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NEWS CAPSULE

Flood situation

GUWAHATI, Sept 12: The floodwaters receded from Udalguri district today but 46,234 people are still affected by the deluge in six other districts of the State. Morigaon is the worst affected district where 24,985 people have been hit, an ASDMA report said. - PTI

Narrow escape

JORHAT, Sept 12: Eighty-nine passengers escaped from the wheels of a Jetline plane (flight A364) from Bengaluru to Jorhat via Kolkata and Guwahati today skidded off the runway while taxying to the parking bay. The return flight was cancelled, sources said. - Staff Correspondent

5 ultras killed

IMPHAL, Sept 12: Five militants were killed in an exchange of gunfire between the suspected NSCN(M) and the CoCom at Makam village in Manipur near the Indo-Myanmar border today, sources claimed. - Correspondent

(Details on Page 10)

Central DA hike

NEW DELHI, Sept 12: The Centre today hiked dearness allowances and dearness relief by one per cent to five per cent, benefiting 50 lakh employees and 61 lakh pensioners. The decision was taken at the Union Cabinet meeting here. - PTI

Pak violation

JAMMU, Sept 12: Pakistan is not showing interest in improving relations with India, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh today said, pointing to the regular violation of ceasefire by the neighbour in Jammu and Kashmir. Singh is on a four-day visit to the state. - PTI

5 arrested

JORHAT, Sept 12: Police arrested five persons from Simaluguri in Sivasagar district today for stealing Rs 18.57 lakh from the Jorhat branch of ICICI Bank on July 14. They are Raj Yadav, Manoj Yadav, Abhay Yadav, Pratap Singh and Tushar Singh. - Staff Correspondent

Kidney racket

DEHRADUN, Sept 12: The Uttarakhand Police today issued lookout notices against seven people, including doctors, allegedly involved in a kidney transplant racket here. The police also set up a special team to look into the case as it may have international links. - PTI

Parties signed

NEW DELHI, Sept 12: India and Belarus today inked a memorandum of cooperation in a range of areas and decided to explore joint development and manufacture of military platforms, giving a fresh momentum in bilateral relations. - PTI

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

Can't share Brahmaputra data: China

BEIJING, Sept 12: Post Doklam, China today said it cannot share with India the hydrological data of the Brahmaputra river due to upgradation of data collection station in Tibet but expressed readiness for talks to reopen the Nathu La pass in Sikkim for the Kalash-Manasarovar Yatra.

China is expected to share hydrological data on the Sutlej and Brahmaputra rivers with India during the flood season of May 15 to June 15 under a bilateral expert-level mechanism established in 2006.

"For long time we have conducted cooperation on the river data with the Indian side. relevant statistics of the river," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang told

China's stand citing technical reasons to not provide the hydrological data could pose major problems for India

But to upgrade and renovate the relevant station in the Chinese side, we do not have the conditions now to collect the media here.

Asked when will China provide the data, which was reportedly suspended due to the

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Kuhu Bon heralding the advent of autumn as seen at Demow in Sivasagar district on Tuesday. - UB Photos

India is being run by dynasties: Rahul

WASHINGTON, Sept 12: Congress vice president Rahul Gandhi today said dynasties are commonplace in India from politics to business, and stressed that a person's capabilities are more important than pedigree.

His comments in the US set off a chorus of protest by the BJP in India with Union Minister Smriti Irani calling him a "failed dynast" and a failed politician.

Speaking at the University of California, Berkeley, Gandhi also hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accusing him of divisive politics, creating splits for terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and ruining the economy.

"Most parties in India have that problem too... Mr Akhilesh Yadav is a dynast. Mr Stalin (son of M Karunandhi in DMK) is a

dynast... Even Abhishek Bachchan is a dynast. So that's how India runs. So don't get after me because that's how they India is run. By the way, last, I recall, Mr Ambanis are running the business. That's also going on in Infosys. So that's what happens in India," Gandhi said as he listed several prominent Indians born into famous families.

But, he said there were a large number of people in the Congress Party who were not from dynastic families.

"And I can name them in every state. There are also people who happen to have a father, or a grandfather or a great grandfather in politics. They do exist," he said.

"The real question is whether the person actually a capable and a sensitive person," the 47-year-old Gandhi said. - PTI



party was more associated with dynastic politics, Gandhi argued that India is being run by dynasties in politics.

Both the minister and

Das said there was need to regulate the industry by bringing about amendments in the legislations.

"The Plantation Labour Act of 1951 provides for the welfare of labour and has provided

sions to regulate the conditions of work. But the problem is that the Act does not tell us what we should do if the provisions are not implemented," Das said in his remarks following a discussion between the ACMS and the management.

Das said there was need to regulate the industry by bringing about amendments in the legislations.

"The Plantation Labour Act of 1951 provides for the welfare of labour and has provided

an eight-hour discussion in the Assembly on the pathetic plight of the tea tribes. As many as 35 legislators, including the Chief Minister and Opposition leader, spoke during the day-long discussion introduced as a new device in the

industry," Das, also a leg-

(See page 4)

Plight of tea tribes

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(See page 4)

take an official visit to India on September 13-14 during which the two leaders will hold the 12th India-Japan Annual Summit in Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

This will be the fourth annual summit between Modi and Abe. The two leaders will review the recent progress in the multifaceted cooperation between India and Japan under the framework of their 'Special Strategic and Global Partnership' programme setting its fu-

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House under the name 'Speaker's Initiative'.

Critical of the management, the minister said there is "no clarity" about the wage negotiation process which takes place between the ACMS and the management.

"Neither there is any clarity on the total production, how much tea is sold through the auction, what are the rates... there is no system of balance sheets.

The entire system needs to be changed if we have to regulate the industry," Das, also a leg-

(See page 4)

erature's Initiative' on socio-financial uplift and preservation and promotion of culture of the tea community of Assam and re-

view and development of the tea trade, Sonowal informed the House that the Ministry's help would also be sought for upgradation of Tocklai Tea Research Institute and obtaining other value added byproducts from tea sector.

Acknowledging the contributions of the tea communities

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Acknowledging the contributions of the tea communities

(See page 4)

India rejects UN criticism of Rohingyas issue

GENEVA, Sept 12: India strongly rejected the criticism by the UN human rights chief over its handling of Rohingya Muslim refugees, human rights situations in Jammu and Kashmir and observation relating to the killing of journalist Gauri Lankesh, saying it was "perverse" at the remarks.

Chander, India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Geneva, made the statement in response to Hussein's comments.

Rejecting the observations by Hussein, Chander said, "Tendentious judgements made on the basis of selective and even inaccurate reports do not further the understanding of human rights in any society."

Like many other nations, India is concerned about illegal migrants, in particular, with the possibility that they could pose security challenges, he said, adding that enforcing the laws should not be mistaken for lack of compassion.

In a strong reaction, India said it was surprised that individual incidents are being "extrapolated" to suggest a broader societal situation.

"We are perplexed at some of the observations made by the High Commissioner in his oral update. There appears to be inadequate appreciation of the freedoms and rights that are guaranteed and practised daily in a vibrant democracy that has been built under challenging conditions," Ambassador Rajiv Chander said.

India is proud of its independent judiciary, freedom of press, vibrant civil society and respect for rule of law and human rights," Chander said. - PTI

CAG special audit in BTC

Motorcycles, cars used to plough farm lands!

R DUTTA CHOWDHURY

GUWAHATI, Sept 12: Is it possible to plough agricultural land with motorcycles and cars? This may sound weird but such an incident took place in the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) as a special audit carried out by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) indicated that the registration numbers of some of the tractors reportedly used to plough the land of victims of ethnic riots belonged to motorcycles and cars.

The CAG has also recommended that the payment bills in such cases should be investigated as apart from giving registration numbers of small vehicles as tractors, there were

also instances where it was found that some registration numbers did not exist.

The report said that in order to compensate the production loss incurred by the farmers due to riots, the BTC decided to go for "tractortisation" of 27,368.69ha of land of the affected families at a cost of Rs 2.76 crore at the rate of Rs 1,000 per bigha. The basis of fixation of the rate of land was paid in arrears to the tractor owners and the money was paid accordingly between July to November 2014. The Agriculture officers claimed that the beneficiaries were selected with the help of village headmen

and the chairmen of the village council development committees. Those beneficiaries, however, were not checked or verified by any authority of the land record and revenue department. The payment records did not mention about the beneficiary-wise record and period of "tractortisation" and the quantum of land actually ploughed could not be verified because of lack of records.

However, the most glaring of the irregularities came out when the CAG went for checking the details of the tractors used in the programme. The report said that cross check of the details of the tractors shown in the bills with the records of the District Transport Officers

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SC issues contempt notice to APW president
SPL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, Sept 12: Taking cognizance of media reports casting aspersions on the conduct of Assam Coordinator for National Register of Citizens (NRC) Prajekta Hajela, the Supreme Court today issued a contempt notice to Assam Public Works (APW) president Abhijeet Sarmah which is returnable within four weeks.

An apex court bench comprising Justices Ranjan Gogoi and Rohinton F Nariman took cognizance of a report submitted by Hajela, who quoted media reports about allegations levelled by Sarmah against his conduct. The Supreme Court also asked Solicitor General Ranjit Kumar to assist the court. Sarmah was asked to show cause as to why he called a press conference levelling allegations against Hajela.

Later, talking to this newspaper, Sarmah said that he would submit before the Supreme Court all the documents he has, including those which he had submitted to the Central Bureau of Investigation and other agencies. "Indirectly, the court has given me a chance to prove my point," he stressed.

The apex court also directed the Centre to suggest a name to replace former Home Secretary GR Pillai as the chairperson of a committee to oversee the fencing work on the Indo-Bangladesh border.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in its communication to the court said there were "some issues" with the name of Pillai.

"We have perused the communication dated August 10 of the Ministry of Home Affairs,

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EDUCATIONAL

Odisha Cong chief whip threatens to beat up corrupt CMO officials

RHUBANESWAR, Sep 12: Congress chief whip in Odisha Assembly Tara Prasad Bahupati today threatened to beat up corrupt officials in CMO involved in the percentage commission (PC) practice.

"The third floor (CMO at the State Secretariat) is the origin of all kinds of corruption. So the officials there should be taken to task first. As an MLA I will soon enter that floor and launch the anti-PC drive from there."

"I will beat them (officials) severely," Bahupati said in the Assembly during Zero Hour.

The Congress lawmaker also said that he was not afraid of being arrested for beating up corrupt officials.

The issue of percentage commission was raised by Leader of Opposition Narasingha Mishra of Congress who accused the State government of not being sincere in stopping corruption though Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had given a call for it. — PTI

NATIONAL

BJP blasts 'failed dynast' Rahul; says India not listening to him

NEW DELHI, Sept 12: The BJP today slammed Rahul Gandhi as a "failed dynast" and failed politician after the Congress vice president defended dynastic politics during a public event in the United States.

Within hours of Gandhi's speech, Union minister Smriti Irani blasted him at a press conference, saying his admission that the Congress had turned arrogant since 2012 was a "big political confession" and a reprimand to Sonia Gandhi, who was and remains its president.

"A failed dynast today chose to speak about his failed political journey in the US. The country (India) is not listening so he is speaking somewhere else," Irani said at a press conference.

It must be the first time that a Congress vice president chose to taunt his party president and it is for the party to introspect on this, she said.

In his speech to students at the University of California in Berkeley, Gandhi also criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accusing him of divisive politics and causing "irreversible damage" to India's economy with "reckless and dangerous" decisions like de-

monetisation and GST.

"The fact that Rahul Gandhi chose to belittle the Prime Minister is not a surprise but unexpected... It is an indication of his failed strategy. The people of the country where he leads a political party no longer support him so he is expressing his pain abroad," she said.

She also challenged him to a public debate "without a handwritten script" over his criticism of the Modi government.

Irani, who had to lose in Amethi in the last Lok Sabha poll and is seen as the BJP's nominee in the next election as she has expressed his pain abroad," she said.

This was evidence that merit, not dynasty, drove India's robust democracy, the Information and Broadcasting minister added. — PTI

WCD, HRD ministers to hold meet on safety protocol in schools

JAMMU, Sept 12: Pakistan is not showing interest in improving relations with India, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh today said, pointing to the regular violation of ceasefire by the neighbour in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Pakistan is regularly resorting to ceasefire violations and because of this, I feel Pakistan is not showing interest in improving relations with India," Singh told a press conference here.

The minister is on a four-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir since September 9.

"Our Army and BSF troops are giving a befitting reply. We will create such conditions that they (Pakistan) will be forced to stop ceasefire violation today or tomorrow," the minister said.

The conference comes in backdrop of the murder of a

Class II student inside Ryan International School in Gurgaon for allegedly resisting sexual assault and the rape of a 5-year-old girl in a private school in Shahdara.

The two ministries will develop a set of guidelines and protocols for schools to ensure that children are "protected from any kind of abuse or physical and mental harm", a WCD spokesman said.

WCD Minister Maneka Gandhi has also discussed the matter with HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar over phone and recommended that women be employed as support staff, including bus drivers and conductors. — PTI

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Pak not interested in improving relations, says Rajnath

JAMMU, Sept 12: Pakistan is also showing interest in improving relations with India, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh today said, pointing to the regular violation of ceasefire by the neighbour in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Pakistan is regularly resorting to ceasefire violations and because of this, I feel Pakistan is not showing interest in improving relations with India," Singh told a press conference here.

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WCD Minister Maneka Gandhi has also discussed the matter with HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar over phone and recommended that women be employed as support staff, including bus drivers and conductors. — PTI

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Saeed's plea to end detention dismissed

LAHORE, Sept 12: Pakistan's Punjab government has dismissed the plea of Jamaat-ud-Dawah chief Hafiz Saeed to end his detention, fearing that it may create a law-and-order situation in the province, the Lahore High Court was informed today.

The Home Department of Punjab today submitted a two-page reply to the High Court, informing the latter of its decision.

ENGAGEMENT OF PARA-MEDICAL STAFF ON CONTRACT BASIS AGAINST VACANCIES EXISTING IN PARA-MEDICAL CATEGORY OF NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY, MALIGAON & ITS DIVISIONS- THROUGH WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

It has been decided to conduct "Walk-in-interview" for filling up the following vacant posts of Para-Medical Staff in the concerned categories. The concerned posts are as under:-

(a) Tinsukia Division, N. F. Railway (Walk-in-Interview shall be conducted by Division).

SN	Category	Total Vacancy	Community-wise Break-up	Remuneration per Month	Date & Time	Venue of walk-in-interview	
		SC	ST	OBC	UR		
1	Staff Nurse	7	01	-	03	₹ 21990/-	CMS Office
2	Health & Malaria Inspector-III	4	01	-	02	₹ 26570/-	Lumding Railway Hospital
3	Pharmacist-III	1	-	-	01	₹ 12190/-	
4	Radiographer	1	-	-	01	₹ 12190/-	
5	Jr.Field Worker	1	-	-	01	₹ 10280/-	
6	Extension Educator	1	-	-	01	₹ 20570/-	

(b) Lumding Division, N. F. Railway (Walk-in-Interview shall be conducted by Division).

SN	Category	Total Vacancy	Community-wise Break-up	Remuneration per Month	Date & Time	Venue of walk-in-interview	
		SC	ST	OBC	UR		
1	Staff Nurse	3	-	01	02	₹ 21990/-	CMS Office
2	Health & Malaria Inspector-III	6	01	-	01	₹ 26570/-	Lumding Railway Hospital
3	Pharmacist-III	4	01	-	01	₹ 12190/-	
4	Physician	1	-	-	01	₹ 20570/-	
5	Radiographer	1	-	-	01	₹ 12190/-	

(c) Central Hospital, N.F.Railway, Maligaon (Walk-in-Interview shall be conducted by Head Quarter).

