

NEWS CAPSULE

RBI rate cut

MUMBAI, Aug 2: The RBI today slashed the benchmark lending rate by 0.25 per cent to 6 per cent, citing reduction in upside risk to inflation, a move that will lower EMIs for home, auto and personal loans. This is the first rate cut since October 2016 and the interest rate is now at a six-year low. — PTI
(Details on page 11)

Border haats

NEW DELHI, Aug 2: India and Myanmar have signed an MoU to set up border haats at nine mutually agreed locations. Commerce and Industry Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed the Rajya Sabha today. Four border haats are already operational along the Indo-Bangladesh border. — Sp1 Correspondent

Rahul visit

GUWAHATI, Aug 2: Congress vice president Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday visited Kokrajhar district at 11 am tomorrow to take stock of flood damage. Later, he will visit the Silchar residence of Santosh Mohan Dev to pay his tribute to the former Union minister who passed away today. — Staff Reporter

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

**The Assam Tribune
PLANET YOUNG**
■ The train station
by Stuti Das
■ I, Me, Myself:
Jennifer Liang
■ Drama of life
by Anuragini G. Boruah
■ Know your world:
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Comics and other
features.

■ ABMSU president's murder Security tightened in Kokrajhar Hagrama, DGP visit Lafikul Islam's residence

CORRESPONDENT

KOKRAJHAR, Aug 2: Additional security forces have been rushed to Kokrajhar in the aftermath of the killing of ABMSU president Lafikul Islam Ahmed by unidentified miscreants at Titagarh here yesterday.

Talking to reporters, DGP Mukesh Sahay said that the existing security set-up has been reinforced with the deployment of additional security personnel. He reiterated that strong action would be taken against those involved in the killing of the ABMSU leader. Sahay said that a Special Investigation Team headed by the DSP (Headquarters) has been constituted for this purpose. Some suspects have already been picked up, he added.

Kokrajhar Police today arrested one Emaj Ali from Tokayamari village under Gosaigaon Police Station in connection with the murder case. The DGP appealed to the people of all communities to help



People at Lafikul Islam Ahmed's jenaja at Salakati on Wednesday. — UPH Photos

maintain peace and normacy in the district and cooperate in the investigation process.

Sahay, who arrived here last night as per the direction of Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, attended the meeting along with the IGP of BTAD, Anurag Agarwal.

Soon after the meeting, DGP Sahay met the bereaved family members of Ahmed at his residence in Salakati. He was accompanied by BTDC chief Hagrama Mohilary and BPF MLA Chandan Brahma.

Later, the BTDC chief and the DGP also attended a protest meeting held at Salakati Anchal Idgah Field.

BTDC chief Mohilary assured the people of taking appropriate steps for instituting a CBI probe into the killing of the student leader and providing adequate compensation and job to the members of the victim's family after a (See page 4)

No reduction in troops at Doklam: India

NEW DELHI, Aug 2: India has not reduced its troops in Doklam, senior government officials said today, rebutting China's claim that the number of Indian security personnel at the tri-junction has come down. They also asserted that there has been a "status quo" at Doklam for the past six weeks.

The strong rebuttal came after Chinese foreign ministry issued a document today, saying the number of Indian troops came down to 40 by the end of July from 400 in June. "Over 400 people at one point have put up three tents and advanced over 180 metres into

the Chinese territory. As of the end of July, there were still over 40 Indian border troops and one bulldozer illegally staying in the Chinese territory," the document said.

Countering Chinese contention, sources here maintained that around 350 Indian Army personnel have been in Doklam for the last six weeks after China tried to build a road in the area, triggering the stand-off.

China added that it has convened its first stand to India that it must take "concrete actions" by immediately pulling back troops from Doklam with "no strings attached" to resolve the current stalemate. — PTI

Assam has enough funds: State AG

SPL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, Aug 2: The Assam government may have been clamouring for additional funds to provide flood relief, but it has Rs 2,790 crore in its coffers as on April 1, the State Accountant General (AG) of Assam has reported.

The Government of India released the first instalment of the Central share of SDRF amounting to Rs 228.15 crore for the year 2017-18 to the State government on June 28, 2017. In addition, as reported by the Assam AG, an amount of Rs 2,790.65 crore is available in the SDRF account as on April 1 for management of relief necessitated by notified natural disasters in the affected areas, Ministry of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Guwahati on Tuesday announced a package of Rs 2,000 crore for immediate flood-relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities of the damaged infrastructure in the northeastern region. The amount excludes Rs 250 crore announced for immediate flood relief operations in Assam, which comes in addition to a package of Rs 345 crore released in June this year. (See page 4)

Rs 100 cr for floodlights, roads along border

SPL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, Aug 2: The Centre has made a budgetary allocation of Rs 50 crore each for floodlight and road works along the Indo-Bangladesh border for the financial year 2017-18.

Till now, expenditures to the tune of Rs 7.97 crore for roads and Rs 6.06 crore for floodlights have been incurred by construction agencies along the Indo-Bangladesh border, Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju said in reply to a question by Congress MP Ranee Narah.

There are a total of 1,181 border outposts along the Indo-Bangladesh border. About a 3,000-km stretch along the border has been covered by physical barriers. The rest of the border is covered by day and night patrolling with usage of force multipliers like high-tech surveillance equipment, the minister said.

Centre hints at starting Udaan scheme in NE

SPL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, Aug 2: The Centre today hinted at the possibility of introducing the Udaan scheme in the North East on the lines of Jammu & Kashmir.

During a Question Hour discussion in the Lok Sabha, Union Minister of State for Skill Development Rajiv Pratap Rudy, replying to a query from Tura MP Conrad Sangma, said: "In the case of Jammu & Kashmir, we have the Udaan scheme where the corporates have actually made a lot of efforts to execute the scheme. It is going slowly, but it is a very good scheme. I think this can be explored for the North-East in particular where there is a lot of disturbance... Please

Santosh Mohan Dev passes away

ARINDAM GUPTA

SILCHAR, Aug 2: Former Union minister and Congress heavyweight Santosh Mohan Dev passed away at a hospital here today following cardiac arrest and multiple organ failure. He was 83. Dev is survived by his wife and former Silchar legislator, Bithika Dev, and four daughters including Sumita Dev, the sitting Silchar MP.

"Nothing could have prepared me for this moment. I lost him at 6:06 am today. Thank you everyone for your prayers, your love for him," tweeted Sumita Dev, who was alongside her father when he

breathed his last at the hospital ICU.

Dev was admitted to the hospital on July 26 after he suffered a mild cardiac arrest at his residence. He had been undergoing intensive care since July 28. Dr PC Samra, who led the team (See page 4)

of physicians treating Dev, said that infection spread in his body due to pneumonia leading to kidney failure. The former Union minister had earlier undergone a bypass surgery and was also a diabetic.

State Governor Banwarilal Purohit and Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal have expressed their condolences over Dev's death. In a tweet, Sonowal announced that there would be a local holiday in the three districts of the Barak Valley on Thursday. Dev will be accorded a State funeral. Former Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi has also expressed his profound grief at the demise (See page 4)

Rains likely in North East

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 2: These may be respite for the people in the North East region living under hot weather conditions for the last few days. The monsoon though, together with the north-south trough, which extends from Sub-Himalayan West Bengal to the North Bay of Bengal, is going to cause rainfall at many places over the NE region during the next 24 hours, said the (See page 4)

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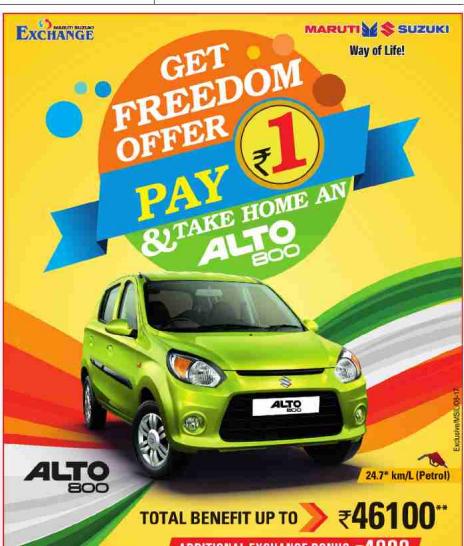
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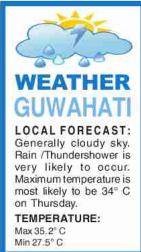
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Santosh Mohan Dev's death condoled
STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 2: Former Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi today mourned the death of former Union Minister and senior Congress leader Santosh Mohan Dev.

Gogoi described Dev as "one of the topmost leaders of not only Assam but entire India" and said the departed leader played a very vital role in representing Assam in New Delhi.

"He also played a major role in the economic and social development of the Barak Valley. With his demise, the Congress party has also lost a prominent voice. It is a big loss for us," Gogoi said.

SGBG condolence: The Sava Guwahati Club Guwahati (SGBG) also mourned the death of former Union Minister and veteran Congress leader Santosh Mohan Dev, and offered its sympathies to the bereaved family.

"Not just a prominent political leader from Assam, Santosh Mohan Dev was also a leader of the masses," former SGBG president Dhruba Baruah said while recalling his association with the departed leader.

"Other than taking up the issues of Assam with the Union government, Dev also extended a helping hand for several community works. We as an NGO, also received his help and support from time to time," Baruah said in his condolence message.

IIITG's Guwahati Half Marathon on Aug 27
STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 2: IIIT Guwahati, as part of its annual event Techniwill be organising the ninth edition of Guwahati Half Marathon on August 27 from the Bhogeswar Phukan Indoor Stadium near GRNC Hospitals, Dispur. The theme for this year's Guwahati Half Marathon will be 'Organ donation - Live Life, Give Life'.

The event will witness professional runners competing in the 21-km run, while the general public will feature in the 6-km fun run. Artists who might not have the physical capacity to run 6 km, but still want to support the cause, may compete in a painting competition. All races will start from the Bhogeswar Phukan Indoor Stadium at 6.15 am on August 27, the organisers said.

Ever since its inception in 2009, the marathon has evolved coherently over the years to currently stand as the largest half marathon in the North East.

Last year the event was attended by renowned footballer Durga Boro as an ambassador of the event. It had witnessed a total of 7,000 participants.

Flood relief by Dalmia Cement employees
STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 2: A group of seven employees of the Dalmia (Bharat) Cement collected relief materials for the flood-affected people of North Lakhimpur by approaching the dealers, partners and vendors of the company.

The relief materials included rice, dal, bottled water, biscuits, mosquito coils, clothes, medicines, etc. Those were distributed in areas like Bagalipan, No 1 Passon, Putabali Ranjan and No 2 Mukdohi of Panigam area of Lakhimpur district.

Bank manager held in major fraud case

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 2: How safe is it to keep money in private banks? Two back-to-back incidents in Guwahati in which employees of such banks were involved in fraudulent transfer of money of depositors, have exposed the loopholes in their security systems.

A week after an ICICI Bank employee was arrested for committing fraud in a customer's account, police have caught another senior official of a private bank for fraudulently transferring money from a customer's account.

Shankar Sinha, branch manager

of an IndusInd Bank in Gangtok is presently in custody of Paltan Bazar police. His wife Olivia Dutta Choudhury, who is manager (operations) of the IndusInd Bank branch located at Bhangarghat, is said to be abducting.

The fraud came to light after one Dr Biraj Goswami lodged an FIR at Paltan Bazar Police Station alleging that there had been some "unauthorised transactions" in his IndusInd bank account.

As police began investigating the case and questioned some employees of IndusInd Bank's Bhangarghat branch, the bank staff lodged an FIR against its manager (operations) Olivia Dutta

Choudhury, blaming her for the misappropriation. Choudhury is a resident of Baghbori.

Meanwhile, another victim of the fraud, Malabika Sarma of Fatasil Ambari, lodged an FIR alleging unauthorised transactions in her IndusInd bank account.

IndusInd Bank officer on the run

"During our investigations, it came to light that some money from Malabika Sarma's account was transferred through NEFT to the account of Shankar Sinha, which was at the Belkola branch of Bandhan Bank. There

were several transactions and Malabika lost nearly Rs 1 crore," a police official said.

Similarly, Dr Biraj Goswami is reported to have lost around Rs 1.8 lakh. Police said all the transactions were made through NEFT.

Several fictitious accounts were opened and money from depositors' accounts transferred to them. Initial investigations say that more than Rs 2.5 crore was misappropriated from accounts of depositors. The fraudulent transactions were made in June-July.

"For such transactions, one needs a cheque. It is strange as to how they could procure a cheque book from the bank in the name of the depositors. They also forged the signatures of the depositors," a police official said.

A week back, Panbari police had arrested an employee of ICICI Bank's AT Road branch, Rajat Agarwal, on charges of transferring around Rs 9.56 lakh from a depositor's account to another account which was opened fraudulently at the GS Road branch of the Karnataka Bank.

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MESSAGE FOR TODAY

He who knows others is wise. He who knows himself is enlightened.

— LAO TZU

The Assam Tribune

Opening purse-strings

Floods have been a common feature in the North-east from primordial times, particularly in the Brahmaputra Valley. In the post-Independence period, factors such as thoughtless human intervention like construction of embankments, the great earthquake of 1950 which lifted up riverbeds, the stupendous population explosion, etc., have resulted in enhanced destruction to life and property. This year's floods have been extremely severe, affecting almost every part of Assam, resulting in a number of deaths and causing havoc to infrastructure, crops, livestock, etc. There was a hue and cry that the Centre was adopting a step-motherly stance to the floods in this region contrasted with its prompt response to floods, for instance, in Gujarat. One is not sure how a personal visit by Prime Minister Narendra Modi would have helped in alleviating the sufferings of those afflicted, but criticism of his not visiting the region had emanated from certain quarters. It has also to be noted that this kind of criticism is nothing new; throughout the post-Independence period there have been charges of Centre's 'step-motherly' treatment whenever severe floods occurred. When the UPA Government was in power, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh too had been criticized for not visiting this region! There too had been the oft-repeated opening of purse-strings by the Centre in the past not merely for flood assistance, but also to find a permanent solution to the problem.

Thus Modi's brief visit to Guwahati, as well as the announcement of Rs 2,000 crore flood relief to the North-east, follows a well-established pattern. Indeed, if all the relief packages given by the Centre since Independence as flood relief to this region are added up, it will go to make an astronomical sum! Floods have also provided an opportunity to various elements in the region to make hay, so to speak, while the sun does not shine, as also political parties to play to the gallery. It is time that this cyclical pattern is stopped and concrete steps are taken to alleviate, if not totally eradicate, the scourge called floods. The most positive aspect of the latest gesture of generosity by the Centre is that Rs 100 crore have been earmarked for a study of this mega-river system by a body of experts who will then suggest measures to contain the annual floods. This is sensible, for our ability to harness a powerful river system like the Brahmaputra depends on how much scientific knowledge we have about it. Unfortunately, successive governments have opened up the purse-strings for relief and rehabilitation rather than for a comprehensive study of the river. Flood-aid in the past has been in the nature of putting the cart before the horse. It is to be hoped that it will be different this time around and the amounts spent will not literally be money down the drain.

Dastardly killing

Violence and unrest that had almost been synonymous with the restive Bodoland Territorial Area District (BTAD) for years showed some improvement in the past couple of years. But Tuesday's shocking incident in which a popular minority student leader, Lafikul Islam Ahmed, was gunned down by unknown miscreants has the potential to trigger a fresh flare-up in the region. The dastardly killing needs to be condemned in the strongest words, and the State Government must activate its police machinery to get to the roots of the incident and book the culprits behind the heinous crime. The All BTC Minority Students' Union has called an indefinite Bodoland bandhu over the killing of its president, and past experiences tell us how bands and other forms of protest often tend to degenerate into violence by frenzied mobs, resulting in ugly law-and-order situations. The ABMSU leadership should be on the guard against any such possibilities, as any flare-up in the aftermath of the murder would only worsen things and amount to playing into the hands of those who want a perennially restive BTAD. Law and order has been the biggest casualty in the volatile BTAD, with the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) authorities not doing enough to ensure that normalcy reigns in the region. The State Government's intervention, too, has made little impact even as killings, kidnappings, extortions and arson kept escalating. The communal insinuation in the recent incidents of violence has caused palpable tension between the Bodos and the non-Bodos, and unless the government authorities and sanc elements in society strive to diffuse the tension, things only stand to worsen. As for the latest incident of killing of the minority leader, it is very easy for the situation to acquire communal colours and hence the need for restraint by all concerned, including the protesters.

