

NEWS CAPSULE

R DUTTA CHOUDHURY

KNP revenue

KAZIRANGA, May 15: The Kaziranga National Park (KNP) collected a total of Rs 5.39.63.957 during the tourist season 2016-17. A total of 1,77,920 tourists, 7,842 of them from abroad, visited the Park this season, said Park director Satyendra Singh today. — Correspondent

NIA judgement

GUWAHATI, May 15: The judgement into the first case of terror funding registered with the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in the country has been deferred till May 22 by the Court of Special Court. NIA here today. — Staff Reporter

SAKP demand

GUWAHATI, May 15: Sadou Asam Kamachari Parishad (SAKP) today renewed its demand for enhancing the wages of casual, fixed-pay, muster roll and Home Guard employees at par with that of the fourth grade employees of the government. — Staff Reporter

Army inquiry

NEW DELHI, May 15: The Army is still to conclude an inquiry into an incident in which a Major tied a Kashmiri man to a vehicle's bonnet purportedly as a shield against stone-pelters in the valley, sources said. — PTI

The Assam Tribune on Internet
<http://assamtribune.com> &
<http://paper.assamtribune.com>



OIL arrests slide in crude production

Record gas output



OIL CMD Utpal Bora
use of new technology. He said

OIL managed to produce 3.28 million metric tonnes (MMT) of crude, which was one per cent higher than the previous year's production. He admitted that concerted efforts were made by all the officers and employees of the company to increase production, which not only arrested the downward slide of production but also resulted in increase of production. In addition to the efforts of all the officers and staff, adoption of new technologies also helped the company to increase production. However, Bora said that it would take around a year or two to get the complete benefit of

2.93 billion cubic metres, which is a record in the history of the oil.

The government has fixed the target of production of 3.60 MMT for the current financial year as part of the Prime Minister's mandate of decreasing the crude imports. Bora admitted that it would be a stiff target considering the present scenario. But at the same time, he asserted that the OIL would make all efforts to increase production in the years to come.

The OIL CMD admitted that local disturbances also affected production to a large extent in the last few years.

(See page 4)



Marshals trying to protect UP Governor Ram Naik from paper balls thrown by agitating SP MLAs during his address of the first sitting of 17th UP Assembly in Lucknow on Monday. — UNI

Panel caps SEBA grace marks limit at 5

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 15: The panel of four vice chancellors, constituted by the State Government to examine the grace marks system in the Board of Secondary Education, Assam (SEBA), today submitted its recommendations to the government.

Sources said the panel favoured continuation of the need for SEBA to use scientific tools to implement its moderation policy.

'an internationally and nationally accepted system'. However, it favoured a moderation policy to be adopted by SEBA. "Till date, SEBA did not have any moderation policy. Man to man was different," sources who have access to the recommendations told *The Assam Tribune*.

The panel also felt the need for SEBA to use scientific tools to implement its moderation policy.

The VCs panel also recommended that grace marks should be given in maximum three papers and the maximum grace marks awarded in one paper should be five. In case of out-of-syllabus questions, full marks should be given to the students, the panel recommended.

Gauhati University Vice Chancellor Mridul Hazarika, who headed the panel, told *The Assam Tribune* that (See page 4)

(See page 4)

620 ASTC drivers undergo fresh test

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 15: The Assam State Transport Corporation (ASTC) has expressed apprehensions over the ability of some contractual drivers recruited in 2015 and is conducting fresh tests to ascertain their driving skills.

"Around 620 contractual drivers were recruited in 2015. We have come to know that nearly half of these drivers do not know how to drive a vehicle. So we have decided

(See page 4)

Centre junks 1.08 lakh ration cards in Assam

SPL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, May 15: In what substantiates Centre's stand in the Supreme Court regarding reliability of ration cards, the Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has deleted 1.08 lakh ration cards in Assam till April.

Official sources said that ration cards in Assam were last

reviewed on April 9 and it was found that during 2013-2016 altogether 1,08,681 ration cards were deleted. The total number of cards issued in Assam is estimated at 57,59 lakh. In Assam, 57,59,703 ration cards were digitised, sources said.

On April 20, the Central Government affidavit in the Supreme Court that it is considering the reliability of ration cards and the matter as to whether ration cards should be discarded is (See page 4)

ment for the purpose of updating the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

The Centre's latest stand was part of the affidavit it has filed in the Supreme Court.

According to the Central Government affidavit, there is a proposal for relax at the reliability of ration cards and the matter as to whether ration cards should be discarded is (See page 4)

No major impact of ransomware cyberattack on India: Govt

NEW DELHI, May 15: The government today said there was no serious impact on the country from a global ransomware cyberattack, except for a few isolated incidents in Kerala and Andhra Pradesh, and steps were being taken to deal with any future threat.

Information and Technology Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said the systems run by the National Informatics Centre

were secured and running smoothly. A cyber coordination centre will start operating from next month to take precautions against such attacks, he said.

"There is no major impact in India unlike other countries. We are keeping a close watch. As per the information (See page 4)

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UP House session gets off to a stormy start

LUCKNOW, May 15: Opposition MLAs flung paper balls at Governor Ram Naik and marshals frantically deflected the projectiles with files as the opening day of the maiden session of the new Uttar Pradesh Assembly presented a spectacle of complete mayhem.

The ear-splitting sound of a whistle and uninterrupted slogan-shouting continued through the 35-minute customary address by the Governor, but the 83-year-old Naik stood his ground and read out the 84-page speech.

The spillover effect of a bitterly fought Assembly election, which saw BJP's return to power in the state after a hiatus of 15 years, was clearly visible from the very start as Opposition SP, Congress and BSP mem-

bers raised slogans against the government over law and order problems, including cow vigilanism.

As soon as Naik, UP Assembly Speaker Hridaya Narain Dixit and Legislative Council Chairman Ramesh Yadav, began reading aloud his address, the entire Opposition was on its toes, shouting slogans against the Yogi Adityanath government and trooping into the Well.

A BSP placard read "Police pit rahi thano mein, Yogi tere zamane mein"

(police getting beaten up under Yogi's rule), "goraksha ke naam par gundai band karo" (stop hoodlumism in the name of cow protection).

SP legislators also sought to corner the government on law and order issue.

Congress too joined the Opposition with slogans like - "Kanoon vyasta dhawast hai, sarkar bucharkhane, teen talaque vyast hai" (law and order is in a shambles as government is busy with slaughter houses and triple talaq).

Though the Governor's address, SP legislator Rajesh Yadav blew a whistle whose piercing sound ensured little was heard of what the octogenarian Naik, a seasoned saffronite who still maintains his relationship with the RSS, spoke.

As the Governor read out his speech, the Opposition members hurled paper balls towards him with many landing on him despite attempts by marshals to fend off the missiles. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath was

present during the Governor's address

which is note prepared by the government highlighting its achievements.

Amid the din which refused to ebb away, an annoyed Governor was heard telling the Opposition members, "Sarv Uttar Pradesh dekh raha hai aap ko (the entire Uttar Pradesh is watching you.)"

It was for the first time that the proceedings of UP legislature were being telecast live by Doordarshan.

After the BJP came to power in the state, a decision was taken to telecast

live the proceedings of the House.

"Sadan ki garima banaye rakhiye"

(maintain dignity of the House), the Governor pleaded with the agitated members, but in vain.

Condemning the Opposition for creating uproar in the House, Cabinet Minister Sidharth Nath Singh later told reporters, "People of the state have witnessed hoodlumism in the SP regime. After seeing their behaviour in the House, the people of the state must be happy that they are dumped SP."

"The way in which SP members jumped atop tables and threw paper balls is condemnable. They made a mockery of democracy," he said.

In an indication that the Opposition would continue to attack the government over law and order, SP Legisla-

tive Party leader Ram Govind Chowdhury later said, "Rape and murders have increased. Even incidents of rape with children have gone up... This government is a failure." — PTI

Two new faces in Bengal ministry

KOLKATA, May 15: In a minor reshuffle, two new ministers were today inducted into the Mamata Banerjee government in West Bengal.

Governor KN Tripathi administered the oath of office and secrecy to Ujjwal Biswas and Chandrima Bhattacharya at a function in the Raj Bhavan here.

Biswas is made minister-in-charge for Correctional Administration, Refugee Relief and Rehabilitation while Bhattacharya will be MoS Health and E-governance (independent charge).

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee was present at the swearing-in ceremony along with many of her Cabinet colleagues and senior government officials. Banerjee said that she would carry out another minor reshuffle of her ministry shortly. — PTI

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Not in the race for PM's post in 2019: Nitish

PATNA, May 15: Bihar Chief Minister and JD(U) national president Nitish Kumar today emphatically said that he was not in the race for the Prime Minister's post in 2019.

"I am unnecessarily being targeted. We are a small party. I am not a fool... If I become the national president of my party, it does not mean that I harbour national aspiration of (becoming the PM)," Kumar told reporters on the sidelines of 'Lok Samvad' programme here.

Stating that he believed in working for the people, Kumar said he has served the people throughout his political career — be it as MP, Union Minister and now as the Chief Minister.

At present, the people of Bihar have given the mandate to grand alliance and he was doing his work in a positive manner, he said.

Asked whether he has the capability to lead a non-BJP alternative, Kumar said that "Neither have any aspiration nor the ability to become the PM."

The JD(U) president, who was flanked by ministers and party leaders during interaction with the media, said that it was difficult to say as to who will emerge as the PM candidate in 2019.

"It sounds weird... I am not the claimant for the Prime Minister's post in 2019 (general elections)," he said.

"The person in whom people will see potential will become the Prime Minister. People saw potential in Narendra Modi during last elections, he has become the PM," Kumar said

adding that Modi, then the Gujarat Chief Minister was not even in the frame to become the PM five years ago.

On his party having a view divergent to his, Kumar said on the sanctity of EVMs, Kumar said that there cannot be one view of all parties... Different parties can have different views on various issues.

"We had a different take on demonetisation. Similarly, we are of the view that elections should be held with EVMs. But all apprehensions with regard to voting machines must be removed," he said.

With regard to a query that alcohol bottles seized during anti-liquor drive have been drained in the river Ganges, Kumar feared ignorance about such incident.

"I don't have any such information that liquor has been drained in the holy river. The seized liquor has to be destroyed. It cannot be drained in the river," he said, adding that his government will not tolerate if any river, specifically the Ganges, was polluted by any means.

On the arrest of the relative of a JD(U) youth wing office-bearer, Kumar said that the development was not any embarrassment to him or the party as he was of the view that anyone found to be violating law must be punished.

(Action against JD(U) youth wing functionary's relative) established the fact that the government machinery will act without any prejudice, howsoever high he/she may be, he said. — PTI

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GIMT GUWAHATI

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Hukhnapara, Azara, Guwahati-781017

STATE LEVEL ESSAY COMPETITION

Girijananda Chowdhury Institute of Management and Technology (GIMT), Guwahati is organizing a State level essay competition on the theme : "Tourism Sector in Assam : Promises and Challenges"

"অসম পর্যটন ক্ষেত্ৰ : প্ৰতিশ্ৰুতি আৰু প্ৰয়ায়ানা"

Competition Highlights

All participants will be awarded with a Certificate of participation

Prizes

First prize : Rs. 25,000/-

Second prize : Rs. 20,000/-

Third prize : Rs. 15,000/-

The schools/colleges that the winners of the competition represent will be felicitated.

The best essay will be published in the forth-coming issue of GIMTECH, the annual Institute Magazine.

Rules and Regulations

The competition is open to the students from class IX to Class XII.

Essay can be written in English or Assamese with maximum word limit 1200.

Each entry should be typed on A4 size paper with 1.5 line spacing.

Each entry should contain a title page with the theme, name of the participant with a recent passport size colour photograph, class, name and address of the school/college and contact no on it.

Each entry should be forwarded by the Head Master/Mistress or Principal of the School/ college/ Head of institution.

Last date for receipt of entries: 15th June, 2017.

Entries should be submitted by post to aforementioned address in a closed envelope with the title "STATE LEVEL ESSAY COMPETITION 2017" written on it.

The result will be declared in the first week of August 2017 in the GIMT website www.gimt-guwa-hati.ac.in and in The Assam Tribune.

For further information, please visit us at GIMT website or contact 8723937585/ 9577835213

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Notice Inviting Quotation
No. GUIST/GBT-Food/2017/01
Date: May 15, 2017
Quotations are invited for supply, installation, fixing of Equipment, Lab Accessories etc. under a Discrete Project proposed on Food Sciences at GUIST. For detailed information of the NIQ, kindly visit the GU website: www.gauhati.ac.in.
Sd/- Director, GUIST
CD/TN/684/1

Employee's Provident Fund Organisation
Ministry of Labour & Employment
Government of India
Office of the Regional
Provident Fund Commissioner
Regional Office, N.E. Region,
G.S. Road, Bhangarhat,
Guwahati - 781009, Assam
Phone : 0361-2523252, 2549473
Fax : 0361-2523265, 2549473
e-mail : ro_gu@epfindia.gov.in

No. AS/AS/EPF/Gen. Circular/2017/01 Date: 15/05/2017

NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR HIRING CAR

Sealed Quotations are invited from Registered Travel Agents (i.e. Travel Agents/Travel Agencies approved by Government) and having its office at Guwahati for providing (one) Vehicle (along with Driver) for hire on a daily rate on monthly basis for official purpose. Type of the vehicle required is Ford Fiesta/ Maruti Swift Dzire/Ford Ikon/any other equivalent mid size car. The vehicle must be older than 20/25 years and should be in good colour. The duty hours of vehicle will be from 8 AM to 7 PM on all days.

The quotation should be provided in the form of a proposal with average of 2500 km and should include all taxes, cost of fuel and wages/cost of Uniform of the Driver. The terms and conditions are as per the guidelines issued by the agency sending tender should agree to sign. Copy of the agreement is available in the office of the undersigned or can be downloaded from the website www.epfindia.gov.in. The quotation should be submitted in the format prescribed in Annexure "A" of the agreement. An attested document of the undersigned along with copy of PAN Card, Service Tax Registration No., P.F. Code Number and Government order incorporating Tour and Travel agency should be enclosed. Any question without the required documents shall be rejected.

The tender scribbled with "QUOTATION FOR HIRING CAR" should be sent to the undersigned on 1.00 P.M. of 12th June 2017 and shall be opened at 4.00 P.M. of 12th June' 2017 in the Chamber of Chairman, Tender Opening Committee, Government of Assam, Gove. All bidders are allowed to have their authorized representative present at the time of opening of the bids. The undersigned reserves the right to reject any tender without assigning any reason.

Sd/- (R. Chakma)
Assistant P.F. Commissioner
(Adm) Ph.No.0361-2455189
M. No. 9435372781
CD/TN/679/1

NOTICE INVITING TENDER/QUOTATION
Sealed quotations are invited from reputed firms/authorized dealers for renovation/upgradation of various works, supply and installation of various items of furniture and teaching aids. The last date of submission of tender/quotation is 29/05/2015 upto 1.00 P.M. and will be opened on the same date at 1.30 P.M. in the presence of the undersigned or his authorized agents. For details log on to college web-site www.doomdoomacollege.edu.in

Sd/-
PRINCIPAL
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THE ORIENTAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED
CCD-II, Chandmari,
Guwahati-781021

EXTENTION OF TENDER NOTICE

Tender for sale of salvage vehicles published in Assam Tribune on 30/04/2017 has been extended upto 29/05/2017 due to unavoidable circumstances. For details Contact- THE ORIENTAL INSURANCE CO. LTD. CDD-II, M.D. RDG, GUWAHATI-781021, Ph. No. 9435331189 / 9435072073.

