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NEWS CAPSULE

Rs 200 notes to hit market today

MUMBAI, Aug 24: The Reserve Bank will launch Rs 200 notes tomorrow for the first time, saying it will make it easier for the common man to transact in lower denomination "missing link" currency and bring greater efficiency into the system. – PTI

Air fares

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: Disturbed by the surging air fares even at the time of floods, BJP Lok Sabha MP RP Sharma today urged the Prime Minister to put a cap on air fares on a temporary basis so that airlines cannot exploit the people of the Northeast. – Spt.

Correspondent

Term extended

GUWAHATI, Aug 24: The term of Lokpal and Lok Adalat has been extended by another three years. – Staff Reporter

UDAN scheme

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: The Civil Aviation Ministry has tweaked the regional air connectivity scheme UDAN to focus on priority areas like Northeast and Himachal Pradesh. – PTI

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HORIZON

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 - Walking tall!
 - Prasanti Ghosh
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SC declares right to privacy as fundamental right

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: In a landmark verdict, the right to privacy was today declared a fundamental right under the Constitution by the Supreme Court, which said "privacy is the constitutional core of human dignity."

The judgement, which will have a bearing on the lives of all Indians, said that "the right to privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 and as a part of the freedoms guaranteed by Part III of the Constitution."

The top court also ruled that like other fundamental rights, the right to privacy was not absolute and any encroachment will have to withstand the touchstone of permissible restrictions.

A nine-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice JS Khehar, which de-

livered as many as six concurring verdicts, overruled the contrary apex court verdicts delivered in 1950 and 1962 in the M P Sharma and the Kharak Singh

- Nine-judge Constitution bench delivers the verdict
- Privacy is the constitutional core of human dignity

cases holding that right to privacy was not part of the Constitution.

The top court rejected the NDA government's vehement contention that there was no general or fundamental right to privacy under the Constitution.

The lead judgement, penned by Justice DY Chandrachud for himself, the CJ, Justices RK Agrawal and S A Nazeer, however, asked the government to examine and put in place a "robust regime" for data protection in the modern era.

However, the top court gave a ray of hope to embattled government, whose Aadhaar scheme is under intense scrutiny over privacy infringements, said, "We commend to the Union Government the need to examine and put into place a robust regime for data protection.

The creation of such a regime requires a careful and sensitive balance between individual interests and legitimate concerns of the state. The legitimate aims of the state would include for instance protecting national security, preventing and investigating crime, encouraging innovation and

(See page 4)

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(See page 4)

Army given free hand to protect border

R DUTTA CHOWDHURY

GUWAHATI, Aug 24: Though India is not apprehending any war amidst the stand-off with China in Dokola area, the Prime Minister has given a free hand to the forces to mobilise and the Indian Air Force has been asked to remain as stand-by to deal

No registration record of bulk of 1966-71 migrants

SANJOY RAY

stipulated 10 years period that he or she would be entitled to voting rights.

Contrary to this, however, the State machinery is still clueless about more than half of the 1966-71 street population, which, many fear, might still be enjoying their franchise in complete violation of the law of the land.

Records suggest that of the nearly 40,000 foreigners who entered India between 1966 and 1971, only 14,843 of them have so far registered themselves with the respective FRROs, while over 19,000 of them continue to defy the laid down norms.

"We still do not know whether these people are still enjoying the voting rights as they had not registered with the FRROs within 180 days, failing which the person concerned should be taken into custody and deported.

Adding to the woes is the fact that only eight out of the nearly 19,000 such people, (See page 4)

Doka-La standoff

with any eventuality.

Highly placed security sources told *The Assam Tribune* that the free hand given to the forces to mobilise is just a precautionary measure so that the forces can stay ready to defend the country's territory wherever required.

The Government of India is of the view that China may try to create minor troubles in different parts of the international border like the minor scuffle that took place in Ladakh on August 15, but at present, India is not apprehending a war.

Sources further said that China may keep the stand-off till October as the President of the country Xi (See page 4)

SC adjourns hearing of GP certificate case

SPL. CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: The Supreme Court has adjourned the hearing of the Gaon Panchayat certificate matter for six weeks, even as it asked the Project Coordinator for the National Register of Citizens (NRC), Prateek Hajela, to submit a report within four weeks on the number of Original Inhabitants. The case will come up for further hearing on October 12.

A division bench headed by Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justice Navin Sinha resumed hearing of the case. The Project Coordinator informed the Court that they have received applications from 48 lakh GP certificates holders, out of which 20-22 lakh are female and 3.16 lakh male applicants. Hajela mentioned that they have to examine 40 lakh GP certificates and would need four weeks' time to execute the job.

Declining to extend the deadline of December 31 for publication of the draft NRC, the Supreme Court directed Hajela to submit a report within four weeks on the number of Original Inhabitants. After submission of the report, the Court would then take a call the fate of the rest of the GP certificate holders. The Supreme Court, however, remarked that the GP certifi-

cates are only supporting documents.

The petitioners in the case included Rupajan Begum, All Assam Minority Students' Union (AAMSU), Assam State Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind, Assam Women Social Justice Forum and others.

Meanwhile, the Assam Government opposed the Special Leave Petition and favoured upholding of the Gauhati High Court order that had rejected the GP certificate. The Supreme Court has now decided what has to be done with the rest of the GP certificate holders, said

Assam Government counsel Shivodeep Roy.

Explaining, he said they have pointed out that the GP certificates were not meant to prove citizenship, hence cannot be considered. In any case, out of the 48 lakh GP card holders, 28 lakh are Original Inhabitants (women) and additional 3.16 lakh male, whose cases cannot be considered.

He said the documents (GP certificate) were not preexisting but created after the process of updating NRC was initiated. The documents were created after the NRC process was started and were not preexisting," said Roy.

Roy said they have opposed the SLP and sought upholding of the Gauhati High Court order.

(See page 4)

Call for closer defence ties

India, Nepal sign eight pacts

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: Nepal today assured India that it would not allow any activity against its "friendly neighbour", as the two sides signed eight pacts, including on cooperation in countering drug trafficking and post-earthquake reconstruction in the Himalayan nation.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi receiving Sher Bahadur Deuba at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Thursday – UNI

in security is an important aspect of our partnership. Our defence interests are also dependent and connected to each other," Modi said at a joint press briefing after the talks.

Deuba gave an assurance of "every support, every help and co-operation".

"As you (Modi) mentioned that Nepal has an open border... I would like to assure you that Nepal will never allow any activity against

(See page 4)

Improvement in flood scene

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 24: Further improvement in the overall flood situation has been marked today with the number of people still under direct threat of flooding reduced to 43,1347, in 606 villages under 21 revenue circles of nine districts. However, the Brahmaputra is still flowing above its danger level at Dhubri and its tributary Dhansiri (South) is also flowing above its danger level at Numaligarh. (See page 4)

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Passenger safety topmost priority: Lohani

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: Safety of passengers will be topmost priority of the railways, new Railway Board Chairman Ashwani Lohani said as he assumed the charge today.

The railway ministry had yesterday appointed Lohani as the Chairman of Railway Board after AK Mittal had tendered his resignation following two derailments within a span of five days killing over 20 people and injuring more than 200.

"Safety will be our topmost focus, of course. Cleanliness, improvement of stations, ending corruption and VIP culture

would be other areas of focus," Lohani told reporters here.

Lohani (SDG) said there were "lot of expectations" from the railways and the national carrier would work hard to improve itself.

He further said it was an "emotional moment" for him to take charge of the Railway Board. Being an officer of the Railway Mechanical Service, the railways is the parent organisation for Lohani. He has earlier served as the Divisional Railway Manager, Delhi.

Lohani said he "feels good" that the government has considered him "worthy" of this position. - PTI

NATIONAL SC verdict 'against' Shariat, says Jamiat

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind, a religious organisation representing Muslim clerics, has expressed "deep concern" over the Supreme Court judgement striking down triple talaq, saying it is "against" the Shariat.

The outfit, which claims to have 10,000 clerics as members, has also appealed to Muslims to avoid practice of instant triple talaq. It asked members of the community not to go for divorce unless there are "unavoidable cir-

cumstances".

The Jamiat office-bearers met yesterday to discuss the situation arising out of the Su-

prem Court order.

Maulana Mahmood Madani,

general secretary of the org-

anisation, tabled a resolution

that was unanimously adopted in the meeting, the organisa-

tion said.

The Supreme Court on Tuesday set aside the practice of divorce through triple talaq among Muslims saying it was void, illegal and uncon-

stitutional.

The Jamiat said it will not compromise on religious rights of Muslims guaranteed as Fundamental Rights in the Constitution and will continue to fight any attempts to trample them. - PTI

Hours after SC verdict, UP woman given triple talaq; FIR filed

MEERUT/LUCKNOW, Aug 24: A pregnant woman was allegedly given triple talaq by her husband in the Sardar area in Meerut, just hours after the Supreme Court declared the age-old practice as "unconstitutional" on Tuesday.

The woman, a resident of Mohalla Karna Nawabana, in a complaint filed with the police alleged that her husband beat her up and drove her out of their house. An FIR has been lodged against the man.

The police said the talaq was "invalid" according to the ruling of the apex court.

The woman, who married the ac-

cused six years ago and is a mother of three, also alleged that she suffered a miscarriage due to the beating, the police said.

The All India Muslim Women Personal Law Board said the case posed a question as to what punishment would be given to those who continue to indulge in the practice.

The woman's family members on Tuesday met her in-laws to discuss the matter. But her husband divorced her by pronouncing the word talaq thrice, the police said.

She said her family told her husband that the Supreme Court had struck down the practice, but he did

not relent.

AIMWPLB president Shaista Ambedkar told PTI that it was a case of contempt of the apex court and that the board would knock its doors for fixing punishment in such cases.

She said the Supreme Court had asked for framing of a legislation on triple talaq but the government was "trying to shirk its responsibility by saying that it was not required after the verdict".

It has to be ensured that the issue of triple talaq is fully addressed, else Muslim women will continue to face injustice," the AIMWPLB president said. - PTI

FIR against 9; Addl Chief Secy shunted

LUCKNOW, Aug 24: An FIR has been registered against 9 persons, including former principal of Gorakhpur-based BRD Medical College, in connection with the deaths of over 60 children there due to alleged lack of oxygen supply, police said today.

The proprietors of M/s Pushpa Sales, the company responsible for the supply of liquid oxygen, have also been named in the FIR.

Besides, the State government has transferred Additional Chief Secretary (Medical Education) Anita Bhattacharya Jain in connection with the tragedy, an official spokesperson said.

A probe committee, headed by the State Chief Secretary, had yesterday submitted its report on the death to the Chief Minister.

"An FIR has been filed against 9 persons, including former principal Dr Rajiv Mishra, his wife Dr Purima Shukla, Dr Kafeel Khan and the proprietors of M/s Pushpa Sales,"

GORAKHPUR DEATHS

Additional Director General (Lucknow Zone) Abhay Prasad told PTI.

The FIR was filed under various IPC Sections relating to criminal conspiracy and culpable homicide and relevant provisions of the Anti Corruption Act by Director General, Medical Education, KK Gupta at the Hazratganj Police Station here, the ADG said. The case has been transferred to Gorakhpur, he said.

The probe committee had recommended initiating criminal action against the principal of the medical college, H/o Anesthesia Paediatric Department Dr Satish, in-charge of 100-bed AEs ward Dr Kafeel Khan and M/s Pushpa Sales.

The committee had also recommended action under the Prevention of Corruption Act against Dr Rajiv Mishra, Dr Poornima Shukla, staff of accounts department of the medical college and chief pharmacist Ganajan Jaiswal. - PTI

Govt tweaks regional air-connectivity scheme

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: To improve regional air connectivity, the government today announced increasing viability gap funding for helicopter operators and allowing smaller planes, among other concessions, under the UDAN scheme. The regional connectivity scheme – UDAN – seeks to connect unserved and under-served airports as well as making flying more affordable as fares are capped at Rs 2,500 for one-hour flights. Announcing the changes made to the scheme after detailed consultations with stakeholders in the past few months, Civil Aviation Minister AG Raju said the scheme is being liberalised, especially in the sense of focusing on priority areas. In the second bidding round that started today, smaller aircraft will be allowed to operate RCS flights in priority areas, including NE States and Uttarakhand. - PTI

Govt seeks disqualification of 19 Dhinakaran MLAs

CHENNAI, Aug 24: The ongoing tussle for power in the ruling AIADMK today saw the government whip seeking disqualification of the 19 MLAs supporting sidelined deputy general secretary TTV Dhinakaran from the Tamil Nadu Assembly following their revolt against Chief Minister K Palaniswami. Chief Government Whip S Rajendran took up with the Assembly Speaker the issue of disqualification of all 19 legislators who had met State Governor Ch Vidyasagar Rao two days ago. - PTI

US ship USS Pearl Harbor arrives in India

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: In its first visit to India, American Navy's amphibious dock landing ship USS Pearl Harbor arrived in Goa today as part of defence cooperation between the two countries. USS Pearl Harbor is a Whidbey Island-class amphibious dock landing ship with a crew of over 700 sailors and marines. The 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), which is one of seven marine expeditionary units of the US Marine Corps, has also come to Goa as part of the trip. While in Goa, the ship's sailors and marines will conduct exchanges with the Indian Navy's marine commands relating to amphibious warfare, the US naval official said in a statement. "We are thrilled by the opportunity to visit India," said Theodore Essefendi, USS Pearl Harbor's commanding officer. He said the sailors and marines of Pearl Harbor were looking forward to experiencing the culture and traditions of India while strengthening the US Navy's long-standing partnership with Indian Navy. - PTI

Make India safe for children, says Satyarthi

MUMBAI, Aug 24: Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi today emphasised the need to work unitedly to protect children from sexual abuse, which he said is essential to give India's growth story a broader sense of achievement. India's growth will have broader sense if children have a safe childhood, the child rights activist said at a function in connection with his 'Bharat Yatra', a 35-day campaign to sensitize people on issues of child trafficking and child sexual abuse. The yatra will begin from Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu on September 11 and conclude in New Delhi on October 13, covering 22 States. - PTI

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Create pressure on China not to disturb Brahmaputra flow: APCC to CM

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 24: The Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) today demanded that urgent steps be taken by Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal to mount pressure on the Central government for preventing China from disturbing the flow of the Brahmaputra.

Reacting to the statement made by State government spokesperson and Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma yesterday that the latest wave of floods in Assam was the result of China's tampering with the flow of the Brahmaputra, the APCC said in a statement that if that be the case, then it is the bounden duty of the State government to mount pressure on the Centre for preventing China from doing so.

Since Prime Minister Narendra Modi

is supposed to meet the Chinese leaders at the next BRICS meet scheduled to be held from September 3 to 5 next at Xiamen in China, the Government of India is likely to get a scope to take up the issue with the Chinese authorities then.

It is also intriguing as to what prevented Prime Minister Modi from taking up the issue with Beijing during his meeting with the Chinese President on several occasions. He had also not raised the issue at the G-20 meet in July last. The Indian government has not made any attempt during the past three years to collect information on the river dam projects implemented by the Chinese authorities on the Tibetan part of the Brahmaputra, nor has it lodged any complaint with the Chinese authorities on the adverse impacts of such tampering with the Brahmaputra's flow on the Assam part

of the river, added the APCC.

Assamese script: Former Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi today hailed the decision of the Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) to accept the version of the Assam delegation on the independent identity of the Assamese script.

He, however, maintained that the State could effectively place its demand for a separate code chart for the Assamese script before the BIS because of the steps taken by the previous Congress-led government in the State, like constituting an expert committee for the purpose.

The BIS' decision paved the way for positively settling the vexed controversy over the UNICODE treating Assamese script as a part of the Bangla script, in support of the Assamese people, he added.

Installation ceremony

GUWAHATI, Aug 24: The new board of directors of Lions Club of Guwahati Sankarpal for 2017-18 headed by Babita Agarwal as president, was duly installed by Mandira Chanda, past multiple council chairperson (PMCC) at a ceremony held recently in the city, said a detailed press release.

Chanda in her address highly appreciated the efforts of the club members in serving the community and also in the administration of the Lions districts.

Past district governors LN Agarwalla, inter-region coordinator Ratan Goenka, region chairman Sanjeev K Lakhar, zone chairman Ravi Bhavi and other dignitaries appreciated the activities of the club members.

Life skill training

GUWAHATI, Aug 24: Indians Group of Institutions, Guwahati, organised a training programme on life skills for students of Class IX and Class X of Japongog High School here recently.

The programme was conducted by certified trainers Mousumi Kakati, Phungwina Brahma and Rajarsi Khaund under the guidance of PK Khund, chief consultant cum trainer of the Indiana Group of Institutions. Over 80 students participated in the programme.

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Written notice application has been made to this Tribunal by the applicant. This is to give you notice, as to why relief asked for should not be granted. Take notice that the said application will be taken up for hearing by the Tribunal at 10.30 AM or such time immediately thereafter according to the convenience of the Tribunal on 22.9.2017.

2. You are required to appear in person or by a pleader / Advocate duly instructed at the aforesaid time and file your reply, if any.

3. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day mentioned herein before, the proceeding will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this 21st day of August 2017.

Sd/- Asstt. Registrar
Debt Recovery Tribunal
Guwahati

CD/LN/P/KP310/1

Stress on boosting rubber cultivation in State

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 24: Rubber Board Chairman Ajith Kumar today called on Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal at his office at Janani Bhawan and apprised him of various activities of the Board in different parts of the State and the country.

Kumar said that 58,000 hectares of land in 28 districts have been under rubber cultivation and the Board has identified more areas for expanding rubber farming in the State.

Asserting that rubber cultivation can open up avenues of employment for the youths of the State, Sonowal said the State government is willing to invite tyre manufacturing companies to set up base in the State

once production of rubber is increased to the level required to sustain those businesses.

He also said that other north-eastern states like Tripura where rubber farming is going on, on a large scale, can team up with Assam to ensure supply of raw material to those industries.

The Rubber Board Chairman requested the Chief Minister to forward a proposal to Central government for allocating extra fund under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) for rubber cultivation so that sustainable livelihood for economically weaker families can be generated.

The Chief Minister was also informed that the initial 7 to 9 years of gestation period of

rubber plantation is highly labour intensive and 46 per cent of expenditure of Rs 4.5 lakh per hectare can be drawn from MGNREGS.

The Chief Minister assured Kumar that he would submit a report in this regard to the Centre, adding that there is a lot of scope for expanding rubber plantation in the State. He urged the Chairman and other officials of Rubber Board to help in scientific development of rubber farming in the untargeted areas.

Chief Secretary VK Pipersenia, Additional Chief Secretary of Industries & Commerce Department, Ravi Kapoor and Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister Sanjay Lohia were also present during the discussion.

No registration ...

(Contd from page 1)
friendly neighbour India and there will be every support, every help and cooperation from our side," Deuba said.

Acknowledging that there were "issues" in the implementation of the Constitution, he expressed confidence that a Constitution "encompassing" the views of the people from all sections and ethnicities would be ready.

Modi, too, exuded confidence that Nepal would take into consideration the aspirations of all its citizens during implementation of the Constitution.

According to the official food bulletin of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) here, with the report of death of a person in Dibruri district today, the figure concerning flood-related deaths during the second wave of flood this year has shot up to 156.

The districts still facing the direct impact of flood include Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Barpeta, Chirang, South Salmara, Goalpara, Morigaon, Nagaon and Golaghat.

Improvement ...

(Contd from page 1)
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SC adjourns ...

(Contd from page 1)
The High Court on February 28 ordered that residency certificates issued by Gaon Panchayat secretaries will no longer be considered as a valid link document for the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

If a Panchayat secretary issues such certificate and the same is later disbelieved by the Foreigners Tribunal or the High Court and the Government of India is fully aware of the situation and decided to maintain a tough stand on the issue. - PTI

ing an illegal migrant, which may amount to gross misconduct, exposing himself to departmental action, besides attracting penal consequences. Such consequences may also visit the countersigning authority (which is the BDO), the officer had stated.

Meanwhile, reacting to the Court's hearing, the All Assam Students' Union (AASU) adviser Samujal Bhattacharya said that they have come to know of the developments through advocates and they welcome the Court decision. He also urged the Supreme Court to ensure that the NRC is made entirely foolproof.

SC declares right to privacy ...

(Contd from page 1)
the spread of knowledge, and preventing the dissipation of social welfare benefits".

Besides the four judges, including the CJI, Justices J Chelameswar, SA Bobde, Abhay Manohar Sapre, Rohinton Fali Nariman and Sanjan Kaul wrote separate but concurring verdicts running into 547 pages.

The judgement was welcomed by leading legal experts, including Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, who is himself a lawyer. Noted jurist Fali Soraikar said "no Fundamental Right is absolute. It is always subject to reasonable restrictions".

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The CJI pronounced the summary of concurring ver-

dicts in a packed courtroom at 10.35 am and said, "the issue in MP Sharma (1950) which holds that the right to privacy is not protected by the Constitution stands overruled."

"The decision in Kharak Singh (1962) to the extent that it holds that the right to privacy is not protected by the Constitution stands overruled."

The judgement said that privacy included at its core the preservation of personal intimacies, the sanctity of family life, marriage, procreation and the home and sexual orientation.

"Privacy also connotes a right to be left alone. Privacy safeguards individual autonomy and recognises the ability of the individual to control vital aspects of his or her life. - PTI

2nd death anniv of Hiten Mahanta on Aug 29

GUWAHATI, Aug 24: The Journalists' Forum Assam (JFA) will remember noted journalist Hiten Mahanta on August 29 on his second death anniversary.

Mahanta, who remained voice for the basic minimum rights of media employees, also raised his voice against the militant groups in the troubled north-eastern region.

Born in 1957 in Guwahati, Mahanta completed his PU (10+2 standard) from the prestigious Cotton College and joined the Frigovitch College

for graduation. He did his post-graduation in political science from the Gauhati University.

For some years Mahanta was associated with the Left movement in Assam but later abandoned the movement to join journalism.

His professional career started with *Janakranti* in 1984 and later he worked for *Ajir Ason* and *Nutan Dainik*. For more than a decade, he used to write columns as an independent journalist on various socio-political develop-

ments relating to the State. A member of the Guwahati Press Club, Mahanta was also associated with the JFA and the Journalist Action Committee. He was the founder president of the All Assam Media Employees Federation.

NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION ASSAM

Dated Guwahati the 24th Aug 2017

EXTENSION NOTICE

Extension Tender Schedule-

Sl No.	Name of Event	Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time
1	Tender Download	24.08.2017	15.00 Hrs	29.08.2017	16.00 Hrs
2	Tender Submission	24.08.2017	15.00 Hrs	29.08.2017	16.00 Hrs
3	Technical Bid Opening	29.08.2017	15.30 Hrs	-	-
4	Financial Bid Opening			30.08.2017	14.00Hrs

Hard copy of Technical bid submitted online along with Cost of Tender (in original) will be accepted upto 16.00 hrs. of 29th August 2017.

All other terms and conditions will remain same.