While it will require proper police investigation to ascertain the hands of those behind the murder, indications are there that it could be a political killing. The slain student leader was a popular figure among diverse sections of people — something that explains the widespread outburst of condemnation of the murder. It also needs to be ensured that the police probe does not get slackened due to political interferences. Then, for lasting peace to prevail in BTAD, it is imperative that civil society plays a sustained role to diffuse tension among the diverse groups of inhabitants. The BTAD area has been inhabited by tribals and non-tribals for ages, and it is in their mutual interest that they live in peace and harmony. Unfortunately, militancy, politics and growing ethnic chauvinism have created a rift among the diverse sections, leading to distrust and tension. This in turn has created a cycle of violence and counter-violence including fratricidal killings. The situation also proved conducive to all sorts of antisocial elements and mischief mongers to fish in troubled waters and foment trouble. These are testing times for both the BTC administration and the State Government, and they must act swiftly to restore peace in BTAD.

SC ruling: new light on AFSPA limits

The Mailed Fist
Pradip Phanjoubam

The recent Supreme Court ruling directing a fresh probe into the 98 cases of fake encounter killings from amongst the alleged 1,528 cases listed by the Extrajudicial Execution Victim Families' Association, Manipur (EEVFA) and Human Rights Alert, Manipur, in their petition for certiorari is a landmark move not only for the fresh hope for justice that the kin of the victims would have received, but also for giving a new perspective to the debate on the infamous Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958.

What is evident is that Justice Madan B Lokur and Uday Lalit who delivered the judgement actually succeeded in circumscribing the AFSPA effectively, saying certain crimes committed by the forces cannot come under the imputability clause of this draconian Act. In an earlier ruling in the same case, the same court had made this specific, holding that the use of excessive force or retaliatory force by the Manipur Police or armed forces of the Union is not permitted even under the AFSPA.

The AFSPA is a draconian law which has only left scars after scars on the democratic credentials of India, but what has often missed the notice of activists fighting the Act is that there are certain crimes which are beyond the purview of the AFSPA. The SC ruling was unambiguous about this. Against the new light it shed, a retrospective glance will probably reveal that in many of the fights for justice in cases of atrocities by the government forces, the agitators may have unwittingly

helped protect the culprits by pushing these cases under the legal shield of this Act.

Indeed, the Act says nothing about extrajudicial killings. Similarly it has nothing to say of rape, another crime which has been the fuel behind many of the most vehement public agitations. Still more conspicuously, it says nothing of the atrocities by the police. In other words, these are crimes which should have been handled by the civil court, though the Army too must have independently taken their own disciplinary action. Likewise, if an Army personnel is caught pick-pocketing, he cannot possibly come under AFSPA's protection.

The SC ruling exploded this myth like no other verdict has done before. It is unlikely the AFSPA will breathe its last just as yet for there are very strong lobbies which still want the promulgation of this Act, but the decisive moral victory of the ruling must not be lost on those fighting for its repeal.

It is however true that in places like the North-east and Kashmir where an oppressive climate of impunity has been prevailing for several decades at a stretch, reality is prone to get skewed, both in the eyes of the victims as well as the culprits. While the victims have become vulnerable to be overwhelmed by a sense of powerlessness resulting from their perception of the uniformed forces into the AFSPA fold, for them, quite fortuitously for the culprits, they may undeservingly come under the impunity clause of this Act. In other

words, rapists are not counter-insurgency fighters, just as extrajudicial killings cannot be defended by the AFSPA, legally speaking. Examples are plenty. Not too long ago, an Army officer implicated in a drugs smuggling case is under scrutiny of the civil court, though the Army too must have independently taken their own disciplinary action. Likewise, if an Army personnel is caught pick-pocketing, he cannot possibly come under AFSPA's protection.

the fear of the law's retribution.

The SC ruling exploded this myth like no other verdict has done before. It is unlikely the AFSPA will breathe its last just as yet for there are very strong lobbies which still want the promulgation of this Act, but the decisive moral victory of the ruling must not be lost on those fighting for its repeal. Indeed, had the limits of this Act been recognized by campaigners against it earlier and their strategies planned accordingly, perhaps such a judgment as this one could or would have come a lot earlier.

It must be also said that few other court rulings in recent times have matched this one in boldly pronouncing the independence of the judiciary from the pulls and pressures of not just the political power corridors, but also those of loud and sweeping public sentiments of misplaced nationalism in these interesting times. Indeed, what has made the judgement stand out even more pronouncedly is the fact that it comes at a time when winds of ultranationalism are sweeping through the nation, a sentiment which normally also tends to elevate the armed forces to the status of 'holy cows', thereby beyond reproach. This popular hyper-nationalistic outlook has also been at a peak because of the prolonged face-off between Indian and Chinese troops at Doklam tri-junction of the Chumbi valley along the India-China-Bhutan border.

The judgement therefore is also sending out a loud message that there can be no excuse for breaches even of the most fundamental of laws. The SC ruling is in this way also a reiteration that such thoughts are dangerous and unwarranted. It is a declaration that willful breaches of law, especially by those given the responsibility to safeguard it, can never be in the interest of not just the nation, but also those of civilization itself. It is a call for respect of the law, but equally of ensuring the moral legitimacy of the law whenever and wherever it filters and strays away from civil interest, so that it will earn the respect of everybody. It is true democracy has its own severe limitations but, let it also be acknowledged, there are no better choices.

Teesta water and cross-border infiltration from B'desh

■ Debamoy Ghosh

Water-sharing and infiltration are the two issues which have come in-between the two long-friendly neighbours — India and Bangladesh — two countries which share 4,096 km international border and 54 trans-boundary rivers have so far failed to resolve the water-sharing is since the birth of sovereign Bangladesh in 1971.

On the other hand, the porous border and lackadaisical security arrangement on part of both the countries have made an easy passage for the intruders from Bangladesh to India soil. With the influx of illegal immigrants from across the border touches an alarming high, not less than two crores, the States adjacent to the Indo-Bangla border have written to the Union Home Ministry expressing concern over massive movement of people causing an increase in anti-Indian activities.

The Census 2001 gave a rough idea about legal immigration as it had mentioned that there were around 30,84,826 people living in India who came to Bangladesh, but no reliable numbers were found. By 16 years in-between, the number would have increased manifold. Now Bangladesh's positive response towards checking cross-border trespassing would encourage India to

mitigate the long-pending water-sharing issues.

The issue of water-sharing between the two nations has a strong political background despite prominent geographical needs. India will always try to see the Awami League in power with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wazed at the helm of the affairs. With a common perception it can be said that New Delhi will like to see the anti-India Bangladeshi Nationalist Party (BNP) away from the power. The present Awami League (AL) Government led by Sheikh Hasina kept her promise to allow transit of goods to North-eastern states, taking over extraterritorial and taking steps against anti-Indian outfitts. The water-sharing agreement can prove to be best deal for AL before the country's general elections, which has been scheduled between October 31, 2018 and January 28, 2019.

But infiltration is a certain area where the neighbouring country should pay more attention, after all a healthy Indian economy will also lead to a healthy growth in Bangladesh. The present statistics say, Bangladesh is still one of the top nations from where fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) enter the Indian territory. Another statistics show the volume of bilateral trade between

two nations is about \$6.6 billion and is set to go to \$10 billion by 2018. These two self-explanatory statistics prove that weakening India's economy will cause a setback in Bangladesh's financial growth.

New Delhi, it seems, wants the affection with its neighbour to be continued with signing an agreement on sharing the water of the Teesta river, which originates in Sikkim, flows through the North Bengal and joins the Brahmaputra to become the Jamuna in Bangladesh, but has always found West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee as the prime impediment between two nations and the treaty.

Mamata's unbending attitude has restricted New Delhi to stay away from the Teesta water-sharing agreement during former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's trip to Bangladesh in September, 2011. But despite being poles apart in national politics, the NDA had succeeded to take Mamata on board a little before Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Dhaka in July, 2015, but nothing good happened with regard to water sharing.

Meanwhile, had China not made an unexpected entry in the regions of Bay of Bengal, New Delhi would have lived with both the long-pending issues of water-sharing and infiltration for another 10 years. But Beijing, being a game changer and

an imposing threat to New Delhi in this region has started port development activities and weapon trading, raising the eyebrows of the policymakers in New Delhi.

Mamata's reluctance over not accepting the water-sharing deal is because of her confusion over the agreed percentage of water to be shared. It was learnt that the draft agreement was made to promote the neighbouring country to provide 57.5% of the Teesta water. The West Bengal Chief Minister was apparently agreed to allowing only around 35.5 to 40% of water. She had strongly protested to give away the excess 20% of water citing the poor agriculture scenario of districts in North Bengal. On the other hand, the Central Government had failed to convince her that the excess 20% water would be given to the other part of Bengal only to keep the stream alive despite of heavy hydroelectric power projects in the lower Teesta basin within Indian territory.

New Delhi has to ensure that any domestic policies should not soil the Prime Minister Modi's concept of 'Blue Economy Partnership' with the littoral States of the Indian Ocean Region to strap up maritime resources. Of course New Delhi can sign the agreement with Bangladesh under Article 253 which is the treaty-making power under the Constitution of India which, a characteristic of

external sovereignty, says: "Legislation for giving effect to international agreement — Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this Chapter, Parliament has power to make any law for the whole or any part of the territory of India for implementing treaty, agreement or convention with any other country or countries or any decision made at any international conference, association or other body." But it will be prudent to keep the 'cooperative federalism' alive in this country and make a steady effort to bring other alternatives to solve the issue.

A former secret service officer once said that detecting undocumented immigrants from Bangladesh is really a stiff challenge as there are marginal difference in accent, dialect and characteristic features of Indian Bengalis living in West Bengal and the Bangladeshis. Getting a voter identity card or even an Aadhar number is not a big deal for them.

The Sheikh Hasina Government, which is desperately looking for the water-sharing treaty as a tool to fight against their agricultural losses, should address the issue of cross-border infiltration too. And, is it not the right time for India to tinker with the idea of giving excess water to Bangladesh in exchange of taking back illegal immigrants, which the neighbouring country has been denying so far?

Letters to the EDITOR

Sir, — Propose the article captioned 'Revenue and administration in Assam' written by Swapnil Barua (AT, July 25), where he has made certain startling revelations regarding the sheer maladministration of the State Revenue Department. I would like to clarify the position of issuance of *khata patra* to the erstwhile tenants of the Barpeta Satra. After Independence, many revenue laws were enacted to achieve various land reform measures in Assam. One such land reforms law was the Assam State Acquisition of Land Belonging to Religious or Charitable Institutions of Public Nature Act, 1959, wherein, it was absolutely stipulated to acquire all excess lands belonging to *sattras*, *mats*, temples, wakfs, mosques, dargahs, gurdwaras and churches (including missions) excepting the lands where actually the *satra* or other

Land reforms and Barpeta Satra

religious/charitable institutions are situated along with buildings and compound appurtenant thereto, shall remain revenue-free retaining the character of *al-kheria* land. Historically, these lands were donated by the Ahom kings to the *sattras* as revenue-free grants, which were later assessed to half-revenue, commonly known as *nisi-kheria* land, by General Jenkins in 1834, who was then the Commissioner of Assam of British India, under the East India Company.

As far as I know, in the above Act of 1959, almost all the Deputy Commissioners of Assam took action and lands belonging to major *sattras* of Assam including Auniati *Satra*, Kamakhya Temple and Basistha Temple, etc., were taken over by the government. Accordingly, all registered tenants were issued *myadi patras* at that time itself. It is strange that the successive Deputy Commissioners of Barpeta district have failed miserably to issue *patras* to the tenants of 22 *haatis* of the Barpeta *Satra* areas, even when the Act of

80-150 per kg, etc. There is no printed MRP for these products. Moreover, they lack proper quality checks too. Various outlets across the State sell these food items according their self-decided price tags. The intervention of the Government in this regard is the *Barpeta Satra* may also use his good offices towards solving the problem because the tenants are still deprived of taking bank loans and agricultural credits much needed for their economic development. Yours etc., JADAB CHAKRABORTY, RG Baruah Road, Guwahati.

Sweet prices
Sir, — Through the columns of your esteemed daily, I would like to draw the attention of the authority concerned towards the rising and varying prices of sweets and locally-made snacks in the State. It is seen that most of the retailers dealing with the business of sweets have no price limit to their products. A medium-sized *rasmalai* costs from Rs 12 to Rs 18, a *kadambari* Rs 15-25, etc. The price of a *panna* varies from Rs 8-20, *jalebi* from Rs

who want to start afresh from where they had left.

Instead of promoting the schools, there seems to be an increasing tendency to abolish the existing evening shift schools in our State. Types of evening schools can be promoted to enhance the vocational qualifications of students and teach new vocations as well as provide general education. In places where the number of pupils is insufficient for forming an evening school, individual classes can be taken in general education schools and operated under the system of evening education. Problems will be there but these will have to be worked out and we should provide every facility to those who intend to study, improve themselves and go for a better career. Closing down of the evening shift schools, if at all being considered, will be a step backward. Yours etc., Prof TILAK SHARMA, Jorhat.

Evening shift schools
Sir, — The system of secondary evening education had evolved to facilitate schooling of working teenagers and adults and a network of schools for young workers was created after Independence. Initially, they were termed evening shift secondary education schools. These schools, as a rule, covered the ninth through 11th grades. Appropriate grades were formed for pupils who failed to complete secondary education on a regular basis. But it is seen that the evening shift schools are facing a declining trend much to the peril of the working individuals and those

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

Delegation meets Gadkari for Dhubri-Phulbari bridge

CORRESPONDENT

DHUBRI, Aug 2: In a bid to convert the proposed Dhubri-Phulbari Road Bridge to a rail-cum-road bridge, a team comprising delegates from both Assam and Meghalaya met the Union Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, in his office at the Transport Bhawan, New Delhi.

Under the banner name of Dhubri-Phulbari Rail-cum-Road Bridge Sangram Committee, the delegates included Tura Lok Sabha MP Conrad K Sangma, ex-MLA Jaiyal Abedin, along with president of the committee, Girindra Nath Goswami, and members Kantimoni Deb, Achar Hussain, Biswajit Kalita, Hasen Ali Sheikh and the Minister on Monday over the issue.

The delegation also briefed the Minister about the necessity of constructing a rail bridge along with the proposed road bridge between Dhubri and Phulbari on the river Brahmaputra, stated a press release.

It also stated that the Minister gave a patient hear-

ing to the issue and appreciated the move.

The members of the delegations stated that Gadkari has assured the delegation that he would consult with the Minister of Railways and do the needful for construction of the rail bridge along with the proposed road bridge. The delegation also informed that an inter-departmental meeting would be held on August 3 and the Minister asked the officials to include the issue of the rail-cum-road bridge in the agenda, stated a release.

It may be mentioned here that the committee had earlier met the Railway Minister, Suresh Prabakar Prabhu, who assured that in coordination with the Road Transport Ministry, the construction work of the rail-cum-road bridge would be taken up at the earliest.

According to the members of the delegations, if the proposed road bridge is upgraded to a rail-cum-road bridge, then the economic and financial condition of the neighbouring State along with the districts of Dhubri and South Salmara will improve considerably.



A policeman trying to remove a burning tyre from a street during a protest against the killing of president of All Bodoland Minority Students' Union Lajikul Islam Ahmed, at Ahotap in Baksa on Wednesday. — UB Photos

Normal life hit due to protests over Lafikul killing

CORRESPONDENTS

DHUBRI, Aug 2: Demanding immediate arrest of the unidentified miscreants that shot dead Lafikul Islam Ahmed, president of the All BTC Minority Students' Union (ABMSU), at Titagarh Bazar in Kokrajhar, the members of All Assam Minority Students' Union (AAMSU) blocked the national highway at various places of the Dhubri district.

The members blocked the highway at Panbari area of the district for more than three hours. They also sat on a demonstration blocking the highway and the railway lines near Goalpara area for more than two hours and took out rallies at various places in the district demanding security to the minorities.

"The death of Lafikul has shaken the community and we will continue with such programmes if the miscreants behind this hideous crime are not brought behind the bars soon," said Abhit Baten, president of

the unions' Dhubri wing. Road blockades in Bongaigaon: Activists and supporters of the AAMSU staged a two-hour blockade at Rakhalduhru on 31 C National Highway in protest against the killing.

At Abhayapur, National Students' Union of India and Goria Moria Deshi Jatiya Parishad members burnt effigies of BTC chief Hagrama Mahilary and Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal protesting the killing.

The blockades at different places disrupted communications on roads and highways in Bongaigaon and Chirang districts.

Bandi in Dugluri: Protesting against the killing and demanding a CBI investigation into the case, the ABMSU supporters virtually paralysed the normal life in Dugluri district.

Following indefinite BTAD bandh call given by the organisation, offices, transportation and markets is still suspended in Dugluri district remained closed today. Human

Operation Muskan brings cheers to 6 kids in Dibrugarh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

DIBRUGARH, Aug 2: In a month-long 'Operation Muskan' launched in the district, the police-led team rescued six children from different locations in the district.

