full sea are we now afloat. We must take the current when it serves, or lose our ventures." India, or rather the NE States, did not take the current, when it served and must now row out to the sea, against it. All this talk about using the Look East or Act East Policy has come to naught, because we did not start in time, nor were guided in a clearly thought out manner as to how to benefit from this initiative. Even today, the talk about the North-east being a Gateway to the South-east Asia has not seen much of action on the field by way of development of international highways, airports or waterways to send our products to those countries. Whatever exports are happening to those countries are happening through the existing facilities, which are not much of a benefit to the North-east.

Yet the Look East initiative began from the North-east in 2004, with the ASEAN car rally, which was flagged off from the stone-pelting ends. The contradiction such a stand evokes has Catch-22 connotations; continued crackdown without measures like dialogue to quell roused passions would witness continued discontentment, thus the conditions mooted by Shah where dialogue can take place will never be created! Hard-line stances had never led to peace, a truth mirrored by protracted conflicts like the one between Hamas and Israel. It is time for the NDA Government to think out of the box and search for options to mere containment of civilian violence. There are certain elements in the complex chessboard that Kashmir has become who are either fed up with the protracted unrest which has led to economic hardships, or are separatists who want 'Azadi' but for an independent Kashmir and not to merge with Pakistan since they are cognizant of the squalid conditions in which Kashmiris in PoK live. One possible option might be to initiate dialogue with these elements and offer choice of autonomy while totally isolating the pro-Pakistan separatists. After all, the Nagas too had demanded separation but the Centre has brought them to the table to negotiate a peace deal, and there is no reason why such an attempt cannot be made in Kashmir.

Dr Kamala Kanta Saharia

With the foundation of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) laid by the Prime Minister on May 26, 2017, it is time to recollect that the premier establishment in Assam did not come from long-standing demands, political pressures, social conflicts or any other crisis resulting in imbalance of power. There was no production excellence causing concern to the administrators and policymakers. Nothing extraordinary happened to get attention of the neighbouring countries where export has been a priority. But it was because of a visionary dimension of greater social ramifications, economic compulsions and traditional excellences backed by the highly-valued research, teaching and extension necessities, especially for the people of this region. It actually stemmed out from the understanding of ethnic cultures of the people of the North-eastern region in general and the State of Assam in particular by none other than the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In absolute term, it was a gift to the people of the region from the Prime Minister to fulfil the wish to develop the whole region, which he voiced in his maiden speech in Parliament. Agricultural equations in this part of the country are different from the rest of India. Most of the agricultur-

al designs so far are for big farmers whereas the nation is gradually progressing towards the fragmented farm holdings. Counting the fact that the region is not self-sufficient in production of any of the agricultural commodities and the small holding situation already in place against the backdrop of huge potentials, revamping the sector with integrated and inclusive farming was a compulsion. But the people, policymakers, politicians and the practitioners hardly realized the same. It was only the Prime Minister who realized the necessity of the two-fold agricultural urgency in the country – (i) the second Green Revolution and (ii) to start it in Eastern India.

One of the most amazing features of Indian agriculture is the self-sufficiency it attained over the years. Its capability to keep feeding the huge ever-increasing population is commendable. Planners all over the world get stunned analysing the progress Indian agriculture has made against the backdrops of significant waste, misuse and misappropriation. Indian farmers are producing enough relentlessly, relentlessly and repeatedly; not worrying about the support price, subsidies, subscription and sustainability. Their hard work in the field is the signal of solidarity with the nation, sincerity to the occupation, sacrifice of personal comfort and service to the humanity, against the

Similarity Vietnam has become the leading place in the world for manufacture of popular sports shoes, feeding the international market. Some days ago, a huge consignment of smuggled Vietnamese shoes was seized in Manipur. Cambodia also has developed as an apparel manufacturing centre with leading brands like Marks & Spencer setting up factories there. Myanmare has become a leading cigarette manufacturing country with

Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia is well ahead of our country.

The problem is that if four of the nine countries in our ASEAN radar are better off than India and two more are beating us to the post, what do we sell to them? The IT advantage is on its way out as 3D printing and automation taking it over. So also the cheap labour myth about India is losing sheen. The ASEAN countries have a more open attitude to the inflow of Chinese capital, which is floating around seeking investments. Even for poor and labour-intensive countries like Laos and Cambodia, the Chinese are coming and building roads and infrastructure with Chinese labour and capital. With its economic clout, China is using its power to dictate, but the smaller countries are taking advantage of the Chinese money and technology, for their benefit rather than oppose the giants in an uneven battle. This Chinese presence is a deterrent to Indian investment and trade with the ASEAN countries and any hope to enter the markets of those countries which has a dominant Chinese presence, would be very difficult. India is yet to decide on a policy to make it easy for mainland producers to manufacture and sell in the ASEAN countries. One can well imagine the Himalayan difficulties that lie for the NE manufacturers to gain access to these markets.

Another aspect emerging in the South-east Asian countries is that they are not burdened by the past. India is still steeped in our freedom

to activate it is not known as yet, but not to lose the time advantage, the NE States must wait for Delhi to formulate an action plan. They should get together and decide on what needs to be done, with clear results to follow in mind, and go ahead.

it lax health laws. The North-east is a major consumer of their produce, all being imported illegally. Laos has started growing and processing agar wood-based products, creating a competition for Assam in the world market. The South China Sea waters have been used for artificial pearl culture, while India still uses our sea water for rearing prawns and shrimps. Even in neighbouring Sri Lanka, there is no presence of India manufactured products, except for a few buses, autos and Nano cars. The level of economic and industrial activity in Singapore,

and utilization, our farmers are reduced to an individual field farmer against the ability to become global operators. Energizing (entrepreneurship) and enabling the farmers are the need of the hour. Regular supply of policy and practice inputs can make the farmers proficient entrepreneurs. In our case that has not been happening.

Genetic potential alone cannot boost the production level if the environment for such production is not congenial. So, genetic potential with geographic compatibility is important.

It is a big challenge for the agricultural extension specialists that by 2025 the population of India would jump high to 150 crore and 350 million tonnes of food would be required yearly. In view of the same, preparations are to be on in the right direction to continuously keep meeting the demands. The country has only 14 crore farmers and about 250 farmers are leaving the occupation every day. Over-exploitation of agricultural resources in many parts of the country has caused serious human hazards. But, the States of this region in general and Assam in particular are far from those scenarios. It is more such background that the IARI in Assam has come up. It will have to serve the nation keeping the cultural values upheld, communities coherent, qualities ensured, products scaled up and supply healthy food to keep the nation in forward march.

IARI at Gogamukh: rebuilding agriculture**■ Dr Kamala Kanta Saharia**

al designs so far are for big farmers whereas the nation is gradually progressing towards the fragmented farm holdings. Counting the fact that the region is not self-sufficient in production of any of the agricultural commodities and the small holding situation already in place against the backdrop of huge potentials, revamping the sector with integrated and inclusive farming was a compulsion. But the people, policymakers, politicians and the practitioners hardly realized the same. It was only the Prime Minister who realized the necessity of the two-fold agricultural urgency in the country – (i) the second Green Revolution and (ii) to start it in Eastern India.

Changing with change is the secret of success of Indian agriculture. But many issues need strategic future planning. The sincere invitation of the Prime Minister to double the income of the Indian farmers by 2022 lies not only in the dreams he has, but also on the underlying principles he has revealed.

The American agriculture, some 170 years back, had 400 chhhs.

This 4H indicates the head, two hands and the heart to put together in terms of knowledge, skill and the attitude respectively, which the Indian agriculture is in need today.

The appeal of doubling the farmers' income has not gone to the heads of many agriculture administrators. The spirit of the game is totally different, beyond the timeline and needs calculated brainstorming and branding. Increase in production without demand is going to be a disaster. One should comprehend that the country is not short of production, she is suffering from low productivity. If India wants to become an agricultural giant in the world upholding the provisions of the WTO, then she has to come up with

the quality assurance in terms of nutrition, medicinal value, raw consumption, shelf life, hazards-free entity and keeping them green. So, high quality fruits and nuts in future might be of more importance than crops and vegetables. Milk and egg might be again more convenient than meat. In the proposed IARI at Gogamukh, they would be planned. For all these to happen, there is a need to stress on the following.

Awareness and awakening are important issues. Our farmers are still lacking either in the knowledge and information of appropriate technology or they have not been designed to suit them. So, local orientation in this regard is necessary.

Every year for many agricultural produces like milk, potato, tomato and onion, etc., farmers do not get remunerative price. They drain or perish the commodities on public roads, stage protests and demand support prices. But broadening the market and bridging them well in accordance with time and need would not only balance the demand and supply, but would also provide better prices beyond their expectation.

Collaboration and cooperation should be integral features among the allied departments from sowing the seeds to selling the items in the market without mismanaging at any stage. Documentation and dissemination need to be stressed. Only because of lack of data keeping, process-

Unnecessary Foreigner's Tribunal cases

pointed out that neither the Tribunals nor the police at fault; the fault lies in the procedure adopted for detection of foreigners.

The fact is that the persons who could not produce the required documents on the spot on demand by police are not necessarily foreigners, because the supporting documents may be available in public offices such as the election office. Most of the villagers against whom the Foreigner's Tribunal has got orders in the High Court to the effect that they are Indians. Again, most of the cases in which they are declared as foreigners by Tribunals are cases disposed of ex parte. Subsequently, ex parte orders are vacated in most cases under provisions laid down in the Civil Procedure Code. It seems that nobody is concerned about the causes for such outcomes for the Foreigner's Tribunal cases in favour of the suspected persons and against the Government.

In a recent letter published in your esteemed daily, it has been

suspected persons are actually foreigners who do not have supporting documents. That is why in a large number of cases, the suspected persons get declared as Indian citizens. This means a huge number of cases are unnecessarily registered against actual Indian citizens.

The procedure for detection of foreigners requires suitable amendments. Authorities should help the villagers to get necessary documents collected from public offices after obtaining particulars from them. This will reduce the registration of a huge number of unnecessary cases. Yours etc., HERAMBCHA CHOWDHURI, Chenikuthu, Guwahati.

A year of State Govt

Sir. – The BJP-led Government in Assam has completed its first year in power on the 24th of this month. The performance that the Government has shown in the first year of its rule is laudable to say the least. Practically, the State Government has failed on many

fronts. The Government was to detect and deport the illegal Bangladeshi migrants from Assam. Till now nothing concrete has been done in this regard. The Government is not showing any interest in this matter. The people of Assam have been demanding for sealing the India-Bangladesh border in order to prevent the Bangladeshi nationals from entering Assam illegally. Till now, the works of border fencing along the Indo-Bangla border have not been completed.

The State agriculture sector has been facing certain problems due to many reasons including the annual floods. The State is without large industries. The unemployment problem is burgeoning. Quality health care is not available.

The BJP-led State Government must review its performance and take proper measures to solve the burning problems of the State early and to achieve a high economic growth. Yours etc., MAHESWAR DEKA, Rangia.