SN	Category	Total Vacancy	Community-wise Break-up	Remuneration per Month	Date & Time	Venue of walk-in-interview	
		SC	ST	OBC	UR		
1	Staff Nurse	7	01	01	02	₹ 21990/-	MD's office
2	Health & Malaria Inspector-III	3	01	-	01	₹ 26570/-	Maligaon Hospital
3	Pharmacist	3	-	-	01	₹ 12190/-	Bowdakhat
4	Extension Educator	1	-	-	01	₹ 20570/-	

(d) Rangia Division, N. F. Railway (Walk-in-Interview shall be conducted by Division).

SN	Category	Total Vacancy	Community-wise Break-up	Remuneration per Month	Date & Time	Venue of walk-in-interview	
		SC	ST	OBC	UR		
1	Staff Nurse	9	01	01	07	₹ 21990/-	MD's office
2	Health & Malaria Inspector-III	2	-	-	02	₹ 26570/-	Rangia Railway Hospital
3	Pharmacist	3	-	-	01	₹ 12190/-	
4	Lab Superintendent	1	-	-	01	₹ 20570/-	

(e) Alipurduar Division, N. F. Railway (Walk-in-Interview shall be conducted by Division).

SN	Category	Total Vacancy	Community-wise Break-up	Remuneration per Month	Date & Time	Venue of walk-in-interview	
		SC	ST	OBC	UR		
1	Staff Nurse	4	-	01	02	₹ 21990/-	CMS Office
2	Radiographer	1	-	-	01	₹ 12190/-	Alipurduar Railway Hospital

NOTE: (1) For details candidates may log on to www.nrif.indianrailways.gov.in (General Info → Department → Personnel → Walk-in-Interview).

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NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

CANCELLATION OF TRAIN SERVICES

Due to unprecedented flood situation in Bihar, West Bengal and Assam causing extensive damage to the railway tracks, the following cancellations are planned:

Cancellation of Trains:-

(1) 12042 (New Jalpaiguri - Howrah) Shatabdi Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017 and 23-09-2017.** (2) 12335 (Dibrugarh - New Delhi) Rajdhani Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (3) 12336 (Dibrugarh - New Delhi) Rajdhani Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (4) 12344 (Dibrugarh - Silguri) Intercity Darjeeling Mail will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (5) 12364 (Haldibari - Kokata) Intercity Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (6) 12407 (New Jalpaiguri - Amritsar) Karmabhoomi Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (7) 12501 (Guwahati - New Delhi) Poorvanchal Sankat Kranti Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (8) 12502 (Guwahati - New Delhi) Poorvanchal Sankat Kranti Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (9) 12516 (Guwahati - Thiruvananthapuram) Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (10) 12518 (Guwahati - Kokata) Garib Rath Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (11) 12523 (New Jalpaiguri - New Delhi) SF Express will remain cancelled on **23-09-2017.** (12) 12525 (Kamakhya - New Delhi) AC SF Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (13) 12526 (Kamakhya - New Delhi) AC SF Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (14) 12548 (Kamakhya - Agartala) Weekly Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (15) 12550 (Kamakhya - Agartala) Weekly Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (16) 12551 (Kamakhya - Agartala) Weekly Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (17) 12552 (Kamakhya - Agartala) Weekly Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (18) 12553 (Kamakhya - Agartala) Weekly Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (19) 12554 (Kamakhya - Agartala) Weekly Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (20) 12555 (Kamakhya - Agartala) Weekly Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (21) 12562 (Kamakhya - Anand Vihar) Weekly Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (22) 12563 (Guwahati - Silguri) Diphura Parbat Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (23) 12564 (Guwahati - Cherrapunji Egmore) Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (24) 12565 (Guwahati - Barmer) Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (25) 12566 (Guwahati - Mymensingh) LTT Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (26) 12567 (Guwahati - Jammu) Amarnath Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (27) 12568 (Guwahati - Mysore) Shatabdi Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (28) 12569 (Kamakhya - Raiganj Weekly Express) will remain cancelled on **23-09-2017.** (29) 12570 (Kamakhya - Raiganj Weekly Express) will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (30) 12571 (Kamakhya - Raiganj Weekly Express) will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (31) 15722 (New Jalpaiguri - Diphura Parbat) Teesta Torsa Link Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (32) 15723 (New Jalpaiguri - Silguri) Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (33) 15903 (Dibrugarh - Chandigarh) Express will remain cancelled on **22-09-2017, 23-09-2017, 24-09-2017 and 25-09-2017.** (34) 15936 (Dibrugarh - Chennai Egmore) Weekly Express will remain cancelled on **22-09-2017, 23-09-2017, 24-09-2017 and 25-09-2017.** (35) 15937 (Dibrugarh - Chennai Egmore) Weekly Express will remain cancelled on **22-09-2017, 23-09-2017, 24-09-2017 and 25-09-2017.** (36) 15938 (Dibrugarh - Indore) Express will remain cancelled on **24-09-2017.** (37) 15962 (Raiganj City) Weekly Express will remain cancelled on **25-09-2017.** (38) 15970 (Raiganj - Kavru Guri Express) will remain cancelled on **21-09-2017.** (39) 22310 (New Jalpaiguri - Howrah) Weekly AC SF Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (40) 22311 (New Jalpaiguri - Mysore) Shatabdi Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (41) 22612 (New Jalpaiguri - Chennai Central) Express will remain cancelled on **22-09-2017.** (42) 23141 (Raniganj - Jalpaiguri - Haldibari) Teesta Torsa Link Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (43) 23142 (Raniganj - Jalpaiguri - Haldibari) Teesta Torsa Link Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (44) 23143 (Raniganj - Silguri) Diphura Parbat Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (45) 23144 (Raniganj - Silguri) Diphura Parbat Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (46) 23145 (Raniganj - Silguri) Diphura Parbat Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (47) 23146 (Raniganj - Silguri) Diphura Parbat Express will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (48) 23147 (Silguri - Haldibari) DEMU will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (49) 23148 (Silguri - Haldibari) DEMU will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (50) 55711 (Silguri - Malda Town) DEMU will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (51) 55743 (Kathiak - Jonai) Passenger will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (52) 55744 (Jogbani - Kathiar) Passenger will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (53) 55745 (Jogbani - Kathiar) Passenger will remain cancelled on **20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017.** (54) 55751 (Kathiak - Barsi) Passenger will remain cancelled on **16-09-2017, 17-09-2017, 18-09-2017, 19-09-2017, 20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017, 24-09-2017 and 25-09-2017.** (55) 55753 (Kathiak - Barsi) Passenger will remain cancelled on **16-09-2017, 17-09-2017, 18-09-2017, 19-09-2017, 20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017, 24-09-2017 and 25-09-2017.** (56) 55757 (Kathiak - Barsi) DEMU will remain cancelled on **16-09-2017, 17-09-2017, 18-09-2017, 19-09-2017, 20-09-2017, 21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017, 24-09-2017 and 25-09-2017.** (57) 75719 (Malda Court - Silguri) DEMU will remain cancelled on **21-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 23-09-2017, 24-09-2017 and 25-09-2017.** Inconvenience caused to the passengers is deeply regretted

General Manager (Operations)

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

INTERNATIONAL

Florida tries to assess extent of Irma destruction

MIAMI, Sept 12: Aid rushed in to hurricane-ravaged Florida today, residents began to dig out, and officials slowly pieced together the scope of *Irma's* vicious path of destruction across the peninsula.

Citing different legal acts of his organisations - JuD and Falah-i-Insaniat - the Governor said: "The act on the part of Hafiz Saeed affirms the apprehension of the law enforcement and intelligence agencies that if he released his activities will create law and order situation." It has been recommended to keep the detainee (Saeed) under detention "in larger public interest."

The Home Department of Punjab today submitted a two-page reply to the High Court, informing the latter of its decision.

Rick Scott said after emerging from a Monday fly-over of the Keys.

A Navy aircraft carrier was due to anchor off Key West to help in search-and-rescue efforts. Drinking water supplies in the Keys were cut off, fuel was running low and all three hospitals in the island chain were shuttered. The governor described overturned mobile homes, washed-away boats and rampant flood damage.

A stunning 13 million people, two-thirds of the state's population, were without power.

"It is devastating," Florida Governor Rick Scott said after emerging from a Monday fly-over of the Keys.

In a parting blow to the state before

pushing on to Georgia and beyond, the storm caused record flooding in and around Jacksonville, causing untold damage and prompting dozens of rescues. It also spread misery into Georgia and South Carolina as it moved inland with winds at 50 mph, causing flooding and power outages.

Six deaths in Florida have been blamed on *Irma*, along with three in Georgia and one in South Carolina. At least 35 people were killed in the Caribbean. More than 180,000 people huddled in shelters in the Sunshine State and officials warned it could take weeks for electricity to be restored to everyone. — AP

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In a parting blow to the state before



GMC seizes 19 illegal water pumps

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 12: The Guwahati Municipal Corporation (GMC) today seized 19 illegal water pumps connected to GMC water supply line in Gandhiabadi, Islampur and Lamati areas of the city.



AASU-backed candidates win top posts

CORRESPONDENT

JALUKBARI, Sept 12: Manash Pratim Duorah and Monjot Sharma have been elected president and general secretary of the Post Graduate Students' Union (PGSU) of the Guwahati University. The results

PGSU poll

Rani Barua (AASU), Cultural Secretary Bhaskarjioti Sarma (SMS), Debate and Symposia Secretary Himamoni Kalita (AASU), Boys' Common Room Secretary Ranjan Upadhyaya (ABVP), Girls' Common Room Secretary Sagarika Sarma (AASU), Gymnasium

Secretary Masum Janid (AASU), Sports Secretary David Basumatary, Major Games Secretary Ariful Islam (AASU) and Social Service Secretary Gaurang Boro (AASU) were elected to the student union.

One candidate, Phanindra Basumatary of ABVP, was elected unopposed. Altogether, 15 candidates were elected.

This time, the turnout of voters was 63 per cent. There are around 3,009 voters, of which only 2,400 exercised their franchise. However, 969 students chose the NOTA option.

Blupenda birth anniv celebrated in London

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 12: The 91st birth anniversary of legendary musician Dr Blupenda Hazarika was celebrated in London this year too.

The function was organised by Dr Karuna Sagar Das, a non-resident Assamese under the banner of the Srimanta Sankaradeva International Centre of Cultural Affairs. Dr Das is leading the Centre since its inception.

A number of persons from Assam, including Dr Mohan Chandra Kalita, Dr Pankaj Bharali, Arindhati Barua, Dr Garima Saikia, who were present in London at that time, attended the function along with a number of non-resident Assamese people, stated a press release issued here on Tuesday.

The participants of the function remembered Dr Hazarika on the occasion and urged the authorities concerned to complete the memorial of this great soul of Assam at the earliest, the release added.

Confusion, difference of opinion within Cong over Rohingya issue

PRANJAL BHUYAN

GUWAHATI, Sept 12: The reported ethnic cleansing and the resultant exodus of Rohingya people from Myanmar seems to have led to some confusion as well as divergence of opinions within the Congress party in Assam.

Senior leaders of the party told *The Assam Tribune* that the party leadership was caught unawares by the walkout staged in the Legislative Assembly by some of their MLAs last week after the Speaker did not allow legislator Sherman Ali Ahmed to raise the Rohingya issue.

Some MLAs, including Ahmed, had also staged a protest outside the Assembly.

"The Congress Legislature Party was not informed by Ahmed and others that they planned to raise the Rohingya issue. That created confusion when the walkout happened and many of our senior legislators like Ajanta Neog, Rak-

ibul Hussain and Nazrul Islam did not leave the House," said a leader on condition of anonymity.

He added that Ahmed and other legislators who had taken part in the walkout and protest later had to hear some angry words from senior MLAs

now decided to take a stand that as per international law India must extend temporary shelter to persecuted Rohingya people.

"But, there is no question of sheltering them in Assam. Besides, it is not a Muslim ver-

sity Buddhist issue. There are

tion of human rights or atrocities perpetrated anywhere in the world. But, Assam cannot do anything on its own in this matter, as it concerns foreign policy and so only the Central government should raise its voice to stop the genocide of Rohingya people. The UN and the Amnesty International should intervene on the matter," Bora told this newspaper.

He added that the Rohingya issue has strategic, defence and external implications for India and hence the Centre needs a firm policy.

India is a signatory to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and already around 40,000 Rohingya people are in this country, and of them around 16,000 have received refugee documentation.

Most of the Rohingya refugees in India are based in the Jammu and the Ladakh regions of J&K, but surprisingly, are not present in the Muslim-majority Kashmir Valley.

of the party, but added that the matter has now been sorted out.

"The Rohingya issue has the potential to cause major problems. Already, there are attempts to flare up communal passion in many parts of India, including Assam. In such a situation, any word of compassion extended to the Rohingya victims may be touted by our opponents as an attempt towards minority appeasement," said the leader.

He said that the party has

many Rohingya people who are Hindus. For us, it is not a matter of Muslim or non-Mus-

lim but one with a humanitar-

ian angle and international cov-

erage," said the leader.

However, on being contact-

ed, Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) president Ripun Bora said there is no dif-

ference within the party on the

issue.

"Our stand is clear and there

is no difference within APCC

on the matter. We condemn

any kind of violence or viola-

CPI-M urges Govt to adopt humane approach

STAFF REPORTER

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A number of persons from Assam, including Dr Mohan Chandra Kalita, Dr Pankaj Bharali, Arindhati Barua, Dr Garima Saikia, who were present in London at that time, attended the function along with a number of non-resident Assamese people, stated a press release issued here on Tuesday.

The participants of the function remembered Dr Hazarika on the occasion and urged the authorities concerned to complete the memorial of this great soul of Assam at the earliest, the release added.

a statement here that the Rohingyas are living in Myanmar for centuries and the Myanmar government has been sponsoring the incidents of attack on them.

The Rohingya Muslims became target of atrocities since the authoritarian government in Myanmar robbed these people of their citizenship rights, virtually making them aliens in Myanmar in 1982. Of late, these

people have been subjected to heinous attacks on the plea of launching a counter-insurgency drive at the behest of the Myanmar government.

Hundreds of the Rohingyas have been killed while thousands of people of this community have fled to the neighbouring nations so as to escape the government-sponsored attacks on them, said the CPI-M State committee in its statement.

'Skill development, industry depts must go hand in hand'

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Sept 12: "Skill development cannot be done in isolation. It must go hand in hand with the industry department in the journey of skilling the youths of the State." This was stated by Skill, Employment and Entrepreneurship Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary at a daylong workshop, 'Dakhiya Axom: Umata Axom – An Initiative for Better Human Resource Planning to Achieve the Goal of Skill India' organised by the Assam Skill Development Mission (ASDM) at the Assam Administrative Staff College, Kharapara on Saturday.

Referring to China's example of global dominance, the Minister said that if India can also convert its population to a skilled workforce, then the nation would be the skill hub of the world as per the envision of the Prime Minister.

Patowary declared that henceforth all employment exchange offices in the State would be converted into district skill development centres and also act as facilitation centres for career counselling.

"Therefore, employment

officers will now interact with the students and understand their requirements, apart from registering their names in the employment exchange offices," he said.

Chief Secretary VK Piperno mentioned that each industrial sector must have its own skill development centres to improve the learning as well as production outcome and called upon the representatives of the industrial sectors to partner with ASDM to achieve the objectives.

Additional Chief Secretary of Industries and Commerce Department Ravi Kapoor and Additional Chief Secretary of Skill, Employment and Entrepreneurship Department KV Eapen highlighted the emerging areas that the State needs to focus on, like hospitality, wellness, food processing, etc., where skilled manpower is required, and create a pool of skilled workforce.

Commissioner Industries and Commerce Dr KK Dwiweedi said that only skill can enhance the employability and productivity of an individual and that the skill and industry departments would work in synergy to achieve the avowed goal.