CD/TN/.../1

INTERNATIONAL

China dismisses India's concerns

Belt and Road initiative

"The Belt and Road Initiative was proposed in 2013, and four years on, over 100 countries around the world and international organisations have supported and got involved in this initiative," the Foreign Ministry said in a written response to PTI.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry's response came over the remarks of External Affairs Ministry spokesman Gopal Baglay, who had asserted two days ago that India cannot accept a project that violates its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

India skipped the Belt and Road Forum (BRF) due to its sovereignty concerns over the USD 50 billion CPEC, which passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The Chinese foreign ministry, however,

was silent on India's boycott of the Belt and Road Forum that ended today.

"Important resolutions passed by the UN General Assembly and Security Council contain reference to it. In the speech made by President Xi Jinping on the morning of May 14 at the opening ceremony of the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, he elaborated on the progress and achievements of the initiative over these years in terms of policy, infrastructure, trade, financial and people-to-people connectivity," the Chinese foreign ministry said.

"All these (developments) show that the Belt and Road Initiative responds to the trend of the times, conforms to the law of development, and meets the people's interests," it said.

The ministry asserted that the venture has broad prospects and the international community's "warm response" to the BRF also "speaks volumes" for the initiative.

The Chinese foreign ministry referred to President Xi Jinping's remarks after he inaugurating the BRF in which he had said that the Belt and Road should be built into a road for peace.

It also referred to Xi's remarks in which, while skirting any references to India's absence at the meeting, he had said, "All countries should respect each other's sovereignty, dignity and territorial integrity, each other's developmental paths and social systems, and each other's cores interests and major concerns."



The Beijing Olympic Park Observation Tower during the Belt and Road Forum in Beijing on Sunday. - UNI

OIL arrests slide in crude...

(Contd from page 1)

OIL will be appointing 395 persons in Grade III and "we apprehend some trouble when the result of the examinations are declared. But the people must understand the fact that the appointments are given only on merit. As per the new guidelines of the Prime Minister, the candidates will be selected only on the basis of written tests and the tests were conducted by a third party, that is, Dibrugarh University. So no one should question the selection process and create unnecessary trouble," he added.

A strike by the oil tanker operators also created problems a few days back and to prevent occurrence of such incidents in future, the OIL is planning to modify the tender terms in future.

Bora revealed that frequent bandits also affected production in the past few years. However, fortunately, the situation has improved now but there are still instances of some or-

ganisations demanding hefty sums as 'donations', particularly from the outsourcing companies engaged by the OIL for drilling. He expressed the view that such incidents must be resolved for better performance by the OIL.

The OIL CMD said that continuous efforts must be made to go for new exploration and in the current financial year, an amount of Rs 960 crore has been earmarked for exploration. He said that the OIL is planning a survey of the Brahmaputra river bed and has sought permission from the Director General of Hydrocarbons. He said that to go for drilling, permission of the Ministry of Environment and Forest would be required.

The OIL is also planning to seek licence for exploration in other parts of the Northeast and other parts of the country in near future under the provisions of the new licensing policy to be rolled out in July.

India, Pak face-off...

(Contd from page 1)

attorney Harish Salve said, "The execution of the death sentence cannot be done while this court is hearing the appeal. Else, it will be a violation of the Vienna Convention."

Following India's arguments, Pakistan, in its submission before the UN's highest judicial forum, said India's application on Jadhav, who was sentenced to death by a Pakistani military court on charges of espionage and subversive activities, was "unnecessary and misconceived" and must be dismissed.

India has seen it fit to use the International Court of Justice as a stage for "political theatre" but "we will not respond in kind", Mohammad Faisal of the Pakistan Foreign Office said in his opening remarks in response to India's submissions earlier in the day.

The ICJ also denied permission to Pakistan to play a putative "confessional" video of Jadhav.

Having sat at the public hearing here, Representing Pakistan, lawyer Khawar Qureshi said India has sought to persuade this court that Pakistan intends to execute Jadhav within days.

"A period of 150 days is provided for in this regard, which even if started on April 10, 2017, which is the date of conviction at first instance, could extend to well beyond August 2017.

"There is also of course the potential for the writ petition of the High Court to be invoked as we believe India must be well aware," he said.

Earlier, Salve said Pakistan had denied India's 16 requests for consular access to Jadhav.

Based on this, the government has been able to achieve tight targeting of food subsidies of about Rs 14,000 crore annually.

Meanwhile, Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Ram Vilas Paswan said that as an outcome of the digitization of ration cards, beneficiary records, duplication due to Aadhar seeding, transfer, migration, death and change in economic status of beneficiaries and during the run-up to the implementation of the National Food Security Act, a total of 2.33 crore ration cards have

Centre junks 1.08 lakh...

(Contd from page 1)

under consideration, though a final decision is yet to be taken. The Centre informed the court that a fresh look is being taken at each of the documents.

In 2015, the Assam government had informed the State Assembly that there are 2,89,238 bogus ration cards in the State, according to a report by the Department of Food and Civil Supplies. At least two-thirds of the digitisation work mandatory for implementation of the National Food Security Act, 2013 have been completed in the State and the remaining work was expected to be completed by June.

620 ASTC drivers...

(Contd from page 1)

to conduct a re-exam for these drivers," ASTC Managing Director Anand Prakash Tiwari told The Assam Tribune. The fresh tests for the drivers are being held at the city's Rupnagar complex of the ASTC under CCTV observation.

"The tests are going on since the last three days. We have observed that around 40 percent of them have either surrendered or failed.

We are contemplating a follow-up action against the recruits," Tiwari said.

The MD said the corporation will also examine how these drivers were appointed and how they got their driving licences. "We need to examine these issues. Necessary action will be taken after that," he said. These contractual drivers were getting a remuneration of Rs 6,000 plus DA.

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Edouard Philippe new French PM

PARIS, May 15: Newly sworn-in French President Emmanuel Macron on Monday named Edouard Philippe, the 46-year-old Mayor of Le Havre city, as his Prime Minister.

Philippe is a member of the centre-right Les Republicans party and is close to Alain Juppe, the former Prime Minister, reports CNN.

The 39-year-old former investment banker and economy minister was inaugurated on Sunday as the 25th President of France and also the youngest in the nation's history in a ceremony at the Elysee Palace.

Macron is counting on winning votes from centre-right supporters in the legislative elections next month. His party Le Re-publicen in Paris is scrambling to get 577 candidates together to contest every seat in the country.

Philippe, a lawyer with experience working in the private sector, was born in Rouen and grew up a Left-wing environment. He was a socialist in his younger days before switching his allegiances to the right. - IANS

Panel caps...

(Contd from page 1)

committee recommended both short-term and long-term measures. "We tried to ensure that the students are not affected. At the same time, the product quality should be good," he said.

The panel, comprising the VCs of Gauhati University, Dibrugarh University, Krishna Kanta Handique State Open University and Kumar Bhaskar Varma Sanskrit and Ancient Studies University, was constituted by the government following a controversy over 'hidden' grace marks given by the SEBA.

The VCs panel had meetings with SEBA officials and other stakeholders before making its recommendations.

New law if SC bans...

(Contd from page 1)

open the issues of practice of polygamy and nikah halala among Muslims for adjudication in future, as the Centre insisted on judicial deliberations on these aspects as well. "It may not be possible to deal with all the three issues in the limited time we have. We will keep them pending for future," the bench said.

No major...

(Contd from page 1)

It was made when Rohatgi, appearing for the Centre, said the issues of polygamy and nikah halala were also part of the order of a two-judge bench, which had referred to the Constitution bench the three issues, including the practice of triple talaq among Muslims. - PTI



Italy busts mafia clan, Catholic group in migrant scandal

ROME, May 15: Italy has cracked open a mafia ring accused of infiltrating one of the country's largest migrant reception centres and capitalising on asylum seekers with the help of a Catholic association, police said today.

The Arcena clan, a family belonging to the powerful 'Ndrangheta' crime syndicate, allegedly made a killing by supplying services for the centre at Isola di Capo Rizzuto by siphoning off money from the state destined for the migrants.

"Over 500 migrants overnight arrested 68 people...accused of mafia association, extortion, carrying illegal weapons, fraud, embezzlement to the detriment of the state, (and) theft," police said in statement.

Their investigation revealed that the clan controlled, for profit, the management of the reception centre" at Isola di Capo Rizzuto - which has held up to 1,500 migrants at a time - and had been doing so for over a decade.

Policemen arrested Leonardo Sacco, head of the Catholic Misericordia association which runs the centre. The 35-year-old has

been linked to high-powered political figures. - AFP

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Officer and Secretary, Chandrapur Anchalik Paribartayi Charchit, Kamrup(M), Assam invites Bids from APWD contractors for the construction of the following work:

The Bids will be issued at the office of the undersigned from 19/05/2017 to 20/05/2017 during office hours and last date and time for receipt of Bids is on 25/05/2017

SI. No. Name of the work No. Approx. Value of Work. Time for completion Tenders Form Cost

1. Construction of Community Hall at Talitalam under Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability incentive scheme(PEAS)/2012-13 193530/- 3 months 1000/-

Sd/- The Executive Officer and Secretary Chandrapur Anchalik Paribartayi Charchit, Kamrup (M), Assam

NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION ASSAM

NO: NHM/PROC/R-DRUG/NEW-ED/3040/2016-17/2423 Dte:-15/5/17

CORRIDING NO.1

e-TENDER ENTERING INTO RATE CONTRACT CUM SUPPLY AND EMpanelment of DRUGS

This is with reference to the TENDER NO: NHM/PROC/R-DRUG/NEW-ED/3040/2016-17/2423, Dte:-20.05.2017 and Extension Notice NO: NHM/PROC/STR/2099/2016-17/1905, Dated: 03.05.2017 for supply of drugs. The details of amendments can be obtained from the website <http://assamtenders.gov.in> and also in the NHM official website www.nhmmission.in.

All other terms and conditions of the above referred tender and Extension Notice NO: NHM/PROC/ STR/2099/2016-17/1905, Dated: 03.05.2017 shall remain unchanged.

Sd/- Mission Director, NHM, Assam

TENDER NOTICE

IIT, Kharanpara, Guwahati invites sealed tender application for fitting of vitrified tiles/granite at WSC, Guwahati and for maintenance of Auditorium Hall at IIT, Guwahati. Last date of submission of tender (application) is 29-05-2017 up to 11.00 hrs. The details can be found at our official website, i.e. www.handlooms.nic.in

Head of Office IIT, Guwahati

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM FINANCE (BUDGET) DEPARTMENT, DISPUR

No. 88/09/2017

The government of Assam, by notification, hereby creates one or more District Sub-Treasury and immediately before creation of Districts, all of them had a Sub-Treasury Office. Now, the governor of Assam, is pleased to notify, with immediate effect that Sub-Treasuries operating in the newly created Districts have now been upgraded into District Treasuries as per list shown below. All those treasuries will now be known as Banking District Treasury.

Sl. No. Name of New District Sub-Treasury upgraded into District Treasury

1. Barak Valley Barak Valley Central

2. Charoila Sonari

3. Majuli Gasemur

4. Hojai Hojai

5. South Salmara Hategman

6. West Karbi Anglong Harenam

Sd/- Dr. Ravi Kanta, I.A.S.

Commissioner & Secretary of the Govt. of Assam Finance (Budget) Department

Janasanayog/1683/17

NOTICE

Renewal and Registration in respect of Class-III Contractors under Swaasagar Water Resources Division, for the year 2017-18 will be issued with effect from 01-04-17 to 31-07-17 on submission of application by the contractors as per prescribed format.

Last date of submission of application for Registration and Renewal for the year 2017-18 is 30-06-17 after which no prayer Registration and Renewal will be considered.

The following documents should be submitted along with the application to the end within the above mentioned period:

1) Application Form duly filled up along with Rs. 825 P Court Fee Stamp.

2) Recent Passport size Photo (2 wavy) Copies

3) G.L.H.C. Certificate (one) No. (attested Photocopy)

4) Pan Form WC2

5) Copy for Renewal for the year 2016-17 (for renewal Contractor)

For further guidance, refer to the relevant circulars.

Region-wise Security Deposit money in the shape of feed deposit from the Nationalized Banks/State Co-operative Banks/State Co-operative Banks only.

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SC/OCBC/MOBIC 1% respectively)

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Janasanayog/1670/17

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**WEATHER
GUWAHATI**

LOCAL FORECAST:
Partly cloudy sky to
General cloudy sky.
Rainfall chances is
very likely to occur.
Maximum temperature
is most likely to be
35°C on Tuesday.

TEMPERATURE:
Max 34.6°C
Min 23.0°C

**Scholars meet
to share
research-based
knowledge**

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 15: The University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya (USTM), organised a 'Research scholars' and guides' meet' today for the smooth functioning of research works. Professor Chandan Sarma, Head of the Department of Sociology, Tezpur University was present as a distinguished speaker on the occasion.

Vice Chancellor of the university Dr PG Rao chaired the meet in presence of Pro Vice-Chancellor of USTM, Dr RK Sharma; CV Ramamurthy Chair Professor of USTM Prof Amartya Choudhury and all the deans of the respective schools and faculty members.

"The intention behind this meet is to lay emphasis on the research and development initiatives of USTM and bring all the research scholars, guides and faculties on the same platform to share their knowledge," said a statement.

During his address, Professor Sarma appreciated the efforts of the USTM for organising scholar-guide meets on a regular basis. According to him, such meetings will enhance the scope of interdisciplinary research works. He urged the scholars to gather maximum knowledge in their research domain and meet and interact with the researchers of cross disciplines.

UST Vice Chancellor Dr Rao, while addressing the scholars, laid stress on the importance of discipline while carrying out their research works. He requested the scholars to identify the problems and to solve them immediately with their respective guidelines.

**Telecom,
Information
Society Day**

GUWAHATI, May 15: With the rest of the world, the Institution of Engineers (India), Assam State Centre, is planning to observe World Telecommunication and Information Society Day on May 17 in its Panbazar premises in association with the Department of CSE, University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya.

The programme includes a meeting at 10.30 am on May 17. This will be followed by a 'Students' Technical Session, according to a press release here.

Residents of city localities harassed

The residents of Bhuban Road, Uzanbazar and those of Kharghuli area are being subjected to harassment.

**citizens'
voice**

Citizens are requested to express their Guwahati specific views in 100 words and mail the same to citizensvoice@grat.com

ment in the matter of granting or permission for building construction.

The GMDA has kept the matter pending for years together on the ground that it

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 15: The Dr Bhupaneshwar Borooah Cancer Institute (BBCI), GLP Social Circle and Hanuman Sewa Nidhi Trust have come forward to start an ambitious scheme for the first time in the North East to provide free lunch to cancer patients attending the Outpatient Department of the hospital on a regular basis.

The programme, 'Annakoot' – implemented in memory of the late Justice Dr BP Saraf on his fifth death anniversary – was inaugurated by Hrishikesh Goswami, Press Adviser to the Chief Minister, today.

Samir Sinha, Commissioner & Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, attended the programme as the chief guest and appreciated the initiative of the GLP Social Circle and BBCI.