Sd/-
Mission Director, NHM, Assam

NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION ASSAM

Dated : 24/08/2017

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER (SNIT)

The Office of the Mission Director, National Health Mission, Assam invites bid for the works under NHM in single bid system (in F2 form) affording cost of tender fee stamp of Rs.6.25 (Rupees Six and Twenty Five Paisa) only for the works as detailed below:

Si No	Name of the Health Institution With District	Grp.	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)
Name of work :-"Repair and Renovation NCD- Cell at DCN/Jh/DHS office complex in Different District of Assam under NHM"						
1	At Jh. DHS Office Complex in Tinsukia District	I	Rs.2,50,000.00	Rs.12,500.00	2000.00	2 (Two) months
2	At Dr. Rabo Civil Hospital in Baksa District	J	Rs.2,50,000.00	Rs.12,500.00	2000.00	2 (Two) months
3	At Mangaldoi Civil Hospital in Darrang District	K	Rs.2,50,000.00	Rs.12,500.00	2000.00	2 (Two) months

Name of work :-"Repair and Renovation NCD Clinic at District Civil Hospital in different District of Assam under NHM"

1	At Mangaldoi Civil Hospital in Darrang District	J	Rs.2,50,000.00	Rs.12,500.00	2000.00	2 (Two) months
2	At Dr. Rabo Civil Hospital in Baksa District	K	Rs.2,50,000.00	Rs.12,500.00	2000.00	2 (Two) months

1. Eligibility Criteria:-

(a) Reputed PANI Card/GST Registration/Labour Licence/ registration under EPF and MP ACT 1952 etc.

(b) Contractors having at least one similar nature of completed work valued at not less than 80% of the proposed project cost during last 5 (Five) year.

(c) The Contractor having PANI Card/GST Registration/Labour Licence/ registration under EPF and MP ACT 1952 etc. ELIGIBLE to participate in the bid process.

(d) In case the evaluated bid amounts are equal, preference for allotment of the project will be given to the bidder who has completed Building works under the same on earlier occasion.

(e) The interested bidders or their authorized representatives are to be present at the time of opening of Bids. Otherwise the bids will be opened in their absence and no claim will be entertained in future.

2. Cost of tender document is Rs. 10/- per copy payable at Guwahati in the form of Pay Order/Demand Draft.

3. Bid security with a validity of 225 (i.e. 180+45) days should be in the form of TDR/DR/CDR and drawn in favour of State Health Society, Assam, payable at Guwahati.

4. Date of receipt of application along with cost of tender document and copies of documents as per eligibility criteria mentioned above, (b) & (c) is 24.08.2017.

5. Date for issuing of Bid Document - 31-08-2017 up to 17.00 hrs.

6. Last date and time of submission of tender is 07.08.2017 up to 15.30 hrs. of the same days mentioned above.

b). The bids will be opened at 15.30 hrs. of the same days mentioned above.

c). Interested Bidders may contact the Office of the Mission Director for location of work and any other details of the project/ Bid during working hours.

Sd/-
Mission Director, NHM, Assam

NATIONAL AWARDS

for Science & Technology Communication 2017

National Council for Science & Technology Communication

Department of Science & Technology

Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India

Invites nominations for the following National Awards for 2017

a) National Award for Outstanding Effort in Science & Technology Communication (Rupees Two Lakhs)

Presented to an individual or an institution for outstanding work in communication of science and technology and/or promotion of scientific temper which had the widest impact in the country.

b) National Award for Outstanding Effort in Science & Technology Communication through Print Media including Books and Magazines (Rupees One Lakh)

Presented to an individual or an institution for outstanding efforts in popularization of science & technology and/or promotion of scientific temper through books, magazines, etc.

c) National Award for Outstanding Effort in Science & Technology Popularization among Children (Rupees One Lakh)

Presented to an individual or an institution for outstanding work in popularization of science & technology and/or promotion of scientific temper among children which had the widest impact in the country.

d) National Award for Outstanding Effort in Translation of Popular Science & Technology Literature (Rupees One Lakh)

Presented to an individual journalist or an institution for outstanding work in translating popular science and technology literature in and from regional languages.

e) National Awards for Outstanding Effort in Science & Technology Communication through Innovative and Traditional Methods (Rupees One Lakh)

Presented to an individual correspondent or an institution for outstanding efforts in communication of science & technology and/or promotion of scientific temper through radio and television media.

The last date for receipt of completed nomination forms is 10 October, 2017.

Full details of these scheme including eligibility conditions, application format, etc., may be downloaded from the website of the Department: www.dst.gov.in

For further queries (if any) please contact.

Dr. ABP Mishra

Scientist, NCSTC

National Council for Science & Technology Communication

Department of Science & Technology

Technology Bhavan, New Mehruli Road, New Delhi-110016

Telefax: 011-26535564, E-mail: apmishra@nic.in

CITY

GUWAHATI, Aug 24: The Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) today demanded that urgent steps be taken by Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal to mount pressure on the Central government for preventing China from disturbing the flow of the Brahmaputra.

Reacting to the statement made by State government spokesperson and Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma yesterday that the latest wave of floods in Assam was the result of China's tampering with the flow of the Brahmaputra, the APCC said in a statement that if that be the case, then it is the bounden duty of the State government to mount pressure on the Centre for preventing China from doing so.

Since Prime Minister Narendra Modi

is supposed to meet the Chinese leaders at the next BRICS meet scheduled to be held from September 3 to 5 next at Xiamen in China, the APCC has not raised the issue at the G-20 meet in July last. The Indian government has not made any attempt during the past three years to collect information on the river dam projects implemented by the Chinese authorities on the Tibetan part of the Brahmaputra, nor has it lodged any complaint with the Chinese authorities on the adverse impacts of such tampering with the Brahmaputra's flow on the Assam part

is also intriguing as to what prevented Prime Minister Modi from taking up the issue with Beijing during his meeting with the Chinese President on several occasions.

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<div data

**Body found**

GUWAHATI, Aug 24: The body of an unidentified man aged around 35 years has been found near the RBT under the Panbari Police Station. The man was wearing a navy blue shirt and a blanket. - Staff Reporter



THE BRIGHTER SIDE: A heavily overcast sky that was followed by rains in parts of the city, brought the much-needed respite for Guwahatians from the unbearable heat, on Thursday. — UB Photos

NHAI to turn Guwahati bypass into 6-lane highway**R DUTTA CHOURHURY**

GUWAHATI, Aug 24: The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is planning to increase the width of the Guwahati bypass by turning it into a six-lane highway and a detailed project report for the same is being prepared.

Official sources told *The Assam Tribune* that expansion of the bypass would considerably ease the traffic congestion all along the 18-kilometre bypass. At present, the congestion has a cascading effect, which sometimes runs up to Jalukbari and Bashish points. Sources said that as part of the proposal, the new

road would have flyovers at major junctions, which would ensure free flow of traffic.

The NHAI has sanctioned Rs 71.98 crore to the State Public Works Department for construction of an RCC stormwater drain between Khasapara and the Inter State Bus Terminal covering a length of 6.80 kilometres and improvement of the service roads of the bypass.

Sources revealed that the money was sanctioned to the State PWD way back in December 2015, but unfortunately, progress of the work has been very slow. The PWD has been directed to expedite the work so that it is comple-

ed before the FIFA under 17 World Cup.

The NHAI has pointed out that the stormwater drain when completed, would ease the waterlogging problem on the

Move to ease traffic congestion

Guwahati bypass to a great extent. At present, the bypass often gets blocked after a heavy spell of rain and sometimes, even movement of vehicular traffic is stopped. After the drain is completed, water from the area will be

drained out to the Deepor Beel. Moreover, the service roads of the bypass are in very bad shape and they need immediate repair and reconstruction. If the work is not completed before the mega football tournament, it may lead to serious problems and hence the PWD ought to expedite the work.

On the other hand, the old Saraihat bridge needs immediate repair as very often top portions of the road get damaged, leading to traffic congestions. The NHAI has sanctioned Rs 1.91 crore and Rs 11.83 crore respectively to the Railways for short-term and long-term maintenance of the existing Saraihat bridge. The proposal for funds for short and long-term maintenance and repair of the bridge was submitted by the Railways to the Government of India and the funds were sanctioned as per that proposal.

The Railways was supposed to start work immediately after the new bridge was opened. But the progress of work remains very slow and the Railways authorities have been requested to expedite the work as smooth movement of traffic on both the new and old bridges is vital to ensure that no congestion takes place there.

Prog on integrating social workers into healthcare**CORRESPONDENT**

JORABAT, Aug 24: In order to highlight better patient care and to focus on patient safety, an orientation programme is being organised at the North East Cancer Hospital and Research Institute (NECHR) Jorabat, by the Department of Social Work of the Assam Don Bosco University, Telesia tomorrow.

The topic will be 'Integration of Social Workers into Health-

care', where future social workers will be taught to promote a better relation with patients, to identify their problems and to sort out quick solutions.

A few students from the Nerim Group of Institutions and some from the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya will also take part in the programme.

Dr Gitara Roynedhi, PGD Healthcare Management and Administration will be the speaker.

Jorabat inundated after heavy shower**CORRESPONDENT**

JORABAT, Aug 24: A heavy shower this afternoon inundated Jorabat and its nearby areas, causing immense problems for the general public.

As a result of the rain, NH37 went under water at Jorabat, 10th Mile and 9th Mile. Traffic snarls were witnessed on the national highway, while floodwater also entered several shops along NH37 at Jorabat.

'No easy solution to the child being the family's bread-earner'**A CORRESPONDENT**

GUWAHATI, Aug 24: In an interaction with senior journalists and young reporters of *The Assam Tribune* at the Vivanta by Taj yesterday, Dr Yashmin Ali Haque, UNICEF Representative in India, on her maiden visit to the State, talked about the issues that affect the most vulnerable sections of society – children and women.

The young reporters who participated in the interaction programme are part of the Young Reporters' Programme of UNICEF and write for *Muktik Akash*, a quarterly newspaper on children's issues. One young reporter, Sagar, has been raising awareness about social issues like child marriage and child labour through plays and has also successfully rescued one child from being exploited.

Vikas, another young reporter, highlighted the plight of children who are forced to work and earn for the family. Dr Haque said there are no easy solutions to such a grave situation where the child has to take on the role of an adult and bread-winner. Individuals need to come together to drive action on ground by partnering with gram panchayats and other local authorities.

These young reporters from Nalbari and Kamrup, belong to underprivileged backgrounds but are committed to take a stand and work to bring about a change at their community level.

Dr Haque emphasised education as the first step towards empowerment while also noting that children in rural Assam lead an unusual childhood sans privileges.

Assam tackles one of the highest infant and maternal mortality rates. Currently the State

is dealing with the aftermath of the destructive floods, as PJ Baruah, Executive Editor of *The Assam Tribune* pointed out. Children are the worst affected with education and health having to take a back-seat, Baruah pointed out, to which Dr Haque said there is an urgent need for better disaster preparedness.

Dr Haque was accompanied by Dr Tushar Rane, Chief of Field Office, UNICEF Assam and Alexandra Westerwick, Chief, Communications and Advocacy, UNICEF India. They all addressed the issues that were brought to fore. It was largely agreed upon that only a change in the people's mindset can accelerate behavioural change.

On being asked about her South Sudan experience by senior journalist Minal Talukdar, Dr Haque talked about the condition of the most deprived children and how they aspire for safety, security and education. More than 70 per cent children under 18 have never been to a school, which was disturbing. On the other hand in India, initiatives like 'NINEISMINE campaign', led by the Wada Na Todo Abhiyan, serves as an example of advocacy where children have claimed the right to fight and demand their rights, said Dr Haque in response to young reporter Geetali's question.

Other senior journalists like Sumir Karak, Gaurav Das, Karishma Hasan, Prasanna Rajguru and Prarthna Hazarika also participated actively in the discussion where the need for boat clinics during times of crisis and mobile clinics in tea gardens, support to the *char* areas and the need to address the concerns related to maternal care, immunisation programmes, etc., were highlighted.

Stir over 10,000 backlog vacancies meant for STs**STAFF REPORTER**

GUWAHATI, Aug 24: The Coordination Committee of the Tribal Organisations of Assam (CCTOA) staged a sit-in demonstration here today demanding of the State government to immediately issue special instructions for filling up more than ten thousand backlog vacancies meant for scheduled tribe (ST) people in various departments, and also calling attention on several other issues affecting the tribal people of Assam.

The CCTOA is an umbrella organisation of 15 ST bodies of Assam. The demonstrators also demanded of Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal to ensure a Cabinet approval for modification of an office memorandum (OM) issued by the Welfare of Plain Tribes and Backward Classes Department (WPT&BC), which, according to them, is the only way to ensure a fair deal for the SC/ST candidates in matters of promotion.

“Due to a number of technical reasons involved, without amending the OM issued by the department on August 3, 2016, it is not possible to fill up the backlog of 12,155 posts meant for the ST (Plain) and SC (Hills) people of the State in the government departments,” chief coordinator of the CCTOA Aditya Khakhar told *The Assam Tribune*.

In various departments of the State, there are 5107 ST (P) and 7048 for ST(H), mostly belonging to the third and fourth grades. Most

of these posts are in departments like elementary education, higher education, PWD, water resources and health and family welfare.

“It is seen that many departments are pressuring junior general category candidates superseding the seniormost SC and ST candidates by referring to the ‘controversial’ Clause IV of the defective office memorandum. The Assembly Committee for the SCs and STs has recommended several times to modify the memorandum, which is completely being ignored due to the involvement of vested interest groups,” the CCTOA alleged.

“Not a single vacancy could be filled up because of the office memorandum which also ensures minimum 78 per cent direct recruitment of the general category but is conspicuously silent about any clear-cut stand on reserving the remaining 22 per cent for the reserved category in the government services and posts,” Khakhar added.

The CCTOA has also proposed a move taken by the State education department to de-reserve 547 posts of LP school teachers meant for ST (P) in Barak Valley in the name of medium of instruction.

“The 547 regular posts should not be de-reserved at any cost against the interest of the tribal communities of Assam. These posts should be distributed to the districts populated by the tribal communities in the Brahmaputra Valley,” the organisation said.

Foundation day of senior citizens' body on Aug 27**STAFF REPORTER**

Bhawan at 3 pm on August 27. Eminent scientist Dr Dipen Chandra Goswami will preside over the function.

Writer Eli Ahmed and nonagenarian Devendranath Gogoi will be felicitated on the occasion.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

1 NATION TAX MARKET
Attention Taxpayers !

File GSTR-3B Return NOW!

Return filing deadlines have been relaxed for July, 2017. Last dates for filing FORM (GSTR-3B, GSTR-1, GSTR-2 & GSTR-3) and making tax payments for July, 2017 are given below.

Form	For July, 2017
GSTR-3B	For Taxpayers who do not want to avail transitional credit by filing FORM GST TRAN-1:- • Last date for making payment and filing return is 25th August, 2017.
	For Taxpayers wanting to avail transitional credit by filing FORM GST TRAN-1:- • Last date for making payment is 25th August, 2017. • Last date for filing return is 28th August, 2017.
GSTR-1	1 st - 5 th September, 2017
GSTR-2	6 th - 10 th September, 2017
GSTR-3	11 th - 15 th September, 2017

Do not worry if you are not able to avail of the transitional credit this month. You can avail it later also because it will get credited in your electronic credit ledger, provided you file FORM GST TRAN-1 on or before the prescribed date.

Salient Features of FORM GSTR-3B

- FORM GSTR-3B to be filed mandatorily by all normal registered taxpayers.
- NIL returns to be filed in case of no supplies.
- Summary of information about sale and purchase, available Input Tax Credit (ITC), tax payable and tax paid is to be furnished.
- All Input Tax Credits availed and utilized will be posted in the electronic credit ledger.
- Unutilized ITC can be used in subsequent months.
- While filling up FORM GSTR-3B, don't forget to save partially filled form by clicking SAVE GSTR-3B button.
- After pressing SUBMIT, no modification is possible, therefore, check the details carefully before pressing SUBMIT.
- Click CHECK BALANCE button in FORM GSTR-3B to view the balance available for credit under Integrated Tax, Central Tax, State Tax and Cess (this includes transitional credit also).

Who should not file FORM GSTR-3B?

Not to be filed by Input Service Distributors (ISD), Non-Resident Persons, Tax Collectors at Source (TCS), Tax Deductors at Source (TDS) & Composition Dealers.

Payment of tax through NEFT/RTGS takes time to get reflected in cash ledger. Without payment getting reflected in cash ledger, return can't be filed. Hence, do not wait for last minute for payment & return filing.

In case of any query, please contact: helpdesk@gst.gov.in & phone no. 0120-4888999.

GST - A Good & Simple Tax

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

MESSAGE FOR TODAY

I began learning long ago that those who are happiest are those who do the most for others.

— BOOKER T WASHINGTON

The Assam Tribune

Assamese language

In a much-awaited and welcome development, the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has formally accepted the proposal of a separate Assamese code chart for submission to the International Standard Organization. This has paved the way for inclusion of the Assamese script in Unicode as a separate and independent entity. For long, and what amounts to gross injustice to the Assamese language, the Assamese script did not have an independent identity in Unicode and has been sharing the Bengali codes. Given that the Assamese language has a history older to that of Bengali besides being endowed with a rich and enduring literary legacy dating back to centuries, it should have been recognized as an independent language in Unicode long back. Apparently, the inability of the State Government to prepare a strong case for the Assamese script for its inclusion in Unicode, and the apathy of the State's literary circles to this crucial issue had been the stumbling block in the path of its Unicode recognition.

While the development *vis-a-vis* Assamese script's Unicode inclusion is big news for the State, stiffer challenges await Assamese language and literature in the days ahead. The real worth of a language is invariably judged on the merits of its literary traditions. With changing times, and the unprecedented importance of English as a world language, linguists apprehend a premature death for many 'small' languages, i.e., languages with lesser number of speakers. Critics would be quick to dismiss such fears as unfounded in respect of the Assamese language which not only enjoys a decent place among the languages of the world in terms of speakers but also boasts of a rich literary tradition. Despite the apparently secure position that the Assamese language is in, the fact that a sizeable section of the young generation is getting increasingly indifferent to their mother tongue, and consequently to their own heritage, cannot escape the discerning observer. Blaming the youngsters would serve little purpose, as the rot has its roots in the environment they are growing up. Experts believe that the home and the school exercise the biggest influence in shaping a child's sensibilities. Unfortunately, many of our English-medium schools give a shabby treatment to the mother tongue in their haste to dissociate themselves from anything 'Assamese'. The appalling neglect meted out to the mother tongue invariably causes a sense of apathy, disapproval and disrespect in the young minds towards things associated with it. As most middle-class children follow English-medium education from a very early age, many of them are bound to be disinterested in anything that is Assamese unless they have an enabling home ambience and some much-needed parental guidance. Parents as well as teachers do have a bearing in developing a child's receptivity towards art and culture. The tragedy is that more and more of our own children are turning indifferent to their own culture, literature and heritage – the very things that define the identity of and bestow greatness on a race.

Old wine

Given the flip-flops of American President Donald Trump on global issues, it is difficult to accept his latest pronouncements on foreign policy as regards to Afghanistan too seriously. The international community, in particular India and Pakistan, had waited anxiously for an US decision whether to continue the phased disengagement process begun by Barack Obama. It may be recalled that Trump during his campaign had pledged to extricate the US totally from foreign conflicts; thus, in committing America to another stint in Afghanistan, Trump had already indulged in yet another flip-flop! Claiming that he was going against his instincts, he stated his conviction that a sudden and total pull out from Afghanistan will create a vacuum which might be taken advantage of by terrorist groups like Taliban. On the contrary, he planned to increase the presence of American troops on the ground in a country-based essay at finding a political solution to the Afghan issue. Despite his decision to possibly augment US troops the strategy is simply old wine in a new bottle, since the US troops as in the Obama era would not involve themselves in direct confrontation with the Taliban but be there simply to train and advise the Afghan forces. Similarly, there is nothing novel about his assertion that he would pressure Pakistan to crack down on terrorists sanctuaries since a similar intention had earlier been voiced by Obama.

Thus it is unlikely that India would break out in a hurrax at Trump's denunciation of Pakistan. The US President had lamented that the US had been offering billions of dollars in aid to a nation which is turning a blind eye towards terrorists, rhetoric that had been aired by previous administrations. The condemnation has not been accompanied by actual denial of aid or intention towards the same, a ploy that the US has played time and again. In fact, India is rightly concerned at Trump's announcement that she is a vital component in US strategy in Afghanistan and his call to her to do more to bring about peace in that region. While today there is a growing backlash in Afghanistan against the presence of foreign troops, Indian presence and help has been welcomed with open arms. This is because she has succeeded in maintaining a distance from the coalition forces while the dislike of Pakistan stems from the perception that it is an ally of those forces. Naturally, India does not want to be seen as yet another cog in the American global strategy, especially when such a strategy has been framed by a volatile and unpredictable individual as the new American President. Therefore, while India has welcomed Trump's decision to stay on in Afghanistan and, in particular, his tirade against Pakistan, she has done so in a routine, "we have heard that before" manner!

Biofortification of crops to nourish people

■ Dr Nikunja Chandra Deka

Hunger and malnutrition remain among the most devastating problems facing by the world's vulnerable people; nearly 30% of humanity is currently suffering from one or more forms of malnutrition, resulting in death, disability, stunted mental and physical growth, and as a result, retarded national socio-economic development. About 60% of 10.9 million deaths each year among children aged less than five years in the developing world are associated with malnutrition. The malaise of the situation India are alarming, out of total 1219 million population, nearly a third of them are living below poverty lines, most of whom are also illiterate. They are either under-aware or have limited purchasing power to fulfil the basic needs of food for balanced nutrition; nearly one-fifth of the population suffers from undernourishment. Infestation of undernourishment implicitly reflected in India's health indicators, a few embarrassing figures are: high maternal mortality, infant mortality, child (0-4 years) mortality, and low life expectancy at birth. Unfortunately, these health indicators for the people of Assam, in most cases, are worse than that of the national average.

The root causes of malnutrition include poverty, illiteracy, inequity, lack of awareness, etc. Eliminating these causes requires political and social action of which food and nutritional programmes can be only one aspect. Sufficient, safe and varied food supplies not only prevent malnutrition but also reduce the risk of chronic diseases.

The health of the population, particularly of the marginalized section, significantly depends on plant-based diet but major staple crops like rice, wheat, maize and cassava are often deficient in essential nutrients. Micronutrients are unevenly distrib-

uted among plant parts, regrettably, low in edible parts. Micronutrient deficiency of one or more micronutrients, is a major concern for the people who do not have access to a balanced diet.

"Biofortification" is the "biological process by which the essential nutrient quality of food including essential amino acids and fatty acids, is improved through the use of agricultural methodologies, as well as reducing anti-nutritional factors with the aim of making the nutrients bio-available to the body ingestion, in order to provide a health benefits". Crops attributes with enhanced nutritional value include increased mineral content, improved fatty acid composition, increased protein and amino acid levels, increased vitamins and carotenoids, and enhanced antioxidant levels, etc. Thus, plant-based functional foods of different classes like carbohydrates, fatty acids, flavonoids, phenolics, phytoestrogens, etc., with potential health benefits are of increasing interest in the prevention and/or treatment of diseases.

These enhanced nutritional components have potential for numerous health benefits; they neutralizes free radicals that may cause damage to cells, maintain healthy vision, reduce the risk of prostate/breast/cancer, reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, improve mental and visual functions, reduce risk of degenerative diseases, heart diseases; they may reduce menopause symptoms, osteoporosis, lower cholesterol and triglycerides, maintain healthy immune sys-

tem, improve urinary tract health and reduce the risk of high blood pressure.

WHO is pursuing for development of global evidenced-based guidelines on interventions to solve malnutrition in all forms, including vitamins and mineral nutrition. Biofortification can be accomplished through out of the three main non-mutually exclusive agronomic processes: (1) application of nutrient to the soil or leaves; (2) conventional or

three elements are mobile both in soil and plants. In contrast, iron (Fe) fertilization has not been successful as because Fe has a low mobility in soil, rapidly bound by soil particles and converted into Fe (III) or ferric oxide.