The 'operation muskan' was implemented by the police-led team to trace the missing and destitute children and reunite them with their parents. Under the 'operation muskan', efforts were also made to sensitize people in all vulnerable areas so that concerned authorities were informed if they came across any such kids in their areas of work.

At the behest of the State's Home Ministry, the district administration and the police team in association with members from Social Welfare Department, Labour Department, Childline, Child Welfare Officer, conducted campaign in all vulnerable areas such as rail stations, bus stops, hotels, restaurants and on busy roads, a release stated.

The six children within the age group of 7 to 15 were rescued from Dibrugarh, Moran and Namrup areas. In one of the cases, the police also arrested one person from Borborogh. Five children were united with their parents while one was handed over to Childline also took part in the campaign, the release added.

The purpose of the programme was to check child trafficking and protect children from Borborogh. Five children were united with their parents while one was handed over to Childline also took part in the campaign, the release added.

Santosh Mohan Dev: journey from Silchar to Delhi Durbar

CORRESPONDENT

SILCHAR, Aug 2: Born on April 1, 1994, Santosh Mohan Dev, popularly known as Ram Dev, was the eldest son of noted freedom fighter from Northeast, Santina Mohan Dev. His father has very close political relations with India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

Santosh Mohan Dev did his schooling at the Cachar High School and studied BCom from Guru Charan College and completed his MBA from the Welsh College in Cardiff, UK. A passionate reader, Dev sought inspiration from famous Bengali writers like Bankim Chandra and Rabindranath Tagore.

Dev, a seven-time Congress MP, started his political journey as chairman of the Silchar Municipal Board in 1979. Amid stiff opposition, Dev made it to the Lok Sabha for the first time in 1980 from Silchar. Henceforth, he represented Silchar as many as five times and Tripura on two occasions.

He was assigned the responsibility of the Heavy Industries Minister during the UPA-I government led by former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. Earlier, he also served as Minister of State for Communications from 1986-1988 and MoS for Home from 1988-1989. Dev was the

Minister of Steel (Independent charge) in the government led by Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao in 1991. He has also represented India in the Population Conference held in India in 1982 and was also a member of the Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Commonwealth Parliamentarian Conference at Isle of Man in 1984.

The 2009 Lok Sabha elections proved to be a major setback for the seasoned politician as he lost to his competitor Kabinda Purakayastha of the BJP. However, even as he was not so much visible in active politics, Dev continued to make his presence felt in the political arena of south Assam with his daughter Susmita Dev making it to the SM Dev stadium named after his father.

After marking an end to his active and illustrious political career, Dev had been troubled by ill health. Battling with prolonged illness, Dev left for his heavenly abode on August 2, this year at 6.06 am at the age of 83.

The Government of Assam has declared local holiday on August 3 in honour of the former Union Minister Santosh Mohan Dev who passed away on Wednesday morning after prolonged illness.

Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, expressing grief over the death of the former Congress MP, has said in his tweet that there will be local holiday in three districts of Barak Valley on Thursday. Also, the former minister will be given state funeral.

Meanwhile, Dev scion and

No. AFIS/354/2015-16/93

Press Notice

The Directorate of Fisheries, Assam, Guwahati is tendering the following contract of appropriate category having currently valid registration from PMD/DPD/DPD/CPW or other Govt. of India.

Details of the bid may be availed at e-procurement portal website : www.assamtenders.gov.in

The bidders are required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA) and must be enrolled in www.assamtenders.gov.in as indicated in the website: [https://assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in).

Detail information regarding terms & conditions and other contents may be collected from the office of the Director of Fisheries, Assam, Guwahati-16 during office hours from 10th August, 2017 to 24th August, 2017.

Sd/- Director of Fisheries
Assam, Guwahati.

Janasanayog/2125/17



WEATHER NORTH EAST

Forecast for North Eastern States:
Moderate rain/hunder shower is very likely to occur at many places over Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura.

Warning : Thunder storm with gusty wind speed reaching 30 kmph and lightning strike to occur in isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura.

Moderate rain/hunder shower is very likely to occur at many places over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura.

Heavy rain/hunder shower is very likely to occur at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura.

Temperature :-

	Max (°C)	Min (°C)
Dibrugarh	29.3	24.2
Tinsukia	32.2	25.3
Silchar	34.2	25.7
Dibr	33.0	27.4
Jorhat	34.1	26.7
N.Lakhipur	31.4	25.0
Sivasagar	26.7	17.1
Imphal	31.4	22.7
Itanagar	32.3	23.6
Aizawl	29.7	12.0
Apatani	31.8	25.5
Kohima	25.2	18.2
Pasighat	28.0	24.0
Cherrapunji	23.7	18.8

Woman found dead in police station

IMPHAL, Aug 2: A woman was reportedly dead inside the toilet of Andro police station in Imphal East district on Tuesday, sources said.

The deceased has been identified as Mutum Ongbi Indira (38) of Andro Khuman Leikai. Sources said Indira was picked up on Monday for questioning in connection with the missing of one S Simbala of the same locality. The two had reportedly gone out together on July 25.

Locals tried to storm the police station. The body has been sent to JINMS mortuary in Imphal East district for post mortem.

In another incident, a student of Sainik School at Pangeli in Manipur who went out to play football with his friends was found dead in a pond on Monday. — Correspondent Khandu expresses grief over Tadin fire mishap

ITANAGAR, Aug 2: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu has expressed deep shock and grief over the devastating fire accident at Tadin village in West Siang district on Tuesday where almost 37 houses including granaries, rice mills and a community hall were reduced to ashes.

Khandu was to air dash to the village this morning but had to cancel the programme due to inclement weather.

"I am extremely shocked and pained to hear the news about fire accident that took place in Tadin village," Khandu said in a statement. — Correspondent

PMUY Mela held at Rajabala

TURA, Aug 2: Garo Hills witnessed the first Pradhan Mantri Ujala Yojana (PMUY) cum awareness Mela at Rajabala village in West Garo Hills district where free gas connections were given to BPL families.

The event was organised by Cherasna Gas Agency, the main distributor of LPG connections in Dangdeng region.

The event yesterday was attended by more than 300 BPL families and IOC representatives. — Correspondent

Meghalaya pay panel submits its report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

SHILLONG, Aug 2: The Fifth Meghalaya State Pay Commission submitted its report to Chief Minister Mukul Sangma at the State Secretariat here today.

The Commission is headed by former Chief Secretary PJ Bazley. The Commission also includes former bureaucrat Lambha Roy and Uttam Sangma as the other two members. The members visited other States in the country to make a comparative study.

The Commission had held several rounds of discussions with various

stakeholders in the State that included officials from various departments, employees' organisations and individuals. The district heads were also consulted, official sources informed.

There are close to a lakh Government employees in the State. Besides, there are over 20,000 pensioners. The State exchequer incurs about Rs 400 crore on the salaries of the employees, which is about 80 per cent of the State's plan (now defunct) budget.

In the last pay hike, the State Government approved a hike of 32 per cent. However, sources said, the present hike would not match the January 2007 hike of 32 per cent and may

hike somewhere around 25 per cent mark. The Seventh Central Pay Commission has recommended a 23 per cent hike in salaries for Central Government employees.

A hike of about 25 per cent, according to the official, would cost the exchequer an additional recurring burden of about Rs.100 crore annually.

Guv's convoy: Meghalaya and Assam Governor Banwarilal Purohit's convoy was hit by a speeding Mahindra pick up van this afternoon near Mawiong, in which five of the Governor's security personnel were injured.

The accident happened when Purohit and his convoy were travelling from

Guwahati to Shillong. On reaching Mawiong, before reaching the State capital, one of the escort vehicles of the Governor was hit by a speeding Mahindra pick up van.

The injured security personnel have been identified as Gopal Gurung, Ranjan, A Sawan, A Rai and M Mohod. The driver of the pick up truck was arrested. The injured security personnel have been admitted to Shillong Civil Hospital.

PTI adds: The collision took place when the pick-up truck was trying to evade an MVI checking at Mawiong, police said. No harm was done to the official vehicle carrying the Governor.

GNLA kills police informer

TURA, Aug 2: Suspected Garo National Liberation Army (GNLA) militants yesterday shot dead a middle aged man on allegations of being a police informer in Dambuk Aga village under Rongana Police Station in South Garo Hills district. The GNLA has been fighting the government on the demand for a separate Garooland State.

Earlier yesterday, an unidentified GNLA militant was shot dead in an encounter with security forces while another had surrendered the previous day.

According to police, about four armed GNLA cadres sought out 53 year-old Odger R Marai from his house. He was taken a little distance and shot dead with an AK gun at about 2 am this morning. He was hit on his head, chest, legs and hand with a note left on the body as a warning.

"They shot the middle aged man near Dambuk Bazaar and left a note stating that he was a police informer. Police heard a gunshot close to midnight and reached the spot at dawn and found his body," said district police chief, Abraham T Sanga.

The killing took place near Dambuk Bazaar close to the international border with Bangladesh. The GNLA warned of such action against police informers. — Correspondent

Nadda flags off relief material for Manipur, Assam

NEW DELHI, Aug 2: Union Health Minister JP Nadda today flagged off relief material for flood affected people in Manipur and Assam.

He said that the government was ensuring that there was no shortage of essential items to the flood victims.

"We have released the first batch of relief material worth around Rs 3.15 crore containing medicines, mosquito nets, clothes, among others and will soon send the second batch as well," he said. — PTI

Book on Galo customary law released

ALO (Arunachal) Aug 2: The 4th edition of Bogum Boka, a book on Galo customary law was released by West Siang Deputy Commissioner Gamli Padu at Aalo in Arunachal Pradesh on Tuesday. — Photo: DIPR

Speaking the occasion, Padu said that the age-old customary laws still continue to cast its spell in effective justice delivery process and the 4th edition of the book should come handy for the institution of Gaon Bura(GB). The GBs are empowered to take up various cases in the village. Changes are inevitable and customary laws need to be modified as per needs of the time, he added.

Modi urged to review Loktak project to control flood

SOBHAPATI SAMON

IMPHAL, Aug 2: Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh has urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to review the Loktak multipurpose project and Itaih barrage for a permanent solution to the frequent floods in the State.

Ithaih barrage which has become the main cause of flood in the State should be removed and natural water course maintained, he felt.

The Loktak multipurpose project was taken up in 1983 to provide regulated storage to generate 105 MW of power and lift irrigation. The main component of the project include Ithaih barrage (35ft high dam) across Manipur river with three spillway bays.

During the meet, the Chief Minister expressed his desire for dredging the river beds of all the rivers in

the State and to conduct eviction drives against the encroachments of the banks of the rivers.

Flood damages: The Chief Minister while replying to a question by opposition Congress MLA N Loken in the ongoing Assembly session on Wednesday said that the total damages inflicted by the recent floods in Manipur has been estimated at Rs 223.83 crore which has been further increased to Rs 338.23 crore. A memorandum has been submitted to Centre for providing flood assistance, he said.

An amount of Rs 4.70 crore has been released to the Deputy Com-

missioners for providing relief assistance to the affected people," he added. "Further, the government has sanctioned an additional amount of Rs 2.10 crore for release to the DCAs."

He also informed that a total of 1,850 family tents, 42 numbers of disposable toilet tents, 172 numbers of bath toilets and 3,400 number of LED lanterns have been provided to the Deputy Commissioners. Materials such as rice, dal, edible oil, candles, mosquito coils, sugar, salt, biscuits, tea bags, etc have been procured by the Deputy Commissioners and provided to the affected people.

Replying to a question by mem-

CORRIGENDUM

No.SSA/MS/Teacher Attendance/2017/18/1 Date: 31/07/2017
With reference to the Bid vide No. SSA/AMS/Teacher Attendance/2016/14/2 Date 07.07.2017 and minutes of Pre-bid held on 19.07.2017, it is to inform all interested bidders that the BOQ (Bill Of Quantity) could not be changed due to technical problem and the scanning of service book is excluded.

Sd/- Mission Director,
SSA, Assam, Kahitpura, Guwahati-19
Janasanyog/1000/17

Ref. No. SMET/TMC-E-NIT/792/2017/2585 Dated: 02/08/2017

NOTICE Cancellation Corrigendum

Corrigendum Title : Cancellation of tender

e-Procurement Portal tender ID No. 2017_HFWD_2633_1

Tender Ref. No. SMET/TMC-E-NIT/792/2017/2129 Dated 07.07.2017

Tender Title : Outsourcing of dietary services for Tezpur Medical College Hospital, Tezpur

With reference to above, all concerned are informed through this notice that due to Technical issue the said tender has been cancelled and fresh e-tender is being made separately with bid submission end date to 15.08.2017 till 1400 hrs. The bid documents for the same will be available online from 03.08.2017 (17.00 hrs onwards)

Sd/- Principal cum Chief Superintendent
Tezpur Medical College & Hospital
Tumuk, Bihaguri, Tezpur, Sonitpur, Assam
Janasanyog/2114/17

Guwahati Smart City Limited e-Tender Notice

No.: SPV/GSCL/Act/9/2016/50 Date: 03.08.2017

MD, GSCL invites Request for Proposal for Supply, Installation, and Commissioning of "IT Hardware, Software, Networking Equipment, Setup of Structured LAN System and Maintenance of All Systems for 3 Years" for GSCL office at 4th Floor, Aranya Tower, Orba, Dibrugarh Hospital Disput, Guwahati. Assumptions from eligible bidders

The detailed tender documents will be available in the e-tendering portal: www.assamtenders.gov.in & www.gscdl.in from date: 03-08-2017 3:00 p.m. Tenders are to be submitted online through the e-procurement portal www.assamtenders.gov.in. Hardcopy of tenders shall be submitted last by 29.08.2017 at 03:00 p.m. Those tender will be rejected which have not been submitted online.

Sd/- Managing Director

RE-TENDER NOTICE

Sealed quotation in duplicate affixing non-refundable Court Fee stamp of Rs. 825 (Rs. eight hundred and twenty five paisa) are invited from eligible bidders to supply and install computer LAN Network items of Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Medical College & Hospital, Barpeta. Tender papers with the list of items may be collected on payment of Rs. 250/- (Non-refundable) only from the office of the Superintendent, FAAMCH, Barpeta during office hours.

The last date and time of submission of tender is 11th August, 2017 upto 1.00 PM and the tender will be opened on the same day at 1:30 PM in presence of the intending suppliers or their authorised representatives. The tenders are to be submitted to the office of the Superintendent, Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Medical College Hospital, Barpeta on all the working days during office hours.

N.B. : The vendors who have already collected the tender documents are requested to re-collect the tender documents without paying any fee (i.e. Rs. 250/-).

Sd/- Dr. Bobjeyti Goswami

Superintendent

F.A.A. Medical College Hospital
Barpeta, Assam.
Janasanyog/2103/17

Ref. No. SMET/TMC-E-NIT/792/2017/2584 Dated: 02/08/2017

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Online bidders under two bid systems are invited through e-tendering from competent and experienced dietary services contractors for providing supply of cooked diet for individual patients admitted in the hospital for treatment and care (TMCH) Tezpur. TMCH&H intends to enter into Rate Contract for two years with approved licensed dietary service providers which can offer dietary services as per terms & conditions contained in the Tender document. The bid documents for the above outsource dietary services for patients will be available online from 03/08/2017 (17.00 Hrs onwards). Last date to fill/upload the tender through e-tendering portal will be 11.00 hrs on 17.08.2017. For submission and to view tender's other details, please refer detailed NIT on e-tender portal at <https://assamtenders.gov.in>.

The Principal, TMCH&H, does not bind himself to accept the lowest tender and reserves to himself the right to accept any or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.

Sd/- Principal Cum Superintendent
Tezpur Medical College & Hospital
Tumuk, Bihaguri, Tezpur, Assam.
Janasanyog/2117/17

No. GVT/F-51/16-17/91 Date: 02.08.2017

SHORT TENDER NOTICE (RE-BIDDING)

Sealed tenders accompanied by non-refundable tender fee of Rs. 100/- (Rupees one hundred) only to be deposited with Cashier, Guwahati Municipal Corporation and intend from the reputed co-operative societies for settlement of below mentioned animal pounds. The same will be received by the Veterinary Officer, Guwahati Municipal Corporation, at the Veterinary Branch, Fancy Bazar, Guwahati Municipal Corporation Market Complex, Guwahati-01 upto 2 PM, on 08.08.2017. The tender will be opened at 2.30 PM in presence of the tenderers or their authorized agent.

(A) Settlement of animal pound at Khanapara (Ward No. 16 to 31)

Details of terms and conditions and tender form may be obtained from the office of the Veterinary Officer, Guwahati Municipal Corporation, Fancy Bazar, Guwahati-01 on payment of Rs. 500/- (Rupees five hundred) only during office hours upto 09.08.2017.