Railway zone

Sir. – The headquarters of the NFR Railway are located at Maligaon, Guwahati. This North-east Zone of the Indian Railways covers a portion of Bihar and West Bengal in addition to the North-east States, Kathbar, Siliguri, Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar, etc., fall under this zone. Due to this, the candidates from Bihar and West Bengal take the benefit in the recruitment to railway vacancies, and 90% posts in Grades III and IV are filled up from such candidates, depriving the candidates of the NE region. This practice is continuing from the distant past. Therefore, the jurisdiction of NFR should be changed and a separate railway zone only for the North-eastern States should be created. Yours etc., SASANKA KR DUTTA, Hatigaon, Guwahati.

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

Bohagi Utsav celebrated in Dhubri

CORRESPONDENT

DHUBRI, May 29: Under the aegis of Srimanta Sankardev Sangha, the people of Dhubri celebrated the 'Bohagi Utsav 2017' at the Raja Prabhat Chandra Baruah playground recently with fervour and enthusiasm.

Considering the celebration to be a promotion of the greater Assamese culture and traditions in this part of the State, the organisation in association with the Bohagi Utsav Celebration Committee also organised various programmes as a part of the Utsav. Apart from Mukoli Bilu competition, Jyoti Sangeet, Rabha Sangeet, Bhupen Hazarika, Golapuria lokgeet, Gopboriya folk dance competition and performances were also organised during the two-day celebration on May 26-27.

Cultural programmes were also conducted during the celebration and on the last day of the celebration, renowned singer Kalpana Patowary graced the cultural programme.

Meanwhile, in another event at the District Library Dhubri, a beauty pageant was organised at Dhubri for the first time by Friends Foundation, Dhubri where 18-year-old Barnali Das from Gauripur and 19-year-old Salman Khan from Dhubri were chosen as Miss and Mr Dhubri respectively.

The judges of the programme were actress, model and classical dancer Dola Paul, actor, model and assistant director of Balaji Telefilms, Sagar Ghosh and bodybuilder, Monil Hoque. Former MLA, Jahannuddin, Circle Officer, Rajashree Sen Deka and famous bodybuilder Mustafa Hussain, were the guests in the programme.

Monthly sitting

CORRESPONDENT

NAGAON, May 29: The sitting for the month of May of the Nagaon unit of Akhil Bharatiya Sahitya Parishad was held last Saturday at Habaragon Boys HS School. In absence of its president Bhadreswar Rajkhowa due to health problems, Golok Ch Nath was on the chair.

At the beginning Chandra Sakia presented his report of the last month's sitting.

OBITUARY

Bharati Bhattacharjya

CORRESPONDENT

TIHU, May 29: Bharati Bhattacharjya, wife of stage artiste Sohan Bhattacharjya and a popular social worker, a native of Makhishaha (Dekhpara) village passed away on May 24 at her residence due to old-age ailment. She was 73.

She was closely associated with Makhishaha senior citizen Parishad, Dekphara Mahila Samiti and many other organisations of greater Tihu area. Several organisations like Makhishaha Sahitya Sabha, Makhishaha Gramonay Committee, Makhishaha Anchalik Students' Union, Anchalik Committee of Yuva Chakra Parishad, Anchalik Mahila Samiti, Pabnanda Deka, MLA, Patacharkuchi LAC and dramatist Abhijit Bhattacharjya have mourned her death.

She leaves behind her son, a daughter, apart from a host of grandchildren and relatives.

Siba Kanta

Sarma

CORRESPONDENT

MANGALDAI, May 29: In connection with the induction training programme for the newly-recruited government functionaries in Darrang district, a voluntary blood donation and awareness camp was organised for the trainees on Sunday here at the Zila Sainik Bhawan.

The camp organised by the local voluntary organisation Crystal Vision in collaboration with the District Health Society recorded voluntary blood donation from eight trainees. Blood haemoglobin test and measurement of body masses were also carried out free of cost during the programme.



Former president of Asam Sahitya Sabha, Dr Nagen Sakia addressing the All Assam Kavi Sammelan at Duliajan Club, on Sunday. - UB Photos

Mother-son duo returns after spending 17 months in Bangla jail

ANN Service

BADRIPUR, May 28: After staying for 17 months imprisoned in a Bangladeshi jail, Patharkandi residents Jayanti Biswas (50) and her son Prantosh Biswas (22) returned to India on Saturday, through the Akhaura (Bangladesh border) escorted by the Bangladeshi Government's security personnel. Official sources said that at about 2.10 pm in the afternoon, the Bangladesh Moula Bazar Police officials and the senior officials of Border Guards of Bangladesh (BGB) handed over the duo to the Indian officials and to Paritosh Biswas, the elder son of Jayanti Biswas and the private secretary of Patharkandi MLA Prithibis Dasa.

It may be noted that on February 5, 2016, Jayanti Biswas and her son Prantosh Biswas went to her daughter's residence at Zuri of Brahmanbaria district in Bangladesh. After staying there for 20 days, while they were returning to India, they were suddenly arrested at Mouli Bazar by BGB

forces, as they could not produce any official documents. Jayanti and Prantosh Biswas were sent to the Mouli Bazar Jail where they were lodged for 40 days. But due to lack of interest, help and cooperation by the then Congress-led State and Central Governments, they could not be brought back to India, informed Paritosh Biswas, the elder son of Jayanti. Paritosh also informed that after the BJP came to power in the State, he himself sought the intervention of Patharkandi MLA Krishnendu Paul in the matter. Krishnendu Paul immediately extended his hand for help and cooperation in bringing the mother-son duo back to India, and discussed the matter with the State Chief Minister. The matter was also discussed with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. An official letter was then sent to the Bangladesh Government where an earnest appeal was made to return both Jayanti and Prantosh Biswas to India, without further delay. The duo was then released.

Biennial meet of Paschim Nalbari Press Club

A CORRESPONDENT

THU, May 29: The 12th biennial conference of Paschim Nalbari Club will be served at Chilata with a two-day programme from June 3.

The main programme of the first day will be seminars at 11 am and 12 noon on the subjects, Awareness for heart attack and high blood pressure' and 'Safety of the road and its law and responsibility of the citizens' respectively. The delegates'

meeting to be held at 5 pm will be inaugurated by Prakash Barman, BDO, Paschim Nalbari Development Block.

The second day's programme will begin with the unfurling of the flag and *smriti tarpan*. A drawing competition will also be held at 9.30 am. Chandra Mohan Patowary, Industry, Transport and Commerce Minister will inaugurate the new building of the press club.

The open meeting to be held

at 12.30 pm will be graced by Aranthal Gyani, DC, Nalbari, Radhika Mohan Bhagawati, editor, *Dainik Asam*, Ashok Sarma, MLA, Nalbari, Hemanta Bhattacharyya, SP, Nalbari.

The souvenir to be published on this occasion will be released by Hemanta Barman. The president and secretary Ramani Barman and Ganesh Barman have informed that some prominent persons from different walks of life will also be felicitated.

The open meeting to be held

Voluntary blood donation, awareness camp held

CORRESPONDENT

MANGALDAI, May 29: In connection with the induction training programme for the newly-recruited government functionaries in Darrang district, a voluntary blood donation and awareness camp was organised for the trainees on Sunday here at the Zila Sainik Bhawan.

The camp organised by the local voluntary organisation Crystal Vision in collaboration with the District Health Society recorded voluntary blood donation from eight trainees. Blood haemoglobin test and measurement of body masses were also carried out free of cost during the programme.

Earlier in the inaugural session, Dr Daud Ali, medical officer-in-charge of Mangaldai Blood Bank explained the necessity of voluntary blood donation and how it helps our bodies in reducing risk for various diseases including cardiac arrest, stroke, cancer in stomach and oesophagus, among others, based on recent medical research reports.

The inaugural awareness session was also addressed by Horesh Ch Dutta, retired ACS officer and resource person of the training programme, Kajalika Deka, ADC, Darrang, Minakshi Permei, Assistant Commissioner, Maj Horimoni Deka, assistant professor

Managli College and in-charge NCC wing, octogenarian human rights activist Rameswar Sarma and president of Crystal Vision Mayukhi Goswami, among others.

The eligibility criteria for

Namrup rejoices over honour to Major Gogoi

CORRESPONDENT

NAMRUP, May 29: The news of Major Litul Gogoi's gallant achievement and Army Chief's Commendation Card honour has gripped Namrup with profound joy and enthusiasm. Major Litul Gogoi received the said award by the Army Chief General Bipin Rawat for his 'sustained efforts' in countering insurgency operations.

It is to be added that

Major Litul Gogoi was born and brought up at BVFCL Colony here as his father was serving at the BVFCL. He started his schooling at BVFCL Model High School here and had the opportunity to study in the Assam Regiment Football Academy, Shillong during his 11th standard. At 18, joined in Indian Army and became Lieutenant in 2008. He is now serving as a Major of 53 Rashtriya Rifles based in Jammu & Kashmir. Sources revealed that from

his childhood, Litul Gogoi showed his keen interest in football. He played several State and national-level football matches and tournaments under the banner of Eleven Star Football Academy, Namrup.

Several socio-cultural organisations of Namrup including Namrup Anchalik Chatra Santha, Namrup Press and the society here have congratulated Major Litul Gogoi for receiving such an honour from the Army Chief.

ICAR DG visits KV, Tezpur

CORRESPONDENT

TEZPUR, May 29: The Director General of Indian Council of Research (ICAR), New Delhi, Dr Trilochan Mohapatra who came to Assam in connection with inauguration of IARI at Gogabari, Dhemaji, visited the Napanam-based KV, Sonitpur recently along with a host of top officials of the ICAR to oversee the activities of the centre. Dr HC Bhattacharya, Director of Extension Education, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat welcomed the team and presented a brief review of works done in the KVks under AAU in general and

KVK, Sonitpur in particular. The team visited different demonstration units located at the KV farm and interacted with a group of progressive farmers who are taking up diversified farming activities under technical guidance of the Kendra. During interaction of the Kendra. During interaction with the farmers Dr Mohapatra, in Sonitpur, recently along with a host of top officials of the ICAR to oversee the activities of the centre. Dr HC Bhattacharya, Director of Extension Education, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat welcomed the team and presented a brief review of works done in the KVks under AAU in general and

Sonitpur apprised the team about the present condition of the infrastructure of the Kendra and requested for strengthening it to meet the growing demands of the farming community.

The other members of the team C Roul, Secretary, ICAR, Dr JP Sharma, Joint Director, IARI, New Delhi, Dr DK Sarma, Director, NRC, Ptg, Dr AK Tripathi, Director, ATARI, Zone VI and Dr BC Deka, Director, ATARI, Zone III.

The heads of KV, Kamrup, Nagaon and Udalguri also participated in the interaction programmes with the KV scientists.

Digital library at Rangiya

CORRESPONDENT

RANGIYA, May 29: The digital library-cum-research building at Rangiya Rajmohil Krishak Bhawan was formally inaugurated by Rangia Sabha MP Bhupaneswar Sarma on Monday afternoon. Speaking on the occasion, Rangia spoke about the benefits of such a library equipped with required facilities like books, journals, computers and e-browsing

facility for the overall growth of reading culture among the people.

