

SITUATION VACANT

Medical Representative 100% job Guaranteed Training for 15 days, (A.P.I.) Guwahati Club, Ph.: 9854013922, 7002658410, SV/P/AP085/31

Urgently required candidate for reputed MNC, Retired, Housewives unemployed can apply contact. 8876520460, 9957832102, SV/P991208

Requires Senior Civil Supervisors for an ongoing Construction Project at Guwahati, minimum experience required 8-10 years. Contact No.: 9854024355, Email ID: upliftime@gmail.com SV/P9384/5

Wanted three Medical Officers, for Tea Gardens in Dibrugarh District, of Upper Assam. The candidate must possess a MBBS degree along with recognized University. Applications will be accepted for the experience of the candidate which will be decided by the panel. Candidates having requisite qualification and experience may apply to the Dy. General Manager, Khowang Tea Estate, P.O.-Khowang, Dist- Dibrugarh, Assam - 785675 within 21 days from the date of publishing of this advertisement SV/605/2

Aluminum foil based manufacturing Company at Amlonga urgently requires 1) Accounts Manager/Executive 2) Quality Executive(3) Electrical (For Drive/Pic) 4) Mechanical Fitter 5) Printing Operator 6) Slitting Operator Min. 3 yrs. of experience in respective function. Experience in IMS/ ISO desirable. We will interview between 11.00 am to 1.00 pm on 15.5.2017 i.e. Monday at Kamal Enclave Ground floor, G.S. Road, Opp. Bora Service Station, Guwahati. Ph. No. 70026-83611. SV/P9426/2

Required Accountancy experienced candidate (Male/Female) with Tally knowledge for a reputed organisation at Guwahati. Send resume at jpkar@rediffmail.com. Contact No.: 96385-88691, 98640-70211. SV/P9429/1

Required Senior Computer Faculty for CEC Head Office, Sipshukuri, Guwahati. Contact : 97060-79929, assjobsm@gmail.com SV/P9443/1

Global Public Central School, Laksmsishahar, Hailakandi Affiliated to CBSE New Delhi. Required post:- Principal, required qualification:- Master in any discipline, B.Ed must, experience min 12- 15 yrs. in the same field. Salary structure: 25000+ PF & may exceed depending on experience etc. Vehicle facility will be provided. To & fro once in a year to Native place on claim will be reimbursed. Email ID gspkshd@gmail.com, Website: gspkshd.org. Call: 9435079034/ 943557273/ 03444-217533. Interested candidates can send their CV in mail or directly apply for walk-in interview with prior intimation to the above contact No.

SV/P/AP82/1

APPOINTMENT

Applications with all required testimonials duly attested by competent authority from H.S.C. or other equivalent examinations onwards are invited for the following vacant sanctioned post at Janta College, Serfanguat by the following date: 15.5.2017. The application form will be given to the candidates belonging to T.A.D area and having the knowledge of local language.

The complete set of application accompanied by a Demand Draft of Rs. 100/- drawn in favour of the Principal Janta College, Serfanguat payable at Kohrakhat, must reach the following address within 15 days from the date of this advertisement. Name of the post: English I (One) Reserved for ST (P) as per Roster Point No.

Prescribed application format may be downloaded from the College website - www.jantacollege.org

Bd/- Dr. S. Basumatary Principal, Janta College, Serfanguat, P.O. Serfanguat, Dist.- Kokrajhar BTAD (Assam) PN-78346

CD/SV/62/1

Aapnabazar, one of the largest marketing network in India is looking for smart, energetic and hard-working (M/F) candidates for the post of S.O./ASRM / RSM to promote miniITM project, a part of digital India and Gas Safety Device, CTC 2.16L to 4.80L+incentive.Total Post: 50 (Entire North-East)

Qualification: SO- Graduate Diploma+5 years experience in reputed company, (upto 32 years of age)ASRM & RSM- MBA+ 10-15 years experience in reputed company (upto 45 years of age)Send your CV to resume:aapnabazar@gmail.com or call +91 70860 67373, SV/P9484/1

H O U S E K E E P I N G S U P E R V I S O R (2 N O S)
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S V / P 9 4 6 / 1

Urgent!!! Showroom, BPO (USA), Front Office, Back Office, Telecaller, Marketing, Call Centre, Delivery, 9864073194, 7896135729, SV/P/AC979/1

Urgently required private part time Driver for a Private Co. Call us @ 7086554241, SV/P/AC978/1

Required Zoology and Botany teachers for a Medical Entrance Coaching Institute. Candidate should be M.Sc. In the specific subjects, having at least 4 yrs. experience in Medical Coaching Institutes of repute. Salary: Rs. 60,00/- per month (accommodation free). Contact: 9706481992, SV/P/AC979/1

Required Sales Executive Male or Female for a leading Telecom Channel Partner at Jorhat, Minimum qualification H. S. Pass, Salary + TA+Incentive. Interested candidates may submit their resume within 15 May 2017. Contact us : Jail Road near Niranya Hospital. Mobile Nos: 9707032721, 8822244644, SV/625/1

Telecom, Cement, Hospital, ISP & leading IT Company needs system analyst. Eligibility : Any Graduate/Engineering with MCSE (Mandatory) CCNA, Sal : 20-35K+. Send resume at www.attinfoys.com/ MCSE, CCNA & CCNP, Admission is going on at ATL. Ph: 099542-0847 (M).

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Required 'Social Science' Teacher for higher classes, Mary Land School, Narenji Tiniali, near E.G. Nursing Home, Guwahati-26. Ph: 96781-32261, SV/P9463/1

Opening @ Guwahati for the post of Relationship Manager in direct Insurance Sales, preferred experience in financial sector for at least one year. Interested candidate may put his/her resume in full at resume, ronguahati@gmail.com, SV/P9452/1

Multinational Company requirement 3 days work 10-2 & Graduate serious people required 78960-24621, 70860-47762, SV/P9468/3

MARKETING EXECUTIVE (2 NOS.) REQUIRED FOR T Y R E / A L L L O Y S DISTRIBUTOR FOR NE REGION. 97668-58628. S V / P 9 4 7 2 / 1

Tele Caller, Digital Marketing, Office Boy, Marketing Executive #9440-33000, 98646-66600. SV/P9468/3

Urgently required an Office Boy/ Receptionist/ Marketing person. Contact : 81340-02125, SV/P/AB384/1

Urgent joining, Showroom, Delivery Boy, Call Center, Computer Operator, Tele Caller, Packaging, Contact No. 70025-87578, SV/P/AC968/1

Direct admission from recognised University BA, B.Sc. B.Com, B.Lit, MA, M.Com. 9854078826, Edu/P/8802/8

Direct Exam: HS (XI Appeared/Discontinued); HSLC (VII/VIII Appeared/ Discontinued); NICAB, 964033525 (M). Edu/P/AC687/1

100% GUARANTEED BY REPUTED EXPERIENCE HOME TUTOR (VI-XII) PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY, MATHEMATICS, MOTION- 9127059003. Tuition/P/AC933/10

Required experienced Faculty of C.T.C +Java, C++, VB, Net, Oracle, Web Design for Mit Institute, Sixmile #8011-15708 mitphy.edu@gmail.com SV/P/AC971/1

REQUIRED TEACHER C H E M I S T R Y .
QUALIFICATION : B.Sc/ M.Sc. IN CHEMISTRY.
APPLY ON BEFORE 26.5.2017.
PRINCIPAL OF STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL, NAGAR, MALIGAON, GUWAHATI-12.
SV/P/AC972/2

REQUIRED ONE OFFICE BOY FOR A PLAY SCHOOL IN GUWAHATI, PH. 96787-84210.
SV/P/9496/1

A REPUTED TEA COMPANY HAVING TEA GARDEN IN THE DISTRICT OF SIVASAGAR REQUIRES AN EXPERIENCED F.CLERK, CANDIDATES SHOULD BE GRADUATE FROM A RECOGNISED UNIVERSITY WITH MINIMUM 5 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN THE SIMILAR POSITION, HE SHOULD HAVE COMPETENT KNOWLEDGE ON COMPUTERS AND ITS APPLICATION, SALARY WILL BE AS PER ABITA SCALE, INTERESTED CANDIDATE MAY APPLY WITHIN 10 DAYS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS.
BOX NO. 178, C/O THE ASSAM TRIBUNE, CHOLDHARA TINIALI, AT. ROAD, JORHAT-1. SV/161/2

WANTED SUITABLE CANDIDATES FOR THE FOLLOWING POSTS.
L.CASHIER (FEMALE) EXPERIENCED CANDIDATE PREFERRED, 2.ECC & TGT, T.E.C.H. N.I.C.I.A.N EXPRIENCED CANDIDATE PREFERRED, 3.ECHO/USG TYPIST(MALE) MINIMUM EXPERIENCE -1/2 YRS. APPLY WITHIN 7 DAYS WITH BIODATA AND PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHOSWAGAT S U P E R S P E C I A L I T Y S U R G I C A L I N S T I T U T E & N H , M A L I G A O N , G U W A H A T I .
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Shiv Sena slams Centre

MUMBAI, May 12: The Shiv Sena today sharpened its attack on the Centre over the absence of a full-time Defence Minister and accused it of "toying" with national security.

Absence of full-time Defence Minister

Defence Minister amounts to toying with national security, the Sena said in an editorial in party mouthpiece 'Saamana'.

"People are responsible for

this (of voting BJP-led government to power) and we do not have anybody handling the ministry full time as yet. A nation as big as India not having a full-time

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley

is evident from the 'casual' manner

in which issues of soldiers and

farmers are being handled that

the government is hit by a

'mental scam'.

"People who are today roaming around as savours of the nation are not able to hear farmers nor can they lend a ear to the sorrows of family members of soldiers being brutally killed. The slaying of soldiers in the past one year should be treated as culpable homicide by the government," it said. - PTI

LOVE DALE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL - ZIRO

Hapoli PO, Lower Subansiri Dist, Arunachal Pradesh-791120

LIBRARIAN WANTED

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Interested candidates may send their resume to lovedaleschool@rediffmail.com
Contact No.: 9612437227, 9436047776.

VK Saraswat named as new JNU chancellor

NEW DELHI, May 12: The HRD Ministry has named scientist and former DRDO chief Vijay Kumar Saraswat as the next chancellor of JNU.

A full-time member of NITI Aayog, Saraswat will be replacing ISRO chief Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan whose five-year term ended on March 30.

Though Saraswat is yet to receive official communication, his name has been finalised for the varsity's top position, according to sources in the ministry.

Saraswat was conferred Padma Shri in 1998, Padma Bhushan in 2013 and had served as a chief scientific advisor to the Minister of Defence.

As project director of Pritiwi, Saraswat steered the design, development, production and induction of the first indigenous surface-to-surface missile system into the armed forces.

According to teachers in the university, the outgoing chancellor, Kasturirangan, showed much interest in language, literature and cultural studies.

A chancellor has a little role in day-to-day activities of the administration. - PTI

Fresh non-bailable warrant against Rakhi Sawant

LUDHIANA, May 12: A Ludhiana court has issued a fresh non-bailable warrant against actress Rakhi Sawant for allegedly making objectionable remarks against sage Valmiki, who wrote the Hindu epic Ramayana.

The court of Judicial Magistrate Vishwar Gupta yesterday fixed June 2 as the next date for hearing in the case.

A local advocate Narinder Adiya had filed a complaint against Rakhi on July 9 last year alleging that she had hurt the religious sentiments of the Valmiki community by making derogatory comments against the sage.

On the last date on April 10, Rakhi had withdrawn the anticipatory bail application from the court. Rakhi had allegedly made the comments during a programme on a private television channel last year.

Earlier, the court of Judicial Magistrate had issued an arrest warrant against her on March 9. - PTI

Clashes break out in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, May 12: Clashes broke out between protesters and security forces in Nowhatta area of Srinagar city and in Shopian town in south Kashmir today,

police said.

Groups of youth indulged in sloganising and stone-pelting on security forces in

Nowhatta here soon after Friday congregational prayers ended at Jamia Masjid here, a police official said. - PTI

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ACHIEVEMENT



Mr. Pragyan Jyoti Gogoi, Research Scholar, Department of Physics, Tezpur University has been awarded the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy by the Tezpur University (A Central University), for his thesis entitled "Design and Development of Compact Flexible Wearable Antenna for C-Band Communication". He carried out his research work under the supervision of Prof. Nishi Sastava Bhattacharyya, Professor, Department of Physics, Tezpur University and Prof. Sarajib Bhattacharyya, Professor, Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Tezpur University. He is the son of Mr. Manik Gogoi and Mrs. Pratima Gogoi, of Amguri Town, Ward No.- 6, Sivasagar, Assam. Achieve/61/1



Pallabika Samanta, UGC Senior Research Fellow, Deptt. of Assamese, Gauhati University has been awarded the Ph. D. Degree by Gauhati University for her thesis entitled "Mahini Borar Gadyasilee: ETI Bisilexantramati - Advayan (Chitigalpa Aru Upayashir Bixet Ullikkhansha)". She carried out her research work under the guidance of Dr. Binita Baruah, Associate Professor, Deptt. of Assamese, Gauhati University. She is the eldest daughter of Mr. Narendra Nath Samrah and Mrs. Padmuni Devi of Murihateli, Satkia Chukuri, Tezpur. Achieve/P/9435/1

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**WEATHER
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LOCAL FORECAST:
Partly cloudy sky to generally cloudy sky. Rain/thundershower is likely to occur. Maximum temperature is most likely to be 35°C on Saturday.

TEMPERATURE:
Max 34.8°C
Min 22.5°C

Foundation day

GUWAHATI, May 12: The Ellora Vigyan Mancha will celebrate its 14th foundation day centrally at Bongaigaon on May 14. In the city the Mancha will celebrate the foundation day with a function scheduled for May 15. The Mancha, an anti-supersition, pro-scientific temperance body, will complete 13 years of its existence on May 15.

According to press release here, Assam Science Society president Dr Sonowar Sarma will attend the Bongaigaon programme as a distinguished guest. The Mancha has urged its branches to celebrate the day in a befitting manner. — Staff Reporter


A guest being welcomed by a cultural troupe at the Beltola Bohagi Utsav in Guwahati on Friday. — UB Photos
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SC panel guidelines being violated in State: expert

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 12: The Assam Government has failed in regulating fly-by-night manufacturers of speed limit devices (SLDs), who are installing unapproved and uncertified speed governors in transport vehicles, road safety expert and member of National Road Safety Council Dr Kamal Soi said here today.

Addressing a press conference, Soi said 70 per cent of the accidents are caused due to overspeeding and in nearly half of the cases, commercial vehicles are involved.

"Eighty per cent of the drivers of commercial vehicles are illiterate or have not passed Class X. In most cases, we found the drivers were under the influence of intoxicants. Naturally, the only way to check accidents is to control the speed, for which speed governors are ideal," he said.

He said the Central Government, through a notification in April 2015, had made fitment of speed governors mandatory with effect from January 31 this year. Further, the Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety has also issued mandatory guidelines and procedures to be adhered to by all States for implementation of the speed governor regime.

"In Assam, however, substandard manufacturers are installing unapproved and uncertified SLDs in transport vehicles for which these companies have not obtained any approval. Due to ignorance of the guidelines, vehicles with such unapproved fitments are getting fitness

certificates in complete defiance of the guidelines of the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways and the Supreme Court," Soi, who had written to the State Chief Minister and the State Transport department in this regard, said.

He alleged that till date, no action had been taken by the Assam Government despite being reminded of the matter on many occasions. Soi added the Supreme Court committee had also directed all the States to strictly ensure effective implementation of the regime with respect to compliance of all necessary standards along with separate vehicle approval for different makes, models and variants obtained by SLD manufacturers, besides strict adherence to the Management Information System and detailed integration in VAHAN database and submission of quarterly reports describing the details of speed governors installed in the State.

According to Soi, laxity on the part of the Assam Government has allowed substandard manufacturers to continue their malpractices to make unscrupulous gains from the scheme. The manufacturers are also avoiding taxes by not issuing bills against the sales of speed governors.

He called upon the Assam Government to enforce regulatory measures which ensure proper installation of certified speed governors in notified transport vehicles so that the potential of such vehicles to jeopardise public safety by overspeeding and rash driving can be checked.

Speed limit devices

and variants obtained by SLD manufacturers, besides strict adherence to the Management Information System and detailed integration in VAHAN database and submission of quarterly reports describing the details of speed governors installed in the State.

3 Cotton students missing

GUWAHATI, May 12: Three students of Cotton College have been missing under mysterious circumstances from here since Thursday morning. The students — Partha Pratim Mah, Wahidur Rahman and Tonmoy Kather — are Higher Secondary students of Science in Cotton College.

It is suspected that the trio might have left Guwahati for some unknown destination by train. Unconfirmed reports stated that they were last spotted somewhere near Howrah. — Staff Reporter

In the City Today

Dr Binasta Das from Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, to deliver a talk on 'Artistic Science: Merging the Spirit of Art and Science' at the Assam Down Town University campus at 2 pm


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MESSAGE FOR TODAY

Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck.