Sd/- Commissioner
Guwahati Municipal Corporation
Guwahati-01
Janasanyog/1001/17

No. SE/NRC/TBN/792/2017-182

PRESS NOTICE/INVITING TENDER/F (INVITATION FOR BID)

Superintending Engineer, PWD, Nagaon Road Circle, Nagaon on behalf of Assam Govt invites bid for the approved and eligible registered Assam PWD contractors of Class-I (A,B,C) & Class-II for the following work for the year 2015-16.

The bidders may submit bids for the following work.

S.I. 1. Name of work : Improvement of Jiten Saikia Road at Hablagon, Nagaon District. (0.00m to 300.00m) under A.P. (General Areas) for the year 2015-16.

Approximate value of work (Rs. in L): 17.39

Bid Security (Rs.): 2% for general category & 1% for (SC/ST/OBC & MOBC) Category

Cost to bidder (Rs.): 100/-

Period of completion : 120 (One hundred twenty) days

The tender documents can be purchased from 09-08- 2017 to 11-08-2017 in the Technical Branch of the office of the undersigned by submitting cost of bid document along with application accompanied by a sum of Rs. 1056691479 and payable at Guwahati for amount as specified above (non-refundable) for each work. Tender Document will be received in the Tender receipt Counter & O.O. the Superintending Engineer, PWD, Nagaon Road Circle, Nagaon-01, Assam.

Last date of submission of tender is at 2:00 PM of 17-08-2017 .

Details may be seen at the office of the undersigned (Technical Branch) during office hours .

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, PWD

Nagaon Road Circle, Nagaon

Janasanyog/988/17

SD Maske takes charge as Manager,ONGC Assam Asset

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 2: SD Maske took over the charge of Asset Manager, ONGC Assam Asset on July 31.

Prior to joining Assam Asset, he was Head - Engineering Services, ONGC Rajahmundry Asset.

"Maske possesses vast experience of over 36 years and exposure in almost all facets of ONGC's operations - Engineering, Exploration, Production, Project Management, Audit and Human Resource Management, at multiple locations of ONGC viz. Rajahmundry, Tripura, Goa, Ankleswar and Panvel, Mumbai," a statement from ONGC said.

Earlier, before taking over charge, Maske called upon Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Minister of Commerce & Industry, Transport and Parliamentary Affairs, Chandra Mohan Patowary.

Maske is known for his conceptual, analytical, professional, administrative, leadership, strategic and communications skills. His strong business acumen was further enriched through Technical, Advanced Management & Leadership Programmes/Courses from leading institutes like IIT - Madras, IIT - Roorkee, ASCI - Hyderabad, IIM - Kolkata, IIM - Lucknow, IIM - Bangalore and IIM - New Delhi.

RBI cuts key lending rate by 25 bps

MUMBAI, Aug 2: Subdued inflation and demand prompted the Reserve Bank of India today to reduce its key lending rate by 25 basis points (bps).

According to the Reserve Bank of India's third bi-monthly monetary policy review of 2017-18, the repurchase rate, or the short-term lending rate for commercial banks on loans taken from it, stands lowered to 6 per cent from 6.25 per cent.

Subsequently, the reverse repurchase rate, or the short-term deposit rate, has been adjusted to 5.75 per cent from 6 per cent.

The decision to maintain the repo rate was taken by the six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) headed by RBI Governor Urjit Patel. Four members of the panel voted in favour of reducing the key lending

rates. The six members of MPC are equally divided amongst government nominees and the RBI.

At its last policy review in June, the RBI had kept the key lending rates unchanged by reducing liquidity by reducing Statuary Liquidity Ratio (SLR).

The reduction in key lending rates comes after four consecutive policy reviews in which the apex bank had maintained status quo on its repo, or short-term lending rate, since RBI reduced it by 25 basis points to 6.25 per cent in October 2016.

"The decision of the MPC is consistent with a neutral stance of monetary policy in consonance with the objective of achieving the medium-term target for consumer price index (CPI) inflation of 4 per cent within a band of plus, minus 2 per cent, while supporting growth," the third bi-monthly monetary policy statement said.

"The MPC noted that some of the upside risks to inflation have either reduced or not materialised. Consequently, some space has opened up for monetary policy accommodation, given the dynamics of the output gap. Accordingly, the MPC decided to reduce the policy repo rate by 25 basis points," the statement said.

The Reserve Bank of India cut its repo, or short-term lending rate for commercial banks, to 6 per cent from 6.25 per cent.

The Governor told reporters here following the policy announcement that with inflation expected to rise, the MPC decided to maintain its neutral policy stance.

"The trajectory of inflation in the baseline projection is expected to rise from current levels," Patel said.

"So, the MPC decided to keep the policy stance neutral and to watch in coming data. The MPC remains focused on its commitment to keeping headline inflation close to 4 per cent on a durable basis. Our stance is what it should be and what it was in June," he added. - IANS

policy in consonance with the objective of achieving the medium-term target for consumer price index (CPI) inflation of 4 per cent within a band of plus, minus 2 per cent, while supporting growth," the third bi-monthly monetary policy statement said.

"The MPC noted that some of the upside risks to inflation have either reduced or not materialised. Consequently, some space has opened up for monetary policy accommodation, given the dynamics of the output gap. Accordingly, the MPC decided to reduce the policy repo rate by 25 basis points," the statement said.

The Reserve Bank of India cut its repo, or short-term lending rate for commercial banks, to 6.25 per cent from 6.50 per cent.

The Governor told reporters here following the policy announcement that with inflation expected to rise, the MPC decided to maintain its neutral policy stance.

"The trajectory of inflation in the baseline projection is expected to rise from current levels," Patel said.

"So, the MPC decided to keep the policy stance neutral and to watch in coming data. The MPC remains focused on its commitment to keeping headline inflation close to 4 per cent on a durable basis. Our stance is what it should be and what it was in June," he added. - IANS

NEW DELHI, Aug 2: The RBI decided to cut repo rate by 25 basis points today will lead to cheaper home loans and cost housing sales during the upcoming festival season, according to property developers and consultants.

They expect banks to pass on this rate cut by lowering the interest on home loans.

DLF CEO Rajeev Talwar, who is also Chairman of NAREDCO, said the decision to cut the benchmark repo rate by 25 basis points could not have come at a more appropriate time.

"The Indian economy is at a point of inflection. Easing procedural bottlenecks, speedier project clearances and reviving credit flows to the productive sectors such as real estate are critical

"Noting, however, that the trajectory of inflation in the baseline projection is expected to rise from current lows, the MPC decided to keep the policy stance neutral and to watch incoming data. The MPC remains focused on its commitment to keeping headline inflation close to 4 per cent on a durable basis."

However, the equity markets which had already discounted a 25 bps cut were lacklustre just after the MPC's decision was announced.

Around 2.30 pm, the wider Nifty50 of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) fell by 21.90 points, or 0.22 per cent, to trade at 10,92.75 points. The 30 scrip Sensitive Index (Sensex) of BSE, which opened at 32,641.58 points, traded at 32,515.81 points - down 59.36 points, or 0.18 per cent, from its previous close at 32,575.17 points. - IANS

'RBI rate cut will boost housing sales'

Lower inflation gave room for rate cut, but risks remain: Patel

MUMBAI, Aug 2: Given the urgent need to reinvigorate investment in India, the falling trajectory of core inflation over the last quarter opened up room for the 25 basis points cut in the Reserve Bank of India's key interest rates, RBI Governor Urjit Patel said today.

"The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) noted that some of the upside risks to inflation have either reduced or not materialised. Consequently, some space has opened up for monetary policy accommodation, given the dynamics of the output gap. Accordingly, the MPC decided to reduce the policy repo rate by 25 basis points," the RBI statement said here announcing its third bi-monthly policy review.

The Reserve Bank of India cut its

repo, or short-term lending rate for commercial banks, to 6 per cent from 6.25 per cent.

The Governor told reporters here following the policy announcement that with inflation expected to rise, the MPC decided to maintain its neutral policy stance.

"The trajectory of inflation in the baseline projection is expected to rise from current levels," Patel said.

"So, the MPC decided to keep the policy stance neutral and to watch in coming data. The MPC remains focused on its commitment to keeping headline inflation close to 4 per cent on a durable basis. Our stance is what it should be and what it was in June," he added. - IANS

Rate cut welcome, but it's too little: India Inc

NEW DELHI, Aug 2: Though the Reserve Bank of India's decision to slash key lending rates was on expected lines, it could not lift the sentiments of the business fraternity as it felt a steeper cut would have been better.

"Welcome, but too little. This rate cut was long called for, particularly as inflation is at a record low and GDP growth has also lost some sheen," said Harsh Pati Singhania, Director, JK Organisation and Vice-Chairman & Managing Director, JK Paper.

"While I believe RBI could have been more aggressive, the 25 basis point cut will boost consumer sentiment, especially for discretionary items like automobiles and white goods," he added.

"The 25 basis points reduction in the repo rate, even while continuing with the neutral approach, would go a long way in lifting sentiment among businesses," said Chandrakant Banerjee, Director General, CII.

"The monetary policy stance taken by the RBI would provide a fillip to growth, especially at a

"Bankers should pass on the benefits to customers and the government should enforce and instruct banks to do so," he added.

The real estate sector is facing a two-year slowdown, particularly the residential segment. The sales have been hit further post-demotivation and NAREDCO President Parveen Jain said the cut was much awaited and will fuel demand. - PTI

for the economy to decisively move to a higher growth trajectory. A small rate cut in the coming months should not be ruled out," he added.

CREDAI's President Jayax Shah said this is a welcome move just before the festival season and will help boost sales.

"Bankers should pass on the benefits to customers and the government should enforce and instruct banks to do so," he added.

The real estate sector is facing a

a multi-year slowdown, particularly the residential segment. The sales have been hit further post-demotivation and NAREDCO President Parveen Jain said the cut was much awaited and will fuel demand. - PTI

Two weeks ago, the Central Bank cut its key lending rates by 25 basis points.

"The last date of submission of tender is 01.08.2017 up to 2.00PM.

The tenders will be opened on the same day after 3.00 PM. The earlier advertisement Dtd. 02.07.2017 may be treated as cancelled.

Sd/- Director
Directorate of Geology & Mining,
Government of Assam

Tender No. GM/T3/2/G & M/99/17
Tender Date: 01.08.2017
The Directorate of Geology & Mining, Assam invites sealed tender papers affording non-refundable tender fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight and twenty five paise) only of the reputed manufacturers dealers or authorised firms or any other suppliers for supply of the following group of items.

Group - A - Analytical Laboratory Items.
Group - B - Petro logical Laboratory Items.
Group - C - Computer Accessories.
Group - D - Drilling Equipment.

The tenders should be submitted general terms and condition can be collected from this office on any working days w.e.f. 04.08.2017 to 07.08.2017 against submissions of IPO of Rs. 30.00 (Rupees thirty) only as cost of tender papers for each group in favour of the Director of Geology & Mining, Assam, Kalihipara, Guwahati-19 and also the technical bid document.

The last date of submission of tender is 11.08.2017 up to 2.00PM.

The tenders will be opened on the same day after 3.00 PM. The earlier advertisement Dtd. 02.07.2017 may be treated as cancelled.

Sd/- Director
Directorate of Geology & Mining,
Government of Assam

No. RMSA/CW/Fundum/81/2017/00
Notice inviting e-tender

Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Assam invites e-tender under two bid system for supply & installation of school furniture at respective school locations in the state of Assam for reputed and registered manufacturer of furniture. The detail bid document along with terms & condition and timeline can be read/downloaded from the portal <http://assamtenders.gov.in>. The last date of submission of bid is 1400 hours on 24.08.2017.

**Sd/- Mission Director
Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Assam**

Janasanyog/601/17

No. ASPIRE/40/2017/02
Request for Expression of Interest (REoI)

The Purnima Model Unit, World Bank aided ASPIRE Project invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing services for "Solution Provider for BI & Analytics Dashboard for the Department of Finance, Government of Assam".

The EoI and Terms of Reference (ToR) can be found at assamtenders.gov.in from 03.08.2017 for download.

Last date for Submission of EoI is upto 1400 hrs 19.08.2017 through assamtenders.gov.in.

**Sd/- Project Director
AS-CFMS**

Janasanyog/999/17

No. ASPIRE/40/2017/02
Request for Expression of Interest (REoI)

The Purnima Model Unit, World Bank aided ASPIRE Project invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing services for "Solution Provider for BI & Analytics Dashboard for the Department of Finance, Government of Assam".

The EoI and Terms of Reference (ToR) can be found at assamtenders.gov.in from 03.08.2017 for download.

Last date for Submission of EoI is upto 1400 hrs 19.08.2017 through assamtenders.gov.in.

**Sd/- Project Director
AS-CFMS**

Janasanyog/999/17

No. ASPIRE/40/2017/02
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The EoI and Terms of Reference (ToR) can be found at assamtenders.gov.in from 03.08.2017 for download.

Last date for Submission of EoI is upto 1400 hrs 19.08.2017 through assamtenders.gov.in.

**Sd/- Project Director
AS-CFMS**

Janasanyog/999/17

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The EoI and Terms of Reference (ToR) can be found at assamtenders.gov.in from 03.08.2017 for download.

Last date for Submission of EoI is upto 1400 hrs 19.08.2017 through assamtenders.gov.in.

**Sd/- Project Director
AS-CFMS**

Janasanyog/999/17

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**Sd/- Project Director
AS-CFMS**

Janasanyog/999/17

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**Sd/- Project Director
AS-CFMS**

Janasanyog/999/17

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Last date for Submission of EoI is upto 1400 hrs 19.08.2017 through assamtenders.gov.in.

**Sd/- Project Director
AS-CFMS**

Janasanyog/999/17

No. ASPIRE/40/2017/02
Request for Expression of Interest (REoI)

The Purnima Model Unit, World Bank aided ASPIRE Project invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing services for "Solution Provider for BI & Analytics Dashboard for the Department of Finance, Government of Assam".

The EoI and Terms of Reference (ToR) can be found at assamtenders.gov.in from 03.08.2017 for download.

Last date for Submission of EoI is upto 1400 hrs 19.08.2017 through assamtenders.gov.in.

**Sd/- Project Director
AS-CFMS**

Janasanyog/999/17

No. ASPIRE/40/2017/02
Request for Expression of Interest (REoI)

The Purnima Model Unit, World Bank aided ASPIRE Project invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing services for "Solution Provider for BI & Analytics Dashboard for the Department of Finance, Government of Assam".

The EoI and Terms of Reference (ToR) can be found at assamtenders.gov.in from 03.08.2017 for download.

Last date for Submission of EoI is upto 1400 hrs 19.08.2017 through assamtenders.gov.in.

**Sd/- Project Director
AS-CFMS**

Janasanyog/999/17

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AS-CFMS**

Janasanyog/999/17

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**Sd/- Project Director
AS-CFMS**

Janasanyog/999/17

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**Sd/- Project Director
AS-CFMS**

Janasanyog/999/17

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I-T Dept raids Karnataka Energy Minister, recovers Rs 10 cr cash

BENGALURU, Aug 2: The Income Tax Department today conducted searches at 64 locations and properties linked to Karnataka Energy Minister DK Shivakumar, who was overseeing the stay of 44 Congress MLAs from Gujarat at a resort near here, in connection with a tax evasion case.

IT officials said about Rs 10 crore cash has been recovered during the raids at various properties linked to the minister, who was taken to his house in Bengaluru from the resort by the taxman early today.

A "good amount" of jewellery has also been recovered from a teacher's locker in a college here. The locker is in the name of a relative of Shivakumar, they said.

About half-a-dozen note-counting

machines have also been brought to two locations in Safdarjung Enclave in Delhi and in Hasan and Misuru in Karnataka to count the cash.

While about Rs 7.9 crore cash has been recovered from Delhi, about Rs 2.23 crore has been found at locations in the southern State.

Officials privy to the action said the department is investigating Shivakumar in a case of alleged tax evasion and huge undisclosed investments in real estate and other sectors.

Certain investments linked to him in Singapore and few other foreign locations are also under the scanner of the department, they said.

Some shell firms and their operatives allegedly linked to this case are also being probed, the officials privy to the action added. — PTI

IT raids on Karnataka minister has echo in Parliament

NEW DELHI, Aug 2: The Income Tax raids on a Karnataka minister today had its echo in Parliament where the protesting Congress members disrupted the proceedings even as Finance Minister Arun Jaitley insisted that the searches had no connection with the Rajya Sabha polls in Gujarat.

The Congress members vociferously raised the issue in both the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha, forcing four adjournments of the Upper House before the final one for the day at 2.45 pm.

In the Lok Sabha, the Congress members staged a walkout.

Jaitley, who spoke on the issue in

both the Houses, said that no search operation was conducted at the resort in Karnataka where Gujarat Congress MLAs are staying.

He said only the minister, who had "parked himself" at the resort, was picked up from there for questioning.