গৰিয়াসী

প্ৰথম বৰ্ষ • প্ৰথম সঞ্চালনা • অক্টোবৰ, ২০১৭

বিশ্ববাদীয়ে গৰিয়াসীৰ বৰ্ষিত কলেজৰ মধ্যে
শান্তিমুৰি উৎসৱৰ সংখ্যা ৩টি
অলংকৃত সহস্ৰৰ পটুৱাৰ হাতত
পৰিবাবে 'গৰিয়াসী'ৰ এই সংখ্যাটি
তিনি কৃতৰূপৰ আদিক নথিম প্ৰদীপ
লেখক-চেতৱাবৰ প্ৰথম কৰিতা-
গৱাব এক আপুৰণীয়া সভাৰ।

ডঃ মীপক কুমাৰ শৰ্মাৰ এটা প্ৰামাণিক প্ৰৱন্ধ।

কৰিতা শিতানত আছে কৰীত সৰকাৰ, নথেন
শহীকীয়া, সদীৰ তাঁটী, অনুৱত তুলী, বাজীৰ বৰাবা,
মনোজ বৰপুজাৰী, এম. কামালিন আহমেদ, প্ৰয়াগ
শহীকীয়া, অনন্ত পূজীৱী, পতীম বৰুৱা প্ৰমুখে
কৰিসকলৰ কৰিতা।

গৱা লিখিছে লক্ষ্মীনন্দন বৰা, পৰবী বৰমুখৈ, মদন
শৰ্মা, আৰূপ পটসীয়া কলিতা, বিমল কুমাৰ হামুলিকা,
কুল শহীকীয়া, ফুল গোবীয়া, সুশে চৰুৱাটী, দিলীপ
বৰা, ডঃ ভুগোৱ শৰ্মা, জয়সত মাধৰ বৰা, ভুগোৱৰ শৰ্মা,
ডঃ সত্যজিৎ ভোগ, অনুষ কুমাৰ শহীকীয়া, লীনা শৰ্মা,
কাবাৰ্শী মহন্ত, ভোগতি শিকদাৰ, প্ৰলজোতি শৰ্মা,
বিপুলা বৰা, পৰাখৰিয়ায় দণ্ড প্ৰযোগ গৱাকৰিসকলৈ।

* আগোনাৰ প্ৰায়োজনীয়া/অতিৰিক্ত কপিস বাবে অঙ্গীকৃত
কাৰণ গৱাকৰিস বা 'গৰিয়াসী'ৰ স্বীকৃত বিবৃত, প্ৰিয়জন,
ওৱাহাটী-৩ (ফোন: ৯৬৬৩০৩৫৫৫০)ৰ দৈতে মোবাইল কৰক।

Central Silk Board, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India.

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MESSAGE FOR TODAY

Don't cheat the world of your contribution. Give it what you've got.

— STEVEN PRESSFIELD

The Assam Tribune**Corrupt councils**

Large-scale corruption remains a major stumbling block in the State's development process, particularly in the backward areas. Nothing testifies to this sorry state of affairs in a more telling manner than the functioning of the tribal autonomous councils. Far from serving their avowed objectives and bringing in the desired changes in the lives of the neglected populations, these have become dens of unprecedented corruption—the coterie of politicians, bureaucrats, contractors and militants being the biggest beneficiaries. Over the years, credible newspaper reports of large-scale corruption in all the tribal autonomous councils have dominated headlines, with the shocking revelations on the functioning of the NC Hills still fresh in public memory. The State Government, too, has done precious little in streamlining the functioning of the councils with thrust on transparency and accountability. Rather, various acts of omission and commission on the Government's part would raise legitimate questions about the likely involvement of some of the bigwigs of the Government in the blatant loot of public money. While a few officials get caught, the big fish invariably manage to evade the law even though it is evidently clear that corruption on such a massive scale is impossible without the endorsement of their political bosses. Unless the role of the bigger fish is established—an arduous exercise for obvious reasons—it is unlikely that the scourge of corruption will abate.

The special audit by CAG on the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) that runs the administration in four districts comes as yet another validation of the shocking lack of transparency and accountability in the council's financial management. The CAG has come down heavily on the BTC over a number of large-scale financial irregularities, including expenditure incurred in violation of laid-down norms, unaccountable 'discretionary' spending by the BTC chief, and other wasteful expenditures. The State Government needs to take serious note of the developments and institute a high-level probe into the anomalies so that responsibility is fixed and the guilty booked. If the Government is serious about promoting the welfare of the tribal communities, it must ensure transparency and accountability in the utilization of funds meant for tribal development. In recent years, massive leakage of funds, including Central funds meant for development, has emerged as a big problem warranting an effective monitoring mechanism that can haul up the corrupt and fix accountability. The CAG findings are disturbing because they lay bare why the development process has failed to gain ground in the backward areas even after the 'spending' of huge amounts of funds. Since the Government has been lax in taking follow-up action on CAG reports, the media and civil society should bring the CAG findings to the public domain in a big way and pressure the authorities into action. We need greater public participation to ensure that the governments and councils remain trusted custodians of public money.

Right direction

In delivering a clear message to the car manufacturers to begin switching to production of vehicles which either run on clean fuels as alternatives to diesel and petrol, or preferably on electricity, Union Minister for Road Transport Nitin Gadkari is driving India on a right direction. Of course, the nightmare of urban pollution is not confined to India – air pollution in Beijing, for instance, is even higher than New Delhi, and China is already taking firm steps to replace all conventional vehicles by electric ones. India needs to do the same and ensure the boosting up of both production and usage of electric cars, buses, three-wheelers and motorcycles. While enunciating this policy of full conversion to non-polluting vehicles within a few decades, Gadkari has been pragmatic enough to concede that there would be teething troubles. At the moment one of the major constraints is the cost factor; electric vehicles are far more expensive than conventional ones and vehicle-makers need to undertake brain-storming to see how these can be decreased. Manufacturers of electric vehicles have appealed to the Centre to reduce the 28% GST on batteries and it is to be hoped that this will elicit a positive response from the Government. Simultaneously, the manufacturers must also embark on research on their own and seek the assistance if required of foreign technologists to produce vehicles suited to Indian pockets.

Other constraints include paucity of infrastructure, in particular of charging stations at reasonable distances, a lacuna which Gadkari has promised to overcome by formulating a comprehensive action plan. Similar thought must be given to servicing, maintenance, repair, etc., facilities which at the moment are almost nonexistent. However, the biggest problem will be the impact a switchover would make on the economy, especially at a micro level. Millions of individuals in India depend for their livelihood on aged, fuel-guzzling, smoke-emitting vehicles of all types – attempts in certain metros to phase these out have not been successful and to do so at an-all-India level would indeed be a Herculean task. Of course, this attempt to drive India in the right direction will not go unchallenged, no matter how determined the Centre might be. The warning delivered by Gadkari to car makers to immediately embark on the production of electric vehicles and not to later come whining of huge stocks of unsold conventional vehicles is dire indeed. Yet it is most how effective such determination and warnings would prove, for the oil lobby is extremely powerful. Many members of the international oil cartel have become fabulously rich only through production of petroleum products with some of them even dictating vehicle manufacture policies of many countries. India's success in switching to 'clean' vehicles will depend on how much she can resist these international pressure groups while striving towards combating air pollution.

Doklam and beyond

■ **Brig Ranjit Borthakur (retd)**

As anticipated, the Doklam impasse between India and China has been resolved amicably but after a tense period of 73 days. It has been the longest border impasse between the two countries in the last two decades. During this period, while China had carried out sustained and well-orchestrated campaign against India, India on the other hand reacted in a matured manner which has been appreciated by the international community. Though there were some apprehensions of a war (or a localized conflict), however, most experts dealing with China were convinced that a war at this juncture will be an unwise and non-pragmatic move by China, which the Chinese leadership was aware of.

Tactically, Indian troops are placed at an advantageous position in the Doklam plateau. At the international level also, the USA, Japan and many other countries have supported India's stance. It also needs to be remembered that China has faced many other critical issues at hand, particularly the 19th Chinese People's Congress (CPC), etc. The 19th CPC scheduled to be held in the third week of October is very important for President Xi Jinping as he will make a strong bid for another term of five years. China is also under pressure from the international community to rein in rogue North Korea. If China can convince North Korea to stop her missile development programme, it will be one of the biggest

incursions. This has given confidence to the population of our country that our defence forces are capable of safeguarding the territorial integrity of the country. At the same time, in spite of a number of provocations from China in some other parts of the 3,488-km Indo-China border, the Indian army had maintained poise and did not give in to such provocations. Doklam issue has also highlighted that the existing border mechanism between India and China cannot be ruled out in the future. Therefore, Bhutan needs to plan for contingency with consultations with India. While India will be always there to support Bhutan, but Bhutan will be the happiest if such situations do not recur. Bhutan may even think of formulating a mechanism to deal with such situations on its own. At the same time, China who has been attempting to develop full diplomatic relations with Bhutan will endeavour to wean away Bhutan from India's influence by way of economic and other assistance.

While this period had been rather tense for Bhutan and India, there have been a number of positive fallouts for both the countries. Bhutan is reassured of India's help and support in the future. India is once again convinced that China cannot be trusted to deal fairly as far as the border issues are concerned. The best possible fallout has been the way the Indian army reacted to the Chinese

Having been forced to concede to India's diplomatic efforts, China has also learnt a few lessons. It will be naive to think that China will keep quiet after such a loss of face. China will explore new areas (though not militarily alone) to embarrass India.

na needs to be further refined so that peace and tranquility can be maintained at all times.

Probably, both the countries realize that the economic consideration would force them to be more pragmatic. This aspect was highlighted between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Xi Jinping during their meeting on the sidelines of the BRICS summit where both the leaders stressed that economic cooperation is inevitable. However, on this

account as well as militarily, India will take a lot of time to match China. India must grow at the rate of 8% to bridge the gap with China. Diplomatically also, China has been able to rope in our neighbours including Sri Lanka and Nepal to its One Road One Belt (OBOR) initiative. Similarly, China is going on full throttle on the construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in spite of India's concern. Thus, India's advantage in the South Asian region appears to be shrinking.

It is significant to note that the BRICS countries have condemned terror in all forms and named the LeT (Lashkar-e-Taiba), JaM (Jaish-e-Mohammed) among other groups for terrorist activities which has been a big diplomatic success for India. Hopefully, China will now not oppose the UN move to blacklist Masood Azhar, the JaM chief.

Coming back to the Doklam issue, too much hype ought not to be created, especially the claim that India forced China to withdraw from Doklam. China continues to insist that it was not incursion but development of infrastructure by the newly created Western Command of the PLA. It must also be remembered that the Chinese had carried out such incursions in the past in different areas of the Indo-China border and will continue to do so in the future. Similarly such face-offs between

the troops are likely to take place in the future. The only difference is that this time the incursions had taken place in Bhutan, with whom we have security arrangement to come to their support.

Having been forced to concede to India's diplomatic efforts, China has also learnt a few lessons. It will be naive to think that China will keep quiet after such a loss of face. China will explore new areas (though not militarily alone) to embarrass India. As far as Bhutan is concerned, besides offering more aid, China may encourage fringe political parties like the Bhutan Communist Party (BCP) to adopt an anti-India stance. Similarly, China trying to influence the 2018 Bhutan elections cannot be ruled out. China's support to Pakistan on diplomatic as well as military sphere is likely to see significant increase, especially since the USA has indicated tough stands against Pakistan for supporting selected terrorist groups. China's effort to encircle India by coexisting with our neighbours is likely to see manifold increase. We also need to be aware that China does not respect international treaties and obligations when her interests are threatened. Therefore, we have to make appropriate policies encompassing all aspects of national power to deal with the Red Dragon. At the same time, it will be most appropriate to progress on issues where we have convergence of interests like economic cooperation, fighting terrorism, climatic change, etc., while hoping that the border issues will be resolved amicably in due course.

Prof Maheswar Neog and Gauhati University

■ **Pranavvarup Neog**

Professor Maheswar Neog was one of the leading humanists of contemporary India. He was an outstanding Indian scholar of the 19th century, unique in his command of just every discipline of the humanities and social sciences. Prof Neog combined in himself the rare insight of a creative writer, the critical acumen of a philologist and a historian of literature and a meticulous writer on any topic on Assam and Assamese. For several decades, he was one of the foremost figures in the nation's academic and intellectual life. Prof Neog was a versatile scholar and visionary thinker with encyclopedic range. "A scholar of such versatile genius and at the same time profound erudition is rare" is what Prof Sumit Kumar Chatterjee had said in appreciation of the range, depth and intensity of his scholarship.

Prof Maheswar Neog's contribution in having the Gauhati University would be ever remembered by the people of Assam. The demand for a university in Assam had been agitating the minds of the people since 1917. On December 29, 1944 the proposed Gauhati University Convention was held at Gauhati and Neog was entrusted to prepare a detailed report of the first convention. Gopinath Bardoloi was greatly impressed seeing the report and sent a proposal to him to

take the charge of the newly started Trust Board, of which Bardoloi and Fakhruldin Ali Ahmed (later the President of India) were chairman and secretary respectively. Looking at the mass usage, Neog accepted the proposal of Lokopriya. To help him, his wife Nirmala Neog took the job as a school teacher at Jorhat. Very soon, the 'university movement', as it was called, became an integral part of his life, as if none did not exist without the other. Neog's responsibility was also to assist Ali Ahmed by reading through university literature in framing the first draft of the Gauhati University Bill, 1947. With Bardoloi taking the reins of the State as the Chief Minister and Ahmed as the Advocate General, the office of the Board was shifted to Shillong.

A plot of land measuring 2,333 bighas was selected for the university in 1946. Hearing of the land acquisition plan, there appeared a controversy in the media saying that the selected site would easily be washed away by the Brahmaputra. Neog assured the public in an article stating that none could cite the history of erosion of even a foot of land at the site over the last century and Bardoloi affirmed that the land would be acquired for the university. Some people raised the question, what use was there to have a large plot for a university,

and not for the day after tomorrow." On September 27, 1947, Maheswar Neog on behalf of the Trust Board took possession of the land where the university stands now. Amidst these hectic activities of national importance, Neog appeared in the MA examination of Calcutta University in Modern Indian Language and secured first class first position in the university. It is pertinent to mention that there was a proposal to

appoint Neog in a post in-between the Superintendent and the Registrar of the university. But his well-wishers strongly considered that he should be in academics rather than in administration. On December 1, 1948 he joined Gauhati University as its first lecturer in the Postgraduate Department of Assamese On March 31, 1949, the Vice-Chancellor assigned Neog to compile the first calendar of the university which came out in 1950.

Dr Neog brought honour and glory to the university at different times. And at the same time, he projected the distinctive genius of Assam and its culture to the rest of India and beyond. He could always lead and inspire his students, colleagues and others to perform noble tasks.

Dr Neog led the Gauhati University contingent to the first four Inter-University Youth Festivals as the Professor in charge of Youth Welfare Section. He had the rare opportunity to preside over the valedictory function of the third festival as the successful young leader of the best team of the youngest university – a function which had earlier been performed by such celebrities as Dr Chintamani D Desmukh and Durgabai Desmukh after the first festival, and by Amrit Kaur in the second.

Dr Neog was the editor of the *Journal of the University of Gauhati* (both Humanities and Science) since 1958 till he retired from the

University in 1978. The journal had a high reputation and circulation all over the globe as a standard research journal. He was the chief editor of the authoritative Assamese dictionary, *Chandrikanta Abhidhan*, and edited two of the *parvas* of the *Mahabharata*. In 1965 he was appointed as the Jawaharlal Nehru Professor of Assamese and continued in the post till his retirement on February 28, 1978. He was also the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Gauhati University from 1974 to 1976. During his term, courses in BBMusic and Persian, and a paper on Textual Criticism (Assamese), were introduced. The following day after his retirement, he joined the Panjab University, Patiala as the Sankaradeva Professor, returned home in May, 1983 and continued to be engaged in diverse academic and research projects braving his age and ill health.

This tall man, literally and metaphorically, with his giant strides can be compared to the most humble of God's creatures, the laborious ant. It was his holistic view that aided him on. There are other remarkably creditable features to his life beyond academics. He had a personality that was so very enterprising that weakness or fatigue would shy away. Let us hail his wonderful life, his works and, of course, the man himself.