Conventional breeding, an alternative means, use intrinsic properties of a crop and as such several international organizations have initiated programmes to improve nutritional contents of crops like vita-

min A, iron and zinc. It too has limitations – this breeding strategy depends on inadequate genetic variation present in the gene pool; biological boundaries imposed by the seeds or the crop characteristics; the time consuming nature of this manual technology; the reduced expression of desirable traits due to uncontrolled gene interactions, producing the loss of hybrid vigour that results in poor yields and the fact that farmers had to buy new seeds every season (for hybrid seed).

In respect to genetic engineering, the basic limitations encompass the urge to advance understanding of the regulation of the endogenous metabolic pathways involved, to attend the food and health safety issues and ethical aspects related to the environmental and conservation of naturally available genetic resources, to have labelling of products with genetically modified crops as ingredients, and to solve issues concerning intellectual property rights, etc. In spite of limitations of the alternative methods, transgenic approaches became forerunner in biofortification of crops. Advancement of whole-genome sequencing, high throughput physical mapping, global gene expression analysis, and

traditional plant breeding; and (3) genetic engineering that encompasses genetic modification and transgenesis. Currently, biofortification efforts are aimed at increasing contents of micronutrients in edible parts of crops by integrating crop management, breeding and genetic engineering to design crops.

Biofortification through better crop nutrition by application of essential micronutrients, though simple and inexpensive, has been successful in particular geographic locations only owing to some limitations. Biofortification with iodine, selenium and zinc fertilizers has been successful because these

are being used in absence of the 2016 figures. With this ratio in mind, the number of 48 lakh electors represents an excess population of 83 lakhs in 2016. The margin of error cannot be significant.

It can be considered from another angle. The Government submitted in Parliament on July 14, 2004 that Assam had the excess population of 50 lakhs of Bangladeshis as on December 31, 2001. The Government qualified the Bangladeshis as illegal.

In 1967-1972, i.e., 44 years, the electors of Assam should have increased to 88 lakhs (2 lakhs every year in 44 years). The number of electors of Assam in 1972 was 63 lakhs. The number of electorate of Assam in 2016 consisting of the indigenous and the pre-1971 immigrants protected by the Assam Accord was 63 lakhs + 88 lakhs = 151 lakhs. The official figure of electors of Assam in 2016 was 199 lakhs. Clearly, Assam had an excess electorate of 199 lakhs minus 151 lakhs = 48 lakhs in 2016.

In 2011, Assam recorded a population of 311 lakhs. The numbers of electors in 2011 was 181 lakhs. For every 100 persons, Assam had 58 electors in 2011. The 2011 figures

are being used in absence of the 2016 figures. With this ratio in mind, the number of 48 lakh electors represents an excess population of 83 lakhs in 2016. The margin of error cannot be significant.

On the basis of the assumption of 26% decadal increase from 1971 onwards, the Bangladeshis of 50 lakhs in 2001 touched the figure of 71 lakhs in 2016. This is a very conservative estimate. Even the 26% decadal population variation from 1971 onwards is on the lower side considering the 35% decadal variation in the pre-1971 period. The burden has definitely increased in the post-1971 period.

A third route is possible by considering the ratio of the population figure of 2016, projected from the 2011 figure, and the number of electors in 2016. This ratio yields a still higher figure for excess population in Assam in respect to the clauses of the Assam Accord. This figure crosses 90 lakhs. This is closer to Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma's figure of about one crore of Bangladeshis in Assam. We can fairly conclude that the deletion of the names of less than roughly 75 lakhs of Bangladeshis would raise questions. A number of 60,000 of Bangladeshis, on an average, in each of the 126 constituencies is a perfectly thinkable and plausible number. There would be no raised eyebrows if the number thunders beyond 80 lakhs. That would be the ideal exercise. The money would be worth spent. Any error in argument is most welcome to be pointed out.

NRC update and immigrant population

■ Basanta Deka

During the period from 1951 to 1961, every 100 persons increased to 135 persons. During 1961-71, the rate of increase was the same: 100 persons became 135 persons. The 1981 Census was not carried out due to the unfavourable condition prevailing at that time. That was the peak time of the Assam Movement. During 1971-91, every 100 persons increased to 152 persons. But from then on, the trend declined. There is no explanation in the Census report.

The Census operation during the period 1991-2001 created enough scope for suspicion. In this decade, the increase was only 18 in 100 persons. In the next decade the rate further declined to 17. To summarize, (a) during 1951-71 every 100 persons increased by 35 persons in every 10 years; (b) during 1971-91 the rate decreased to 26 persons in every 10 years; and (c) during 1991-2011, the rate rested between 18 and 17.

The Census authority had no explanation for the remarkable de-

cines when the State of Assam witnessed the biggest mass protest over the continuous illegal immigration from Bangladesh. There is every reason to suspect that a deliberate attempt was made somewhere to undermine the cause of the mass uprising through the Census figures. The border was porous as ever. The climate of political patronage to the foreigners had no reason to be less damaging to the indigenous population of the State during the said periods.

During 1951-72 the number of electors of Assam increased by 23 lakhs in 21 years. The increase was 11 lakhs in 11 years during 1972-83, (b) 23 lakhs (mind 1, 23 lakhs) in just 02 years during 1983-95, (c) 20 lakhs in 06 years during 1985-91, (d) 03 lakhs in 05 years during 91-96, (e) again 23 lakhs in 05 years during 1996-2001, (f) 30 lakhs in 05 years during 2001-06, (g) 07 lakhs in 05 years during 2006-11 and (h) 18 lakhs in 05 years during 2011-16.

In 2011, Assam recorded a population of 311 lakhs. The numbers of electors in 2011 was 181 lakhs. For every 100 persons, Assam had 58 electors in 2011. The 2011 figures

Letters to the EDITOR

Sir, – The IT industry in India is source of national pride. It is also carrying out the pioneering responsibility in respect of job opportunity for the young generations. Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered many public speeches in and out of the nation in respect to the talented IT engineers of India. India has a target to achieve a fully digitalized paperless environment in the private, public and government sectors within a very short span of time. According to Modi, "Information Technology + Indian Talent = India Tomorrow". The ongoing NOFN (National Optical Fibre Network) project executed by the BSNL is going to extend the digital environment to every nook and corner of India by covering all the gram panchayats. As per media reports, around 3.7 million engineers are working in the IT sector of India. Apart from this, nearly 12 million students register their names every year

concept which can combine four technologies in a single platform. This new model creates an ecosystem that allows a business to improve its operation and makes more customers oriented with minimum overhead expenditure. The Indian IT sector must maintain the pace to meet the new challenges. Otherwise, according to a McKinsey report, half of the existing IT jobs will become irrelevant within the next 2-3 years. Yours etc., PRAMOD KUMAR PATHAK, Biswanath Chariali.

Train accident

Sir, – On August 19, 2017, the Puri-Hardwar Utkal Express met with a serious accident where 25 people lost their lives and more than 70 were seriously injured. This accident very clearly exposed the serious negligence on the part of the railway workers. At first, the railway workers noticed a fracture on the track. In such cases, the workers must report the same to the SSE (senior sectional engineer) or to the station master of to immediately block the movement of trains on the track. But the

Muzaffarnagar station master in his statement mentioned that he did not get any such information; so it is clear that the trackmen did not inform the station master. They once informed the SSE and accordingly went to repair the fractured track. The accident could have been averted had the SSE informed the station master to block the track but he did not do so. The train must have entered the track when the workers were repairing the damage but surprisingly, the workers did not use any emergency signal to stop the train. This is a serious dereliction of duty. Yours etc., SATYAJIT DAS, New Bongaigaon.

Job-oriented subjects

Sir, – The Assam Government has already announced that 22 government colleges will be started in different districts of our State. At the same time, on August 20 last, the Education Minister of Assam announced that 89 single stream colleges will be upgraded to double stream ones. There are some subjects which have high demand today for their employability.

Gauhati University has some such courses but only at the postgraduate level. The University authority should have shown urgency to open these subjects at the undergraduate level. For example, in 1993 GU started MSc in Electronics and Communication Technology but the subject is not available at the college level. In 1986, GU started MSc in Instrumentation and Applied Physics but not a single college has this subject at the UG level. Likewise, Biotechnology, geology, sociology, women studies, etc., are some of the neglected subjects which are confined to the GU campus only. These subjects are very popular in other universities and colleges in the country. Therefore, the State Chief Minister should look into the matter seriously and take positive steps for opening these job-oriented subjects in the new degree colleges. Yours etc., HEMA CHUTIA, Jagiroad.

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

Difficult phase of IT industry in India

for new jobs.

It is needless to say that none can imagine a life in the digital environment without depending on the IT platform. But contrary to the worldwide positive perspective on the Indian IT talents, recently there has been a sharp lay-off of IT jobs in Indian IT companies. The present rate of lay-off of many young engineers from the renowned IT giants like Wipro, Cognizant, Infosys and TCS is one such example. India's \$150-billion-strong outsourcing IT industry is in fact staring at an uncertain future. Rapidly changing needs of the new technology, Brexit, recent changes in the US immigration and visa regulation norms and the sharp transition in US President Donald Trump's administration are some of the key reasons of laying off of the IT talents in Indian companies.

According to some media reports, the Indian IT sector has created slow and lazy environments which cannot support the present needs on many occasions. SMAC (social, mobile, analytics and cloud) is the model of the present IT

Rihon visits Kokrajhar

CORRESPONDENT

KOKRAJHAR, Aug 24: There was no food scarcity in the State and the State has sufficient foodstock for the post-flood situation, this was stated by the State Food & Civil Supply Minister Rihon Daimary on Tuesday here.

Talking to mediapersons, Daimary also said that the State government has taken all necessary steps to check price hike of essential commodities.

Daimary held a review meeting on essential commodity stock in the region at the BTC Secretariat, Kokrajhar.

OBITUARY

Subarna Bordoloi

DERGAON, Aug 24: Subarna Bordoloi, retired headmistress of Kachar High School and a resident of Chititali Bongon Kachar passed away on Wednesday due to old-age ailments. She was 83.

Born in 1934 at Kalagon Sivsagar, she became a resident of Bongaon. With degrees in Arts and BED, she started her career as an assistant teacher at Kachar High School and remained with the same school as the Headmistress in 1994. She also wrote five books and was associated with several organisations along with the member of Golaghat Teacher Training College and the women cell of Golaghat DC office. Her death was widely mourned in Golaghat district. She leaves behind three sons and a host of relatives. — Correspondent

Jeuti Koch

DHEMAJI, Aug 24: Jeuti Koch, wife of late freedom fighter Nareswar Koch and a resident of Machukhowa Choukham ghat in Nhembari passed away on Tuesday due to old-age ailments. She was 83.

Born in 1934, late Jeuti Koch was associated with almost all the cultural activities in the greater Machukhowa area. She played a pivotal role in organising Rati Bihu celebration at Machukhowa. She was also a veteran Bihu dancer and a good folk singer. Her death was condole here by several organisations including Machukhowa Rati Bihu Committee and Dhemaji District Freedom Fighters' Association.

She leaves behind six sons, three daughters and a host of relatives. — Correspondent

Srimanta Sankaradeva Tithi observed across State

STAFF CORRESPONDENT/CORRESPONDENTS

DIBRUGARH, Aug 24: Along with the naamghars and Srimanta Sankaradeva Sangha in the city, Vivekananda Kendra Vidyalaya here observed Srimanta Sankaradeva Tithi on Wednesday with fervour and solemnity on the Vidyalaya premises.

The event was attended by parents, teachers, students and other well-wishers. Manjeeta Barua, a student of Class IX delivered a speech on the significance of the day. The other programmes included presentations of bengali by the students from Class VI to X and dha naam from Class II to V.

A bhajana (*Prabhaladar Charitra*) was also performed by the students based on the lit-



Devotees performing naam-prasanga on the occasion of Sankaradeva Tithi at Dhekaikhawa Naamghar, in Jorhat on Wednesday. — UB Photos

of Bhakta Prahalad.

Sankaradeva was observed here as Kirtan Mahotsava with pomp and gaiety.

Devotees and followers

Triple talaq

Cong would have brought laws to overturn SC verdict: MJ Akbar

ARINDAM GUPTA

SILCHAR, Aug 24: After the Supreme Court quashed the practice of triple talaq system bringing great joy to the Muslim women, Union Minister of State for External Affairs, MJ Akbar, said that the Congress had been in power now, it would have done everything to overturn the decision of the Supreme Court.

Akbar was here to attend the mega blood donation camp organised by the BJP Silchar Town and Block Man-

dal Committee as a part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of New India Manthan 2022. "Had Congress been in power now, it would have initiated laws to overturn the decision of the Supreme Court. It is now spreading misinformation that the ban on triple talaq system is a verdict of the Supreme Court and Government has no role behind the decision," Akbar was quoted as saying.

Further, Akbar said that the Prime Minister has been striving for women emanci-

pation and creating congenial environment for women since the day he took charge to lead the nation.

Earlier, the Union Minister of State for External Affairs enthused the party workers to give their blood and sweat for the party to accomplish the mission of new India by 2022 as envisioned by the Prime Minister.

On the other hand, the Union Minister also visited the Government Boys' HS School to plant trees and participated in the Swacha Bharat drive on the school premises.

Principal of DKD College directed to postpone poll

CORRESPONDENT

DERGAON, Aug 24: Anticipating escalation of tension in the college campus, the Deputy Commissioner of Golaghat has directed the principal of DKD College to postpone the forthcoming students' union election which is scheduled to be held on August 30 next.

According to information, the students under the aegis of the college unit of AASU led by Polash Bora and Milonjoti Khatanar of Dergaon regional unit of AASU staged a dharna in front of the gate on

Wednesday. They alleged that the principal is holding the post of the president of students' union as ex-officio, which is against the Lyngdoh Committee report on college election, which was also recommended by the Supreme Court.

The students submitted a memorandum each to the Deputy Commissioner, Golaghat and the VC of Dibrugarh University (DU). Later, the DC of Golaghat deputed the District Election Officer, Kokila Gogoi, as representative and directed the college authority to postpone the election process until further order.

Similarly, the Director of College Development Council of DU, Dr Rupam Saikia, also directed the principal to postpone the election. On being contacted, the Assistant Returning Officer of the election, Dr Khireshwar Loyer, said that almost all the recommendations of Lyngdoh Committee, 2006, have been followed in the election process, but only to keep coordination among all sections of the students of the college, the post of the president is being held by the principal so far.

Amar Barua: a tribute

Very rarely do people leave such a lasting impression on you, and in so little time. My association with Amarda, who passed away on August 15, stretched just four years back, and yet, it is now so difficult to accept that he is no more. How I wish I knew from him much earlier! How much I wish he was still around! A man of high intellect with an in-depth knowledge of almost every subject under the sun, he could provide incisive and thought-provoking inputs in every discussion or debate he was a part of. All of this was always invariably accompanied with a very warm smile. Well-dressed, well-mannered and very particular about his likes and dislikes, he was at the same time, a very accommodating person.

Minoti Lahkar

With tearful eyes, I am writing this tribute of Minoti Lahkar, popularly known as 'Minu' among relatives and in the locality. She breathed her last on August 15 at her Kastura Nagar, South Sarania, Ulubari residence. She was 76.

She was the fifth daughter of late Chandralata Choudhury and Harihar Choudhury, who was a well-known businessman of Dooimoda and former MLA of Dooimoda constituency of the first Assam Assembly of independent India in 1952.

After completing her primary education in Dooimoda, she studied in Lady Keane High School at Shil-

with a liberal outlook towards life, and always way ahead of his times.

The second of four sons of Late Savitri Barua and Late Jayotirmoy Barua, the first Assamese IFS officer, Amarda variously did his schooling from Nairobi, Shillong, Odessa (USSR) and Delhi, before pursuing a bachelor's degree in Economics at Hindu College, Delhi University. He then worked briefly at the United Nations in Rome before returning to Delhi as the first India representative of the pharmaceutical giant Organon. A period of ill health forced him to relocate to Guwahati where he spent the rest of his life as an independent consultant, working for both the government as well as pri-

vate corporations. He started one of the first modern brick factories in Assam and was instrumental in establishing the fashion industry here. A person who donned various hats, he was a key figure in a CII mentorship programme and a guide to numerous young people from different walks of life.

I got to know Amarda through Shankar, his younger brother and a very good 'old' friend of mine. As we got closer over many spirited discussions, the sheer volume of knowledge coming out from this small human frame was simply mind-boggling. For a person not trained as an architect or designer, he had a rather sound understanding of design theory. His knowledge of

material and innovative construction techniques was way too impressive, probably much more than many trained professionals in the field. Most of us have had good fun in our own time, but his tales about various escapades were from a certain superlative genre altogether. He was also a major source of encouragement and a key resource person throughout the planning and execution of SIX, an architectural event some of us had organised last year. At SIX, as with many others, he has left a void that will be difficult to fill.

I pray that his soul finds eternal peace, and that his near and dear ones get the strength to bear the loss that has befallen them all.

— Bhaskar Barua

Bibha Das

Bibha Das, a resident of Monalisa Path near Hatiaghari Chariali here, passed away on August 15. She,

wrote in her obituary.

emulate. Perhaps for her thoughtful and painstaking measures, her children too blossomed into good human beings of the society.

Today on the day of her ad-

yashraddha, I along with other family members pray to the Almighty for the eternal peace of her departed soul.

— Pradip Kakati

of the Ambikagiri Naamghar and was also the president of the naamghar samiti. She took active part in every social function of the locality.

She leaves behind her hus-

band Kumud Chandra Das, a son and two daughters.

On the day of her *adyashraddha* today, we pray to the Al-

mighty for the eternal peace of her soul.

— Malabika Das

long, the then capital of undivided Assam. She was married to Bipin Chandra Lahkar, an ACS officer in 1960. Her husband expired a few years back. By virtue of marrying her niece Dhira in 1981, I was very close to her and called her 'Minu maha'. Since I met her, I had seen her as a very energetic, laborious and a perfect housewife. She could handle every work very efficiently. She was an expert cook.

For the last few months she was ailing and she expired on the fateful day at her residence. A highly respectable woman of her society, Minu maha could leave behind many footprints for others to

follow.

Bibha Das was a member of Pabuli Sangha and was active-

ly associated with many social organisations. She was also one of the founder members

of the World Heritage Site Manas National Park-cum-Tiger Project in view of the erosion threat from Beki river the main road faces at Lakshmi Chowki at Safakamar. This was informed by Ranjeet Kumar Dass, MLA of Sarbhog and president State unit of BJP.

Barpetaroad-Bansuri road,

the main route of communication with the World Heritage site, has been facing threats of erosion for the past few years.

It became severe from the last

part of June this year and the people of that area have been demanding protection of this

all-important road from the

erosion threat from Beki river

the main road faces at Lak-

shmi Chowki at Safakamar.

This was informed by Ran-

jeet Kumar Dass, MLA of

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unit of BJP.

The PWD was compelled to

close the road for all types of

vehicular traffic from August

18. People of a large num-

ber of villages of northern part

of Barpeta and Baksa districts

have been suffering a lot

for the last few days due to

the closure of that road. Sev-

eral organisations have held agi-

tational programmes and protest

meets to repair the road and restore communication.

Amid large-scale protests

and demands from the public,

high-level officials, both from

PWD and Water Resource

Department, visited the area

during the last two days. Lo-

cal MLA Ranjeet Kumar Dass

has also held consultations

with ministers concerned.

Dass, accompanied by the vis-

iting officers of the two depar-

tments, addressed the local

media in the Barpetaroad

Press Club at Barpetaroad in

Barpeta district on Tuesday

evening.

Dass informed that the PWD

and the Water Resource De-

partments have conducted an

on-the-spot assessment of the

erosion in the Safakamar area

of the district and have chalked out an action plan for its protec-

tion. He also informed that a project for geo-tag installation in 400 metres along the Bansbari-Barpetaroad road has been approved by the government, the work on which will begin once the water in the river recedes.

Referring to the continua-

tion of the road communica-

tion between the north and

south of the eroded portion,

Dass said that PWD has iden-

tified two alternative roads to

facilitate communication.

While the road from Safa-

kamar to Naphari will facil-

itate movement of light vehi-

cles, the Gobardhana-Khusrav-

-Kairabar road will cater

to the heavy vehicles. Both

these roads will be prepared

by the PWD within next 15

days as to make them suitable

for vehicular traffic.

KAAC holds review meet to assess performance of various depts

CORRESPONDENT

DIPHUA, Aug 24: The Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC) has taken a unique step to boost its administrative machinery. The KAAC organised its first review meeting to assess the performance of various departments and learn their lacunae.

In the first review meeting, five departments were put under strict scrutiny at the Joyguri Doloi auditorium. The meeting was presided over by Chief Executive Member (CEM) of KAAC, Tuliram Ronghang, member, Irrigation Department has utilised Central and State share of fund up to the maximum limit. "Ninety per cent works of 124 schemes per year have been completed, but in aggregate we have received just 52 per cent fund till now. We are expecting that the government will release rest of the fund and the ongoing litigations in the court will come to a logical conclusion so that we can release the contractors' payments," he said.

"In Karbi Anglong, the Water Resource Department has to deal with seven major riv-

ers and nearly 20 minor streams. The major rivers have inter-State and inter-district border lines, protecting river erosion and utilising its re-

source is a major task. We are mooting the option of increasing the strength of executive officers and staffs and mobilising additional fund for taking up major schemes. As desired by the CEM, I am exploring the option of constituting a Technical Advisory Committee under the control of KAAC, which is present controlled from Barak Valley," Ronghang added.

The other step which we want to take up is to obtain fund from the Department of Natural Calamities and Environmental Impact. With the recommendation of Technical Advisory Committee, we will be able to propose for schemes higher than our current pro-

posals to State Disaster Relief Fund worth Rs 4,093 lakh, but it's quite insufficient considering the vast requirement.

Amarsing Tissa, Executive Member of KAAC and in-charge of Water Resource Department, told the gathering of public representatives and bureaucrats that the flood period in the region starts from mid part of May and continues till October and our priority will be to complete the protection works before May.

To reduce flood inundation in areas like Mahamaya, Nomiati, Howrahgarh, Kharkanthi (MAC constituency), effective steps will be taken up for enhancing the performance of the department.

The KAAC is considering to create separate divisions of the department for Karbi Anglong (East), West Karbi Anglong and Bokajan.



CPI (ML) activists taking out a protest rally against the BJP-led State government, in Dibrugarh on Wednesday. — UB Photos

Road to Manas National Park closed due to erosion

CORRESPONDENT

BARPEATA, Aug 24: The PWD will provide two alternative roads for visitors to the World Heritage Site Manas National Park-cum-Tiger Project in view of the erosion threat from Beki river the main road faces at Lakshmi Chowki at Safakamar. This was informed by Ranjeet Kumar Dass, MLA of Barpeta and president State unit of BJP.

Barpetaroad-Bansuri road,

the main route of communica-

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It became severe from the last

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Amid large-scale protests

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EDUCATIONAL NOTICE
MOP UP COUNSELLING FOR SELECTION AND SPOT
ADMISSION IN TO THE 1ST YEAR MBBS/BDS COURSES
IN THE MEDICAL COLLEGES OF ASSAM FOR
THE SESSION 2017-18

This is for general information that the Mop up counselling for selection and spot admission of candidates into MBBS/BDS courses in the Medical Colleges of Assam and Regional Medical College, Guwahati against vacancy for the session 2017 shall be held on 28th August/2017 in the office of the Director of Medical Education, Assam, Srimile, Khanapara, Guwahati-22 at 10.00 am onwards.