As the Congress members charged the government with using investigating agencies, like CBI, ED and IT, to target their party and leaders, Jaitley said, "Whether it is a use or abuse, it depends on recovery (from the raids)."

He maintained that the searches were being conducted at 39 other places and "not at this resort". — PTI

IIT-D gets 50 study proposals on benefits of cow urine, milk

NEW DELHI, Aug 2: The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, has received 50 proposals from different academic and research institutes to study the benefits of cow urine and milk under the SVAROP programme, the government said today.

In a written reply in the Lok Sabha, YS Chowdary, the Minister of State in the Science and Technology Ministry, said that at a brainstorming-cum-consultative workshop held at the IIT, concept ideas/proposals related to the SVAROP programme, including the research and development (R&D) component on cow derivatives.

SVAROP is acronym for Scientific Validation And Research On Panchgavya (co-cocoon of cow dung, cow urine, milk, curd and ghee).

"Consequently, about 50 research and development proposals have been received by IIT-D from various academic and research institutes besides voluntary organisations," the minister said. — PTI

Sharad Yadav aide hints at new party

PATNA, Aug 2: A close confidante of JD(U) veteran Sharad Yadav today hinted that he could form a new party to remain with Bihar's Magadh bandhan.

However, KC Tyagi, JD(U) principal general secretary and another close confidante of Yadav, termed any such proposed move as "rumour".

Differences have surfaced between Yadav and party president Nitish Kumar over joining hands with the BJP after dumping the coalition with the RJD and the Congress.

Vijay Verma, a senior JD(U) leader and a trusted aide of Yadav, said, "Sharadji is in touch with old friends and is pondering over the political situation. Forming a new party is one of the options to which a serious thought is being given."

Yadav had emphatically said that he would continue to be part of the coalition of secular parties he had met Congress leader Gulam Nabi Azad and CPI(M) leader Sitaram Yechury, he told PTI over phone from Madhepura. — PTI



Lionesses enjoying a pleasant weather at Lucknow zoo on Wednesday. — UNI

SC to hear plea against NOTA in RS polls

NEW DELHI, Aug 2: The political slugs over the decision to use NOTA option in the upcoming Rajya Sabha polls in Gujarat today reached the Supreme Court which agreed to hear tomorrow a plea filed by the State unit of the Congress.

The BJP has fielded its national president Amit Shah, Union minister Smriti Irani and Balwanti Singh Rajput for the three Rajya Sabha seats from Gujarat against the lone Congress candidate Ahmed Patel. The election is scheduled for August 8.

The petition has alleged that use of the option would be violative of the provisions of the Representation of People's Act, 1951 and the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961.

"Without a corresponding amendment in the Act and the Rules any purported administrative action of the Election Commission of India to introduce NOTA is ex-facie illegal, arbitrary and in fact tainted with malafide," it claimed.

The petition alleged that the ECI, which despite being the constitutional watch dog for ensuring free-and-fair elections, "has become a tool in the hands of the ruling dispensation to facilitate violation of the provisions of the Constitution, the Act and the Rules". — PTI

Naidu promises to uphold spirit of Constitution

NEW DELHI, Aug 2: NDA vice-presidential candidate M Venkaiah Naidu has sought support from all parliamentarians, assuring them that he will uphold the spirit and principles of the Constitution and dignity of the office of the Vice President.

In a letter to all MPs who constitute the electoral college yesterday, Naidu gave an account of his long years in public life.

"I would like to assure that on being elected as the Vice President, it shall be my endeavour to defend and uphold the ideals that propelled the freedom struggle, the spirit and the principles of the Constitution of India, including justice, liberty, equality, fraternity and the cherished values of national unity and integration," Naidu said. — PTI

NATIONAL

Operation Abu Dujana – darkness was the theme

PULWAMA (JK), Aug 2: Lashkar-e-Taiba's Kashmir chief Abu Dujana was killed in predawn darkness yesterday and buried somewhere in north Kashmir, senior security officials said today, taking a cue from the operation against Osama bin Laden.

Darkness like a recurring theme as security forces launched an operation in south Kashmir's Pulwama district had come around midnight. Believed to be in his late 20s, Dujana had been elusive many times in the past and there were some suggestions that the operation be conducted after dawn to avoid "collateral damage", officials said.

"The movie and how Osama was finally captured came to our mind and we wasted no time in waiting for dawn," said a senior official, who was part of the operation, on condition of anonymity.

After deliberations with senior officers, a call was taken to carry out the operations during the night itself and troops were mobilised.

Armed with "confirmed knowledge" from a trusted source about the presence of Dujana in the home of a woman he is believed to have married, crack teams of the Special Operations Group (SOG) were quickly mobilised and moved towards Hakipura, adjacent to Neva, a bastion for LeT militants located 13 km from the district headquarters of Pulwama.

Dujana, along with his local accomplice Arif Bhat, was inside the house.

"For us, the inmates of the house were also civilians and we wanted to ensure their safety too. A first crack

team of the police was sent amid heavy fire from the two militants. But his wife and other family members were taken out to safety," an official said.

Dujana and Bhat were killed in the exchange of fire that followed.

After ensuring complete secrecy, Jammu and Kashmir Police took custody of Dujana's body and moved it to the other side of the valley.

Dujana, who was killed in south Kashmir, was buried somewhere in north Kashmir. It's a place where other foreign militants are buried, an official said, without specifying exactly where.

"We have preserved his DNA sample before burying him last night amid darkness," the official said. — PTI

ADVERTISEMENT
Assam Trade Promotion Council registered under Company Act is looking for a Manager on purely contractual basis for its registered office at Maniram Dewari Transport Complex, Barpeta, Assam.

Sd/- General Manager, ATPO

BID OPENING OF "EMANELMENT OF ARCHITECT"
In continuation of advertisement No. Janasanayog/5450/17 which is published on 21.07.2017 (The Assam Tribune), it is informed that "Emanelment of Architect" will be opened on 10th August 2017 at 1:00 PM under F.A.A. Medical College & Hospital, Barpeta.

Sd/- Principal-cum-Chief Superintendent
F.A.A. Medical College & Hospital
Barpeta, Assam.

Janasanyog/2101/17

No AF(S)354/2015-16/79

Press Notice

The Directorate of Fisheries, Assam, Guwahati invites e-tendering from eligible contractors of appropriate category having valid registration from APWO (Bldg/Road)CPWD or other Govt. Deptt. for the following works under RIDF-XXI.

Details of the bid may be seen at e-procurement portal website i.e. www.assamtenders.gov.in. The bidders are required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA) and must be enrolled in www.assamtenders.gov.in as indicated in the website <https://assamtenders.gov.in>.

Pack-age Name of work Approximate value of work (Rs.) Cost of bid document (Rs.) Category of Contractor Bid Security Period of completion

Pack-age	Name of work	Approximate value of work (Rs.)	Cost of bid document (Rs.)	Category of Contractor	Bid Security	Period of completion
A	Establishment of State Brood Fish Farm (Central Assam) at Hazara Fish Seed Farm, Sonitpur	2,99,80,830.00	9,000.00	Class-(iA)	Rs. 5,87,617.00 But in case of bidders belonging to SC/ ST/ OBC / MOCB/ Graduate Engineer it is Rs. 2,93,809.00	6 (Six) months

Detail information regarding terms & conditions and other contents may be collected from the office of the Director of Fisheries, Assam, Guwahati-16 during office hours from 10th August, 2017 to 24th August, 2017.

Sd/- Director of Fisheries
Assam, Guwahati

No AF(S)354/2015-16/80

Press Notice

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Pack-age Name of work Approximate value of work (Rs.) Cost of bid document (Rs.) Category of Contractor Bid Security Period of completion

Pack-age	Name of work	Approximate value of work (Rs.)	Cost of bid document (Rs.)	Category of Contractor	Bid Security	Period of completion
B	Development of Botalikhowa Bee, Johat under RIDF-XXI for 2016-17	1,74,88,514.00	5,500.00	Class-(iB) and above	Rs. 4,39,770.00 But in case of bidders belonging to SC/ ST/ OBC / MOCB/ Graduate Engineer it is Rs. 1,74,885.00	6 (Six) months

Detail information regarding terms & conditions and other contents may be collected from the office of the Director of Fisheries, Assam, Guwahati-16 during office hours from 10th August, 2017 to 24th August, 2017.

Sd/- Director of Fisheries
Assam, Guwahati

No AF(S)354/2015-16/82

Press Notice

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Details of the bid may be seen at e-procurement portal website i.e. www.assamtenders.gov.in. The bidders are required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA) and must be enrolled in www.assamtenders.gov.in as indicated in the website <https://assamtenders.gov.in>.

Pack-age Name of work Approximate value of work (Rs.) Cost of bid document (Rs.) Category of Contractor Bid Security Period of completion

Pack-age	Name of work	Approximate value of work (Rs.)	Cost of bid document (Rs.)	Category of Contractor	Bid Security	Period of completion
D	Renovation of Pindur Pukhun Fish Seed Farm, Morigaon under RIDF-XXI for 2016-17	1,11,33,365.00	3,500.00	Class-(iB) and above	Rs. 22,697.00 But in case of bidders belonging to SC/ ST/ OBC / MOCB/ Graduate Engineer it is Rs. 11,334.00	6 (Six) months

Detail information regarding terms & conditions and other contents may be collected from the office of the Director of Fisheries, Assam, Guwahati-16 during office hours from 10th August, 2017 to 24th August, 2017.

Sd/- Director of Fisheries
Assam, Guwahati

IMPORTANT NOTICE

In continuation to the advertisement for the post of Scientific Assistant (Physics/ Chemistry) under Directorate of Technical Education, Assam vide Janasanyog/10606-10/16/T(E)(A)-15/2017/455-58 dated 27/03/2017 published in the local News Papers on 29-03-2017, it is for the information to all the applicants who have successfully submitted the online application that they will have to appear in a Written Test to be held on 20th August' 2017.

Structure of the Written Test for recruitment of Scientific Assistant (Physical/ Chemistry)

Sl. Post	Written Test (No. of MCQ)				Duration
	English	General Knowledge	Physics/ Chemistry	Total	
1. Scientific Assistant (Physics)	10	10	70	100	2 hours
2. Scientific Assistant (Chemistry)	10	10	70	100	2 hours

Note: In the Written Test 4 marks will be awarded for every correct answer and 1 mark will be deducted for every wrong answer.

PAYOUT FOR WRITTEN TEST

The candidates are to pay an Examination fee of Rs.250/- (in case of General Candidates) & Rs.150/- (in case of SC/ST/PH/BC/MOCB Candidates) w.e.f. 4th August' 2017 to 10th August' 2017, details of which will be available in www.dteassam.in. No payment will be received after the specified date.

ISSUE OF ADMIT CARD

Candidates will receive their Admit card from 14/08/2017 at www.dteassam.in. The candidate of any contract not fulfilling the eligibility criteria as per the advertisement will be liable to be cancelled at any stage, even if s/he appears in the Written Test/ download the Admit Card due to incomplete information.

Sd/- Director of Technical Education, Assam Kahlipara, Guwahati- 19.

NOTIFICATION

In view of greater public interest a re-examination of Computer Test will be conducted from 07.08.2017 to 12.08.2017 for the post of Junior Assistant in connection with appointment of newly established Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Adarsha Mahavidyalaya, Tulinaga.

Candidates who have already applied for the post of Jr. Asst. vide this office Notification No. BND/102/Model Degree College/2017/13 Dt. 04/05/2017, are requested to appear in the test along with a photo identity proof. No fresh application will be entertained.

Procedure for selection for the post of Jr. Asst.

The total weightage for selection of the post of Jr. Asst. shall be divided into Academic Qualification : 80% and Computer Test : 20%. There will be no written examination and oral interview for the posts. Details as given below (up to two decimal places).

1. HSLC • 10 Marks obtained/Total Marks)

2. HSSLC • 20 Marks obtained/Total Marks)

3. Graduation • 50 Marks obtained/Total Marks)

4. Computer Test • 20 Marks obtained/Total Marks) (Computer typing in English & Assamese)

Merit list will be prepared on total score of above weightages considering reservation as per the advertisement No. BND/102/Model Degree College/2017/13 Dt. 04/05/2017. In case of same score for two or more candidates, preference will be given to the candidates having more mark in English at Degree level.

• No Call letter will be issued to the candidate.

• Group wise list of candidates for the Computer test may be downloaded from the District website www.bongaigaon.gov.in.

• Any information regarding the Computer test please visit the District website www.bongaigaon.gov.in.

• No TA/DDA will be admissible.

Sl. No. Name of Post Venu Date of Computer Test Group-A (Sl. No. 1 to 200) Time

1. Junior Asstt. District Computer Centre, Bongaigaon 07.08.2017 Group - B (Sl. No. 201 to 400) 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

2. -DO- 08.08.2017 Group - C (Sl. No. 401 to 600) 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

3. -DO- 10.08.2017 Group - D (Sl. No. 601 to 800) 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

4. -DO- 11.08.2017 Group - E (Sl. No. 801 to 1000) 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

5. -DO- 12.08.2017 Group - F (Sl. No. 1001 to 1167) 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Sd/- Deputy Commissioner, Bongaigaon & President, PDUAM, Tulinaga, Bongaigaon
Janasanyog/882/17

Older adults who consume alcohol moderately on a regular basis are more likely to live to the age of 85 without dementia or other cognitive impairments than those who do not drink, a study claims.

Previous studies have found a correlation between moderate alcohol intake and longevity.

"This study is unique because we considered men and women's cognitive health at late age and found that alcohol consumption is not only associated with reduced mortality, but with greater chances of remaining cognitively healthy into older age," said Linda McEvoy, Associate Professor at University of California, San Diego in the US.

In particular, the researchers found that among

and better access to health care, researchers said.

The research team adjusted the statistical analyses to remove confounding variables, such as smoking or obesity, but noted the study is based only on statistical relationships between different demographic factors, behaviours and health outcomes.

There remain on-going debates about whether and how alcohol impacts lifespan or potentiality protects against cognitive impairments with age.

One of the study's advantages, however, is that the data derive from a relatively homogeneous population in a geographically well-defined area.

All of the 1,344 older adults (728 women; 616

men) who participated in the study are from Rancho Bernardo, a white-collar, middle-to-upper-middle-class suburb in San Diego County.

More than 99 per cent of the study participants tracked from 1984 to 2013, are Caucasian with at least some college education.

"This study shows that moderate drinking may be part of a healthy lifestyle to maintain cognitive fitness in aging," said Erin Richard, a graduate student in the Joint San Diego State University/UC San Diego Doctoral Programme in Public Health.

"However, it is not a recommendation for everyone to drink. Some people have health problems that are made worse by alcohol, and others cannot limit their drinking to only a glass or two per day. For these people, drinking can have negative consequences," said Richard.

Moderate drinking involves consuming up to one alcoholic beverage a day for adult women of any age and men aged 65 and older; and up to two drinks a day for a man under age 65.

Heavy drinking is defined as up to three alcoholic beverages per day for women of any adult age and men 65 and older; and four drinks a day for adult men under 65. Drinking more than these amounts is categorised as excessive.

"It is important to point out that there were very few individuals in our study who drank to excess, so our study does not show how excessive or binge-type drinking may affect longevity and cognitive health in aging," said McEvoy, senior author of the study published in the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*. Long-term excessive alcohol intake is known to cause alcohol-related dementia.

The researchers said the study does not suggest drinking is responsible for increased longevity or cognitive health.

Alcohol consumption, particularly of wine, is associated with higher incomes and education levels, which in turn are associated with lower rates of smoking, lower rates of mental illness

(Source: PTI)

Cognitive health

Moderate drinkers at lower risk of dementia, found a study

men and women 85 and older, individuals who consumed "moderate to heavy" amounts of alcohol five to seven days a week were twice as likely to be cognitively healthy than non-drinkers. Cognitive health was assessed every four years over the course of the 29-year study, using a standard dementia screening test.

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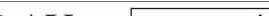
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(Source: PTI)



Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Aug. 3, 2017:

This year you will want to blazer your own trail. Your emphasis will be on children, love and creative pursuits. The unexpected marks events and decisions. Your flexibility could make or break your year. If you are single, you might want to say "yes" to a date. However, if you are in a relationship, do not rush this bond into a commitment. Instead, just enjoy every moment. If you are attached, the two of you will rekindle the fire that exists between you. A new addition could be possible. CAPRICORN plays a major role in your year.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Creative; 2-Soo-soo; 1-Difficult.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

You still feel that there is a different influence around you today. You might be making decisions that you have been putting off for a long time. Don't be surprised if you change your mind again later and opt to head down an even more unexpected path. Tonight: Out late.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Try to air out some of the issues you are holding on to. You'll appreciate this person's feedback. Don't be surprised if you get some strong reactions to what is being shared. Tonight: Go along with a suggestion.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Your sense of what to do during the day seems to please those around you. You might choose some sort of way to go to work. The unexpected runs through your plans. Understand what it means to be a family and try to be unpredictable; observe rather than judge. Tonight: Opt for completeness.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

You still feel that you have some control over a daily work situation. You might be proven wrong. You could witness a backfire of some sort, an unexpected development might emerge. Maintain a sense of humor. Tonight: Visit with a dear friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You still feel that you have some control over a daily work situation. You might be proven wrong. You could witness a backfire of some sort, an unexpected development might emerge. Maintain a sense of humor. Tonight: Visit with a dear friend.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You might want to head in a different direction from the majority of those around you. As a result, you could be surprised by what happens. The unexpected plays a major role in what is to come. A family member is likely to create some uproar. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Recognize that you are heading down a path that could elicit some strong reactions. Free yourself from the status quo. You might have some unexpected changes on the way. Do not close down or pretend that it is business as usual. Go with the moment. Tonight: Catch some zzzs.