(Published on the occasion of the 23rd death anniversary of the scholar today.)

Letters to the EDITOR

Sir, — *The Assam Tribune* (September 7, 2017) has reported that in 2016, 2,572 persons had lost their lives in road accidents in the State.

Assam continues to grapple with an abnormally high incidence of fatalities caused by road mishaps. The increasing number of road accidents in the State in the last couple of years has sent the alarm bells ringing. Mishaps have their reasons – ranging from negligent driving to unscientific road condition and ignorance of road safety norms to poor enforcement of laws. Mere imposition and realization of fine from the violators will not at all help to check the rising incidents of road accidents unless stringent action is taken, like issuance of driving licence only after the candidate undergoes the mandatory driving test. A complete 'No' for use of mobile phone while driving any vehicle should be promulgated.

Road safety signs are required

Road mishaps cause of concern

police station is situated within a short distance from the area. There are 8 to 9 illegal timber stretching machines at this place which are being used to saw timber. Such illegal tree felling and timber trade need to be stopped as soon as possible. Yours etc., A CONSCIOUS CITIZEN, Nomi, Nagaon.

Illegal timber trade

Sir, — Through your esteemed daily, I would like to draw the attention of the authority concerned towards the illegal timber trade at the Nonoi area in Nagaon district. The Kondali hill is about five km from Nonoi. Once this hill was full of many valuable trees but due to rampant illegal felling, it has now become barren. The traders cut down the trees and transport the valuable timber through bicycles and mini trucks every day from morning till evening and even during night. Though there is a forest sub-office at the hillsite, but such illegal timber trade has been going on unabated. The Nonoi

State Government to look into the matter and do the needful as early as possible. Yours etc., DHRUBA JYOTI THAKURIA, Nagaon, Guwahati.

Conundrum in Bali

Sir, — This refers to the editorial 'Good neighbour' (AT, September 9). The predicament that compels India to take a careful stance is well explained by the editorial. It is also noteworthy that India refused to join the '17-point Bali Declaration', taken in the recently concluded World Parliamentary Forum in Indonesia. The declaration consists of goals such as sustainable development, inclusiveness and justice as well as a deep concern for the happenings in Rakhaing, Myanmar. The Indian delegation led by Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan objected to the last minute change in the forum's agenda and clarified that India couldn't give its consent to a 'country-specific' goal which only got included at the eleventh hour without prior deliberation. Although this

reaffirms India's stand once again, it would be interesting to see how the other countries respond to it. Yours etc., PRIOMJYOTI PHUKON, Mathurapur, Charaideo.

Murder most foul

Sir, — The proverb 'Pen is mightier than the sword' has turned meaningless after the killing of journalist Gauri Lankesh. In a democratic country like India, to some certain level every journalist has the right to express his/her views. In executing this, if they are killed then where is the freedom of expression provided by the Constitution? It's a great shame for a democratic country like India. Lankesh, the editor of a Kannada weekly, was known for her secularist criticism of the right-wing and Hindu nationalists, especially the members of the RSS. Her killers must get exemplary punishment. Yours etc., LAKHRAJIT NATH, Mizoram University.

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



A dilapidated wooden bridge on the Forest Road at Gohpur which was damaged by flood waters of Sesa river, as seen on Monday. — UB Photos

Section 144 imposed on 4-lane construction sites

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

DIBRUGARH, Sept 12: The district administration today clamped prohibitory orders in the ongoing four-lane highway construction area in Jotyani, Lakhawati and Gopurua villages under Majuli monouza, by invoking Section 144 CRPC.

The Additional Deputy Magistrate Pabitra Kumar Das by an order has banned assembly of more than five persons in the area, public gathering, all forms of demonstrations and dharnas, effigy burning, construction of swahid beds etc.

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways had acquired the plot stretch in area for the four-lane highway construction and, accordingly, had notified under the National Highways Act 1956 (D).

The process for *zirat* and compensation for the acquired land is going on. However, since some sections of the people were obstructing the construction works over the dispute of a piece of land, the prohibitory orders had to be clamped, said an official press statement.

OBITUARY

Kunjalata Dutta

CORRESPONDENT

DHEMAMI, Sept 12: Kunjalata Dutta, a pious lady of Hilopara village in west Dhemaji, who was the wife of veteran social worker Kanak Chandra Dutta, died on the evening of September 10 at her residence following a critical disease. She was 72.

A soft-spoken, kind-hearted lady, Kunjalata Dutta was a follower of Samatan Dharma. She was loved by all in the locality because of her amiable nature. Her demise was widely mourned.

She leaves behind her husband, two sons and two daughters-in-law, besides three daughters and several grandchildren.

Jyotimoy Baruah

GUWAHATI, Sept 12: Jyotimoy Baruah, Forest Ranger, who was serving in the Department since 1983, expired at a nursing home here on September 10. He was 59.

At the time of death, he was posted in Guwahati. He hailed from Fauzdaripatty, Nagaon.

He leaves behind his wife, one son and two daughters.

Ranju Devi

GUWAHATI, Sept 12: Ranju Devi, retired Assistant Teacher, Gandhigar MV School, Silpukhuri, Guwahati expired on September 2 at the Dowm Town Hospital. She was 63. She was suffering from cancer.

She was a simple, loving and a grounded lady and an amazing house-maker much adored by her family and friends. She left behind her husband, Mahadev Sarman, Dy Director (Admn), AIR & Door-darshan, and her only daughter, Shyamali Sharma. Her eldest daughter, Shubani Sharma had pre-deceased her.

Tone down e-tender norms, plead WRD contractors

ANN Service

BAIHATA CHARIALI, Sept 12: Under the aegis of Rangia Sub-Division Water Resource Department (WRD) Contractors' Association, a general meeting was held on September 10 at Puthimari Durga Puja pandal.

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Bali Kalita, president of Kamrup district WRD Contractors' Association. Participating

in the meeting as chief guest, Arambha Hazarika, secretary of the All Assam WRD Contractors' Association said that the WRD and the Government had not shown due interest towards the contractors of WRD in the State regarding releasing of their pending bills, and by introducing e-tendering system, the Government has been trying to deprive the small-time local contractors from executing works of the department by imposing some

parameters while tendering, which was virtually impossible for the local contractors as they are not eco-friendly meeting strong.

The meeting also discussed several issues and problems of the contractors and demanded certain relaxation in the e-tendering system so that smalltime local contractors can also participate in the tender process. Besides these, the association also demanded the WRD authorities concerned to immedi-

ately release payments against the pending bills of the flood management project (FMP) and NABARD scheme, including all pending bills from 2010-2011 fiscal.

In the meeting, a new executive committee of Rangia Sub-Division WRD Contractors' Association was constituted with Ganesh Deka as president, Tarun Das and Mahebuddin Choudhury as vice-president and Ajit Kumar Deka as sec-

retary respectively.

Govt mobile vegetable shop at Jorhat soon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

TU ranks among top 1000 world ranking varsities

SHAMBHU BORO

TEZPUR, Sept 12: For the second consecutive year Tezpur University here has ranked globally among the top 1,000 universities in the 601-800 range from the North East India.

The Times Higher Education (THE), one of the leading providers of higher education data for the world's research-led institutions, declared its 'World University Rankings 2018' on September 5 last in London. THE has listed 1,000 universities in its 'Ranking 2018' like in the previous years and Tezpur University finds mention in the

601-800 range. Tezpur University was placed in the same range last year as well.

Apart from Tezpur University, only IIT Guwahati (placed in the 601-800 range) is placed in the top 1,000 from the North East of India.

30 universities/institutions of India have been placed this year in the 'Top 1,000 Universities/Institutions', while in 2017, India had 31 Indian universities/institutions. The top universities other than IISc and IITs/NITs that featured in the 'World University Rankings 2018' for the first time in the 601-800, are Tezpur University and PwC.

Anjali Dutta Memorial Lecture delivered

ANN Service

SIVASAGAR, Sept 12: Delivering the Anjali Dutta Memorial Lecture organised by Sivasagar Press Club here on September 9, noted humorist and satirist Partha Saikia said that Lakshminath Bezbaroa's towering personality and his imminently satirical strain in his voluminous creative works continue to influence successive generations of Assamese writers till today.

He said that satire is not mere flattery with words, but a serious and difficult job that requires deep

understanding of the socio-psychological undertones of the society. Bezbaroa created an indigenous Assamese genre of humour and satire, he added.

Sivasagar Deputy Commissioner Narayan Konwar inaugurated the function at the Yuva Dal auditorium which was presided over by Dr Soumyeritna Mahanta, president of Sivasagar Press Club Suresh D Miske, Executive Director of ONGC, Assam Asset in his speech said that ONGC will continue to support the works done in the interest of Assam and Assa-

mese nationalism. Abdul Zeli, Inspector of Schools, Sivasagar, said that the scribes had been upholding the tradition of being the watchdog of society commendably.

Inamul Hazarika, secretary of Sivasagar Press Club delivered the welcome address and spoke about the objectives. The Alhaz Ali Ahmed Memorial Award, Gadadhar Chutia Memorial Award, Jiten Chutia Memorial Award, Alfarid Thaneswar Dutta Memorial Award were presented among merititous students on the occasion.

National Mission on Oilseed & Oil Palm in Goalpara

CORRESPONDENT

GOALPARA, Sept 12: A total of 340 hectares of wasteland has been covered till date out of a target of 600 hectares under oil palm plantation by the district under the Centrally-sponsored National Mission on Oilseed & Oil Palm (NMOOP) 2017-18. The objective of the Mission is to reduce the country's oil imports for both edible as well as non-edible purposes.

A total of around 50 villages have been covered under the NMOOP 2017-18, where uncultivated waste and fallow land has been converted into oil palm farms especially in and around Dudhnoi area where a few enthusiastic farmers and members of SHGs have taken up oilseed farming sensing better options and better yield and more money with minimum care.

Talking to this correspondent, the Agriculture (SDO) & Information Officer, Wahid Ahmed said that the total area under palm cultivation is gradually expanding in the district as many youths, especially a section of rubber growers are getting

attracted towards the activity as it has great potential for improving their socio-economic condition.

He informed that under the NMOOP, hybrid oil palm seedlings are given to the farmers groups free of cost. Then Rs 5,000 is given per hectare/year for four years for maintenance of oil palm plants and

Rs 5,000 per hectare/year given for inter-cropping. In addition to this, there is a provision for digging farm ponds and dug wells for irrigation purposes and also provision for training to farmer groups.

A total of 700 hectares of land have been covered under palm cultivation in the district, Ahmed

said.

He further informed that Mizoram is the first State in the NE region where palm oil cultivation was taken up while in Assam, the Boko agricultural subdivision in Kamrup district and the Duhmoi agricultural subdivision in Goalpara started palm oil cultivation in 2015. By

products of palm oil like kernel oil

is used in the cosmetic industry and palm-pressed fibres are used in the mattress industry.

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Advertisement No. 09/2017
Re-Tender Notice

Assam Rajiv Gandhi University of Cooperative Management (ARGUCOM), Sivasagar, invites bidding documents for rendering of procurement and installation of LED TV and Classroom Desk and Chair. Bidders who have already submitted their documents need not have to apply again. Tender documents can be downloaded from University website at www.arguc.com.in w.e.f. the date of publication of this advertisement in the newspaper.

Sd/- Registrar (Admin)
Assam Rajiv Gandhi University
of Cooperative Management
Sivasagar, Assam - 785640
JanasanyogC/F1440/17

PRESS RELEASE

IT IS FOR INFORMATION OF ALL SUBSCRIBERS OF GENERAL PROVIDENT FUND OF GOVT. OF ASSAM THAT DISPATCH OF ANNUAL GPF STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2016-17 HAVE BEEN STARTED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL (A&E), ASSAM, MAIDAMAON, BELTOLA, GUWAHATI-781028. W.E.F. 12.09.2017. THE ANNUAL PF STATEMENTS OF AIS OFFICERS OF ASSAM & MEGHALAYA CADRE HAVE ALREADY BEEN DISPATCHED ON 31.08.2017.

HOWEVER THE GUWAHATI BASED NON-AIS DOOS ARE REQUESTED TO DEPUTIE THEIR AUTHORISED RE-PRESENTATIVES ALONG WITH PROPER AUTHORITY LETTER TO COLLECT THE GPF STATEMENTS OF THE SUBSCRIBERS UNDER THEIR CONTROL FROM THE 0/0 THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL (A&E), ASSAM, MAIDAMAON, BELTOLA, GUWAHATI, DIRECTLY, DURING OFFICE HOURS W.E.F. 20.09.2017 TO 23.10.2017.

Sd/- (M.K. Bramhane)
Deputy Accountant General P&F)

JanasanyogC/D7599/17

STATE

Brajanath Sharma Memorial Award presented to Dasharath Das

GUWAHATI, Sept 12: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal presented the Silpi-Sainik Brajanath Sharma Memorial Award, 2017 to eminent music director of Assamese mobile theatre Dasharath Das in a programme held at Borjagar Juri Pathak HS & MP School playground at Sarbhog in Barpeta district today. The award carries an *angga basteri, sora*, and a cheque of Rs 1 lakh. The award ceremony was organised by the Cultural Affairs Department in association with Barpeta district administration. This was stated in an official press release.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said, "Silpi-Sainik Brajanath Sharma was a multi-faceted personality. He was not only an actor, dramatist or a freedom fighter but was also an inspiration to generations of people across the State. The youth of the State must emulate his ideals and commit themselves to strengthen the socio-cultural edifice of the State so that Assam can shine in the global arena overcoming all challenges of the 21st century. This will also be a fitting tribute to this legendary personality."

Underlining the importance of ingraining the youth of the State with scientific temperament and positive attitude, Chief Minister Sonowal stated that knowledge of science and technology is a pre-requisite to make Assam one of the best States of the nation. "If

we want to be the best, it is possible only through hard work and dedication. Brajanath Sharma judiciously used his time and devoted himself in the field of art and culture. He also actively took part in the Freedom Struggle. He is an inspiration for all of us and we must emulate his ideals to rekindle the sense of nationalism among us," Sonowal said.

The Chief Minister also released a souvenir along with Cultural Affairs Minister Naba Kumar Doley on the occasion. Cultural Affairs Minister Naba Kumar Doley, local MLA and former Speaker of Assam Legislative Assembly Ranjit Das and awardee Dasharath Das also spoke on the occasion. Director, Cultural Affairs Depta

Prasad Mishra delivered the welcome speech.

MLAs Ashok Sharma, Gunindra Das, Ashok Singh, Commissioner & Secretary of Cultural Affairs Department Pritom Saikia, Deputy Commissioner Thaneswar Malkar, Arun Sharma, younger son of Brajanath Sharma, social worker Pani Pathak, Shankar Das were present along with several other dignitaries at the award ceremony.

Prior to the award ceremony, Chief Minister Sonowal laid the foundation stone of Silpi-Sainik Brajanath Sharma Statue to be set up at the office campus of Borjagar ex-Sainiks Sangha of Uttar Ganaghat village of Sarbhog in Barpeta district.



Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal presenting the Silpi-Sainik Brajanath Sharma Memorial Award, 2017 to eminent music director of mobile theatre Dasharath Das, at Sorbhog in Barpeta district on Tuesday. – UB Photos

Call for 12-hr Jorhat district bandh on Sept 20

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Union, Gana Adhikar Sangram Samiti and Upper Assam Muslim Kalyan Parishad.

Addressing mediapersons here today, Rabu Gogoi, president of Jorhat district unit of the Tai Ahom Students' Union, and a member of the Mancha, alleged that the government was trying to "protect" Solanki without action being initiated against him despite serious allegations of financial anomalies committed by him.

Gogoi said that in July this year, the government by an order issued through ADGP (Law and Order) M Agarwal transferred five cases of alleged large-scale financial malfeasance to the tune of several crores rupees (released from the Unit Fund), which were registered on September 20 from 5 am to protest State government's "attempt to shield" a senior IAS bureaucrat, now posted at the Chief Minister's office. The bureaucrat is allegedly involved in misappropriation of funds from the District United Fund.