— THE DALAI LAMA

The Assam Tribune**GST regime**

The Assam Assembly on Thursday unanimously passed the GST Bill, becoming in the process the 11th State to do so. It's indeed a big stride taken in the path of realizing the goal of a uniform, streamlined tax regime. The State Government needs to be commended for securing the support of the Opposition and getting it cleared in quick time. Among the biggest taxation reforms the country has witnessed, the GST will replace all indirect taxes levied on goods and services by the Government – both the Central and State governments – once it is implemented from July 1 onwards. The GST Act will put an end to multiple taxations, doing away with the current practice of levying of taxes at various sources during transportation. Assam being largely a consumer State, the benefits will be immediate and conspicuous. Some concerns regarding the State's tea industry, though, remain. The State Government needs to take up with the Centre the issue so that tea is not taxed at a high rate. As, among other things, the GST Act will have a special concession option for the north-eastern and Himalayan States if they request reduction of taxes for any reason, this concession needs to be extracted to our advantage. Another highlight of the GST regime will be that it allows the State to collect special tax during natural calamities like flood subject to approval by the GST Council. The GST is expected to go a long way in consolidating State economies and making a significant breakthrough by paving the way for an all-inclusive indirect tax reform in the country. The basic idea behind the GST is to create a single, cooperative and undivided Indian market to make the economy stronger and powerful. Experts believe that by implementing the GST, India will gain \$15 billion a year.

The new tax regime is expected to reduce inflation and check corruption by making the tax administration transparent. The State will no longer need the check gates for entry tax collection that had earned notoriety for degenerating into dens of corruption. While the State Government has been quick in passing the GST Act, concerns also remain over the preparedness level of the Government and its machinery on the all-important matter of implementation. The shift to the GST warrants the government machinery to be extremely efficient, so as not to allow any hiccup during and after the transition. The readiness or otherwise of the taxpayers for such a massive change is another issue, as not much has been done to generate awareness among the masses on the intricacies and benefits of policy shift. How will the manufacturers, traders and ultimate consumers be affected in the long run is another question as is the issue whether it will help the small entrepreneurs and small traders besides the State's indigenous industries such as the famed silk industry. Experts, however, are almost unanimous that the GST will create a win-win situation for all. And the biggest benefit of the GST is that it will help build a transparent and corruption-free tax administration in the long run.

Nixonian re-enactment?

In 1973, US President Richard Nixon, in a desperate attempt to stave off the fallout of the Watergate affair, ordered the sacking of Archibald Cox, the Special Prosecutor investigating the infamous incident. Cox had subpoenaed Nixon for a copy of the White House tapes and the Nixonian response was to try and get rid of him. When the Attorney General Elliot Richardson and his deputy refused to comply with the order, Nixon fired them too and had the Solicitor General carry out the task. Unfortunately for Nixon, the American system can be ruthless towards manipulators, and he himself was impeached for trying to get illegal access to information on the Democratic Presidential campaign. Apparently history is repeating itself, though it is not yet certain that the current American President, Donald Trump, would ultimately suffer Nixon's fate! Ironically, at the heart of the controversy is the man whose actions perhaps proved to be a game-changer in the last US Presidential election campaign, the director of the FBI James Comey, whose decision to reopen email investigation against Hillary Clinton just a few days before voting day is widely believed to have worked in favour of Trump, the winner. At that point of time Trump had all praise for the FBI director but now, suddenly, the mercurial new President has decided to fire the hand that once fed him!

That the reason offered by Trump for firing the FBI director, mishandling the Hillary Clinton investigation, is steeped in grim humour would thus be not lost on observers of US politics. If the US is stunned at this unexpected turn of events and many believe that there is more than meets the eye in the sacking, it is precisely because Comey was relentlessly pursuing an investigation into possible collusion between Trump's campaign personnel and the Russian Government to tilt the balance in favour of their candidate. His dismissal has naturally raised the possibility of another Nixongate since Trump can be accused of political interference into an existing investigation which might eventually implicate if not him directly, at least indirectly. Who knows, if collusion is actually proved, the entire 2016 election might be considered to be void and alternative steps taken by American legislators. Just as Cox had asked for White House tapes, Comey had requested the Justice Department to provide the FBI with more resources so that it could pursue the Russian collusion case with greater vigour; a step which apparently had made the Donald camp jittery about the report that the seemingly incorruptible Comey would present after completing the investigations. However, as in the case of Nixon, in sacking the FBI director Trump might discover that he has bitten off more than he can chew, because this suspicious action has coerced even Republican legislators to call for an independent investigation.

A piece from the past**PLAIN-SPEAK**

Arup Kumar Dutta

A couple of months back, I had made the 'startling' revelation that the blighter who wrote the satirical column titled 'Columbus Venomous' in this newspaper some decades ago under the pseudonym of Scorpion had been none else but yours truly. That revelation did not quite set the Brahmaputra on fire; or, as is the fashion nowadays, go 'viral' on the social network! Yet I cannot but resist reproducing another of those columns if only to once more illustrate my postulate that things do not change.

This one had been written on December 27, 1998. I doubt if any of the readers will recall that Columbus Venomous was peopled with characters such as Sri Prabhobhakta Das, Congress stalwart of Assam and Sri Sarajan Sarmah, eminent astrologer. This piece from the past titled '1999 Predictions' deals, as the heading suggest, the predictions made by Sri Sarmah for the year 1999.

"Each year, around this time, Sri Sarajan Sarmah, the famous astrologer, makes his predictions for the coming year and your Scorpion punctiliously reproduces some of these in his column. It is uncanny how accurate the predictions have proved in the past. For example, last year he predicted that there would be floods in Assam this year, which there were."

"He had also predicted that as in previous years Bangladeshi in great numbers would continue to pour into the seven sister States, which they have. He had also accurately prognosticated continuation of army operations, killings in encounters and bomb blasts, political scams, price

rise, power shortage, etc., all of which have taken place."

The following are a few excerpts from his predictions for the year 1999. In the international arena, which in effect means global affairs centred around the United States, it would be business as usual. Beginning January timed to coincide with Bill Clinton's impeachment trial at the Senate, America will bomb targets in Iraq, Afghanistan, Sudan, Lebanon, Syria and Timbuktu, citing protection of the US interests as a pretext.

The UN General Assembly will hold ritual protests but the Security Council will support the bombings as vital to maintaining world peace despite dissenting notes by Russia and China.

"On the CTBT front as also lifting of sanctions against India, Jawant Singh will hold 23 more meetings with his US counterpart throughout the coming year without achieving anything. His underlings at the Ministry of External Affairs will hold 46 more meetings with their counterparts of Pakistan without achieving the same."

"The kind of instable stability or stable instability witnessed during 1998 in the national political scene will carry over into 1999. Jayalalitha will threaten to pull out of the BJP front seven times. Mamata twice, Samata four times, the Akashis thrice, the BJP and Lok Shakti once each. But the current Government, despite stumbling from one crisis to another, will survive till the mid of this year. Another cobbled up coalition led by the Congress and supported by the Left will take its

place, but then give up its ghost within a few months because, old habits dying hard, the Left will stab it in the back and withdraw support."

"Towards the end of the year yet another cobbled up coalition led by the Samajwadi-RJD combine will come into being, but survive for exactly 12 days before coming a cropper. Since the year would be over by then, what happens after that will be a part of Sri Sarajan Sarmah's predictions for the year 2000."

"The State's finances will remain stable in the coming year in the sense that an already bankrupt exchequer cannot logically grow more bankrupt. However, funds in certain sectors received from the Centre will be returned unutilized because the State Government's inability to legally divert them to pay its employees."

"In 1999 the BJP will again recommend dissolution of the Rabri non-government, but the President will return the recommendation. Lalu Prasad Yadav will be charged with yet another scam, the infamous *khaini* scam, and will travel by *longa* to CBI headquarters for deposition. Sri Atal Behari Vajpayee will release another volume of his verses titled *Pokhar Ki Aash* (Tears of Pokhar) which will later be set to music and played on Rajdhani Express trains. Bal Thackeray will be appointed the chairman of the Board of Film Cen-

sorship and wield his scissors savagely to forestall *apasuskruti* and safeguard 'Hindi' culture."

"On the economic front, the good news is that prices of non-essential commodities will witness a downward decline. Imported Italian tiles will cost 50% less, air-conditioned luminaires 40%, Parisian perfumes 30%. The amount of foreign exchange permissible under the Foreign Travel Scheme will be doubled while five-star hotels in the country

will slash their room tariffs by half. However, the prices of essential commodities would continue to exhibit an upward trend.

While rice, wheat, pulses, onion, potato, edible oils, salt, vegetables, fish, meat, fruit, etc., will continue to climb steadily, the price of *bandhagobi* will show up abnormally during the course of the coming year. Despite the Government flying in large quantities of *bandhagobi* from Japan, hoarding and profiteering by unscrupulous traders will keep this commodity beyond the reach of the common man for greater

the year."

"The BJP Government, in fact, will fall on this issue. This would remove the shield of the traders – but the effort of the Congress-led coalition to bring in draconian anti-hoarding and profiteering Bills will be unsuccessful and this in turn would lead to its collapse. So what the humble onion could not achieve in 1998, the equally humble *bandhagobi* might be able to do in 1999 – that is, bring about another mid-term election."

"Addressing himself to regional issues, Sri Sarajan Sarmah predicts

more back-biting, squabbles and fist-cuffs within the ranks of the AGP during the coming year. A few more colleagues of the Chief Minister will accuse him of being high-handed, with the inevitable outcome that a few more of its members will be suspended for floating party 'discipline'. A few by-elections will be held in the year and, naturally, the AGP will lose a few more seats.

"The State's finances will remain stable in the coming year in the sense that an already bankrupt exchequer cannot logically grow more bankrupt. However, funds in certain sectors received from the Centre will be returned unutilized because the State Government's inability to legally divert them to pay its employees.

"The AASU will again go to Delhi demanding the implementation of the 'historic' Assam Accord and hold yet more 'national seminars' and dharnas there. No serious attempt will be made during the coming year to bring insurgents to the dialogue table though the Chief Minister will continue to urge them for come up for discussions.

"These are samples of the predictions made. Paucity of space prevents your Scorpion from reproducing them in toto, especially the more salacious ones. As always, Sri Sarajan Sarmah very judiciously has refrained from making predictions for the common man. The rationale he offers for this exclusion is that, in this benighted age, not even God can predict what the future holds for that beleaguered creature!"

Reading between the lines, perspective readers would realize that what could be predicted for 1999 can be done word for word for 2017! Which is another telling proof of my postulate that in this land of *lata lata*, nothing would ever change.

Food wastage: need of a conclusive solution

■ Kaustavmoni Das

The issue of food wastage has widely been debated in many public forums for sometime; however, the issue got a momentum when Prime Minister Narendra Modi raised his concerns on cooked food wastage in his monthly radio programme, *Mann Ki Baat*. There, he termed food waste as "a crime against society and an injustice to the poor". The wastage of food takes place in four stages, i.e., production, processing, retailing and consumption. As per a Central Government survey, India wastes nearly about 67 million tonnes of food in a year in the supply chain process which includes transpor-

tation and due to lack of adequate cold storages. In the present day context, the post-harvest loss of food accounts almost 10% of the budget of 2017-18, which is approximately equivalent to Rs 1 lakh crore.

If the wastage of food continues this way, then how can one imagine that India's food security mission will be successful? Apart from post-harvest losses, the country is facing chronic problem of cooked food waste during consumption. Most of the cooked food gets dissipated in social gatherings like marriage, followed by hotels and restaurants. As per a report published in an online news portal, where it mentioned about a recent survey done by a team of professors from the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore in 2014, marriage halls over a span of six months to find wastages of food, almost 943 tonnes of edible food turned waste. Further, the survey revealed that the amount of waste food could have been served to 2.6 crore people. This survey has tried to scale the wastage of cooked food in social gatherings.

Of late, the Centre is in action mode to tackle cooked food wastage in hotels and restaurants. The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution will soon notify an order in due consultation with the hotel and restaurant owners on the quantum of food to be served to customers to control unprecedented increase of food wastage. Although a private member Bill titled the 'Marriage (Compulsory Registration and Prevention of Wasteful Expenditure) Bill, 2016' has been pending in the Lok Sabha, which seeks to stop extravagance and wasteful expenditure on marriage and has endorsed for simpler marriage ceremonies. However, this Bill is in way representing the issue of food wastage in marriages. The need of the hour is to frame a Bill to prohibit unnecessary wastage of quality food in social ceremonies. If we look at the other countries, we will notice their innovative measures, which they have been adopting to tackle the food wastage problem. Restaurants in France and Scotland provide free doggy bags to customers to use the waste food. Another innovative practice is being implemented in the UK – opening of "food waste supermarket", where wastage food is being sold

on a pay-as-you-feel basis. The opening of food waste supermarket is an attempt to downsize food loss and fight against hunger in the UK. In India also, many non-profit organizations have been working for eliminating food wastage and hunger from our society. It is worthy to mention here the efforts of Feeding India, founded in 2014, whose vision is "feeding mouth, not bins"; this organization gathers waste foodstuff from individuals, weddings, and hotels and restaurants and distributes the same to the needy. Till now, they have served more than 1.4 million meals across 30 cities.

Food loss in the form of agricultural produce also has a big impact on climate change. Decomposed agricultural produce like cereals emits hazardous greenhouse gases. Seeing the present status of food wastage across the globe, the World Economic Forum has warned that "food shortages represent one of the biggest risks to global stability over the next decade as countries are increasingly affected by climate change". To achieve the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), 2030 set for food wastage, where wastage food at the retail

and consumer level, and reduce food losses along production and supply chains', the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is working on the 'Global Food Loss Index', with an aim to get actual figures of losses taking place during pre-harvest, post-harvest, processing, storage and transportation. The outcome of the exercise will create awareness on food wastage and offer inputs to proper policy-making to counter the food loss.

In India, most of the post-harvest losses of food take place due to the poor supply chain network. More thrust must be given in the food processing technologies, as it has the ability to preserve food materials for a longer period and ultimately reduce wastage. Food loss takes place for lack of cold storage also; nearly 4.6 to 15.9% of food and vegetables get wasted due to unavailability of proper infrastructure. At present, there is a need of 3.28 million tonnes capacity of cold storage facilities for proper storage of fruits and vegetables in India. Though the Centre is in the process to set up 135 cold chain projects to stop the wastage, but need of the hour is to do the work on war footing, so that we can stop the wastage in a short time.

Letters to the EDITOR

Sir, – Which one is more important of the above two, for the State Government employees of Assam? Definitely it is discipline. The State Government should give more stress on bringing discipline among the majority of the State Government employees rather than stressing what they should wear. The sensible citizen would definitely agree that the discipline among the State Government employees is at its lowest ebb. Discipline obviously encompasses the following qualities: attending office on time, performs one's duty effectively, desirous for indulging in financial irregularities, commitment towards the State, integrity and transparency. The ground reality is that 90% employees of the State Government don't fit in the category of disciplined employees. The mindset of the State Government employees has become such that they consider their office duty as a non-priority job. Yours etc., PRAFULLA DOWARAH, Guwahati

Discipline or dress code?

(II)

Sir, – This is with reference to the editorial, captioned 'Uncalled-for move' (AT May 7). Your views expressed in the editorial are quite appropriate. At a time when Assam is reeling under perennial problems, this kind of calling for a dress code in the government offices was not justified. Dress code should be voluntary. But as it has been proposed by the government, most people are obliged to follow it. There should be formal dress codes in all sectors. We appeal to the Government to solve the burning problems of the State on a priority basis instead of asking its employees to wear traditional attire on particular days. Yours etc., DR HARENDRA NATH PATHAK Golaghat

Illegal tuition

Sir, – It is a matter of serious concern that today's man has forgotten the ecological significance of forests and grasslands. People are destroying forests at such an alarming rate that deforestation has become one of the major problems in Assam. The rate of loss of forested areas in Assam is increasing alarmingly due to private

tutorials, which has otherwise become a thriving business across the society. This writer should be investigated and if found guilty, those college teachers should be punished as per law. Yours etc., SOMER STUDENTS, Jorhat.

Helping words

Sir, – For the last couple of years, I had been suffering from a chronic illness. After several treatments, I was gradually recovering from that illness but it was impossible on my part to overcome the stress and anxiety that was associated with that disease. Few months ago, we went to the Baruah Surgical Centre of Jorhat and there we came across a wonderful doctor, Dr PK Handique, an anaesthetist by profession. Incidentally, I narrated my problem before him. Thereafter, Dr Handique handled my case in a very positive way and finally, his encouraging words helped me substantially to overcome the stress and anxiety that I had been suffering for years. What I want to share is that the positive words of a doctor can do miracle on a patient's health. A patient visits a doctor with

immense hope and trust. When the doctor treats the patient with empathy, compassion and positivity, it becomes a powerful tool to make the patient recover fast. Yours etc., G SHARMA, Jail Road, Jorhat.

Great achievement

Sir, – This refers to the report, captioned 'Jhulan is the highest wicket-taker in women's ODIs' (AT May 10). Hats off to Jhulan Goswami for becoming the most successful bowler in the history of women's ODIs. She eclipsed the decade-long record of Australia's Cathryn Fitzpatrick's 180 wickets by claiming the 181st wicket in her 153rd match. It must be a double delight for her as her record-breaking performance also helped India beat South Africa by 7 wickets in the Women's Quadrangular Series at Potchefstroom in South Africa. Hopefully, she will soon become the first in the history of women's ODI cricket to get 200 wickets. Yours etc., ARNAB DEY, Kolkata.