He further urged the people, particularly the student community to avail the maximum benefit out of the said set-up where they could also go for research under the available resources at Rajmohil Bhavancarrying reminiscence of the then famous 1896 Krishak Bidroh (farmers revolt) here at Rangiya Rajmohil premises.

Senior faculty member Prof Narendra Lahkar, Department of Library and Information Sciences, GU, president of the Rajmohil Bhawan management committee, retired Professor, History Department, Pub Kamrup College, Pabin Kalita also spoke on the occasion. The said library and research building was constructed under MPLAD fund received from MP Bhupaneswar Kaliata of around Rs 12 lakh.

New PhD courses at LGBRIMH

A CORRESPONDENT

GUWAHATI, May 29: The Lokopriya Gopinath Bordoloi Regional Institute of Mental Health (LGBRIMH) has announced the opening of new PhD courses with admissions starting this August. The Departments of Psychiatric Social Work and Psychiatric Nursing have decided to start full-time PhD courses in the institute for the first time, offering three and two seats respectively. The selection of candidates will be based on the entrance examinations conducted by Gauhati University on June 3.

a PhD seat in Psychiatric Social Work includes an Master of Science (MSW) degree, preferably in combination with an MPH in Clinical Social Work (PSW). The eligibility for the Psychiatric Nursing PhD programme includes an MSc in Nursing with specialisation in Psychiatric Social Nursing. In addition to course work and thesis preparation, this programme also includes clinical supervision within the hospital set-up. The programme is designed to provide scholars a hands-on experience of supervisory role apart from fulfilling the academic requirements of PhD," said Dr Sonia Pereira Deuri, HoD of the Department of Psychiatric Social Work (PSW).

While the departmental faculties of PSW and Clinical Psychology have had part-time scholars under their supervision since last year, the Nursing department has laid down a PhD course for the first time. "With this initiative, we hope to train more professionals for teaching purposes in Psychiatric Social Work within the mental health sector. The programme is designed to through research. It will also equip us with qualified mental health nursing professionals to fulfill the dream of the institute, of providing mental health nursing services for the entire northeast region."

One of the oldest mental health institutes in the country, LGBRIMH has successfully provided quality mental health care free of cost to the people of North-East India and beyond, for the last 141 years. The institute has also undertaken training of mental health professionals such as psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses, psychiatric social workers and clinical psychologists over the years.

Call to develop Pub Kamrup tourist spots to global standards

CORRESPONDENT

BAHARUCHARI, May 29 : The Pub Kamrup unit of the All Assam Students' Union (AASU) and a number of other organisations including the general public have urged the Government and the Tourism department to develop the historic Madan Kamdev, Gopeshwar and Pingleswar Devatala to tourism spots of international standard to attract tourists from the rest of the nation as also from abroad by developing amenities, beautification, communication and utilisation of its original potentialities.

The AASU unit said that after the inauguration of the proposed AIIMS at Changlang, the surroundings of the area here will get a new look. If the Government and the department concerned take bold initiatives to develop the aforementioned places as international-standard tourism spots, the flow of tourists will increase

ti Kotha' is also attached with this temple, where numerous devotees come to offer puja. Another historical place of the area is Pingleswar Devatala located at Pingleswar village, just six kilometres from Baitala Chariali, where World Heritage Site was held under the auspices of the Directorate of Archaeology, Assam in 2011. History of the area says that there was a rock-cut

Siva temple here about 9th to 10th century AD and in 1669 Saka Ahom king Swargadeo Shiva Singha through copper plate donated 965 *bighas* of *nispikheria* land, 376 *bighas* of *la-kheria* land to the temple authority for the management of the Siva Temple.

It is one of the ancient monuments and archaeological sites of the area, the entire area will turn into a 'Tourism Town.'



A view of Gopeshwar Devatala (left) and archaeological remains at Madan Kamdev.



Renowned environmentalist and winner of the Green Oscar, Purina Devi Barman after being felicitated by the AAU and other organisations in Kamrup district on Monday for her efforts to conserve the highly endangered greater adjutant stork.

— UB Photos

AAU project to double farmers' income in three years

RITURAJ BORTHAKUR

GUWAHATI: May 29: In line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's goal of doubling farmers' incomes by 2022, the Assam Agricultural University has picked twenty three villages where it will roll out a project to demonstrate how the income of farmers can be doubled. And for that, the agricultural research institute has set a target of three years.

Each of the State's twenty three Krishi Vigyan Kendras under the university has been asked to select one village each for the programme. The baseline survey in these villages to know the present status of farming and other al-

lied activities have been completed. The KVks are now studying the average income of the farmers in these villages.

"Once this study is complete, the KVks will prepare an action plan, taking note of four key factors - strength, weakness, opportunities and threat (SWOT). The experts from KVks will make the scientific interventions from this season itself," Dr Hemanta Bhattacharya, Director of Extension Education of AAU, told *The Assam Tribune*.

The said among the SWOT is identified, KVks will utilize the strengths, convert the weaknesses to strength, tap the opportunities and check the threats.

Dr Bhattacharya said focus would be on an integrated farming system and ef-

forts will be made to strengthen the components, including animal science, floriculture, horticulture, fishery etc.

"Our target is three years, much ahead of the Prime Minister's target of 2022. We wish to show how it can be done," he said, adding that the model can then be replicated in other villages.

The number of big farmers is the State is negligible. The State has around 62 per cent marginal farmers and 22 per cent small farmers. So, Bhattacharya said, focus would also be given on the non-farming sector.

Scientist at KVKS, Kamrup, Jayanta Kalita said supply of quality seeds and training of farmers will be part of the project components.

Panchayat certificates, ration cards be allowed in NRC preparation: AIUDF

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI: May 29: All India United Democratic Front (AIUDF) has asked the Central Government to file an affidavit in the Supreme Court supporting the use of Panchayat certificates and ration cards for the purpose of NRC preparation.

In a memorandum to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the party has also called for sealing of the India-Bangladesh border to stop illegal immigrants from entering the State.

"But at the same time, AIUDF is of the view that unlawful and unfair practices of causing harassment of genuine Indian citizens should be stopped immediately. We

would like to point out that very recently a large number of foreigners were issued by some Foreigners' Tribunals to persons whose cases had already been decided by the same tribunal, i.e., declaring that they are non-fighters," it said.

The party alleged that people in the various detention camps of Assam have not been provided with clothes, sufficient meals and living space.

"Regarding infiltration by foreigners, the AIUDF categorically demands that the international border with Bangladesh should be immediately sealed through advanced technological devices," said the memorandum.

The Badruljin Ajmal-led party has also demanded "immediate preparation and publication of the NRC by removing the embargo placed by the recent Gauhati High Court judgement regarding the link certificates issued to married women irrespective of caste and community, the number of which is taken to be 48 lakh."

"The AIUDF also demands restoration and utilisation of family identity cards for the purpose of preparation of NRC," it said.

The party claimed that while it is not, in principle, against eviction operation from Government *khas* land, it is of the view that such eviction without any clearcut land settlement and rehabilitation policy

would be a futile exercise because random eviction shall invariably invite encroachment in some other places.

"Innumerable projects adopted so far to control the flood and erosion problems through the Brahmaputra Board have failed miserably. It may be recalled that the Government of Assam had also submitted a unanimous resolution to the Centre for taking up the problem as a national one. We request you to take up the problem on an urgent basis and to take appropriate steps for solving it permanently," it stated.

We also request you to arrange issuance of flood and erosion affected certificate to all the displaced persons affected by flood and riverbank erosion so as to protect them from victimisation as foreigners in their new places of rehabilitation," said the memorandum.

Terming flood and erosion as the biggest problem of Assam, AIUDF said that it is be-

ASSAM POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LTD.

NIT EXTENSION NOTICE

NIT Ref.: APGCL/CGM (G)/Law Cell/2013/34/ Dtd: 06-05-2017
The due date of e-Tender for the work to "RENDER ALL LEGAL SERVICES ON APGCL'S BEHALF" is hereby extended as given below:

Last date and time for submission of Bid : up to 14:00 hrs. of 15-06-2017
Date and time of Bid opening : 15:00 hrs. of 15-06-2017

For details bidders may visit APGCL's website www.apgcl.org and <https://apgcl.tenders.in>

Sd/-, Chief General Manager (Gen),
APGCL, Bijilee Bhawan, Paltanbari, Guwahati-1
LAC/2017/44

TEZPUR UNIVERSITY

(A Central University)

Napaam, Tezpur - 784 028 (ASSAM)

NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for admission to Ph.D. programme in the Centre for Assamese Studies. The selected candidates may be awarded Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Fellowship attached with the Centre for the duration of research. (1) Assamese Literature, Culture, Religion of Assam and Northeast India, (2) Music and other traditions of Visual and Performing Arts of the region, (3) Issues related to Ethnic and Social harmony of Northeast India.

Eligibility criteria, procedure to apply and other details are available on the Tezpur University website www.tezpu.ernet.in

Last date of receipt of applications is 19.06.2017.

Sd/-
(L. Borali)
Controller of Examinations



Board of Secondary Education, Assam

Bamunimalda, Guwahati-21

Notification No. SEBA/Ex/41/2014/53
Dated Guwahati, the 29th May, 2017.

It is notified for information of all concerned that the results of the candidates who appeared in the HSLC/AHM Examination, 2017 held in the month of February/March, 2017 will be declared at 10 a.m. on 31st May, 2017 simultaneously in the office of the Inspector of Schools of the concern district of Assam.

All the Officer-in-charge of the HSLC/AHM Examination, 2017 centres are requested to collect the packets of Result Gazette, Marks-sheet, Pass Certificate etc. from the office of the Inspector of Schools concerned.

Sd/- (K.J. Gogoi)
Secretary

Board of Secondary Education, Assam
Bamunimalda, Guwahati-21

State Bank of India

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[Rule 8(1) POSSESSION NOTICE

(For Immovable Property)

Whereas
The undersigned being the Authorized officer of the State Bank of India under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act (No.3 of 2002) and rules of the power of attorney referred to section 13 of the said Act and Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2003 issued a Demand Notice dated 30/11/2016 calling upon the borrower Sri Manash Jyoti Borah and the Guarantor Smt. Sadihan Borah to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 5,09,309.59 (Rupees Five Lacs Nine Thousand Three Hundred Nine and Fifty Nine paise Only) and interest from 30/11/2016 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules as the case may be.