PISCES (Feb. 19-April 18)

You might want to head in a different direction from the majority of those around you. As a result, you could be surprised by what happens. The unexpected plays a major role in what is to come. A family member is likely to create some uproar. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You might want to head in a different direction from the majority of those around you. As a result, you could be surprised by what happens. The unexpected plays a major role in what is to come. A family member is likely to create some uproar. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

Fish (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You might want to head in a different direction from the majority of those around you. As a result, you could be surprised by what happens. The unexpected plays a major role in what is to come. A family member is likely to create some uproar. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

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Pakistan, India end water talks in Washington

WASHINGTON, Aug 2: Pakistan and India have concluded the much-delayed water talks here "in a spirit of goodwill and cooperation," the US said.

"The parties have agreed to continue discussions and reconvene in September in Washington," it added.

In March, India and Pakistan held the annual Indus Waters Treaty talks in Lahore after a gap of two years.

The Commission, which is mandated to meet at least

once every year, alternately in India and Pakistan, comprises Indus Commissioners from both sides and discusses technical matters related to the implementation of the treaty.

The Secretary of Water and Power, Youssaf Naseem Khokhar, led the Pakistani delegation at the two-day talks which ended on Tuesday at the World Bank headquarters.

The Indus in Jammu and Kashmir. The Indus Waters Treaty was signed in 1960 and involves six rivers: the Beas, Ravi, Sutlej, Indus, Chenab and Jhelum.

Brokered by the World Bank, the treaty gave the right to use waters of the first three rivers to India and of the other three rivers to Pakistan.

India has said it has the right under the treaty to set

up hydropower plants on the tributaries of the rivers flowing through its territory. Pakistan fears this might reduce the water flow of the rivers into its territory.

The treaty came close to being jeopardized following the cross-border terror attack on September 18 last year on an Indian Army base at Uri in Jammu and Kashmir that left 19 Indian soldiers dead. - IANS

New Pak PM meets Sharif

ISLAMABAD, Aug 2: Pakistan's new Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi today met Nawaz Sharif to "consult" him before finalising his Cabinet, the state media reported.

The two met at Sharif's private residence in the hill resort of Murree near Islamabad where Sharif has been staying since he vacated the official residence two days ago after the Supreme Court disqualified him over the Panama Papers scandal.

Shehzad Sharif, who will take over from Abbasi after he is elected to the National Assembly, was also present during the meeting, the Pakistan TV reported.

Abbasi, a die-hard Nawaz Sharif loyalist, was yesterday prime minister by the National Assembly. He was later sworn in by President Mamnoon Hussain.

Abbasi has said that Sharif may have been disqualified by the Supreme Court but remains the "people's premier". He has praised Sharif's leadership and criticised opposition parties for accusing him of corruption.

"Justice demands that 1,000 guilty are set free than one innocent is convicted," Abbasi said. "It is my firm belief that Nawaz Sharif will return to the seat of premiership," he said. - PTI

Prince Philip to retire

LONDON, Aug 2: Britain's 96-year-old Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, will carry out his final solo public engagement on Wednesday before he retires from royal duties.

Prince Philip, the consort of Queen Elizabeth II, announced his retirement in May, after decades of supporting the Queen, as well as attending events for his own charities and organisations. He has completed 22,219 solo engagements since 1952, BBC reported.

On Wednesday, he will meet Royal Marines who have taken part in a 1,664-mile trek for charity.

As Captain General of the Royal Marines, the Duke will attend a parade on Buckingham Palace grounds to mark the finale of the 1,664 Global Challenge—a series of strength and endurance challenges raising funds and awareness for charity.

During the event, Prince Philip will also meet veterans and cadets before receiving the 1,664 Global Challenge baton. The parade will end with a march past, a royal salute and three cheers for the Captain General. - IANS



US President Donald Trump greets guests during an event with small business in the White House, Washington on Tuesday. - UNI

US willing to talk to N Korea: Tillerson

WASHINGTON, Aug 2: The US wishes to sit down and hold dialogue with North Korea, but only if the Communist nation gives up its weapons, US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson has said.

Days after North Korea on Sunday launched its second intercontinental ballistic missile in a month, Tillerson said Washington was "responding to an unacceptable threat to the US".

The official said at a press conference here that the US was

not Pyongyang's "enemy". "We hope that at some point they will begin to understand that we would like to sit and have a dialogue with them."

He reiterated the US does not "seek a reunification of the peninsula".

The missile launched about 1,000 km before splashing down into the sea, Pentagon spokesman Jeff Davis said in a statement.

North Korea said the test

firing aimed to "finally confirm

the overall technological specifications of the weapon system of Hwasong-14 capable of carrying large-sized heavy nuclear warheads, including its maximum range".

A willingness to talk if North Korea agrees to pursue denuclearisation was also Obama administration policy, though it was not successful in getting Pyongyang to the table.

But he made it clear that there was no possibility of talks if North Korea did not abandon its nuclear programme.

Trump had emphasized that point as he counseled Chinese President Xi Jinping during a state visit and pressured Beijing to use its influence on Pyongyang.

Trump had recently expressed disappointment that

Beijing had not applied as much pressure as he would like or caused a change in North Korea's behaviour. - IANS



A woman riding a bike at an underwater park in Pula, Croatia on Tuesday. - UNI

US launches unarmed ICBM

WASHINGTON, Aug 2: The US on Wednesday successfully launched an unarmed intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) from a military base in California to a Pacific atoll, the US Air Force Global Strike Command said in a statement.

The unarmed Minuteman 3 missile was launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base, about 130 km northwest of Los Angeles, to the Kwajalein atoll across the Pacific, the New York Post reported.

It was the fourth such test by the US this year amid growing tensions with North Korea, which last Friday launched its second ICBM.

The test comes after the US successfully tested its THAAD anti-missile system in Alaska on Sunday. - IANS

US plans to send 2 aircraft carriers to Korean peninsula

SEOUL, Aug 2: The US is mulling to dispatch two aircraft carriers to the Korean peninsula in a show of force following North Korea's ballistic missile launch, the media reported on Wednesday.

South Korean and the US militaries have considered mobilisation of the US aircraft carrier to the peninsula for the joint annual war games codenamed Ulchi Freedom Guardian, Xinhua news agency quoted a South Korean official as saying.

US President Donald Trump condemned Pyongyang's July 28 missile launch and said all necessary measures will be taken to protect his country and allies in the region.

The official said reviews were underway over the dispatch of two aircraft carriers in the wake of the intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) launch by the Communist regime.

The mobilisation date would be moved up, before the computer-assisted simulation exercise that was scheduled to kick off on August 21, the official said.

The official said reviews were underway over the dispatch of two aircraft carriers and an undefined number of

US nuclear-powered submarine this month, before the joint US-South Korea war game kicks off.

The missile, launched last week, flew about 1,000 km and lofted as high as over 3,700 km. It was an advanced version of Hwasong-14 that travelled 933 km at a maximum altitude of 2,802 km at the July 4 test launch. - IANS

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Taliban attacks NATO convoy in Afghanistan

KABUL, Aug 2: A suicide bomber on Wednesday attacked a NATO convoy in Afghanistan's southern province of Kandahar, officials said.

The attack, claimed by the Taliban, took place at 12.20 pm. In the provincial capital also called Kandahar, Efe news reported.

"The suicide car bombing was carried out when a foreign forces' convoy was passing through the area," a spokesperson said, adding the attack occurred on a road leading to an important US base.

A NATO official confirmed the attack and said there were casualties. Afghan security forces cor-

doned off the area and were trying to ascertain the number of casualties, the report said.

Taliban spokesperson Qari Yusuf Ahmadi claimed the attack.

The current NATO mission in Afghanistan has deployed around 13,000 troops who provide assistance to Afghan troops while the US maintains some 8,400 troops in the country.

Since the NATO combat mission ended in January 2015, the insurgents have been gaining ground in various parts of Afghanistan and now control, influence or are fighting the government in 43 per cent of the country, according to US officials. - IANS

Pakistan, Afghanistan urged to fight IS jointly

ISLAMABAD, Aug 2: A leading Pakistani newspaper on Wednesday urged Islamabad and Kabul to jointly fight the Islamic State terrorist group.

The government approved an emergency fund of 35 million baht (\$1 million) to alleviate the damage by the catastrophe.

Prime Minister General Prayut Chan-o-chai on Wednesday visited Sakon Nakhon province, the hardest-hit by flooding. He said the Thailand King had expressed concerns for the flood-victims and told the government to help the people.

In late 2011, heavy rainfall and lack of coordination among local authorities led to what was considered the worst flood recorded in more than half a century in the country, said the report. - IANS

tionship, often Afghanistan's militancy problems spill over into Pakistan; the case of IS is no different," it said.

"Transnational militancy is a nebulous phenomenon; it does not recognise borders or national sovereignty."

"That is why it is imperative that Pakistan and Afghanistan work together to neutralise the threat of IS in both countries."

"This may be difficult to achieve, given the often tense relations that prevail between Islamabad and Kabul."

"But as IS and militants sympathetic to its ideology have shown elsewhere, if a vacuum is left - as was the case in Syria and Iraq - IS will move in very quickly to fill it. - IANS

Nepal PM to visit India

KATHMANDU, Aug 2: Nepali Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba will embark on a five-day state visit to India on August 23, a media report said.

Officials from both the countries were working to finalise the itinerary, agenda and the size of the delegation, the Kathmandu Post reported on Wednesday. Deuba's visit to India will focus on implementing the past accords that were signed during his earlier visits in 1996, 2002 and 2004 as the Prime Minister, the report said.

"While dwelling on the status of the India-funded projects, he also plans to discuss the issues, if any, that have impeded the implementation of the past accords on a military or police target in Brian.

They were convicted of one count of preparing for acts of terrorism under Section 5 of the UK's Terrorism Act 2006 following a 23-week trial at the Old Bailey court in London.

Besides a half-made pipe bomb and a meat cleaver, other items found in Ali's bag included an air pistol imitation hand gun with an empty magazine taped to the side of it, 11 most shot cartridges, a live unfired 9mm bullet, a roll of gaffer tape and a pair of black latex gloves.

It had emerged during the course of the trial that Britain's security services and police officers had set up a fake courier company last year to gather evidence on the suspects as part of a counter-terrorism operation.

MIs and West Midlands Police officers created Hero Couriers while an undercover police officer, known only as "Vincent", posed as the boss of the delivery company in Birmingham. - PTI

"We have received two clear instructions from the Prime Minister. Firstly, he is keen to implement the past agreements reached during his three visits to India," two senior officials told.

"The PM is a bi-national hydropower project to be developed in Mahakali River bordering Nepal and India. Development of PMP and is covered under integrated Mahakali Treaty signed between the two countries according to which, equal sizes of underground power house will be constructed on each side of Mahakali river in India and Nepal. - IANS

সাংস্কৃতিক সঞ্চালকালয়, অসমৰ সহযোগত নটসুর্যৰ উদ্যোগত দ্বি-বিশ্বিতম্ বার্ষিক সাতদিনীয়া গাট সমাবোহ

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Janasanyog/6021/17

Barcelona's Brazilian forward Neymar (R) drives into the parking lot to take part in a training session at the Sports Centre FC Barcelona Joan Gamper in Sant Joan Despí, near Barcelona on Wednesday following rumour that he is considering a move to French club PSG for which the club would have to shell out some 222 million euros, enough to trigger the 25-year-old's transfer release clause.



Neymar tells Barca teammates 'he is leaving'

BARCELONA, Aug 2:

Neymar informed his teammates that he is leaving Barcelona, a club spokesperson confirmed today, as his potential world record move to Paris Saint-Germain moves a step closer.

The coach has to train as scheduled and announced to his teammates that he is leaving."

"The coach has given him permission to not train and to manage negotiations for his future."

Speculation over the 25-year-old's future has dominated the first few weeks of new Barca boss Ernesto Valverde's reign with PSG making a bid to pay Neymar's 222 million euro (USD 200 million) buyout clause.

Such a fee would smash the current record \$89.3 million (USD 111 million, 105.2 million euros) Manchester United paid for Paul Pogba last year.

Neymar arrived back in Barcelona on Tuesday from a flying promotional tour to China.

He turned up for training at

9am local time (0700GMT) today, but left less than an hour later. Presuming both clubs don't come to a late agreement, the buyout clause would have to be paid to Barcelona via Spain's La Liga to free the player from the contract he signed last year and runs until 2021.

However, La Liga president Javier Tebas has threatened not to accept PSG's money over what he perceives as a failure of the French side's financial fair play rules (FFP). Clubs can be sanctioned by UEFA for making a loss over three consecutive years.

"We won't accept this money from a club like PSG," Tebas told Madrid sports daily AS on Wednesday.

"Especially when this club is infringing rules and laws."

Barcelona have also threatened to report PSG to UEFA over any potential breach of FFP.

PSG have already been fined and saw their Champions

League squad limited by UEFA for breaches of FFP in 2014.

Winning the Champions League for a first time is the dream driving PSG's owners QSI and a deal that could send the star to a team in an elite level of European football.

Since QSI's takeover in 2011, PSG have failed to make it beyond the quarterfinal stage in recent seasons – most notably blowing a 4-0 first leg lead to lose 6-1 to a Neymar-inspired Barcelona in the last 16 of last season's competition in March.

Prising Neymar from the grip of Barcelona will be a presence as a contender for the likes of Barca, Real Madrid and Bayern Munich to fear.

Neymar has formed one of the deadliest strike partnerships in football history with five-time World Player of the Year Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez over the past three seasons.

Together they won two La Liga titles, a Champions

League and three Spanish Cups, whilst Neymar has scored 105 goals and provided 80 assists in just 186 games.

Yet, one justification for Neymar to jump ship on top of the reported offer to triple his salary to 100 million euros a year is a desire to move out of Messi's shadow if he is to end the Argentine and Cristiano Ronaldo's decade-long dominance to win the Ballon d'Or.

Neymar's four-year spell in Spain has also been overshadowed by the murky transfer deal which brought him to Barcelona from Santos in 2013.

He and his parents, as well as Barca president Josep Maria Bartomeu face charges of fraud and corruption in an ongoing case brought by DIS, a Brazilian investment company.

DIS owned 40 per cent of the players' rights at the time of the deal and believe they were deliberately cheated out of their real share due to the complex structure of the transfer. – AFP

Smith upbeat but says no tour without new pay deal

SYDNEY, Aug 2: Australia captain Steve Smith said he was upbeat that a bitter pay war between players and management could be nearly over – but warned the team wouldn't go ahead with this month's tour of Bangladesh until a new deal is signed.

Some 230 Australian cricketers have been unemployed since the end of June when their contracts expired, in a row that has rattled the game and left their relationship with the governing body badly strained.

But after months of bad-tempered negotiations over a new pay deal – and a player boycott of an Australia A tour to South Africa – the end appears to be in sight.

"A deal hasn't been done just yet," Smith told Fox

Sports Australia late on Tuesday.

"There's still a few things that need to be finalised, some key elements.

"They've been making some really good progress and hopefully they'll continue to make progress."

A resolution would give certainty not just to the Bangladesh trip, but a one-day tour to India in September and October ahead of the showpiece home Ashes series against England, beginning in November. But Smith said a deal would have to be struck before Australia board the flight for Dhaka on August 18.

"I told Pat Howard personally this was how things were going to be," he said, referring to Cricket Australia's team performance manager.

"I'd like to (tour Bangladesh), but as we've said for a long time we need to get a deal done first."

CA chief James Sutherland warned last week that unless the drawn-out negotiations over a revenue-sharing deal produce a compromise by early this week, he would take the matter to arbitration and let the industrial umpire resolve it.

This sparked new urgency to strike a deal, with talks continuing over the weekend.

Players have been paid from gross revenue for the past two decades, but CA wants their pay to come from a set pool instead, with only surplus revenue shared.