Fund of Jorhat Fund.

The Mancha alleges that the IAS officer, who is a former Deputy Commissioner of Jorhat and now posted as secretary in the Chief Minister's office, Solanki Vishal Vasant, was involved in the scam as during his tenure the money from the District United Fund was withdrawn fraudulently to the CID with an aim to "dilute" the investigation process.

He said that among the five cases handed over to the CID, in one case (case no. 1371/17) registered under Sections 420, 406, 409 and 819 pm of the IPC in June this year, Solanki was named as an accused.

Gogoi took a dig at the Sonowal-led government that made tall claims of adopting zero tolerance against the bureaucrat.

The Mancha comprises Jorhat district units of All Tai Ahom Students' Union, Assam Tea Tribes' Students' Association, Sutiya Yuba Samelan, Assam Koch Rajbongshi Students' Union, All Assam Scheduled Caste Students'

Awareness prog on skill development CORRESPONDENT

KOKRAJHAR, Sept 12: An awareness programme on skill development under Prime Minister's Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) and Assam Skill Development (ASDM) was held recently at Bessie Memorial English School, Gaurisingh Mission here.

The programme was attended by eminent personalities, educationists, unemployed youths and housewives of the area.

Attending the awareness programme as the resource person, Bidan Sil underlined the schemes of the Central and State governments and appealed to everyone to come together to encourage the youths, especially the school dropouts, housewives and unemployed youths of the area to join the skill development programme for their livelihood and bright future.

The awareness programme was organised by Rajani Mohilary and Jacob of Bosco Mission Institute, Kokrajhar.

Talking to mediapersons, the organisers said that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be burnt here and on Septem-

ber 18 a torch rally will be

taken out here in the evening to demand action against the bureaucrat.

Alleging that a CAG report has indicated Solanki, Tanti said on September 15 effigies of Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be burnt here and on Septem-

ber 18 a torch rally will be

taken out here in the evening to demand action against the bureaucrat.

The meeting was presided over by Dhiraj Chaudhary, Deputy Commissioner of Dibrugarh.

It was also assured that appropriate medical arrangements have been made for the occasion. The Puja committees were also asked not to use loudspeakers after 10 pm and to keep their respective areas clean and tidy. They were also asked to furnish their pands with appropriate electricity back-up, fire-fighting equipment and CCTV cameras.

It may be mentioned here that it has been a long-standing demand of the people of the district to repair the roads before the Puja. Addressing the meeting, PWD road engineer SK Nath said that repairing work of many roads is on full swing and the Senpara Path, HN Road, DD Road, RK Mission Road and Indra Gandhi Road will be completed before the Puja celebration.

According to the administration, a total of 384 Puja pandals will be set up in the district, out of which 301 is under Dibrugarh subdivision and 83 under Bisilapara subdivision.

Police sources also informed that vehicular traffic will be restricted in some of the places

PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Executive Engineer PWD, Sonitpur Rural Road Division on behalf of Governor of Assam invites bid for "Maintenance & Repairing of roads for the works under Assam Road Maintenance Fund for the Financial year 2017-18 for 3 (Three) years duration of 11 Nos. packages of Biswanath District of Assam amounting to Rs. 77.03 Lakhs (Approx). Details may be seen at the office of the undersigned from 19.09.2017 to 22.09.2017 during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer PWD,
Sonitpur Rural Road Division
Biswanath Chariali.

EXTENSION NOTICE

In continuation to the e-tender notice vide No. DVT/223/RID/Pt-II/2016-17/1561 dated 4th Sept. 2017 invited through e-tender portal www.assamtenders.gov.in, it is hereby informed to all bidders that the tender schedule has been revised as follows:-

Tender Schedule

Date of availability of bidding documents on E-procurement portal	06.09.2017 (11.00 Hrs to 26.09.2017 (14.00 Hrs)
Tender Pre-Bid meeting	On 11.09.2017 at 11.00 Hrs (Already held)
Last Date and Time for online Bid Submission	On 26.09.2017 Up to 14.00 Hrs
Last Date and Time for Hard Copy Submission (Technical Bid)	On 26.09.2017 Up to 14.00 Hrs
Date and Time of Technical Bid Opening	03.10.2017 to 10.10.2017
Date and Time of Financial Bid Opening	Intimated later on

Further queries may be clarified from the Engineering Section of the Directorate of A.H. & Vety. Deptt., Assam, Chenikuthi, Guwahati-3.

Sd/- Director
Animal Husbandry & Vety. Deptt. Assam
Chenikuthi, Gh-3

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF N.E. REGION
NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL SECRETARIAT
NONGRIM HILLS, SHILLONG-793003

A-2015(11)/1/2017-ADMN Dated: Shillong, 30th August, 2017

The North Eastern Council is looking for the services of a suitable officer for filling up the post of (1) Adviser (Banking and Industries) deputation (including short term contract basis). The details of post, eligibility, criteria, job requirement age limit, qualification, and experience required for the post are available at NEC website. The pay and other terms and conditions of deputation will be regulated in accordance with DOPT O.M.No. 6/8/2009-Estt. (Pay-II) dated 17.06.2010 as amended from time to time. Cadre Authorities/ Heads of Departments are requested to forward applications of eligible and willing candidates whose services can be spared on deputation immediately on selection so as to reach the undersigned within 60 days from the date of publication of this advertisement in the Employment News. The details of post, eligibility criteria, job requirement, age limit qualification and experience required for the post are available at NEC website. The Application Forms/Curriculum Vitae proforma and other details, the candidate are advised to visit and download from the NEC website <http://necouncil.gov.in>

Sd/- (Kh. Silit Anthony)
I/c Director (Admn.)
NEC Secretariat, Nongrim Hills,
Shillong: 793003
Ph. No. 2522647
dapt 11104/1/0022/1718

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NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL SECRETARIAT
NONGRIM HILLS, SHILLONG-793003

A-2015(11)/1/2017-ADMN Dated: Shillong, 30th August, 2017

The North Eastern Council is looking for the services of a suitable officer for filling up the post of (1) Director of Information and Public Relations on deputation (including short term contract basis). The details of post, eligibility criteria, job requirement, age limit, qualification and experience required for the post are available at NEC website. The pay and other terms and conditions of deputation will be regulated in accordance with DOPT O.M. No. 6/8/2009-Estt. (Pay-II) dated 17.06.2010 as amended from time to time. Cadre Authorities/ Heads of Departments are requested to forward applications of eligible and willing candidates whose services can be spared on deputation immediately on selection so as to reach the undersigned within 60 days from the date of publication of this advertisement in the Employment News. The details of post, eligibility criteria, job requirement, age limit qualification and experience required for the post are available at NEC website. The Application Forms/Curriculum Vitae proforma and other details, the candidate are advised to visit and download from the NEC website <http://necouncil.gov.in>

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Office of the Commandant
9th Bn, Indo-Tibetan Border Police
Government of India

Ministry of Home Affairs, C/o 9th APo, Pin-934409

Notice Inviting e-Tender

The Commandant, ITB Police Force, Lohit District Lohit (Arunachal Pradesh) invites on behalf of the President of India online item rate bids on two bid system for the following work

NLT/TS NO.3502 & Date 08.08.17	Name of work & Location	Estimated cost put to tender (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Period of completion	Last date & time of submission of bid
Dt:08/08/17	ARM OF CIVIL RESIDENTIAL BUILDING AT BHQ FOR THE YEAR 2017-18 AT 9TH BN ITB POLICE (A.P.) SH. SUPPLY OF MATERIALS	212589.00	4252/-	06MONTH	19.09.17 1100 hrs
Dt:08/08/17	ARM OF CIVIL RESIDENTIAL BUILDING AT BHQ FOR THE YEAR 2017-18 AT 9TH BN ITB POLICE (A.P.) SH. SUPPLY OF MATERIALS	317246.00	6345/-	06MONTH	19.09.17 1100 hrs
NO-09 DTD-01.06.17	DEN OF STREET LIGHT/COMPUND/GAR	273400.00	5468/-	06MONTH	19.09.17 1100 hrs

The bid form and other details can be obtained from the website - www.eprocure.gov.in (CPP portal) or

Sd/- For Commandant
9th Bn. IT.B. Police

dapt 11104/1/0148/1718



WEATHER NORTHEAST

Forecast for NE: Moderate rain/thunder shower is very likely to occur at most places over North East, except Mizoram and Tripura and at most places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya.

Temperatures :

	Max (°C)	Min (°C)
Dibrugarh	31.8	23.4
Guwahati	33.0	26.0
Silchar	34.3	24.4
Dhubri	29.2	26.4
Jorhat	32.7	24.7
N Lakhimpur	34.4	21.0
Shillong	22.3	14.9
Imphal	26.2	22.0
Morbiagar	33.8	22.0
Aizawl	28.4	13.0
Agartala	32.8	23.8
Kohima	24.4	18.0
Pasighat	33.2	25.0
Cherrapunjee	23.1	17.3

5 militants killed in Manipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT

IMPHAL, Sept 12: Five militants were killed in an exchange of gunfire between the suspected NSCN (IM) and the CoCom at Malan village in Manipur near the Indo-Myanmar border today.

CoCom is an umbrella organisation of seven Manipur-based militant groups.

The incident took place when the suspected NSCN (IM) militants started indiscriminate firing at a group of militants of CoCom in the wee hours at the village killing five militants on the spot, sources added. Four assault rifles and some IEDs were also recovered from the slain militants.

Tawang Maitree Diwas concludes

ITANAGAR, Sept 12: The two-day Tawang Maitree Diwas 2017 celebrations concluded on Monday at Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh.

Tawang Maitree Diwas is celebrated to foster friendship and to epitomize excellent relationship between the Indian Army and the local people.

The event was jointly organized by the Indian Army, Tawang District Administration and YUVA, an NGO under chief patronage of State Chief Minister Pema Khandu.

Local MLA Tsering Tashi attended as the chief guest on the event as the chief guest in presence of guests of honour Chairman of Department of Karnali and Adyithayam Affairs (DOKAA) Jamby Wangdi and the Abbot of Tawang Monastery Tulku Gongdol Rinpoche.

The CM in his message, said, "The beautiful relationship which has been built and maintained over ages will continue to safeguard the interest of our nation."

The MLA, in his speech, emphasized that such a noble event which couldn't take place for a period of six years (post tragic demise of former CM) would be a unique one. He felt it will not only bridge the gap between the Army and the local civilians but also promote tourism in the long run. — Correspondent

The Body Shop to fund wildlife project

NEW DELHI, Sept 12: Beauty brand The Body Shop today announced commencement of its bio-bridge project at Garo Hills in Meghalaya in partnership with Wildlife Trust of India as part of its CSR initiative.

Additionally, the company is looking to raise Rs 20 million out of the transactions at its outlets in the next two months to fund the project partly.

It has pledged to protect endangered Indian elephant and Western Hoolock Gibbon, besides other threatened species in the region.

"The bio-bridge is about creating forest covers of habitats and that allow the forest to thrive and co-exist." The Body Shop India COO Shriti Malhotra told reporters here. For every transaction at its outlets, the company said it would plant one square metre of habitat in the region. — PTI

Mizoram Govt keeping close watch on border: Official

AIZAWL, Sept 12: No report of any Rohingya Muslim entering Mizoram have been received so far, a senior police officer said today.

The officer said strict vigil was being maintained along the State's 404 km international border with Myanmar and 318 km long border with Bangladesh but there was no report of any Rohingya Muslim entering Mizoram.

Rohingya refugee crisis

Law enforcement agencies are keeping a close watch on the possibility of Rohingya Mus-

military forces guarding both the Myanmar and Bangladesh borders and the intelligence agencies every two weeks.

neighbouring Myanmar due to recent clashes between Myanmar Army and the Arakan Liberation Army (ALA) and took shelter in the border areas in south Mizoram's Lawngthai district.

Makeshift camps were made where the refugees took shelter and the Deputy Commissioner of Lawngthai District arranged foodstuff for them, he added. — PTI



Meghalaya Health Minister Roshan Warjri during the launch of an ambulance service donated by the V-Guard Industries in Shillong on Tuesday. — UB Photos

Khandu meets Union Sports Minister

CORRESPONDENT

ITANAGAR, Sept 12: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu today called on Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Youth Affairs and Sports Col Rajayardhan Singh Rathore at Shastri Bhawan in New Delhi and pleaded him for development of adventure sports in Arunachal and for adopting an integrated approach to augment sports infrastructure in the State.

“Multi-Sports Stadium and Residential Academy, if considered by the Ministry, will change the face of sports in the State,” Khandu said.

The Union Minister was in complete endorsement of the need to encourage adventure sports in the State given the picturesque locales and the experience that the landscape of the State has to offer. He suggested to the State Government to propose new projects within the contours of this scheme.

The Ministry suggested to explore the possibility of gap funding for five ongoing stadiums (under erstwhile special plan) by Government of India through the Ministry of DoNER under its non-lapsable pool of resources.

Also present in the meeting was Union Sports Secretary In-

stitute proposals for adventure sports under the schemes of Ministry of Youth Affairs, Sports and DoNER Ministry.

Rathore while assuring all support asked the State Government to formulate projects with integrated concept for consideration of the Ministry. He also suggested for conducting a visit by State officials to Gopichand's academy in Hyderabad which has integrated complex housing both training/sports area and residential facility for the players.

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■ Contd. from previous issue

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 28th August, 2017

S.O. 2800(E) for resumption of powers conferred by Sub-section (1) of Section 3A of the National Highway Act, 1956 (49 of 1956), hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in Schedule 2800, is required for the purpose of widening (luring/earthing etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 37A & 52 in the stretch of land from km. 9.260 to km. 17.300 (Kilometres) to Dolatpur (Section) of NH-37A, km. 17.300 of NH-37A to km. 182.000 of NH-52 (Dolatpur to Phomchilam, Chittagong, Bengal Section), km. 182.000 to km. 264.100 (Tikrungi to Gobur Section) of NH-52 and km. 264.100 to km. 303.000 (NH-52 to NH-37A) in District of Sylhet in the State of Assam, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land.

Every such objection shall be made to the competent Authority, namely, the Adyut Deputy Commissioner & i-change Land Acquisition branch, Sylhet District in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the competent authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the competent authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any Order made by the competent authority under Sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final.

In case of any objection to the award of land, it may be heard by the Interlocutory Officer of the concerned office of the concerned authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief description of the Land acquired with or without structure falling within the stretch of land from km 280 to km 17,300 (Kalabongora Bridge to Golapur Section) of NH-37A, km. 17,300 of NH-37A to km, 182,000 of NH-52 (Dolabari to Panchmiche-Namrap-Chowkighat-Jamuguri Section), km. 182,000 to km 264,100 (Jamuguri to Golpur Section) of NH-52 and km. 264,100 of NH-52 to km. 20,300 of NH-52A (Golpur to Kalabongora Section) in District Sonitpur in the State of Assam.

■ Continued on Page 13

We want to make things better: Joshi after first CBFC meeting

MUMBAI, Sept 12: The newly appointed Central Board of Film Certification chief, Prasoon Joshi, called his first meeting with the new members of the board, where he discussed about the future of film censorship in India.

The meeting on Monday was attended by board members Gautam Tadimalla, Jeevitha Rajashankar, Mihir Bhuta, Naresh Chandra Lal, Neil Scott, Nongkyrih, Ramesh Patnay, TS Nagabharana, Vanij Tripathi Takoo, Vidya Balan, Vivek Agnihotri and Waaman Kendre. Also present was the CEO Anurag Shirivastava.

It was important to have this meeting as early as possible for the Board members to know each other and exchange valuable ideas. The Board comprises accomplished people and it was enriching to have meaningful discussions around the functioning of the body.