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.

Governor greetings on GST Bill passage



STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 12: Governor Banwarilal Purohit has congratulated the State

DR. BHUPEN HAZARIKA REGIONAL GOVERNMENT FILM AND TELEVISION INSTITUTE

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Important Dates:
Application Form & Prospectus will be available w.e.f.: 16th May 2017

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Date of written test : 25th June 2017

Date of viva-voce : 5th July 2017

Declaration of final list of selected candidates : 10th July 2017

Date of admission : 18th July 2017

Commencement of classes : 1st August 2017

Sd/- Director I/c,
Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Regional Government Film and Television Institute,
Kahilpara, Guwahati-781019.
Janasanayog1628/17

Survey of lifts, elevators in city buildings
STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 12: In view of the recent death of a senior citizen in a lift accident at an apartment here and in order to prevent recurrence of such incidents, the Kamrup Metro district administration today issued an order to Circle Officers (COs) to conduct a survey and inspection of lifts and elevators through their Land Records staff with the assistance of the Guwahati Municipal Corporation (GMC) and the Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA).

It may be noted that the State Assembly passed the GST Bill on Thursday to put in place a uniform taxation system for goods and services. Purohit hoped that the GST Bill would benefit consumer States like Assam as it would respond to the burden of taxation at various stages would no longer be operational.

It would bring transparency to the taxation system as the consumers would not have to bear the brunt of multiple taxation, Purohit added.

CITY Assam CLP leader demands judicial probe

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 12: Assam Congress Legislative Party (ACLP) Leader Debabrata Saikia today demanded a judicial inquiry into the row over the Board of Secondary Education, Assam's (SEBA)'s grant of excessive grace marks to school final examinees.

Saikia alleged that Education Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had misled the State Assembly and the people on the issue or else, RTI applicants would have been able to get information on the SEBA unduly granting grace marks to raise the pass percentage.

He also hinted that there may be a link between the Education Minister's statement and the design of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) to make the State secondary education boards redundant and establish the sway of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) all over the country in a dominating manner. It is pertinent here that the Education Minister had declared some time back that he would facilitate migration of some schools to the CBSE from the SEBA, Saikia said.

The provision of grace marks prevails everywhere in the country. Every secondary education board – be it a State or a Central one – has been granting grace marks to help those who narrowly miss the pass marks in certain subjects, despite performing brilliantly in most of the subjects, to clear the school final examinations, claimed Saikia.

The allegation of the Education Minister that the SEBA is moderating results of the school final examination is also not based on facts. For, in a meeting held on April 24, 2017, by the Union Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry on secondary education, it was stat-

ed by the HRD Ministry officials that none of the NE Indian secondary education boards was found to be moderating results, Saikia said.

Referring to the fact that during the tenure of Himanta Biswa Sarma as the Education Minister in 2013, SEBA recorded the highest pass percentage of 70.73, Saikia said that the Education Minister gives an explanation to the people in this regard. The ACLP Leader expressed the fear that apprehending a drop in the High School Leaving Certificate (HSLC) examination pass percentage this time, the Education Minister may have taken recourse to the statements castigating SEBA on the grace marks issue.

Meanwhile, commenting on the rejection of the census motion the ACLP sought to move against Irrigation Minister Ranjith Dutta in the State Assembly. Saikia said that the ACLP sought to move the motion on the basis of the statement made by contractor Palash Ranjan Baru before a Class-J Civil Magistrate under Section 164 of the CrPC.

The Irrigation Department contractor stated that when he came to know that his file was lying in the Irrigation Minister's office, he wanted to meet the minister. But he was asked by the private secretary of the minister to meet the Secretary of the Department instead. And when the Secretary was met, he told the contractor to pay three per cent of the bill amount as commission to the minister.

Moreover, the arrested Secretary of the Department used to maintain a diary wherein information on the commissions is available, Saikia said, dismissing the statement of the Government in the matter as vague. This statement reflects the lack of commitment of the State Government towards eradicating corruption, said the ACLP Leader.



A procession being taken out by ESIC Model Hospital, Bellora, on the occasion of International Nurses Day, in Guwahati on Friday. - AT photo

SEBA grace marks issue

STAFF REPORTER

SPECIAL RECRUITMENT DRIVE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

PERSONAL RECORD

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Tele radiology centre opened
CORRESPONDENT

BISWANATH CHARIALI, May 12: A tele radiology centre was inaugurated at Biswanath Chariali subdivisional Civil Hospital on Thursday by Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal through video conferencing centrally from Kharagpur with Biswanath Deputy Commissioner, Asitaksha Chakravarty present at the centre here.

It will provide CT scan, X-ray and laboratory investigation service to the patients free of cost.

Relief distributed

CORRESPONDENT

HAFLONG, May 12: Ranjita Hazarika, Deputy Commissioner, Dima Hasao district distributed relief materials (tin and tarpaulin) to around 100 affected families of the recent heavy rain, cyclone and hailstorm of Retzawl, Doliadisa, Harangajao etc., at Retzawl area, Doliadisa on Tuesday.

OBITUARY

Sandhya Rani Saha



D I B R U R G A R H, May 12: Sandhya Rani Saha, a resident of Lower Ganga para, Dibrugarh, passed away on May 10, 2017. She was paralysed patient since last 7 years and in the time of her death she was 83, on the funeral held at Chowkidingi Swasanghat on the same day and more than 60 people were present.

She was loved and respected by the people of Gangapara for her amiable nature and leaves behind her elder son, daughter in law and a host of relatives and admirers.

Siva Buragohain
CORRESPONDENT

DHEMAMI, May 12: Siva Buragohain, science teacher of Bordhani Boys' ME School, a former cultural secretary of Aseem Jatiyabasi Yuba Chatra Parishad and an inhabitant of Dhemassi Jonaki Nagar died on May 8 at 8.30 pm following high blood pressure stroke. He was 53.

Born at Machikhowa Borban Gohagao in 1964, Siva Buragohain was associated with a lot of social and cultural organisations. He was selected as cultural secretary of AJYCP in 1992. Earlier, he had worked as the president of the Dhemassi district unit of the AJYCP.

Before being appointed as a teacher, Siva Buragohain had formed a self-help group at Dhemassi. He actively joined at Dhemassi. The Assam Agitation also.

Siva Buragohain's sudden death was deeply mourned at Dhemassi, Machikhowa and Bordhani.

He leaves behind his wife, a son, a daughter and a host of relatives.

Dr Nawab Miran Hadi Hussain: a tribute



My elder brother Dr Nawab Miran Hadi Hussain passed away on April 4, 2017 in a nursing home at Dibrugarh after a brief illness at the age of 75 leaving our close-knit family sad and devastated.

Mirankaka, as we called him, was the eldest amongst our seven brothers and sisters. Our father having died young when Miran Kaka was doing his ISc in Cotton College, the responsibility of looking after his widowed mother and younger siblings fell on his shoulders. Hence after completing MBBS from Assam Medical College in the late sixties, instead of opting for PG course, he joined a Warren Tea Garden near Dibrugarh as a Medical Officer so that his younger siblings could pursue higher studies with his support. As a medical officer in the tea gardens, my brother was quite successful and due to his dedication and easy going nature, he was loved by the Management and labourers alike. But his most notable achievement while in the service was perhaps to spearhead a stubborn campaign under banner of the All Assam Tea Garden Doctors

Association of which he was the founder Chairman and compelled the Indian Tea Association to confer executive status to the tea garden doctors. Until then, the graduate doctors (MBBS) joining tea gardens were given Babu (Clerk) status unlike the Engineering graduates, who were given executive status on joining as Asst Manager.

After successful elevation of the status of the tea doctors which benefited hundreds of doctors across the country, Dr Nawab Miran Hadi Hussain became a name quite familiar in the Tea Plantation Service and in IMA (Indian Medical Association). Later he was elected as the Chairman of the Plantation Doctors Committee Assam State Branch, IMA. He was also the Medical Coordinator, Assam Branch, Indian Tea Association. In IMA, he was State Committee Member since 1973 onwards. Central Committee Member for six years and has been the Senior Vice President, Assam State Branch. In recognition of his stellar service, Assam Branch of Indian Medical Association had given him the Life Time Achievement Award in the year 2011.

Besides IMA activities, he took keen interest in all sporting and cultural ac-

STATE Erosion hits many villages in Dhubri dist

CORRESPONDENT

DHUBRI, May 12: As the river erosion has intensified in various parts of Dhubri district, sufferings of the people living close to the rivers Brahmaputra and Gangadar have multiplied.

According to the officials of the State Water Resources (WR) Department, during this time of the year a massive erosion is seen in dozens of villages and a few towns of the district that are situated along the banks of the rivers. It was informed that the rate of erosion is very high in the Gangadar and

Brahmaputra rivers followed by the Gadadhar river flowing in the district. Although during the pre-monsoon season the rate of erosion is maximum, the destruction continues till the time the river is flooded and then later it stops after the monsoon is over.

According to them, it is tough to assume the accurate rate of erosion in the district as the destruction of the land varies from place to place.

However, the current situation along the banks of these rivers continues to remain grim as the erosion has washed away farmlands and

residential areas of hundreds of families making them homeless, landless and jobless at large. As per the reports of the WR Department, the erosion is the highest in Gangadar river, especially in the Tokerchar, Bahari, Jongbandha, Baladuha, Bhigaduli, Binnachara, Koinmar areas while significant erosion has also been observed in the areas near Golakganj town, Galkhowa etc.

The mighty Brahmaputra that flows through various parts of the district is also causing destruction near its banks significantly. As informed by the officials of the WR

Department, erosion caused by the Brahmaputra is the highest in New Ghat, Ironjonga, Howrarpur, Ganggija, Gaikhawa, Folmar, Gaspara and Fakirganj areas.

Although the Gadadhar river is considered less destructive compared to other rivers flowing through the district but according to officials erosion continues in Uzapanta and Madhyapur areas. Significant erosion has been recorded in the areas close to the villages near the Indo-Bangladesh borders of the district.

Meanwhile, talking to this cor-

respondent, the Executive Engineer of WR Department, Dhubri subdivision, Gautam Bora said that by proper implementation of schemes in the district, they have already stopped erosion at five most vulnerable places where the rate of erosion was very high. He said that by building embankments and placing porcupine structures at Moisa-Belgu, Pub Konani-Golakganj, few areas at Dhubri Town, Fakirganj and Hazirhat, they have been able to control the destruction caused by erosion significantly. He also added that although none of these works have been completed but it is ob-

structing the erosion caused by rivers in a big way.

"Only 80-90% of these schemes could be completed as only 10-30% of the bills were paid to the contractors. But even then it is yielding good results," said the Executive Engineer. He also added that for safeguarding the villages that need immediate attention, they have written to the higher authority. "We hope that the Government will provide us enough funds immediately so that we can do something constructive for the villages that are under the threat of being washed away."

Dagaon steel plant yet to see light of the day

ANN Service

GORESWAR, May 12:

With a dream to usher in infrastructure development in the vast Dagaon village area under Kamalpur LAC near Kamalpur Revenue Circle Office in Kamrup district (R), the foundation stone of the proposed steel plant project was laid jointly by the former Union Minister, Birendra Prasad Baishya with the then Chief Minister, Prafulla Kumar Mahanta way back in 1997.

The project sight is located about two kilometres away from National Highway-31 near Kamalpur high way chowk. The Steel Authority of India Limited

atly shown by the Government to complete the project.

On-the-spot verification revealed that various construction materials like pipes, trusses, joists and ceiling laths were gathering dust on the ground covered with heavy shrubs inside the campus. The public have once again urged the local MLAs Satyabrata Kakita of Kamalpur LAC and Bhabesh Kalita of Rangiya LAC and the Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal to take up the issue with the authorities concerned in the greater interest of socio-economic development of the people of Rangiya subdivision in Kamrup district (R).

National Technology Day observed at Haflong

CORRESPONDENT

HAFLONG, May 12: In association with the NC Hills Autonomous Higher Education Department, the Haflong-based 43 Assam Rifles organised the National Technology Day at Cultural Institute Hall with great enthusiasm on Thursday.

Executive Member, NC Hills Autonomous Council in charge Education Fleming

Spoke on the occasion, all the speakers addressing a huge gathering of students and teachers, suggested that there should be a desire among the people to know more and cre-

ate something which would go on and go on while simplifying the true meaning of technology.

Prof Renu Gupta in her speech explained the meaning of technology in a simple way.

Prof Gupta also appealed to the student community not to confine their talent only to the use of technology but also to create and to be inquisitive.

Col Pandey also appealed to the students to ask questions what they want to know.

Protest rally against anti-local attitude of corporate houses

CORRESPONDENT

BAIHATA CHARIALI,

May 12: Demanding cent per cent employment in private companies and industries in the State, the All Assam Minority Development Association (AAMDA) and Democratic Student Youth Forum (DSYF) on Thursday took out a protest rally at Bahiata Chariali against the anti-local attitude of the corporate groups regarding employment.

The protesters said that though the State Government had allotted 800 bighas

of land to Patanjali group expecting employment for at least 6000 unemployed youths of the State, but during the recruitment held last month it was seen that the authority of the Patanjali Ayurved Limited based at Ghoramara near Balipara of Sonitpur district deprived the local youths from approaching in the company.

Similarly, in case of other industries in the State, the owners of the corporate groups have been filling up almost all posts with candidates from outside the State depriving the indigenous un-

employed. These owners had assured cent per cent employment for indigenous people at the time of setting up of their industries.

The protesters alleged that the BJP-led State Government is working as an agent of corporate groups and warned the State Government not to do so in the interest of indigenous people.

Finally, the protesters submitted a memorandum consisting of nine-point charter of demands to the Chief Minister through the Circle Officer of Kamalpur Revenue Circle.



- Nawab Imdad Hussain Dignitaries at the inaugural function of the CT Scan machine at Dr Ravi Boro Civil Hospital, Moshalpur on Thursday. - UB Photos



Every woman will get her due respect and dignity

"You can imagine what happens to a mother's health in that home and how her children must be breathing with all that smoke." - Narendra Modi.

With the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, that will benefit 5 crore women belonging to below-poverty-line households.

Under this Scheme, State launch and distribution of LPG gas connection will be done by

SARBANANDA SONOWAL

Chief Minister of Assam

&

DHARMENDRA PRADHAN

Minister of State (Independent Charge), Petroleum and Natural Gas, Govt. of India

In the gracious presence of

RAJEN GOHAIN

Minister of State for Railways, Govt. of India

Dr. HIMANTA BISWA SARMA

Minister of Finance, Planning & Development, Health & Family Welfare, Education, Govt. of Assam

RIHON DAIMARI

Minister for Food, Civil Supply, Consumer Affairs and Public Health Engineering, Govt. of Assam

RAMESHWAR TELI

Member of Parliament, (Lok Sabha) Dibrugarh

PRASANTA PHUKAN

Member of Legislative Assembly, Dibrugarh, Assam

BINOD HAZARIKA

Member of Legislative Assembly, Chabua, Assam

TEROSH GOWALA

Member of Legislative Assembly, Dulijan, Assam

CHAKRADHAR GOGOI

Member of Legislative Assembly, Moran, Assam

◆ Venue: Chowkidinghee Field, Dibrugarh, Assam ◆

◆ Date: 13th May, 2017. Time: 10:30 A.M. ◆



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Hospital image for visualisation only



RAJIV GANDHI INSTITUTE OF PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY (RGIFT)
Assam Centre, Sivasagar

Bhumi Pujan of Multi Speciality Hospital Rajabari & Inauguration of construction work of temporary campus of RGIFT at Sivasagar on 13th May, 2017

by

SARBANANDA SONOWAL

Chief Minister, Assam

In august presence of

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Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha), Dibrugarh

KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA
Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha), Jorhat

KUSHAL DOWARI
Member of Legislative Assembly, Assam

PRADIP HAZARIKA
Member of Legislative Assembly, Assam

TAPAN GOGOI
Member of Legislative Assembly, Assam

JOGEN MOHAN
Member of Legislative Assembly, Assam

HITEN GOSWAMI
Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly

New women helpline portal launched in Shillong

SHILLONG, May 12: A new 'Women Helpline-181' portal was launched here on Friday.

"There are a huge number of cases where perpetrators get away without conviction because of lack of proper mechanism which has left victims helpless," Chairperson of Meghalaya State Commission for Women, Theinil Phambuh said while speaking at the event held to launch the portal.

Additional Chief Secretary H Marwein said that the helpline will go a long way in curbing sexual abuse and atrocities against women. - Newma News

Petrol pumps re-open

IMPHAL, May 12: Petrol pumps in the State capital here reopened on Friday following an agreement between the State Government and All Manipur Petrol Pump Dealers' Association.

Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Minister Karam Shyam said the decision was taken following an agreement between the Association and State Government. - Correspondent

Petrol adulteration racket busted

IMPHAL, May 12: A petrol adulteration racket was busted in Manipur by a combined team of Imphal West Police and Narcotic Cell yesterday.

The security team raided a brick kiln at Heikuriam Mamang Leikai under Nambol police station early morning of Thursday and seized 17,000 kilolitre of adulterated petrol.