It was also attended by Mukul Chandra Gogoi, Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, as guest of honour, and Dr R Bhuyan, Director of Health Services and Shantikanta Haz-

STAFF REPORTER

ari, member, Management Council of BBCI, as distinguished guests.

AGagarwal, chairman, GLP Social Circle, in his address said a long-felt dream to give free lunch to cancer patients attending OPD has been fulfilled with the initiative.

BBCI had recently launched a nutritional support pro-

gramme for childhood and terminally ill cancer patients.

Under it, patients are regularly distributed food products like Assam Mis (local cereal powder), millet powder, protein powder, etc., with generous contribution from donors.

At today's function, Sankaral Goenka, chairman, Jeevanram Munji Devi Charitable



Patients having lunch during launch of the Annakoot scheme. - UB Photos

providing financial support for the 'Annakoot' scheme.

"It is hoped that all such initiatives will bring patients, doctors, families and other supporting staff closer to each other and it will thus create a right ambience for the patients to live with dignity and honour," Dr AC Kataki, Director, BBCI said.

As per the Population-Based Cancer Registry of the Indian Council of Medical Research, the incidence of cancer is highest in the north-eastern region of the country.

The national average incidence of cancer ranges from 90 to 150 new cases per one lakh population. However, the incidence of cancer in Aizawl district of Mizoram is the highest in the country – 270 per one lakh population. This is followed by PimpriChinchwad district of Arunachal Pradesh (230 per one lakh population), East Khasi Hills of Meghalaya (218 per one lakh population) and Kamrup (Metro) district (206 per one lakh population).

The relatively higher incidence of cancer in the North East is largely due to excess-

tive tobacco consumption, betel nut chewing, alcohol, and dietary habits. Assam recorded 31,474 new cancer cases in 2015 and about 16,029 patients died due to cancer that year.

In the financial year 2016-17, BBCI registered 11,864 new and 7,457 old cancer patients. "Traditionally cancer is treated in a multi-disciplinary manner involving radiotherapy, surgery, and chemotherapy either alone or in various combinations. Due to various socio-economic factors more than two-thirds of all cancer patients are diag-

nosed in the advanced stage,

which requires palliative care," Dr Kataki said.

Considering the large

number of patients in Assam

and the North East and the

limited cancer treatment facil-

ties, BBCI has also started

MD Radiotherapy, Mch Sur-

gical Oncology, MSc Radiolog-

ical Physics, Postgraduate

Fellowships in Oncology, and

many other academic cour-

ses. Super specialist DM in

Medical Oncology will start

from August 2017, which will

be the first in the entire east-

ern India, Dr Kataki added.

Booth committee meetings of BJP on May 28

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 15: Booth committee meetings of the BJP will be held across the State on May 28.

State BJP president Ranjeet Kumar Dass has appealed to the party workers to make the programme a success.

The State BJP leadership has made it mandatory for the party activists to conduct booth level meetings once every month from now on. The meetings on May 28 will be the first following the decision taken by the executive to strengthen the party grassroots. Failure to hold the meetings may invite dissolution of the booth committee, party sources said.

The date of the first booth committee meeting coincides with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio show 'Mann ki baat'. The PM will address the nation from 11 am on that day.

"The booth committee meetings will be held from 10 am to 12 noon. The 'Mann ki baat' programme will be part of the booth committee meetings. The booth committee president and other members will have to attend the meeting. They will have to gauge the significance of the PM's talk to the people," a party release stated.



A small girl walks home from school with her mother under the shade of an umbrella in Guwahati on Monday, when there was a rise in the mercury level. - AT photo

Deportation of Afghan national from Assam MEA, MHA miss deadline

SANJOY RAY

row Khan with their counterparts in Afghanistan more than once in the last couple of months, but to no avail.

Both the ministries have also been communicating with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Embassy of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, which is checking the authenticity of the nationality of Khan.

The Gauhati High Court, in February this year, had recently pulled up the MEA and the MHA for their 'cavalier' attitude, leading to inordinate delay in the deportation of Khan.

The court of Ujjal Bhuyan and Kalyan Rai Surana, in its

order, had warned of taking an adverse view of the matter if the ministries fail to comply with the court order within two months.

Although Khan was declared as an Afghan national in 2014, his deportation continues to get delayed. Interestingly, Khan, during his stay, married a girl from Assam and the couple have a child.

The court also took strong exception to the fact that even after two years have passed since the petitioner was declared a foreigner residing illegally in India, neither the Centre nor the State government has shown any urgency to deport him.

FIR against man for threat post on Facebook

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 15: The Assam State unit of National Students' Union of India (NSUI) today lodged an FIR with the Dispur Police Station against a person who issued threats against the Assam Congress Legislative Party leader Debraj Sarakia through a Facebook post, pleading for initiating punitive measures against the person, said a press release here.

Mother's Day celebrated

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 15: Mother's Day was celebrated under the aegis of the women's wing of Ankur Sangha at old-age home Seneh at Narakasur, Kahilipara on Sunday.

Five mothers and an employee of the old-age home were felicitated on the occasion. A cultural programme and an interaction session were the other highlights, a press release said.

do not suffer anymore.

- Das, M Bordoloi,
AK Bora, S Das,
Uzanbazar

Bad road

The roads in some areas of the city are very terrible, especially the Chatribari road. This area is important for the State government because it is a business hub for motor parts. Heavy traffic flow is seen in the road due to its dilapidated condition. The authorities concerned should take some urgent steps in this regard and repair the road as soon as possible.

- Gautam Sharma,
AT Road

Public toilets

Gauhati is the hub for the entire North East. Thousands of people come to Guwahati daily for different tasks and travel in the city buses. As there is no public toilet at many of the bus stands, travellers, especially women, face many problems during their journey. As part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, the Guwahati development authorities concerned should install some bio-toilets near some important bus stops such as Fancy Bazaar, Kachari, Ganeshguri, Basistha and Khamapara etc.

- Dhrubajyoti Nath,
Mangaldoi

Announcement : Under the MCI ethics and Regulation 61

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Urology & Kidney Transplant	Dr. Prasun Ghosh	20 May, 2017 11:00 AM-3:00 PM
Nephrology (Kidney)	Dr. Amit Mahapatra	24 May, 2017 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
Neurosurgery (Brain & Spine)	Dr. Karanjit S. Narang	27 May, 2017 11:00 AM-3:00 PM
Neurology (Nerve)	Dr. Rajeev Goyal	30 May, 2017 11:00 AM-2:00 PM
Cardiology (Heart)	Dr. Kartikeya Bhargava	7 June, 2017 11:00 AM-2:00 PM
Rheumatology (Arthritis)	Dr. Vinay Singh	10 June, 2017 11:00 AM-4:00 PM

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MESSAGE FOR TODAY

All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them.

— WALT DISNEY

The Assam Tribune

Grand design

The manner in which every major nation of the world, including superpowers, flocked to Beijing as China unfurled its "One Belt One Road" (OBOR) initiative, tellingly indicates that in today's context, commercial gains score heavily over values. Issues such as authoritarianism, lack of free speech and a totally State-controlled media have been swept under the carpet as China dangled an enticing bait – a promise that it would import two trillion USD worth of goods in the next five years from countries which are linked to OBOR. The grand design incorporates the construction of a network of railways, roads and sea-ports to connect Asia, Africa and Europe, to be built in collaboration with different countries, with China playing the role of the major financier. In fact, at the OBOR summit, Chinese President Xi Jinping announced the sanction of 124 billion USD of loans and grants over and above the one trillion USD already placed on the anvil. It indeed is a major initiative and those who question its sustainability have been silenced by the resounding global welcome OBOR has been accorded, with most countries calling it an economic game-changer. A post-Brexit Britain for instance, desperate to clutch at straws while striving to negotiate a better deal with the EU, has termed the Chinese plan "ground-breaking in its scale of ambition," and promised that Britain will back it to the hilt!

Xi's assertion that the OBOR infrastructure would be built through cooperation and not confrontation and that "all countries should respect each other's sovereignty" is, of course, based on untruth. For instance, the China Pakistan Economic Corridor, built to give the former access to the latter's Gwadar Port, passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir which India claims as her own, and thereby directly infringes on our country's sovereignty. This, in fact, is the primary reason why India refrained from attending the OBOR meeting, and has seemingly been isolated due to this decision. Given the diplomatic coup the Chinese grand design is threatening to unleash, perhaps India might have done better to have attended the meet with low-profile representation to at least get a feel of the general mood. However, many of the attending nations, in particular some Asian countries currently at loggerheads with China, are not entirely happy with OBOR. Moreover, others have questioned the economics of the huge expenditure OBOR would entail and whether it would yield viable returns particularly from the African countries. Many too feel that since Chinese goods are already flooding the global market, OBOR would simply facilitate enhancement of the deluge, with China being in a win-win situation. India might do well to embark on a diplomatic mission to remind OBOR sceptics that this country has the seventh largest economy in the world and offers a trade friendly environment without the risks involved in backing OBOR.

Water use

With growing water shortage now a disturbing reality, different spheres of human activity – most notably agricultural practices – are being adversely hit. Even in a State like Assam which experiences rainfall in abundance during the monsoons, drought-like situations have been encountered during the lean winter months in recent years. Matters stand worsened by the absence of innovative and sustainable water conservation and use practices, and of course, the abysmal irrigation system. It is against this backdrop that the nationwide NABARD-sponsored programme titled 'Jal Jeevan Ha' (Water is Life) that is under implementation in the State assumes significance. The programme seeks to address water shortage faced by farmers with thrust on water conservation, preservation and its efficient management. Other key components include rain-water harvesting, groundwater recharge, efficient technologies and practices for sustainable water management. For long our farmers have remained distanced from scientific interventions and innovations that can boost agricultural yield at a time when the demand for food grain is increasing every year along with the rising population. Also in sharp contrast with NABARD's proactive endeavour has been the lethargy of the State Government which has done precious little to put in place a reliable irrigation system over the years. Given the abundance of surface water in the region, facilitating an irrigation network should not have been a Herculean proportion.

The growing water-related concerns warrant a coherent water management policy that can ensure sustainable water use and prevent injurious and large-scale extraction of groundwater, including illegal extraction by unscrupulous elements for commercial purposes. Depletion of groundwater levels is a disturbing reality across urban landscapes, especially in cities. While unsustainable large-scale extraction of groundwater needs to be stopped, periodical surveys on both quantitative and qualitative aspects of groundwater is another urgent need. As for use of groundwater, only that much amount should be allowed to be extracted which can be replenished. Optimum utilization of available surface water and rainwater harvesting should have been at the core of the State's water policy. The real estate boom in Guwahati is also subjecting its groundwater to tremendous pressure. Many cities of the country are facing water shortage but the situation is uncalled for in Guwahati because we have a huge reservoir of surface water in the form of the Brahmaputra. This holds true for the entire Brahmaputra Valley where a meagre 24 million cubic metres of the available 600 million cubic metres of surface water is being used. Together with adequate water supply, what is also needed is a change in water use behaviour – something that can materialize only when an integrated, sustainable approach is adopted as a matter of policy and implemented accordingly.

A State under siege

■ Swapnani Barua

We grew up at a time when Assam was really on the boil. The Naga insurgents were fighting the Indian Army. East Pakistan was a hostile neighbour; distant rumblings were heard in the Chinese border, the Dalai Lama had fled through Assam, and the Chinese aggression followed. Food riots were happening, the Revolutionary Communist Party was active in armed struggle. Community relations were bad due to the Official Language Bill, the hill state movement was sprouting in the hill districts of Assam, agitations for a refinery and a Brahmaputra bridge were happening all over the plains. There were the Bodoland movements, Lachit Sena stirrings, Ujani Asom Raja demand agitation and also the method of instruction movement, to keep the State in constant boil. Communication with the rest of the country regularly snapped every monsoon, along with erosion and floods. One needed a permit to buy baby food; there was something called control cloth. Sugar, rice, mustard oil, *dal*, *atta*, flour were all rationed and one had to queue for hours to get one's share. Buying a scooter, an HMT watch, a car or truck, CI sheets and cement to build one's house, one had to wait for one's turn.

With dissatisfaction on every front, there should have been assassinations round every corner, or someone to lob a grenade on a passing car or a minister or someone pulling a trigger on a VIP. Guns then were available off the shelf more easily than the gun of the gun. What began as a display of state power provoked reactions from the other side and they too started picking up guns to chal-

lenge the state power. The arms race then started, as guns from the WWI vintage began to be challenged by the rapid fire, easy to carry AK series. Grenades and mortars and RPGs entered the fray. Each side upped their arsenal to build up more fire power, of which no end seemed to be in sight. In fact a whole generation of youth have grown up under the shadow of guns, which in turn has imprinted in their psyche a love for gun culture in the Maoist tradi-

sion. The terrorist has no selection in his targets. His purpose is to fire or cause an explosion to kill as many as he can. For him there are no thoughts of innocent victims. An innocent victim will be acknowledged as martyrs for their cause. But can a state force fire indiscriminately in retaliation? God bless the government in power if any innocent is killed in state force reaction. The AFSPA will give the legal protection, but imagine the adverse public reaction. Kash-

min has not been able to find a way out for the last 70 years.

How does one tackle the public security issues? It must begin with the premise that there is nothing like breach-proof security. Indira Gandhi would not have been shot or for that matter President Reagan in the USA. Cows would not have jumped over the border fence nor like border smugglers ever be heard. So security agencies will never admit to computerization and remote control, as visibility reduction will relegate them to the background. This is an absolute 'no-no'. The threat perception is assessed by security agencies, allowing them the discretion of saying who is under how much threat. A case in point is that the unwilling Chief Minister of Assam was forced to go under the highest security cover of the country. On the flip side, Chief Ministers who have tested the fruits of high security, i.e., of having a referee of security guards and free transport, when the political followers have deserted, they would cling to the last straw to retain that cover, threat or no threat. Politicians who do not feel safe among their own constituents, cannot be safe anywhere. A Saddam or a Gaddafi is a good example.

Assam's economic future lies in developing tourism. No tourist would like to come to a State, where guns bloom at every corner instead of flowers. The police State that it has been reduced to in the last 30-odd years needs to end, if tourism has to pick up. In a Kalirug world, security threats will always be there, but counter-terrorism has to be covert, relying on technology. All in the security establishment will have to follow the motto of the army – the country first and always, then the men under command and lastly, the persona. The lifting of the mental siege will pave the way for removing the physical siege.

Tampering of EVM: a possibility

■ Dr Durlav Hazarika

The electronic voting machine (EVM) and the controversy over the possibility of 'tampering of vote cast' is a regular issue after an election in India. In fact, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) went to the extent of a physical demonstration of tampering of an EVM in the Delhi Assembly recently. However, hours after the AAP claims, the Election Commission of India (ECI) dismissed the claims and stated that "gadgets other than its own EVMs" can be programmed to perform in a predetermined way, "but it simply cannot be implied that the ECI's EVMs will behave in the same manner, because those are technically secured and function under an elaborate administrative and security protocol." Therefore, it has become necessary to understand the development process of an EVM and its security aspects.

The technology associated with EVM is known as embedded technology. The core item of this embedded system is a microcontroller. The task to be handled by an embedded system is decided by the programme or software loaded inside the device memory, which is non-volatile type (i.e., once the programme or software is loaded to its memory, it remains for several years). A microcontroller has the provision for reprogramming, i.e.,

programme or software of a microcontroller can be changed again and again for many times. Several other circuits are connected or interfaced to a microcontroller, depending upon the nature of task to be handled by an embedded system. Keys or keyboard and display circuits are the essential components of an embedded system.