"The way forward will draw from the collective wisdom and experience of this group. We got a lot of valuable insights from these interactions and I am thankful to all the Board members for being focused with an intricate approach. The purpose is clearly to make things better for all stakeholders where there is mutual respect and collaboration," Joshi said in a statement.

The CBFC has also decided to meet the industry people and take their inputs to make the certification process smooth.

"Our first meeting was a great first step in the right direction towards understanding our role as the Board and determining our approach. It was reassuring to know that we are all on the same page," Balan said.

Joshi replaced Pahlaj Nihalani as the CBFC chief last month. - PTI

RSS does not support trolling, says its chief

NEW DELHI, Sept 12: RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat today said his organisation does not support trolling and aggressive behaviour on the net as it amounts to "hitting below the belt".

He was speaking at an interactive session here with foreign diplomats from more than 50 missions.

"Trolling amounts to hitting below the belt. We do not support those who display such aggressive nature. We do not support trolling and aggressive behaviour on the net," Bhagwat was quoted in a series of tweets posted by Prasar Bharati Chairman A Surya Prakash who was present at the event.

Prasar Bharati is a broadcasting agency which runs Doordarshan and All India Radio.

Besides addressing the diplomats, Bhagwat answered questions at the event organised by the India Foundation, a right-leaning think tank.

The RSS chief was also quoted as saying that the Sangh Parivar does not believe in discrimination.

"No discrimination and one ness of our nation and oneness of the world is our goal," said another tweet by Prakash quoting Bhagwat.

He told the diplomats that RSS runs 1.70 lakh service projects in various fields, including health, education, rural development, and invited them to visit these projects.

On relationship with the BJP, the RSS chief reiterated that the Sangh does not interfere in the party's affairs.

"Sangh does not run BJP; BJP does not run Sangh. As Swayamsevaks we consult and exchange notes but independent in functioning," said BJP national general secretary Ram Madhav in a tweet quoting the RSS chief.

Madhav, who was in charge of media and public relations of the RSS for a number of years before moving to the BJP, is a director of the India Foundation along with Prakash. - PTI

Govt mulls using surveillance gadgets to bolster airport security

NEW DELHI, Sept 12: A new proposal to bolster security at country's major civil airports by "rationalising" and "reducing" the security personnel from non-sensitive duties, like manning unused transit gates at airports, passenger queue management, manning air traffic control gates and similar administrative tasks.

The concept paper of the plan, accessed by the PTI, talks about "rationalising" and "reducing" the security personnel from non-sensitive duties, like manning unused transit gates at airports, passenger queue management, manning air traffic control gates and similar administrative tasks.

"The proposal talks about reducing about 3,000 CISF security personnel from airport security duties, out of the total about 27,000, and they will be replaced by smart and analytical gadgetry, CCTV cameras and other surveillance tools," a senior home ministry official, privy to the contents of the proposal, said.

Such processes, with the aid of smart security gadgets, are deployed for aviation security across the globe, he said.

Smart surveillance systems, he said, are the need of the hour at Indian airports, given their vulnerability against terror threats. The official said the CISF conducted a full ground survey, at all the 59 civil airports it guards, for preparing the proposal.

It was important to undertake such a study and survey as the government has embarked on a multi-tier plan to effectively secure airports against the threats of terrorism and hijacks, he said.

The official added the manpower that is "rationalised" or is rendered free as a result of the implementation of the proposal can be used to secure those civil airports that will come under the CISF security cover in the coming days.

"Increasing manpower is not the solution to bolster airport security but using technology to act as force multiplier is the answer," he said.

The recent decision to do away with the stamping of commuters' hand baggage tags at airports has also propelled the new security mechanism where a task done by a security personnel can be performed by smart CCTV cameras and other gadgets, the official said.

The government has already begun the process to create a uniform security platform for all airports, including the 45 which were added under a new regional connectivity scheme.

Out of the 98 functional airports in the country, 59 are under the CISF cover

Twenty-six of them, including Delhi's and Mumbai's, are in the hyper-sensitive category. Of these hyper-sensitive airports, 18 are under the CISF cover, while six like Srinagar and Imphal, are being guarded by the CRPF and State police.

Under the sensitive category, there are 56 airports out of which only 37 are under the CISF cover.

The list of airports has gone up to 143 with the inclusion of 45 small airports after the launch of regional connectivity scheme, named 'Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik' (Udan).

The Udan scheme was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with an aim to provide air connectivity to small cities. - PTI



Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi attending a programme in Thiruvananthapuram as part of 'Bharat Yatra' to create awareness on child trafficking and sexual abuse, on Tuesday. — UNI

First-past-the-post electoral system outlived utility: TS Krishnamurthy

HYDERABAD, Sept 12: The existing first-past-the-post electoral system in India has outlived its utility, former Chief Election Commissioner TS Krishnamurthy said, favouring proportional representation or candidates getting minimum percentage of votes to get elected.

As per the first-past-the-post electoral system, the candidate with the most votes polled can get elected in each constituency wins.

"It's possible, why not? After all, the first-past-the-post (electoral) system which is in existence has outlived its utility because the person with one vote extra, with even 15 per cent of the votes polled can get elected," he told PTI when asked about his views on proportional representation.

Sharing his views of electoral reforms and cleaning up the system, he said in Palestine, 50 per cent of the people are elected nationally and the remaining constituency-wise. In India, for example, most of the elections are held constituency-wise, where the caste, or the language or community to which candidate belongs dominates, he said.

"Suppose you have at least 25 to 30 per cent of our elected representatives on a national basis, if every Indian votes for a national leader, then at least this narrow outlook of legislators will disappear. It will improve the quality of democracy," Krishnamurthy added. - PTI

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14 people killed in Pak road mishap

ISLAMABAD, Sept 12: At least 14 people, including four children, were killed today and three injured in a tragic road accident in Pakistan when the driver of a minibus fell asleep, the police said.

The mishap occurred on M-2 Motorway at Chakri near Islamabad when the minibus rammed into a truck loaded with cement. The incident occurred when the driver fell asleep, police spokesman Muhammad Ali Khokhar said.

"Ten people and four children were killed in the accident which occurred due to carelessness of the driver who slept while speeding on the motorway," he said. The minibus was on its way from Jhang in Punjab to capital Islamabad. - PTI

Indian held for fraud

KATHMANDU, Sept 12: A 28-year-old Indian has been arrested in Nepal for allegedly defrauding two Nepalese on the pretext of providing them lucrative jobs in Russia, the police said today.

Suraj Lal Joshi, a resident of Dehradun, charged over Rs 30 lakh from Basanta Basnet and Kamal Oli, Joshi asked Basnet and Oli to come to New Delhi from where he promised they would be sent to Moscow.

When the duo reached New Delhi on June 3 last year, they were received by Joshi's agent. Joshi planned to take Basnet and Oli to Russia illegally through Hungary, but the agent left them stranded at the Hungary border where they lived illegally for six months before returning to Nepal. - PTI

Around the WORLD

Russian model with the longest legs

MOSCOW, Sept 12: A Russian model has set a new Guinness world record for the longest legs measuring an unparalleled 132 centimetres in length.

Ekatерина Лисина, a 29-year-old woman from Russia, also known as the tallest female professional model with a height of 6 feet and 8.77 inches. Her left and right legs measure 132.8 cm and 132.2 centimetres respectively. As required by the *Guinness World Records* guidelines, the measurements were taken by independent professionals – a seamstress and doctor – from the heel to the top of the hip.

Lisina said that she was bullied in school for her height and she wanted "to be an inspiration to girls who are not very confident". She is a trouble finding trousers that fit her, and finds it very awkward squeezing into airplane and car seats. With a shoe size of 47, it is also difficult for her to find feminine shoes.

However, there are also some benefits to having the longest legs in the world, she said. Her height has also helped her basketball career; she won a bronze medal playing for Russia in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. - PTI

Bhutan's youngest author

THIMPHU, Sept 12: When she is not reading her Roald Dahl and Enid Blyton or dreaming of becoming an army doctor, Bhutan's youngest author is working on the plot of her next book.

Yeshi Tshyryang Zam, who launched her first book *Khoyek* at the eighth edition of the Mountain Echoes literary festival here, is happy with the success of her debut novel, and is planning a book on similar lines.

"I have been reading since I was in Class 1 and my mother has been inspiring me to read and write," she told PTI. Asked about the attention she received at the recently concluded festival, where she was asked to sign books and take photographs with readers, she blushed.

"Of course, it feels good as that was my first time in such a large festival," she said. There was a time when the small-built, bespectacled author thought of becoming an actress. But now she would rather study medicine, and keep writing along with other engagements.

"Earlier, when I was very small, I wanted to be an actress, but that was only for maybe half a year. Now I want to be an army doctor. And I will continue to write," she said.

Yeshi's first book – *Khoyek* stands for snow and *Kha* means deliver in the Bhutanese language – is based on a traditional game that used to be popular in the first day of snowfall. The game involved children who secretly delivered snowballs filled with treats to their neighbours. - PTI



US President Donald Trump, flanked by First Lady Melania Trump and Defence Secretary James Mattis, speaking at a ceremony held on the 16th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, in Arlington, Virginia, on Monday. - PTI

Security Council imposes tough sanctions on N Korea

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 12: The UN Security Council has unanimously passed a US-drafted resolution that imposes the strongest sanctions ever on North Korea, including restrictions on oil imports and banning textile exports, to curb the reclusive nation's nuclear programme. The move comes in response to the sixth and largest nuclear test by North Korea on September 3.

"Today, we are saying the world will never accept a nuclear-armed North Korea. And today, the Security Council is saying that if the North Korean regime does not halt its nuclear programme, we will act to stop it ourselves," US Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley said as the 15-member UN body yesterday passed the resolution on North Korea.

"We are done trying to prod the regime to do the right thing. We are now acting to stop it from having the ability to continue doing the wrong thing," the Indian-origin diplomat said.

She said the international community was doing that by hitting North Korea's ability to fund its weapons programme.

The US had originally proposed harsher sanctions, including a total ban on oil imports by North Korea. But the vote was passed only after Pyongyang allies Russia and China agreed to the reduced measures.

Noting that oil "is the lifeblood" of North Korea's effort to build and deliver a nuclear weapon, Haley said the resolution reduces almost 30 per cent of oil provided to the North by cutting off over 55 per cent of its gas, diesel, and heavy fuel oil.

"Today's resolution completely bans

North Korea slams sanctions

GENEVA, Sept 12: North Korea today blasted "vicious" sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council over its latest and most powerful nuclear test, threatening revenge against Washington, who it blamed for leading the charge.

"Yesterday the Washington regime fabricated the most vicious sanctions resolution," Pyongyang's Ambassador in Geneva told the UN Conference on Disarmament in the first North Korean reaction to Monday's unanimous vote.

"My delegation condemns in the strongest terms and categorically rejects the latest illegal ... UN Security Council resolution," Ambassador Han Tae Song told the gathering.

"The forthcoming measures by DPRK (the Democratic Republic of Korea) will make the US suffer the greatest pain it has ever experienced in its history," he said.

Pyongyang appeared to draw a different lesson from the Security Council vote. "Instead of making (the) right choice with rational analysis, ... the Washington regime has opted for political, economic and military confrontation," Han said. - AFP

The resolution bans all North Korean textile exports. Textile exports – North Korea's largest economic sector that the Security Council had not previously restricted – earned North Korea an average of USD 76 million in the past three years. The resolution requires the end of all joint ventures with North Korea.

This will not only starve the regime of any revenues generated through such arrangements, it will now stop all future foreign investments and technological transfers to help North Korea's nascent and weak commercial industries, according to a US factsheet. - PTI

Indo-Afghan ties won't harm Pak: Afghan envoy

ISLAMABAD, Sept 12: Afghanistan's relationship with India would not harm Pakistan's interests, the top Afghan envoy here said today, urging Islamabad not to object to ties and maintain "brotherly relationship" with its country.

Omair Zakhilwal said peace in Pakistan and Afghanistan was interlinked, making it incumbent that the two nations improve ties. Zakhilwal's comments came during a round table discussion on "Bilateral Reconciliation: Opportunities and Challenges," organised by the Regional Peace Institute here.

Pakistan should not object to our ties with India. We assure that the Afghanistan-India relationship will not inflict any harm upon Pakistan," he said.

Pakistan-Afghanistan ties have remained hostile to allegations and counter-allegations on both the sides. Kabul says Pakistan provides safe havens to terrorists who launch cross-border attacks, while Islamabad complains Af-

ghanistan and its intelligence services provide support to militant groups such as the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP).

The Afghan envoy said Pakistan has "reaped a high cost of war on terrorism" due to instability in Afghanistan. He agreed that Afghanistan should take action against the TTP, emphasising Pakistan should do the same against militants involved in violence in his country. "Afghanistan must ensure that its soil is not used by TTP against Pakistan and similarly, Pakistan must ensure that its soil is not used by the Haqqani network against Afghanistan," he said.

Talking about the direct relations and peace talks, he said the ties were mismanaged by his side. "Afghanistan mismanaged it by not keeping the balance between New Delhi and Islamabad and it was a mistake," he said.

He also said that both countries relied on China and the US for betterment in relations but "never trust each other to do the same." - PTI



People lining up to board a plane on an island devastated by Hurricane Irma, in Simpson Bay, Sint Maarten, on Monday. - UNI

Getting tattoos may harm your immune system

BERLIN, Sept 12: Getting a permanent tattoo can cause chronic enlargement of the lymph nodes – an important part of our immune system – a study has warned. Toxic impurities that make up the ink in tattoos can travel inside the body in the form of nano particles and affect the lymph nodes, researchers said.

Little is known about the potential impurities in the colour mixture applied to the skin.

Most tattoo inks contain organic pigments, but also include preservatives and contaminants like nickel, chromium, manganese or cobalt. Besides carbon black, the second most common ingredient used in tattoo inks is titanium dioxide, a white pigment usually applied to create certain shades when



mixed with coloant, researchers said.

Titanium dioxide is also commonly used in food additives, sunscreens and paints. Delayed healing, along with skin

elevation and itching, are often associated with white tattoos, and by consequence with the use of titanium dioxide. The hazards that potentially de-

rive from tattoos were previously known only by chemical analysis of the inks and their degradation products in vitro.

Researchers at the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF) in Germany used X-ray fluorescence measurements on ID21 which allowed them to locate titanium dioxide at the micro and nano range in the skin and the lymphatic environment. They found a broad range of particles up to several micrometres in size in human skin, but only smaller (nano) particles were transported to the lymph nodes.

This may lead to the chronic enlargement of the lymph node and lifelong exposure, the researchers said. Scientists also used the technique of Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy

to assess biomolecular changes in the tissues in the proximity of the tattoo particles.

"We already knew that pigments from tattoos would travel to the lymph nodes because of visual evidence. The lymph nodes become tinted with the colour of the tattoo. It is the response of the body to clean the site of entrance of the tattoo," the researchers said.

"What we didn't know is that they do it in a nano form, which implies that they may not have the same behaviour as the particles at a micron level. And that is the problem – we don't know how nano particles react," said Bernhard Hesse, from the ESRF.

The study was published in the journal, *Scientific Reports*. - PTI

PM Modi promoting divisive politics: Rahul

WASHINGTON, Sept 12: Congress vice president Rahul Gandhi today launched an all-out attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accusing him of promoting divisive politics, creating space for terrorism in Kashmir and ruining the economy.

The attack on the Prime Minister from foreign soil came during a university address by Gandhi, whose party says Modi uses his official trips abroad to lampoon the Opposition.

"Hatred, anger and violence and the politics of polarisation has raised its ugly head in India today," he said while speaking at the University of California, Berkeley.

Gandhi, 47, who arrived in the US yesterday on a two-week tour, spoke about his reflections on contemporary India and the path forward for the world's largest democracy. He said violence and hatred "distract" people from the task at hand.

"Liberal journalists being shot, people being lynched because they are Dalits. Muslims killed on suspicion of eating beef; this is new in India and damages India very badly," Gandhi said, apparently referring to vigilante violence and the killing of activist-journalist Gauri Lankesh.