The Borrower/Guarantor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India for an amount of Rs. 5,09,309.59 and further interest from 30/11/2016 costs, etc. theron.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the immovable property

All that part and parcel of the property over a plot of land in the name of Smt Sadihan Borah measuring 1 Katha 10 Leches covered by Dag No. 562/4151 of P.Patta No. 203/89 of Village-Maidamgong under Mouza Bellota, P.S. Dispur, Assam bounded by North: Land of Smt Sudha Devi Bothra; South: Land of Smt Shubha Devi Bothra, East Road, West Land of Bhawati Garo Chand covered by Dag No. 569

(Authorised Officer)

State Bank of India

RACPC, Guwahati

Date : 24/05/2017
Place : Guwahati

DIBRUGARH UNIVERSITY

DIBRUGARH

Advt. No. A - 3/2017 dated 29/05/2017

Applications in the **prescribed form** are invited from eligible candidates for two (02) teaching positions [Assistant Professor -2] (All the posts are temporary and on project mode) in the UGC Centre for Studies on Bangladesh and Myanmar. Details of the advertisement, other terms and conditions and the application form are available in the University website www.dibrur.ac.in. Last date of receipt of the filled-in application is 14/06/2017.
Sd/- Registrar

Two books released

CORRESPONDENT

NAGAON, May 29: Former Professor of ADP College, well-known Leftist intellectual, besides former MLA Baneswar Saikia's selected works *Pratyaksha Anusmish* edited by Dr Ranjit Sabhapandit and *Nagaon Borani* edited by retired Professor Dr Rajen Saikia were finally released by retired administrative officer, writer-cum-social thinker Laxminath Tamuly at a function held on May 28 at the Swabid Bhawan here.

He was the first general secretary of the college union during his student days and later became general secretary of Post Graduate Students' Union of Gauhati University. An ardent worker of the Communist movement, he was associated with several social organisations.

He leaves behind his wife, a son, two daughters and a host of relatives. His death was widely mourned.

Child rescued

CORRESPONDENT

JAGIROAD, May 29: Jagiroad Police last night rescued an 18-month-old abducted child from Dumdumia village under Dhang Police Station in Nagaon district.

Police subsequently arrested a 36-year-old lady named Minara Khanum from Silbhanga area here in this connection.

Details are available in the Institute website www.itg.ernet.in/recruitment/index.

Advt. No. IITG/SA/01/2017 AR (SA)

ASSAM POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LTD.

E-TENDER NOTICE NO APGCL/CGM (G)

Railway Claim/2017-18 Dated 29-05-2017

Invited

The Chief General Manager (Generation), APGCL, Bijilee Bhawan, Paltan Bazaar, Guwahati-1, Assam

Name of Work

SETTLEMENT OF RAILWAY CLAIM

CASES OF BONGAON THERMAL

POWER STATION, SALAKATALLA, ASSAM.

Tender Paper Issue

From 30-05-2017 to 13-06-2017 (20:00 hrs)

Details may be seen in APGCL website: https://apgc.tenders.in

Chief General Manager (Generation),

Assam Power Generation Corporation Ltd.

SA/2017/40

Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati

Guhuri, 781 039, Assam

Phone: 0361-2582104, FAX: 2690761

COACHES & INSTRUCTORS

Online applications are invited for passionate and dynamic **Physical Education Instructors & Coaches** on contractual basis from June/July 2017 for providing instructions and coaching for various sports disciplines. Only online mode of application will be accepted in the link https://online.itg.ernet.in/sportsrecruit which will be activated during 1st to 10th June 2017.

Details are available in the Institute website www.itg.ernet.in/recruitment/index.

Advt. No. IITG/SA/01/2017 AR (SA)

ASSAM POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LTD.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed Tenders are invited from the empanelled Contractor/Firm under Barpeta Electrical Circle, APDCL (LAR), Barpeta having valid Electrical Contractor license (HT) issued by the competent authority of the Govt. of Assam, subjected to the Electrical Supervisors certificate of competency and workman permit for supply, erection, testing & commissioning of electricity under deposit work scheme on turnkey mode for shifting and construction of New 11 KV composite line, New 11 KV & LT lines and 11/0.433 Sub-Station including dismantling of existing 11 KV & LT lines & Sub-Station from Manash Bridge to Beki Bridge in favor of Executive Engineer PWD (Road), State Road Transport Corporation against Deposit work in different Package No: (A), (II), (III), (IV), (V), (VI), (VII), (VIII), (B), (B), (B), (C).

Issue of Tender paper: From 25/05/2017 to 03/06/2017

Date of opening: 6/06/2017

Date for details please contact O/o the Chief Executive Officer, Barpeta Electrical Circle.

Sd/- Chief Executive Officer
Barpeta Electrical Circle
APDCL, LAR, Barpeta

APS/2017/40

BAJALI COLLEGE: PATHSALA:

DIST: BARPETA

(Accredited with 'A' Grade by NAAC)

ADMISSION NOTICE

(Session: 2017-18)

Admission into the 1st year H.S. (HSE/C) and B.A. Sc/B. Com/ B.M.C 1st Semester (G.U) classes for the session 2017-18 will be held as per schedule detailed below:

Issue of Prospectus and Admission forms for HS and all undergraduate courses will start from 01.06.2017

Sl. No. Class Last date of submission of Completed Application Form Date of Interview and admission

01 H.S. 1st Yr. Science 07/06/2017 10/06/2017

02 H. S. 1st Yr. Arts 08/06/2017 12/06/2017

03 B. Sc. 1st Semester 09/06/2017 14/06/2017 & 15/06/2017

04 BA 1st Semester 13/06/2017 17/06/2017, 19/06/2017 & 20/06/2017

05 B. Com. 1st Semester 20/06/2017 28/06/2017

06 BMC 1st Semester & 1 Year Diploma in Theatre Studies and Acting 20/06/2017 28/06/2017

N.B.:

No form will be received after last date of submission under any circumstances.

2. Admission will be held from 10.30 A.M. onwards in the College premises.

3. Incomplete forms and forms without proper documents will be rejected.

4. Candidates failing in any one of the subjects will be rejected.

5. Admission will be strictly as per merit and Govt. Guidelines.

Candidates may also download the Admission Form from the College website: www.bajalicollege.ac.in. However, downloaded form is to be submitted along with a Bank Draft of Rs. 150/- (Rupees one hundred fifty) only in favor of Principal, Bajali College, Pathsala payable at SBI, Pathsala Branch.

Sd/-

Dr. Manoj Kumar Mahanta, Principal
Bajali College, Pathsala



Forecast for NE: Moderate rain
monsoonshower is very likely to occur at most places over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura, at many places over Assam & Meghalaya. Light to very heavy rainfall over Arunachal Pradesh is very likely to occur at a few places over Arunachal Pradesh.

Warning: Heavy to very heavy rainfall is very likely to occur at isolated places on May 30 to 31 and heavy rainfall at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh. Heavy to very heavy rainfall is very likely to occur at a few places with isolated extremely heavy rainfall on May 30 to 31 and very heavy rainfall is very likely to occur at isolated places on May 31 and isolated heavy rainfall on June 1 over Assam & Meghalaya. Heavy to very heavy rainfall is very likely to occur at isolated places with isolated extremely heavy falls on May 30 & heavy rainfall is very likely to occur at isolated places on May 31 over Nagaland, Manipur & Tripura. Strong surface wind with wind speed reaching 45-55 kmph gusting to 65 kmph over Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura on May 30.

Temperatures :

	Max ('C)	Min ('C)
Dibrugarh	34.6	25.8
Tinsukia	34.6	25.8
Silchar	35.9	25.8
Dibrugarh	33.1	26.6
Jorhat	31.3	24.9
N Lakhimpur	33.0	23.5
Shillong	25.1	15.3
Imphal	25.5	20.8
Itanagar	33.2	23.6
Aizawl	26.5	11.3
Agartala	35.0	26.3
Kohima	26.7	17.2
Patna	31.9	22.2
Cherrapunji	27.5	17.7

Khandu strongly endorses NEC empowerment

CORRESPONDENT

ITANAGAR, May 29: Arunachal Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Monday strongly endorsed empowerment of the regional plan body North Eastern Council (NEC) to serve as an effective vehicle for transferring resources and capacities to NE States. He reasoned that the Council was created with the sole objective to decentralise regional planning and investments.

Speaking at the 66th plenary meeting of NEC in New Delhi, Khandu said, "The very purpose of creating NEC was to encourage decentralised regional planning and investments. A departure from this approach may be counter-productive to development," he observed.

He also suggested NEC to help create a venture capital

fund in partnership with public sector banks and other financial institutions to provide access to low cost finance for educated unemployed youths.

Khandu opined that NEC must play a crucial role in creating institutions to help in aggregation of agricultural products, marketing and processing. He hoped that the Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research, Shillong will come up with practical solutions for developing the horticultural value chain for the region.

Calling for a new paradigm shift in economic development of NE, Khandu proposed to host a two-day Regional Conference in November this year in partnership with NITI Ayog, DoNER Ministry and

NEC along with leading academic institutions and active participation of all CMs of NE States to outline a new vision for development of the region.

While pointing out that Arunachal Pradesh with hydro-power potential of over 57,000 MW but rarely been able to build less than 500 MW, the Chief Minister requested the DoNER Ministry to consider infusing a block grant for some projects which are part of the list of eight double projects.

He also expressed optimism that with support of Assam Government the issue of stalled 2,000 MW Subansiri Lower Hydro Electric Project would be resolved, which he said will be a landmark in the hydropower journey of India.



Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Shillong addressing an insurance customers' awareness meet in Shillong on Monday - UB Photo

Nagas will not accept ban on cow slaughter'

CORRESPONDENT

leading the tide slowly.

Asking the Nagas to wake up and collectively voice out before it is too late to stop the tide of BJP-led communal forces, the Congress in the State also asked the NPP Government "which has been the comfort party of the BJP for the past 15 years" to outrightly reject nationwide ban on sale of cow/cattle for slaughter.

Congress also stated that a prominent RSS leader went on record to say that the Northeast people should give up eating beef. "This is a direct diktat on our food habits. Our forefathers who formed the Naga Club and who had submitted the Memorandum to Simon Commission in 1929 had the foresight to see what is happening today," it added.

Total funds allocated to NEC during the last five years (2012-2017) was merely Rs 3,742 crore. In spite of this, a draft regional plan that envisages an investment of Rs 7,500 crore over a period of

three years is now placed before the Council."

"It shouldn't be difficult for the Central Government to provide the required funds since over Rs 15,000 crore has already been accumulated under Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPoR). However, at the current level of fund allocation, we should earnestly reflect his full vision to manage people's expectation," he said.

"I am confident that we can draw up viable ideas to fulfill the vision and wishes of Prime Minister, and also work out a fresh roadmap to effectively accomplish the objectives behind setting up the North Eastern Council. People of North Eastern Region have very high expectations from the Prime Minister, we should earnestly reflect his full vision to manage people's expectation," he said.

Ri-Bhoi administration holds meeting to diffuse tension

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

SHILLONG, May 29: Ri-Bhoi district administration in Meghalaya held a meet with members of the civil society, village headsmen, NGOs and Nongpoh Member of District Council, Rona Khymdait, in order to maintain peace in the district.

All those present in the meeting today expressed their desire to bring normalcy in the district by extending assistance to the district administration, especially in view of the 25th anniversary celebration of the district," Ghotmare said over phone from Nongpoh, the district headquarters of Ri-Bhoi.

The meeting was chaired by Ri-Bhoi Deputy Commissioner CP Ghotmare this evening in which senior officials including Superintendent of Police, Ram Singh and Additional District Magistrate were present.