Candidates who were called for the 1st and 2nd counselling held from 17th to 23rd July/2017 and 19th August/2017 are eligible to attend the Mop up counselling. The selection shall be made provisionally subject to fulfillment of the prescribed eligibility criteria as per the Admission Rules.

Candidates who were selected in their allotted seat and reservation during 1st and 2nd counselling held from 17th to 23rd July/2017 and 19th August/2017 need not appear the Mop up counselling and their seats in already allotted college shall remain unchanged.

However those candidates already selected during first and second counselling who want to change their institution as per available vacancy in order of merit may appear the Mop up counselling.

Candidates must appear personally for counselling and spot admission on the scheduled dates and time failing which no seat shall be allotted in this counselling.

Important notes:

1. Only the candidates who are eligible for 85% Assam State quota seats will be eligible for attending the Mop up Counselling.
2. There may be necessary for calling more no. of candidates of all categories for counselling depending on arrival of last minute vacancies (if any) due to various reasons. For details of such cases the candidates are advised to visit the website of ABNSYSU to go through the official website of this Directorate www.dmeassam.gov.in regularly from time to time.
3. The candidates are requested to be ready with a sum of Rs.30,000/- (Approval for spot admission fee on the same day).
4. There will be no admission into MBBS/BDS courses for the session 2017-18 after 31st August, 2017.

Sd/- Director of Medical Education, Assam
Srimile, Khanapara, Ghy-22,
Janasanyog/C2883/17

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All 11.00 am to 12.00 pm & 8.00 pm
BALALLY KI BARFI
Balally, Srimile, Guwahati-22
Screen-1

All 10.00 am to 11.00 pm & 8.30 pm
A GENTLEMAN

At 45 min. 10.00 am & 8.30 pm
BARELY KI RAHI (Hindi)

TICKET : Rs. 100/- (Ticket + 10% Service Charge)
For booking & info use mobile app
www.bookmyshow.com
Or 09854077171

ANABELLE : CREATION (Hindi-2D)
Daily 10.00 am to 11.00 pm

BARELY KI RAHI (Hindi) (Hindi)

TOILET : EX PREK KATHA (H)
For booking & info use mobile app
www.bookmyshow.com
Or 09854077171

ANOVIX MOVIES : JORHAT ABS MALL, GOURI JORHAT (Theatre)
(25th Aug to 31st Aug 2017)

A GENTLEMAN-SRR (H) U/A
At 9.30 am & 4.30 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (H)
At 8.30 pm

TALET EK PREK KATHA (Hindi) 2D

For Booking & info use mobile app
www.bookmyshow.com
Or 9127753009/9127753009

Follow us on Facebook

TUM CINE MANGALDAI 2nd Floor, Gourishree Complex L.B.D. Road, Mangaldai

(Dolby Surround sound system)
Ambience, Lounge, Puff Beach Seats)

25th Aug to 31st Aug 2017

A GENTLEMAN (Hindi)

Sig. Suniel Shetty, Aamir Khan etc.

Fernando etc.

At 10.00 am & 8.30 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (H)

Sig. Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Birla Bagh

Regular Ticket Rates :
Rs. 100/-, 150/-, 200/-

Online Booking :
www.tumcine.com

Please call at Ph. 03713-222722

AMBKA CINE PALACE

Dudhbari

Digital Picture Show Room Complex L.B.D. Road, Mangaldai

(Dolby Surround sound system)

Ambience, Lounge, Puff Beach Seats)

25th Aug to 31st Aug 2017

A GENTLEMAN (Hindi)

Sig. Suniel Shetty, Aamir Khan etc.

Fernando etc.

At 10.00 am & 8.30 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (H)

Sig. Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Birla Bagh

Regular Ticket Rates :
Rs. 100/-, 150/-, 200/-

Online Booking :
www.tumcine.com

Please call at Ph. 03713-222722

GALLERIA CINEMA

HUB, G.S. Road, Guwahati is showing

25th Aug to 31st Aug 2017 with

A GENTLEMAN (Hindi)

At 9.00 am, 1.35 & 6.15 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (H)

At 6.30 pm & 11.00 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (Eng)

At 11.30 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (Eng)

For Online Booking Please Visit :

www.bookmyshow.com

(Terms & conditions apply)

Ticket Rates: Regular Show -

Rs. 100/-, 150/-, 200/-

Rs. 300/-, Rs. 350/-

Rs. 80/-, 120/-, 180/-, 200/-, 300/-

Website : www.bookmyshow.com

URVASI CINEMA

India, G.S. Road, Guwahati is showing

25th Aug to 31st Aug 2017

A GENTLEMAN (Hindi)

At 11.00 am, 1.35 & 6.00 pm

QAUDE BAND (Hindi)

At 2.30 pm, 6.30 pm & 8.30 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (Eng)

At 11.00 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (Eng)

For Online Booking Please Visit :

www.bookmyshow.com

(Terms & conditions apply)

Ticket Rates: Regular Show -

Rs. 100/-, 150/-, 200/-

Rs. 300/-, Rs. 350/-

Rs. 80/-, 120/-, 180/-, 200/-

Website : www.bookmyshow.com

MEGHDOOT PICTURES PALACE

Digital Picture Show Room

Sound System Air Conditioned

A 11.00 am to 12.00 pm & 8.00 pm

A GENTLEMAN

Ticket Rates: Balcony: Rs. 60/-

Reserve: Rs. 40/-

Free parking facility available.

SONARI CINEMA

India, G.S. Road, Guwahati is showing

25th Aug to 31st Aug 2017

A GENTLEMAN (Hindi)

At 11.00 am, 1.35 & 6.00 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (H)

Sig. Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Birla Bagh

Regular Ticket Rates :
Rs. 100/-, 150/-, 200/-

Online Booking :
www.sonari.com

Please call at Ph. 0361-2130942

AK GENTLEMAN

At 11.00 am, 1.35 & 6.30 pm

QAUDE BAND (Hindi)

At 3.30 pm & 6.30 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (H)

At 6.30 pm & 11.00 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (Eng)

At 11.30 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (Eng)

For Online Booking Please Visit :

www.sonari.com

(Terms & conditions apply)

Ticket Rates: Regular Show -

Rs. 100/-, 150/-, 200/-

Rs. 300/-, Rs. 350/-

Rs. 80/-, 120/-, 180/-, 200/-

Website : www.sonari.com

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25th Aug to 31st Aug 2017

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At 11.00 am, 1.35 & 6.00 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (H)

Sig. Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Birla Bagh

Regular Ticket Rates :
Rs. 100/-, 150/-, 200/-

Online Booking :
www.sonari.com

Please call at Ph. 0361-2130942

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At 11.00 am, 1.35 & 6.30 pm

QAUDE BAND (Hindi)

At 3.30 pm & 6.30 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (H)

At 6.30 pm & 11.00 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (Eng)

At 11.30 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (Eng)

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(Terms & conditions apply)

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Website : www.sonari.com

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Sig. Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Birla Bagh

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At 3.30 pm & 6.30 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (H)

At 6.30 pm & 11.00 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (Eng)

At 11.30 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (Eng)

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(Terms & conditions apply)

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Sig. Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Birla Bagh

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At 3.30 pm & 6.30 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (H)

At 6.30 pm & 11.00 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (Eng)

At 11.30 pm

BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAZ (Eng)

For Online Booking Please Visit :

www.sonari.com

(Terms & conditions apply)

Ticket Rates: Regular Show -

Rs. 100/-, 150/-, 200/-

Rs. 300/-, Rs. 350/-

Rs. 80/-, 120/-, 180/-, 200/-

Website : www.sonari.com

SONARI CINEMA

India, G.S. Road, Guwahati is showing



OFFICE OF THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL (A&E) ASSAM

MAIDAMGAON, BELTOLA, GUWAHATI-781029

DEPARTMENT WISE STATUS OF SETTLED PENSION/FAMILY PENSION CASE DURING THE PERIOD FROM : 01-JULY-17 TO : 31-JUL-17

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT,AGR							IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT,IRG							
Pensioner's Name	Letter Number	Date	Pensioner's Name	Letter Number	Date	Pensioner's Name	Letter Number	Date	Pensioner's Name	Letter Number	Date	Pensioner's Name	Letter Number	
Y INDRABABU SINGHA FORMUD ALI	AGA/321/17/176	30-05-17	SUNIL KARMA HAZARIKA	DAU/LES/ESST/17/2016-17/4357	27-03-17	JALAL UDIN LASKAR	IGN (E) 347/2012/38	25-04-17	ALI HUSSAIN	CE/PO/114/2016/43	31-10-16			
	AGRI/ESST/103(FA)/2017-18/5	16-06-17	BIREN CH. DAS	AGRI/ESST/103(RA)/2016-17/17	29-03-17	FOPULLA MOHAN	E/380/17/92	17-06-17	INGENOW SINCHA	IGNE/151/2013/90	12-05-17			
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND VETERINARY DEPARTMENT, A.H.V							BHASKAR DUTTA BARUAH ABDUL KADIR KAHEDAIM AYNIHLQOUE KHAN							
RAMANI KT DEKA	PI/7662/2017-18/334	21-04-17	MAHESWAR DAS	PI/7697/2017-18/908	15-05-17	JALAL UDIN LASKAR	IGN (E) 347/2012/38	25-04-17	ALAT FUSSAN KHAN	MIS/P/139/2013/57	06-05-17			
DHAN RAMI DAS	PI/7550/2016-17/5139	13-10-16	LIKHIT CH. DAS	DVGLE-11/LD/2016-17/935	25-05-17	KHEDAIM	E/G/11/2016/261	01-02-16	GONESH BORAH	E/343/17/93	17-06-17			
DINESH KARINA SONOWAL KUNJALATA BARUAH	KLF/1-2/2015-16/3	28-05-17	JOGEN SAKA	DPT/1-892/16-17/1944	21-02-17	AYNIHLQOUE KHAN	IGN (E) 31/2012/22	27-03-17	BINRAY D. KAR	IGN (E) 31/2015/25	26-04-17			
	PL/7743/2017-19/96	16-05-17	KANAK CHOWDHURY	PI/7688/2017-18/322	21-04-17		GI/DEST/203/1075	12-06-17	NAZIMZUN AHMED	IGN (E) 29/2015/28	27-03-17			
CULTURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, C.U.L							ABDUL AZIZ AHMED							
SIRAJUDDIN AHMED	CAG/56/2016/156	16-04-17					DMJ/57/PT/2016/963							
EDUCATION/TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT, E.DN							BIPIN CHANDRA BARMAN SUMENDU KR. DEY LE/416/10/3035 LE/978/10/833							
HARA KANTA BORAH SHARAT CHANDRA SAUD	NP/E/PE/14/2016/225	15-11-16	SARAPURINDU AHMED	CAD/74/2005/88	15-09-16	DET/ESST/TRG/38/2015/40	30-03-16	PREM PRASAD SHARMA	DET/ESST/TRG/45/2015/37	16-05-16				
HARSABDARAHAN DEKA	AE/ESST/PR/76/08/11409	05-06-17	ABHAYNANDA SARMA	ATPEN/2017/033	12-01-17	RAHMANU	LE/416/10/3035 LE/978/10/833	21-06-17	NRIPEN CHANDRA DEKA	DET(B)1495/PT/648	03-12-16			
	POWIE/EPN/83/2016-17/3177	04-07-17	REBATH SAKA	DLSE/59/PERNS/2016-17/7797	29-06-17			21-06-17						
EDUCATION/GENERAL)DEPARTMENT EDN							PRADYUT BORDOLOI							
MUNTRA BEGUM GEETKA NATH PATHAK	AAP/PE/420/1738	21-06-17	JUTHAKA DAS	DHE/PE/15/2015/64	22-06-17	LAA/1012/2016/505	24-03-17	PANCHAVAT & RUPA RUPA/EST/17/2016/103	LAA/53/2016/418	14-03-17				
KUMON CHANDRA DEKA	8505	22-06-17	HERUN DUTTA	DHE/PE/7/2016/23	17-03-16									
ANANDA GOGOI	SCERT/ACCTT/EN/253/2017/4	16-12-16	SUREN BHUYAN	PE/NO/2017/4876	28-06-17									
ABHIJIT BARMAN	DHE/PE/13/2016-17/61	05-07-17	BORNALI SAKIBA DORA	AAP/PE/20/17/215	04-05-17									
L.H.M. AZIZA JUSSAN CHUDHOURI	SCERT/ACCTT/EN/250/2016/27	22-06-17	MADAN KEDOT	SCERT/ACCTT/PE/250/2015/72	31-05-17									
APARAJITA MILITA PHULKAR	DHE/PE/87/2017/64	23-06-17	PRakash Barman	DHE/PE/15/2015/654	02-06-17									
BANALAKHISHI BARUAH	AHE/349/2017/53	17-05-17	CHHAYA	AHE/347/2017/32	02-06-17									
MOHANTEB	DHE/PE/11/2017/81	11-07-17	SWAPNA SARKAR DEKA	DHE/PE/11/2017/57	23-06-17									
AMIT DEB	SC/PE/17/2017/29	20-06-17	CHHAYA	AHE/347/2017/32	02-06-17									
MANJU COOCHI BASUMATARY	DHE/PE/13/2017/61	05-07-17	LAJADIBEHATI BAHU	DHE/PE/16/2017/58	14-06-17									
RAMAKANTA GOGOI	DHE/PE/13/2016-17/61	05-06-17	GAJENDRA NARAHAN BORBONGSHI	DHE/PE/11/2017/54	20-05-17									
SIRIBOSHAN RAJAN PAUL	SECRET/ACCTT/PE/24/2016/67	04-05-17	DANID RAM DEKA	DEODR/MPRN/PE/240/2015/2046	15-06-17									
PUROBISH SHARMA	AHE/350/2017/31	17-05-17	DHARANIDHAR BARMAN	DHE/PE/26/2016/127	07-03-17									
SATYANARAN ACHARJEE	DE/PE/BN/9/14/2016/14	06-06-17	GAURI DUTTA	AAP/PE/9/2016/58	20-05-17									
PUNYAKANTAS DA	EHA/179/2015/31	13-07-17												
ELECTION DEPARTMENT,ELE							DIPAK KUMAR SARMA							
BAGA RAMDAS	SEC/16/9/184	23-02-17					AIA/10/2012/245	12-07-17						
FINANCE DEPARTMENT,FIN							KAMALA GOSWAMI DULAL CH. KHANIKAR							
DIPANKAR DAS	DA-226/91/106	25-05-17	ALI HUSSAIN	761	16-06-17	PDS/36/87/207	31-05-17	AKHIL CHANDRA MEKH	DES/37/EST/FF/947	17-06-17				
FISHERIES DEPARTMENT,FIS							PDS/31/2017/38	17-06-17						
DILIP BHARALI JITENDRA NATH KALITA	FDFO(S)II/17/2016-17/335	06-06-17	GOURI SANKAR SAIKIA	AFKD/26/2017/18/119	19-06-17									
FOOD, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT,F.C.							POWER DEPARTMENT, P.WM							
BIKASH HARAYAN THAKUR	FSB/40/2017/22	31-05-17					PEM/33/2017/75	05-05-17	DIPTI DAS	PEM/43/5/215	14-06-17			
FOREST DEPARTMENT,FOR							ARUN CHANDRA BORAH BIPIN CH. DAS							
MASENCHI TALUKDAR	BEST/EPN/1/2016/16	23-06-17	SUDARSHAN DAS	FNGL/PE/20/PEN/2017/399/94	29-04-17	PHEE/GLT/304-47/18/715	14-06-17	SANTI PRASAD SINGH	PHEE/GOS/ESTT/32/PT-II/2017-18/652	27-06-17				
SUMANTA DAS	MD/18/16/239	21-04-17	ABHINOB KUMARAS	BIPIN CH. DAS	07-02-17									
RANJITA BHURAGHON	HLA/12/03/13/504	27-03-17												
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION,DEPARTMENT,GAD							BIPIN CH. DAS							
CHANDHAMMAD ALI PRABODH CHANDRA SARDHA SIKHSWARI GOGOI	KPF-1285/503 KPF-240/161 SCRT/207/95/76	06-05-17	GAHIN KALITA	KPF-19/30	27-02-17									
		23-08-16	ISHAN CHANDRA BORAH	KSF-43/13/SH/2/82/212	09-06-17									
		23-08-16	GAGAN CH. CHUDHOURI	KPF-236/75	16-08-16									
HANDLOOM,TEXTILE & SICURERITY DEPARTMENT,HTS							ARUN CHANDRA BORAH BIPIN CH. DAS							
MAHAKANTA SAIKIA	HTS/158/2017/45	06-06-17	BANKITALY DALAS	HTS/234/2015/43	13-07-15									
PULINK NR. SAIKIA SUBASH CHANDRA DAS	SDP/93/2017/49/4300 HTS/328/2015/20	10-07-17	BANSWARSA BIKASH	HTS/28/2016/142	19-10-16									
		14-09-15	DEBENDRA DAMARI	CHD/H/1BT/C/3E/33/2017/05	23-04-17									
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT,HFW							AJIT CH. DUTTA BIJU CHANDRA HIRZAN							
NASECHI TALUKDAR	NGD/CH/13/2016/209	23-06-17	SUDARSHAN DAS	ESTT/UT/CH/13/2016/4697	31-05-17	EDM/10/2016/305	29-04-17	RUBAL CH. DAS	ED/CE/2016/306	16-06-17				
MARAPUR DAS	HLA/12/03/13/504	20-06-17	MITHRAM BORAH	HLA/13/03/13/504	11-07-17									
BU-BHABANISHI DUITA	SC/PE/13/2016/209	16-05-17	PRONY KUMAR SHARMA	HLA/17/03/17/PT/74	09-05-17									
SHAHABUDIN SHEKH ADHIR KUMAR BRAHMA	HLA/51/2016/331	10-01-17	HABEJULON SHEKH	NUVDR/PE/2016/209	23-08-17									
SARBARANA KALITA	HLA/87/2015/23	02-06-17	BIRBAL MUSHAHARY	ESTT/BG/TC/PE/2016/2046	14-06-17									
		02-06-17	SHIBULADHARA HAGIER	HLA/66/2012/17/338	30-06-17									
		02-06-17	SHIBULADHARA HAGIER	HLA/66/2012/17/338	29-06-17									
INDUSTRY & COMMERCE DEPARTMENT,IND							RUPAKANTH DEPARTMENT,RDW							
MAHENDRA BARUAH MRUDUL CHANDRA BORAH	CI/373/17/193	30-05-17	PRABENI LANGTHASA	CLB/20/12/2012/72	30-05-17									
	CI/1372/2012/152	20-04-17												
Final Payment Authorities of General Provident Fund issued during the month of July' 2017 in respect of employees of Govt. of Assam on retirement/death.							SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT,SWD							
SI. No.	GPF Account No.	SI. No.	GPF Account No.	SI. No.	GPF Account No.	SI. No.	GPF Account No.	SI. No.	GPF Account No.	SI. No.	GPF Account No.	SI. No.	GPF Account No.	
1	AGR/1862	70	CD/1025	139	CG/3028	208	DT/4413	277	ED/2939	346	LR/923	415	MGS/1795	
2	AGR/1862	71	CD/1030	140	CG/3029	209	DT/4414	278	ED/2940	347	LR/924	416	MGS/1796	
3	AGR/1862	72	CD/1036	141	CG/3036	210	DT/4465	279	ED/2982	348	LR/1148	417	MSC/1027	
4	AGR/1862	73	CD/1037	142	CG/3037	211	DT/4466	280	ED/2998	349	LR/1176	418	MSC/1046	
5	AGR/1862	74	CD/1038	143	CG/3038	212	DT/4467	281	ED/3004	350	LR/1185	419	MSC/1270	
6	AGR/1862	75	CD/1039	144	CG/3039	213	DT/4468	282	ED/3023	351	LR/1186	420	MSC/1285	
7	AGR/1862	76	CD/1040	151	CG/3040	214	DT/4469	283	ED/3047	352	LR/1225	421	MSC/1286	
8	AGR/1862	77	CD/1041	152	CG/3041	215	DT/4470	284	ED/3057	353	LR/1276	422	MSC/1295	
9	AGR/1862	78	CD/1042	153	CG/3042	216	DT/4471	285	ED/3067	354	LR/1317	423	MSC/1306	
10	AGR/1862	79	CD/1043	154	CG/3044	223	DT/4467	286	ED/3077	355	LR/1318	424	MSC/1307	
11	AGR/1862	80	CD/1044	155	CG/3045	224	DT/4528	293	ED/3087	356	LR/1319	425	MSC/1308	
12	AGR/1862	81	CD/1045	156	CG/3046	225	DT/4529	294	ED/3097	357	LR/1320	426	MSC/1309	
13	AGR/1862	82	CD/1046	157	CG/3047	226	DT/4530	295	ED/3107	358	LR/1321	427	MSC/1310	
14	AGR/1862	83	CD/1047	158	CG/3048	227	DT/4531	296	ED/3117	359	LR/1322	428	MSC/1311	
15	AGR/1862	84	CD/1048	159	CG/3049	228	DT/4532	297	ED/3127	360	LR/1323	429	MSC/1312	
16	AGR/1862	85	CD/1049	160	CG/3050	229	DT/4533	298	ED/3137	361	LR/1324	430	MSC/1313	
17	AGR/1862	86	CD/1050	161	CG/3051	230	DT/4534	299	ED/3147	362	LR/1325	431	MSC/1314	
18	AGR/1862	87	CD/1051	162	CG/3052	231	DT/4535	300	ED/3157	363	LR/1326	432	MSC/1315	
19	AGR/1862	88	CD/1052	163	CG/3053	232	DT/4536	301	ED/3167	364	LR/1327	433	MSC/1316	
20	AGR/1862	89	CD/1053	164	CG/3054	233	DT/4537	302	ED/3177	365	LR/1328	434	MSC/1317	
21	AGR/1862	90	CD/1054	165	CG/3055	234	DT/4538	303	ED/3187	366	LR/1329	435	MSC/1318	
22	AGR/1862	91	CD/1055	166	CG/3056	235	DT/4539	304	ED/3197	367	LR/1330	436	MSC/1319	
23	AGR/1862	92												

CONT. ON PAGE- 11

CAPSULE

Nilekani's return to Infosys board

BENGALURU, Aug 24: Infosys co-founder Nandan Nilekani today returned to the global software major as non-Executive Chairman of the Board with immediate effect. "The Board of Directors has appointed Nandan Nilekani as a non-executive, non-independent director and as the Chairman of the Board of Directors," said the IT major in a regulatory filing on the BSE. - IANS

Bandhan Bank IPO

KOLKATA, Aug 24: Private sector Bandhan Bank, the first MPFI bank under the universal banking landscape in the country, has already started its IPO process. "When we got the in-principle licence from RBI, we were asked to come out with an IPO by 2018", founder and CEO of Bandhan Bank Chandra Sekhar Ghosh said. The second largest private sector bank last evening, now that we have completed two full years and a year left for the IPO, the process has been already started, he said. - PTI

New Air India CMD

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: Air India's new Chairman and Managing Director Rajiv Bansal took over charge today and met top officials of the airline. After assuming office at the national passenger carrier's New Delhi-based HQ - Airlines House - Bansal, who quit from the employees in making the airline financially viable. "The company has been growing from strength to strength - introducing new aircraft and introducing new routes," Bansal said. - PTI

Bol cuts rate

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: Public lender Bank of India (BoI) has reduced interest rate on savings bank accounts by 35 per cent on deposits of up to Rs 50 lakh. However, the bank will continue to offer a 35 per cent interest on deposits of above Rs 50 lakh. "The bank is introducing two-tier saving bank rates with effect from today," BoI said in a regulatory filing today. - PTI

Street Scrambler

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: British niche bike maker Triumph Motorcycles today launched all-new version of its Street Scrambler model in India priced at Rs 8.1 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi). It is powered by a 900cc engine and comes with a five-speed gearbox. It also has safety features such as the latest generation anti-lock braking system - switchable ABS. Triumph Motorcycles India said in a statement. - PTI

NITI Aayog for 24x7 power supply, city gas distribution

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: Government think tank NITI Aayog has pitched for 24x7 electricity for all, bringing reforms in diesel and petrol pricing, and city gas distribution in 100 smart cities in its Three-Year Action Agenda released today.