EVM is consisting of two such embedded systems – a Ballot Unit and a Control Unit. The Ballot Unit has keys for casting vote, but it does not have display unit. Whereas, the Control Unit has both keys and display units. A serial communication link is used between them for data transfer. The functioning or working of the two units is governed by the programme or software loaded to their non-volatile memory sections.

It is needed to connect the Ballot Unit with the Control Unit through serial communication link to initiate the system initialization. Green and red lights are provided in the Ballot Unit to indicate the readiness for casting of vote. The record of the votes cast against the candidates are accepted by the Control Unit and stored in the Electrically Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory (EEPROM) of the microcontroller. The reason for storing the record of cast vote in EEPROM is that in the event of draining out the battery voltage, the record stored in the EEPROM re-

mains intact. Several shielding features are made mandatory for the Control Unit to overcome the possibility of tampering during the election process. Mock voting process is essential in presence of party-affiliated agents to demonstrate the proper functioning of the EVM before shielding the Control Unit. During the voting process, a key of the Ballot Unit has to be presented by a voter. The Ballot Unit indicates the acceptance of vote by a long beep sound and the key character is transferred to the Control Unit through the serial communication link. Using the programme or software logic, the vote cast is identified and 1 (one) is added to the number of already cast vote for the vote entry.

Now, the question is: Is it possible to tamper an EVM during the election process? The answer is 'yes'. Followings are the possibilities of tampering of an EVM – (i) software manipulation of Ballot Unit and/or Control Unit and (ii) manipulation of data transferred from Ballot Unit to Control Unit. Therefore, intelligent devices may be developed to retrieve the data based on the energy density associated with the electromagnetic wave and enhance the possibility of manipulation of the transmitted data from Ballot Unit to Control Unit through interaction of another electromagnetic wave.

Now, another question is: Could it be possible to eliminate them? The answer is 'yes'. As already mentioned, the microcontrollers in the EVMs are re-programmable type. Thus, the issue of EVM tampering through software lies on the integrity of the government and industry people involved in the process of programming or re-programming of Ballot Unit and Control Unit. Therefore, it is necessary to use a microcontroller in Ballot Unit and Control Unit having provision for programming the device for one time only and it must be soldered to the printed circuit board (PCB) to disallow replacement or repairing of the microcontroller. If needed, the Government of India has to

take initiative to develop such microcontrollers. In addition to this, a selector switch has to be provided with Ballot Unit and Control Unit to carry out normal and mock voting processes. During the mock voting process, the voting time may be reduced significantly to cast vote and verify the result. This will allow the presiding officer to verify the performance of the EVM for specified number of voters for a polling booth, at the time of receiving the EVM. The issue of tampering of an EVM using external device based on emission of electromagnetic wave during data transmission from Ballot Unit and Control Unit can be avoided by using significantly low Baud Rate for data communication or optical fibre link may be used to overcome the problem of emission of electromagnetic wave during data transmission.

Taking the advantage of re-programmable feature of the microcontrollers of a EVM system, the AAP leader in question programmed an EVM system according to his requirement to demonstrate the possibility of tampering of an EVM system. It seems that the AAP leader has thorough knowledge of programming of the microcontrollers used in the EVM system. It would have been fruitful for the Indian voters in particular and the Indian democratic system in general, had he come forward with positive suggestions for elimination of tampering of EVMs.

Letters to the EDITOR

Letters

Double cropping to boost agri production

nature with the life cycle of around 100 days, need to be included in the cropping sequence under double cropping. A careful and complete planning with the inclusion of recent scientific interventions is required in case of soil, climate and varieties.

In this regard, the Assam Agricultural University has a tremendous role to play regarding supply of location-specific technical data as well as evolving seeds of high yield of different major crops under cereals, pulses, oil seeds and other horticultural crops. Yours etc., BHUPEN DUTTA, Bidyapur, Nalbari.

Meanless exercises

Sir. – To feed the fast growing population, it is necessary to give a serious thought and strategic thrust to boosting agricultural production in all sectors. The probable solution lies in the way how efficiently we utilize our cultivated land under production purpose by increasing cropping intensity. It is a distressing fact that most of the cultivated land in Assam is either reeling under mono crop with *Salt* crop cultivation during summer or remains fallow during winter season after the *Salt* rice is harvested. Double cropping is a strategy where more than one crop are being cultivated in a year within a particular crop field.

Rice, being the staple food in Assam, finds the top position in the list of food crops of the State's populace. It is therefore, necessary to execute the double cropping concept considering rice as the base crop followed by successive crops.

Naturally, varieties of rice, more specifically those high yielding in

nature are trying to divert the attention of the people from the actual and perennial problems of unemployment, flood and draught, communication, transport, etc. Both the governments are busy with meaningless activities, such as moral policing and giving unnecessary emphasis on cow protection, without laying stress on solving the problems. Worshipping big rivers like the Ganges or the Brahmaputra and arranging mega events in this context are meaningless exercises. Festivals like the Namami Brahmaputra or a dress code will not usher in good days for the common man of Assam, and the country will definitely not be profited from these activities. Yours etc., ASHIM KUMAR CHAKRABORTY, Pandu.

Basic infrastructure

Sir. – The Assam Government has recently suggested that the State Government employees may wear ethnic and traditional dresses on the first and third Saturdays of every month to promote national and patriotism. The BJP-led governments, both at the Centre and in the State, as it appears, are either obsessed with promoting irrelevant and irrational ideologies, or through such activities, both the

stop at Udalguri, but the tragedy is that the Udalguri station lacks the basic infrastructure to welcome such a premier train, like waiting shed, room space, running water, etc., as well as the coach identification boards. Yours etc., MUNINDRA K SHARMA, Udalguri.

Lucrative business

Sir. – Opening medical and engineering coaching centres has become a lucrative business these days. The growing rate of unemployment as well as the academic competition has laid the path for the uncontrolled growth of such centres. Through your esteemed daily, I would like to throw light on one of the IIT-Medical coaching centres operating in association with a junior college at Malow Ali, Jorhat. I don't have to say anything against the college authority. But regarding this particular coaching centre which has its head office at GS Road, Guwahati, I think it is fraud as some of the details regarding the years of experience of the mentors in their advertising hoardings are not true.

They proclaim to be the 'No. 1 leading institute for IIT and Medical in North-east' which is a hoax. The centre fails to make regular payment of salaries to its faculties as a result of which the teachers keep changing every now and then. These are business hubs and business persons disguised as educators. The aspirants, guardians and the college authorities of different places of Assam should not get deceived; the authenticity of such so-called IIT-Medical coaching centres, their previous success record and the bio-data of the faculty members should be examined prior to admission. They should also keep track whether the classroom tests are held properly and monitor the progress of the students. Else these fraud coaching centres will take away all the credit of the hard work of the successful aspirants and also the efforts of the college faculty. Yours etc., A CITIZEN, Jorhat.

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

Amid talks over President nominee, Nitish backs Pranab for 2nd term

PATNA/NEW DELHI, May 15: Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar today pitched for building a consensus on the next president, suggesting that the BJP should initiate talks with political parties and favouring a second term for Pranab Mukherjee.

The main opposition Congress, however, remained non-committal on backing Mukherjee, saying "It is for the ruling party to decide".

Kumar also the JD(U) president, said re-electing of Mukherjee by consensus will set a good precedent, but added it was for the ruling party at the Centre to decide on the candidate after taking on board "all parties".

"The president represents the entire country and its people and as such the ruling party at the Centre should take an

initiative to seek a consensus on selection of candidate for the top constitutional post after holding talks with all opposition parties," he told reporters on the sidelines of 'Lok Samvad' programme in Patna.

"I am not saying it is the duty of the

ruling party at the Centre to seek con-

sensus on the presidential candidate, but

it should take the initiative in this regard

as the president's post represents entire

country and the people," Kumar said.

However, if the ruling party does not

go for consensus, it is the opposition's

duty to put up a joint candidate for the

president's post, he said.

Several opposition parties, including

the Congress and the Left, have been

holding parleys to explore the possibil-

ity of fielding a joint presidential can-

date with "secular credentials". Congress president Sonia Gandhi and Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee are likely meeting in the national capital tomorrow to discuss the issue.

Banerjee arrived in the national capital this evening and is also likely to hold discussions with Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. At the AICC briefing, Congress spokesperson Shobha Oza said she was confident about a consensus emerging among opposition parties to field a joint candidate.

When asked about Nitish Kumar's suggestion, she said, "That is for the ruling party to decide. I will not decide on their behalf...At this stage, I cannot say or comment anything." When he (Kumar) puts forth the recommendation, various par-

ties will decide," she said.

The Congress leader said, "As far as a united opposition is concerned, there will be many recommendations and there have to be deliberations on it."

Sources in the CPI-M said the possibility of the opposition backing Pranab Mukherjee for another term depended on whether the ruling side and its political rivals were on the same page.

"Besides, Mukherjee should also agree to it," a senior CPI-M leader said. "A united opposition is making efforts for a consensus. There is still time and efforts are continuing. A lot of recommendations have come and a united opposition will finalise a candidate," Oza said.

The Presidential election is due in July. Sources said the names of former West

Bengal governor Gopal Krishna Gandhi, former Lok Sabha speaker Meira Kumar, NCP chief Sharad Pawar and JD(U) veteran Sharad Yadav are doing the rounds as possible joint opposition candidate.

The CPI said it had no objection to Banerjee meeting Gandhi and favoured a consensus opposition candidate to take on the ruling dispensation's nominee.

"Naturally, we need the support of all opposition parties, we need votes. There will be a common (opposition) candidate, it is not that we are putting up a Left candidate for the presidential polls," CPI sources said. The party favoured Gopal Gandhi, a former bureaucrat and grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, for the job.

Meanwhile, West Bengal Congress chief Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury has writ-

ten to Sonia Gandhi voicing his displeasure over her proposed meeting with Mamata Banerjee, apparently to discuss the strategy for the presidential election.

In a two page letter to Gandhi, he said, "I understand that the CM (Mamata) will be meeting you to discuss strategy for the presidential election. It is important to rope in support of all political parties to oppose an RSS-BJP nominee. At the same time, it is necessary to emphasise our abiding commitment to democracy and transparency."

Chowdhury said Congress' leadership in Delhi should be careful while dealing with Banerjee because most Trinamool Congress leaders were under the scanner of law enforcement and investigative agencies in Narsara bribery scandal and Sarada chit fund case. - PTI

Remove 'secular' from Constitution, says Togadia

BHADOHI (UP), May 15: Senior Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) leader Pravin Togadia has said that only when the word "secular" is removed from the Constitution will India become a "Hindu nation".

"This will ensure that only Hindus become prime ministers, chief ministers, judges and police chiefs," he said last night at a Bairang Dal programme in the UP town. Known for his controversial remarks, Togadia added that the stone-pelters of Kashmir were "Pakistanis who just live in India".

"Peeling security forces with stones is an act of war," he said. The VHP leader also suggested that just as Muslims pray at mosques on Fridays and Christians in churches on Sundays, Hindus should have a day for gathering. - PTI

CBI questions Hooda in land deal case

NEW DELHI, May 15: The CBI today sought response from Haryana chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda for nearly nine hours in connection with the Manesar land deal case in which the land-owning farmers were caused a loss of about Rs 1,500 crore.

CBI spokesperson R K Gaur said here that 69-year-old Hooda has been questioned by the agency. Sources said Hooda was called at the CBI office in Chandigarh where he arrived around 11 AM and was grilled over various aspects of the case till 7.50 in the evening. - PTI



President Pranab Mukherjee with Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje and Governor Kalyan Singh during the first Bhairom Singh Shekhwat Memorial Lecture in Jaipur on Monday. - UNI

HC seeks Centre, CBSE reply on plea over textbooks in schools

NEW DELHI, May 15: The Delhi High Court has sought response of the Centre on a plea seeking quashing of a CBSE circular allegedly forcing schools to prescribe text books printed by printers empanelled with the NCERT only.

Justice AK Pathak issued notice to the Ministry of Human Resource and Development and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and sought their replies on the petition filed by Independent Schools Federation of India.

The plea alleged that certain printers in the panel of NCERT had "conspired" to create a monopoly in matters of publication of books.

The petition filed by advocate Ravi Prakash Gupta said the CBSE had in a

April 1 circular, issued direction to the affiliated schools to prescribe books only of those publishers which were in the panel of NCERT.

The plea said this would "jeopardise innovation" in the making of the textbooks.

"Giving sole responsibility to NCERT textbooks for its prescriptions in schools, will not only monopolise textbook preparation in the country but shall also jeopardise the innovation associated in the making of textbooks. Recently, through a circular issued by CBSE, schools are forced to prescribe text books printed only by printers empanelled with the NCERT. This is totally against Rule 15(1) (d) of

Affiliation Bye-laws as per which the schools will follow the text books published by NCERT for the Middle Classes as far as practical," it said.

It further said that NCERT neither has the mandate of publishing school textbooks, nor can it manage ensuring timely preparation and publication or textbooks in all subjects in the entire spectrum of school education, adding that the NCERT has more focused role in research and training.

The plea also claimed that the "text books prepared and published by private schools from other publishers are composed by renowned writers having vast experience in the field of teaching. These writers are far-far better than those recruited by NCERT for composing text books," it said. - PTI



Bihar Home Guards personnel staging a protest rally to press their various demands, in Patna on Monday. - UNI

200 special operations undertaken, strategy reworked post Sukma'

NEW DELHI, May 15: The CRPF has conducted about 200 special operations with a "reworked" strategy, apprehending 26 Maoists and seizing a huge cache of munitions, since the April ambush in Sukma where Naxals had massacred 25 of its personnel.

Of the 26 Maoists apprehended, 15 were involved in the deadly ambush in Sukma district in Chhattisgarh on April 24.

The force has also seized a huge assortment of arms and ammunition as part of these operations, an operations dossier revealed.

Newly appointed Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Director General RR Bhattacharya said today that a special focus was being laid on result-oriented operations in the south Bastar region of Chhattisgarh to curtail the strength and resources of Maoist cadres.

"Post the Burkapatna incident in Sukma, we have reworked our operational strategy in south Bastar and the focus is now to conduct joint intelligence-based operations."

"Despite the harsh summers and sweltering heat, we have intensified our operations in those areas where there is a security vacuum. A number of special operations have been launched by us," the DG said.

He said that the road construction work being done by the force in large parts of Chhattisgarh and a few other states will not suffer and that the CRPF will ensure their completion.

Bhattacharya, appointed as the force chief by the government two days after the April 24 ambush, recently travelled to Sukma and analysed the ambush spot, besides the site near Bheji where a dozen CRPF men were similarly killed by Naxals when they were out to conduct a road sanitisation exercise on March 11.

The operations dossier prepared by the security headquarters of anti-Naxal operations stated that after April 24, when 25 CRPF men were fatally ambushed by Naxals in Sukma, 98 such special operations were conducted in the worst Left Wing Extremism-affected district of the state.

All such tasks, the dossier accessed by PTI said, are either led by the CRPF or its special jungle warfare guerrilla force - the Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA).

The areas where these operations were launched in Sukma include villages of Karigudem, Minapa, Kasalpara, Milampalli, Tokenpalli, Phulampad, Bedpad, Gauraram, Palodi, Barmot, Pottakpal, Tumalpad, Aliguda and Reguratta.