SK oil, petrol and 'zero oil' were found to be mixed with some chemicals. Two water tanks of 5,000 litre capacity, four water tanks of 2,000 litre capacity and an iron tank were also seized from the brick kiln. A man was also apprehended from the spot. - Newma News

Himai Paoki fest celebrated

PURUL (Manipur), May 12: Himai Paoki, the annual paddy plantation festival, one of the most significant festivals of the Poumai community was observed at this picturesque hill village in Senapati district from May 8 to 10. Traditional wrestling was held on the second day of the festival on Tuesday. Purul wrestlers bagged the winner's title. - Correspondent

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At 10.30 am - SARKAR-3 (Hindi)
At 10.30 am - SARKAR-2 (Hindi)

GUARDIAN MALL - GULAKY 2 (3D)

At 1.00 pm - SARKAR-3 (Hindi)
At 3.30 pm - SARKAR-2 (Hindi)

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BAHAJALI-2, THE CONCLUSION

At 10.30 am - SARKAR-2 (Hindi)

GUARDIAN MALL - GULAKY 2 (3D)

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Digital Picture & Dolby Sound Centrally Air Conditioned & Private Seats

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Royal Family, Advance Bookings

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Reserve: Rs. 40/-

Free parking facility available

Meghalaya Dy CM releases disaster management plan

SHILLONG, May 12: With Meghalaya, a State disaster management plan which focused on preparedness and mitigation during disaster, was today released by Deputy Chief Minister RC Laloo.

The plan was derived in consultation with National Disaster Management Authority, various government departments, stakeholders, civil societies, by focusing on preparedness and mitigation during disasters, Laloo said during the release of the plan at a one-day incidence response system (IRS) training.

He expressed the hope that the State Incidence Response Team will collectively take the responsibility to generate awareness among the public on how to deal in the event of disasters.

In his speech, Chief Secretary KS Kropho reminded the meeting of the great devastation from the two major quakes of 1897 and 1950 and other natu-

ral disasters which have been witnessed in recent years.

"As time goes by we see high rise buildings towering in every nook and corner of the State and this put people's lives and properties at a higher risk," he said.

As we sit in the highest seismic zone, we need to be prepared to overcome the challenges in the event of disasters, the Chief Secretary opined even as the State has come up with the building byelaws and State Disaster Plan to confront with challenges arising from natural disasters.

He said that proper and organised mechanism system needs to be put in place so that we are prepared to deal with all kinds of disasters and that preparedness is the need of the hour. - PTI



Students visiting The Assam Tribune Edufair at All Saints Hall in Shillong on Friday. - AT Photo

Arunachal Assembly passes GST bill

ITANAGAR, May 12: Arunachal Pradesh became the 12th state in the country and second in North East after Assam, to ratify the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Bill.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu introduced the Arunachal Pradesh Goods and Services Tax Bill, 2017 during a day-long special session of the newly constructed Assembly, in the Assembly.

Khandu while summing up the discussion said that consuming States like Arunachal Pradesh would benefit from the landmark tax regime.

He appealed Prime Minister Narendra Modi for bringing in an investment-friendly tax reform that would be of immense benefit to Arunachal Pradesh.

"GST will remove a complex tax structure and lead to decrease in prices of commodities," he said.

Once GST is implemented, all entry gates erected across party lines while par-

ticipating in the discussions supported the Bill saying that it is aimed at 'One nation one tax', which would benefit the State immensely.

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Khandu while sum

India's April WPI falls to 3.85%

NEW DELHI, May 12: India's annual rate of inflation based on wholesale prices decelerated last month to 3.85 per cent from 5.29 per cent reported for March, as prices of food, fuel and manufactured products eased, official data showed today.

The Government revised the base year of wholesale price index (WPI) and index of industrial production (IIP) to 2011-12 from 2004-05, it was announced here today.

WPI has been changed six times so far since 1942 and this happens to be the 7th revision.

"The new series of WPI will provide a more accurate pic-

ture," Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion Secretary Ramesh Abhishek said at a press conference here.

A significant change in WPI new series is that prices used

for compilation do not include indirect taxes in order to remove the impact of fiscal policy, he said.

The IIP base year has also been changed to ensure that it remains most relevant in the years that it is operational. Chief Statistician of India TCA Ananth said at the joint briefing.

"The objective is to converge more in line with the current consumption and production pattern of the country," he said, adding that the DIPP and Ministry Of Statistics and Programme Implementation coordinated closely for the change. — IANS

Retail inflation down 2.99%

NEW DELHI, May 12: India's retail inflation decelerated to 2.99 per cent last month from 3.89 per cent for March as food prices reported a massive plunge, official data showed today.

According to data furnished by the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, last month's retail inflation rate, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), was lower from 3.47 per cent recorded during April last year.

The Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) during the month under review plunged to 0.61 per cent, as compared to 2.01 per cent in March.

Central Statistics Office data revealed that the annual retail inflation for rural India was 3.02 per cent, while that for the urban centres was 3.03 per cent. — IANS

CAPSULE

ArcelorMittal

NEW DELHI/LONDON, May 12: India's largest steelmaker ArcelorMittal today reported a net profit of USD 1 billion for the quarter-ended March 31, 2017, but reported a rise in net debt to USD 12.1 billion during the period. — PTI

Dr Reddy's Lab
NEW DELHI, May 12: Dr Reddy's Laboratories today reported a near three-fold jump in consolidated net profit to Rs 337.6 crore for the fourth quarter-ended March 31, 2017. — PTI

Vijaya Bank

COMBATORE, May 12: Public sector Vijaya Bank would be raising Rs 1,000 crore capital from the market, though it has adequate capital compared to other banks, a top bank official said today. — PTI

UltraTech

NEW DELHI, May 12: Aditya Birda Group firm UltraTech Cement today said it has commissioned a slag cement manufacturing capacity at Patipatua in Bihar. — PTI

Century Textiles

NEW DELHI, May 12: Century Textiles and Industries Ltd today posted a net profit of Rs 36.83 crore for the fourth quarter-ended on March 31, 2017. — PTI

Merck decision
BENGALURU, May 12: Merck, a leading science and technology company in healthcare, life science and performance material, today announced its M Lab Collaboration Center in Bengaluru. — PTI

Tata Motors

KOLKATA, May 12: Leading automobile manufacturer Tata Motors Limited today said that the company was leading itself for compliance to the Bharat Stage-VI (BS-VI) emission norms scheduled to come into effect from 2020. — PTI

Godrej Prop

NEW DELHI, May 12: Realty firm Godrej Properties sales bookings dropped by 60 per cent last fiscal to Rs 2,020 crore due to the sluggish real estate market. — PTI

Disha Microfin

MUMBAI, May 12: Disha Microfin, part of the financial inclusion platform Fincare, today said it has received the final license from the Reserve Bank of India to operate as a small finance bank. — PTI

Aditya Birla

NEW DELHI, May 12: Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail (ABFRL), formerly known as Pantaloons Fashion, today reported a net profit of Rs 21.83 crore on standalone basis for the fourth quarter ended March 31, 2017. — PTI

Rel Infra

NEW DELHI, May 12: Shares of Reliance Infrastructure today rose by nearly 3 per cent after an independent director awarded it some compensation of Rs 2,950 crore for a Delhi metro project. — PTI

Uno Mindia

NEW DELHI, May 12: Auto-component maker Uno Mindia Group has tied up with Microsoft India to offer connected vehicle technologies for the automotive industry. — PTI

Multifaceted web platform launched

SPL CORRESPONDENT

launched the website at a function held this evening.

Addressing a press conference, Bhuyan said the best feature of the North East for providing best of services and products online; khababhi.com, a multifaceted web platform was launched here today.

Khababhi is first of its kind to provide a wide array of products for people of Assam living in various parts of the country. Delhi-based entrepreneur Bharagy Bhushan Bhuyan, who is also the proprietor of khababhi.com

will be accomplished only when the rural population of India will have a pie of it. That's why khababhi.com has vowed to provide a hassle-free shopping experience to its customers, and it will also deliver products in even the remotest areas of Assam, said Bhuyan.

In order to provide 100 per cent product delivery, Khababhi has set up small hubs all over Assam. These hubs are known as Khababhi points and they will serve as collection and delivery points for various products, added Bhuyan.

During the first session on 'Issues, Challenges and Opportunities for Start-ups', Dr Jatinder Singh, senior secretary of PHD Chamber said their organisation had taken initiative in start-up schemes in all the States of India, but pri-

marily in the northern region.

He also said that PHD, NER is setting up offices for imparting training on start-ups.

Many Kumar Das of the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Guwahati spoke about building a start-up. He also mentioned about various problems faced during the initial stages and provided solutions.

The programme was at-

tended by existing and upcoming entrepreneurs, besides start-up company representatives from banking and financial institutions.

During the second session on

the topic, 'Hitting the Bull's Eye - How to Prepare and Pitch Before Investors', Siddhartha P Lahkar, Assistant Director of NEDFi spoke about NEVE,

which is a dedicated venture fund introduced by NEDFi with a total corpus of Rs 100 crore.

Debu Kumar Barman, Di-

rector of J14 chain of restau-

rants, offered a very motiva-

tional speech on starting a new

Concerted bid on to tackle bad loans

NEW DELHI, May 12: Fitch Ratings today said Indian authorities are making a more concerted push to clean up bad loans in the banking sector, but the move would impinge on banks' profitability in the short term.

It said that asset resolution would be a dominant theme in the sector over the next few years and further losses must some weaker banks closer to breaching minimum capital requirements unless they receive pre-emptive capital injections.

"Recent regulatory action in India suggest that the authorities are making a more concerted push to tackle banks' bad loan problems.

"In the short term, this is likely to create provisioning costs

that will mean continued pressure on bank profits," Fitch said.

Moreover, the clean-up exercise undertaken by the Government may bring about con-

cerns regarding the solvency of State banks, will fall in the medium term," it said.

Banks are stranded with anywhere between Rs 9 lakh crore

and Rs 12 lakh crore of stressed assets — made up of bad loans, restructured debt and advances to companies that cannot meet their obligations.

The Government earlier this month through an ordinance amended law to give powers to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to order banks

to initiate insolvency proceedings against defaulters and create committees to advise them on recovering NPAs.

The increased powers given to the RBI to clean up asset quality, and to intervene at an early stage when risks build, represents an "important positive step" toward ensuring a healthy banking system in the future, Fitch said.

"RBI direction that pushes banks into initiating insolvency processes against borrowers could help to break a deadlock caused by concerns among bank officials that decisions on troubled borrowers will attract investigation by anti-corruption agencies," the US-based agency said. — PTI



Rajpal Duggal, Group President, Corporate Strategy and Retail Business of Oxigen Services addressing the media on strategy initiative in Lucknow, on Friday. — UPI

Workshop on Start-up Master Class

GUWAHATI, May 12: PHD

Chamber and KAS (Konrad

Adenauer Stiftung) jointly or-

ganised a workshop on 'Start-

up Master Class' at the North

East Development Finance

Corporation Limited (NEDFi)

campus here at Dispur today, a press release stated.

The programme was at-

tended by a good eco sys-

tem which can be achieved by

proper planning and coordina-

tion. He called upon the audi-

ence to come forward as the

Government is focusing on de-

velopment of the NE region.

During the second session on

the topic, 'Hitting the Bull's Eye

- How to Prepare and Pitch

Before Investors', Siddhartha

P Lahkar, Assistant Director of

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tional speech on starting a new



Pushan Mahapatra, MD & CEO of SBI General Insurance addressing a press conference in Guwahati, on Friday. — AT photo

Anti-dumping duty on 47 steel products

NEW DELHI, May 12: India has imposed anti-dumping duty on 47 steel products from half-a-dozen nations, including China, Japan, Korea, Russia and Indonesia, to protect domestic industry from cheap imports.

Anti-dumping duty has been imposed for five years on 47 steel products, including hot-rolled flat products of iron and steel and those coated with zinc or clad steel.

An official notification issued yesterday stated that the anti-dumping duty will be in effect for

five years beginning August 8,

2016. The duties are in the range

of USD 475-561 per tonne.

It said the Directorate of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) has found in its investigation that the subject goods have been exported to India at below their normal value, thus resulting in dumping of the product. This has resulted in "material injury" to domestic industry, it said, and recommended "imposition of definitive anti-dumping duty on

the imports of subject goods."

The duty has been levied on hot-rolled flat products of alloy or non-alloy steel, originating in or exported from China, Japan, Korea, Russia and Indonesia, the notification said.

Companies affected by the

includes Hyundai Steel,

POSCO and Samsung C&T of South Korea, while Japan's

Honda Trading Corp, Mitsui &

Co Ltd, Utama Galva Interna-

tional, Nippon Steel, Sumitomo

Corp, Toyota Tsusho Corp and

Marubeni-Itochu Steel would

also come under its purview.

From China, the companies

to be impacted include Jiangsu

Shuangqin Xinsha Interna-

tional, Binwell Resources, Li Qin,

GS Global and Steeko Pacific.

India had imposed provisional

anti-dumping duty on the steel

products with effect from August

8, 2016 for six months. They

were extended by two months

in February. The same are now

being regularised and levied for

a five-year period. — PTI

Indian equities slip on profit booking

MUMBAI, May 12: Profit book-
ing after four consecutive sessions
of gains pulled the Indian equity

markets lower today.

Besides, market observers pointed out, investors were cautious ahead of the release of the new series of Wholesale Price Index (WPI), Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Index of Industrial Production (IIP) data with the revised base year of 2011-12, which are slated to be released later in the evening.

Sentiments were also hampered by global cues and heavy selling pressure in banking, consumer durables and healthcare stocks.

The wider 51-share Nifty of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) fell by 21.50 points or 0.23 per cent to close at 9,400.90 points.

The barometer 30-share Sensitive Index (Sensex) of the BSE, which opened at 30,285.51 points, closed at 30,188.15 points down 62.83

points or 0.21 per cent from its previous close at 30,250.98 points.

The Sensex touched a high of 30,299.74 points and a low of 30,111.45 points during the intra-day trade.

The BSE market breadth was bearish, with 1,784 declines and 993 advances. In terms of the broader markets, the S&P BSE mid-cap index fell by 0.69 per cent and the small-cap index by 0.80 per cent.

"The markets ended with marginal losses today on day-to-day basis," said a report of the BSE's NPA classification, and investors may be seeing this as a warning that there could be more such diver-

gences over bad loan estimates."

"Skymet's warning of weak monsoon also served to put brakes on recent rallies, as much of the momentum was built on IMD's forecast for normal monsoons. This would mean that inflation numbers scheduled later in the day assumed more significance, especially since there is a base year change."

On the currency front, the rupee strengthened by eight paise to 64.30 per US dollar from its previous close of 64.38.

In investments, provisional data with the exchanges showed that foreign institutional investors (FIIs) purchased stocks worth Rs 841.80 crore, while domestic institutional investors (DIIs) divested scrip worth Rs 710.83 crore.

Dhruv Desai, Director and Chief

Operating Officer of Tradebulls,

said the equity benchmark Index CNX Nifty (futures) traded with bearish

sentiments tracking mixed global

cues and profit booking.

"IT sector stocks outperformed the bearishness of the Indian equity markets on strong buying support. However, shares of Glenmark Phar-

macaceuticals plunged as much as

16.50 per cent and registered their

biggest intra-day fall in seven years

after the company reported lower

than expected financial results for

the quarter ended March 31, 2017,"

Desi said this news agency.

Secondly, the S&P BSE bank-

ing index fell by 231.74 points, fol-

lowed by the consumer durables

index by 158.56 points and the

healthcare index by 99.27 points.

On the other hand, the S&P BSE

IT index rose by 115.05 points, the

Teck (technology, media and enter-

tainment) index by 38.03 points and

the automobile index by 26.85 points.

Major Sensex gainers today were:

Infosys, up 2.12 per cent at Rs 963.90;

Hero MotoCorp, up 2.11 per cent at Rs 3,563.95; Cipla, up 1 per cent at Rs 566.60; Sun Pharma, up 0.81 per cent at Rs 653.60; and Tata Motors, up 0.70 per cent at Rs 430.40.

Major Sensex losers were:

Asian Paints, down 3.04 per cent at Rs 1,132.30; Axis Bank, down 2.80 per cent at Rs 502.60; ICICI Bank, down

1.23 per cent at Rs 296.65; Adani Ports, down 1.28 per cent at Rs 354.65; and HDFC, down 0.96 per cent at Rs 1,546.70. — IANS

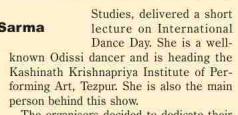
I danced from the moment I could stand.
— Anna Pavlova

Yes, I believe that anybody can dance. Dance is a powerful confluence of feelings. It is the bridge between the souls and the eternal world. To celebrate this art form, the International Dance Day was introduced in 1982 by the International Dance Council (CID, Conseil International De La Danse), a UNESCO partner NGO, and is celebrated yearly, on April 29, the world over.

Tezpur is known as the cultural hub of Assam. This time, in Tezpur, three renowned organisations of the region – Saptaswa – the rays of performing art, Nrityashala (Kashinath Krishnapriya Institute of Performing Art – KKIPA) Binapani Kala Niketan and Jyoti Kendra Sangeet Mahavidyalaya – came together to celebrate the 'International Dance Day' at the prestigious Baan Theatre, Tezpur. The name of the programme was 'Jagat Nrityata'.