The Australian newspaper reported on Wednesday that barring last-minute stumbling blocks, the players would largely retain the previous model, which they have insisted is non-negotiable. But even if the disagreement is resolved, former captain Michael Clarke said on Sunday that he feared things would never be the same between CA and the players.

Vice-captain David Warner has been particularly outspoken in the push to keep the 20-year revenue-sharing arrangement. But Smith insisted the batsmen had nothing to fear regarding potential retribution from Howard and Sutherland.

"No, I think he'll be okay," Smith said. "Obviously he's been very vocal and he's supported the Australian Cricketers' Association through this whole thing and he's been great." – AFP

Low online ticket sales in Goa prompts LOC to install stalls

MARGAO, Aug 2: Low online ticket sales in Goa have prompted the local organising committee of the upcoming FIFA U-17 World Cup to install ticket counters near the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Fatorda.

"The response from the Goans for the sale of online tickets from among the six different venues is the lowest, the reason is that the Goans are not used to book online."

"We have understood that the different U-17 World Cup venues in India have different purchasing patterns. Hence, closer to the tournament we will be installing physical ticket sales system near Fatorda stadium for the convenience of the football crazy fans in Goa," tournament director Javer Ceppi said today.

The Under-17 World Cup kicks off on October 6 with India taking on the United States in New Delhi.

"Not many people in the country will get a chance to boast about witnessing Germany and Brazil live in a FIFA World Cup game in India. We are confident that the fans in Goa will march to the stadium in massive numbers when they look at the teams and players coming down to play at the venue, such as Vinicius Junior who is tipped to be the new Neymar," added Ceppi.

While the ticket sales in Goa have not matched the expectations and the reputation of football loving State, the region's traditional affinity for the beautiful game and the fantastic line up of games featuring the likes of Germany, Brazil, Iran, Costa Rica, Guinea and Niger bodes well for the venue that will also host one of the quarterfinals of the tournament. – PTI

Prannoy, Kashyap enter pre-quarters of New Zealand Open

AUCKLAND, Aug 2: HS Prannoy and Parupalli Kashyap continued their good run, reaching the pre-quarterfinals with straight-game wins in men's singles competition of the New Zealand Grand Prix Gold here today.

24-year-old Prannoy, who had clinched the US Open in California last month, staved off a challenge from Indonesia's Firman Abdul Kholik 23-21, 21-18.

Commonwealth Games champion Kashyap, who had also reached the finals of the US Open, notched up a crushing win over New Zealand's Oscar Guo 21-9, 21-8.

Prannoy will meet 10th seed Hong Kong's Wei Nan, while 15th seeded Kashyap will face compatriot and seventh seed Sourabh Verma.

Sourabh, seeded 7th, posted a 21-16, 21-16 win over Indonesia's Henrich Kho Wibowo, while 16th seeded Sirel Verma beat another Indonesian Saputra Vicky Angga 21-14, 21-16 to advance to the next round.

For young shuttlers – Sahil Sipani and Neeraj Vashist – it was the end of road after they suffered straight-game losses in the second round.

Sahil lost 9-21, 8-21 to 11th seed Lin Yu Hsien of Chinese Taipei, while Neeraj went down 16-21, 13-21 to Australia's Anthony Joe.

Pratul Joshi also bowed out after his battle ended with a 13-21, 22-24 loss to top seeded Tzu Wei Wang of Chinese Taipei in another men's singles match.

Sanyogita Ghosh and Prajakta Sawant lost 15-21, 18-21 to Japanese fourth seed Ayako Sakuramoto and Yukiko Takahata in women's doubles.

In mixed doubles, Chinese pair of Fan Qiuyue and Xuanxuan Liu ended the journey of Prajakta Sawant and Malaysia's Yogendran Krishnan 21-13, 21-13. – PTI

Beckham team 'at the finish line', says MLS boss

MIAMI, Aug 2: David Beckham is "at the finish line" in his quest to obtain approval for a Major League Soccer expansion club in Miami, MLS commissioner Don Garber told the Miami Herald.

Beckham's expansion bid is on the agenda at an MLS owners meeting on Wednesday in Chicago.

They could vote to approve the deal and end a saga of more than 3 1/2 years during which Beckham has struggled to find a stadium site and secure the land for a venue to house the team. His signing with the league in 2007 allowed him to own a discounted rate of \$25 million.

"We are at the finish line after nine years of work to be sure, if we go to Miami, we get it right," Garber told the Herald on Tuesday.

David had an option, but that option couldn't be exercised without having him satisfy all the things that all team owners need to satisfy – the right capital structure with his partners, the right stadium plan, the right marketing and business plans – and we're at that point where weeks later, we're able to go down to Miami and talk about what our plans might be."

That would string out the saga of Beckham's quest to start an MLS team in Miami even more after failing to find a waterside venue, then having plans for a location near the Miami Marlins' baseball park fall through.

The newspaper also reported some owners are not happy that Beckham's co-investors are able to benefit from Beckham's reduced MLS club entry fee at a time when MLS is asking \$150 million from new investor groups.

Toronto joined MLS in 2007

for \$10 million while Seattle and Philadelphia paid \$30 million two years later and Vancouver and Portland paid \$35 million to join in 2011.

Miami Beckham United hopes to have a 25,000-seat stadium completed in time to start the 2020 MLS season and possibly host 2022 World Cup qualifying matches. – AFP

leaders must still approve. "It's a vote. Votes can go any which way," Garber said. "We're not there yet. I think we've got work to do."

"And perhaps, coming out of that board meeting is not an approval, but a handful of things that need to happen to get that approval – at which point, perhaps weeks later, we're able to go down to Miami and talk about what our plans might be."

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Miami Beckham United hopes to have a 25,000-seat stadium completed in time to start the 2020 MLS season and possibly host 2022 World Cup qualifying matches. – AFP

Usain Bolt swansong dominates London Worlds

LONDON, Aug 2: Usain Bolt's decision to call time on his glittering career will dominate the IAAF World Championships in London that starts on Friday.

What we will miss is

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Kvitova looking forward to busy US Open build-up

LOS ANGELES, Aug 2: Two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova is relishing the prospect of a jam-packed North American schedule, starting this week in Stanford, California.

The Czech was sidelined for six months after a knife-wielding burglar at her home left her with severe left hand injuries that threatened her career.

She returned in May at the French Open, losing in the second round. After a tournament win in Birmingham, she fell in the second-round at Wimbledon as well, where she had to call for medical assistance in her three-set loss to Madison Brengle.

"I was really trying hard to play Wimbledon and suddenly I was there and I wasn't feeling the best," Kvitova said this week as she prepared to launch her Stan-ford campaign.

"Everything together physically, emotionally, mentally, it was just too much. The body just responded," Kvitova said.

After Wimbledon, she pulled out of a tournament in Bastad, but now she says she's healthy and ready to "enjoy the rest of the season."

She has booked herself for five tournaments in North America.

Seeded second, Kvitova enjoyed a first-round bye and will kick off her ambitious August against Ukraine's Kateryna Bondarenko.

In other first-round matches on Tuesday, sixth-seeded American CoCo Vandeweghe advanced when Croatian Ajla Tomljanovic, who entered the tournament nursing a shoulder injury, retired after losing the first set 6-2.

"It was disappointing to have a retirement today, but I thought I was playing well to get to the point of winning the first set," Vandeweghe said.

Wimbledon champion Garbine Muguruza, the top seed, opens her campaign on Wednesday with a second-round meeting against American teenager Kayla Day. -AFP

Rahul set for comeback as India aim to seal series

COLOMBO, Aug 2: KL Rahul's imminent return leaves skipper Virat Kohli with an unavoidable task of dropping opener Abhinav Mukund as India aim to clinch the three-match series against Sri Lanka with another resounding victory in the second Test starting tomorrow.

The selection conundrum is a testimony to the superb bench strength of the team. Rahul's absence hardly affected the performance with India thrashing the hosts by 304 runs, starting the series with a bang.

Ironically, Mukund, who will be warming the bench, scored 51 in the second innings but just that his opening partner Shikhar Dhawan outshone him with a 168-ball-190, that set up the match and given him the best player award.

"KL Rahul has been our established opener. I feel one of the openers (Dhawan or Mukund) will have to make way for him because what he (Rahul) has done in the past two tests has been very solid. He deserves to come back and start fresh in Test cricket again," Kohli made his choice of playing XI present.



R Ashwin, Ishant Sharma, Umesh Yadav and Bhuvneshwar Kumar rest during a practice session ahead of the second Test in Colombo.

TEAMS

India: Virat Kohli (c), Shikhar Dhawan, KL Rahul, Cheteshwar Pujara, Ajinkya Rahane, Rohit Sharma, Suresh Raina, Ravindra Jadeja, Wriddhiman Saha (wk), Ishant Sharma, Umesh Yadav, Hardik Pandya, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Mohammed Shami, Kuldeep Yadav, Ashwin, Mukund.

Sri Lanka: Dinesh Chandimal (c), Angelo Mathews, Upul Tharanga, Dimuth Karunaratne, Nirosh用, Kusal Perera, Kusal Mendis, Dhananjaya de Silva, Danushka Gunathilaka, Lahiru Kumara, Vishwa Fernando, Nuwan Pradeep, Rangana Herath, Dushmantha Karunaratne, Fushinukumara Lakshan Sandakan, Lahiru Thirimanne.

Match starts at: 10am IST

Federer to make first Montreal appearance since 2011

every year.

"I'm happy to be coming back to Montreal, as I have not had the chance to play there for many years," Federer said.

"This 2017 season has been very exciting and I am really looking forward to being back on the court."

Federer captured the Australian Open for the fifth time in his career, then won his eighth Wimbledon title. Federer also took titles at Indian Wells, Miami and Halle.

It also means Federer will celebrate his 36th birthday next Tuesday in Montreal.

"We are celebrating today and the celebrations will continue over the next few days, especially since Federer will celebrate his birthday with us on August 8," said tournament director Eugenie Lapierre. "I'm certain the Montreal fans will give him a welcome he deserves."

Federer seeks his third crown in the Canadian event but the first in Montreal after 2004 and 2006 triumphs in Toronto. -AFP

ty clear ahead of the match.

While Kohli did not explicitly mention Mukund's exclusion but one could clearly read between the lines when he answered a question on his preferred choice between the two left-handers.

"I feel in a situation like this, you need to sit down and think which player has had more impact on the game. Who has been able to sort of make that difference in the game straightforward? It all depends on who has had a better game, to be honest," Kohli's answer made it crystal clear what exactly is his game-plan.

Interestingly, India had faced the opening dilemma even the last time they played here. Both Dhawan and Murali Vijay were out injured two years ago, and it was the young Rahul, playing only his second series, who opened with Pujara.

For the hosts, the task ahead is as onerous as it was in the first Test. The gap in Test rankings - No. 1 to No. 7 - highlights the gulf between the sides and the result from Galle has only widened it further. -PTI

Sports fraternity condoles Santosh Mohan Dev's demise

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 2: The sports fraternity of the State condoled the death of former Union Minister and a keen sportsperson Santosh Mohan Dev who breathed his last today.

Popularly known as Rana Da, Dev was a first class football referee who officiated almost all the major football tournaments in Assam including the Bordoli Trophy, Independence Day Cup, among others. He also conducted Santosh Trophy matches in Guwahati and Nagaland.

Dev was closely associated with various State and national level sports organisations. He was very popular among the sportspersons for his helpful attitude and eagerness to meet all including the organisers. He was instrumental in setting up the Satindra Mohan Dev Stadium in Silchar.

Recalling his contribution to sportspersons in need, former Assam Cricket Association (ACA) secretary Bikash Baruah said, "Rana Da provided adequate financial assistance and other support to eminent State cricketer Aban Hazarika in 2007 when he was hospitalized in Mumbai." Baruah also condoled the demise.

The Assam Football Association secretary Arun Dutta, ACA secretary Pradipta Bhattacharya, Sports Association president Munin Nobis and secretary Bhola Baruah paid tribute to the departed soul who had made tremendous contribution for the development of the sporting scenario in the country. The Veteran Cricket Association, Assam secretary Nasir Gul Khan also offered their condolence.

Hiren Baruah TT at Jorhat from Aug 10

GUWAHATI, Aug 2: The Jorhat Table Tennis Association, under the aegis of the Assam Table Tennis Association will conduct the 12th Hiren Baruah Memorial All Assam Major Ranking TT Tournament at the Swahul Kushal Konwar Indoor Stadium, Jorhat from August 10 to 13.

The organisers are expecting around 400 paddlers from districts including Goalpara, Nagaon, Jorhat, Siang, Dibrugarh, North Lakhimpur Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Mangaldoi along with institutions like OIL, NF Railway to take part in the meet where 10 singles events, from cadet to senior, for both male and female will be conducted.

Surbraj Sinha and Ratnadip Chakravorty have been appointed as observer for the championship while Rajdeep Bhuyan will be the competition manager. Biram Bhagawati is named chief referee and he will be assisted by Golinda Upadhyaya and Chandan Goswami, stated a release issued by ATTA secretary Tridib Duvarah.

Naroram football underway

TIHUA, Aug 2: Mukulma Anchali Krira Sangha defeated Ghagrah Anchali Krira Santa 3-0 in the opening match of the Chamata, the 10th Assam Barman Football Championship at Chamata, near here today.

The championship is organised by the Chamata Anchali Krira Sangha at their own stadium.

Earlier, the Sangha's year-long Golden Jubilee celebration was inaugurated by hoisting 50 club flags. An exhibition match between Sangha's team and veteran footballers was played to mark the occasion. Chamata Anchali Krira Sangha will take on 1st ASRF Barma tomorrow, a release said.

GVCC meeting

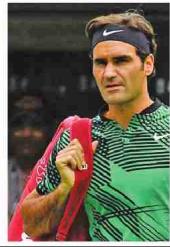
GUWAHATI, Aug 2: The Guwahati Volleyball Coaching Centre (GVCC) will hold its annual general meeting at its Judges' Field campus on August 6 from 11am onwards. The GVCC secretary has urged all the general members to attend the meeting.



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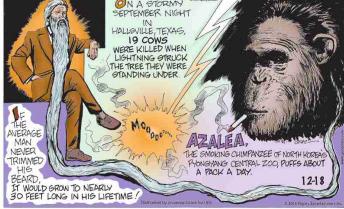
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Please... Believe It or Not!



Why? What? Why did the Hostage Crisis in a Moscow theatre take place?

In October 23, 2002 about 45 Chechen rebels stormed a Moscow theatre, taking up to 700 people hostage. The second act of the musical 'Noel' was just beginning when the rebels entered the auditorium. They opened fire when an armed man walked on stage and fired a machine gun into the air. The terrorists – including a number of women who explosives strapped to their bodies – identified themselves as members of the Chechen Republic. They claimed that Russian military forces began an immediate and comprehensive assault from Chechnya, the mountain region located to the north of the Caucasus Mountains.

Chechnya had struggled to assert its independence for a disastrous two-year war ended in 1996, but Russian forces returned to the region in 1999. Russian authorities blamed Chechens for a series of bombings in Russia.

After a 57-hour standoff at the Palace of Culture, during which two bombs exploded, Russian special forces stormed and raided the theatre on the morning of October 26. Later, it was revealed that they had pumped a powerful narcotic gas into the building, knocking nearly all of the terrorists and hosts unconscious. In the end, 129 hostages were killed during the raid. Security forces were later forced to defend the decision to use the dangerous gas, saying that only a complete surprise attack could have disturbed the terrorists before they had time to detonate their explosives.



My viewpoint

“Why should we study Moral Science in school?”



Today's competitive and digitally advanced world is quite swiftly changing. We are becoming more and more greedy, devoid of social survival skills. Hence arises the need for a 'Moral Science' period in our curriculum. Moral Education is not all about scoring good marks, or mugging formulas and theories. It is a task to mould our soul, mind and character in a healthy way. Moral Science helps in growing our values, restating honesty and enhancing good relationships with others. These values define the personal character of a person.



Besides the knowledge provided by our course books, reading books and newspapers, there are some basic moral values that we should imbibe. These include discipline, punctuality, good behaviour, truthfulness, loyalty, etc. The importance of these moral values is mentioned in the 'Bible' also. Moreover, it teaches us to have faith in God and the messenger. These values make us a better human being like 'Honesty is the best policy', 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness' and 'Charity begins at home'. It inculcates precious values in the character of a child who is vital in childhood.



The study of Moral Science plays an important role in everyone's life. It teaches us about the values of honesty, integrity, truthfulness, compassion, helpfulness, love, respectfulness, etc., which help us to face all the challenges and difficulties. Moral Science helps us in shaping our character and personality, which will enable us to become better good human beings. When we attain moral values we will become responsible and good citizens of our society.