In order to further strengthen offensive along the borders of Sukma, 36 such operations have been conducted till now in the neighbouring district of Dantewada while 55 have been launched in the villages and deep forest areas of Bijapur district. - PTI

VADODARA (Gujarat), May 15: Union HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar has emphasised on the need of providing quality education to all across the country to build a strong future for its citizens.

"After providing access to education for all, now the focus is to ensure quality education to students across the country. The government is working actively on it as it believes that only quality education has the potential of developing a good citizen with a strong character. Quality education is a must for all-round development of the country," he said.

Javadekar was here to attend an international youth convention at Sankhadia village last night.

The Minister also hinted on formulating a law on regulate-

ing fee structure of private schools in the country.

The Gujarat government has already framed a law on regulating fees charged by private schools in the state. We will discuss its provisions while formulating a law at the national level, he said.

Schools affiliated to CBSE

have already been directed not

to indulge in commercial activi-

ties like sale of books and uni-

forms because rules do not per-

mit them to do so, Javadekar said.

"We want healthy competi-

tion between private and pub-

lic schools for providing qual-

ity education to students," he

added.

The HRD Ministry has in-

vited feedback and sugges-

tions from teachers, parents

and stakeholders to make

suitable changes in the cur-

riculum as well, he said.

"Education is not some-

thing only between students

and teachers. Parents, com-

munities, society and other

stakeholders should be in-

volved in the process. This

will bring productivity and im-

provement in education," the

Minister felt.

Speaking on the occasion,

Gujarat CM Vijay Rupani said

youth need to be provided

with quality education and

skill development for making

India a powerful nation.

Gujarat Education Minister Bupendrasinh Chudasama, Jitendra Vaghani, president of the Gujarat unit of BJP; Rajendra Trivedi, Gujarat MoS for Sports; BIP MP Ranjanban Bhatt and city mayor Bharat Dangar city at-

Unlike Rahul, cannot turn my back on Amethi: Irani

NEW DELHI, May 15: Mocking Rahul Gandhi, BJP leader Smriti Irani today said unlike him she cannot turn her back on the people of Amethi from where she unsuccessfully contested the 2014 Lok Sabha polls against the Congress vice president.

"Three years ago I had promised the people of Amethi that I would not turn my back, Rahul Gandhi might do that. And in last three years I have been in constant touch with them and with the people there," Irani said.

She further said BJP performed well in the election as the party won 4 out of 5 assembly seats there. Irani, who had contested the 2014 Lok Sabha election from Amethi where she lost to Gandhi, was speaking on India TV's "Samva" programme.

Replying to a question on closure of Rahul Gandhi's office in Amethi, Irani said his office was running on the land which was allocated for a guest house attached to a hospital.

"People had many times complained to the district administration but no action was taken as then Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav had been shifted. But after his government was gone, the same administration said it should be closed," she said.

Speaking to another question, Union Territories minister Irani said, "We all eagerly wait for him (Gandhi) to speak and I would like to request to please organise a debate with him on any issue."

Speaking on the issue of women's security, she said that the Centre has taken many steps on the matter but there is a lot to be done. - PTI

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Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurating the smart card operated 'Water ATM' set up by Dibrugarh district administration in association with Kadamon Water Supply Scheme Management Committee, at Dibrugarh on Sunday. - UB Photos

Zubeen as goodwill ambassador

GUWAHATI, May 15: Surya Concretes, a prominent cement brand of Assam has roped in noted singer Zubeen Garg as goodwill ambassador for its new campaign 'Atot Assam', its press release stated.

This is the first time that Zubeen Garg is associating with a cement brand. Purbanchal Cement Ltd, which has always been at forefront of building Assam a stronger and better place has initiated this new campaign titled 'Atot Assam'. 'Unity in Diversity' is the message that this campaign says loud and clear, and to instill a sense of pride among the people of Assam and promotes unity by highlighting the different linguistic communities and societies.

Commenting on this association, Madhur Agarwala, Managing Director, Purbanchal Cement Ltd, said "Zubeen Garg is like the Bob Dylan of the people of Assam. Nobody could have been a better fit for this than Zubeen Garg with his diverse talent, international fame and is yet committed to the soil of the State. He has sung in so many languages including Assamese, Hindi, Bengali, English, Bodo, Karbi, Mising and many more local languages," the release added.

One killed in road mishap

ANN Service

BAIHATA CHARIALI, May 15: One person was killed in a road accident at Baitaha Chariali near Nagon High Madrasa on Sunday evening. The accident occurred when the man was coming to Baitaha Chariali from Rangia road when an Alto car (AS 25 E 8722) hit him from the back side. The seriously injured person was sent to GNRC after primary treatment at the Bezera CHC where he expired. The deceased has been identified as Paresh Khatik of Niz Modartola village under Kamalpur PSC.

MLA distributes cheques

CORRESPONDENT

DERGAON, May 15: Dergaon MLA Bhabendra Nath Bhorali distributed cheques from his MLA Area Development Fund (MLAADF) among different organisations on Sunday.

In this connection, a meeting was held with Padmalochan Nath in the chair at Dergaon Marwary Panchayat Dhamashala. In the meeting moderated by Bichitra Bhutan Kalita and Nurul Sultan, a large section of leading citizens of Dergaon were present. The MLA distributed the cheques of the first instalment among Dergaon Sahitya Sabha, Dergaon Journalists' Association and Dergaon Bapuji Mandir respectively.

In the meeting, an article collection 'Jati thakhab' written by Nurul Sultan was released by Padmalochan Nath.

Sonowal attends series of functions in Dibrugarh

BUREAU

DIBRUGARH, May 15: Chief minister Sarbananda Sonowal attended a series of programmes here on Sunday morning, before leaving for Dujaijan in the afternoon, but without several programmes in his hometown in between.

Early in the morning, he laid the foundation stone of Rs 1 crore improvement programme for the Sri Sri Auniai Satra branch at Lakhimpur here, just beside his residence. The function was

attended by the Satradhikar of the Sri Sri Auniai Satra, Dr Pitambar Deva Goswami. The completed works will include an auditorium and facilities for pilgrims and monks.

Sonowal then went on to commence a drinking water dispensing project, christened as 'Water ATM'. The water dispensing machine will sell 20 litres of filtered drinking water for Rs 10. In order to pull repeat customers, a provision will be made for 'credit' coupons cum cards' where

a customer can pay in advance and take water deliveries on a staggered basis. The water dispenser is located at the Kadamon water supply scheme at Boiragimothore, belonging to the PHE department.

The Chief Minister then launched a Government scheme called 'Lakshya' at the Chowkighingee grounds. The programme targets high school students in various academic and result-oriented schemes. One of the brains behind the programme is Dibrugarh Deputy Commissioner Laya Maddrui.

Filmmaker Bobby Baruah gets Gadadhar Award



Bobby Baruah

CORRESPONDENT

by Baruah was selected for making a biopic based on life and time of the legendary folk singer and Padma Shri award winner Pratima Baru Baru Pandey, titled *The Golden Wing (Sonar Baran Pakhi)*.

It was informed by the organisers that the film has already participated in many festivals and awards shows and has been able to gain huge critical acclaim. "Through the film, Baruah has beautifully highlighted the Gosapuri culture," said Rajib Sharma, one of the organisers of the award.

He also said that the filmmaker's first movie *Adomya* was awarded the best film in spiritual category at the 13th Dhaka International Film Festival and added that apart from making feature films, Baruah also has a number of short films, documentaries to her credit. She is also a known Assamese poet and short story writer.

This year, filmmaker Bob-

Basanta Utsav concludes at Baghjan

CORRESPONDENT

JAGIROAD, May 15: A day-long Basanta Utsav was organised on May 14 by the Baghjan Triveni Sangha and Puthibhal at the premises of Baghjan Anchalik Raas Mandir under Mayong circle with several events.

Santanu Hazarika, president of the Sangha hoisted the Bihu flag which was followed by *smriti tarpan* offered by Ramen Deka, cultural secretary of the Puthibhal. Kamaleswar Deka, *naamghoria* of Baghjan at the ceremonial earthen lamp.

Hali Ram Deka, advocate, Morigononika inaugurated a colourful cultural evening in the presence of a large gathering. Playback singer from Mumbai, Mouruchi Baruah, Jiten Sarma and Amar Kiran both from Nalbari, singer Kumar Sudarshan, comedy group 'Besi Kore' led by Uday Sankar among others, kept the audience enthralled in the evening.

He also said that the film-

maker's first movie *Adomya* was awarded the best film in spiritual category at the 13th Dhaka International Film Festival and added that apart from making feature films, Baruah also has a number of short films, documentaries to her credit. She is also a known Assamese poet and short story writer.

This year, filmmaker Bob-



Saurav Barkataki displaying a cobra, which he rescued recently from killing a cobra near his residence. He then rescued the cobra and with the help of a veterinary doctor treated it and later released it in the nearby Bhumuguri Forest.

Rs-200 cr spl package for Tinsukia announced

CORRESPONDENT

TINSUKIA, May 15: A special package of Rs 200 crore for the overall development of Tinsukia district has been announced by Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal.

Addressing the gathering of Rongali Bihu Sammelan open session organised by the Aikya Mancha at Chaliba Nagar field here on Sunday, Sonowal stated that Tinsukia has its own dignity right from the days of the Mottok reign and has taken the shape of a mini India.

It has to be developed in such a way that it becomes an important place of the entire South-east Asia region. His Government would take all the steps for the devel-

opment of this commercial hub of upper Assam under the Central Government's 'Act East Policy' and the Dihola-Sadiya bridge over river Brahmaputra would be an added infrastructure for the people, especially the younger generation, to work hard for the allround development of the State with the help of modern technology and through peace and harmony in the society.

The Chief Minister also stated that his Government was giving more stress on pollution-free environment with more forest cover, communal harmony, peace and development. Every citizen of the State should come out to help the Government to achieve its goal. In addition to the technical institute that has already been announced, a ultra-modern skill development institute would be built in

Tinsukia district.

While receiving the check of Rs 1 lakh donated to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund by the Aikya Mancha, the Chief Minister appealed to the people, especially the younger generation, to work hard for the allround development of the State with the help of modern technology and through peace and harmony in the society.

The Chief Minister visited the Dihola-Sadiya bridge which will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister on May 26 next. He was also accompanied by Parimal Suklabhadya, State PWD Minister, Pallab Lochan Das, Minister of Labour and Employment etc. and high-ranking officials of the relevant departments.

Dergaon road named Lora Kamar Path

CORRESPONDENT

DERGAON, May 15: An important link road of Dergaon was named after a noted person Kereng Hazarika honoured by the Ahom King Rajeswar Singh as 'Lora Kamar'. In this connection, a public meeting was held with noted social worker Pradip Hazarika in the chair at Kamargao, three kilometres off Dergaon town. The meeting moderated by journalist Sanjoy Kr Hazarika was addressed by the *gaonbhabra* of Kamargao Rebokanta Dutta and Ashok Hazarika. The meeting unanimously resolved to name the link road from Old Rail Line to Mamar Shop (Kamargao-Sukura Ali Connecting road), a distance of 300 metres after 'Lora Kamar'.

The speakers explained the history of receiving the honour by Kereng Hazarika from the Ahom King, even though he was not a member of the blacksmith community. He did his performance of the Negi-eriting Shiva Temple only in his own novel way.

The meeting also formed a committee with Pradip Hazarika and Sanjoy Kr Hazarika as the president and the secretary respectively to look into the affairs of the road.

Hindi graduate teachers' body meet

GUWAHATI, May 15: A meeting of the All Assam Upper Primary Hindi Graduate Teachers' Association will be held at Agdala Chariali High School, Bajhata Chariali on May 21 at 11 am to discuss anomalies in their pay scales in the seventh Pay Commission report.

The meeting will also discuss the progress achieved and the future steps of the association, the release added.

Demand to name Dihola-Sadiya bridge after Bhupenda

CORRESPONDENT

DOOMOOGA, May 15: Tinsukia District Journalists' Association (TDJA) has demanded the Government to name the newly-constructed India's longest Dihola-Sadiya bridge as 'Sudhakanta Deo Bhupen Hazarika Samanay Setu.'

A unanimous action was adopted in this regard at the executive body meeting of the journalists' body held under the presidency of TDJA president Anup Kalyan Datta at Digboi Press Club on Sunday. The members present in the meeting were unanimous in their opinion that since Dr Bhupen Hazarika was born at Sadiya and is an icon of universal brotherhood, naming the bridge that connects the culture of the eastern-most part of the country, in his honour was appropriate.

The meeting also passed two other resolutions urging the State Government to renovate the Marut Nandan Kanon at Napukhuri, Tinsukia and to take necessary steps to preserve all the historical sites of Tinsukia district and to convert them into attractive tourist spots.



Participants at a cultural rally on the occasion of Phat Bihu celebrations, at Mohoguli Chapori in Dhaukukhana on Sunday. - UB Photos

Tezpur man on a mission to rescue endangered wildlife

SHAMBHU BORO

TEZPUR, May 15: Saurav Barkataki, a young dedicated photo journalist of Tezpur town, is now into a unique vocation of rescuing endangered wildlife.

At a time when poaching of wild animals has become a matter of serious concern, Saurav Barkataki's mission in life is to protect these animals. Rhino poaching, deer hunting and killing of tigers are not new in the State. But the people who are protecting wildlife, hardly get any coverage.

Barkataki has till date since 2000 saved more than 500 snakes including the Gecko snake, cobra and python. Saving wild animals and letting them free in the jungles is his hobby. In an exclusive interview with this reporter regarding as to when and why he started saving snakes, he candidly revealed that the year 2000 was a turning point in his life when he had to stop a per-

"It was my beginning in this line and slowly it turned into a passion. We all fear snakes as they are venomous. But that scene melted my heart and I felt I had to do something to save that snake. And from that particular day, I decided to make it a mission to protect snakes and leave them free in the forests."

"When asked whether he doesn't fear while catching poisonous snakes, with a smiling face he replied that he doesn't fear snakes at all. "Whenever I go to catch a snake, I always remember the incident when I saw that person trying to kill the snake. This inspires me and I tell myself that I have to save the snake," he said.

If he finds an injured snake, he cures it and then leaves it in the forests in the presence of the forest officials. "I recall one such incident when I cleaned a cobra which had fallen into a bitumen drum in a PWD warehouse. Any other person would have run away

in fear, but I cleaned the snake and released it in the nearby forest after it was fully cured," he mentioned.

Barkataki not only saves snakes, till date he has also rescued many wild birds and animals also. On June 30, 2010 he saved two drowning deer from the river Brahmaputra. "I came to know that four deer were being carried away in the turbulent Brahmaputra to Kaziranga. Without a smiley face he replied that he doesn't fear snakes at all. "Second, I launched a rescue mission on a country boat and saved two deer. The deer were then safely handed over to the Forest department," he proudly said adding that people in the nearby areas call him whenever wild elephants attack their villages. "In one such incident, some wild elephants attacked a nearby village. I was called by forest officials to help them to drive away the elephants. It was a well-accomplished mission," he said.

Terming the dedicated

conservator, Northern Assam, Sib Kumar said that Saurav Barkataki has become a big supporting hand for the Wildlife Chapter of the Forest department in Sonitpur, who arrives to rescue the endangered wild animal earlier than the man from the Forest Department. "Saurav Barkataki – a dedicated and honest wildlife lover is a driving force for us, who not only rescues wildlife but also directly or indirectly tries to create an opinion towards the conservation of wildlife. We have already requested the Government to appoint him as an honorary wildlife activist to give adequate recognition to his unmatched service and contribution towards the Forest Department," he added that as the number of rescued wildlife is growing, a rescue centre is proposed to be set up in Patachali area near Nameri National Park for which a committee has been formed comprising a good number dedicated Forest officials.