"The politics of hate divides and polarises India making millions of people feel that they have no future in their own country," he said, adding that in today's connected world, this is "extremely dangerous."

"It isolates people and makes them vulnerable to radical ideas," he said. India's strength so far has been that it has made many achievements and these were all done peacefully. "What can destroy our momentum is the opposite energy," he said.

In his address, Gandhi criticised Prime Minister Modi's economic policies, accusing him of causing "tremendous damage" to India's economy with "reckless and dangerous" decisions like demonetisation and "hastily-applied" GST. He said the November 8 demonetisation decision was taken without consulting the Chief Economic Advisor and the Parliament, which caused tremendous damage to the economy.

"Ignoring India's tremendous institutional knowledge and taking such decisions is reckless and dangerous," he charged.

Gandhi also accused Prime Minister Modi of "massively opening up" space for terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir, leading to an increase in violence. He said the decision by Modi to have a political tie-up with the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) was a "strategic mistake."

"The PDP was the instrument that brought Kashmiri youngsters into the political process. And the day Mr Narendra Modi made an alliance between the PDP and the BJP; it destroyed the PDP as an instrument that could bring youngsters into the political system. And the day he did that, he massively opened up space for terrorists in Kashmir and they came in. And you saw a massive increase in violence," Gandhi said.

On the economy front, Gandhi claimed the decline in economic growth today is leading to an upsurge of anger in the country. "The Government's economic policies, demonetisation and hastily-applied Goods and Services Tax (GST), have caused tremendous damage," he alleged.

Gandhi also accused the Government of wiping out millions of small businesses by demonetisation. "Millions of small businesses were simply wiped out as a result of the demonetisation; farmers and many who use cash were hit extremely hard. Agriculture is in deep distress and farmers' suicides have skyrocketed across the country."

Gandhi described demonetisation "a completely self-inflicted wound" that caused an approximately 2 per cent loss of the GDP. Commenting on the unemployment situation, he said 30,000 new youngsters were joining the job market every single day and the Government was only creating 500 jobs a day. - PTI

Pak advocate files plea to prove Bhagat Singh's innocence



LAHORE, Sept 12: A fresh petition has been filed in the Lahore High Court for the early hearing of a case to prove the innocence of legendary freedom fighter Bhagat Singh in the murder case of a British police officer; 19 months after the court sought a larger bench to hear the plea. The court is yet to form the larger bench.

Advocate Imtiaz Rashed Qureshi of the Bhagat Singh Memorial Foundation yesterday filed an application for early hearing of its petition. "I have filed the

petition in the Lahore High Court for early hearing of the Bhagat Singh case. Today I requested the registrar to get a date fixed for hearing of the case and hopefully the case will be heard this month," Qureshi told PTI.

He said he has also written to the federal government for making a statue of Bhagat Singh at Shadman Chowk (the central part of Lahore) where he was hanged along with his two comrades.

"I have written to the government for building a statue of Singh, but have not

yet got any response from it," he added.

A division bench of the Lahore High Court in February had requested the Chief Justice to constitute a larger bench to hear the petition seeking re-opening of the case of Singh. In the petition, Qureshi had said Singh was a freedom fighter and fought for the independence of undivided India.

Singh was hanged by British rulers on March 23, 1931 at the age of 23, after being tried under charges for hatching a conspiracy against the co-

lonial government. The case was filed against Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru for allegedly killing British police officer John P Saunders.

Advocate Qureshi said Singh was initially jailed for life but later awarded death sentence in another "fabricated case." He further said Singh is respected even today in the subcontinent not only by Sikhs but also Muslims as the founder of Pakistan. Muhammad Ali Jinnah twice paid tribute to him. - PTI

Myanmar committing atrocities on Rohingyas: Hasina

DHAKA, Sept 12: Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today accused Buddhist-majority Myanmar of committing "atrocities" to Rohingya Muslims, saying Dhaka would not tolerate any kind of injustice, and that its protest would continue. She also asked Myanmar to "take steps" to take back its nationals who have fled to Bangladesh following the violence.

"We want peace and a friendly relations with neighbouring countries... (but) we cannot allow and accept any kind of unjust and our protest will continue to this end," Hasina said after visiting a Rohingya refugee camp near the border town of Ukhia in Cox's Bazar district. She assured the refugees that Bangladesh would continue to provide humanitarian assistance to them.

"As long as they don't return to their country, we will remain beside them," she said. "Bangladesh is a country of 16 crore people and we have ensured their basic needs, we also have capability to provide all kinds of help including food and healthcare services to the Myanmar refugees," she said.

"We will not tolerate injustice," she said, referring to the ethnic violence in the neighbouring country that has forced at least 313,000 people to take shelter in Bangladesh.

According to UN estimates, over 1,000 people may have been killed in the crackdown launched by the Myanmar Army in the Rakhine state since August 25 when a fresh wave of violence erupted there.

Bangladesh had earlier said the new influx of Rohingya refugees is an unbearable additional burden on the country which has been hosting around 400,000 Myanmar nationals who had to leave their country in the past due to communal violence and repeated military operations.

Hasina's comments came after the parliament last night passed a resolution denouncing Myanmar for the atrocities and called upon the international community to mount intensified pressure on Naypyidaw to stop the atrocities and take back the refugees. - PTI



Rosamund Pike arrives on the red carpet for the film *Hostiles* at the Toronto International Film Festival, in Toronto, Canada, on Monday. - UNI

Iran critical of Myanmar crackdown

TEHRAN, Sept 12: Myanmar's crackdown on Rohingya Muslims marks the "death of the Nobel Peace Prize," Iran's supreme leader said today in a sharp attack on Burmese leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

"A cruel government, at the top of which sits a cruel woman who was awarded a Nobel prize, kills innocent people, sets fire to them, destroys their houses and displaces them and no tangible reaction is seen," Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said in a speech in Tehran.

Once lauded by the international community for standing up to the Myanmar military, Suu Kyi has been sharply criticized around the world for her failure to condemn brutal attacks on her country's Muslim minority now that she is the effective leader.

"Yes, they condemn it, issue statements, but what good does it? They should take action. This marks the death of the Nobel Peace Prize," Khamenei said.

The United Nations says 370,000 Rohingya Muslims have fled Buddhist-majority Myanmar since the army launched a huge security operation in response to attacks by militants late last month. UN human rights chief Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein described the operation as a "textbook example of ethnic cleansing." - AFP

No:TMLCM/R/2016-17/4412 Date : 8.9.17

PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Superintending Engineer PWD, Mangaldai Road Circle on behalf of Governor of Assam invites bids online from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Assam PWD (Roads) or Contractors registered with other State/Central Government Departments, Institutions, Undertakings and Authorities for "Maintenance & Repairing of roads under Assam Road Maintenance Fund (PRMF) for the Financial year 2016-17 for 3(Three) years duration of 8 Nos. packages of Kalagaon LAC under Darrang Districts of Assam amounting to Rs. 335.82 Lakh (Approx).

Detailed may be seen at <http://apwdr.tenders.in> from 15.09.2017 as well as in the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer PWD

Janasanayog/C/F/1445/17

SHORT TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited affixing court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 p (Rupees eight and paisa twenty five) only from the registered experienced contractors under I.W.T. Division, Ulubari, Guwahati-7 for the following works under the Guwahati-Rajaduar, Guwahati-Madhyamukhanda, Guwahati-North-Guwahati & Guwahati-Kunia ferry service.

The last date of submission of tender is up to 2.00 P.M. on 18th Sept/2017 and the tenders will be opened on the same day at 3.00 P.M. in the office of the undersigned. If the date of opening of the tender falls on any Bandh / holiday then the next working day will be treated as the date of receiving and opening of tender.

Detail terms and conditions may be obtained from the office of the undersigned, (Technical Branch) on all the working days on payment of non-refundable amount of Rs.200.00 (Rupees two hundred) only through Bank Draft in favour of the Executive Engineer, I.W.T. Division, Guwahati-7.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Probable estimated amount	Time of completion	% Earnest money
1	Repairing and painting works of S.B. Charabanga of Rajaduar- Guwahati ferry service	Rs.2,49,515.00	10 days	Rs. 4,990.00
2	Repairing and painting works of S.B. Dotong of Rajaduar-Guwahati ferry service	Rs. 2,50,501.00	10 days	Rs. 5,010.00
3	Minor Repairing of side hut deck plate etc. of M.V. Chandragiri of Rajaduar-Guwahati ferry service	Rs. 66,633.00	10 days	Rs. 1,333.00
4	Painting works of R.P.L. Nambor of Rajaduar- Guwahati ferry service	Rs. 1,48,378.00	10 days	Rs. 2,968.00
5	Repairing/overhauling of port side engine of R.P.L. Nambor at Rajaduar-Guwahati ferry service	Rs.3,04,904.00	10 days	Rs. 6,098.00
6	Construction of rame and jetty at Kachari ghat point of Rajaduar-Guwahati ferry service	Rs.52,810.00	10 days	Rs.1,056.00
7	Construction of new passenger shed on the deck of R.P.I. Baghbor of Rajaduar-Guwahati ferry service	Rs.3,57,380.00	10 days	Rs.7,148.00
8	Palा siduri work at south bank ghat point of Guwahati-Kurua ferry service	Rs.66,999.00	10 days	Rs.1,340.00
9	Painting & electrification works of S.B. Naharbil of Guwahati-Kurua ferry service	Rs.1,12,012.00	10 days	Rs.2,240.00
10	Repairing of side office of Adabar-Salmari- Kurumahani ferry service	Rs. 93,889.00	10 days	Rs.1,878.00
11	Rep. works of Marine Reserve Gearbox of left side of M.V. Kaziranga at Guwahati-Madhyamukhanda ferry service	Rs.1,65,974.00	10 days	Rs.3,319.00
12	Minor Repairing & painting of M.B. Mahalakshmi of Guwahati-North-Guwahati ferry service	Rs. 3,98,876.00	10 days	Rs. 7,978.00
13	Minor Repairing & painting of T.F. Manash of Guwahati-North- Guwahati ferry service	Rs. 2,57,756.00	10 days	Rs. 5,155.00

Sd/- Executive Engineer

I.W.T. Division, Guwahati- 7

No. HSPB/03/Furniture/2016-17/166

dated: 11.09.2017

NOTICE

The following conendum has been made in the Tender documents vide this Directorate e-Tender Notice No. HSPB/03/Furniture/2016-17/155 dated 05/09/2017.

CORRIGENDUM

Please read manufacturer/ importer instead of Manufacture in the tender documents and NIT.

Annexure – VII

List of items quoted

Sl. No.	Description of Items	Correction
2	Steel Chair for School: Made of 19 mm Stainless Steel Round Pipe and seat and back made of 12 mm board covered with leather like. Standard Size.	Steel Chair for School: Made of 19 mm Stainless Steel Round Pipe and seat and back made of 12 mm board covered with leather like. Standard Size.
7	Steel Almirah: Four shelves, five compartment with three says inside locking system having rigid. Size: (1980x900x434mm)	Steel Almirah: Four shelves, five compartment with four shelves inside locking system having rigid. Body made of 0.8 mm & door made of 1 mm CR sheet. Size: (1980x900x434mm);
8	Steel full secretariat table: Made of 25mm square/round pipe, one side one cupboard and other side drawer and cupboard. Front side covered. Top of the table made of 19mm particle board. Size(1370x760x760mm)	Steel full secretariat table: Made of 25mm square/round pipe, one side one cupboard and other side drawer and cupboard. Front side covered. Top of the table made of 19mm particle board. Size(1370x760x760mm); Powder coated.
9	Steel Half Secretariat table: Made of 0.9mm CR sheet and one drawer and cupboard top made of 19mm particle board. Steel. Size(1230x760x760mm)	Steel Half Secretariat table: Made of 0.9mm CR sheet and one drawer and cupboard top made of 19mm particle board. Steel. Size(1230x760x760mm); Powder coated.
10	Student table (One Drawer Table): Steel one drawer table measuring 25mm MS square/round pipe and 0.9mm C.R. sheet. Table top made of 25mm MDF Board with 2mm beading. Pipe weight minimum 7.0/8.0 kgs per 20ft. Size: 1200 x 610 x 760 mm.	Student table (One Drawer Table): Steel one drawer table measuring 25mm MS square/round pipe and 0.9mm C.R. sheet. Table top made of 25mm MDF Board with 2mm beading. Pipe weight minimum 7.0/8.0 kgs per 20ft. Size: 1200 x 610 x 760 mm; Powder coated.
13	Hostel Bed: Made of 33 OD round pipe & 40x25mm C.R. sheet. Pipe weight minimum 14kgs per 20 ft. of the bed length 1980mm, breadth 910mm and height 460mm. Bed finish with enamel spray painted with antifrust treated. Size: (1980 x 915 x 610mm) with Powder Coated.	Hostel Bed: Made of 33 OD round pipe & 40x25mm C.R. sheet. Pipe weight minimum 14kgs per 20 ft. of the bed length 1980mm, breadth 910mm and height 460mm. Bed finish with enamel spray painted with antifrust treated. Size: (1980 x 915 x 610mm) with Powder Coated.
22	Semi Fowler Patient Bed made of 33 O.D. & 260. D.M.S. round pipe and (40 x 40 x 5) mm M.S. angle. Top of the Bed made of 1 mm thick C.R.Sheet with mosquito stand. Nicely enamel spray painted and antifrust treated. Size: (1980 x 915 x 610mm) with Powder Coated.	Semi Fowler Patient Bed made of 33 O.D. & 260. D.M.S. round pipe and (40 x 40 x 5) mm M.S. angle. Top of the Bed made of 1 mm thick C.R.Sheet with mosquito stand. Nicely enamel spray painted and antifrust treated. Size: (1980 x 915 x 610mm) with Powder Coated.
23	Stretcher on Trolley made of 26 O.D.M.S. round pipe and 1 mm thick C.R.Sheet with mosquito stand. Nicely enamel spray painted with antifrust treated. Size: (203 x 560 x 815mm). Nicely enamel spray painted and antifrust treated with Powder Coated.	Stretcher on Trolley made of 26 O.D.M.S. round pipe and 1 mm thick C.R.Sheet with mosquito stand. Nicely enamel spray painted with antifrust treated. Size: (203 x 560 x 815mm). Nicely enamel spray painted and antifrust treated with Powder Coated.
24	Foot Step Double made of 25mm M.S. square pipe frame and 1 mm thick C.R.Sheet with rubber mat with nicely enamel spray painted with antifrust treated. Size: 2' x 1' x 1' x 1' with Powder Coated	Foot Step Double made of 25mm M.S. square pipe frame and 1 mm thick C.R.Sheet with rubber mat with antifrust treated. Size: 2' x 1' x 1' x 1' with Powder Coated
25	Patient stool made of 25mm M.S. square pipe frame and 1 mm thick C.R.Sheet top of size 1x1' with nicely enamel spray painted with antifrust treated. Size: 1' x 1' x 1' x 1' with Powder Coated	Patient stool made of 25mm M.S. square pipe frame and 1 mm thick C.R.Sheet top of size 1x1' with nicely enamel spray painted with antifrust treated. Size: 1' x 1' x 1' x 1' with Powder Coated
28	Wooden table (Study table) made of 1st class seasonneditchlap timber nicely furnished Size: 4' x 2' x 30"	Wooden table (Study table) made of 1st class seasonneditchlap timber / tick nicely furnished Size: 4' x 2' x 30"
30	Examination table bed made of 33 O.D. & 26 O.D.M.S. round medium gauge pipe and (40 x 40 x 5) mm M.S. angle supported with (25 x 25 x 3)mm M.S. angle. The table top made of IS/ISO certified 19mm block board with best quality resin fitted with 4" mattress. Nicely enamel spray painted with antifrust treated. Size: (1830 x 810 x 840mm) with Powder Coated.	Examination table bed made of 33 O.D. & 26 O.D.M.S. round medium gauge pipe and (40 x 40 x 5) mm M.S. angle supported with (25 x 25 x 3)mm M.S. angle. The table top made of IS/ISO certified 19mm block board with best quality resin fitted with 4" mattress. Nicely enamel spray painted with antifrust treated. Size: (1830 x 810 x 840mm) with Powder Coated.