The document, unveiled by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, also calls for steps to promote electric cooking and adoption of electric vehicles.

Besides, the Aayog has also suggested the government to ensure availability of electricity, petrol, diesel and gas at competitive prices to households, in the document to be implemented by 2019-20.

According to the document, the energy sector is fundamental to growth and development. Being a large sector, energy also contributes directly to the growth of the economy in a major way.

The Aayog expressed concerns that at present, 30 million Indians do not have access to electricity and around 500 million Indians are dependent on solid biomass for cooking.

Besides, it said that India's per capita electricity consumption remains a fraction of major economies. Average transmission and dis-

tribution (T&D) power losses stand at 23 per cent.

It pointed out that as India fulfils

Govt think tank action agenda pitches for reforms in diesel & petrol pricing, city gas distribution in 100 smart cities, steps to promote electric cooking, adoption of electric vehicles, etc.

its ambition of 8 per cent-plus growth in the coming 15 years, its energy needs will multiply manifold even taking into account enhancement in energy efficiency.

The government has already committed to bring electricity to every village by May 2018 and to every household by 2022. The Aayog said that an even more ambitious goal would be to provide electricity

to all households on 24x7 basis.

Within the existing LPG network, the Aayog said that India must launch a campaign to bring LPG connections down to one per family and target 100 smart cities for the provision of gas via the city gas distribution (CGD).



Union Minister for Finance, Corporate Affairs and Defence Arun Jaitley releasing the NITI Aayog's Three-Year Action Agenda, in New Delhi on Thursday. Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas (Ind Charge) Dharmendra Pradhan, Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog Arvind Panagariya, NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant and other dignitaries are also seen. - PIB

total households on 24x7 basis.

Within the existing LPG network, the Aayog said that India must launch a campaign to bring LPG connections down to one per family and target 100 smart cities for the provision of gas via the city gas distribution (CGD).

It said that for expanding the penetration of natural gas, the CGD network should be extended to 226 cities by 2022 through suitable changes in bidding/regulatory practices of Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB).

It further said that the work

should also be resumed in about 10,258 km gas pipelines bid by the PNGRB, by suitably incentivising pipeline companies with better tariff mechanism, assured throughput and viability gap funding (VGF) support, as per the specific situation.

It also suggested that for stream-

lining the demand in the industrial sector, the cross-subsidy in the power sector must be substantially reduced so that industry may receive electricity at competitive prices.

It made a case for continuing reform to reduce the price differential between diesel and petrol.

On the agriculture front, it said that solar irrigation pump distribution target must be stepped up and financed through credit support from NABARD and government subsidy.

The option to connect irrigation pumps to feeder level small solar plants must be explored and, if found cost-effective, should be exercised.

It suggested that the government should explore the prospects for switching over to electric cooking in areas where reliable supply of electricity already exists and must evaluate adoption of electric vehicles in the coming years.

It said that the efficiency of existing thermal plants should be raised through renovation and modernisation (R&M). The document provides for phasing out the old plants with high station heat rate, especially when located in or near heavily populated regions. - PTI

AIBOC opposes govt's decision on merger of PSBs

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: A day after the Cabinet decided to set up a ministerial panel to expedite consolidation among public sector banks (PSBs), bank officers union ABOD has condemned the move saying it is a move towards privatisation.

"We have time and again criticised forced mergers and will

continue to protest such ill-conceived plans of merger of PSBs by government," NITI Aayog and RBI which can wreak havoc on India's financial mainstay," All India Bank Officers Confederation (AIBOC) said in a statement.

Citing the example of SBI, AIBOC general secretary DT Franco said that when the bank

decided its results in May 19,

analysts discovered, to their

horror, that the path to global

greatness lay through a minefield of subsidiaries' losses, estimated at Rs 5,792 crore in the quarter ended March 2017 and Rs 10,243 crore for the full year.

Excluding non-banking SBI

subsidiaries such as life and general insurance, which reported annual profits of nearly Rs 2,000 crore, the losses would have been higher, the statement said.

SBI recommended dividend of Rs 2.5 per share for 2016-17

which will entail an outflow of Rs 2,073 crore, far exceeding the consolidated net profit of just Rs 241 crore, it added.

"We can well understand

the fact that the merger of public sector banks is a part of the government's broader plan to privatise the public enterprises to attract foreign investment," Franco said.

Yesterday, the Union Cabinet

decided to set up an alternative mechanism to fast-track consolidation among PSBs to create strong lenders.

The move to create large

banks aims at meeting the credit

needs of the growing Indian

economy and building capacity

in the PSB space to raise

resources without dependence

on the state exchequer. - PTI

Taxpayers' data don't pose risk to people's privacy: GSTN

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: The taxpayers' GST information does not pose any risk towards violation of people's privacy as the data are not shared with anybody and even the Goods and Services Tax Network or its board members cannot view it, GSTN said today.

GSTN is the information-technology backbone of the goods and services tax (GST).

The statement comes against the backdrop of the Supreme Court ruling today which declared the Right to Privacy as a fundamental right to data protection

On being asked if ownership of private stakeholders in GSTN might compromise data

security, he said: "Why should it impose any risk?" ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, HDBFC are also having doubts over the majority stake of GSTN being held by private players.

But Kumar said: "We have elaborate security system. We have ISO 27001 certified information security management system, which is best standard of information security system."

"We have layered security structure, starting with physical security, network security, application security, data security, etc. These are the various layers at which security is ensured. There is also a third-party audit," he added. - IANS

Taxpayers' data don't pose risk to people's privacy: GSTN

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: The intrinsic part of life and personal liberty and freedom guaranteed by the Constitution.

The Supreme Court order applies to everybody. Right to privacy applies to everybody. But the security of the GST data will not be compromised because we are not sharing it with anybody," GSTN Chairman Navin Kumar told IANS.

Kumar said that the data of the

taxpayers are encrypted, which remain on the servers and go directly to the tax department.

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private stakeholders in GSTN might compromise data

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Right to privacy

Govt has not given right to release data to anyone: Prasad

NEW DELHI, Aug 24: Af-

ferring India's priority on data

protection, IT and Law Minis-

ter Ravi Shankar Prasad today

said the government does not

give the right to release data

to anyone, except in case of

compelling public interest.

"As the IT Minister of the

country, I can't give my data

or fingerprint to anyone.

Government does not give

the right to release data to

anyone, except in case of

compelling public interest

under the Constitution."

"Let me clarify, the Narendra Modi government is very

proud to be seen as a digital

power. And India is today rec-

ognised worldwide as an

emerging digital power for

Digital India, Made in India.

"There are 118 crore mobile

connections. There are 50

crore-plus smartphones. India

will be a global digital power

and we can take good care of

our cyber security and safety.

I am very happy that all the

big international companies

are coming to India in a big way.

There is Google, Facebook,

WhatsApp... they are all wel-

come," the minister said.

"We have already outlined

that data is important and the

government is very keen that

in robust use of data with due

regard to safety and security

India must lead an interna-

tional benchmark like we did in the

case of Aadhaar," he added.

Saying that data protection

is one of the key focus of the

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the government had already

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ATAL AMRIT ABHIYAN
A UNIQUE HEALTH ASSURANCE SCHEME OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

List of selected beneficiaries of Atal Amrit Abhiyan
Financial Year 2016-17 & 2017-18 (First List : Remaining Districts)

Atal Amrit Abhiyan is a unique Health Assurance Scheme of the Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Assam to provide financial assistance to the poor people/ people belonging to low socio-economic strata of the state for the treatment of six disease groups at empanelled hospitals inside and outside the state.

The following beneficiaries have been selected for financial assistance under Atal Amrit Abhiyan based on their submitted bills of treatment done during financial year 2016-17 & 2017-18.

N.B. The financial assistance to the Selected beneficiaries will be extended ceremonially in first week of September 2017. Beneficiaries will be contacted by district officials regarding attending the distribution ceremony. For further details, visit www.nrhmassam.in

For selected procedures of above six disease conditions, you will avail the benefit of Atal Amrit Abhiyan

District wise list of beneficiaries under "Atal Amrit Abhiyan" Scheme (First list : Remaining Districts)

NALBARI	NALBARI	NALBARI	SIVASAGAR	SIVASAGAR	SONITPUR	SONITPUR	SONITPUR	UDALGURI	UDALGURI
Sl. No.	Name of the Patient	Sl. No.	Name of the Patient	Sl. No.	Name of the Patient	Sl. No.	Name of the Patient	Sl. No.	Name of the Patient
1	Ambika Das	145	Ruru Begum	145	Kannika Kalita	145	ANANDA MOHAN	314	Prakash Chandra Borah
2	Renu Dasi	146	Shyamal Debi	146	Shyamal Debi	146	MANGAL CHOWDHURY	146	Anjali Basumatary
3	Lopamudra Deka	147	Prabha Thakuria	147	Nayan Barman	147	MRI. JINA CHETIA	147	MONAL SAKHA
4	Triptolyka Nath	148	Sukheswar Mazumder	148	Kalpana Sarkar	148	SRI BHAKTIVINAYAK DUTTA	148	MONALI CHOWDHURY
5	Sonali Deka	149	Umeshwar Bhattacharjee	149	Manju Barman	149	SRI BHAKTIVINAYAK DUTTA	149	MRUDJIT DASSMARI
6	Madhab Shih	150	Lohit Saman	150	Rehana Begum	150	KANAKANTA GOGOI	150	MRUNALI KUMARI
7	Jayanti Deka	151	Nirala Barman	151	Rehana Begum	151	TILESWARI LANA	151	MRUNALI KUMARI
8	Kalishwar Barman	152	Sukheswar Mazumder	152	Rehana Begum	152	SRI ACHINTA PHURON	152	MRUNALI KUMARI
9	Jayanti Deka	153	Nirala Barman	153	Rehana Begum	153	SRI ACHINTA PHURON	153	MRUNALI KUMARI
10	Kalishwar Barman	154	Maheswar Talukdar	154	Rehana Begum	154	SRI ACHINTA PHURON	154	MRUNALI KUMARI
11	Surjya Deka	155	Rehana Begum	155	Rehana Begum	155	SRI AFSANA AMMED	155	MRUNALI KUMARI
12	Surjya Deka	156	Rehana Begum	156	Rehana Begum	156	SRI AFSANA AMMED	156	MRUNALI KUMARI
13	Bijaya Ali	157	Balita Nath Pathak	157	Rahman Ali	157	PARTITA GOGOI	157	MRUNALI KUMARI
14	Bijaya Ali	158	Balita Nath Pathak	158	Rahman Ali	158	SRI AFSANA AMMED	158	MRUNALI KUMARI
15	Rahim Begum	159	Rehana Begum	159	Rahman Ali	159	SRI RUPNATHA GOGOI	159	MRUNALI KUMARI
16	Pratima Baruah	160	Dhananu Das	160	Rahman Ali	160	SRI RUPNATHA GOGOI	160	MRUNALI KUMARI
17	Pratima Baruah	161	Dhananu Das	161	Rahman Ali	161	SRI RUPNATHA GOGOI	161	MRUNALI KUMARI
18	Chandan Deka	162	Najrune Deka	162	Rahman Ali	162	SRI RUPNATHA GOGOI	162	MRUNALI KUMARI
19	Chandan Deka	163	Najrune Deka	163	Rahman Ali	163	SRI RUPNATHA GOGOI	163	MRUNALI KUMARI
20	Umeshwar Barman	164	Najrune Deka	164	Rahman Ali	164	SRI RUPNATHA GOGOI	164	MRUNALI KUMARI
21	Umeshwar Barman	165	Najrune Deka	165	Rahman Ali	165	SRI RUPNATHA GOGOI	165	MRUNALI KUMARI
22	Umeshwar Barman	166	Najrune Deka	166	Rahman Ali	166	SRI RUPNATHA GOGOI	166	MRUNALI KUMARI
23	Chandramohamed Ali	167	Nirali Barsha	167	Hulina Bora	167	SRI RUPNATHA GOGOI	167	MRUNALI KUMARI
24	Chandramohamed Ali	168	Nirali Barsha	168	Hulina Bora	168	SRI RUPNATHA GOGOI	168	MRUNALI KUMARI
25	Bimala Ray Choudhury	169	Nirali Barsha	169	Hulina Bora	169	SRI RUPNATHA GOGOI	169	MRUNALI KUMARI
26	Bimala Ray Choudhury	170	Nirali Barsha	170	Hulina Bora	170	SRI RUPNATHA GOGOI	170	MRUNALI KUMARI
27	Keshab Ch. Deka	171	Habil Ali	171	Habik Ali	171	HABIBA HAZIZA	171	MRUNALI KUMARI
28	Bikash Deka	172	Procamina Lahkar	172	Habik Ali	172	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	172	MRUNALI KUMARI
29	Bikash Deka	173	Procamina Lahkar	173	Habik Ali	173	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	173	MRUNALI KUMARI
30	Tapan Barman	174	Kashik Mandal	174	Habik Ali	174	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	174	MRUNALI KUMARI
31	Tapan Barman	175	Kashik Mandal	175	Habik Ali	175	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	175	MRUNALI KUMARI
32	Fulan Kella	176	Mamun Kalla	176	Habik Ali	176	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	176	MRUNALI KUMARI
33	Fulan Kella	177	Mamun Kalla	177	Habik Ali	177	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	177	MRUNALI KUMARI
34	Dovjen Bhatacharya	178	Sunita Suhara	178	Habik Ali	178	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	178	MRUNALI KUMARI
35	Dipak Lekhar	179	Surudin	179	Habik Ali	179	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	179	MRUNALI KUMARI
36	Dipak Lekhar	180	Surudin	180	Habik Ali	180	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	180	MRUNALI KUMARI
37	Manu Das	181	Anamika Baidya	181	Gita Talukdar	181	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	181	MRUNALI KUMARI
38	Kallolini Choudhury	182	Amriti Deka	182	Gita Talukdar	182	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	182	MRUNALI KUMARI
39	Kushum Choudhury	183	Muhibul Ali	183	Gita Talukdar	183	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	183	MRUNALI KUMARI
40	Kallolini Choudhury	184	Muhibul Ali	184	Gita Talukdar	184	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	184	MRUNALI KUMARI
41	Atul Ch. Saha	185	Diren Barman	185	Gita Talukdar	185	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	185	MRUNALI KUMARI
42	Atul Ch. Saha	186	Diren Barman	186	Gita Talukdar	186	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	186	MRUNALI KUMARI
43	Abbas Ali	187	Diren Barman	187	Gita Talukdar	187	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	187	MRUNALI KUMARI
44	Abbas Ali	188	Diren Barman	188	Gita Talukdar	188	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	188	MRUNALI KUMARI
45	Abbas Ali	189	Diren Barman	189	Gita Talukdar	189	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	189	MRUNALI KUMARI
46	Barbe Ali	190	Habib Hali	190	Gita Talukdar	190	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	190	MRUNALI KUMARI
47	Barbe Ali	191	Mukuta Ahmed	191	Gita Talukdar	191	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	191	MRUNALI KUMARI
48	Humayun Ali	192	Mukuta Ahmed	192	Gita Talukdar	192	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	192	MRUNALI KUMARI
49	Sayer Begum	193	Balita Nath Pathak	193	Gita Talukdar	193	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	193	MRUNALI KUMARI
50	Sayer Begum	194	Balita Nath Pathak	194	Gita Talukdar	194	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	194	MRUNALI KUMARI
51	Hilma Talukdar	195	Arun Ch. Lekhar	195	Gita Talukdar	195	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	195	MRUNALI KUMARI
52	Manu Das	196	Arumita Deka	196	Gita Talukdar	196	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	196	MRUNALI KUMARI
53	Khuram Deka	197	Parbati Deka	197	Gita Talukdar	197	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	197	MRUNALI KUMARI
54	Khuram Deka	198	Parbati Deka	198	Gita Talukdar	198	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	198	MRUNALI KUMARI
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94	Khuram Deka	238	Parbati Deka	238	Gita Talukdar	238	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	238	MRUNALI KUMARI
95	Khuram Deka	239	Parbati Deka	239	Gita Talukdar	239	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	239	MRUNALI KUMARI
96	Khuram Deka	240	Parbati Deka	240	Gita Talukdar	240	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	240	MRUNALI KUMARI
97	Khuram Deka	241	Parbati Deka	241	Gita Talukdar	241	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	241	MRUNALI KUMARI
98	Khuram Deka	242	Parbati Deka	242	Gita Talukdar	242	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	242	MRUNALI KUMARI
99	Khuram Deka	243	Parbati Deka	243	Gita Talukdar	243	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	243	MRUNALI KUMARI
100	Khuram Deka	244	Parbati Deka	244	Gita Talukdar	244	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	244	MRUNALI KUMARI
101	Khuram Deka	245	Parbati Deka	245	Gita Talukdar	245	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	245	MRUNALI KUMARI
102	Khuram Deka	246	Parbati Deka	246	Gita Talukdar	246	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	246	MRUNALI KUMARI
103	Khuram Deka	247	Parbati Deka	247	Gita Talukdar	247	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	247	MRUNALI KUMARI
104	Khuram Deka	248	Parbati Deka	248	Gita Talukdar	248	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	248	MRUNALI KUMARI
105	Khuram Deka	249	Parbati Deka	249	Gita Talukdar	249	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	249	MRUNALI KUMARI
106	Khuram Deka	250	Parbati Deka	250	Gita Talukdar	250	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	250	MRUNALI KUMARI
107	Khuram Deka	251	Parbati Deka	251	Gita Talukdar	251	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	251	MRUNALI KUMARI
108	Khuram Deka	252	Parbati Deka	252	Gita Talukdar	252	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	252	MRUNALI KUMARI
109	Khuram Deka	253	Parbati Deka	253	Gita Talukdar	253	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	253	MRUNALI KUMARI
110	Khuram Deka	254	Parbati Deka	254	Gita Talukdar	254	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	254	MRUNALI KUMARI
111	Khuram Deka	255	Parbati Deka	255	Gita Talukdar	255	KARINA HOMBOCHAN	255	MRUNALI KUMARI
112	Khuram Deka								

Scientists have discovered a new species of toothless dwarf dolphin in the US that lived about 20-30 million years ago. The species, named *Inermorostrum xenops*, lived during the same period as *Coronodon havensteini*, a species of ancient whale announced recently, researchers said.

"We studied the evolution of snout length in cetaceans, and found that during the Oligocene (25-35 million years ago) and early Miocene epochs (20-25 million years ago), the echolocating whales rapidly evolved extremely short snouts and extremely long snouts, representing an adaptive radiation in feeding behavior and specializations," Boessenecker said.

"We also found that short snouts and long snouts have both evolved numerous times on different parts of the evolutionary tree – and that modern dolphins like the bottlenose dolphin, which have a snout twice as long as it is wide, represent the optimum length as it permits both fish catching and suction feeding," he added.

The discovery is an important step in understanding why the South Carolina Coast provides unique insights into cetacean evolution, researchers said.

"Coronodon, a filter feeder whale, and *Inermorostrum*, a suction feeding dolphin, may well have lived on the same prey," said Jonathan Geisler, an associate professor at New York Institute Of Technology in the US.

The genus name, *Inermorostrum xenops*, means "defenseless snout", referring to its toothless condition. The team believes that the suction-feeding dolphin fed primarily on fish, squid, and other soft-bodied invertebrates from the seafloor, similar to the feed-

ing behavior of a walrus.

Furthermore, a series of deep channels and holes for arteries on the snout indicate the presence of extensive soft tissues, likely enlarged lips, and also perhaps even whiskers,

Cetacean evolution

Scientists have discovered a new species of prehistoric toothless dolphins

The skull of *Inermorostrum* was discovered by a diver in the Wando River in Charleston and presents the first clear evidence of suction feeding in echolocating sea mammals.

Researchers estimate that the dolphin grew to be only four feet long, smaller than its closest relatives, and significantly smaller than today's bottlenose dolphins, which measure 7 to 12 feet in length.

The dwarf dolphin had a short snout and entirely lacked teeth, said Robert W Boessenecker, geology professor at College of Charleston in the US.

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(Source: PTI)



Know your DAY

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Aug. 25, 2017:

This year you consider making a major change at home. Some of you will be taking on new responsibilities, while others might want to lighten their load. Make sure the decisions you make will bring the results you desire. If you're single, you're likely to meet someone special in the next 12 months. Don't be too hasty in committing. If you're in a relationship, it's clear that you feel somewhat put off by something your sweetie has said or done. Do not make assumptions; ask questions. If need be, LIBRA can make a great debater, if you want to discuss a hot topic.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

You're feeling more involved by what is going on around you. You seek opinions from one group of associates, whereas a different group could start to distance itself. Although you would like a consensus of opinion, it is unlikely to happen. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

You're feeling more involved by what is going on around you. As a result, you will consider stretching your budget. Tonight: Join a friend for drinks and munchies.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

You're feeling especially if you encounter a business deal that might not be in the mood to do with a problem right now. You could witness a coldness from a friend who has different desires. Return calls, and schedule a get-together with a loved one. Tonight: Be a life rafty.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

You're feeling more involved by what you're hearing right now. Are you prepared to spend time with your inner circle? As a result, you handle the time demands. Tonight: Happily at home with loved ones.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Remain sensitive to others' efforts to communicate with you. You could feel overwhelmed by all the activity going on around you. You'll see just how many good friends you have. Listen to feedback, especially when given freely. Tonight: Don't distance yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You're feeling more involved by what you're hearing right now. You are prepared to spend time with your inner circle. As a result, the ramifications are clear. Tonight: Work through an issue on the homestead.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

You're feeling more involved by what you're doing right now. Thank goodness you're in a walk away from someone. You have more supporters than you realize. A power play within your inner circle would be best handled by walking away. Tonight: Go after what you really want.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You're feeling more involved by what you're hearing right now. How you handle a personal matter could change radically. You're trying better to handle inner circle responses to you and your ideas; you're still held by a respected supervisor or authority compliments you. Tonight: A must appearance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You're feeling more involved by what you're hearing right now. How you handle a personal matter could change radically. You're trying better to handle inner circle responses to you and your ideas; you're still held by a respected supervisor or authority compliments you. Tonight: A must appearance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You're feeling more involved by what you're hearing right now. How you handle a personal matter could change radically. You're trying better to handle inner circle responses to you and your ideas; you're still held by a respected supervisor or authority compliments you. Tonight: A must appearance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

You're feeling more involved by what you're hearing right now. How you handle a personal matter could change radically. You're trying better to handle inner circle responses to you and your ideas; you're still held by a respected supervisor or authority compliments you. Tonight: A must appearance.

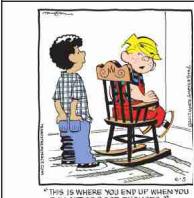
Thought for the day
Way down upon the Swaine River.
Far, far, away.
There's where my heart is turning over.
There's where the old folks stay.