The meeting was held after a spate of violent incidents reported in the district on Saturday and subsequent Jathicharge by the district police to control the situation. The dis-

trict administration has imposed section 144 CRPC in the entire district.

"All those present in the meeting today expressed their desire to bring normalcy in the district by extending assistance to the district administration, especially in view of the 25th anniversary celebration of the district," Ghotmare said over phone from Nongpoh, the district headquarters of Ri-Bhoi.

The anniversary would be held from June 5. In the week long celebrations, a number of programmes are lined up commencing with a rally in aid of World Environment Day on June 5. Moreover, traditional dances, folks songs, talent show, archery, Quiz, debate competition, traditional sports, Sthalathics meet, kids show, music con-

tent and various other programmes would be organised by the district administration through the week.

However, Ghotmare turned down a request from the representative to repeat section 144.

"The repeat of the section would be considered after assessing the situation in the coming days," he added.

In the meantime, security has been beefed up in the district, especially on the National Highway. Additional police force has been deployed at the site of the proposed railway construction.

"The highway is safe, although there were some stray cases of arson reported on the highway like burning of tire, but we have put adequate fortifications to provide security," Ghotmare added.

The apex court had on May 22 sought response from the Centre and the State on the plea of parents of youth who also alleged that they are being threatened and family members are being allegedly implicated in cases. - PTI

residing in Delhi.

Advocate Kamini Jaiswal, appearing for Ironchira Devi, mother of the victim Iron Roger, said they have left.

Road rage |

Manipur out of fear and are currently residing in Delhi. Therefore, security by Central forces needs to be provided.

ASG Maninder Singh said that they have to evaluate the

threat perception to the family and only then the security cover can be provided.

The counsel appearing for Manipur Government said the family has not applied for any security cover but they do not have any problem and can provide protection to them. The bench then asked the ASC to seek instructions and consider granting security cover to the family.

A vacation bench of Justices AK Sikri and Deepak Gupta asked Additional Solicitor General Maninder Singh to seek instructions about providing security by Central forces to the parents as they are now

residing in Delhi.

Advocate Kamini Jaiswal, appearing for Ironchira Devi, mother of the victim Iron Roger, said they have left.

The apex court had on May 22 sought response from the Centre and the State on the plea of parents of youth who also alleged that they are being threatened and family members are being allegedly implicated in cases. - PTI

Mizoram Govt issues cyclone warning

AIZAWL, May 29:

Mizoram Government today issued a warning that cyclone 'Mora' accompanied by thunderstorm and very heavy rainfall might lash the State on May 30 and 31.

Mizoram Disaster

Management Authority and

Disaster Management and

Rehabilitation department

received a warning that the cyclone called 'Mora' will hit several States in the country

and was most likely to lash

Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur

and Tripura on Tuesday and

Wednesday, an official statement said.

The statement advised the

people to take precaution and

other preventive measures as the cyclone could trigger massive landslides and flash

floods in the State. - PTI

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Revision of rates left to GST Council's discretion: CBEC chief

BENGALURU, May 29: The decision on revising the tax rates fixed on various goods and services has been left to the discretion of the GST Council, Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) Chairperson Vanaja Sarna said today.

"We have been getting representations from various industries and businesses to revise rates. So, whether any of the items will be opened for revision or not, it is something the Council will take a call on that. It is meeting on June 3," she said.

Various industries and businesses, including traders, FMCG and automo-

tive companies had been petitioning the Central Government for revising rates, she told reporters on the sidelines of the inauguration of a new campus of the National Academy of Customs, Indirect Taxes and Narcotics here.

Sarna also said that the Council could revise rates if there is any justification for reconsideration.

"All these issues can be taken up later. It is not as though it is sealed. If there is any justification for reconsideration, I am sure the Council will take it up," she said.

Sarna, however, said the July 1 dead-

line for rolling out GST could make it difficult for the Council to reconsider tax rates.

"At this stage, it will be very difficult to say if the Council will actually reopen (revisit) any of the rates because of the time factor involved in bringing out the GST. So it is a call that the Council will have to take," she said.

"One must remember, if you open up any of these, then there will be no stop to revisionary demands," Sarna added.

To a query, Sarna said though the anti-prrofiteering provision has not been

set up to curb industry taking undue advantage to create arbitrage before GST rollout on July 1, the government would have the rights to question it against hiking prices arbitrarily.

The anti-prrofiteering agency is yet to be set up, but we will all have the rights to question the industry against hiking prices arbitrarily," she said.

The anti-prrofiteering provision was included in CGST law to ensure a commensurate reduction in prices for consumers if there is a lowering of tax rate for goods and services, Sarna said. — PTI

CAPSULE

ICAI help desks

NEW DELHI, May 29: Chaired accountants' apex body ICAI has set up desks to help small businessmen and traders on goods and services tax (GST), which is set to be rolled out from July 1. ICAI GST Sahayata Desks have been made operational at all major cities to facilitate small business men, traders, shopkeepers and public at large. — PTI

Larsen & Toubro

NEW DELHI, May 29: Engineering and construction conglomerate Larsen & Toubro (L&T) today reported a consolidated net profit jump in consolidated net profit to Re 3,025 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 31, 2017. The company had clocked a consolidated net profit of Rs 2,335 crore in the corresponding quarter of previous fiscal. — PTI

Panasonic target

NEW DELHI, May 29: Consumer electronics major Panasonic is aiming to have 10 per cent market share in the TV panel segment by the end of this year. The company, which today started its high-resolution X-TV line-up by adding EX 750 Series and EX 600 Series, is also aiming to have similar 10 per cent share in this segment. — PTI

Kwality net up

NEW DELHI, May 29: Dairy firm Kwality Ltd today reported an 18 per cent increase in consolidated net profit at Rs 194.1 crore for the last fiscal. Its net profit stood at Rs 164.4 crore in the previous fiscal, the company said in a statement. Net sales rose by 8 per cent to Rs 6,871.2 crore during the 2016-17 fiscal from Rs 6,348 crore in the previous year. — PTI

Coal India

KOLKATA/NEW DELHI, May 29: State-owned Coal India Ltd today reported a 38 per cent consolidated net profit at Rs 2,716 crore for the quarter ended on March 31, 2017, due to higher expenses. Coal India had posted a consolidated net profit of Rs 4,398 crore in the corresponding quarter of previous fiscal. — PTI

Bajaj Electricals

NEW DELHI, May 29: Bajaj Electricals today reported a 9.02 per cent increase in standalone net profit at Rs 38.42 crore for the March quarter of last fiscal. It had registered a net profit of Rs 34.24 crore in the January-March period of the previous fiscal 2016-16, the company said in a BSE filing. — PTI

NTPC net down

NEW DELHI, May 29: State-run power giant NTPC's standalone net profit declined by 25.54 per cent to Rs 2079.40 crore for the quarter ended March 31, 2017 on impairment of investment in Ratnagiri Power plant known as Dabhol project. — PTI

Greenply Industries

NEW DELHI, May 29: Plywood maker Greenply Industries' standalone net profit remained almost flat at Rs 41.86 crore for the March quarter ended March 31. The company had posted a net profit of Rs 41.66 crore during the same period previous fiscal. Greenply Industries said in a BSE filing. — PTI



Sumeer Chandra, MD, HP Inc, India, Prakash Kumar, CEO, GSTN, SN Tripathi, Additional Secretary, Ministry of MSME, and Arun Kumar, Chairman and CEO, KPMG, introducing 'GST Solution' for traders and MSMEs, during a press conference, in New Delhi on Monday. — UNI

Resolving NPAs

No plan to create bad bank: Panagariya

NEW DELHI, May 29: The government does not have any immediate plans to create a bad bank to resolve the bad loans issue, NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Arvind Panagariya said today.

"Immediately, I don't see any plans to create a bad bank. In the three-year agenda, we suggested that let us do it through private sector asset reconstruction companies (ARCs) instead of bad bank," Panagariya told BTVi in an interview.

"In the government, a new

institution takes quite a while and we could have easily lost another year before any action could be taken. If you bring the bad bank as a public sector entity, then you first need to establish a public sector entity that could easily take a year," he said.

Referring to the NPA ordinance which empowers Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to direct banks to initiate insolvency process against any defaulter, he said that it has opened the doors to genuine resolution of this problem.

"Not that they will be resolved, but at least they will be taken out of the books of banks," he added.

Hinting that the government needs to increase the amount for bank recapitalisation beyond Rs 70,000 crore

"Each of these non-performing assets will now be put on a path to resolution. There is no other way to resolve the problem," Panagariya said.

He said that the first set of 45-50 bad assets are likely to be taken up for resolution in the next six months.

"Not that they will be resolved, but at least they will be taken out of the books of banks too," he added.

Hinting that the government needs to increase the amount for bank recapitalisation beyond Rs 70,000 crore

allocated for four years, he said: "We do a three-year fiscal framework for the country, which is a bit more ambitious than the Rs 70,000 crore currently allocated. Fiscally, it is feasible to move up that figure a bit."

Panagariya said that eventually lot of recapitalisation needs to happen, but the banks too need to take value initiatives.

"The sequencing needs to be right. We need the banks to come to the table first. It will make banks compliant otherwise," he said. — IANS

India's growth to slow down to 6.8% in 2016-17: WB

NEW DELHI, May 29: A modest slowdown is expected in India's growth with the GDP expected to fall to 6.8 per cent in 2016-17 as a result of temporary disruption caused by the government's demonetisation initiative, the World Bank said today.

"India's economy was slowing down in early 2016-17, until the favourable monsoon started lifting the economy, but the recovery was temporarily disrupted by the government's demonetisation initiative," it said. — IANS

Moderest slowdown is expected in India's growth with the GDP expected to fall to 6.8 per cent in 2016-17 as a result of temporary disruption caused by the government's demonetisation initiative, the World Bank said today.

"India's economy was slowing down in early 2016-17, until the favourable monsoon started lifting the economy, but the recovery was temporarily disrupted by the government's demonetisation initiative," it said. — IANS

As a result, a modest slowdown is expected to recover to around 4.5 per cent during 2017-2018, driven by a pick-up in the housing and infrastructure segments - mostly road and irrigation," said Sabysachi Majumdar, Senior Vice-President and Group Head, ICRA Ratings.

Cement demand, which was negatively impacted following the demonetisation exercise, rebounded in March, the agency in a report.

"ICRA expects cement demand growth to recover to

around 4.5 per cent during the current fiscal year, driven by a pick-up in the housing and infrastructure segments - mostly road and irrigation," said Sabysachi Majumdar, Senior Vice-President and Group Head, ICRA Ratings.

"While in the short term, demonetisation has negatively impacted real estate and construction activities, and the cement off-take, the situation is likely to normalise from first quarter of this fiscal," he explained. — IANS

ing in creating a new category within the real space.

Amol Shimpi, Associate Dean and Director, School of Real Estate, RICS School of Built Environment, Amity University, told IANS. "However, it must be noted that the business of affordable housing can prove tricky for the players if enough caution is not exercised.

For example, bringing down the construction cost without compromising on quality may be easier said than done."