Saurav, who recently released a sick adjutant stork (*Chroicocephalus*) after a couple of months of treatment at his house, has received many awards from the State Government. His two member family with his wife Krishna Kalita Barkataki at Kocharigaon, JN Road here has become a mini zoo nowadays as one can easily catch a python or a cobra in his house.

For his work he was awarded in 2010 at the 56th Wildlife Protection Week by the then Forest Minister Rockybul Huda. The Sonitpur district administration conferred upon him the 'Wildlife Person Award' in 2014. He was also awarded by the All Assam Students' Union for his work.

Barkataki who has been constantly fighting against the killing of wildlife is at present giving more priority to saving snakes as he wants to create a record by catching the same.

No. GMDA/DEV/09/2016/
SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER (RETENDER)
Online Tender in TWO BIDS from CPWD/APWD registered Class-I or equivalent contractors are invited by the undersigned for the work "Pilot Project for Integrated Land-use Planning and Water Resource Management" for an estimated amount of Rs. 3,42,31,080.00 (Rupees Three Crore Forty Two Lakhs Thirty One Thousand Eighty) only. Tender Document can only be seen and downloaded from the e-procurement portal <http://assamtenders.gov.in> and GMDA's Website www.gmda.gov.in.
Sd/- **I/c/Chief Executive Officer**
Guwahati Metropolitan Dev. Authority
Bhengagar, Guwahati-781005.
Janasanyog451/17

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
LABOUR AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT:: LABOUR (RC) BRANCH
ASSAM SACHIVALAYA : DISPUR : GUWAHATI-6
ORDER BY THE GOVERNOR
NOTIFICATION
Dated Dispur, the 6th March, 2017

NO.GLR/RC/4/2016/252 : In exercise of the power conferred under section 6 of the Payment of Wages (Amendment) Ordinance, 2016 the Governor of Assam by virtue of his powers under section 10 of the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, do hereby declare the following establishments as industrial or other establishments wherein the employer shall pay to every person employed, their due wages only by cheque or by crediting the same in his bank account:

The list of industrial or other establishments are:

- Plantation Establishment of Co-operative Societies 3. Hotels and Restaurants 4. Cinema Houses 5. Dhabas 6. Establishment of Local Authorities 7. Nursing Home 8. Spa Saloons / Beauty Parlours 9. Patho Laboratories & Diagnostic Research Centres 10. Tourist Establishments 11. Engineering Establishments 12. Garment Factories & Show Rooms 13. CAF Agencies 15. Establishment of NGOs 16. Bonded Warehouses 17. Event Management Establishment 18. Merchandise Establishment 19. Coaching Centres / Institutes 20. POC Dealers (Petrol Pumps) 21. LPG Agencies 22. Courier Service Agencies 23. Contractor's Establishments 24. Establishments of Electronic & Print Media 25. Handcraft & Textile Establishment 26. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Large Industry 27. Factory

Sd/- K.V. Eapen
Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam Labour and Welfare Department.

Janasanyog1710/17

CINEMA PROGRAMME

SILVER SCREEN Bijoy Nagar, Opp ICIC Bank (Digital Projection and Dolby Surround sound system and Luxurious plush back seats with leatherette and foot rest support parking) At 10.00 am & 2.00 pm Booking: 0361-23232000 Spt: Prabhas, Anushka Shetty etc. For booking please call at 9232-900888 or 9232-935234 For Online booking: www.bookmyshow.com	VANDANA (WITH DIGITAL PROJECTION) At 11.00 am & 3.00 pm ANTARESHWARA (WITH SANCTUARY)
At 10.00 am & 2.00 pm - SARKAR-3 BAAHUBALI 2: THE CONCLUSION	At 10.00 am - SARKAR-3
URVASI CINEMA At 11.00 am & 3.00 pm	URVASHI CINEMA At 10.00 am & 3.00 pm
GRANDE CINES 5th Fl, Rupa Plaza, Basu Building, G.S. Road, Guwahati-781009 (2 Curved Screens, Dolby-CP750 Surround Sound System, Luxurious plush back seats with leatherette and foot rest support parking)	GALLERIA CINEMA Tinsukia, ATC Mall, GNB Road 12th May to 18th May 2017 Screening: At 10.00 am - SARKAR-3
MERI PYAARI BINDU (Hindi) For booking: 0361-23232000 Or 09684017777	ALI COVENANT 2D (Eng) At 10.00 am & 3.00 pm - MERI PYAARI BINDU
INOX MOVIES - JORHAT ABS MALL, GAR ALI, JORHAT (Two Screens)	BAAHUBALI-2: THE CONCLUSION Screen-2: At 9.00 am & 1.00 pm - SARKAR-3
BAAHUBALI-2: THE CONCLUSION (One Screen)	At 10.00 am & 3.00 pm - SARKAR-3
SARKAR 3 (Hindi) At 10.00 am & 3.00 pm	MERI PYAARI BINDU (Hindi) At 10.00 am & 3.00 pm
MERI PYAARI BINDU (H) U/A For Booking: 0361-23232111 Ticket Rates: 0361-23232111 Follow us on Facebook	APRSA CINEMA (Arco/Indeo) Multiplex Ambience At 10.00, 10.30, 11.00, 12.00, 12.30, 13.00, 13.30, 14.00, 14.30, 15.00, 15.30, 16.00, 16.30, 17.00, 17.30, 18.00, 18.30, 19.00, 19.30, 20.00, 20.30, 21.00, 21.30, 22.00, 22.30
FUN CINEMA MANGALDAI 2nd Floor, Funland Shopping Complex, L.N.B Road, Guwahati (Dolby Surround sound system with Silver Screen, Multiplex Ambience)	ANURADHA CINPLEX Multiplex Ambience 12th May to 18th May 2017 Screening: At 10.00 am & 3.00 pm - SARKAR-3
DAMAN (Assam) Stg: Prabhas, Anushka Shetty etc. Regular Show Rates:- Rs. 250/-, 150/-, 70/- Morning ticket rates: Before 10 am Rs. 150/-, 100/-, 50/- After 10 am Rs. 200/-, 150/-, 70/-	ANTARIN (Assam) Advance Booking No: 9876543211 Online Booking available www.bookmyshow.com
BAAHUBALI-1 (Hindi) Stg: Prabhas, Anushka Shetty etc. Regular Show Rates:- Rs. 250/-, 150/-, 70/- Morning ticket rates: Before 10 am Rs. 150/-, 100/-, 50/- After 10 am Rs. 200/-, 150/-, 70/-	GOLD CINEMA L.O. Towers, Narenjani Tinali With Multiplex Ambience At 10.00 am & 3.00 pm
BAAHUBALI-1 (Hindi) Stg: Prabhas, Anushka Shetty etc. Regular Show Rates:- Rs. 250/-, 150/-, 70/- Morning ticket rates: Before 10 am Rs. 150/-, 100/-, 50/- After 10 am Rs. 200/-, 150/-, 70/-	BAAHUBALI-2 At 10.00 am & 3.00 pm - SARKAR-3
BAAHUBALI-1 (Hindi) Stg: Prabhas, Anushka Shetty etc. Regular Show Rates:- Rs. 250/-, 150/-, 70/- Morning ticket rates: Before 10 am Rs. 150/-, 100/-, 50/- After 10 am Rs. 200/-, 150/-, 70/-	BAAHUBALI-2 : THE CONCLUSION Screen-2: At 9.00 am & 1.00 pm - SARKAR-3
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Follow CERT-In instructions, RBI tells banks

NEW DELHI, May 15: RBI has asked banks to follow the instructions of government organisation CERT-In to prevent the attack by ransomware, 'WannaCry', which has impacted various IT networks in over 150 countries.

Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has come out with list of dos and don'ts and webcast on how to protect networks from the global ransomware attack.

It has been reported that a new ransomware 'WannaCry' is spreading widely, RBI advised to the banks said.

WannaCry encrypts the files on infected Windows system

and spreads by exploiting vulnerabilities, it said.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) also asked all banks to put in place a software update at ATMs to prevent their systems from a malware that has attacked payment systems across the world.

In a separate malware attack last year, 3.2 lakh debit cards were compromised in the country. Data of the users who transacted from ATM machines of Hitachi were compromised during three months of May, June and July last year. The Hitachi ATMs deployed by many

White Label ATM players and Yes Bank were impacted by the malware.

According to reports Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) are highly vulnerable to such malware attacks as they presently run on older

systems of

Microsoft's Windows operating system, making a software security patch update a necessary exercise.

There are a total of 2.2 lakh ATMs in India, of which many old ones run on Windows XP.

Over the weekend, the ransomware has hit systems in more than 150 countries, in-

WannaCry attack

Micr osoft's Windows operating system, making a software security patch update a necessary exercise.

CERT-In today said it has not received any formal report of cyber attack on India's vital networks by the crippling global ransomware, 'WannaCry'. - PTI



Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways and Shipping Nitin Gadkari witnessing the signing ceremony of an MoU between VO Chidambarnar Port Trust (VOCPT) and Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Ltd (TANGEDCO) for upgradation of VOCPT's Coal Jetty-I and Coal Jetty-II, in New Delhi on Monday. - PIB

CAPSULE

SBI Card

MUMBAI, May 15: State Bank of India may look at merging the two business units of its credit card joint venture SBI Card after the exit of the foreign partner GE Capital. SBI Card is a joint venture between SBI and GE Capital, wherein SBI owns 60 per cent and the balance is being held by GE Capital, which has announced its plans to exit as part of the American giant's global business review. - PTI

Honda Africa Twin

MUMBAI, May 15: Betting big on the premium sports bike segment, Honda Africa Twin Scooter India (HMSI) today announced its plan for its soon-to-be-launched 1000cc superbike Africa Twin at Rs 12.90 lakh, excluding showroom Deldhi, and also opened limited bookings. The company is planning to roll out its first 1000cc superbike in July. - PTI

Bata India

MUMBAI, May 15: Footwear major Bata India today reported 27 per cent increase in net profit to Rs 35.9 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 31 of the last fiscal. Net sales went up by 6 per cent to Rs 598 crore. For the four-quarter period of 2016-17, it is against Rs 563.6 crore in the year-ago period. Bata India said in a BSE filing. - PTI

ICICI Bank

MUMBAI, May 15: Private sector lender ICICI Bank today said it has cut its reduced interest rates by up to 30 bps for home loans of up to Rs 30 lakh. "With this reduction, salaried borrowers can avail home loans at among the lowest rates in the industry. Salaried women borrowers will get home loans at 8.35 per cent and others at 8.40 per cent," the private sector lender said in a statement. - IANS

HUDCO shares

NEW DELHI, May 15: Shares of state-run HUDCO, which recently concluded its Rs 224-crore issue, will make stock market debut on May 19. The IPO of Housing and Urban Development Corporation was oversubscribed nearly 80 times. - PTI

Colgate-Palmolive

NEW DELHI, May 15: FMCG major Colgate-Palmolive India today reported a marginal decline in net profit at Rs 142.58 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 31, 2017. The company had posted a net profit of Rs 143.27 crore during the same period last year. Colgate-Palmolive said in a BSE filing. - PTI

JKTyres

NEW DELHI, May 15: JK Tyres & Industries Ltd today reported consolidated net profit of Rs 92.01 crore for the fourth quarter ended March. The tyre-maker had posted a net profit of Rs 122.30 crore in the corresponding period of last fiscal, the company said in a regulatory filing. - PTI

Kajaria Ceramics

NEW DELHI, May 15: Kajaria Ceramics today reported 4.72 per cent increase in net profit at Rs 72.17 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 31, 2017. - PTI

Electric vehicle policy by Dec, says Gadkari

NEW DELHI, May 15: Aimed at promoting eco-friendly vehicles, the government will be ready with its electric vehicle policy by December, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said today.

Accelerated adoption of electric and shared vehicles could save \$90 billion in diesel and petrol costs while cutting down as much as 1 gigatonne (GT) of carbon emissions for India by 2030, government think tank NITI Aayog in a joint report with Rock Mountain Institute said last week.

"The government will be ready with its electric vehicle policy by December this year," Road Transport, Highways and Shipping Minister Nitin Gadkari said here.

He said a group of ministers, constituted to prepare the draft plan for the electric vehicle policy, has submitted recommendations to the Cabinet Secretary and is now preparing the draft plan.

include 200 electric taxis and an electric bus which may be replicated by other cities.

Dispelling doubts on problems arising out of lack of infrastructure for charging such vehicles, he said that a charging station was being erected there and it was not a problem.

The report estimates that India can conservatively save up to 64 per cent of anticipated passenger mobility-related energy demand and 37 per cent of carbon emissions by 2030.

At current oil prices, this would imply a net annual fuel saving of approximately 3.9 lakh crore by 2030, the report said. - PTI

ways and Shipping Minister Nitin Gadkari said here.

The minister said a number of Indian companies have shown their interests to invest in electric vehicles and the related infrastructure.

The policy will include both light and heavyweight electric vehicles like cars and buses.

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Modi voices concern over condition of rivers in India

AMARKANTAK (MP), May 15: Voicing concern over the condition of rivers in the country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said there are many which have no water.

"Many rivers in the country are on the map but do not have any water in them," Modi said at an event to mark the conclusion of 'Namami Devi Narmada Seva Yatra' here in Madhya Pradesh's Amarkantak district.

Lauding the Shriya Singh Choudhury government for taking up the campaign to conserve one of the country's major lifelines, Modi said the Narmada conservation roadmap prepared by the state is a "perfect document for future vision".

He asked the Madhya Pradesh government to share it with other states.

The document was sent to me in advance and I had gone

through it. It has the details of what is to be done, by whom, and at what time. In my opinion, it is perfect document for future vision," he said.

Congratulating people, especially Chhohan, for launching the yatra which lasted nearly 150 days, the Prime Minister, who hails from Gujarat, said, "On behalf of people of Gujarat, for whom every drop of Narmada is important, Rajasthan and Maharashtra congratulate Madhya Pradesh for this great initiative."

Earlier, Modi performed puja at the point of origin of the river in Amarkantak.

The Namami Devi Narmada Seva Yatra, which was launched on December 11, 2016 from Amarkantak, concluded today after covering a distance of 3,344 km, traversing over 1,100 villages and towns. -PTI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi visiting the Narmada Temple and Udgam Sthal, at Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh on Monday. -UNI

Families get drawn into AAP war

NEW DELHI, May 15: The Mishra-Kejriwal battle is heating up, with family members taking sides in a public war of words.

Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal's wife, Sunita, took photos of her former disciple and now chief detractor, Kapil Mishra, on Twitter today.

"Law of nature never errs. Seeds of deceit, lies sown, so shall he @KapilMishra reap. Inevitable," the former income tax commissioner tweeted.

Mishra was quick to respond to the barb.

"Sunita ji is a very committed wife. She doesn't know what type of conspiracies are being hatched in her house. She is fulfilling her duties," the former minister - sacked by Kejriwal last week - said on Twitter.

Mishra's mother, Annapurna Mishra, had fired a public salvo at Kejriwal last week, accusing him in an open letter of spreading falsehood against her son by

saying he was associated with the Bharatiya Janata Party.