- STEPHEN COLLINS FOSTER

LOCKHORNS



DENNISTHEMENACE



THE PHANTOM



By Lee Falk

BLONDIE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



Tribune CROSSWORD - 6066



Across

1. English prefix (4)

4. Scrape (6)

8. Come out: without giving up or escape? (7)

10. Scottish hillside (4)

13. Madam in India? (8)

14. Fax pass (7)

15. Tinct (6)

17. Conduit (9)

21. Stack (3)

22. Beard (3)

23. Chafe (3)

26. Language of Kerala (9)

27. Ginnill (6)

28. Rubbing out (7)

32. Parasol (8)

34. chair : a large comfortable chair? (4)

35. A collection of tools (3)

36. Nickname? (3)

37. Japanese sashes (4)

Down

1. Weapon in a silk for short (4)

15. Fax pass (7)

17. Don't you see, Charles? (4)

19. Whatever you say, girl! (4)

20. Pro Kabaddi League (4)

22. Pro Kabaddi League: Live (4)

23. Pro Kabaddi League: Wins (4)

24. Pro Kabaddi League: Losses (4)

25. Pro Kabaddi League: Points (4)

26. Indefinite portion (6)

28. Moose (3)

29. Sudden attack (4)

30. Two-syllable foot (4)

31. Workout or exercise places, in short (4)

33. Jeer or deride (3)

7. Fixes in something solid (6)

9. Get-up-and-go (3)

11. Star in Orion (3)

12. English county (5)

15. "A nut" changed to fight? (4)

16. Ancient France (4)

18. Clayey fertilizer (4)

19. North Indian restaurant staple (4)

20. As wise as an owl (3)

23. Lift (5)

24. Large sheds (5)

25. Keen or shrewd (6)

26. Indefinite portion (6)

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20. As

US must respect Pak's sovereignty, says China

BEIJING, Aug 24: The US should recognise Pakistan's "important role" in Afghanistan and respect Pakistan's sovereignty and legitimate security concerns," Yang said.

Elaborating on Yang's intervention, he defended his position by quoting State Secretary Rex Tillerson, defending Beijing's all-weather ally for

role in Afghanistan and respect Pakistan's sovereignty and legitimate security concerns."

Elaborating on Yang's intervention, he defended his position by quoting State Secretary Rex Tillerson, defending Beijing's all-weather ally for

Beijing's all-weather ally for

role in Afghanistan and respect Pakistan's sovereignty and legitimate security concerns."

China's Foreign Ministry had also backed Pakistan soon after Trump's statement.

"(On the) President Trump's remarks on Pakistan, I should say that Pakistan is in the frontline of fighting terrorism, made sacrifices to fighting terrorism, making important contribution to upholding peace and stability,"

Hua Chunying told the media

a second time in as many days. State Councillor Yang Jiechi's remarks came two days after US President Donald Trump sternly warned Pakistan against providing safe havens to militants.

Trump on Tuesday unveiled his Afghan policy and also sought an enhanced role for India in bringing peace in the war-torn country.

Yang during a phone call with Tillerson yesterday defended Pakistan's role in Afghanistan.

"We should attach importance to Pakistan's important

This office order supersedes previous office order issued via No.CEI(Con) 22/013/06 Dtd. 28-02-2014.

Sd/- Chief Engineer,
Irrigation, Assam, Guwahati-3

OFFICE ORDER
No. CEC(Con)22/013/101: As per Judgement and Order dated 18th April/2017 of Hon'ble Guwahati High Court in disposed of WPL/CINO/4088/2014, blacklisting of Sri Dilbagi Kapoor, Registration No. CEI/Class-I (B)/2013/010/Gen/4. I hereby issue vide this office order No.CEI(Con)22/103/73 Dated - 28-01-2013 is hereby withdrawn with immediate effect.

This office order supersedes previous office order issued via No.CEI(Con) 22/013/06 Dtd. 28-02-2014.

Sd/- Chief Engineer,
Irrigation, Assam, Guwahati-3

No. CPL 21/2017/26 NOTICE

Of late, it has been observed that many Cooperative Societies registered under the Assam Cooperative Societies Act, 2007 have defaulted in compliance with the provisions in connection with holding the Annual General Meeting and also in conducting their business activities as enshrined in their bye-laws. Therefore, attention of all such non performing and underperforming societies are drawn to the provisions under Section 94 of the Assam Cooperative Societies Act for cancellation of registration of such societies.

All Zonal and Regional Coop. Societies Dist. Deputy Registrar of Coop. Societies and Assistant Registrar of Coop. Societies have been directed to spot verify and assess the performance of such societies and help in taking corrective action. The registration of Cooperative Societies which have no scope for effective performance, are liable to be cancelled.

Sd/-
Registrar of Cooperative Societies,
Assam, Kharapara, Guwahati

Office Order No. 79 NOTICE INVITING BID-TENDER
Sealed Bid after opening the bids will be opened on 20th August 2017 at 10:30 AM (Rupees Eight hundred Twenty Five only) prior to the Leader of the following 6 (Six) Non Ferry Services under Inland Water Transport Division. For the remaining period from 1st August 2017 to 18th August 2017 the bid will be valid upto 2.00PM on 18th August 2017 and will remain valid till 10:30 AM on 20th August 2017 and thereafter the authorized representatives may remain present.

The bidder may deposit the sum of Rs. 500/- (Rupees五百/-) only during Office hours of all working days.

The department reserves all right to accept / reject all or any Tender without assigning any reason thereof.

Name of Ferry Services

Sl.No.	Name of Ferry Service	Estimate amount per year
1	Sighat Ferry Service	Rs. 239,900.00
2	Gangadhar Ferry Service	Rs. 32,000.00
3	Bans Ferry Service	Rs. 1,04,545.00
4	Gandhipur Ferry Service	Rs. 384,381.00
5	Jatinga Ferry Service	Rs. 106,982.00
6	Rajmargar Ferry Service	Rs. 2,976,715.00

Inland Water Transport Division
Chamdari T.V. Station Road, Tarapur, Slicher-3.
Janasanyog/C/2875/17

NO. AAS(2)/2016/53 SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed bid after opening the bids will be opened on 20th August 2017 at 10:30 AM (Rupees Eight hundred Twenty Five only) prior to the Leader of the following 6 (Six) Non Ferry Services under Inland Water Transport Division. For the remaining period from 1st August 2017 to 18th August 2017 the bid will be valid upto 2.00PM on 18th August 2017 and will remain valid till 10:30 AM on 20th August 2017 and thereafter the authorized representatives may remain present.

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Inland Water Transport Division
Chamdari T.V. Station Road, Tarapur, Slicher-3.
Janasanyog/C/2875/17

NOTICE
Request for Proposal

The Chief Electrical Inspector-cum- Advisor, Govt. of Assam being the State Designated Agency (SDA) for the State of Assam for the purpose of implementation of the 2014-15 Budgeted Program of implementation of Energy Conservation Project Government of Assam for carrying out Energy Audit of Existing Lightings Systems in Parbatpara under Sonitpur District and Nagaon under Nagaon District Municipal Areas and Preparation of Detailed Project Report, requests reputed Firm, empanelled with BEE as an ESCO Grade II or as a Consulting Firm experienced in Energy Auditing (having 3 years of BEE Certified Energy Auditor or Energy Manager in the field).

Details of RFP Documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned on written request accompanied with Rs. 500/- (Rupees Five Hundred Only) non-refundable in the form of crossed Demand Draft drawn in favour of CHIEF ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR-CUM- ADVISER, GOVT. OF ASSAM one per set at the counter of my office hours on all working days within 1 day from the date of issuance of the Notice. The RFP document can also be downloaded from the website www.asda.gov.in or www.cesa.assam.gov.in. Last day of receipt of RFP document is till 14.00 hrs. of the last working day of 2 (two) weeks from the date of publication of this Notice.

Sd/-
Chief Electrical Inspector-cum- Advisor (I/c),
Govt. of Assam.

Janasanyog/C/2851/17



US President Donald Trump holds up the Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act after signing it during the American Legion National Convention in Reno, Nevada on Wednesday. — UNI

Russia an international menace, says Mattis

KIEV, Aug 24: On the 26th anniversary of Ukraine's independence from Moscow, US Defence Secretary Jim Mattis sharply criticised Russia as an international menace and said the Trump administration will not accept Moscow's annexation of Ukraine's Crimea region.



2014 action that was followed by Russian military intervention in support of separatists in eastern Ukraine.

"Despite Russia's denials, we know they are seeking to redraw international borders by force," Mattis said, an ambition by Moscow that Mattis said is undermining sovereign European nations and stirring tension.

Mattis ticked off a series of international agreements and commitments that Moscow has made since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, including a two-year-old accord known as the Minsk Agreement, which lays out a roadmap for reducing the conflict in Ukraine that has claimed some 10,000 lives over the past three years. He also cited other Russian commitments to Ukraine dating to 1994. — AP

Have no doubt, the United States stands with Ukraine, and we will not accept Russia's annexation of Crimea

India offers to host quake-rescue drill

CHOLPON-ATA (Kyrgyz Republic), Aug 24: India today offered to host a joint urban earthquake search and rescue exercise with Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member nations, including China and Pakistan.

India and Pakistan had joined the SCO, the China-dominated security grouping, in June in Astana

Delivering the country statement at the 9th meeting of the heads of government of the SCO dealing with the prevention and elimination of emergency situations, Home Minister Rajnath Singh said the exercise will be very useful in preparing the collective preparedness.

Singh said when the search and rescue teams engage in a joint exercise, they not only build a common understanding of internationally recognised procedures to coordinate in emergencies, they also build personal acquaintances and friendships that come in handy when they have to respond together.

The home minister's statement bears significance as it happens all SCO members, including China and Pakistan, will participate in it.

Singh also said India is ready to host the next meeting of the SCO head of departments dealing with disaster prevention.

Founded in 2001, the SCO member countries are: China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan, and the bloc is headquartered in Beijing.

India and Pakistan had joined the SCO, the China-dominated security grouping, in June in Kazakhstan capital Astana. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had attended the summit. — PTI

THE NATIONAL AWARD FOR THE EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, 2017

Last date for submission of nomination extended upto 10th September, 2017

In continuation of this Department's advertisement published earlier, it is to inform that the last date for submission of application for the National Award for the Empowerment of Persons With Disabilities, 2017 is extended from 15th August 2017 to 10th September 2017. Accordingly, all the prescribed authorities for sending the nomination namely Central Government/ State Government/ Union Territory Administration/ Public Sector Undertaking/ National Institute under this Department, Principal Secretary/ Welfare Secretary of the concerned State, District Magistrate of the concerned district and/or past recipient of the National Award for the Empowerment of Persons With Disabilities may send the nomination at the earliest but not later than 10th September 2017 to Shri O. P. Dogra, Director, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Room No. 519, B2 Wing, 5th Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi-110003.

davp 38117/11/003/1718

Will ask nations to target terror: US

WASHINGTON, Aug 24:

The US will target networks that harbour terror networks to eliminate them and will target terrorist in their sanctuaries, a top Trump administration official has said, in an apparent message to Pakistan.

"We will demand that nations ultimately provide for their own security, and that the terrorist networks seek eliminate them," Lt Gen (Retd) Keith Kellogg, Executive Secretary and Chief of Staff of the National Security Council, wrote in an op-ed to *Breitbart News*.

In the op-ed he did not mention any country, but based on the remarks of US President Donald Trump and those of Secretary of State Rex Tillerson who called on Paki-



Gen Kellogg

stan to act against the terror safe havens inside its territory, Kellogg's reference seemed obviously directed at Pakistan.

"We will fight those that threaten us whenever they may be. We will fight them at night, in the day, in their supposed sanctuaries. We will give them no rest nor will we grow weary," Kellogg said in the op-ed to *Breitbart News*.

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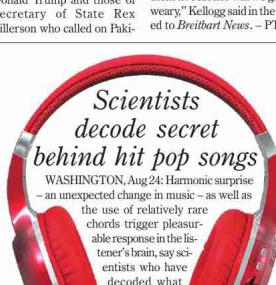

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Scientists decode secret behind hit pop songs

WASHINGTON, Aug 24: Harmonic surprise – an unexpected change in music – as well as the use of relatively rare chords trigger pleasurable responses in the brain, say scientists who have decoded what makes certain songs top the charts.

Researchers from the Georgetown University in the US uncovered a simple, measurable explanation that can determine people's preference for one song over another.

The study, published in the journal *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*, linked the harmonic structure of pop songs to their placement in the charts.

"The most popular songs tend to include relatively rare chords, that is, they typically have high harmonic surprise," said Norberto Grzywacz, a professor at Georgetown University.

"These songs also tend to have choruses with relatively low harmonic surprise preceded by sections with many rare chords," said Grzywacz. Harmonic surprise can be described as when the song deviates from the listeners' expectations. Scientists have predicted that these changes in structure could elicit a pleasurable reward response in the brain. — PTI

Can nets twice as Liverpool thump Hoffenheim



Emre Can of Liverpool slides on both knees in front of the home supporters after scoring against Hoffenheim during the UEFA Champions League qualifying play-offs round second leg match at Anfield, on Wednesday.

Pakistan back in hockey World Cup

LAUSANNE, Aug 24: A seventh-place finish at the Hockey World League Semi-Finals has proved good enough for Pakistan to qualify for next year's men's Hockey World Cup in India, marking their return to the mega-event after missing out on the previous edition.

The European semifinalists have already qualified for the mega-event, which will be held in Bhubaneswar from November 28 to December 16, helping Pakistan's cause.

The Green Shirts, currently ranked 14th in the FIH standings, ended seventh in the World League Semi-Finals in London, where the likes of Germany, England, Netherlands and Belgium earned World Cup qualification by finishing in the top five.

The results at the Rabobank EuroHockey Championships, which are currently taking place in Amsterdam, have gone very much in favour of Pakistan, with all four of the semifinalists having already qualified for the World Cup via the HWL route.

Under FIH regulations, the team that wins its continental qualifier automatically qualifies for the World Cup.

Pakistan are the higher ranked of the two seventh place finishers from the HWL Semi-Final events that took place in London and Johannesburg, with 16th ranked France next in line for that all-important World Cup ticket.

Pakistan is the 13th team to qualify for the global showpiece event, joining host nation India, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, England, Germany, Ireland, Malaysia, Netherlands, Spain and New Zealand.

They have an envious record in the competition, having claimed the title on four occasions, which is more than any other nation. - PTI

Indian boxers aim for bigger medal haul at World C'ship

HAMBURG, Aug 24: Shiva Thapa and Vikas Krishan will be among India's best bets to better both the colour and number of medals at the 19th World Boxing Championships, starting here tomorrow.

Placed joint 49th in the all-time medal count, India have a bronze each to show from the 2009, 2011 and the 2013 World Championships.

Shiva (2015), Vikas (2011) and the now-professional Vijender Singh (2009) are the only ones to have been on the podium of the prestigious event, which doubles up as an Olympic qualifier in alternate editions. For this edition, an eight-strong team has made the cut through the Asian Championships held in Tashkent earlier this year.

"Our build-up has been fantastic. We had a good Asian Championship where the boys won two silver and two bronze medals and finished third over-

all," the team's Swedish coach Santiago Nieve told PTI.

"Then we went to France and Czech Republic for training-cum-competition trips and the results were excellent there. So, I am hopeful of a strong performance but don't want to make any predictions about the medals," he added.

To be tied with Australia, Tajikistan and Czech Republic in the all-time medal tally isn't exactly a true reflection of how far Indian boxing has come since bronze in 2009 in Milan.

"This World Championship is going to be slightly different from the previous one because the draws will be opened up. There have been changes in weight categories, some of those who went to Rio Olympics last year have quit. So there is going to be a lot of churning," Nieve pointed out.

"So, yes, we can hope for more than just one bronze med-

al," he added.

The boxers, on their part also spoke confidently about their chances.

"It has been a long journey and we have seen a lot in all these years. World Championships is the premier tournament for us after the Olympics. I am as prepared as I could ever be for a big tournament," said Shiva, all of 24 but a two-time back-to-back Asian Champion medals.

The Assam boxer, who won a bantamweight 56kg/bronze in the 2015 World Championship, will be competing in the lightweight 60kg category this time.

The transition has gone rather well for him, the biggest proof of which is being a silver at the Asian Championships.

Squad: Amit Phangra (49kg), Kavinder Beht (52kg), Gaurav Bidhuri (56kg), Sushil Thapa (60kg), Manoj Kumar (63kg), Vikas Krishan (75kg), Sumit Sangwan (81kg) and Sushil Kumar (91kg). - PTI

Collingwood reveals interest in Pakistan series

LONDON, Aug 24: Former England cricketer Paul Collingwood has been approached to play in a Twenty20 series in Pakistan next month as part of the campaign to bring top-level cricket back to the country.

Collingwood admits he could be willing to take part in the landmark three-match series in Lahore provided security measures are in place.

The touring side will be coached by Andy Flower, forming part of the International Cricket Council's bid to step up the return of major matches to the volatile nation.

The World XI series will be followed by a short visit by Sri Lanka for a Twenty20 match in October, then a Twenty20 series against the West Indies a month later.

Collingwood, England's World Twenty20 winning captain in 2010, is still playing for Durham and admits the idea

of representing a World XI at the age of 41 certainly appeals. "I've been asked if I would be willing. But until you hear all the details of the security and everything you can't really commit to anything," he said.

Collingwood

"Andy asked me if I would entertain the idea, so that's the starting point."

"Certainly the thing that

would interest me is if, at 41, I could play in a T20 international in front of that crowd, that would float anybody's boat."

"The tag of a World XI at 41, I'm quite proud of that if I was to get into that team."

Pakistan has been isolated from the international scene since a terrorist attack on the Sri Lanka team bus in Lahore in 2009 and have been forced to play their 'home' internationals in the UAE.

Collingwood added: "What I do remember about Pakistan was the passion of the supporters."

"I think Karachi was probably one of the loudest crowds I have heard during an international match. They love cricket out there and it's a tough place to tour."

"It was England and we weren't allowed to play cricket in England, we would be doing everything possible to get it back." - AFP

Sakshi, Vinesh crash out of World Wrestling C'ship

PARIS, Aug 24: Olympic bronze medallist Sakshi Malik crashed out in the first round while compatriot Vinesh Phogat's campaign also ended in a whimper as Indian grapplers continued their dismal show at the World Wrestling Championship.

After three listless days, the duo was on Sakshi and Vinesh to end India's medal drought but both failed to live up to the expectations.

Sakshi and Vinesh went down in their respective Round of 16 bouts.

Sakshi was stunned by Luisa Niemesch of Germany 1-3 in women's 60kg, while two-time junior world champion Victoria Anthony of USA got a fall over Vinesh Phogat in 48kg. It was a humiliating defeat for Vinesh.

This was after Vinesh had earlier won her qualification round.

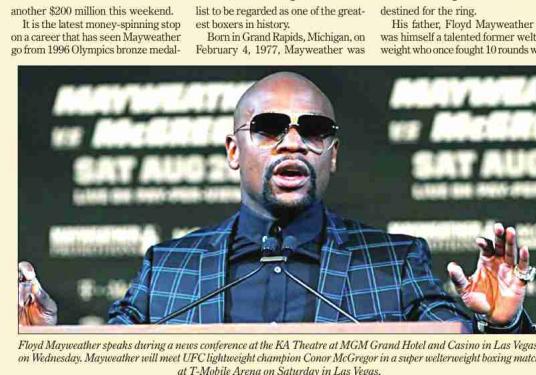
Other Indians in the fray today – Sheetal Tomar (53kg) and Navjot Kaur (69kg) – also bowed out of the tournament with contrasting performances.

Navjot was beaten 5-10 by Mongolia's Ochirbat Nasamburmaa in 60kg, but surprisingly lesser-known Sheetal emerged as the lone Indian woman wrestler to win her Round of 16 match when she got the better of Jessica McBain of Australia 10-0 in 53kg.

However, Sheetal could not maintain her rhythm and lost the quarterfinal against Estera Dobre of Romania, going down 2-4.

There were high expectations from Sakshi, who became the first Indian woman wrestler to win an Olympic medal at the Rio Games but she hardly put up a fight today against a lower-ranked opponent. Sakshi had recently climbed up to a divisional 60kg category at the Asian Championship in May this year. - PTI

Undefeated and unloved, Mayweather eyes final payday



Floyd Mayweather speaks during a news conference at the KA Theatre at MGM Grand Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, on Wednesday. Mayweather will meet UFC lightweight champion Conor McGregor in a super welterweight boxing match at T-Mobile Arena on Saturday in Las Vegas.

A few mournful and calamitous swansongs: A look back

The euphoric sports lovers had gathered together to watch the last effort, the 'swansong' of possibly the best athlete ever to grace the earth.

Gautam Ganguly concluded World Athletic Championship in London. To quote Reuters, "He received the baton from compatriot Yohan Blake at the final stretch of the track and the team was third at the time."

Everyone expected the legend to go for his characteristic dash. Instead, the star sprinter began to slow down and suddenly turned his run into a somersault and fell down on the track with his face grimacing in pain. It does not require a lot of imagination for the connoisseurs of sports to relate the above sequence of events with the disastrous, calamitous and most anti-climactic fare-

well run, the last sprint of Usain Bolt.

Bolt, the Jamaican sprinter, has won eight Olympic gold medals besides winning the World Championship title eleven times. He has also had the rare distinction of winning consecutive World Championships gold medals in 2009, 2010 and 2011. Bolt is the only sprinter to win the Olympic 100m and 200m titles at three consecutive Olympics (2008, 2012 and 2016), afeat referred to as the 'triple double'. Records went tumbling one after the other and global performances of previous celebrities like Carl Lewis, Michael Johnson were replaced by the living legend. No wonder for consistent feats and achievements, Bolt has been awarded the IAAF World Athlete of the Year, Track and Field Athlete of the Year, and Laureus World Sportsman of the Year (four times).

"I'm now a legend. I'm also the greatest athlete to live," Usain had declared after winning his seventh straight title

in the 100m and 200m in London Olympics in 2012. But in sheer irony of circumstances, the highest ever earning track and field athlete in human history had to bow out of the track in a painful way much to the chagrin of his teeming millions of admirers across the world. The miserable exit of Bolt possibly underlines the fact that sports like death can be mighty leveller in dashing down human aspirations and desire for a split second.

The fourth Test match between England and Australia was in progress in 1948 at The Oval. Out came the best batsman from the pavilion amidst thunderous applause. The packed English crowd at the stadium had to watch Sir Don Bradman play his last Test match. Norman Yardley, the captain of England, had arranged his men to welcome the great man and to give him 'three cheers'. As he went out to bat, Bradman's average stood at 101.30. He needed just four runs to reach the milestone of 7000 individual runs and to

wind up his hallored career at an enviable average of 100. Eric Hollies, the leg spinner, who had taken a wicket in that over started his run-up to bowl. First ball Bradman, played defensively. The second ball Hollies had bowled him. The greatest batsman on earth was foxed by the 'googly' and his stumps were shattered. For a split second and there was total silence as the players as well as the spectators could not believe their eyes. Then ecstasy, players knew no bounds. Jack Fingleton, the noted cricket writer, observed: "The game that had given him so much had denied him at the very last Test appearance." As the legend started walking back to the pavilion amidst standing ovation of the crowd, Eric Hollies, humorously remarked to his teammates, "I've bowled for the duck and they are clapping him."

Sami Gavaskar said, "Tiger gave us

that confidence to win. You could never take your eyes off him, he had that magnetism." To a casual follower, it would be interesting to know that Patrudi had played his entire career of international cricket with reduced vision. His right eye vision was lost in a car accident. In 1967-68 series, Patrudi had played a brilliant innings of 164 runs in the Headingley Test. After the match, the English journal had asked Patrudi that when did he realise that he could play international cricket with one eye or with reduced vision? Patrudi's witty reply was, "When I saw the English bowlers."