While the segment is on a growth curve, the goal of providing affordable housing to all will be achieved by bridging the gap that currently exists between access to capital and execution capability.

The other aspect of affordable housing will be the increasing use of newer material for building houses and construction techniques which might revolutionise the sector. — IANS

LIC Housing Finance said it has identified affordable housing as the focus area for the current year and has devised strategies and action plans for greater

Affordable housing new focus of housing finance firms: Industry

NEW DELHI, May 29: With a slew of reforms and push from the government, affordable housing - so far the poor second-cousin of real estate - is emerging as the preferred segment for housing finance institutions and developers alike, say industry stakeholders and experts.

"Affordable housing is now attracting the interest of more developers who had previously shunned it because of its down-market image. Today, it has become a respectable segment and with the government's determined push...it now plays a very important role in the housing finance sector," Anuj Puri, Residential Chairman of property consulting firm Jones Lang LaSalle, told IANS.

LIC Housing Finance said it has identified affordable housing as the focus area for the current year and has devised strategies and action plans for greater

emphasis on the sector.

Shrikara Vaddadi, CEO and Founder of online peer-to-peer lending platform 1-lend, told IANS, "With quick turnaround times, this sector is ripe for a new breed of housing finance companies to enter with much lower thresholds and quicker model of operation."

According to a report by domestic ratings agency CRISIL, affordable homes are altering mortgage market dynamics. It estimates that the segment was worth around Rs 1.6 lakh crore as on March 31, 2017 - accounting for over 25 per cent of all housing loans.

Affordable housing has the potential to be clean and quick, leading to lower operational and marketing costs and help-

ASCI launches review process

MUMBAI, May 29: To protect consumer interests, the Advertising Standards and Council of India (ASC) today said it has introduced an "independent review process" for complaints.

According to the advertising self-regulatory organisation, the procedure facilitates an independent mechanism to review the recommendations made by Consumer

Complaints Council (CCC) if either the advertiser or the complainant is dissatisfied with such recommendations.

Justice Mukul Mudgal, retired Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court, has been appointed as the Chairman for all independent review process cases.

Besides, CBS Venkateswaran, IAS (retd) has been appointed as the Chief Complaints Officer (CCO), who will play a vital role in driving efficient complaints addressing and 360 degree stakeholder interactions. — IANS

NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION ASSAM				
SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER (SNIT)				
The Office of the Mission Director, National Health Mission, Christian Basti, Guwahati-5 invites Bid in single bid system (in F2 form) for the works under NHM as mentioned below.				
Name of work	Value of work (in Rs.)	Bid Security (in Rs.)	Cost of Bid Document (in Rs.)	Period of Completion (from the date of issue of work order)
Rectification of electrical works at SNCU Diphu in Karbi Anglong District as per report of Power Audit Report	1,04,156.00	5208.00	200.00	1(One) Month

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:				
a. Registered APVID, (Bidding/Electrical) Class I(A),(B)(C) & Class II / APDCL/ Contractors having valid electrical license.				
b. The contractors having at least one similar nature of completed work value not less than 80% of the proposed cost during last 2 years.				
c. The contractor having PAN Card/VAT Registration/Labour License registration under EPF and MP Act, 1952 etc are eligible to participate in the bid process.				
d. The intended bidders are asked to verify the site for the work prior to quoting their rates.				
e. The intending bidders or their authorized representatives are to be present at the time of opening of Bids. Otherwise the bidders will be open in their absence and no claim will be entertained in future.				
f. Cost of tender document should be drawn in favour of State Health Society, Assam, payable at Guwahati in favour of State Health Society, Assam.				
g. Date of receipt of application along with cost of tender document and copies of documents as per eligibility criteria mentioned in Sl.(a), (b), (c) to issue Bid Document 15th June 2017 during working hours.				
h. Date of issuance of Bid Document 16-06-2017 upto 17:00 hrs.				
i. Date of submission of bid documents 16-06-2017 upto 14:00 hrs.				
j. The bids will be opened at 15:30 hrs of the same day as mentioned above.				
k. In case if any Bandhi/Holiday falls in any sequence, the sequence will be held in the next working day.				
l. Interested Bidder may contact the Office of the Mission Director for any details of the project/ Bid during working hours.				

Sd/-
Mission Director, NHM, Assam

NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION ASSAM				
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)				
The Office of the Mission Director, National Health Mission, Christian Basti, Guwahati-5 invites bid for the works on Turn Key Basis and ON TWO BIDS SYSTEM under NHMs detailed below:				
Location	Value of work (in Rs.)	Bid Security (in Rs.)	Cost of Bid Document (in Rs.)	Period of Completion (from the date of issue of work order)
Construction of 10 (Ten) Bedded Geriatric Unit at R.N.B Civil Hospital in Kokrajhar District under NHM Assam	Rs.35,00,00,000.00	Rs.1,75,000.00	Rs.5,000.00	6(Six) Months

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:-				
(a) Registered Firm (B) Class I(A)-(B)(C)/CPWD/Reputed Construction Company/ Agency registered under Govt of India Public Sector underwriting				
(b) Contractor must have satisfactorily completed one similar nature of works value not less than 80% of the proposed project cost, all amounts rounded off to a convenient full figure, in the last 5 years ending on the last day of the month previous to the one in which the tenders are invited.				
(c) Contractor must have achieved Annual Turnover of at least Rs.56.00 Lakh in any One year during last 5 years.				
(d) The Contractor having PAN Card/VAT Registration/Labour License/ registration under EPF & MP Act, 1952 are eligible to participate in the bid process.				
(e) If the amounts quoted in the bid amounts are equal, preference for allotment of the project will be given to the bidder who has completed Hospital Building projects on earlier occasion.				
f. The intended bidders are asked to verify the site for the work prior to quoting their rates.				
g. Cost of tender document should be drawn in favour of State Health Society, Assam, payable at Guwahati in the form of Pay Order/Demand Draft.				
h. Bid security with a validity of 225 (i.e. 180+45) days should be in the form of FDR/CDR/TDR and drawn in favour of the State Health Society, Assam, payable at Guwahati.				
i. The Contractors having PAN Card/VAT Registration/Labour License/ registration under EPF & MP Act, 1952 are eligible to participate in the bid process.				
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qq. The Contractor having PAN Card/VAT Registration/Labour License/ registration under EPF & MP Act, 1952 are eligible to participate in the bid process.				



Sugar: Fuelling cancer?

Sugary diet may fuel various forms of cancer, says a study

Love to eat a sugar-rich diet? Beware, it may fuel various forms of cancer by giving them the much-needed energy to multiply, researchers say.

The researchers found that one type of cancer called as squamous cell carcinoma (SqCC) – found in lung, head and neck, esophageal and cervical – is heavily dependent on sugar.

"It has been suspected that many cancer cells are heavily dependent on sugar as their energy supply, but it turns out that one specific type – squamous cell carcinoma – is remarkably more dependent," said Jung-wan Kim, assistant professor at the University of Texas.

Further, SqCC was also found to have highly active levels of a protein called glucose transporter 1, or GLUT1, responsible for transporting glucose into cells where the sugar provides a fundamental energy source and fuels cell metabolism.

"As a culture, we are very addicted to sugar.

Excessive sugar consumption is not only a problem that can lead to complications like diabetes, but also the evidence is mounting that some cancers are also highly dependent on sugar," Kim said.

For the study, published in the journal *Nature Communications*, the team investigated differences in metabolism between two major subtypes of non-small cell lung cancer – adenocarcinoma (ADC) and SqCC.

The researchers investigated the effect of a GLUT1 inhibitor in human lung tissue, isolated lung cancer cells and mice with both types of non-small cell lung cancer.

When GLUT1 inhibitors were given to mice with lung cancer, the squamous cancer diminished, but not the adenocarcinoma.

"There was not a complete eradication, but tumor growth slowed," Kim said.

"Overall, our findings indicate that GLUT1 could be a potential target for new lines of drug therapy, especially for SqCC," he suggested. – IANS

Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, May 30, 2017:
This year you could be unusually outspoken. Communication proves to be fortunate for you. You often need to act on events quickly if you want to succeed. You might lose your temper at times, which will cause others to want to stay away from you. Be aware that not everyone can tolerate or handle your fiery temper. If you are attached, the two of you will discover the importance of showing each other more sensitivity. Your sweetie easily could be provoked by your anger. Leo loves to kiss and make up.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
A loved one has a unique way of looking at problems and seems to point you in the right direction. Confusion could occur if you overthink this person's suggestion. Are you ready to trust this individual? Other find it to be unpredictable. Tonight: Make the most of the moment.

Taurus (April 20-May 18)
★★★ Detach and head in a new direction. You also might decide to spend some time with a friend whom you rarely get to see. You'll be able to sort through a problem with this person, as he or she knows you well. Let others take the lead. Tonight: Help your friends to let go of their pride.

GEMINI (May 19-June 20)
★★★ You are all smiles, no matter how others seem to be acting. You are unlikely to let someone else's mood get to you. Stay on top of what needs to be accomplished. As a result, you will be able to clear the air while paying attention. Tonight: Hang out at home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Be aware of what you are thinking before you start speaking. You often come up with ideas that seem off the beaten path. Present some of them to a trusted friend. You will find that others believe in your ideas and value and respect them. Tonight: Do some shopping on the way home.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You are in a situation where too many people want to check in with you. You might be slightly overwhelmed by having to make sure everyone gets what they need. Take the time to determine which option will work best for you. Friends usually give their advice! Tonight: Be spontaneous.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ A lot seems to be going on behind the scenes. You might want to find out more about what is happening. If you later learn you're right, you'll get a clue about what is going on. Consider using the quietness of the moment to get a projected moment. Tonight: Use your instincts first.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ You need to be patient. You might need to be patient with what you hear, nor should you be. This person is not representing his or her interests clearly. However, it is important to note that he or she might not be aware of this fact. Tonight: Choose a favorite stress-buster.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Listen to your inner shrew. You might not be in agreement with what you hear, nor should you be. This person is not representing his or her interests clearly. However, it is important to note that he or she might not be aware of this fact. Tonight: Choose a favorite stress-buster.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You come from is helpful, but even more helpful will be grasping the foundations of others' views. Recognize that everyone comes from a different background and perspective. Tonight: Respond to your emails first.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Listen to your inner shrew. You might not be in agreement with what you hear, nor should you be. This person is not representing his or her interests clearly. However, it is important to note that he or she might not be aware of this fact. Tonight: Choose a favorite stress-buster.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You might words could shock someone when you express your perspective. The unexpected could occur at any moment. Your creativity fills in the gaps of information. Tonight: Add more fun to your life.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)
★★★ Focus on what you want. You could be too tired for your own good and might need to lighten up your workload, at least for day or two. A situation involving your personal life seems to become more and more confusing. If need be, ask questions. Tonight: Make it easy.

Thougt for the day

There's nothing in the world so demoralizing as money.