In today's Twitter battle, Mishra suggested Kejriwal was using his wife's account to post messages.

"Sir @ArvindKejriwal return Sunita ji phone to her," tweeted Mishra, who had yesterday accused Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party of receiving illegal donations from shell companies.

In another message, the sacked minister said he was not going to "utter a single word" against Sunita Kejriwal.

"Sunita ji is unaware of her husband's past. She is upset with her husband's side. But I will not utter a single word against her," Mishra tweeted.

Though Sunita is not seen to be dabbling in politics, her attack on Mishra was the second in a week. -PTI

Improve quality of debates; President to lawmakers

JAYPUR, May 15: President Pranab Mukherjee today asked lawmakers to improve the quality of debates in legislatures, saying India cannot remain a role model to the world simply because of the size of its electorate.

The President recalled prominent personalities in the early days of Indian politics and asked the lawmakers to continue the tradition established by them.

Earlier, Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Kumar Chamling was conferred the first Bhairon Singh Shekhawat Life Time Achievement Honour in Public Service by President Mukherjee.

He said once a decision is taken by majority in the House, it becomes the decision of India.

"You cannot remain the role model to the world simply because of the size of your electorate," he said.

The President asked lawmakers of Parliament and state Assemblies to improve the quality of deliberation, discussion and debate in the House, saying people have vested power and privileges in them.

"...What is applicable to Parliament is applicable to legislative Assemblies in all 29 states," he said.

Though Sunita is not seen to be dabbling in politics, her attack on Mishra was the second in a week. -PTI

and privileges, we have to blame ourselves and not anybody else," said Mukherjee, who has over four decades of experience as a lawmaker.

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Earlier, Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Kumar Chamling was conferred the first Bhairon Singh Shekhawat Life Time Achievement Honour in Public Service by President Mukherjee.

The President lauded Chamling's contribution to his small state and said it's emerging as a role model for other states.

Those present on the occasion included Rajasthan's Governor Kailash Singh, his counterpart in Punjab VP Singh Badnore, Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje and former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot.

The programme began with the opening address of Gehlot who said Shekhawat was a warmhearted and fearless political leader who was born into a very simple family and was elevated to the post of the Vice President of the country. Shekhawat was the Vice President between 2002 and 2007. -PTI

Sidhu accuses Badals of fund embezzlement

CHANDIGARH, May 15: Punjab Cabinet Minister Navjot Singh Sidhu today accused former Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal of siphoning off over Rs 2,000 crore of funds under Smart City project and Amrit scheme.

He also alleged that the Badal duo have "put the money into their accounts by diverting state funds".

With the money meant for urban development being "misused" by the previous SAD-BJP government, Sidhu said the Centre has now refused to give a single penny to Punjab for the Smart City project.

Asking them to tell the people where they had spent the funds, he said Badals, who used to boast about the state's development, carried out the same "only in news-papers". -PTI

CBI busts foreign remittance scam of over Rs 2,200 cr

NEW DELHI, May 15: The CBI has claimed to have busted a major scam of over Rs 2,200 crore where 13 companies allegedly remitted the amount to foreign entities against bill payments of imports of only Rs 24.64 crore.

The CBI has registered a case against Stellon Infratel Limited (SPL) and 12 other companies for allegedly making these remittances. -PTI

Advertisement for Asstt. Librarian/Jr. Asstt./Grade IV/Lab. Bearer/Lib Bearer/Chowkidar for Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Ardasra Mahavidyala at Eraligool, Dist: Karimganj

Deputy Commissioner, Karimganj District in the capacity of Chairman of Governing Body of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Ardasra Mahavidyala at Eraligool, Dist: Karimganj invites application from Indian Nationals having proficiency in local language for the post of Asstt. Librarian/Jr. Asstt./Grade IV/Lab. Bearer/Lib Bearer/Chowkidar as detailed below. Eligible candidates may submit application within stipulated date.

Nos. & details of posts:

Sl. No.	Name of Posts	Reservation of Posts					Total
		UR	OBC/MBC	SC	ST (P)	ST (R)	
1.	Asstt. Librarian	1	-	-	-	-	1
2.	Jr. Asstt.	2	1	-	-	-	3
3.	Gr. IV	2	1	-	1	-	4
4.	Lib Bearer	1	-	-	-	-	1
5.	Lab Bearer	3	2	1	1	1	8
6.	Chowkidar	1	1	-	-	-	2

Qualification terms and conditions to apply.

1. Age: Age of the candidate should not be more than 43 years as on 01.01.2017 (five year relaxation to SC/ST candidates).

2. Educational Qualification:

Asstt. Librarian: Any Graduate in Arts/Science/Commerce from any recognised University with knowledge of Computer typing and simple excel, diploma/Certificate of Computer knowledge for minimum 3 (three) months duration.

Lab. Bearer: HSLC Passed from any recognized Board.

Lab. Bearer: HSLC Passed from any recognized Board.

Grade IV: HSLC passed from any recognized Board.

Chowkidar: HSLC passed from any recognized Board.

3. Pay Scale:

Asstt. Librarian: Rs20,000-20200-GP 3300/-

Junior Asstt.: Rs23,20200-GP 3300/-

Lib. Bearer: Rs50,15000-GP 1800/-

Lab. Bearer: Rs50,15000-GP 1500/-

Grade IV: Rs50,15000-GP 1500/-

Chowkidar: Rs50,15000-GP 1500/-

4. Place of posting: Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Ardasra Mahavidyala at Eraligool, Dist: Karimganj.

5. Application Fee: Rs. 100.00 to be deposited in the form of Demand Draft in name of Deputy Commissioner, Karimganj District.

6. Last date of receipt of Application: 24.05.2017 till 5.00 PM.

7. Other: Candidate must be Indian citizen having proficiency in local language.

Candidate serving elsewhere must apply with an NOC from the employer. If no NOC from present employer subscriber application is liable to be rejected. NOC can be produced on demand.

8. How to apply: Standard Form in Assam Gazette No. X to be delivered to the Deputy Commissioner, Karimganj. Application to be submitted to the office of the Deputy Commissioner (Dev Branch) Karimganj on or before 24.05.2017.

No TAD/A will be provided to the candidate appearing in the interview.

Canvassing directly or indirectly shall disqualify a candidate.

Sd/- Deputy Commissioner, Karimganj

Jansanyog/1692/17

Police on wild goose chase for arrest of Karnan

CHENNAI, May 15: As the hunt for Calcutta High Court judge Justice CS Karnan, who had been dragged on, desperate police teams are at their wits end and still remained clueless about his whereabouts.

"Where is he (Karnan)?" was a question uppermost in the minds of police teams from West Bengal and Tamil Nadu which scrambled across towns for the sixth day today and were on a wild goose chase to find and arrest the judge. They also stared at the possibility that the judge, who is on a warpath with the Supreme Court, may have fled the country.

The 61-year-old judge was last seen in public in Chennai on Tuesday, a couple of hours after the apex court ordered his arrest forthwith in a contempt case.

With Justice Karnan, who

has been in the news in the last 6 months if not more, can they be relied upon for other important decisions?" was a question posed by another netizen.

Targeting Karnan, a query was also posed - "a judge doesn't believe in law and they claim they have the right to pass judgement."

To the recent, a senior police officer in Chennai said, "The whereabouts of Justice Karnan is not known yet. A West Bengal police team continues its search for him."

The role of Tamil Nadu police was limited to providing logistics and technical support to the visiting team, he said. -PTI

J&K Gov reviews Amarnath yatra arrangements

SRINAGAR, May 15: Jammu and Kashmir Governor NN Vohra today reviewed the preparations, including those related to the security of the 40-day-long annual yatra to the holy cave shrine of Amarnath in Himalayas, starting next month.

Vohra, who is also chairman of the Sri Amarnath Shrine Board (SASB), directed all the agencies concerned to keep a close watch and maintain effective coordination to ensure smooth conduct of the yatra, scheduled to begin on June 29 and end on August 7.

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Secretary BB Yyas, Director General of Police SPV, General Officer Commanding of Srinagar-based 15 Corps Lt Gen JS Sandhu, General Officer Commanding of South Kashmir-based Victor Force Maj Gen BS Raju and Chief Executive Officer of SASB RK Goyal and other senior civil, intelligence, BSF CRPF and Air Force officers attended the meeting at Raj Bhavan, an official spokesman said. -PTI

part of the rehabilitation process which include yoga, physical training, computer education, art and craft therapy, training in spoken English, dance and sports.

It also enumerates individual care plans to be drafted for each child which is mandatory in the JJ Act.

The SOP has laid down a provision for professional course for a child in order to make him/her financially independent and recommended that child care institutions tie up with univer-

sities for such courses.

It has also advised that there should be a follow-up plan in place for all children in conflict with the law who are in institutional care.

Institutions should conduct regular follow-up programmes for all released children to ensure the child does not get back to a difficult situation. Institution should maintain regular

New guidelines on treatment of juvenile convicts, aftercare

NEW DELHI, May 15: The government has come up with a handbook detailing ways to deal with children in conflict with the law, emphasising on launching a database and a tracking system for their effective rehabilitation post incarceration, after procedural flaws were exposed in the aftermath of the 'Nirbhaya' case.

The standard operating procedure (SOP), prepared by the Women and Child Development (WCD) ministry based on the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2015, aims at eliminating maltreatment of such children while protecting them from violence, abuse and exploitation.

The objective of all the stakeholders should be to rehabilitate and re integrate children in conflict with the law into the mainstream, the SOP states.

The ministry has recommended a slew of activities as

RSS using BJP to pursue 'fascist' agenda, says CPI

RAIGAD (Maharashtra), May 15: The Communist Party of India (CP) on Monday accused the RSS of using the Bharatiya Janata Party governments at the centre and states to pursue its "fascist" agenda.

Against this backdrop, the CPI also signalled a shift in its policy by announcing plans to mobilise and unite "all secular, democratic and Leftist forces in the country" to combat the RSS-BJP.

The CPI said that following the BJP victory in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, and capturing power "through manipulation" in Goa and Manipur, it is clear that the RSS is directly behind the "fascist offensive" being waged by the Modi government and the BJP-led governments in different states. -IANS

National Dengue Day 16 May 2017 Symptoms of Dengue

- High Fever
- Joint pain
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Pain in the back of the eyes
- Reddening of eyes
- Bleeding from nose, mouth and gums in critical condition
- Emergence of red patches or prickly-heat type symptoms

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST DENGUE

Cover the water filled containers properly.

Do not throw junks like utensils (paper cup and plate), tyres, empty coconut shells etc. here and there. Mosquitos breed in stagnant waters.

Dengue mosquitoes bite during daytime; hence use mosquito net while sleeping in the day time too.

Avoid mosquito bite by wearing long sleeve shirts and trousers etc.

In case of fever, contact the nearest hospital/doctor immediately for treatment.

Do not take medicine yourself.

Stop mosquito breeding in and around your house.

Diagnostic tests for dengue are available free of cost at all District & Civil Hospitals and Government Medical Colleges



National Health Mission, Assam

Around the WORLD



Miss USA Kara McCullough of the District of Columbia poses during a press conference after the pageant last Saturday. — UNI

'I was done with Trump'

NEW YORK, May 15: India-born former top federal prosecutor Preet Bharara, who received a phone call from US President Donald Trump just two days before he was fired, said he "was done with" the American leader and did him a favour by not returning his call.

"I was doing everyone a favour by not returning the call. I was doing the President a favour by not returning the call," Manhattan's former prosecutor said during a conversation last week with New York University's School of Law Dean Trevor Morrison here.

Two days before he was fired, 48-year-old Bharara had got a phone call from Trump's office asking him to call the President back. Bharara did not return the call. Asked if he had considered returning that call, Bharara said there are lots of regulations regarding how contacts should be made between the White House and the Justice Department. — PTI

Food wastage in US

WASHINGTON, May 15: About 40 per cent of food is wasted in the US, say scientists who found that most of the discarded food contains important nutrients that could have helped Americans meet their daily dietary needs.

Scientists at the Johns Hopkins University in the US calculated the nutritional value of food wasted at the retail and consumer levels, shining a light on just how much protein, fiber and other important nutrients end up in the landfill in a single year.

These lost nutrients are important for healthy diets, and some - including, dietary fiber, calcium, potassium and vitamin D - are currently consumed below recommended levels.

Nutrient-dense foods like fruits, vegetables, seafood and dairy products are wasted at disproportionately high rates.

Previous research estimated that as much as 40 per cent of food is wasted nationally, but it was not clear before this study how nutritious that food was. — PTI

Chopper lands next to McDonald's for a bite

MELBOURNE, May 15: Fly-Thru! A hungry pilot in Australia landed a helicopter near a McDonald's takeaway window to grab a bite.

The green chopper set down on a grassy patch outside the fast food giant's branch in Sydney with locals left stunned by the incident.

The pilot, who identified himself as 'Dan', later told a radio station that he got permission to land at premises.

"Every now and then we do that sort of stuff," he said. — PTI

Putin says Russia not involved in cyberattack, blames US

BEIJING, May 15: Russia had nothing to do with a massive global cyberattack, President Vladimir Putin said today, criticising the US intelligence community for creating the original software.

Hundreds of thousands of computers in more than 150 countries have been hit by the ransomware attack, which has been described as the largest-ever of its kind.

It began Friday and struck banks, hospitals and government agencies among a variety of other targets, exploiting known vulnerabilities in older Microsoft computer operating systems.

"As for the source of these threats, Microsoft's leadership stated this directly, they said the source of the virus was the special services of the United

States," Putin said.

He was referring to a weekend blog post by Microsoft president Brad Smith stating that the US National Security Agency had developed the code being used in the attack.

It was leaked as part of a document dump, according to researchers.

"A genie let out of a bottle of this kind, especially created by secret services, can then cause damage to its authors and creators," Putin said on the sidelines of an international summit in Beijing.

"This completely doesn't concern Russia."

The US has accused Russia in the past of mounting several cyberattacks.

In March the Justice Department indicted two officials of



Russia's Federal Security Service and two criminal hackers whom they allegedly hired to steal data from some 50 million Yahoo user accounts.

While there was "no significant damage" to Russian institutions such as banks and hospitals, Putin said the incident

was "worrisome" and warranted immediate talks "on a serious political level".

"There is nothing good in this and calls for concern," he said.

"A protection system from these manifestations needs to be worked out." — AFP

17 shot dead in PNG prison breakout: reports

SYDNEY, May 15: Seventeen prisoners have been shot dead after a mass breakout at a jail in Papua New Guinea, reports said today, with 57 still on the run.

Inmates from the Buin jail in the Pacific nation's second largest city Lae made a dash for freedom after breaking out of their compound on Friday, with prison warders opening fire.

The PNG Post-Courier and The National newspapers both cited local police as confirming 17 were killed, three were caught and 57 were still at large.

"These are undesirable people and will be a threat to the community," Lae police metropolitan commander Chief Superintendent Anthony Wagambie Jr said of the escapees, warning the public to be vigilant.

"The majority of those who escaped were arrested for serious crimes and were in custody awaiting trial."

"A good number were arrested by police last year for mainly armed robberies, car thefts, break and enter and stealing." It is the same prison where police shot dead 12 inmates during a jailbreak last year.

Crime and lawlessness in PNG, a sprawling nation where many still live traditional and subsistence lives in remote areas, is rampant. — AFP

US-Russia ties at an all time low: Tillerson

WASHINGTON, May 15: The US-Russia relationship is at its lowest point since the end of the Cold War. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said, asserting that President Donald Trump is committed to raise the current level of trust between the two countries.