There is a great saying that "If you lose your wealth, you lose nothing. If you lose your health, you have lost everything. But if you lose your character, you have lost everything." This proves that the character is the most valuable thing in our life. Moral Science helps us build a good character. It teaches us to be a good citizen of our country and a good member of our society. No one likes a person who is rich and good looking, yet does not have any moral values. Whereas, everyone loves a person who is poor but has all the moral values intact.

The Assam Tribune

PLANET YOUNG

GUWAHATI, THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2017



Children's book on finances
To improve financial literacy among children, a brokerage firm has launched what is perhaps India's first children's book on finance – *The Rupee Tales*. The *Rupee Tales* is a set of five books that attempts to familiarise children above seven years to basic financial concepts. Each book deals with a specific topic – savings, banking and inflation, taxes, insurance, and stock markets. The *Rupee Tales* box set can be ordered from rupeetales.com.

Pocket money of Indian kids more than GDP of 52 countries



Cartoon channel Pogo recently conducted a survey on the pocket money of the kids in the country. The Turner New Generation 2016' study was conducted in all major cities and also in rural areas across the country. The report said that kids in India spend more than Rs. 22,000 crore, given to them as pocket money. This amount is more than the GDP of 52 small countries, including Madhya Pradesh and Bihar.

Pogo had conducted a similar survey in 2013. During that year, kids spent Rs. 18,000 per month approximately, which rose to Rs. 555 five years later. The latest report says not all kids spend all their pocket money. In fact, 50 per cent of kids also save money. They buy things like mobile phones, junk food from the amount they get from their parents or near and dear ones. In big cities, 90 per cent of the children also have mobiles as well as other gadgets with them.

The train station

"Please, step inside," The watchman was shouting on his chair, just as he had been doing for the last two decades.

He watched over the train station, but not many passengers were expected at the hill station. It was a pleasant place alright – green rolling hills in the background, pine trees in the foreground. The watchman watched the pine trees, the cloudy pale sky and the soft green grass under his feet.

He watched the trains. The boy appeared before him. The watchman knew the boy, so he went back to gazing at Nature. The boy didn't know the watchman either, but little boys are like that. They are curious. Adults do, maybe that's the reason children have so many more friends than adults.

"Why are you looking at the sky?" The boy asked, seeing the watchman staring skywards.

"I like looking at the sky," the watchman said. He was a kind man, and the boy seemed to like him.

"What are you sitting here?" the boy asked with the first reply, asked another question.

"I am waiting for my job. I watch over the trains that come here."

"The trains pass by quickly, so he is not back to gazing at Nature. The boy didn't know the watchman either, but little boys are like that. They are curious. Adults do, maybe that's the reason children have so many more friends than adults.

"Yes, but it is still my job. I need to sit here if any train ever comes."

"But why? The trains are big enough to look after themselves."

"Yes, but they are still machines."

Shubh Das, Class VIII.

Maharshi Vidyamandir N. Guwahati

POEM OF THE WEEK

Tami Barooah, Gawhati



I want people to wake up their negative attitudes.

I, ME, MYSELF

Jennifer Liang is the co-founder of the NGO set up for rural development- the Art-Action North-East Trust at Changlang.

People who have influenced me the most:

Social activist the late Sarojini Ghose is definitely an inspiration. I was close to her and she gave me the idea to work in the field of rural development. Her work whose pragmatism and no-nonsense manner greatly appeals to me. Her tough life has inspired me.

Turning point of my life...

Came when I realised that I wanted to do social work in rural Assam after passing from the IIT and IISCE of South Bengal. It has been 21 years since I made that change.

Happiest moment of my life...

Was the birth of my daughter Aranya. I have always wanted a daughter as I have no sisters.

Changes I would like to see in the society...

I want people to give up their negative attitudes. I want them to rise, dare, do and not spend their lives sorrowfully worried.

Message to youth...

I urge you to walk out of the system - get out of the prison of habit and conventional thinking. I think you can achieve a lot if you walk out of your comfort zone.

It pays me. I don't do it, I lose my job. And I need money. I need to eat." The watchman was sitting on a red stool the scenery is nice around here, he added.

The watchman did not really expect the boy to answer him. He was simple and clear, but the old life he had was twisted and very unusual.

"Do you like your job?"

"Yes," the watchman said, but the answer was just as twisted and unusual as his life.

The boy may not see the situation, so I shall help him to understand the red flag.

"Then why don't you just pitch a red flag?" the boy asked, confused.

"Because it is still my job. I need to sit here if any train ever comes."

"But why? The trains are big enough to look after themselves."

"Yes, but they are still machines."

"Look, kid," the watchman said, "I watch over the trains because the govern-

ment

SKETCH OF THE WEEK

Neforn Das, Gauhati



Dear Ishani Aunty,
My friends call me Darky in school because I am dark-complected. This hurts me a great deal.

- Pratim

Dear Pritam,
Did you lose your friends? How can they be friends when they treat you so much? Friends are supposed to uplift us, support us, accept us for who we are. Instead of worrying about your looks, think that you are God-gifted, think about getting decent friends.

Dear Ishani Aunty,
My father recently lost a large amount of money in a business venture. There is a lot of pressure on him. On the other hand, go on with your studies and see if you can call down on your expenses. Above all, be sensible and frugal regarding the issue.

- Bigyan

Dear Bigyan,
Life is not always smooth sailing. I am sure your father is handling the situation as best as he can. On the other hand, go on with your studies and see if you can call down on your expenses. Above all, be sensible and frugal regarding the issue.

Dear Ishani Aunty,
I am a timid person. I can't say 'no' to a person. Please tell me how to be smart and outgoing.

- Gina

Dear Gina,
Please try to figure out what makes you afraid and then get rid of it. You will realize that most of your fears are baseless. Compel yourself to meet people and talk to them. Be interested in things that matter to them. Soon, you will be Miss Popular, trust me!

JUNIOR PUZZLERS

1) Are pigeons, swallows or sparrows used in flying races because of their ability to find their way home over long distances?



2) Does the American black bear hibernate for three, five or nine months?



3) Is a hacker, a surfer or a tracker a person who uses a computer to illegally gain access to a company or government computer system?



DID YOU KNOW
The modern 10 pin bowling ball was invented in 1932. It was made of a hard rubber compound.



by John Martin

SOLUTION

ANSWERS

ANSWERS: 1) Pigeons; 2) Nine months or more; 3) A hedgehog.

Biswarup Bhattacharjee, Class-IX
South Point School, Guwahati



PicSPEAK

NEXT WEEK'S PICTURE



Please collect your certificates from our office.

[Send your entries to planet_youth@assamtribune.com]

Mini M@ths



SOLUTION

ANSWER

Wordwatch

Pick the word that is closest in meaning:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Panache
a) Cure-all
b) Good-natured banter
c) Disorder
d) Elegance | 4 Peremptory
a) Impulsive
b) Eligible
c) Prompt
d) Deceptive |
| 2 Partry
a) Unfortunate
b) Careless
c) Worthless
d) Timorous | 5 Paradigm
a) Contradictory statement
b) Model
c) Illustration
d) Story with a moral |
| 3 Patent
a) Obvious
b) Original
c) Original
d) Workable | 6 Wordle
a) Word
b) Wordprocessor
c) Ominous
d) Wholesome |

BOOK NOOK

Shiva—The Legends Of The Immortal

By Karan Vir



Lord Shiva and his wife Parvati are in love. They have a son named Ganesha. Ganesha stops them from their journey. Shiva is extremely furious at his gesture and the little boy has to run away.

Shiva wants to see Parvati but she is in the bath chamber at the time. When Shiva enters the room, Ganesha stops him. Shiva is extremely furious at his gesture and the little boy has to run away.

Shiva has a compelling narration of the story, along with very impressive illustrations. It is one of the best creations published by Vitanika Books.

Anuragini Gohain Baruah, Class IX,
Delhi Public School, Guwahati

Theatre is an art form but also very close to my heart. My parents used to take me to watch many plays since I was a little girl. I have also seen my mother attend different theatre workshops – which inspired me a lot. I have also participated in many school plays in a variety of roles – ranging from a simple character to a fierce traffic policeman. The stage is a place which fascinates and inspires me to express myself freely.

All the more, I say, I understood this popular Shakespearean dialogue when I attended Drama of Life – a theater and voice workshop conducted by noted director and actor Subhashree D'Cunha Bhattacharya during my summer break. The workshop was not only about acting but also about life. We were taught how to modulate our voice, free improvisation, improve our communication skills, etc. I was also introduced to Shakespeare's plays and that indeed a revelation for me, because so far I had only performed in Hindi and Assamese plays.

Our day started with soothing our souls and minds, relaxing our body through some meditative exercises. We were told that these exercises are not only important for resting our mind and bodies, but that they also help in concentration and observation skills. I realised that these words have been true in the weeks since. We had fun sessions on communication skills, observation, team work, body language and, of course,



were told that these exercises are not only important for resting our mind and bodies, but that they also help in concentration and observation skills. I realised that these words have been true in the weeks since. We had fun sessions on communication skills, observation, team work, body language and, of course,

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also given Shakespearean soliloquies to read and I got Partha's 'The Quality of Mercy' from *The Merchant of Venice*.

After our hard work, the final day arrived when we had to perform at the auditorium designed by Cognac. The atmosphere impressed us. We decorated the place in our unique way and I must say our set did look interesting and pretty. Our drama 'Drama of Life' had a lot of action like Zenifa Wahid and Kopal Bora were present among the audience to see our performance. We performed our solo piece though I thought as we were nervous, we managed to put up a good show.

After our performance, Zenifa Wahid and Kopal Bora interacted with us, appreciated our performances, shared their experiences as actors and also gave us many valuable tips on how to become better actors. It was a wonderful learning experience for us, and we learnt many new and interesting facts and theories about theatre. I have been trawling the web since and I have found many videos of many famous theatre actors performing the roles of various characters from different plays of Shakespeare. We were

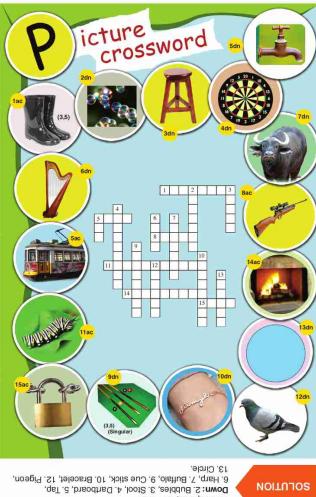
Drama of life

Dear Bhaitiy, Bhonti,

We have Raksha Bandhan and Friendship Day coming up. I guess all of you must be making plans for these momentous occasions. Now where in the world is there such a unique event as Raksha Bandhan – which sanctifies the spirit of love and protection between brothers and sisters? As for Friendship Day, it has taken a whole new meaning with the advent of Facebook friends. I guess one should strike a balance between real and cyber friends. Nothing can substitute the interaction of friends at a one-to-one level in real time. Wishing you a very happy Friendship Day and memorable Raksha Bandhan in advance.

With love, as always,

Lakshmi



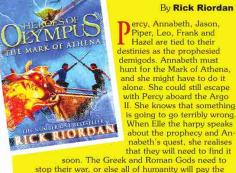
SOLUTION
ACROSS 1. Drum books 5. Train. 6. Rail. 11. Carpet. 12. Pigeon.
13. Chisel. 14. Books 5. Train. 6. Rail. 11. Carpet. 12. Pigeon.
16. Hump. 7. Blinds. 8. Cutie shield. 10. Bracelet. 11. Pigeon.
17. Doublets. 2. Books 3. Tools. 4. Blinds. 5. Rail.
DOWN: 1. Books 5. Train. 6. Rail. 11. Carpet. 12. Pigeon.

Know your masterpieces



Janet Lunn is the beloved children's author whose historically rich novels and non-fiction won her fans from around the world. She died on 18 October 2016, young readers. Some of her books include:
▲ The Hobbit Tree
▲ The Story of Canada
▲ The Usenian
▲ Larger Than Life
▲ Come To The Fair

Heroes of Olympus



By Rick Riordan
Percy, Annabeth, Jason, Piper, Leo, Frank and Hazel are the demigods whose destinies as the prophesied demigods. Annabeth must travel to the Underworld, and she might have to do it alone. She could still escape the Underworld, though. Hazel II. She knows that something is going to go terribly wrong if she does not bring back the prophecy and Annabeth must find the heroes who will need to find it soon. The Greek and Roman Gods need to stop their war, or else all of humanity will pay the price.

IDIOM OF THE WEEK



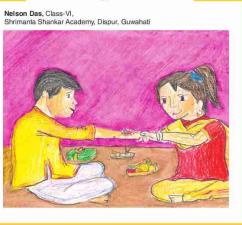
Rough and Ready

Rough and ready means simple but good enough. As used in this expression, rough basically means simple or unrefined. But adding the word 'ready', the expression suggests that despite a lack of sophistication, something is effective.

Although the exact origin is unknown, one of the first uses was recorded in the mid-1800s. Zachary Taylor, the 12th President of the United States and a military commander, was nicknamed "Old Rough and Ready" by his troops due to his habit of wearing civilian clothes, instead of an army uniform. Taylor was so popular that a group of miners who founded a Gold Rush community in 1849, in northern California, named the town Rough and Ready.

Loving and protecting

Sketch of the week



Poem of the Week

Tami Barooah, Class-IV,
Delhi Public School, Guwahati.

Squirrels in my garden

I was relaxing in my porch with my eyes wide open,
When suddenly I saw a squirrel figure
Scampering across my garden.
It was not a bunny with ears that were funny,
But it had a very long, bushy tail.
Was it going to climb a tree?
Dig a burrow or scamper across my garden
I don't know, but let's see.
Two cute little kittens followed it.
Helping it to collect nuts, berries and seeds.
Like me and my brother marching behind our mother,
The littler one stopped for a while,
Then continued its race.
When I went to catch them, they ran away quickly.
The squirrels in my garden are adorable and bubbly.

Prasurjya Bhuyan, Class-V
Din Boses School, Panbari, Guwahati



A shining light

I looked and turned on a lonely night
I saw a shining light.
I tried to look away, for it was so bright
But I can't. I was looking for it all my life.
I looked around but I could not see
I think it could sense my fear.
was the light of my whole life.
Holding it dear.
I feel safe when it's near.
Days have come and nights have gone,
It has never left me alone.
Thinking what will happen if it left me,
When I tried to find what the bright light was,
I found that it was my mother.
My dearest mother.

Sujay Ghosh, Class-VIII,
Sacred Heart High School, Golaghat.

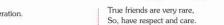


Ayone Thakuria, Class-IV,
Maria's Public School



Taniwi Banuah, Class-II,
Delhi Public School, Khanapara, Guwahati

Circle of friends



The day will come.
The day of separation.
The day will come,
With sadness and desperation.

The day will make me cry.
Remembering the people I have day
Or taking care to you making friends with you.
Now the day will come to take me away from you.

O dear friend! The day will take
All the happiness and fun.
The day will dig out our past plans,
And it will keep us apart.

Dear friend! May you live long.
May you be healthy and strong.
The gossip, the chit-chat will remain in my heart.
Hope to meet you all soon
In someone else's corner of the earth.
Smita Samra, Class-XL
Kendriya Vidyalaya, Ranigaon.

Aritra Parveen,
Little Flower School, Guwahati.

Friends are very special people in our lives.
They are the first people we think about
when we make plans. They are the first
people we turn to when we need advice or talk to.
We call them up just to talk about nothing,
or the most important things in life. When we
are sad, they try their best to cheer us up; they
give the best hug in the world. They are the

shoulders to cry on because we know that they
truly care for us. In most cases, they would take
a bullet for us because it would be too painful for
them to watch us get hurt. They are the ones who
keep the smile on our faces. They are the ones who
make us feel safe and secure. They are the ones who
support us in difficult times.
With them we share our secrets.
Following their guidance.
We never need to regret.
Whenever in life, we choose a wrong track,
They show us the right track back.
So, wherever they are, they are precious.
It's their presence that makes life auspicious.

Arifa Baruah,
Shrimanta Shankar Academy, Dibrugarh.



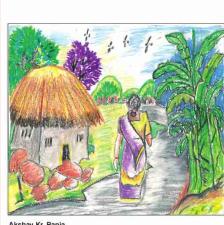
Priyanshu Paul, Class-VIII,
Faculty H.S. School, North Guwahati

Raksha Bandhan

Raksha Bandhan, an Indian festival.
A festival of love and promises.
A precious and strong bond
Among brothers and sisters.

Sister for this year
As brothers have a surprise ready for them;
She lights a lamp of love,
With special rakhi for her brothers.
She ties the Rakhi on her brother's wrist
Gets a token of love in return.
And a promise to be taken care of forever.

Vidushi Bhuyan,
Shrimanta Shankar
Academy, Dibrugarh,
Guwahati.



Akashay Kr. Banerjee
Gunukul Grammer Sr. Sec. School, Guwahati



Upasana Baruah, Class-V,
St. Mary's H.S. School, Guwahati