- SOPHOCLES

Kids

CN	
13:00	Bolt No. 21
14:00	Bolt 10 Omaverse
14:30	Roll Royce 21
15:00	Love & War
16:00	We Bare Bears
17:00	Teen Titans Go
17:30	Lando
18:00	Teen Titans Go No. 21
21:00	Teen Titans Go
21:30	Ben 10
22:00	Ben 10
22:30	Dragon Ball Z
23:00	Dragon Ball Z

Wiggly	
13:00	The Tom And Jerry Show
13:30	Chhota Bheem
14:00	Mighty Raju
14:30	Chhota Bheem
15:00	Dholakpur Ki Sagnik
15:30	Malin Moon Super Bheem
16:00	Naamzara
16:30	Yeh Rishta Kehla Hai
17:00	Karmala Daata Shani
17:30	Jaana De Do Doe
18:00	Men Dunga
18:30	Saburi Bi E Ladki
19:00	Teen Main Hain Amala Ka
19:30	Utkarsh
20:00	Pardes Mein Hain Meri Dili
20:30	Naamzara
21:00	Yeh Rishta Kehla Hai
21:30	Dil Boley Oberoi
22:00	Kya Kusoor Amala Ka?
22:30	Dhriti-Ki Pham

colors	
13:00	Shakti
14:00	Ek Asha Aise Bhee
14:30	Ek Shringar
15:00	Yeh Rishta Kehla Hai
15:30	Naamzara
16:00	Men Dunga
16:30	Saburi Bi E Ladki
17:00	Teen Main Hain Amala Ka
17:30	Utkarsh
18:00	Teen Main Hain Amala Ka?
18:30	Pardes Mein Hain Meri Dili
19:00	Naamzara
19:30	Yeh Rishta Kehla Hai
20:00	Dil Boley Oberoi
20:30	Kya Kusoor Amala Ka?
21:00	Utkarsh
21:30	Karmala Daata Shani
22:00	Jaana De Do Doe
22:30	Men Dunga
23:00	Ek Shringar - Swachhmane

Entertainment	
19:00	Devonish
20:00	Basural Smar Ka
20:30	Utkarsh
21:00	Naamzara
21:30	Yeh Rishta Kehla Hai
22:00	Men Dunga
22:30	Saburi Bi E Ladki
23:00	Teen Main Hain Amala Ka?
23:30	Utkarsh

Zcafe	
14:00	Star Zone
15:00	Castillo
16:00	Shakti
17:00	Naamzara
18:00	Men Dunga
19:00	Ek Shringar - Swachhmane
20:00	Pardes Mein Hain Meri Dili
20:30	Naamzara
21:00	Yeh Rishta Kehla Hai
21:30	Men Dunga
22:00	Ek Shringar - Swachhmane
22:30	Naamzara
23:00	Yeh Rishta Kehla Hai

Regional	
07:00	Breakfast 19
08:00	Fast News
09:00	Good morning Assam
10:00	Good morning India
11:00	Kanta Barla (R)
12:00	Mid Day Live
13:00	Storage Wars
13:30	Storage Wars
14:00	Storage Wars
15:00	Storage Wars
16:00	Storage Wars
17:00	Storage Wars
18:00	Storage Wars
19:00	Storage Wars
20:00	Storage Wars
21:00	Storage Wars
22:00	Storage Wars
23:00	Storage Wars

Sports	
07:00	Breakfast 19
08:00	Fast News
09:00	Good morning Assam
10:00	Good morning India
11:00	Kanta Barla (R)
12:00	Mid Day Live
13:00	Storage Wars
13:30	Storage Wars
14:00	Storage Wars
15:00	Storage Wars
16:00	Storage Wars
17:00	Storage Wars
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20:00	Storage Wars
21:00	Storage Wars
22:00	Storage Wars
23:00	Storage Wars

TEN1	
14:00	Serie A TM2016/17
15:00	ICC T20 World Cup
16:00	WWE Raw
17:00	UEFA Europa League
18:00	NBA Conference Final H1s
19:00	Moto GP 2017 H1s
20:00	WWE Raw
21:00	TNA One Night Only

NEO	
14:00	FC Bayern Munich Show
15:00	Global Champions Tour
16:00	Extreme Sailing Series
17:00	WWE Raw
18:00	WWE Raw
19:00	WWE Raw
20:00	WWE Raw
21:00	WWE Raw

SOPHY	
14:00	UFC Unleashed
15:00	The Ultimate FA Cup
17:00	Superstars Championship
18:00	UFC Unleashed
19:00	UFC Unleashed
20:00	UFC Unleashed
21:00	UFC Unleashed
22:00	UFC Unleashed
23:00	UFC Unleashed

JOLLY LLB	
14:30	Jolly LLB
15:00	Rambo: Last Blood
16:00	Star Gold
17:00	Jolly LLB
18:00	Star Gold
19:00	Jolly LLB
20:00	Star Gold
21:00	Jolly LLB

STAR GOLD	
13:30	Mumbai Ki Kan Bedi
14:00	Ista Kaun Kanga
15:00	Shrawan
16:00	Detonator Ka
17:00	PG Tour 2017 H1s
18:00	Dutch League 2017
19:00	PG Tour 2017 H1s
20:00	Dutch League 2017
21:00	PG Tour 2017 H1s
22:00	Dutch League 2017
23:00	PG Tour 2017 H1s

SOPHIE	
14:00	Detonator Ka
15:00	PG Tour 2017 H1s
16:00	Dutch League 2017
17:00	PG Tour 2017 H1s
18:00	Dutch League 2017
19:00	PG Tour 2017 H1s
20:00	Dutch League 2017
21:00	PG Tour 2017 H1s
22:00	Dutch League 2017
23:00	PG Tour 2017 H1s

SOLUTION	
1	Flute (4)
2	Head
3	ointment (5)
4	Men (4)
5	Universal
6	remedy (6)
7	Canine-related (6)
8	Cry of delight (3)
9	Forbidden (5)
10	Plant (7)
11	Natural power source (3)
12	Baby blossom (3)
13	Rural (6)
14	Anointed (5)
15	Having a high temperature (3)
16	First of ___ International Labour's Day? (3)
17	Believable (6)
18	Exclamation (3)
19	Spacious ? (5)
20	Multimedia device (2-3)
21	In abeyance (5)
22	Plunge into water; headfirst; to submerge (4)
23	Openly on a subject (4)
24	Detonator (5)
25	Creates our reality - Wayne Dyer (9)

JUMBLE WORDS	

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French President Emmanuel Macron shakes hands with Russian President Vladimir Putin (L) at the Chateau de Versailles as they meet for talks before the opening of an exhibition marking 300 years of diplomatic ties between the two countries in Versailles, France on Monday. – UNI

Gunmen kill district Governor, son in eastern Afghanistan

KABUL, May 29: Gunmen have killed a district Governor and his son in Afghanistan's east-central Paktika province.

Abdul Raouf Massoud, a provincial police official, said the attack took place yesterday in the district of Shahkili Abad when Ajmal Khan was fired in on front of his house and both he and his son were killed.

Police said it was not clear who was behind the attack and no one immediately claimed responsibility.

Paktika is a remote province near the border with Pakistan where insurgent groups including the Taliban are active. – AP

Eight people fatally shot after Mississippi family quarrel

WASHINGTON, May 29: A gunman on a rampage during a domestic dispute in rural Mississippi fatally shot eight people, including a sheriff's deputy. US news reports said on Sunday.

The shootings took place Saturday in two small hamlets, Brookhaven and Bogie Chitto, both about 60 miles (100 kilometers) from the city of Jackson. Although details were still murky, the gunman – Willie Cory Godbolt, 35 – told *The Clarion-Ledger* newspaper after his arrest today that he had gone to a home in Bogie Chitto to talk about getting custody of his children.

After the conflict escalated, neighbors called police, and Godbolt shot the arriving deputy. "My gun wasn't designed for him. He was just there," Godbolt said of the officer.

"We was talking about me trying to take the children home," he told the newspaper while sitting on the ground at one of the shooting scenes, arms folded behind his back.

"Somebody called the officer," he added. "It cost him his life. I'm sorry." Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant issued a statement Sunday calling the shootings a "tragedy" and hailing law enforcement officers who "sacrifice to protect and serve their communities." – AFP

Greek ex-PM Mitsotakis dies aged 98



ATHENS, May 29: Former Greek Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis, an early proponent of austerity cuts that Greece eventually had to adopt during the economic crisis, died today aged 98, his family said.

A patriarch of one of Greece's most influential political families, Mitsotakis quit politics in 2004, aged 85, after serving as the country's longest-serving parliamentarian.

"He died at 0100 surrounded by the people whom he loved and who loved him," a family statement said. It did not indicate the cause of death.

The conservative politician was prime minister from 1990 to 1993 and served without interruption as an MP from 1946 on the ticket of several different parties, except for a ten-year break during and immediately after Greece's 1967-1974 military junta.

He was head of the conservative New Democracy party from 1984 to 1993 – which is today run by his son Kyriakos – and had epic battles with Andreas Papandreou, head of the socialist party Pasok.

One of Greece's few openly pro-US politicians at the time, Mitsotakis cultivated close ties with the family of former president George H.W. Bush and frequently hosted them at his home in Crete. – AFP

North Korea fires missile in latest provocation

SEOUL, May 29: North Korea test-fired a missile today into Japan's territorial waters – the latest in a series of provocative launches that have heightened tensions over its nuclear weapons ambitions.

It was the North's third ballistic missile test in as many weeks and the 12th this year – carried out in defiance of UN sanctions warnings and US threats of possible military action.

US military monitors said the short-range missile flew for six minutes, while Japan said it fell into its exclusive economic zone, extending 200 nautical miles from the coast.

The launch went ahead despite tough talk from US President Donald Trump, who promised last week at the G7 summit that the "big problem" of North Korea "will be solved."

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe swiftly condemned the test and vowed concerted action with its US ally.

"We will never tolerate North Korea's continued provocations that ignore repeated warnings by the international community," Abe told reporters.

"As agreed during the G7 summit, the North Korean problem is the international community's top priority. In order to deter North Korea, we will take concrete action with the United States."

The North has been stepping up efforts towards its ultimate goal – developing an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) that can deliver a nuclear warhead to the continental US.

Monday's test also marked the second time this year that a North Korean missile flew provocatively close to its neighbour Japan. South Korea's military said the Scud-type missile travelled for 450 km.

Despite Trump's strident warnings, Secretary of Defense James Mattis said in an interview which aired Sunday before the launch that a war with North Korea would be "catastrophic." – AFP



An aerial view shows a dam of the Krasnoyarsk hydro electric power station, located on the Yenisei river, outside Krasnoyarsk, Russia, on Monday. – UNI

Why pugs, bulldogs have flat faces decoded!



LONDON, May 29: Scientists have identified the genetic mutation that identifies dogs such as pugs and bulldogs to have flat snouts, a finding that may help understand causes of birth defects that affect head development in human babies.

The research reveals new insights into the genes that underpin skull formation in people and animals.

Researchers at the University of Edinburgh in the UK analysed DNA samples from 374 pet dogs of various pedigree and mixed

breeds. All of the animals underwent body scans producing detailed 3D images of their heads. These high-resolution CT scans enabled the researchers to take precise measurements of the shape of the dog's skull.