Some of the best classical dances were showcased that evening. The cultural evening commenced with the lighting of the lamp by Gopal Krishna Goswami, a distinguished Satyagraha guru, with a brief lecture. In his speech, he said that Lord Shiva is the *Ashad gura* of Indian classical dance and also summarised the Natyashastra. The organisers felicitated the renowned Guru of Tezpur, Shanti Shankar Das Gupta. After that, Dr Madhurima Goswami, head of the Chandraprapha Saikiani Centre for Women

Jintu Sarma



Studies, delivered a short lecture on International Dance Day. She is a well-known Odissi dancer and is heading the Kashinath Krishnapriya Institute of Performing Art, Tezpur. She is also the main person behind this show.

The organisers decided to dedicate their performances to Lord Krishna. The performance started with a *Shanti mantra*, performed by Dr Pratibha Sharma (the general secretary of Saptaswa), Mayaram Bora (general secretary of Nrityashala), Irani Mahanta and Sagarika Baruah (teachers of the Jyoti Kala

Kendra Sangeet Mahavidyalaya). They successfully created a deeply devotional ambience with their rhythmic movements. Next, a heart-warming Satyagraha recital was presented by the students of Saptaswa, along with its founder, the *Isha Vandana*, which was presented by Dr Pratibha Sharma with such grace, devotion and sensitive expressions, was followed by *Krishna Leela*, choreographed by Dr Sharma herself. It was a beautiful presentation of the different *Leelas* of Lord Krishna like – Agnashura *Baddha*, Bokasura *Baddha*, Kansa *Baddha*, Govardhan *Leela* and Kalia *Daman*. The group members comprised of Meghmaliha Bora,

Swati Bayan, Namrata Gogoi, Samriti Bora, Jyotsmita Patangia and Kristina Puja.

This was followed by an Odissi dance recital by an artiste of Nrityashala (KKIPA), on a *Gedabhinava* of Mahadev Jayadeva, under the guidance of Dr Madhurima Goswami, where the *Raus Leela* of Lord Krishna was described. The group members – Mayaram Bora, Uttara Kalita, Juh Bezarbar, Vishal Dawka, Ambika Tula, Debarathi Saha and Plabama Mahanta did a splendid job.

After that, a *bhajan* in Kathak form was presented by the teachers and students of the Jyoti Kendra Sangeet Mahavidyalaya,

followed by a *tarana*, choreographed by Prekona Baishya and Irani Mahanta. The dancers were Prekona Baishya, Irani Mahanta, Vidisha Saha, Gayatri Biswakarma and Bhargabi Gogoi, and their performance was highly appreciated.

Next was a Bharatnatyam recital by the students of the Jyoti Kendra Sangeet Mahavidyalaya, choreographed by Sonali Sarkar, a senior Bharatnatyam artiste of the region. They presented the *sabdam*, which is the literary and *abhinaya* rich part. Here, the dancers described the beauty and glory of Lord Krishna. The dancers were Debarathi Saha, Sanchita Das, Priyashree Kar, Sonia Singh and Rituparna Gupti.

The last performance of the evening was an extremely beautiful composition. All the dancers of the four different dance forms danced together on the same piece of music, sharing the stage. They performed on a theme – that the human heart keeps searching for fulfillment in the worldly objects. Along with their joyous hearts, everything else around them – the flowers, birds, the wind, seemed to be dancing and singing. But all this joy comes from the ultimate companion – Lord Krishna. This kind of a fusion in classical dances is very rare.

A painting competition was also conducted that morning at the same venue, on the theme of dance, under the aegis of Bapdhan Kalita, general secretary of the Binapani Kala Niketan. About 25 students participated in the competition, and prizes and certificates were distributed after the dance performances.

Bringing laurels

Two young directors have made the State of Assam proud by bagging a national award in the recently declared 64th National Film Awards, which was ceremoniously given away at a glittering function held at the national capital this month. *Sikar Aar Sitkar* – a short documentary film made on the ongoing mayhem regarding the one-horned rhino was selected for the special mention award in the non-feature film category, which was declared and conferred recently. Produced under the banner of Namdang, the documentary has been directed by Romen Borah and Sibanu Borah. The director duo received the award in the presence of Honourable President of India



Dibyendu Goswami

at the glittering function held at the national capital.

Hailing from Guwahati and engaged in the entertainment sector for several years, the director duo often takes out time to indulge in some creative work of their own in the pursuit of their passion for filmmaking. Says Ramen Borah – "We are lucky enough that a producer has come forward to finance our project since these productions hardly get any return benefits, unlike feature films. Moreover, probably since the subject concerns the ecology of Assam, we received positive responses from all quarters." A name to reckon with in the editorial desk of electronic and visual media, the ace documentary filmmaker has earlier gained recognition for his works such as the Prag Cine Award for best editing in *Dwarak*.

Starting his career as a cine journalist, Sibanu Borah has produced documentaries and has been long associated with all genres of the entertainment industry. He is a recipient of the Prag Cine Award for best editing in *Dwarak*.

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(dibyendugoswami21@gmail.com)

Awards for Abdul Mazid and Bhaba Prasad Chaliha

As in previous years, the All Assam Goraya Yuva Chakra Parishad has announced awards to eminent personalities for their contribution to Assamese art and culture. Accordingly, the Zikir Samrat Rekhudin Ahmed Memorial Award, 2017, will be given to Bhaba Prasad Chaliha, educationist and writer who has a number of research-based books on Satyagraha culture to his credit.



Abdul Mazid, the veteran actor-director, will be awarded with the Dada Fakir Sahab (pioneer of *Zari Geet*) award for his contribution to Assamese films and theatre. The awards will be handed over at the forthcoming annual function of the Parishad to be held on May 19-20. The awards will carry a citation, a *sorai*, a *cheleng* and cash. The All Assam Zikir-Zari Competition will also be held on the occasion of the anniversary of the Parishad.

Tanushree Hazarika honoured at National Awards

The 64th National Film Awards were presented by the President of India Pranab Mukherjee at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, recently. The main award ceremony was preceded by a separate ceremony at the same venue where the juries for the 64th National Film Awards were honoured for their association with the film award in presence of all the awardees. It is a matter of great pride that Assam's Tanushree Hazarika, Festival Director of the Brahmaputra Valley Film Festival was also part of the 30-member jury to select the best of Indian feature films. She received a certificate in Delhi from M Venkaih Naidu, Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India and Col. Rajayardhan Rathore, Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting in appreciation of the time and effort given as jury member.



North East Vision's 'Sanskritik Sangam'

North East Vision (NEV), a premier socio-educational organisation, is going to hold a programme titled 'Sanskritik Sangam-2017' from May 23 to 28 at the District Library, Guwahati. About 20 cultural troupes from West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand,

Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, Gujarat, Odisha and Punjab, etc., will take part in the programme. Dance competitions on Kathak, Sattriya, Bharatnatyam, Odishi, Manipuri, semi-classical, modern creative and folk dance will be held on the occasion.

The music competitions will include classical, light classical, *bhajan*, *ghazal*, *Borgat*, folk song, film song and patriotic song. The six-day programme will also include a drama competition. Interested participants may submit their names before May 15.

Readers are hereby invited to contribute original articles related to culture of the North-East (film, music, drama, etc.) along with photographs. They may be e-mailed to cultural@assamtribune.com.

– Features Editor

Existential questions

Mrimmoy Das, a Delhi-based artist hailing from Guwahati, showcased a large number of works at the Gauhati Artists' Guild Gallery, earlier this week. Like his previous exhibition, which was mounted at the same gallery about a year back, in this show too, the majority of exhibits are pen-and-ink drawings, a sizeable number of them are acrylics, while he has also displayed mixed media varieties and a couple of installations.

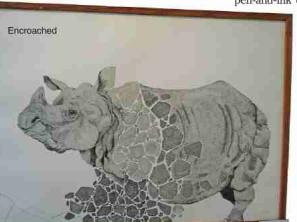
Mrimmoy works as a curator in the Sanskriti Museums, New Delhi.

Mrimmoy's compositions make it clear that while his objects are rendered in realistic or semi-realistic mode, his thought process is essentially abstract. One work that exemplifies his approach is the pen-and-ink drawing with the title *Encroached*. Here, he shows the side view of a rhino, and a mosaic of patches of irregular shape 'encroaching' its body. The whole arrangement carries multiple symbolisms. The central object denotes not just the animal under constant threat of being decimated by poachers, being a mascot of Assam itself, its people, its composite culture and customs – where there has been an undercurrent of existential fears due to a slow and stealthy external aggression. So, apart from territorial or geographical encroachments, the rhino may also signify environmental, social or cultural invasion, depending upon the perspective of the viewer.

Another work that can serve up as an example of his style is the pen-and-ink drawing titled 'King, He

Was'. It shows the bust of a king atop a bicycle, and the title may at once remind one of the phrase 'riches to rags'. The work certainly is not limited to such a straightforward meaning, though the varied implications it contains can be condensed to this basic metaphor. It is no coincidence

artsCAPE
DEBASHISH BEZBARUAH



that the king shown in this work has tribal attributes; therefore, it may act as a pointer to the cultural-ethnic-social-political questions that concern many parts of the globe today.

If these are seen in the context of other works, like *Syria It was, Migration Also, My Land (I and II), Disappearance*, etc., a more comprehensive idea about Mrimmoy's concept takes shape in our mind. Mrimmoy refers to his concept as 'People, Origin and Place' – which is laid in the backdrop of the current turmoil witnessed across the world, not excluding our region, beset with similar problems.

A couple of pen-and-inks deal with the spatial arrangement of geometric shapes and the abstract 'conversation' among them. By no means intended

to be Futurist in spirit, these drawings do create a pleasurable effect through the interaction between the space and three-dimensional volume the objects seem to create.

In a series of his abstract works, we find colours being guided to a large extent on the surface. Working with measured freedom, he achieves the desired effect reasonably well, pepping up the composition with pointy sunrises on the surface. At times, he adds pen-and-ink objects into the scheme

of things to devise another visual orientation. In some other works, which are essentially elevated drawings, Mrimmoy creates utterly simplified imagery with bold lines and curves made with black paint. The images that these works comprise have been vigorously abstracted, leaving little chance of tracing their original form.

Mrimmoy's drawings are built up meticulously. And his pen-and-inks have an unusual appearance, thanks to tens of thousands of tiny coils he uses to conjure up his objects, instead of dots, lines or web of strokes that we normally find in pen-and-ink works. This style is not meant to tally with his concept, though it does create an identifiable trait for his art, along with the large areas of white space that he leaves out on the surface and around the objects. He has also made some interesting media combinations, which create an entwined visual-mental effect on the viewer. Mrimmoy's well thought out installations, on the other hand, give another dimension to his show, which came to a close on Thursday.

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Shah Rukh Khan's next is a war film

Shah Rukh Khan, under his banner Red Chillies Entertainment, is working on a script about the courage and heroes of Indian Army and Air Force. The script in question is based on one of India's most successful missions, 'Operation Khukri', in Sierra Leone, in 2000.

While it is not known whether Shah Rukh Khan will play a role in the film as the reports suggest, the script is still being worked on and the cast will be finalised later.

Talking about the film, the scriptwriter stated, "It has been researched extensively and will be mounted on a really large scale. It will be a true depiction of a massive military operation and will celebrate our heroes. The director and cast are being finalised, the film will roll later this year."



Overcoming odds



These are the days of motivational writers and spiritual healers. The magnanimity of their work is absolutely unquestionable, though their ever-increasing popularity in recent years does speak of a glaring paradox.

Dr Darshana Goswami

of our time that a period of plenty has not overcome its recurring spells of void. To put in simple words, the job of the motivational writer is to make us feel good about life. To those who think that they are trudging uphill, pushing a boulder like the mythical Sisyphus, or rolling down into a bottomless abyss, these writers and healers come up as rescuers. Charged with inspiration, their words assure that life is not tedious as some think it to be; instead, life is worth taking up the challenges that come one's way.

Back home, in Assam, widely acclaimed writer Assam Borgohain set the trend for writing motivational pieces almost three decades ago, and he is still full of zeal and

vigour when it comes to inspiring a soulful being. Borgohain's non-fictional writings, including life writings or essays on social issues, reflective writings or personal anecdotes—all of them have this recurring concern of overcoming the odds of life. Perhaps, life's harsh and bitter truths loom large enough at the back of his mind and the same concerns creep into his writing, directly or indirectly, consciously or unconsciously, but never, of course, irrelevantly. In essays like *Nairasya, Naisarga ar Jantrona* and *Mrityu*, he draws instances of the great achievers, while in *Karmajug*, he talks mostly about self-motivation. The purpose of his *Biswas aru Sonsay* is two-fold – while one dwells on the awe-inspiring beauty of Nature that makes a man fall in love with life, the other insists on 'work' as the only way to fill the inevitable void of life.

In Borgohain's writings, one notices a fascination for the lives and works of those extraordinarily gifted individuals of the western world who contributed to the rapid changes in civi-

lisation, from the Renaissance down to the modern age. The bare fact he underscores about the lives of these people is that though they were born with extraordinary talent, their lives were made miserable by unnamable sufferings.

In Borgohain's writing, there is a deep understanding of the piercing sense of helplessness that every individual may experience at the crossroads of life, especially the angst and pangs of those who are only 'half-talented'; there is also this acknowledgement of the fact that not each of us is born a genius. And, as no word of consolation can undo this truth, it is pointless to waste one's tears over it.

Even the autobiography of Homon Borgohain titled – *Almanasundaran* (1988) can be read as a motivational piece of writing – though it is meant to be the speaker's ceaseless dialogue with his own self, the words used to inspire him do motivate the readers with equal intensity. While deriving inspiration from the lives of the great achievers, Borgohain does not write off the importance of self-motivation. Borgohain sets a fine balance

between the stories of his own life and the success stories of others. For there cannot be just a set formula of 'how to succeed'.

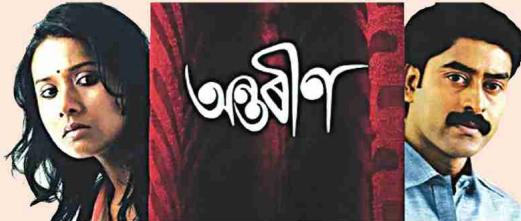
Feeling one with Nature can be a thrilling source of inspiration, Borgohain suggests. In his autobiography and a number of essays, he mentions how the beauty of Nature can be so intoxicating as to make us feel the *joié de vivre* of life. He believes that when Nature expands her consciousness to a higher aspect of awakening, it becomes a pilgrimage of self-discovery.

Borgohain's motivational word bespeaks an essential truth that all success stories are not "rags to riches" stories. In his book *Uchokonkha*, Borgohain speaks at length about many sides of success and happiness. For some people, happiness is limited to their own lives alone; some are happy by helping people, while some are happy only by seeing others happy. Borgohain firmly remembers one of his school teachers, for whom happiness meant reaching out to people who needed support and encouragement. *Uchokonkha* or ambition is all about raising one's self-esteem and personal aspirations and Borgohain states that they are not achievable without honesty and emotional control.

Now, the inevitable question is, where does one find the endless energy to inspire others? Borgohain admits that he had developed the habit of writing inspirational words on the walls of his living room and has stuck to it over the decades – new words regularly replacing the old ones. He says that though this may sound like a bit dramatic, these words make miracles happen if we can truly imbibe them in us while reading our lonely path. And, therefore, he writes, "I shall either find a way or make one. *Aud inveniam viam aut faciam.*"

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Torali's trials



Art is the lie that enables us to realize the truth.
— Pablo Picasso

Women have been subjected to societal torture in the name of tradition for ages. The subjugation continues in every sphere of their lives, including their families as well. Monjil Barua's *Antareen* challenges all the odds by defying the track which describes the role of women in films as merely supporting the men. It is a movie that everyone must watch as to take away something that will help us ensure that our girls become strong women. After all, life imitates art and *Antareen* is that finely crafted and evocative piece of art which enables us to realise the truth.

An adaptation of eminent litterateur Dr Rita Chowdhury's story, *Antareen* is the story of Torali,

whose life is a quest for sanctuary from her father's loveless world and how the intent to recover her father's transgression gets her trapped in a mental asylum. In that very trap, she finds Dr Samiran, who takes up her fight against the wrongs of a patriarchal world. It's not the most unique premise, but director Monjil Barua, who has also written the screenplay, takes the story in unexpected directions, avoiding clichés and handling the subject matter with surprising grace.

The first few minutes of a movie can really make or break the rest of the film. Therefore, it's the job of the filmmaker to paint the picture of the world we are about to enter and director Monjil Barua is successful in doing so as he opens the movie with a brief visual description of the characters – Dr Samiran and Dr Pradipita. While Dr Samiran seems to be searching for the inexplicable, Dr Pradipita appears

as Grandmaster Flash use multiple-deck record players to cut from one record to another with speed and dexterity, manipulating the turntables to create scratching sounds on the vinyl. As these techniques became absorbed into the emergent rap/hop scene, the DJ became a performer in his, or her, own right. The arrival of cable and satellite television increased the demand for colourful presenters, and many DJs have become so-called VJs, video jockeys.