The charismatic captain had led

India remarkably winning two successive Tests at Kolkata and Chennai against the mighty West Indies to level the series in 1974-75. However, in the final Test of the series and also the last Test of the maestro, when India needed runs from him, the Prince of Indian cricket failed and bowed out of the Wankhede Stadium heads dropping like a pauper.

SU DO KU

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Solution of last problem

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



The ancient Anunnakis

Pronami Bhattacharyya traces a cosmological travelling race.

Numerous archaeologists around the world contemplate modern day Iraq as the "cradle of civilisation". Between 3500 and 1900 BC, the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers were the home of the Sumerian people who thrived in this region. It is here that in the distant past, before history secured its written form, our planet was visited by cosmonauts from another world, intellectual beings with skill and technology far beyond our own today. They are, who we know them today as, the ancient Anunnaki.

The work of the late Zecharia Sitchin makes the Anunnakis a race of major players in a prototype gaining entrée into popular folklore. He is an economist by education and profession, and the author of several bestselling books, including *Genesis Revisited*, that discovers ancient mythology and the mysterious megalithic ruins found across earth. Later works by various authors fundamentally assert that these ancient Sumero-Babylonian gods, the Anunnaki, are extra-terrestrial beings or aliens from the planet Nibiru (Sitchin's 12th planet), which passes by the Earth every 3,500 years. The studies of Sitchin claim that there is a 12th planet in our solar system (known to scientists as the possible 'Planet X'). This planet is called Nibiru, and is situated somewhere beyond Pluto. This planet, unlike the other planets in our solar system, has an elliptical orbit and moves clockwise rather than counter-clockwise. It was a collision of Nibiru with another planet in our solar system called Maldek which created Earth.



The ancients, thus, were not the dark and multitude commonly rendered, rather highly advanced beings capable of inter-space movement creating new celestial bodies. They were, in fact, highly advanced. As such, they industrialised over a period of many thousands of years a compound astronomical/astrological system that amalgamated the movements and potentials of numerous celestial bodies, which could be called the "celestial myths".

The main characters in the Sumero-Babylonian religion/mythology are Enlil/Ellil, Utu/Shamash, Marduk/Merodach, Gilgamesh, Nanna/Sin, Inanna/Istar, Ea/Enki and Dumuzi/Tammuz. A number of these deities are in the class called 'Anunnaki' and/or 'Igigi'. The Anunnaki are numbered variously: seven, 50 and 900. In ancient Babylon, the term used to designate the Anunnaki was 'SIR' which, when translated, means 'dragon' or 'big serpent'. The Ancient Anunnaki God 'Enki' was alleged to have belonged to the so-called Brotherhood of the Snake. The symbol concomitant to Enki were the two coiled snakes of the caduceus, a symbol associ-

ated with our current medical symbol, but it could mean up to three types of meanings in ancient times: The Reptilian nature of the Anunnaki, illustrating connections between them and the alleged reptilian alien race. The Reptilian genetic symbol demonstrating resemblances with the human DNA. On another note, in ancient times in different cultures the 'coiled snake' symbolised knowledge and spiritual wisdom.

However, there are many explicit mannerisms of the ancient Anunnaki. The shadowy 'bag' that the ancient Anunnaki portray is undoubtedly one of the most mysterious traits representing them. According to Sitchin, and other researchers, the mysterious 'bag' is some kind of a box where the ancient Anunnaki placed the so-called "Water of Life", roughly a mobile Gene Bank used in their genetic experiments, not only on humans, but also in animals on earth.

Another object precisely existent in ancient Sumerian art is the mysterious bracelet, an uncanny reminiscent of modern-day wristwatches. This enigmatic 'Anunnaki bracelet' had a far more unfathomable meaning than modern-day researchers are willing to concede.

In addition to the enigmatic bags, and wristwatches, in most carvings where the Anunnaki are embodied, we see the 'God' holding some kind of pinecone in his right hand. According to David Wilcock, the pinecone suggests the pineal gland. Wilcock opines, "The Anunnaki knew how to stimulate the pineal gland in order to extract its full potential, making full use of it."

Thus, understanding a little more than a zilch of the ancient Anunnaki, queries float the expanse of human thoughts: Are we shadows of the Anunnaki? Do they control us in any way or every way? What are the signs that they exist with or co-exist amongst us? And the mind beats on...

In *The Cosmic Code, Book 6*, Sitchin writes:

"There was a time, the Sumerians told, when civilised Man was not yet on Earth, when animals were only wild and undomesticated and crops were not yet cultivated. At that long ago time there arrived on Earth a group of 50 Anunnaki."

"Led by a leader whose name was EA (meaning 'Whose home is water') they journeyed from their home planet Nibiru ('planet of crossing') and, reaching Earth, splashed down in the waters of the Persian Gulf... The time: 445,000 years ago."

A complex mining operation began in southeast Africa which later required human hybrid slaves. It is believed that thousands of our years past, they took the gentle and docile Hominid species whom we know today as *Homo Erectus* and bred a human hybrid from their own DNA. This explains the legendary 'missing link'.

To bring this never-ending discussion to a conclusion, there was, in certainty, never any need for a sci-fi explanation or speculation as to these various figures and their stories. It is evident that the ancients recording these myths were, in fact, often smarter and authentic than they are given credit for by modern-day critics and researchers. There are strange things on Earth, unnatural events, mysterious earthly or celestial bodies, and other mind-boggling manifestations. Perhaps the quest to understand these will never end. But to be certain, the lure of the human mind to deconstruct them would never end too.

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game of seven stones, which can be seen in many films, involves a ball and a pile of flat stones (which are stacked on top of each other). One member of a team throws the ball at the stack to knock the stones over. The team then tries to restore the pile of stones while the opposing team throws the ball at them. If the ball touches a person, he is out and his team continues without him.

Talking about indoor games, 'Chor-Polci', Tic-tac-toe, Name-Place-Arrival-Thing, Cats craddle, etc., are common among girls, while per-fighting, Gilli-Danda (Indian version of cricket), tug-of-war, kho-kho, lattoo (spinning the wooden top), etc., are designed for boys. The magic box or the Bioscope, which fascinated the mind of a young child, has made a comeback, finding its way into city slums, where it is being used as a teaching tool for children.

All the regions of India have their own traditional games, Lathkhol, Tanguti, Thengal D'Or, Dhokphel, etc., are the traditional games of Assam; Khong Kangjei and Yubi Lakpi of Manipur; Darabardha, Ha du du and Kumbirdanga were played in Bengal; Lagori in Gujarat; Kallu Gundi Ettuvu (stone balls) in Karnataka and kite-flying in Northern India.

Children don't get to play outdoors anymore because of increasing academic pressure shrinking outdoor spaces, and, of course, because of the electronic options. The multi-screen platforms and endless visual content available on these platforms provide the entertainment today that was once provided by the simple games played in the long-lost gardens, maidans and uncrowded streets of a less sophisticated era. While the gadget-generation has restricted the proper physical growth of the child, it is also restricting the child from the fun that those traditional games once provided.

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PHOTOS: ANVY PHOTOGRAPHING

Walking tall!

Prasant Ghosh

If you were not present at The Lily Hotel in Guwahati to delve deep into an atmosphere of pulsating music and strobe lights, then you really missed it. It was six pm sharp when the live show started to boisterous cheers of the excited crowd present in the jam-packed auditorium. The mega show had three different competitions – Mrs India Global International, the male pageant – Malestorm 2017 and a professional designers show where raving beauties sashayed down the ramp in style, resplendent in sassy designs.

Twenty-four shirtless strapping male models vied for the prestigious Malestorm contest, while 21 married ladies competed for the Mrs India Global International.

The chief guests were PC Thakur, Directorate of Handloom and Textile; Abdul Mannan Faruk, Deputy Chairman, GMDA; Sanjiva Roy, DGP of Guwahati City; and Binod Kumar Soni, social activist and owner of Manikchand Jewellers. Both the pageants were choreographed by Prasant Ghosh assisted by Franco Panakha.

The judges panel comprised of several glittering personalities, including film actress Nishita Goswami Chakravorty, actor Diganta Hazarika, entrepreneur Abhishek Pandey, Mrs United Nation 2017 Rosmini Hassan, Sumita Dey Deka, owner of the JD Institute of Fashion Technology; Nupur Sehgal, Director of Mrs India Global International and Mrs Asia International Tourism winner 2015 in Malaysia; Iris Maju, Mrs India World-2015; and Mehzabin Ershad, veteran fashion designer from Assam. Every year, the event is tied around a theme and this year the theme was 'Say No to Tobacco'.

The first round of Malestorm and Mrs India International started with trance music followed by the entry of 24 male and female models, one by one, in their designer wear, confidence personified. The auditorium immediately echoed with the cheering of



their fans as they gave their introduction. The official designer of both these pageants was Kanchan More Sabharwal, and the show director was Sanjay Choudhury under D'Creative People.

The second round of Malestorm was even more exciting. Here the competitors indulged in flexing their bodies as they jived to foot tapping numbers in body hugging shirts and jeans. Based on the two rounds, where the parameters of selection were appearance and overall presentation, the judges picked ten models for the semi-finals.

In the third and semi-final round, the atmosphere became electrifying and the cloud of excitement spread over the entire hall as the top ten finalists were bombarded with a volley of questions by the judges to gauge their intelligence, and finally the top six finalists were shortlisted.

Eventually it was Pallav Das, a great clotheshorse for menswear who gilded past others with his radiating confidence and presence of mind to win thecoveted Malestorm 2017-18 title. The winner earned a direct entry to the Rubani Mr India Pageant in 2018. The first runners-up title was won by Abhishek Majumdar and the second runners-up by Kaushik Deka. The other title winners were Chandan Das (Mr Personality), Saranya Kalita (Mr Photogenic), Sachin Rajkumar (Mr Physique), Rohit Chett (Mr Fitness), Chandru Kachari (Mr Style icon), Himangshu Baraija (Mr Catwalk), Pallav Das (Mr Popular), and Sourab Baruah (Mr Talented).

The winners of the Mrs India Global International 2017 were Motsumi Chakravorty, Smita Borah, Anikita, Marika and Rekha. For the classic group (above 40) the winners were Maria, Merenka and Dipali. They will all represent India in Malaysia.

Fashionista Nisha Goswami said, "I have never seen so many handsome and intelligent boys in one place. If they get proper guidance they would be the shining stars of tomorrow, no doubt that is why I see them in Malestorm."

The designers' fashion show was called The Silhouettes Nite 2017 and it enthralled the audience with its novelty. The three designers who showcased their collections in 'The Silhouettes Nite' were Sidha Gogoi, Komal Soni, Raffana Borah, Anju Buragohain, Priyanka and Priyam and Moonme Baruah, and it was choreographed by upcoming choreographer Kakoli C.

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Lost Indian games

Ria Chakraborty



people stand with their hands locked together above their heads and sing a song. The other kids pass from under that bridge and the one who gets caught – when the hands come down

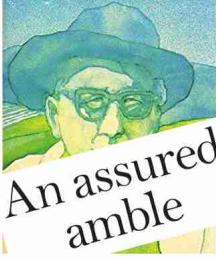


like a cage at the end of the song – is out. Hopscotch is another popular game in which one or more players hop over a series of squares drawn on the ground. A puck or a game piece is thrown progressively across the squares, and players have to hop their way across the framework according to certain rules without losing balance or stepping on the lines of the framework. The



India has witnessed the demise of many – civilisation, great leaders and much more. There is a list of things that are slowly but surely getting lost in India's race to find its place in the global stage. Among these things, we can also include a number of games that have lost their identity in today's technologically advanced society. India has always been rich in culture and tradition, and games have been an important part of Indian culture since forever. Be it Lord Shiv and his consort, or the Pandavas losing Draupadi over a game of dice or the Mughals enjoying an afternoon of chess – games and sports have always played an important role in the history and mythology of India. But times have changed and so have our sports. Gone are the days when boys could be seen playing football by sliding on the pitch, splashing in puddles and getting dirty in the rainy season or a boy running with a stick, pushing a rubber-tire (also known as hoop rolling).

One of the games that most of us have played during our school days was 'London Bridge'. Two



An assured amble

The *Green Fool*, Patrick Kavanagh's autobiography, is that rare instance of life-writing where the movement of time is chronicled through the register of locale, and as forms of Irish cultural practice manifest in the book's pages, the significance of a simple, undorned existence emerges clearly. Written when he was in his early 30s, *The Green Fool* bears the mark of an assured amble, a writer's understanding of the surroundings he grew up in. Yet it is not an academic exercise, not a series of journal entries – rather it is a journey of another kind, one replete with pickings from the everyday world of the Ireland he knew.

"I was a peasant and a peasant is a narrow surveyor of generous hearts," writes Kavanagh. For a writer, such a stand, that of being a man of the land, was not so easy to sustain. He was aware of the demands placed on himself, of being an Irishman, and of the pressures of charting the artist's path – how such cross-crossing of values was as much a challenge as it was a question of self-knowledge. The acknowledgment of such a to and fro exercise across worlds of the imagination and the actual is a testament he held on to dearly, and in his recollection it comes through as the word of a man who was both forthright and direct.

"For years," he observes, "I had been caught between

the two stools of security on the land and a rich-scene life on the exotic islands of literature. I wasn't really a writer. I had seen a strange beautiful light on the hills and that was all. In my heart I wanted to live the simple life of my people – to marry, found a family and find immortality as a peasant finds it."

Kavanagh's experience of life in the Irish countryside is a setting-enhancing process, one that makes him feel at home in an environment he had grown accustomed to. The homeliness of a lifestyle that did not run off the pressures of urbanity and speed was such that tailored his consciousness to respond to the world with pristine, fresh eyes. It is no wonder then that he finds the noisy, boisterous location of the major English city oppressive: "London is a pagan city, and it is not the poetic paganism of blackbirds. After the chaotic paganism of Ireland, London's materialist immorality terrified me. There was no shyness, no shame, and London's god, the cat, didn't care."

The contrast between cultures is distinct, and the marks of variation are clearly drawn. There is a lack of connection with the hearth and land in the London environment, and the materialism which drives the metropolitan world is heartlessly aloof to the young Irishman. The picture is interesting not only for the difference it refers to, there is also the reminder that this canvas is one that takes us to the early 20th century, a time when the cultural dimensions of location were quite overtly pronounced. Kavanagh came from a background that enabled him to see the land and the craft of his choosing, poetry that is, with the same eye, and as part of the same process that made him make sense of life. This could not be spoken of when it came to the manner of existence in the city, be it the fast-paced Dublin, or the impersonal London – each urban space churning out patterns which placed the individual's longing for oneness with nature at a remove from what he sought. Kavanagh's chronicle of his early life is a telling account of the need to cultivate simplicity in life, and however unsophisticated one may appear for pursuing the spirit of the land, it is in such a track that the very ethos of our being lies – this is the line we find so clearly marked in *The Green Fool*.

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Melbourne has been declared the world's most liveable city for the 7th consecutive year by *The Economist's* annual global liveability survey, despite soaring housing costs and serious congestion challenges. The annual survey assessed 140 cities and ranked them according to their stability, healthcare, culture and environment, education and infrastructure. Others in the 10 most liveable cities in the world include: Vienna (3rd), followed by Vancouver, Toronto, Calgary, Adelaide, Perth, Auckland, Helsinki and Hamburg. As per the survey, the least liveable city was Damascus at the 140th place, followed by Lae (129), Tripoli (138), Phnom Penh (137), Port Moresby (136), Algiers (135), Karachi (134), Harare (133), Douala (132) and Kiev (131).

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

MASTER'S CHOICE

- Which James Bond theme song that starts with the words *Meeting you* was the only 007 theme song to reach the number one spot in the US charts?
- Which pre-Renaissance painter could draw a perfect circle and had a European space mission named after him?
- Mariposa, Motyl, Farfalla, Borboleta, Papillon* and *Sommerfugl* are all European words for what?
- Divine winds prevented Kublai Khan from invading Japan in the 13th century. What is the Japanese word for 'divine wind'?
- Which cocktail, named after a city, was invented by the Raffles Hotel barkeeper Ngiam Tong Boon in 1915?
- Which movie had the following taglines: "Five good reasons to stay single" and, "He's quite engaging. She's otherwise engaged"?
- What kind of flowers, painted by Vincent Van Gogh, are worth more than his world famous painting *Fifteen Sunflowers*?
- Samhain*, literally means "end of summer" and is a Gaelic language word. What is its direct English equivalent?

Cityscape

In hordes they throng,
The glitzy urban life beckons.
Burden of piling debt,
Starvation and poverty abject;
The megalopolis with its magnetic appeal
Rouses hopes – an end to their ordeal.
Greener pastures lure.
City of opportunities galore;
Towering boxes of glass and steel
Maze of the homeless who under misery reel.
Subways, expressways and multi-lane roads,
Fail to handle the traffic woes.
Malls, multiplexes and gorgeous discothèques;
Only the affluent have easy access;
Gruelling hours at construction sites,
Steeped in squalor, the slum-dwellers' lives;
Life's rat-race wrecks.
Loneliness gnaws, spirits plummet;
Behind the veneer of glamour and glitter,
The city that dehumanises – a ruthless monster.

Amita Chatterjee,
Alwar, Rajasthan

Cocoon

Inside her,
Deep somewhere,
Away from the outside world,
Something beautiful
Was cocooned.
The thing inside,
Switches to a playful mode
In the monsoon,
Sealing itself in man,
Longing for daybreak,
For a bout of peek-a-boo with the sun;
And, as lights fade out,
It makes sure
To glow inside.
In the darkest of hours,
With the light of its
Guest fireflies.

Nadia Jasmine Rahman,
New Delhi

SCIENCE ZONE

Dr Kaberi Mahanta



This weed has become a menace in many ecosystems due to its allelopathic effect, absence of effective natural enemies, high regeneration capacity...

(outenga@gmail.com)

Melbourne has been declared the world's most liveable city for the 7th consecutive year by *The Economist's* annual global liveability survey, despite soaring housing costs and serious congestion challenges. The annual survey assessed 140 cities and ranked them according to their stability, healthcare, culture and environment, education and infrastructure. Others in the 10 most liveable cities in the world include: Vienna (3rd), followed by Vancouver, Toronto, Calgary, Adelaide, Perth, Auckland, Helsinki and Hamburg. As per the survey, the least liveable city was Damascus at the 140th place, followed by Lae (129), Tripoli (138), Phnom Penh (137), Port Moresby (136), Algiers (135), Karachi (134), Harare (133), Douala (132) and Kiev (131).

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

MASTER'S CHOICE

- Which James Bond theme song that starts with the words *Meeting you* was the only 007 theme song to reach the number one spot in the US charts?
- Which pre-Renaissance painter could draw a perfect circle and had a European space mission named after him?
- Mariposa, Motyl, Farfalla, Borboleta, Papillon* and *Sommerfugl* are all European words for what?
- Divine winds prevented Kublai Khan from invading Japan in the 13th century. What is the Japanese word for 'divine wind'?
- Which cocktail, named after a city, was invented by the Raffles Hotel barkeeper Ngiam Tong Boon in 1915?
- Which movie had the following taglines: "Five good reasons to stay single" and, "He's quite engaging. She's otherwise engaged"?
- What kind of flowers, painted by Vincent Van Gogh, are worth more than his world famous painting *Fifteen Sunflowers*?
- Samhain*, literally means "end of summer" and is a Gaelic language word. What is its direct English equivalent?

[FEELINGS]

Slow death

It was hard to see him on his deathbed,
Taking the last few breaths of his life;
I had many things to tell him,
But my voice was too distant for his ears.

His pale and dull face,
Was not what I had expected;
The bold and stern look of a father,
Was lost in the wrinkles of time.

How painful it was to see him dying,
Never ever did I long for him like this before;
I wish, oh I wish,
I wouldn't have quarrelled with him in his good days!

A thousand promises can't bring him back now,
He is lost in the sands of time;
My heart shranked with pain,
But my voice too weak.

He once used to carry me on his shoulders,
But today I carried him on mine, for the first and last time;
Surprisingly, the coffin didn't feel heavy,
As much as my heart.

Wherever you are O' dear father,
I shall remember you always;
I didn't get the chance to tell you,
But I loved you always, I loved you always.

Shahil Ahmed,
Via e-mail

Blessings

Feel blessed to be who you are,
For what people love you.
Feel blessed to be who not you are,
For what people hate in you.

Shaheen Akhtar,
Guwahati

Hate

There he was, waiting to die,
Lying in the streets,
Dying for something that had
Nothing to do with his deeds.
Oh, how he wanted all life.
To become a star,
Yes, he will end up though
Lost among the many stars.
Wishing he was born to a different family,
A different community, a different time,
For then he wouldn't have fallen
For this trap named 'hate crime'.

Jigyas Baruah,
Guwahati

Everyday

Evening lights –
Calm but enthusiastic;
Loud exterior, fragile mind.
Observer,
And the changing world.

Rupam Gogoi,
Saharanpur

Parthenium and its management

Parthenum hysterophorus Linn, commonly known as white top weed, carrot weed or congress grass, belonging to the Asteraceae family, is native to the area around the Gulf of Mexico, including West Indies and Central and South America. The weed is now widely distributed in Australia, Taiwan, South China and Pacific Island, Canada, East and South Africa. It has now become one of the seven most dreaded weeds of the world.

Where in India is it found?

It was introduced in India in the early '50s as contaminant of wheat consignment received from Mexico under the PL 480 Scheme. In India, it was first noticed in 1955 near Purne. It has now spread throughout the length and breadth of millions of hectares of land except the desert areas in Rajasthan, Gujarat and the high altitude of Ladakh. This weed is found to infest public utility services like parks, roadways, railways, irrigation and drainage channels, pasture land, waste land, and its rapid invasion on agriculture and forest land have also been well documented. It has also become a menace in many forest areas in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

This weed has become a menace in many ecosystems due to its allelopathic effect, absence of effective natural enemies, high

regeneration capacity, ability to germinate throughout the year, extremely light weight of its seeds and adaptability in a wide range of ecosystems.

Facts

The weed completes three to four life cycles in a year depending upon the frequency and distribution of rain. An individual plant can produce about 10,000–25,000 seeds having



a viability up to 20 years. The seeds are the main source of the spread of this weed as they can be easily carried by wind, rain water, etc. The seeds can also move along with crop seeds, nursery material, man, animals, etc.

Diseases

Parthenium is known to cause a number of diseases in human beings like hay fever, eczema, gangrene, rhinitis, nasobronchial

allergy, asthma, bronchitis, dermatitis, etc. Similarly, livestock too suffer from rashes in their bodies, bitter milk diseases and it can even lead to death if parthenium is fed over a long period.

Contact with any of the plant parts – living or dead – causes allergic dermatitis, and pollen grain causes respiratory ailments. Its consumption by livestock causes injury to internal organs leading to death. Different parts of the weed contain water soluble growth inhibitors (phenolic acids) which generally reduce the growth and yield of associated crops up to 50 per cent.

Awareness and management

For effective management of this weed, an integrated approach is essential. Manual/mechanical removal should be done before flowering. Chemical control of this weed is credited with providing immediate relief as compared to other methods. A number of herbicides are effective in controlling this weed. For biological control of this weed, the beetle *Zygogramma bicolorata* is reported to be effective during the rainy season. The spraying of common salt too is reported to be effective. The biomass of this weed before flowering could also be used for production of organic manure.