"Our results shed light on the molecular nature of this type of skull form that is so common and popular among dogs," said Jeffrey Schoenebeck, from the University of Edinburgh. By comparing the dogs' genetic information with measurements of the skulls, the team were able to pinpoint DNA variations that are associated with different head shapes.

One variation – found to disrupt the activity of a gene called SMOC2 – was strongly linked to the length of the dog's face. Animals with the mutation had significantly flatter faces, a condition called brachycephaly. Babies are sometimes born with brachycephaly too, though little is known about its causes.

The study was published in the journal Current Biology. – PTI



Swedish art world satire *The Square* wins Palme d'Or

CANNES, May 29: Ruben Ostlund's darkly comic *The Square*, a satire on the contemporary art world and what it reveals about modern society, took home the Palme d'Or as the Cannes Film Festival rounded off its highlights-studded 70th edition on Sunday night.

The Square is the first Swedish film to win the coveted prize in 66 years. Ostlund, whose breakout feature, *Force Majeure*, garnered the Un Certain Regard Jury Prize here in 2014, is only the second Swedish director after Alf Sjöberg to win the Palme d'Or.

Sjöberg won in 1951 for a screen adaptation of the August Strindberg play *Miss Julie*.

The 2017 Palme d'Or was announced

by Spanish filmmaker and jury president Almodóvar and presented to Ostlund, a Cannes Competition first-timer; by French actress Juliette Binoche at a glittering closing ceremony in the festival's main screening venue Grand Theatre Lumière.

Three Hollywood actors – Nicole Kidman, Diane Kruger and Joaquin Phoenix – won accolades on the closing night of the world's biggest film festival.

The Grand Prix, the prize for the second best film in a 19-film Competition lineup, went to French director Robin Campillo's *120 Battements Par*

Minute (BPM – Beats Per Minute), a perceptive and affecting drama about Parisian AIDS activists of the early 1990s.

The Moroccan-born Campillo was co-screenwriter of the 2008 Palme d'Or winner *The Class*, directed by Laurent Cantet.

Sofia Coppola bagged the Best Director Prize for *The Beguiled*, a feminist retelling of the 1971 Clint Eastwood starrer about a wounded Union soldier forced to take refuge in an all-girls seminary in Virginia during the Civil War.

One of the front-

runners in the Palme d'Or race, Andrei Zvyagintsev's *Nelyubov* (Loveless), an unflinchingly acidic portrait of urban Russia hinging on an estranged couple and their missing son, had to settle for a Jury Prize.

This was in a way a repeat of the fate that Zvyagintsev's *Leviathan* met in 2014, when it lost out to Nuri Bilge Ceylan's *Winter Sleep* and had to be content with the Best Screenplay award.

This year's Best Screenplay nod was received jointly by the writers of *The Killing of a Sacred Deer* (Yorgos Lanthimos and Eftimis Filippou) and *You Were Never Really Here* (Lynne Ramsay).

The acting prizes of the 70th Cannes

'Kushner should have security reviewed'

WASHINGTON, May 29: US President Donald Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner should have his security clearance reviewed after the revelation that he allegedly spoke with a Russian ambassador, the House Intelligence Committee's top Democrat has said.

"There ought to be a review of his security clearance to find out whether he was truthful, whether he was candid," Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) said on ABC News' "This Week" on Sunday, the *NY Daily News* reported.

"If not, then there's no way he can maintain that kind of clearance."

He said that Kushner's contacts with the Russians, if true, present "a real problem" in whether President Trump's son-in-law should be trusted.

Schiff said he expects Kushner, who serves as a senior adviser to Trump, will soon be asked to testify before his House committee. *The Washington Post* reported on Friday that Kushner, a real estate mogul, met Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak in December to talk about setting up a secret communications channel between Trump's transition team and the Kremlin to discuss Syria and other diplomatic issues.

Kushner was joined by Michael Flynn, the retired general who would resign as Trump's national security adviser after reports that he secretly spoke with Kislyak about sanctions.

The FBI is reportedly looking into Kushner and the Kislyak conversation as part of its probe into Russia's alleged hacking of the 2016 campaign and possible collusion with the Trump campaign.

The White House has tried to downplay Kushner's contacts, and Department of Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly said Sunday he "didn't see any big issue."

"I know Jared. He's a great guy, decent guy," Kelly told NBC News' "Meet the Press."

"His number one, number one interest is the nation. So you know there's a lot of different ways to communicate – back-channel, publicly – with other countries." – IANS

Nepal defers local polls to June 23

KATHMANDU, May 29: In a bid to ensure participation of agitating Madhes-based parties in the second phase of the local polls, the Nepal government on Monday postponed the polling date from June 14 to June 23.

A Cabinet meeting decided to defer the polls to ensure participation of those left out in the first phase of voting on May 14. Nepal government spokesperson Surendra Kari said.

As per the Cabinet decision, some provisions in the electoral provisions will be amended to fast-track registration of Madhes-based parties and allot election symbols.

However, the government is silent over the two key demands of the these parties – amendment in the new Constitution to make it more Madhes-friendly and inclusive and also to increase the number of local units in Terai/Madhes region.

After repeatedly failing to amend the Constitution, the government had decided to increase the numbers of local units in Terai/Madhes by 22, which was stayed by the Supreme Court.

In the absence of any development in the two demands, it is not clear whether the Madhes political parties will participate in the June 23 polls. – IANS

Film Festival – three were handed out in all – were cornered by big-name stars working in American cinema. Nicole Kidman, who had four films in the official selection this year, including two in competition, won the 70th Anniversary Award.

Notably, both of Kidman's competition entries (*The Beguiled* and *The Killing of a Sacred Deer*) figured on the awards roster drawn up Almodóvar's nine-member jury made up of three other feted directors – Paolo Sorrentino, Park Chan-wook and Maren Ade – besides actors Will Smith, Jessica Chastain, Fan Bingbing and Agnes Jaoui and music composer Gabriel Yared. – PTI

Rohit set to get some time at top against Bangladesh

LONDON, May 29: Rohit Sharma will be back in his familiar opening position with an aim to get some quality batting practice when India take on Bangladesh in their final warm-up game before the Champions Trophy opener against Pakistan.

After a convincing 45-run victory against New Zealand in a rain-curtailed opening warm-up match, Virat Kohli will pray that his batsmen get some more game time than the 26 overs they got the other day.

For Rohit, it will be back to the opening slot, having batted

down the order during the better part of the Indian Premier League. He missed out on the first game as personal commitments led to him joining the squad on Saturday evening.

It will be like a completion of cycle for Rohit, whose limited overs career was transformed

by Mahendra Singh Dhoni's inspired decision to promote him up the order during India's successful Champions Trophy campaign in 2013.

One of the biggest reasons for India's success was the Rohit-Shikhar Dhawan duo, which is again back to face the new ball in conditions, which will be pretty familiar to the ones they encountered four years back.

With Ajinkya Rahane failing as an opener in the first warm-up game, even the remotest thoughts of a change at the top, if there was one at all, will not be entertained by the team management.

Kohli, after a well-complicated half-century in the first game, would prefer another good hit out there in the middle along with Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who looked impressive during his brief stint. — PTI

MATCH STARTS: 3 PM IST

Indian hockey team heads to Germany

BENGALURU, May 29: Aiming to hit peak form in next month's Hockey World League Semi Final, the Indian team today left for a three-nation invitational tournament in Germany starting June 1.

The 18-member squad, led by Manpreet Singh, left from the Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru yesterday morning after a two-week national camp at the Sports Authority of India campus here.

Right after the invitational tournament, the team will arrive in London on June 9 for the Hero Hockey World League Semi Final where it will play practice matches against Olympic Gold Medalists Argentina and Great Britain.

"We always take practice matches seriously because doing well in a practice match means gaining the required momentum for the start of the tournament. We will also get the feel of the pitch to get a good sense of how to take penalty corners," said the 24-year-old Manpreet.

"India will play their first match against Scotland (June 15), followed by Canada (June 17), Pakistan (June 18) and the Netherlands (June 20) in the pool stage. — PTI

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Shraddhanjali

Late Pradip Kumar Lahkar
Birth: 26.02.1948 – Death: 21.05.2017

You were a person of principles and strong determination. Your words of wisdom and honest way of living will always guide us. We pray to the Almighty for eternal bliss of your soul.

In grief
Mrs. Rohini Lahkar (Wife)
Mr. Siddhartha Pradip Lahkar (Son)
Dr. (Mrs.) Nandita Lahkar Kalita (daughter)
Dr. Sanjeev Kalita (Son-in-law)
& all other family members.
Survey, Beliota, Guwahati-781028

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS FOR THE OUTSTANDING 2017 RESULTS.

ICSE (X)



AKLANTA BHATTACHARJYA - 98.8% (494/500)
Mathematics - 100
History, Civics, Geography - 100
Computer Applications - 99
Science - 99
Hindi - 99
English : 96

Yashika Naveen 96.8%	Nikunj Agarwal 96.8%	Devahuti Talukdar 96.2%	Disha Agarwal 95.6%	Himangshu Bora 95.4%	Pradyun Hazarika 95.2%	Antareep Saud 95.0%	Prachi Agarwal 94.4%	Harsh Vardhan Surana 94.2%	Vyush Agarwal 95.25%	Meghna Lahiri 94.25%
Hardika Kashyap 93.8%	Pramay Jain 93.4%	Shruti Dhaba Sharma 93.0%	Alfred Daimari 92.6%	Aman Kumar Aggarwal 92.6%	Tishya Khakholia 92.6%	Debargha Roy 92.0%	Soni Bhattacharai 92.0%	Khushi Khetawat 91.8%	Adnan Arif 93%	Prerona Das 92%
Raktim Raj Kalita 91.8%	Aman Sharma 91.6%	Gaurav Barman 90.8%	Shristi Dey 90.8%	Faryal Khan 90.4%	Yutika Agarwalla 90.4%	Kirdap Tabitha Ingty John 90.2%	Tanuj Agarwal 90.2%	Lipika Agarwalla 90.0%		

Subject Highest :

Computer Applications 100 · Mathematics 100 · History/Civics, Geography 100 · Science 99 · Hindi 99 · Economics 99 · Economic Applications 98 · Assamese 96 · English 96 · Art 93

School Average : 89.38%

95% and above : 8 · 90% - 94.9% : 20 · 80% - 89.9% : 15 · 70-79.9% : 4

ISC (XII)



Sakshi Jain
95.50% (382/400)

Subject Highest :
Computer Science 100
Sociology 100
Mathematics 98 · Economics 98
Chemistry 97 · English 96
Physics 95 · History 94
Psychology 94
Art 94 · Political Science 93
Commerce 93 · Accountancy 92

School Average : 84.33%

95% and above : 2
90%-94.9% : 3 · 80-89.9% : 14
70-79.9% : 6 · 60-69.9% : 2

Admission for class XI for the session 2017-18 is open.
Registration for admission from Toddlers to class VIII for the session 2018-19 is open.

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