E-mail your questions with answers to: coloseum@assamtribune.com or post at: THE COLOSEUM, Mosaic, Saturday Supplement, The Assam Tribune, Guwahati-781003 or SMS at: 9864102417. Send your name in each SMS.

harmonisers

From Adish Agarwalla, Moranhat –
2) There are two styles of Kathak. If the Jaipur *Gharana* is one, what is the other?
3) *Ficus religiosa* is the scientific name of which tree?
4) It is known as *Adumina* in Tamil Nadu and *Kalarippayadi* in Kerala. What ancient tradition is this?

to be consumed by guilt and remorse. Once the story reveals itself, *Antareen* expresses itself as a delicate and emotional movie. With an astonishingly clever screenplay, *Antareen* cuts back and forth in time to give us a real understanding of what was and what is. It builds our empathy by allowing us sufficient time to connect with the past and the present of the characters. Despite treading some familiar territory, Barua steers *Antareen*, which proves itself as a brilliantly executed and sharply written gem, to a quietly moving conclusion.

Produced by Manabendra Adhikary under the banner of Artha Films, *Antareen* is a study of psychology and grief which is sober and yet a profoundly stirring composition of family, affection, identity and love, which weaves throughout the course of its entire running time. The trump card of the movie is the performances by the actors, backed by the reflective music of Tarali Sarma and Debojit Chatterjee. Arun Nath, Boloram Das, Debabrata Borukhur, Mayukh Sarma, Himanshu Prasad Das, Praanami Borah, Apurba Dutta Choudhury, Jolly Laskha, Kinkartha, Seema Baruah, Julie Ekka, Malu Guswani, Bhobonil Bhuyan, Purnada, Sajau and Kadambam. *Antareen* is beautifully shot by Sunom Dowerah and the art direction is credited to Anup Hazarika and Rama Roy. Winner of the Best Feature Film award at the 3rd Indian Cine Film Festival in Mumbai, in 2015, *Antareen* is a must-watch for cine lovers.

(666kalpa@gmail.com)

the colosseum

■ Neelopal Deka

side screen

- 1) **Picture Clue:** What is special about this stamp launched by India Post in 2017? (Shajid Khan, Hospital Road, Tangla)



- 5) If Jaipur is called the 'Pink City', which city in Rajasthan is called the 'Blue City'?

unities

- From Tushu Das, Dimapur, Nagaland –
6) Who plays the plastic surgeon in the 1992 film *Doctor Beomes Her*?
7) Who's biography is titled *Citizen Jane*?
8) In the film *The Wizard of Oz*, what does Dorothy have to steal from the Wicked Witch of the West?

do-re-me

- From Adish Agarwalla, Moranhat –
9) Abraham Ortelius's book, *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*, which means 'epitome of the theatre of the world', is generally believed to be the first modern example of which type of book?
10) Which set of 78 cards used for fortunetelling is

divided into two groups called Major Arcana and Minor Arcana?

- 11) In 2003, which musical pop group opened their Mumbai concert with their hit *Brown sugar*?

- 12) In 1865, the first edition of which book by an American author was withdrawn because of bad printing?

- 13) In Varanasi, what are Manikarnika, Assi, Mandir and Dasaswamedh?

- 14) 'Swadharne Nithanam Shreyasa' is the motto of which famous regiment in India?

crescendo

- 15) To raise money for the construction of the pedestal of which famous monument did the American poet Emma Lazarus write the sonnet *The New Colossus* in the year 1883? (Adish Agarwalla)

ANSWERS 1) It is a coffee-scented stamp 2) Lucknow *Gharana* 3) The Peepal tree 4) Martial art training 5) Jodhpur 6) Bruce Willis 7) Jane Fonda 8) Her broomstick 9) Atlas

- 10) Tarot Cards 11) Rolling Stones 12) Alice in Wonderland 13) Varanasi's sacred bathing ghats 14) The Madras Regiment 15) The Statue of Liberty.



The unsung hero

Sivasish Thakur

Mirjumilar Pora Saraghat aru Bagh Hazarika is a historical account of Assam, beginning with the conquest led by Mughal General Mirjumla and culminating with the decisive defeat of the Mughals in the Battle of Saraghat (1671).

While Lachit Barphukan's exploits are well-known and have enriched history as well as folklore, not many are aware of the fact that his able deputy Bagh Hazarika, alias Ismail Sidique, alias Gargoyan Senapati played a significant role in humbling the all-conquering Mughals in Assam.

It is also important to note that – as the book by AN Chaleh Uddin Ahmed Hazarika emphasises – Saraghat was not a battle between the Hindus and Muslims as the Hindu proponents would have us believe. The book begins with the subjugation of the Ahoms by Mirjumla, who conquered a vast part of Assam, stretching from Joghogap to Gargao (1662). Mirjumla, however, died of illness on March 30, 1663. The Ahom King Suwragadeo Jayadhwaj Singh also died a few years later and his successor Suwragadeo Chakradhwaj Singh chose to defy the Mughals. It was then that Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb sent a huge force to subjugate the Ahoms. Ismail Sidique, a man of great strength and valour, earned the nickname Bagh Hazarika after he had killed a notorious tiger single-handedly. His heroes were recognised by the king who made him a Hazarika (one who commands a troop of one thousand goys, each goy comprising four warriors). Hazarika, who had arrived in Assam only a few years before the Saraghat Battle used to train horses in Delhi and was sent to Assam by Ramani Gabhor. Jayadhwaj Singh's daughter who was a daughter-in-law of Assam was well-versed in Mughal warfare and this gave the Ahoms a tactical advantage in anticipating and negating their moves. It was Bagh Hazarika, who, during a critical juncture of the War, hit upon and implemented the novel, yet risky plan of putting water on the Mughal canons while the Mughal warriors were busy with their dawn prayers. Finally when a seriously ailing Lachit jumped to the forefront exhorting his troops when the Ahoms were starting to retreat at Saraghat, it was Bagh Hazarika who stoked to his General like a shadow, guarding him from the enemy.

It is unfortunate that the exploits of Bagh Hazarika have not yet been properly assessed or acknowledged. This well-researched volume by the author – himself a descendant of Bagh Hazarika – will go a long way in according this great warrior and patriot his rightful place in history.



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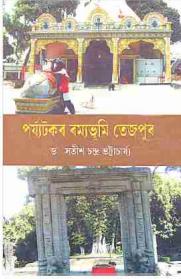
Dr Parag Kumar Bhattacharya

In recent times, profound study in the field of history and medievalism is rare as it requires erudition on antiquarianism. But Dr Satish Ch Bhattacharya, a prodigiously gifted scholar in this field has been contributing a lot to that aspect since a long time. His deep study on the ancient inscriptions, coins, sculptures and archaeology has revealed the rich treasure of Assamese history. Now he has concentrated his study on the history of Tezpur, the site of an ancient civilisation, and has published a monolithic work on this subject titled – *Porijatokor Ramyobhumi Tezpur*. It comprises an introductory note on Tezpur, along with its historical and cultural significance.

The book consists of many topics relating to the history of the ancient town – the historical resources discovered in modern Tezpur, the historical outline of Poki – the historical abode of the famous Agarwala family of Tezpur, which was built by Haribalan Agarwala, the history of the Holeswar Temple, which has a relation with Haruspewa, the capital of Salistikumba Dynasty. The facts of the past are placed in a palatable and attractive manner. He has gained insight into the general life of the time which he describes here vividly. He has found out the outstanding personalities behind the historical scene and has described them in a faithful way. His historical knowledge has been augmented with a literary force and spontaneity.

The colourful description of the Mahabhairab Temple, the shrine of Blairai, the shrine of Nalasar, the holly Vaisavite Monastery of Nikumal are really fascinating. The architectural beauty, its sculpture and archaeology has been minutely observed and expressed in an artistic language.

Dr Bhattacharya is not only a historian of outstanding merit, but also an antiquarian. His antiquarianism has afforded him keen insight into the archaeological and sculptural resources of ancient Tezpur. He meticulously analyses the remains of Da Parbata, Bamun Hill, the inscriptions found in different places, the coin of the Dhulapading Tea Estate, the old manuscripts with their literary value, etc. He has also given prominence to the unravelling of the socio-cultural history of the past and the present in a condensed style. The book will be of great value to researchers and scholars, rather than being a simple guide book for tourists.



Porijatokor Ramyobhumi Tezpur
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prelude

The profession of Disc Jockey involves playing records or compact discs on a radio show or in a music club. The disc jockey, or DJ, who provides the vocal connection between records, is often encouraged to assume a powerful personality to entertain his or her audience and to maximise public attention. In the United States, disc jockeys began playing rhythm and blues records to mainly black audiences. This style originated in radio stations and DJs such as Fred became popular representatives of the music.

In Britain, the nationalised broadcasting system was perceived by many teenagers to be staid and inflexible, and they often listened, instead, to overseas popular music stations or to the DJs who manned pirate radio ships such as Radio Caroline sailing just outside the United Kingdom's territorial waters. The formation of Britain's Radio 1 in 1967 altered the approach of the BBC, which hired many of the best DJs and Jimmy Savile, on Radio 1, in. Some major cities, dance music stations elevated the art of the DJ to new levels. DJs such

Pyongyang slams US for passing new sanctions

PYONGYANG, May 12: North Korea on Friday slammed the United States Congress for passing a new law to tighten sanctions against the Pyongyang regime.

The Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of North Korea has sent an open letter of protest to the US House of Representatives, strongly condemning and resolutely rejecting the "North Korea Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act" passed last week, said the official Korean Central News Agency.

"The passage of the above legislation amounts to the most heinous act against humanity, not only infringing upon the sacred sovereignty of North Korea but also arbitrarily violating universal principles of sovereignty, equality and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries," the letter said. - IANS



White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders holds a news briefing at the White House in Washington DC, on Thursday - IANS

Russia to be more aggressive in global affairs: US spymaster

WASHINGTON, May 12: Russia is likely to be more aggressive in global affairs and more unpredictable towards the US, a top American spymaster has said, a day after Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov met President Donald Trump at the White House.

Daniel Coats, the director of the National Intelligence, said that the US intelligence community assesses that Russia will also be more authoritarian in its domestic policies.

During the Congressional hearing yesterday before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, Coats said, "We assess that Russia is likely to be more aggressive in global affairs, more unpredictable in its approach to the US."

He said Russia will continue to leverage its military support to

the Bashar Al-Assad regime to drive a political settlement process in Syria "on their terms".

Moscow is also likely to use its military intervention in Syria in conjunction with efforts to capitalise on fears of a growing threat from the Islamic State group and other extremists to expand its role in the troubled Middle East, he said.

"We assess at Moscow's strategic objectives in Ukraine, maintaining long-term influence over Kiev and frustrating Ukraine's attempts to integrate into western institutions, will remain unchanged in 2017," Coats said.

He is remarks were made a day after the Russian foreign minister met Trump at the Oval Office what was the first face-to-face meeting between the US presi-

dent and a senior Russian government official.

The remarks were significant as the Trump presidency is battling accusations that his 2016 presidential campaign had links with Russia and that the Russians tried to influence the November polls that brought Trump to the White House.

Immediately before his meet-

ing with Lavrov, Trump fired FBI chief James Comey, who had been leading an investigation into the Trump campaign's possible collusion with Russia.

Responding to questions from senators about the alleged Russian interference in the polls, Coats said the US will continue to use the assets it has to collect and analyse the influence that has been and potentially could be. - PTI

Indian diplomat's phone seized in Islamabad court

ISLAMABAD, May 12: An Indian diplomat's mobile phone was confiscated after he was "caught" taking pictures of an Islamabad High Court (IHC) judge during a court hearing on Friday.

Piyush Singh, First Secretary of the Indian High Commission, had gone to the Islamabad High Court for a hearing involving Indian national Uzma, the News International reported.

She had sought refuge at the Indian mission after being forced to marry a Pakistani man at gunpoint. According to media reports, Singh snapped three photos inside the court, including a picture of Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani during the case hearing. When courtroom officials brought the incident to the notice of the IHC judge, he ordered confiscation of Singh's mobile phone, according to the newspaper. - IANS

The Assam Tribune

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Opp coming together to save existence: BJP

KOLKATA, May 12: BJP national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya today described Congress president Sonia Gandhi's effort to forge opposition unity for presidential poll as "a fight for political existence".

The leader claimed that many opposition parties, in fact, would openly support the BJP-led NDA candidate for the presidential poll. "The Congress, the CPI(M) and other political parties are trying to gang up against the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi after their successive defeats in various elections. They have come together to save their own political existence which is at stake," Vijayvargiya said.

"Now they are coming together for

the presidential poll. Let me tell you, this time they will be defeated. Many from the opposition camp will come out in support of the BJP and NDA candidate for presidential poll," Vijayvargiya said.

His comments followed the Congress chief's initiative to form an opposition front to the presidential election. Gandhi had met CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury and is also slated to meet TMC supremo and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in this regard.

"The opposition wants to project

their strategy will fail flat in front of Modiji. We believe in 'Sabka Sath Sabka Vikas'. And they believe in appeasement politics," he said.

Vijayvargiya, however, refused to comment on whether the BJP and the NDA had already decided on any candidate, saying that the final call would be taken in a meeting of the NDA.

"Our party president will talk to NDA partners and decide on it. I can't comment on it," he said.

Asked whether the BJP would be able to hold the NDA flock ahead of the presidential poll, he claimed, "Not only NDA partners, some parties from

opposition camp will also come out in our support as they know it is very well that only Modi can save India."

Berating the "opposition and pseudo-secular brigade" for labelling the BJP as "communal", Vijayvargiya said, "What they were doing when our soldiers were being slaughtered on the border. We did not see any protest or candle light march, or anyone returning awards."

"Actually they are hypocrites who are at ease while supporting terrorists and anti-nationalists in the name of human rights. They are traitors," he alleged.

On the continuing Kashmir unrest, he said, "The BJP will not compromise with the territorial integrity and security of the country." - PTI

Need govt support to eradicate hepatitis: Bachchan

MUMBAI, May 12: Megastar Amitabh Bachchan says government support is needed to come up with health related schemes and programmes to completely eradicate hepatitis from the country.

Bachchan was today appointed as the World Health Organisation (WHO) goodwill ambassador for hepatitis in the South-East Asia Region, at an event here.

"When I got to know about this, we all went to meet our Health Minister and told him that no matter how much we work at an individual level, if the government doesn't support, we can't get rid of it (Hepatitis). The government can give importance to hepatitis which is a health campaign," he told reporters.

"If hepatitis can be given specific attention, results can be achieved. We are trying hard for it. There are some government health schemes which do look into hepatitis but it would be better if there is a dedicated scheme for it."

The 74-year-old actor said he is happy to be the face of the hepatitis awareness programme as it'll help take the awareness about the disease to all corners of the country. - PTI

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An international team of space researchers has reported on the detection of a new fast radio burst (FRB) and their efforts to trace its source. They have written a paper describing the detection and search for evidence, and have uploaded it to the arXiv preprint server.

The FRBs are relatively new development for space scientists – they are extremely short blasts of strong radio waves

Deep space mystery

The latest fast radio burst adds to mystery of their source

that come from space, but scientists have not been able to explain what makes them.

In this new detection, the FRB, now named FRB 150215, was first detected by researchers working with the Parkes Telescope in New South Wales in Australia. What made the detection of FRB 150215 unique was that several teams were prepared to train their telescopes on the FRB origin point shortly after it was detected.

Unfortunately, none of them were able to detect anything that might identify its cause, or even exactly where it occurred.

Additionally, after analyzing data from the follow-up telescopes, the researchers found that the FRB had taken an interesting path through the Milky Way to make its way to us.

– a hole of sorts that, prior to the detection of the FRB, was unknown. Thus, despite learning nothing new about the source of FRBs in general, the team has learned something new about our galaxy.

The detection of FRB 150215 marks the detection of 22 FRBs to date, none of which have identifiable sources, making them one of the great mysteries of space science.

Common sense suggests that finding a source should be relatively easy – it would take something pretty big to create such strong pulses of radio waves.

The mysterious nature of FRBs has led to a host of theories regarding their nature, from supernovae to intelligent alien communications. Some others suggest

the research into finding the source of FRBs has been unsuccessful because space scientists are looking at the problem backwards – FRBs, they note, could arise long after the precipitating event. That means it might make more sense to look for noticeable events in the night sky, like supernovas, and then monitor for FRBs sometime later.

In any event, study of FRBs is likely to increase as the mystery deepens and new telescope technology emerges – some have even suggested that it is possible that FRBs are much more common than has been shown, and that once they are observed more regularly, researchers can focus on looking at patterns.

(Source: phys.org)



Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, May 13, 2017.

This year you make a strong impression on others, especially when you relate on a one-on-one level. You might need that type of intimacy before you feel free to open up. You are subject to sudden insights, which you generally pull over in your mind before sharing. If you are single, having a quarrelsome relationship rates high on your priority list. You are likely to develop a serious bond with someone who is also seeking a partner. If you want to develop a closer bond, you will have to push that development forward; it will occur naturally in the second part of the year. SAGITTARIUS will take risks and do what you are not willing to do.