(kaberi.jorhat@gmail.com)

9. The scientific world was turned on its head recently with a discovery that may be capable of travelling faster than the speed of light. What is it?

10. Which Dutch footballer earned the nickname Llama after spitting on the West German striker Rudi Völler during a 1990 FIFA World Cup game?

READERS' CHOICE

11. He served in the Italian army in the First World War but quit his service when he became severely sick in the 1918 flu pandemic. His friend Baracca gave him a necklace with a prancing horse sign before Baracca's final journey. This eventually became the sign of a car manufacturing company. Which company is it? (Himangshu Lahkar, Digbo)

12. What name did Captain Cook give the Hawaiian Islands in 1778? (Swarnali Das, via SMS)

13. Which fish is considered to be the most poisonous in the world? (Ningombam Duhita, Guwahati)

14. According to *Forbes* magazine, who is the wealthiest monarch in the world? (Natalia Devi, Guwahati)

15. Name this Wadia group company that started off trading in teak wood in the 19th century and now owns tea plantations and trades in tea. (Shajid Khan, Tangail)

16. Which epic movie, based on a real historical character, was the only film to have won the Oscar for Best Picture without a single female speaking role? (Bondita Phukan, Tezpur)

17. The first UN peacekeeping mission in 1948 was sent to keep the peace between which two countries? (Rishi Kumar, via SMS)

18. Which man, with a title that means Ocean Teacher, won the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize? (Tammy Das, Guwahati)

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

20. Launched on October 3, 2014 as a monthly programme, it has become a major revenue generator for its broadcaster, which earned 10-cr INR during the last two years. This programme, more often than not, features a single individual with great showmanship. Except the January 2016 episode which featured a foreign counterpart, it has always been a one-person affair. Name the programme. (Dr Jayanta Kr Sharma, Guwahati)

ANSWERS

1. *A View to a Kill* (Duran Duran), 2. Giotto, 3. Butterfly Mariposa (Spanish), Motyl (Polish), Farfalla (Italian), Borboleta (Portuguese), Papillon (French), Sommerfugl (Danish), 4. Kamikaze, 5. Singapore Sling, 6. Four Weddings and a Funeral, 7. Irises, 8. Neutrinos, 9. Frank Rijkaard, 10. Enzo Ferrari, 12. Sandwich Islands, 13. Stonefish, 14. The Sultan of Brunei, 15. Bombay Burmah Trading Co Ltd, 16. Lawrence of Arabia, 17. Israel and Palestine, 18. The Dalai Lama, 19. Venetia Burney, 20. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Mann Ki Baat programme broadcast by All India Radio.

Today we have many theories about the origin of life and creation of the world. There is a school of thought that holds the belief that all life has sprung from one supreme source and everything in the world is a particle that is connected to that source.

Hence, they believe that all creation is a part of the Creator or that the Creator or God pervades each particle of creation. However, if we investigate this concept logically, we can see that it is far from the truth. Let us take the example of a seed. A seed is tiny but it is a creator; a particle too is tiny but it is a creation. A tiny seed has the power to produce a giant banyan tree.

The tiny seed is the nano essence, an independent entity, complete in itself. A tiny particle, however, is a nano part of something else. A seed is pure essence, pure energy of superlative quality capable of producing quantity and hence is powerful. A particle is a bit of the qualitative outcome of the seed and hence less powerful. It does not have the creative powers of the seed and it draws its own power from a higher source. A seed is the creator while a particle is the creation. The seed has the capacity to produce a tree but a part of the tree such as the leaf, branch or flower cannot manifest all the qualities that the seed can.

Human souls are like seeds. Each soul is an independent entity complete in itself. Each soul has the blueprint of creativity, life and eternal qualities like truth, peace and love. Souls have the power to think, choose, decide and act as per their free will. They can change their destiny if they choose to do so. We must also understand a fact that human souls are not particles that have emanated from the Supreme Soul, as is believed by many. He is a Supreme Being who does not get divided into particles. If that were so, then why does the creation or the particles become degraded with time? Why are human souls devoid of all divine qualities which they should

have if they were parts of the Supreme? How can souls become imperfect if they were part of the Supreme? To illustrate the point further, if a 50 rupee note is divided into ten pieces, the pieces will not be called particles of that 50 rupee note, nor will they be complete entities, in fact, they will become worthless pieces of paper. Similarly, souls, which are whole entities in themselves, are not particles of the Divine, they are separate from Him. The only similarity between them is that both are subtle and spiritual, and cannot be seen with the eyes. However, the Supreme Soul is perfect and full of all virtues and spiritual powers, while souls become imperfect over time. That is why He comes to this world to restore souls to perfection when they reach the extreme state of degradation.

Remember – neither Supreme nor the soul can be fragmented. The soul is not a share of Supreme but it is a part of His creation. Just as a man and his wealth are separate, and a man is called the master of his wealth or property, similarly, He is the master creator. He alone has the power to recreate a perfect world of peace and happiness through His wisdom. How illogical it is to consider the Supreme Soul to be omnipresent on the one hand, and on the other hand to consider human souls as His particles? The truth is that souls are not particles, but they are eternal immortal progeny of the Supreme Soul and as his children, we all inherit His property of wisdom, purity, peace and happiness in the new world that He recreates for us.

(nikunji@gmail.com)

The power of seed

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MIND'S EYE

Rajyogi BK Nikunjji

Managing stress

"God will never give you anything you can't handle, so don't stress"

- Kelly Clarkson

We all experience stress at some point in our lives. But it is not easy to pin down exactly what stress means. Many people consider stress as that which happens to our body, mind, and behaviour in response to an event.

Like adults, young also experience daily hassles and demanding situations or events.

Youths must understand that stress is a part of life. A small quantity of stress is good. It can motivate and help one become more productive. However, too much stress can be harmful. Youths can respond to stress in a positive way by employing proper stress management technique. Even though there are likely to be some things happening in your life that you can't control, there are still lots of practical things you can do to manage the amount of pressure.

Lifestyle modification

Lifestyle modification could help us cope with pressure and stressful situations. Try spending time outdoors, if possible in nature (parks, wilderness, and areas with trees or water). Use relaxation techniques like bathing, painting, cooking, listening to music, playing with your pet, exercise, deep breathing, progressive muscle relaxation (PMR), massage, visualisation, etc.

Finding hobbies that are completely different from the things causing stress is a great way to avoid pressure. Make time for friends; laughing and smiling with friends also produce hormones that help to relax.

Physical health

Good physical health helps to manage

stress and lessen the impact of stress on mental health. Stress often interferes with sleep. One must incorporate meditation, deep breathing, listening to relaxing music, taking bath and reading, etc., for better sleep. Avoid nicotine and caffeine in the evening, or heavy exercise at night, television in the bedroom, eating in bed, and stressful activities in bed.

Engage more in physical activities. This is important for reducing stress levels and preventing some of its damaging effects on the body. During stress it can be tempting to eat the wrong kind of food. But what you eat and when you eat can make a big difference.

Give yourself a break

Reward yourself for achievements; for example, treat yourself with a piece of your favourite chocolate after you finish your exercise. One may visit friends or relatives even if it's just for a short time.

Holiday, even for a day in a different place, can help reduce stress. To move forward, talk to your family members and resolve the conflicts. Learn to forgive yourself for any mistakes that you may have committed.

Behavioural strategies

You don't have to face whatever you are going through that is causing you stress, on your own. Sometimes just talking to the people close to you can make a big difference. They might be able to help you out. Learn to manage time and solve problems. Eliminate time-wasting activities and stress-increasing activities like Facebook, WhatsApp, video games, television, etc.

Develop the ability to deal with stress and mitigate its impact so that you can enjoy your life to the fullest.

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China's abandoned fishing village



In the mouth of the Yangtze River off the eastern coast of China, a small island holds a secret haven lost to the forces of time and nature – an abandoned fishing village swallowed by dense layers of ivy. Houtou Wan is an abandoned fishing village on the northern side of Shengshan Island, located just 40 miles east of Shanghai, China. The village was once home to more than 2,000 fishermen among other residents, but was abandoned in the early 1990s.

The Houtou Wan village is located on Gouqi Island, which belongs to a group of 394 islands known as the Shengsi Islands in the Zhoushan Archipelago. It is one of the many small villages in China that have become ghost towns due to urbanisation, inaccessibility, depletion of resources, and shifts in industry, among other factors.

The village was gradually deserted when the small bay could no longer meet the needs of the increasing number of fishing boats. Reasons for the near total abandonment of the village include problems with education and food delivery as well.

Over the past few decades, nature has reclaimed the land, turning the village into a hauntingly beautiful wonderland devoid of human presence, except for wandering tourists and a handful of elderly residents who refuse to leave their birthplace. Today the village is home to only a handful of people, and is a popular tourist attraction.

Contributed by: Mitu Moni Keot, Guwahati



(This column will carry everything odd around the world. Readers' contributions will be appreciated at partha.hazarika@assamtribune.com.)

Hollywood titles, like the *Rise of the Machines*, *RoboCop*, etc., have over the years been giving us cues about the threat from intelligent robots. We had known about the 'existential risk from artificial general intelligence', which, though hypothetical, is the threat that dramatic progress in artificial intelligence (AI) could someday result in human extinction or some other unrecoverable global catastrophe. If AI surpasses humanity in general intelligence and becomes 'super-intelligent', then this new super-intelligence could become powerful and difficult to control. Will the fate of humanity depend on the actions of a future super-intelligent machines?

The fear is based on concerns that a sudden and unexpected 'intelligence explosion' might take an unprepared human race by surprise, and that controlling a super-intelligent machine (even instilling it with human-compatible values) may be an even harder problem than naively supposed.

Public figures like Stephen Hawking and Nobel laureate physicist Frank Wilczek, computer scientists Stuart J Russell and Roman Yampolskiy, and entrepreneurs Elon Musk and Bill Gates have been expressing concern about the risks of super-intelligence. As per an article in Na-

ture, "Machines and robots that outperform humans across the board could self-improve beyond our control – and their interests might not align with ours."

Though super-intelligence is yet a bit far, the issue is more serious than we have been assuming. This can be fathomed from the fact that Elon Musk and over 100 other leaders and experts in artificial intelligence (AI) have recently come together urging the UN to commit to an outright ban on killer robot technology.

An open letter signed by Musk, Google DeepMind's Mustafa Suleyman, and 114 other AI and robotics specialists urged the UN to prevent 'the third revolution in warfare' by banning the development of all lethal 'autonomous weapon systems'. Musk, the SpaceX and Tesla chief, is also behind OpenAI, a non-profit organisation devoted to advancing ethical AI research.

While the new letter isn't the first such instance, it is the first time that representatives of AI and robotics companies – from some 26 countries – have made a joint stand on the issue, joining the ranks of independent researchers, including Stephen Hawking, Noam Chomsky, and Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak.

How will life be in such a scenario?

(devolnath@hotmail.com)

“What happens when one watches the clock?"

"What do you mean?"

"Well, my cousin said that many of his colleagues were asked to leave their job as they were not sincere in their work and always kept catching the clock!"

"Oh, that? Well, 'watch the clock' is an idiom which is often used disapprovingly for those who think more about when their work will be over than about the work itself. I'm glad that your cousin is not a clock-watcher."

"A clock-watcher?"

"A clock-watcher is one who is always checking the time to make sure that they do not work longer than they need to."

"Right, he is not a clock-watcher and he likes to work very hard to the satisfaction of all."

"That is why your cousin was not laid off."

"Laid off?"

"I mean he was not dismissed from his job like his colleagues. There are many informal expressions to mean dismissal from job, like 'give pink slip', 'give the boot', 'show the door', etc."

"Interesting expressions these are. Well, anyway, what about your promotion? It was due last year, right?"

"Yes. It was. But the management preferred somebody else who was inexperienced and much junior to me."

"Oh! What will you do now?"

"Nothing. Have you heard this saying: 'A watched pot never boils'?"

"No, I have not. What does it mean?"

"It is used to mean that when you are impatient for something to happen, time seems to pass very slowly!"

"Okay, yes, you're right."

"And I am not impatient for my promotion. It will happen when it is meant to happen. I don't care!"

"That's good. I like this attitude of yours – always positive."

"That is what I am – a happy-go-lucky person."

"What person? A happy person?"

"Yes. A 'happy-go-lucky' person is one who is carefree and cheerfully unconcerned about the future."

"That's great. By the way, it's already 5 O' clock and time for me to leave."

"Hey, you are not a clock-watcher, are you?"

This humorous pun is from Biplob Talukdar:

The past, the present and the future walked into a bar. It was tense.

Contributed by: Protim Sharma, Horizon, The Assam Tribune, Chandmari, Guwahati-781003

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

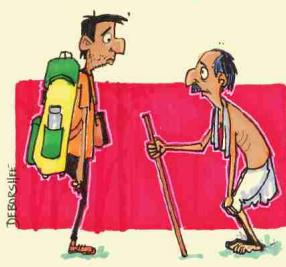
MIND YOUR ENGLISH

Protim Sharma



GRAPHIC PICK

Deborshee Gogoi



Going to 'Bird Meet'? But what the hell will a human do there?



Storybooks with human characters better for learning

Parents want to think twice before reading *Winnie the Pooh* to their children, as a new study has found that moral lessons in storybooks resonate with kids most when the character are human – not human-like animals. But the more a child attributes human characteristics to the animals, the more effectively they learned social lessons like sharing or telling the truth.

The findings are important because many of the social lessons told through human-like animals – such as a conniving fox or a turtle who perseveres – may miss the mark for effectively teaching moral lessons.

The study conducted by researchers at the University of Toronto, found that kids aged four to six don't learn social lessons from stories with animals as effectively as those with humans because many children don't see these characters as similar to themselves.

"They're less likely to translate social lessons from stories into their everyday lives," says lead researcher Dr Patricia Ganea.

— Agencies



The perfect hostess - II

It is a dinner party – important business associates have been invited for the evening. It is your anniversary celebration – your daughters and sons-in-law are coming over for a meal. You have sent the invites, planned the menu, laid the table meticulously and arranged the flowers. But have you given a thought to what you are going to wear? Here's a checklist:

- If salwar suits are your choice for the evening, choose an elegant four-piece set with a robe and dupatta with light embroidery. Opt for pastel colours for an afternoon party and deep colours like red and magenta for the evenings. Stark white or off-white cotton, georgette or net kurta-suits with gold embroidery look elegant in summers. Avoid dull greys, browns and other depressing shades. If sari is your best bet, then wear it gathered over a shoulder or in the *seedha palla* way. Team it with an embroidered blouse in a contrasting colour.

FASHIONABLY YOURS

Prasant Ghosh

- For summer, choose from *kotas* or *chikan* in gold and silver, or *chandlers* or the latest net, georgette, and lace sarees. For winter evenings, Kantha embroidered tussars, the evergreen south silks or the new embroidered satins and crepes are a safe choice. Blouses cut in novel designs such as the halter or front-knot add a different look to the plain saree.

- Slinky satin shirts in tones of silver look inviting. Almost transparent shirts in chiffon can be matched with those lovely camisoles or crunched blouses. For something extremely feminine, you can wear crepe gowns in soft, soothing pastels. Hand painted scarves can add drama to the ensemble. The outfit should be simple and subtly embellished, their beauty pronounced in the cut and style.

- The contemporary hostess may want to opt for a slinky, sand-washed, heavy silk crepe pant set. A sheath dress in polyester jersey teamed with a pearl string and ear studs is a sophisticated look.

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



Discovering Dalkey

It was in July this year that I landed in the city of Dublin. I dropped in at Santry, a suburb on the northside of Dublin, for my stay as it was nearest to the airport.

My first morning in Dublin started with a hot cup of roasted Irish coffee. It was followed by a city tour. Remembering James Joyce's *Dubliners*, I observed the middle-class life of the real Dubliners who had reddish brown hair, pinkish cheeks, coloured teeth, neatly drawn raised eyebrows, black round hats and a small of cigarette.

It was at Parnell Street that I noticed a few outlets for tourist information from where I fished out this booklet on a village called Dalkey and decided to visit it. On the third day, I caught a train towards Dalkey to get an idea of the place. I went upto the Sandycore Point from where I could figure out the route to Dalkey. I visited the James Joyce Tower at Sandycore – a plaque known for the famous work *Ulysses*. I spent half a day there so that I could save enough time to return to Santry.

On the fourth day I headed to Dalkey with a loaded backpack, a map, some fresh fruits, juices, water, beetroot chips and some cornflakes cookies. I took a train from the Connolly Station in my quest to explore Dalkey. Dalkey is an urban oasis nestled on the east coast of Ireland, about 12.8 kilometres south of Dublin city. It takes half an hour to reach Dalkey by DART train from the Dublin city centre.

I was excited to explore the historic castles, panoramic scenery, Irish cuisine, festivals, theatre, the markets and village atmosphere of Dalkey.

Here are a few things that one can do in and do in Dalkey:

- The heritage and culture of Dalkey can be experienced by participating in literary events, book festivals and Irish music sessions;
- Sailing, rock climbing, paragliding and bird watching are some of the most popular activities;
- Picnics can be exciting as there are a lot of playgrounds for children;
- The older ones can watch dolphins, or go for nature trails, and take scenic walks to enjoy the sea air. Guided literary and historical walks are also available;
- At Dalkey Castle, costumed actors entertain the visitors that beautifully bridge the 21st century with the 15th century, right from the days of the Vikings to modern day Dalkey.

At the Writers' Gallery, one can explore the area's literary and creative connections, from Samuel Beckett and James Joyce to Bono and Maeve Binchy;

- One can also visit the Dalkey Bloomsday Festival that is held on June 16 every year at Dalkey Castle. The Dalkey Book Festival is organised on the third weekend of June every year.

When it comes to Irish cuisine, seafood, especially lobsters and crabs are the most popular. I savoured a mouthwatering dish of lobster mantouled in oyster sauce and cooked in olive oil. I got that for seven euros! But it is definitely worth a try. Dalkey celebrates Food and Music festivals in August and writing festivals in October every year.

The clock at the heritage town reminded me to move back to Santry and I decided to walk down to Dun Laoghaire and catch a double decker bus to the city. The following day I left Dublin with a sense of fulfillment and enrichment on having explored one of the most captivating coastal rural parts of Dublin.

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Barcelona in crisis

Things couldn't have been worse for Barcelona after losing Neymar for a record transfer deal to Paris Saint-Germain, followed by their 5-1 (3-1 away and 2-0 at home) aggregate defeat to their fiercest rivals Real Madrid in the Spanish Super Cup.

Off to their worst start to a season in almost a decade, the Spanish Super Cup certainly gives football fanatics around the globe a feel that great teams, great eras, rarely end well. The departure of Neymar has certainly exposed the flaws at the Catalan club which seems to be nowhere close to their arch rivals Real Madrid – even in the absence of Cristiano Ronaldo.

The humiliating defeat also highlights the fact that it is for the first time in a decade that Barcelona has lost two classics in a row. What hurts Barca supporters even more is the fact that Real are now playing the kind of football that Barca once wowed the world with under Pep Guardiola and then Luis Enrique. Prior to last season, Barca had won a treble and a double under Luis Enrique. They still

SPORTPOURRI

Kausav Baruah

managed to win the Copa del Rey last year, too, and took the title race to the final day of the campaign. Now, the question remains whether it is Neymar's exit or problems within the board which has led to the crisis?

Unrest has spread from fans to former players and reportedly, current players. Neymar slammed Barcelona's directors after having scored twice on his home debut for the Parisians, telling reporters the club "deserve much better". On the other hand, Barcelona defender Gerard Pique has criticised the club's transfer policy and the sale of Neymar to PSG, something which has angered many inside the boardroom. The Catalan giants have also revealed that Lionel Messi will sign his contract extension despite rumours that he could leave. It is absolutely clear that Barcelona – which has been the most watchable team on the planet for almost a decade are now going through the worst crisis, and there seems to be no immediate solution.

It can be said that Barcelona have not been the same side since Xavi left in 2015. Since his departure, Barcelona's midfield has been dealt with a blow with Andres Iniesta being injury-prone while Sergio Busquets is no longer a commanding presence as a defensive midfielder. Since the retirement of Carles Puyol, a proper partner for Gerard Pique in defence has not been found. Another serious concern has been the lack of youngsters making their way from the famed academy La Masia. Spain's talented players are going to Santiago Bernabeu and not Camp Nou.

The club's decision to sign 29-year-old Paulinho for an unbelievable £36 million

has done little to lift the doom and gloom surrounding the club. At a time when most of the top clubs go for the best, the club's decision to sign the Brazilian from Guangzhou Evergrande has left fans scratching their heads. Barcelona are yet to replace Neymar while their attempts to land Liverpool's Philippe Coutinho have failed. Barca would not have been racing against the clock to replace Neymar had the board acted accordingly. They knew he was off and the people who run the club should have known and reacted sooner.

In reality, this failure is the consequence of poor planning by the Catalan club. A rebuilding process is very much required because there is plenty of work ahead to make this team competitive again – especially as Zinedine Zidane's Real Madrid looks set to become even stronger this season.

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Articles for Horizon should carry the address and contact number of the contributor. Articles can also be e-mailed at - horizon@assamtribune.com

Bareilly Ki Barfi is a story that would transport you to the rustic charm of India, full of situational humour that we so often tend to overlook.

Originality in script may not emerge to be the forte of director Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari, yet the comic love triangle would give you enough moments of joy during the two-hour stay at the theatres, provided you manage to brave the first 45-minutes of the show, which is predictable and at times unnecessarily stretched.

Bitti Mishra (Kriti Sanon) is a sharp-tongued and rebellious girl of Bareilly, who questions stereotypes, is a casual smoker who watches pirated English movies and loves to break-dance on the roof top, much against the set norms.

It is only when she chances upon a book by Pritam Vidrohi (Rajkummar Rao) in which the writer admires her ilk that Bitti starts feeling good about herself. For this very reason, Bitti falls for him and develops a strong desire to meet the author of the book titled *Bareilly Ki Barfi*.

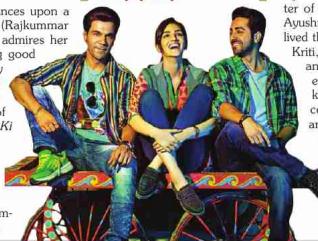
This is where Chirag Dubey (Ayushmann Khurrana), a printing press owner, who actually is the real writer of the book, promises to help in her quest, a storyline resembling yesteryear blockbusters like *Chupke Chupke* and *Saajan*.

BAREILLY KI BARFI

DIRECTOR: ASHWINY IYER TIWARI
STARS: AYUSHMANN KHURRANA,
KRITI SANON, RAKUMMAR RAO

AT THE THEATRES

Sanjoy Ray



Brooklyn goes to design school

BROOKLYN Beckham, who recently made the big move from London to New York, to study photography in the city, was seen attending his first day at the Parsons School of Design.

Brooklyn, 18, looked typically trendy in a grungy Soundgarden T-shirt, which paid tribute to the late lead singer Chris Cornell, who passed away in May this year. Brooklyn also sported a new, darker hairstyle, as he enrolled at the prestigious school.

Kate sweats it out

KATE Upton was recently spotted joining her professional baseball player fiancé Justin Verlander for a workout with the Marines in Detroit, Michigan. The 25-year-old model took part in the fitness session to raise awareness for the upcoming Marine Week. Justin, 34, is the founder of the Wins for Warriors charity, which supports military service members and their families.

Marine Week is set to take place from September 6-10 in Detroit; The Patriot Ruck, which will take place on September 9 in Detroit, will raise money for military members and veterans.

AGENCIES