"The President has made it clear that he feels it's important that we re-engage with Russia.

"The relationship with Russia, as we have described and I have described as well, is I think at an all time low point since the end of the Cold War, with a very low level of trust," Tillerson said in an interview to 'Meet The Press' talk show of NBC News.

"I think the world it's in the interests of the American people, our national security interests and otherwise, for this relationship to remain at this low level," he added.

"Whether we can improve it or not remains to be seen. It's going to take some time, it's

going to take a lot of hard work.

But the President's committed, rightly so, and I'm committed with him as well to see if we can improve the relationship between the two greatest nuclear powers in the

world," he said.

"So, the President, I think, has committed to at least make an effort in that regard and he has certainly asked me to make an important effort as well," Tillerson said, noting that relationship with Russia comes up in his conversation with leaders of Europe as well.

"It is largely viewed that it is not healthy for the world, it is certainly not healthy for us, for the American people, our national security interests and otherwise, for this relationship to remain at this low level," he added.

"Whether we can improve it or not remains to be seen. It's going to take some time, it's

going to take a lot of hard work.

But the President's committed, rightly so, and I'm committed with him as well to see if we can improve the relationship between the two greatest nuclear powers in the

alleged Russian interference in American elections, Tillerson said it has been well documented but it is not in US national interest to have such a low relationship with Moscow.

"We have such a broad range of important issues that have to be addressed in the US-Russia relationship. Obviously, the interference in the election is one of those. I think it's been well documented, it's pretty well understood the nature of that interference here and elsewhere," he said.

These are not new tactics on the part of the Russian government directed not only at the US but at others too, he noted.

But again, I think we have to look at this relationship in its broadest contours. And there are many, many important areas which require our attention if we are to bring it back to a relationship that we believe is necessary for the security of the US," he said. — PTI



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) shakes hands with Myanmar's State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi as they attend the welcome ceremony at Yanqi Lake during the Belt and Road Forum, in Beijing on Monday. — UNI

Bangla court upholds life term for cleric

DHAKA, May 15: Bangladesh's apex court today upheld the life sentence given to a war criminal for committing crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War by siding with Pakistani troops.

The Supreme Court dismissed both the pleas by the state and defence, and stood by its earlier judgement to jail fundamentalist Jamaat-e-Islami stalwart Delwar Hossain Sayeedi, 77, until his death.

A five-member bench led by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha delivered the verdict after a two-day hearing.

"He (Sayeedee) is sentenced to imprisonment of life, rest of his natural life," Justice Sinha said.

Both the state and the defence had filed petitions seeking a review of the Supreme Court's verdict in 2014. The state wanted a death sentence while the defence pushed for an acquittal.

It was the first case of a war crimes trial in which the state sought review to maintain the tribunal's verdict.

The trial of Sayeedee began at the International Crimes Tribunal-I in 2011 and a verdict was pronounced in 2013.

Of the 20 charges against him, Sayeedee was given the death sentence for two - the murders of Ibrahim Kutti and Bisabali; and for setting fire to Hindu households in Pirojpur in 1971, bdnews24.Com reported.

Described by followers as a "firebrand Islamic preacher", Sayeedee's death penalty in February 2013 triggered violence in parts of the country regarded as Jamaat stronghold leaving scores dead.

The situation at that time had prompted authorities to call out paramilitary troops to quell his supporters, who were swelled by rumours that Sayeedee's image was seen in the moon, in a sign of his innocence. — PTI

Yemen declares emergency over cholera outbreak

SANA'A, May 15: Authorities in Sana'a, which is controlled by Shiite rebels, have declared a state of emergency in the Yemeni capital, where a deadly outbreak of cholera has spread rapidly.

The Huthi-run health ministry said it was "unable to contain this disaster" and appealed for international humanitarian assistance to deal with the crisis, in a statement released overnight.

Yemen is witnessing a devastating war between the Iranian-backed Huthis and the Saudi-supported government, and less than half of the country's health facilities are functioning two years into the conflict.

The International Committee of the Red Cross said on Sunday the cholera outbreak has killed 115 people and left 8,500 ill between April 27 and Saturday.

This is the second outbreak of cholera in less than a year in Yemen, the Arab world's poorest country. — AFP

Rival track, rebel losses overshadow Syria talks

BEIRUT, May 15: A new round of Syrian peace talks opens in Geneva tomorrow, overshadowed by a competing process in Astana and with rebels reeling from a major setback in Damascus.

Since it broke out in March 2011, Syria's conflict has killed more than 320,000 people, displaced millions and ravaged the country's economy and infrastructure.

Efforts to end the war are now proceeding along two rival tracks: the formal political peace process hosted at United Nations headquarters in Geneva and, since January, parallel talks in Kazakhstan brokered by Russia, Iran and Turkey.

Observers say the UN appears to be scrambling to match the momentum after a landmark deal signed in Kazakhstan on May 4 that would create four "de-escalation" zones across some of Syria's bloodiest battlegrounds.

Since the deal came into effect a week ago, fighting has slowed across swathes of the country.

But in Damascus, which is secured through control of three rebel-held districts, bringing it closer to exerting full control over the capital for the first time since 2012.

Briefing journalists last week in Geneva, UN special envoy Staffan de Mistura stressed the "rather business-like, rather short" nature of the upcoming talks, expected to last just four days in order to "hit the iron while it's hot". — AFP

14 climbers reach top of Everest from Nepal side

KATHMANDU, May 15: A team of 14 rope-fixing climbers today successfully scaled Mt Everest, becoming the first group to reach the world's tallest peak from Nepal's side this year.

According to base camp officials, the team reached the summit point from South Col at around 12:25 pm (local time).

At least 12 other climbers also made to the summit point, officials said.

"They have opened a climbing route by fixing ropes to the summit point," they said.

More than 375 world climbers along with their support staff have been waiting for weather to improve to make summit attempts on Everest after acclimatisation in the Khumbu region for over a month.

As many as 25 climbers, including six Indians, stood atop the world's highest peak from the North Col (Tibetan side) after rope-fixing Sherpas opened a climbing route to the summit point on May 11.

More than 150 climbers along with support staff will make their final summit pushes from north side within the next couple of days, according to the officials.

Meanwhile, Tashi Sherpa of Himalayan Trailblazer said that Sherpas also headed to Camp IV on Mt Lhotse to fix a climbing route to the summit of the world's fourth highest peak today.

Everest has seen a record number of climbers this season due to a backlog resulting from the 2014 and 2015 avalanches. — PTI

Human ancestors 'stayed in trees' far longer than thought

LONDON, May 15: Our early ancestors continued to exploit the forest canopy for resources even as they evolved to walk on two legs, researchers said.

During the study, participants were shown video footage of swaying branches while attempting to balance on a branch-like bouncy springboard.

Without support, viewing the participants as much wearing a blindfold.

However, when participants were allowed to use light fingertip touch on an adjacent support, their balance significantly improved and the effort required by their thigh muscles was reduced by nearly a third.

The findings lend new weight to the theory that our early ancestors con-

tinued to exploit the forest canopy for resources even as they evolved to walk on two legs, researchers said.

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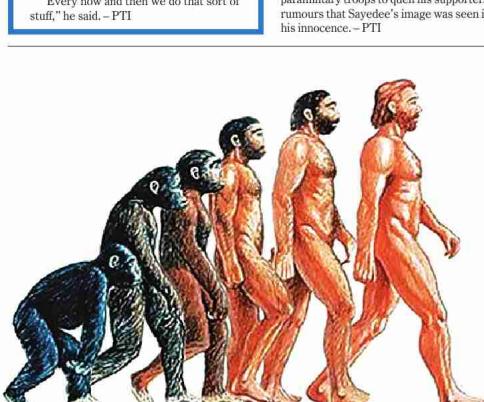
However, when participants were allowed to use light fingertip touch on an adjacent support, their balance significantly improved and the effort required by their thigh muscles was reduced by nearly a third.

"Most modern apes are able to move around the tree canopy by hanging with

their arms or gripping with long, prehensile toes," said lead researcher on the study, Susannah Thorpe from the University of Birmingham.

"It has long been thought that the relatively short fingers and toes of our human ancestors, which evolved to allow them to use tools and to walk upright, would have prevented them from foraging in the trees," said Thorpe.

"Our research shows that our early ancestors may have been able to overcome the arboreal limitations of their evolving bodies by using a 'light touch strategy' to avoid falls and to reduce energy expenditure when negotiating the unstable tree-top environment," she said. — PTI



Real Madrid, Barca set up final day title showdown

MADRID, May 15: The fight for the La Liga title will go down to the last day of the season after convincing wins for Real Madrid and Barcelona on Sunday left them locked together on 87 points at the top of the table.

Madrid remain in the driving seat after the European champions saw off Sevilla 4-1 as they have two games remaining compared to Barca's one.

However, Barca remain on top thanks to their better head-to-head record with Neymar scoring a hat-trick as they also won 4-1 at Las Palmas.

Madrid visit Celta in their game in hand on Wednesday and then travel to Malaga, whilst Barca host Eibar on the final day next Sunday.

Sevilla's defeat at the Bernabeu also guarantees that they will finish fourth and Atletico Madrid, who drew 1-1 at Real Betis, qualify automatically for next season's Champions League in third.

At the bottom, Sporting Gijon joined Granada and Osasuna in being relegated despite winning 1-0 at Eibar

as Deportivo la Coruna secured safety in a 0-0 draw at Villarreal.

"It is a long road. We know to win the league in Spain is not easy," said Madrid boss Zinedine Zidane.

"Every day we are getting closer, we keep winning but there are two games to go and we need to keep doing what we have until now."

However, the fact two of Barca's four league defeats this season came at the two sides Madrid are still to visit gives the Catalans' boss Luis Enrique hope.

"We have one game left and the objective is to win it," he told TV station Movistar.

"If we have lost (there) then any team can."

Sevilla have now won just three of their last 13 games as their season has petered out to a disappointing end.

However, they gave Madrid more than a few scares at the Santiago Bernabeu.

Nacho gave the hosts the lead in controversial fashion as he curled home a quick free-kick with the Se-

villa defence caught unaware and their protests towards referee Alberto Undiano Mallenco falling on deaf ears.

That goal meant Madrid broke Bayern Munich's European record for scoring in consecutive games as their streak now stretches to 61 games.

Sevilla fired their first warning shot when Stefan Jovetic smashed a shot against the post from the edge of the area.

However, moments later it was 2-0 as Sergio Rico could only palm James Rodriguez's effort into the path of Cristiano Ronaldo to score his 400th Madrid goal.

Jovetic then saw a fine chipped effort come back off the bar and was denied by Keylor Navas when played through by Joaquin Correa as Sevilla continued to threaten.

And they finally got back in the game through Jovetic's neat finish from outside the box three minutes into the second-half.

Yet, just as the hosts' nerves were becoming frayed, Ronaldo appeared once more by crashing home Toni Kroos's cut-

back to restore Real's two goal lead.

And Kroos rounded off the scoring by prodding into the far corner six minutes from time.

Barcelona kept the pressure on despite a series of defensive absences that meant Brazilian 21-year-old Marlon Santos was handed a full debut in the Canary Islands.

The visitors still had all of Lionel Messi, Luis Suarez and Neymar to call on up front and the latter two combined to give Barca a 2-0 half-time lead.

After wonderful passes from Sergio Busquets and Andres Iniesta, Suarez squared for Neymar to open the scoring.

The roles were reversed two minutes later as Neymar's chip fired Suarez to dink home his 36th goal of the season.

Pedro Bigas momentarily gave Las Palmas hope just after the hour mark.

But Neymar headed home Ivan Rakitic's cross and then sealed his first hat-trick of the season 19 minutes from time when he slotted in Jordi Alba's through ball. - AFP



Barcelona's Neymar points to a tattoo of his mother on his right arm after completing his hat-trick against Las Palmas during the La Liga match, on Sunday.

Nadal wins 5th Madrid Open title, beats Thiem in straight sets



Rafael Nadal of Spain celebrates with the Madrid Open title after defeating Dominic Thiem of Austria in the final, on Sunday.

MADRID, May 15: Rafael Nadal continued his flawless record on clay-court this season by clinching a record-extending fifth Madrid Open title on Sunday, battling past a determined Dominic Thiem to win 7-6 (10-8), 6-4.

The Spaniard is now 15-0 on his favoured surface this year having also picked up his 10th titles in Monte Carlo and Barcelona in recent weeks.

Nadal, who ended a seven-match losing streak against Novak Djokovic to win their semifinal on Saturday, was given a much sterner test by Thiem than in last month's final of the Barcelona Open.

Earlier, Nadal had easily beaten Thiem 6-4, 6-1 in Barcelona but got an early scare when he was broken in Sunday's third game, soon falling 3-1 behind as the Austrian held.

Thiem had the break back by netting a simple volley for 3-3, but showed admirable resistance to battle back from 0-40 when serving to stay in the set a 4-5 to force a tie-break.

Both had their chances in the tie-break as Thiem again fought back from 3-5 down to have two set points of his own only to be denied by two punishing Nadal forehands.

And eventually it was Nadal who prevailed with his fifth set point when Thiem fired long.

The marathon first set lasted a minute under an hour-and-a-half and seemed to drain Thiem's belief as well as his energy resources as he was broken to start the second set.

Nadal had to stave off a break point on his own serve to consolidate the break for 2-0.

Four games without a point against the serve followed as Nadal closed in on victory.

Then again showed impressive poise to battle back from two match points down 3-5 to force Nadal to serve out for the title.

The Austrian had his chance too to get right back in the set with four break back points, but couldn't take advantage as Nadal finally secured victory with his fourth match point. - Agencies

AFI demand punishment for tainted coaches

PRIOR to the kick-off of the Hero Federation Cup I was a bit sceptical about how both Mohun Bagan and Bengaluru FC would perform. Their commitments in the AFC Cup meant they had to play more matches than any, and more alarmingly, the traveling in an AFC Tournament drains you out. But now with exit bells having run for all other teams, the two would be clashing for the title which promises to be a mouthwatering final.

Mohun Bagan have been outstanding in the tournament. They have taken it match by match managing to shift gears on the field. In the semifinal against

Europes athletic body had proposed deletion of world records prior to 2005 because of doping issues. But, Sumarwalla said, "There is no easy answer" and the matter will have to be dealt with caution.

"We have to study what it is, because it is not that (doping) is not happening now. It is happening now also, it has become more sophisticated. So what is wrong or what is right is very difficult to say, we have to study the subject more. We can't say exactly what it is. We need research on the subject," said the AFI president, who is also a member of the powerful IAAF Council.

"Earlier it (doping) was more crude, there was no 'whereabouts' (requirements under WADA). Now there is 'whereabouts' but people also have learnt how to cheat the 'whereabouts'. So, we have to study the whole subject," said the Olympian and former 100m runner.

He said the proposal from the European Athletics Association had received the support of the IAAF Council. - PTI

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Hamilton, a three-time world champion, won the race in 1:35:56.497, claiming the 55th win of his career, while Vettel came in second, just 3.490 seconds off the pace on

the podium with a 10-second gap.

"They don't want to be in a dispute. They want to play the Ashes and we now need to get around to mediation and get this done. We've come up with a solution that's a win-win and that was rejected by Cricket Australia within two hours," - AFP

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