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

Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

**** You could be those whom you care about but don't often see. You could be too serious and not be able to identify what is motivating others. Know that you can't change someone else, even if he or she seems to be closing down. Tonight: Be entertained. Do whatever is your pleasure.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

**** An associate could decide to open up. You might be overly serious when dealing with a person. A discussion should not be postponed, especially if it will affect your life. Something will click in your mind, and you'll gain a new insight. Tonight: Share more of yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

**** Other friends for whom you have various friends who are close to you in different ways. Enjoy the diversity around you. A loved one might make a strong demand. If you don't have a positive response, take time forming your thoughts. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

**** You will be surprised how hard it is to get things done in the few days. If not weeks. You need to take a break, even if you have a major event looming on your calendar. If need be, cancel your plans for the day. Everyone needs a break; why wouldn't you? Tonight: Ask and you shall receive.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** You playfulness often surfaces in unexpected ways. You could be quite serious with a new friend who you feel is stepping out of line. Let this person know if you feel uncomfortable, and be sure to listen to what or she shares. Tonight: Let go, and have a good time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

**** You might be going on your immediate circle. It might be a fun idea to bring others together for a party. Allow your friends' imaginations to have a new outlet. Bringing loved ones together is likely to result in a very memorable happening. Tonight: Let it all hang out.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** Know that you might not be ready for what is likely to happen when you bring together people from all facets of your life. Don't worry so much; instead, get down to the basics, help others relax and make appropriate introductions. Tonight: A conversation could go on and on.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

**** You might be too eager to go overboard. You might not be comfortable with setting limits, but you don't seem to have a choice. The need for self-discipline is very evident. Don't beat yourself up; just keep a close eye on your progress. Tonight: Play it low-key.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** You understand your own well, but these around you could have a problem adjusting to your waffling moods. This period of being somewhat light or grim will be ending this year. Know that you are about to make a major change. Tonight: Be more spontaneous.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

**** You might be pulling yourself down and caused yourself to be unusually tired and withdrawn. Take the day off, if you can. Unless an event or a get-together is a high priority, try to make an adjustment to your plans so you can kick back and relax. Tonight: Play it low-key.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

**** Friends surround you, which makes you happy, but you could feel as if you are scattering your energy and not spending enough time with a sibling or loved one. Make plans to visit this person. An association might be very hand on you. Tonight: Be where the action is.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

**** You will notice that someone is making unusual and unnecessary demands. How you feel could change dramatically with the moment. You know when you have had enough, so speak up. You might opt to withdraw. Will that get your point across? Tonight: A must appearance.

Thought for the day
Be yourself; everyone else is already taken.

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(Source: phys.org)

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23:00 Ben 10 Ball Z
23:30 Teletoon

PAGC
12:00 Mighty Raju
12:30 Chhota Bheem: Dus Pe
13:00 Chhota Bheem: Dus Pe
14:00 Mighty Raju
17:30 Chhota Bheem

18:00 Super-Bheem: sakhi
20:00 Chhota Bheem: Dus Pe
20:30 Chhota Bheem: Dus Pe
21:30 Takethi's Castle
22:30 Superhero Jerry Tales
23:00 M.A.D.
23:30 Teletoon

Zcafe
12:00 The Real Kitten
12:30 The Real Kitten
13:00 Just for Laughs
14:00 Lethal Weapon
15:00 Just for Laughs

16:00 Just Laughs
16:30 Yo! Honey
17:00 Yo! Honey
18:00 Super-Bheem: sakhi
20:00 Chhota Bheem: Dus Pe
20:30 Chhota Bheem: Dus Pe
21:30 Takethi's Castle
22:30 Superhero Jerry Tales
23:00 M.A.D.
23:30 Teletoon

Colors
12:00 TBC
18:00 Chhota Miyan Dhakad
19:00 Desh Bhakti
20:00 Naagin
21:00 Chhota Bheem
22:00 Chhota Miyan Dhakad
23:30 TBC

Entertainment
12:00 Koi Laaj Ke Aayi Hai
13:00 Tu Sona Main Saangh
13:30 Chhota Bheem: Dus Pe
14:00 Chhota Bheem: Dus Pe
15:00 Dil Bole Oosi

16:00 Yeh Rishta Kya Kehla
16:30 Yo! Honey
17:00 Yo! Honey
18:00 More Aangne Mein
18:30 Meri Duniya
19:00 Desh Bhakti
19:30 Yo! Honey
20:00 Nach Baliye
21:00 Koi Laaj Ke Aayi Hai
22:00 Tu Sona Main Saangh
23:00 Chhota Bheem: Dus Pe

StarPlus
12:00 Star Plus
13:00 Star Plus
14:00 Star Plus
15:00 Star Plus
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19:00 Star Plus
20:00 Star Plus
21:00 Star Plus

22:00 Star Plus
23:00 Star Plus

Fox Life
12:00 Diners, Divas and...
12:30 Ariana's Tahan 1
13:00 Diners, Divas and...
14:00 Kevin O'Neal
15:00 Beyond Borders

16:00 Colors
17:00 Colors
18:00 Colors
19:00 Colors
20:00 Colors
21:00 Colors
22:00 Colors
23:00 Colors

SONY
12:30 The Real Sharmas Show
14:00 Kapil Sharma Show
20:00 Saites Bada Kalkar
21:00 Kapil Sharma Show
22:30 Crime Panel - Satark

HBO
11:15 San Andreas
13:30 The Dark Knight Rises
16:38 Shutter Island
21:00 Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation
23:30 Terminator Genisys

Star
18:45 Jack the Giant Slayer

19:00 Star
19:30 Star
20:00 Star
21:00 Star
22:00 Star
23:00 Star

Regional
12:00 NEWS LIVE
13:00 Discovery
14:00 ANIMAL PLANET
15:00 WILDLIFE SWANLAKE

16:00 Discovery
17:00 Discovery
18:00 Discovery
19:00 Discovery
20:00 Discovery
21:00 Discovery
22:00 Discovery
23:00 Discovery

National Geographic Channel
12:00 Animal Kingdom
13:00 Animal Kingdom
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NAT GEO people
12:00 Chasing The Sun
12:30 Andy And Ben Eat
13:00 Andy And Ben Eat
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21:00 Andy And Ben Eat
22:00 Andy And Ben Eat
23:00 Andy And Ben Eat

STAR MOVIES
12:00 ELYSIUM
13:00 STAR GOLD
21:20 Daddigiri

WB
19:35 Bismillah
20:00 Bismillah

ZEE ACTION
20:00 Snakes on a Plane

WB
19:35 Bismillah
20:00 Bismillah

NEO
12:00 KFC 2015 L1/L2/L3/H1/H2
13:00 BWF Series 2017 H1/H2
14:00 Badminton Asia Cup 2016
15:00 Badminton Asia Cup 2016
16:00 Badminton Asia Cup 2016
17:00 Badminton Asia Cup 2016
18:00 Badminton Asia Cup 2016
19:00 Badminton Asia Cup 2016
20:00 Badminton Asia Cup 2016
21:00 Badminton Asia Cup 2016
22:00 Badminton Asia Cup 2016
23:00 Badminton Asia Cup 2016

TEN-1
12:00 NCC World Tour '16 H1/H2
13:00 Asian Cup 2015 H1/H2
14:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016
15:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016
16:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016
17:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016
18:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016
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20:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016
21:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016
22:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016
23:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016

TEN-2
12:00 NCC World Tour '16 H1/H2
13:00 Asian Cup 2015 H1/H2
14:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016
15:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016
16:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016
17:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016
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22:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016
23:00 Best of ICI WTC 2016

SPORTS
12:00 Gillette World of Sports
13:00 Gillette World of Sports
14:00 Gillette World of Sports
15:00 Gillette World of Sports
16:00 Gillette World of Sports
17:00 Gillette World of Sports
18:00 Gillette World of Sports
19:00 Gillette World of Sports
20:00 Gillette World of Sports
21:00 Gillette World of Sports
22:00 Gillette World of Sports
23:00 Gillette World of Sports

LOCKHORNS
12:00 WAKE ME WHEN WE GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THE NINTH

DENNISTHEMENACE
12:00 My Mona Sings I Look Like an Angel

THE PHANTOM
12:00 R

BLONDIE
12:00 HEY, DAG, HOW ABOUT A HIP NEW LOOK FOR YOU?

13:00 OH, C'MON! LOOSEN UP A LITTLE, WILL YA?

14:00 IT'S CALLED A MAN BUN, I KNOW WHAT IT'S CALLED, HONEY, BUT PLEASE COMB IT OUT BETTER, BECAUSE THE KIDS GET HOME!

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE
12:00 WHO HAS A SCARY CAMPFIRE STORY?

13:00 I DO!

14:00 ONE DARK AND STORMY NIGHT MY GIRLFRIEND'S HUSBAND CAME HOME EARLY...

15:00 STOP! THAT'S TOO SCARY!

16:00 BRRRR!

17:00 BRRRR!

18:00 BRRRR!

19:00 BRRRR!

20:00 BRRRR!

21:00 BRRRR!

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87:00 BRRRR!



Shri Sarbananda Sonowal
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam

ACHIEVEMENT ON SWACHH BHARAT MISSION (URBAN), ASSAM:

Individual Household Latrines (IHHL):

- Rs. 4,18,48,000/- were released to ULBs to construct 20924 units of IHHL as 1st installment. The works are in progress.
- ODF for all the ULBs will be declared by October, 2017 and accordingly Action Plan has been prepared.

Community /Public Toilets:

- Rs. 52,00,000/- was released to ULBs to construct 200 seats of Community Toilets.

Solid Waste Management:

- Deputy Commissioners are organizing 'Swachh Bharat Mela' at all the District head quarters of Assam with an objectives of ODF declaration, SWM, behavioral changes etc.

IEC & Public Awareness:

- Different awareness activities like Rally, workshops, Marathon, Quiz & essay competitions, wall paintings, Hoardings, Street play, Swachh Pakhwara etc are being carried out in the ULBs with mass participations.

Capacity Building and A & OE:

- Regional workshops on Swachh Survekshan was held at Guwahati. The AMRUT cities, Guwahati, Nagaon, Silchar & Dibrugarh are actively participating in the Swachh Suevskhan.

OTHER ACHIEVEMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Directorate of Municipal Administration:

- Devolution fund Rs. 72,65,000,00.00 (Seventy two crore sixty five lakhs) only disbursed to the 77 ULBs of the General Areas of Assam for Salary and Non-Salary Component of the ULBs under 5th Assam State Finance Commission.
- Fund Rs. 118.22 Lakhs (One crore eighteen lakhs twenty two thousand)only has been released to ULBs as delay interest of General basic grant for the year 2015-16 under 14th F.C.
- Administrative approval for Rs. 5.00 crore (five crore) only has been accorded for construction of link road belonging to SC dominated areas under Municipal areas.

Town & Country Planning:

- Completion of Storm Water Drainage at Barpeta Road under UIDSSMT of JNNURM -Project cost Rs. 328.57 lakhs & target achieved 6.23 Km.
- Completion of Storm Water Drainage at Simaluguri under UIDSSMT of JNNURM -Project cost Rs. 667.74 lakhs & target achieved 11.23 Km.
- Completion of Commercial Complex at North Lakhimpur under 10% Central Pool Fund - Project cost Rs. 354.74 lakhs & target achieved 89 shops.
- Completion of Truck terminus at Tinsukia under 10% Central Pool Fund-Project cost Rs. 229.21 lakhs
- Completion of Storm Water Drainage at Lakhipur (C) under UIDSSMT of JNNURM - Project cost Rs. 610.88 lakhs & target achieved 10.04 Km.

Assam Urban Water Supply:

- Commissioning of Dhubri Water Supply Scheme under NLCP.R.
- Commissioning of Gauripur Water Supply Scheme under One Time ACA.
- Commissioning of Howly Water Supply Scheme.

Assam State Housing Board:

- Rental Housing Scheme for Grade -III & Grade-IV Govt, employees: The Assam State

Housing Board has completed 80 Nos. of units at Guwahati. Out of which 78 Nos. units already allotted to the tenants and another 64 Nos. of units are almost in completion stage (Nagaon-32, Mangaldoi-32).

- Janata Housing Scheme for EWS (General, SCSP & TSP) people: Housing loan to 412 Nos. of beneficiaries for construction of EWS houses under this Scheme and released Rs. 20.60 Lakh to the loanees.

NULM Assam:

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| • Urban youth undergone Skill Training | : 7,836 nos. |
| • New SHGs formed and revived | : 5363 nos. |
| • SHGs received Revolving Fund | : Rs. 148.30 lakh |
| • Area Level Federation (ALFs) formed | : 192 nos. |
| • No. of beneficiaries from SHGs and individual entrepreneurs received loan from Bank | : 732 nos |

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban In Assam:

- Total Number of Cities/Towns included in the scheme -97
- Demand survey undergoing- 88 Cities/Towns
- Cities/Towns in phase-I :9
(Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Nagaon, Silchar, Tezpur, Guwahati, Dhubri and Kokrajhar)
- Total no beneficiary identified in the 8 cities under Beneficiary Led Construction (BLC) Vertical - 24340
- Demonstration housing project at Guwahati in collaboration with building Material Technology & Promotion Council (BMTPC), Ministry of Housing 8G Urban Poverty Alleviation (MoHUPA) Govt. of India.

Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformantion (AMRUT):

- 4 (four) cities of Assam viz. Guwahati, Dibrugarh, Nagaon and Silchar are covered out of 500 AMRUT cities in India.
- Government have released Rs. 8137.00 lakh to the Mission Directorate for implementation of AMRUT schemes.

Editorial/2004-7





Manchester United's Marouane Fellaini (right) celebrates with Jesse Lingard after giving his team the lead in the Europa League semifinal second leg at the Old Trafford in Manchester, on Thursday.

Manchester United squeeze into Europa final

MANCHESTER, May 12: Manchester United survived a sizeable scare to reach their first Europa League final after a nervy 1-1 draw with Celta Vigo which completed a 2-1 aggregate victory.

Mourinhos 17th-minute header put United 2-0 up on aggregate, but Celta hit back late on through Facundo Roncaglia, who was then off the ball alongside United's Eric Bailly following a centre-circle muddle.

United will play a youthful Ajax

team in the final at Stockholm's Friends Arena on May 24, when they will complete their trophy collection and – perhaps more importantly – book a place in next season's Champions League.

But manager Jose Mourinho will have to do without influential centre-back Bailly whose suspension leaves Chris Smalling, Phil Jones and Daley Blind as United's only available central defenders.

With Mourinho having publicly abandoned hope of a top-four finish in the Premier League, after his side fell four points off the Champions League berths, United's season would have effectively been over had they gone out.

Instead they have a chance to add a second big trophy to the League Cup won in February and allow Mourinho to end a complicated maiden campaign as manager by winning the fourth ma-

jor European honour of his career. Appearing in their first European semi-final, Eduardo Berizzo's Celta gave United several uncomfortable moments and there was panic in the hosts' dressing room during the fraught closing stages.

Both managers reverted to the teams that had started last week's first leg, which meant a United return for Paul Pogba, whose world-record transfer fee from Juventus was being investigated by FIFA. United started shakily, with Blind looking particularly uncertain, and there were early murmurs of an amendment to Old Trafford when Iago Aspas cut in from the right and obliged Sergio Romero to tip his rasping shot over.

An audacious juggling show from Pogba roused the crowd and United tightened their grip on the tie when Marcus Rashford's sumptuous cross from the left was headed in at the

back post by Fellaini.

The goal had the effect of freeing United from their shackles, with Henrikh Mkhitaryan, Jesse Lingard and Pogba all arrowing shots over the bar.

But Celta served reminders of their threat as the first half drew to a close. Pablo Hernandez, Prince Sisto and John Guidetti working Romero and Daniel Wass heading wide from Sisto's dangerous drilled cross.

Celta continued to probe in the second half, with Guidetti thrashing inches wide from Mkhitaryan and Fellaini and producing a smart block to thwart Rashford after the 19-year-old had obliged Sergio Romero to tip his rasping shot over.

United also had their moments, Celta goalkeeper Sergio Alvarez saving from Mkhitaryan and Fellaini and producing a smart block to thwart Rashford after the 19-year-old had made his way past two defenders.

Roncaglia's looping 85th-minute header set the scene for a nerve-

wracking finale, but despite losing Bailly, United held on.

Ajax looked to have killed their tie against Lyon following their first leg 4-1 win at home last week when Kaspar Dolberg gave them a 27th minute lead.

But a quick-fire double right at the end of the first period from Alexandre Lacazette – the first from the penalty spot – gave the French side hope.

Substitute Rachid Ghezzal's heavily deflected header nine minutes from time followed by Dutch international Nick Viergever's sending off gave Lyon extra impetus but they couldn't find an all-important fourth to send the tie into extra-time.

Instead, Ajax will play their first final in this competition since winning the trophy in 1992, and their first European final since losing to Juventus in the Champions League in 1996. – AFP

Dhoni captain of Ponting's all-time IPL XI

MELBOURNE, May 12: Former Australian skipper Ricky Ponting has picked Indian stalwart Mahendra Singh Dhoni as the captain of his all-time IPL XI, which comprises seven Indians and four foreigners.

The other Indians in the Australian's team are Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, Suresh Raina, Harbhajan Singh, Ashish Nehra and Amit Mishra.

The foreigners are destructive openers Chris Gayle and David Warner besides all-rounder Dwayne Bravo and pacer Lasith Malinga.

Ponting, who has played in the IPL and was coach of the Mumbai Indians, sprung a surprise by including leggie Mishra in the elite eleven.

"I have gone for a bit of a shock here and have put Amit Mishra on the side," Ponting is quoted as saying by cricket.com.au.

"He has got an outstanding IPL record, he has got great variations and he is a wicket-taker because he is not scared to throw the ball up. He turns the ball enough both ways and he has been a great performer for a long, long time." – PTI

Ali century anchors cautious Pakistan to 376

Pakistan 1st Innings (overnight 169 for 2):	
A Ali b Chassie	127
S Masood c Holder b Chassie	9
B Azam c Holder b Joseph	55
Younis lbw b Holder	49
Misbah ul Haq c Worpak b Chassie	59
A Shafiq c Singh b Chasse	17
S Shoaib c Hope b Bishop	51
M Amrit b Holder	7
Y Shah c Powell b Holder	0
M Abbas stpd wkrp Downich b Bishop	4
H Ali not out	8
Total: 416-8 (4 L.B. & NB-8, W-3)	376
Fall of wickets:	
1-19, 2-139, 3-177, 4-241, 5-274, 6-311, 7-329, 8-367, 9-376.	
Bowling:	
S Gabriel 32-9-67-0	
A Keppell 27-9-64-1	
R Chapple 10-4-48-2	
J Hodder 12-8-71-3	
D Bishop 23-3-61-2	
W Orton 4-16-8 (4 L.B. & NB-8, W-3)	
Pakistan 2nd Innings:	
K Balachandran not out	5
K Powell not out	9
Total: (0 wkt, 11 overs)	14
Bowling:	
S Gabriel 5-2-5-0	
M Atlass 3-1-2-0	
Y Shah 2-0-4-0	
H Ali 1-0-3-0	

momentum," Ahmed explained after the day's play. "I just went out there with a positive intent, looking to put the bowlers off and keep the score moving along."

Off-spinner Roston Chase was the prime beneficiary of the visitors' belated attempt at acceleration, finishing with four for 103 while captain Jason Holder claimed three for 71, including two wickets off consecutive deliveries after tea that ended any reasonable prospect for Pakistan getting to a total in excess of 400.

Chase ended Azhar Ali's eight-hour vigil just after lunch in bowling the opening bateman out for 127 before adding the wickets of Asad Shafiq and Misbah.

Painfully slow at the start of his innings, the Pakistani skipper showed a greater degree of urgency through the afternoon, adding 51 and completing a thirty-fifth in Test cricket.

His intentions for the final session were obvious when he smashed leg-spinner Devendra Bishoo back overhand for four and then hoisted Chase for six over-long-on.

But the bowler had the last laugh with the next delivery as an attempted reverse-sweep by Misbah gave wicketkeeper Shane Dowrich the opportunity to make amends for two earlier errors in the innings. – AFP

Murray bows out as Nadal, Djokovic march on



Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns the ball to Feliciano Lopez of Spain at the Madrid Open, on Thursday.

home," said Coric.

"I couldn't imagine this when I woke up this morning, I always believed but I wasn't sure how I was going to play."

"In the end I played as I had dreamed."

However, Murray cut a frustrated figure as he was swept aside by the 20-year-old Croatian for the second time in the pair's four meetings.

"I didn't help myself find a way into the match to start playing better," said Murray.

"I definitely think I need to be concerned about today."

"It's not always the worst thing losing a match, but it's sometimes the manner of how you lose the match is what can be concerning or disappointing."

Coric broke the fragile Murray serve three times in the first set under the roof at the Manzanares centre court due to rain in the Spanish capital.

And one poor service game from the Wimbledon champion cost him dear in the second as Coric served out for the match to set up a quarterfinal meeting with Dominic Thiem.

Nadal had no such troubles as he dominated Kyrgios to beat the Australian in just over an hour.

"I played really well tonight. Right from the start I made very few errors," said the Spaniard.

"To win 6-3, 6-1 against an opponent as good as Nick, isn't normal."

The 14-time Grand Slam champion had a slice of fortune as a let and a Kyrgios double fault handed him the two breaks he needed to take the first set. – AFP

Three Indians in gold medal round of Asian C'ship

NEW DELHI, May 12: Three Indian women wrestlers, including Rio Olympic bronze medallist Sakshi Malik and Vinesh Phogat, cruised into the gold medal round of their respective weight categories with comfortable victories in the Asian Wrestling Championship here today.

Divya Kakran was the third Indian girl to have made the final of the women's 69kg category.

Sakshi, Vinesh and Divya are now assured of at least a silver medal each.

Competing for the first time in women's 60kg category after jumping up the weight division from 58kg, Sakshi hardly had to break a sweat en route to the final.

The 24-year-old got the better of Nahira Esenbeva of Uzbekistan 6-2 in the quarter-final and then defeated Ayuanna Kassymova 15-3 in her semifinal bout to storm into the gold medal round.

Even Vinesh (women's 55kg) had it easy as she defeated Sevara Eshmuratova of Uzbekistan 10-0 in the quarters before thrashing China's Qi Zhang 4-0.

A new girl on the block, Divya also put up an impressive show on her way to the gold medal round. She beat Chen Chi Huang of Taipei 2-0 by fall verdict and then outplayed Hyeyoung Park of Korea 12-4 in the semifinal.

However, Ritu Phogat (women's 48kg) went down in her semifinal bout to Yui Susaki of Japan 0-9 to lose out on a place in the final but would fight for the bronze medal. – PTI

Yuki ousted from Karshi Challenger

KARSHI (Uzbekistan), May 12: Yuki Bhambri's campaign ended at the Karshi ATP Challenger after a semifinal defeat at the hands of Egor Gerashov, here today.

The 273rd-ranked Indian lost 1-6, 4-6 to his Belarusian opponent in 61 minutes.

Yuki could not force any breakpoint in the match and lost his serve thrice.

"It was a bad day in office. I did not play well at all but credit to my opponent who came out firing," Yuki said after the match.

It was the third semifinal finish of the season for Yuki on the ATP Challenger Tour, having reached the last-four stage of Zhuhai and Shenzhen events in March. – PTI

Batistuta offered coaching job: report



How Mumbai tackle Narine will be crucial

As the league stage is coming to a close, the matches are getting tighter and tighter. There have been some heart-stopping finishes and some nail-biting ends as teams scramble to qualify and also finish in the top two. Even the Delhi Daredevils, who had no chance to qualify, played a terrific match which was decided with one ball left. Then the next day Mumbai Indians almost overhauled the mountain of runs that the Kings XI had put up.

Kings XI have played fearless cricket over the last few games and so have given themselves a great chance to qualify. They and the Delhi Daredevils have contrived to lose matches they were

playing in and so now find themselves playing the kind of fearless desperate cricket that this format demands.

The defending champions Sunrisers have lifted their game and they know that if they win their game against Gu-

arat Lions they will be the play-offs. The pitch at Green Park, Kanpur has been terrific with ball coming on to the bat quite nicely and the fast outfield gives you a chance for your shots. The Hyderabad team will be once again looking for Warner and Dhawan to give them a good

start. What they have not yet got is their bowling options and feel like they will have to be clever particularly if they are defending a total.

Henrikens has batted with vigour but his bowling doesn't have the same intensity and in fact has allowed the opposition batsmen to post free.

In Kolkata, both teams will be looking to regain the winning feeling after missing out in recent games. How Mumbai tackle Sun-

risers will be the play-offs.

Going into the match, Sunrisers are the favourites as they seemed to have the most balanced side in the tournament with Warner and Bhuvneshwar Kumar currently grabbing the orange and purple caps respectively.

For Sunrisers, Warner and Shikhar Dhawan have done well of the scoring and emerged as the highest run-getters of the season. They are placed at No. 1 and No. 2 spots in the most runs list this season with 535 and 450 runs respectively from 12 matches each.

Their bowling unit too have de-

livered with Bhuvneshwar claiming 23 wickets so far, while Siddarth Kaul and Rashid Khan have claimed 15 and 14 wickets respectively. – PTI

Mumbai, Kolkata lock horns for top spot

KOLKATA, May 12: Kolkata Knight Riders find nemesis Mumbai Indians in their way to a top-four finish as the two heavyweights clash in the final round of the Indian Premier League at Eden Gardens, here tomorrow.

After a flying start to their respective campaigns, both the teams have started showing some wear and tear. Mumbai have suffered successive defeats while KKR have lost three of their last four matches.

Having become the first team to make the cut, the outcome of the match won't affect Mumbai but KKR need to win to take their tally to 18, same as their opponents and remain in contention for a second-place finish.

A top-two finish will be up for grabs for both Mumbai (18 points) or Kolkata (16) as it will give them the privilege of getting two shots at making the final.

For KKR to win, their batting has to come out of their reliance on top-order as they have shown signs of choking in last few losses.

Sunil Narine's new-found open-

ing slot may have been the biggest advantage for KKR but at the same time, it often seen that the team's batting relies on the top four.

For Sunrisers, Warner and Shikhar Dhawan have done well of the scoring and emerged as the highest run-getters of the season. They are placed at No. 1 and No. 2 spots in the most runs list this season with 535 and 450 runs respectively from 12 matches each.

Their bowling unit too have de-

livered with Bhuvneshwar claiming 23 wickets so far, while Siddarth Kaul and Rashid Khan have claimed 15 and 14 wickets respectively. – PTI

Sunrisers Hyderabad target play-off berth

KANPUR, May 12: Faced with a do-or-die situation, defending champions Sunrisers will go all out against a struggling Gujarat Lions and clinch the last-available spot in the IPL play-offs, when the two teams clash, here tomorrow.

After back-to-back losses against Delhi Daredevils and Rising Pune Supergiant, Sunrisers eked out a seven-wicket win over table-toppers Mumbai Indians at Hyderabad and David Warner's men need another inspiring show tomorrow.

With 15 points from seven wins and five losses in 13 games, Sunrisers are currently placed at the fourth spot, while the Lions are already out of contention with only eight points from 13 matches.

If Sunrisers lose against Gujarat tomorrow then their play-off hopes will depend on the match between

the two teams, here tomorrow. The two teams have done well of the scoring and emerged as the highest run-getters of the season. They are placed at No. 1 and No. 2 spots in the most runs list this season with 535 and 450 runs respectively from 12 matches each.

Their bowling unit too have de-

livered with Bhuvneshwar claiming 23 wickets so far, while Siddarth Kaul and Rashid Khan have claimed 15 and 14 wickets respectively. – PTI

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CAMARO JEANS | TROUSERS | T-SHIRTS

Tinsukia CA lift Sitaram Agarwala Trophy 'Will continue nothing to lose attitude'

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 12: With a convincing 73-run victory against Fairyland Cricket Academy, Tinsukia Cricket Academy emerged champions in the 7th edition of the Sitaram Agarwala Memorial U17 Inter School/Organisation Cricket Tournament.

In the summit clash of the tournament at the Barsapara stadium here today, opting to bat first, Tinsukia boys put up a stiff challenge against the opponent by scoring 186 for eight in the stipulated 50 overs.

The Fairyland batsmen failed miserably to chase the target and were all-out for 113 in 43.3 overs. Suvam Sharma (42) was the wicketkeeper in chief for Tinsukia as the Fairyland batsmen virtually surrendered meekly.

The tournament was organised by the Barak Cricket Club in collaboration with the Assam Cricket Association.

Individual prize winners: Man-of-the-Match: Avish Agarwal (Tinsukia CA); Man-of-the-Series: Sambhav Jain (Guwahati DSA Academy); Best batsman: Dinesh Das (Tinsukia CA); Best bowler: Sudip Baruah; Best wicketkeeper: Sandip Kr Pandit (Fairyland CA).



Tinsukia CA players pose for photographs after receiving the Sitaram Agarwala Trophy from ACA secretary Pradip Buragohain in Guwahati, on Friday.

SPORTS REPORTER
Most Promising Player Award:

Pritam Pran Kalia (City CCC), Rohit Singh (Royal Global), Imtiaz Hussain (Guwahati DSA Academy), Samir Bisra, Sayak Bhattacharya (Fairyland Cricket Academy), Tamoy Keltta (Gopalganj CA), Meusum Dey (Kokrajhar CA), Partha Majumder (Dibrugarh CA), Partha Misra (Silchar CA), Arjan Wajid Rahman (CC Swasagar), Nijar Ray Kashyap (Barpeta Road CCC), Akhil Kalita (CA Silchar).

Brief scores: Tinsukia CA 186/8 (Avish Agarwal 42, Abhishek Bhuyan 37, Samir Bisra 23, Animesh Das 10, Sudip Baruah 47, Ashok Baruah 20, Manikanta Sharma 19; Suvam Sharma 4/22, Rohit Agarwal 2/21, Dibekar Das 2/7).

Chandrapur HS, Dakhin Mazbat bag bronze medals

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 12: Chandrapur High School in boys category and Dakhin Mazbat High School, Udaguri in the girls section had to be satisfied with the bronze medals in the Open CAFP U-19 Football Talent Hunt Tournament hosted by Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).

In the play of matches for the third position at the Sarusajai Sports Complex here today, Chandrapur boys defeated Simaluguri High School 3-1 while the Udaguri girls got the best of Tinsukia SAI 2-0.

Earlier, in the semifinals Morning Star Club, Diphu beat Chandrapur High School 2-1 while Assam Football Association Star boys got the better of Simaluguri High School 2-1.

The finals are slated for May 14. However, the closing function is scheduled to be held on May 15. Assam Governor Banwarilal Purohit will be the chief guest in the closing function.

School cricket tourney

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 12: Nichols High School and Little Star English School won their respective matches today in the 13th All Assam Inter School Prize Money Cricket Tournament for the Dhan Sena Sinha Trophy.

In all five matches played at the Latast playground here, Nichols defeated Royal Global School by six wickets while Little Star boys trounced Modern School by seven wickets.

In the first match of the day, in reply to Royal's 112, Nichols gathered 118 for four. The second match was also a one-sided affair as Modern School to 128 for six, Little Star smacked up 130 for the loss of three wickets.

Brief scores: Royal Global 112 (Avish Agarwal 28; Yash Sharma 3/13, Aman Das 2/23, Nayan Das 1/18/4); Jorhat 47, Keeling 3/10, Rupa 2/1, Kanta Gohain 2/1.

Modern School 126 (Rahul Mandel 48, Sachin Paswan 23; Binay Kumar 2/20). Little Star 130 (Binay Kumar 48 n.o., Gurpreet Singh 39).

Todays' matches: Assam Jyoti Bidyashilay vs Modern English School, Gitaragar; Don Bosco School vs Assam Vidya Mandir.

Tennis officiating course begins

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 12: The National level tennis officiating course which is recognised by the International Tennis Federation and All India Tennis Association got off at the All Assam Tennis Association complex at Chachal, here today.

Altogether 26 candidates from all over India are participating in the three-day programme. The course has been organised by the AATA where eleven candidates from Assam are taking part.

The AATA secretary Ankush Dutta informs that this officiating course is being organised in Assam so that the State can produce professional tennis officials who can officiate in different national and international tournaments across the country as well as outside India. ITF silver badge official Abhishek Mukharjee is conducting the course.

Trekking to Beas Kund

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 12: A 20-member Assam team along with four instructors left for an high altitude trekking expedition to Beas Kund at Lahaul-Spiti, Himachal Pradesh.

The expedition has been organised by the Directorate of Sports and Youth Welfare (DSYW) in association with Assam Mountain and Adventure Institute, Government of Assam.

The team was selected after holding a seven-day selection camp at Karbi Anglong, Bongaigaon and Morigaon respectively.

Deputy Director of Sports and Youth Welfare, IN Borchetta flagged off the trekking at the Guwahati Railway Station today at 9am. Everester and SMI, DSYW Tarun Saikia is leading the team and he is accompanied by Ajit Kr Kalita (Former SMI, DSYW), Bikram Boro and Bhuneswar Prasad as instructors.

MUMBAI, May 12: Their nothing to lose attitude has kept them afloat for a play-off berth and Kings XI Punjab wicketkeeper-batsman Wriddhiman Saha said his team will look to employ a similar approach against Rising Pune Supergeants in their do-or-die IPL encounter.

KXIP edged past Mumbai Indians by seven runs in an Indian Premier League encounter here last night and kept their hopes alive to stay

in a contention for the play-offs. Saha scored an unbeaten 93 in 55 balls to help his team post a mammoth 230 for 3. In reply, Mumbai were restricted to 223/4. Now they need to defeat the Rising Pune Super-

giant in their last game.

"In the last three games, whatever we were doing batting or fielding, the target was the attitude should be of nothing to lose, execute in batting, bowling and fielding, play the natural game, then we will see

what happens, we have defeated KKR and MI and we will try to play against Pune as we played in these two games," Saha told reporters at the post match conference last night.

Test specialist Saha displayed another aspect of his batting when he hit a flurry of boundaries and sixes in his whirlwind innings.

"I was asked to play hard in the first six overs and there was good partnership with (Martin) Guptill and we con-

tined the momentum, it feels good after performing well," he said.

Mohit Sharma had defended 16 runs in the last over and Saha said the idea was to bowl him yorkers.

"Before the last over I did

not come to the bowler (Mohit), they (Mohit, Glenn Maxwell) were discussing that (Kieron) Pollard was hitting well, but he was tired, so if he was

bowed a yorker, it would be tough for him," Saha said. -PTI

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