Sd/- Director of Health Services, Assam
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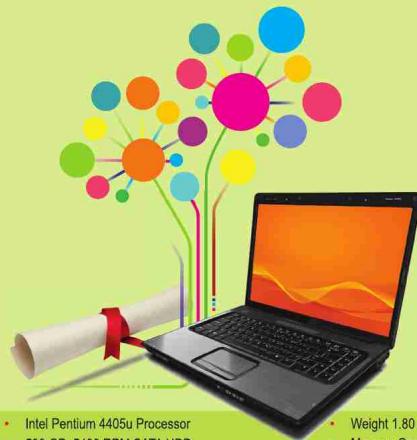
Anundoram Borooah Award 2017

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Every year a huge number of candidates appear in their first major examination of their student life. This first-step needs an encouragement for these students to strive for excellence, to achieve good marks so that they can carry forward the momentum into their higher studies. Further, as the world moves towards a more digitized existence, it is imperative to equip the bright sparks among these candidates with the relevant tools to learn and empower themselves in the digital age.

The **Anundoram Borooah Award**, instituted in honour of the great Sanskrit scholar, the first Assamese and fifth Indian ICS, achieves the twin objectives of rewarding the merit of the students and inspiring the young citizens to aim for higher achievements in the future. The award also aims at enhancing the competitive spirit among the student community and enrich them with the help of IT education.

The Government of Assam, under the leadership of Chief Minister, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, will confer the Anundoram Borooah Award for the year 2017 to 15,738 Star Mark (75% marks and above) holders. The award also signifies the hope that these young citizens will not only shine in their chosen fields, but will also enrich the society, and bring laurels to Assam.



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on

13th September 2017 at 11:00 AM

15,738 students will be the proud recipients of the award

Break-up of Awardees in 2017

HSLC	15,656
High Madrassa	82
Total	15,738

Rank holders of HSLC, 2017 & High Madrassa, 2017 examinations and all the students of Darrang, Udaguri, Nalbari, Goalpara, Kamrup, Kamrup (M) & Morigaon districts securing 75% marks and above in HSLC Examination, 2017, High Madrassa Examination, 2017, Sanskrit and Pali Pravesika examination, 2017 & F.M (Sr. Madrassa) Examination, 2017 are requested to attend the Central Ceremonial Distribution Function along with their parents and Head of the Institution.

Exclusive/AMTRON/9-2017

IOC seeks more information regarding vote-buying case

LIMA (Peru), Sept 12: What was supposed to be a stress-free meeting of the International Olympic Committee turned into something quite different, when IOC president Thomas Bach was forced to spend nearly an hour defending the handling of a mushrooming bid scandal and insisting the IOC is doing its best to fight corruption.

Bach was on defence throughout a news conference held after a meeting of the IOC executive board, which earlier in the day said it was asking Brazilian authorities for details involving IOC member Carlos Nuzman.

Nuzman, the organiser of the Rio Games, is accused of funneling USD 2 million to another former IOC member, Lamine Diack, to secure votes to bring the 2016 Olympics to Rio de Janeiro.

Last week, Brazilian police brought Nuzman in for questioning, setting up the awkwardness this week in Peru, where the IOC will award the 2024 Olympics to Paris and the 2028 Games to Los Angeles tomorrow.

"We have taken action in the case of



International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach, addresses the opening IOC session in Lima, Peru.

Mr. Diack," Bach said, in reference to the former head of track and field whose IOC membership has been stripped. "When evidence is provided to the Nuzman case, we will act. But in order to take action, you need evidence."

Less than two years ago, Bach was critical of Fifa, which was embroiled in a bidding scandal of its own. He urged soccer's governing body to get

the IOC clearly still has its own issues, some two decades after reforms in the wake of a bid scandal that sulfured the Salt Lake City Games.

"Nobody wants to have credibility issues," Bach said. "But we have to be realistic. No organisation in the world is immune to credibility issues. We have to face this reality and we have undertaken the reforms and provided ourselves with the instruments to tackle these challenges. I hope these will also be respected."

Also in the news this week was IOC member Patrick Hickey's resignation from the executive board, a year after being arrested in Brazil in a ticket-scalping investigation. And not attending this week's meetings is IOC member Frankie Fredericks, who was previously removed from the committee's inspection team for Paris and Los Angeles in wake of allegations he was caught up in the vote scandal.

Fredericks has denied wrongdoing, saying a USD 300,000 payment he received from Diack's son on the day Rio won the vote for 2016 was for legitimate consultancy work. - AP

Australia warm up in style, thrash BP XI by 103 runs

CHENNAI, Sept 12: Australia warmed up for the limited-overs series against India in style by crushing Board President's (BP) XI by 103 runs in the lone practice match here today.

Marcus Stoinis hammered a 60-ball 76 to build on half centuries by Travis Head (65), David Warner (64) and captain Steve Smith (55) to power the visitors to a formidable 347 for 7 after allowing the hosts and their 102.

Young all-rounder Washington Sundar spearheaded the fall for the ball for India, picking up 2 wickets in 23 in his eight overs.

In reply, young left-arm spinner Ashton Agar returned with figures of 4 for 44 as Australia bowled out BP XI for 244 in 48.2 overs.

The home team, consisting mostly of rookies, was well in the hunt despite a 79-run partnership for the second wicket between openers Shreevats Goswami (43) and Mayank Agarwal (42).

hold over the game.

SCORECARD

Australia: David Warner c Goswami b Patel 64, Hilton Cartwright c Mann b Avesh Khan 0, Steven Smith c Mann b Sundar 42, Travis Head c Shreyas Pathipati b Karmawar 65, Glenn Maxwell c b Sundar 14, Marcus Stoinis c Tripathi b Khejriwal 7, Matthew Wade c Shreyas Pathipati b Agar 10, Rohit Sharma c Shreyas Pathipati b Agar 10, Ashton Agar not out 8.

Extras: (NB-1, W-3, B-0, LB-9, 12 Total) (for 7 wickets in 50 overs)

BP XI: 347 (Travis Head 65, David Warner 64, Avesh Khan 6-40, 41, Kulkarni 4-37, Khejriwal 5-37, 1, KD Patel 6-58, 2, Washington Sundar 10-2, 2, Rohit Sharma 7-32, 2, AK Karunaratne 6-9, 59-1, Gurkeerat Mann 6-0 4-44).

Fall of wickets: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50.

Bowling: Washington Sundar spearheaded the fall for the ball for India, picking up 2 wickets in 23 in his eight overs.

Goswami followed soon, bowled by Stoinis.

Nitin Rana, who had a great IPL season for Mumbai Indians, showed some sense of urgency and struck three fours but was run-out in a mix-up with captain Gurkeerat Mann.

Shivam Chaudhary, Mann, Govind Poddar and Sundar were dismissed in the space of 18 runs as Australia took

Kashyap, Ashwini-Satwick reach main draw of Korea Open

SEOUL, Sept 12: Commonwealth Games champion Parupalli Kashyap made a positive start to his campaign at the Korea Super Series, notching up back-to-back wins over Chinese Taipei's Lin Yu Hsien and Kan Chen Yu to reach the main draw of the men's singles event, here today.

Kashyap, who had finished runner-up at the US Open Grand Prix Gold in July, saw off Hsien 21-19, 21-9 in a 35-minute match and then notched up a 21-19, 21-18 win over Taiwan's Kan Chen Yu 21-19, 21-18 in the next meeting.

The London Olympics quarterfinalist will face Chinese Taipei's Hsu Jen Hao in the main draw. The Indian has beaten Hsiao and lost once at the 2014 Asia Badminton Championship.

In mixed doubles, Satwikashir Rankireddy and Ashwini Ponnappa, who had some good performances at the Sudirman Cup, also advanced to the main draw after two successive wins.

The Indian duo defeated Germany's Peter Kaesbauer and Olga Konon 21-12, 21-15 and then eked out a hard-fought 27-25, 21-17 win over Indonesia's Ronald Alexander and Annisa Sulfiani.

Ashwini and Satwick will face Hong Kong's Tang Chun Man and Tse Ying Suet tomorrow.

However, heartbreak was in store for Pranav Jerry Chopra and Niki Sikki Reddy in the main draw of mixed doubles as they fought ended with a 21-13, 19-21, 15-21 to fourth seeded Indonesian pair of Praveen Jordan and Debby Susanto. - PTI

Nadal criticises Catalonia pro-separatist government's plans



US Open on Sunday.

However, Nadal, who grew up and lives on the Balearic island of Mallorca, is also a Catalan speaker.

This year the centre court at Barcelona's Royal Tennis Club that hosts the Barcelona Open was renamed the Ra-fael Nadal Court.

"I feel very close to the Catalans and I am very Spanish as well," Nadal added.

"I don't understand Spain without Catalonia. I don't want to understand or to it."

"I believe that together we ought to be able to understand each other and I think we have to make an effort to reach an understanding because I think we are, without any doubt, stronger together than separated. Spain is better with Catalonia and Catalonia is better with Spain from my point of view." - AFP

of view, everyone should respect the law," Nadal told Spanish newspaper *El Mundo* on Tuesday.

"The laws are what they are and one can't skip the laws because you want to skip them. I can't run a red light because that traffic light doesn't seem right to me."

Nadal, 31, is a national hero in his homeland having landed a 16th career Grand Slam at the

Use FIFA U-17 WC to secure India's future: PK Banerjee

KOLKATA, Sept 12: The legendary PK Banerjee today said India should utilise the FIFA U-17 World Cup to secure its future as a footballing nation and urged the players to take the team to the next level by giving their best.

Banerjee, who was named Indian Footballer of the 20th century by FIFA, urged the country to back the players who are representing India in the mega-event.

"I have not seen what they (players) have done. What I know is that they are our future and we have to back them," Banerjee told PTI during an interaction.

"The pool needs to be increased. More U-17, U-19 players need to be taken into the fold so that our future as a footballing nation is secured," the 80-year-old added.

Banerjee is in sync with the

All India Football Federation's plan to develop the team for bigger tournaments.

"This bunch needs to be together after the World Cup. They need to play as a team



and then can represent India at U-19 level and maybe at the U-20 World Cup."

Banerjee was conferred with the prestigious FIFA Centennial Order of Merit in 2014.

Despite a tough draw, Banerjee is optimistic about the

last-16 at least. - PTI

Chennaiyin FC sign Dutch winger Nelson

CHENNAI, Sept 12: Chennaiyin FC has signed Dutch winger Gregory Nelson for the 2017-18 season of the Hero Indian Super League.

The 29-year-old joins the 2015 ISL champions on a free transfer after the expiry of his contract at Bahrain outfit Al Muharrak.

A product of the AZ Alkmaar youth system, Nelson represented Netherlands at U-17, U-18 and U-19 levels. Having made his professional debut at the age of 18 for Almoeur in the Dutch Eredivisie, Nelson was then loaned to RBC Roosendaal in the Dutch Eerste Divisie.

After one season, Nelson's loan move at Roosendaal became permanent. He then joined Bulgarian giants CSKA Sofia where he spent 18 months, played in the UEFA Europa League and won the Bulgarian domestic cup. Nelson signed for Ukrainian giants Metalurh Donetsk in January 2012 and reached the final of the Ukraine domestic cup also. He spent three and a half seasons in Ukraine and featured for Metalurh in the Europa League.

Nelson returned to the Bulgarian top division in 2015 when he joined Botev Plovdiv and spent one season there, scoring four goals in 14 domestic league starts. In January 2017, Nelson signed for Bahrain powerhouse Al Muharrak and finished runners-up in the Bahrain King's Cup. Nelson scored on his AFC Cup debut for Muharrak and featured in all six of their group stage matches.

"Nelson is a highly accomplished player. He will add plenty of quality and variety to our attack. After a very good career in Europe he recently had a very impressive season in Bahrain and looks very well equipped to flourish in the Indian Super League," Chennaiyin FC head coach John Gregory said. - PTI

Indian eves play out 2-2 draw against Belgium junior men's team

ANTWERP (Belgium), Sept 12: The Indian women's hockey team held on to a 2-2 draw against the Belgian junior men's team in a closely fought match here.

India, captained by Rani, started the match on a positive note by earning a penalty corner within 40 seconds of the start but could not convert it. Two minutes later, another penalty corner was saved by the Belgian keeper.

However, it was the young Belgian team that got three PCs in a span of six minutes, but goalkeeper Savita did well to keep the home side from taking an early lead.

Forward Vandana Kataria created a brilliant chance for India inside the striking circle but could score as the first quarter ended goalless.

The second quarter saw both sides taking a more direct approach as Belgium enjoyed more possession which paid off for them as they



Indian women's hockey team in action against Belgium junior men's team.

took the lead through Stan Branci in the 19th minute.

India soon earned a penalty corner but their effort was saved by the Junior World Cup finalists'

goalkeeper which meant Belgium led by a goal at the end of second quarter.

The third quarter started on a bright note for India as Nikki Pradhan levelled the score in 36th minute. India dominated the third quarter as midfielder Neha Goyal came close to scoring but was denied by another brilliant save by

the Belgian's goalkeeper.

However, the home team took the lead again in the 43rd minute as they rallied for a wonderful field goal scored by Mattheus de Laet.

The Belgian junior men's team started the fourth quarter swiftly as Indian keeper Rajani Etimpara had to make a reflex save. The Indian team fought back into the match in the dying stages as Vandana Kataria (54th minute) scored with just few minutes left to full time and equalised the scores at 2-2.

However, Belgium were awarded a PC which was well saved by Rajani and cleared by defender Sunita Lakra. The home team forced Yuki into making yet another impressive save in the dying minutes as the Indian defence held on to a deserved 2-2 draw.

India will play ladies Den Bosch in their third match of the Europe Tour on September 14. - PTI

This Canada team is stronger than 2015 Czech side: Bhupathi

NEW DELHI, Sept 12: Davis Cup captain Mahesh Bhupathi says the Canadian team, which has "future star" Denis Shapovalov in the line-up, is stronger than the Czech Republic side to which India had lost in the play-offs stage in 2015.

The Indian team, which had a week-long training camp in New York before reaching Edmonton, is set to make a fourth consecutive attempt to qualify for the elite World Group.

After dominating the Asia/Oceania zone, India lost to tennis power-houses Serbia (2014), Czech Republic (2015) and Rafael Nadal-led Spain (2016) at the World Group Play-off stage in recent years.

Canada have named world number 51 Shapovalov, who reached the US Open fourth round, Vasek Pospisil (82) along with seasoned Daniel Nestor (43 in doubles) and Brayden Schurz

(202) for the play-off tie, starting on Friday.

"Canada is a quality team but of course we are here because we earned the chance to play them. I personally think they are a stronger team than the Czechs when they came to India," Bhupathi told PTI from Edmonton.

Shapovalov has made quite a splash with his performance in the last few weeks. Before making the US Open fourth round as a qualifier, the 18-year-old had shocked Nadal en route the semifinals of the Montreal Masters.

The Czechs had travelled to India with Jiri Vesely (then world number 40 and now 59) and Lukas Rosol (then world number 85) as the main singles players.

Radek Stepanek, winner of two Grand Slam titles with Leander Paes, had played only doubles with Adam Pavlasek.

Bhupathi said going to the University of Columbia in New York for the camp has helped the team prepare better for the indoor tie.

feeling good, so we are looking forward to the weekend," he said.

Bhupathi, who replaced Anand Amritraj in the captain's chair early this year, said the recent success of both Yuki Bhambri and Ramkumar Ramanathan against high-quality rivals is a tremendous confidence booster.

While Yuki had scalped world number 22 Gael Monfils at the Citi Open, Ramkumar had an upset win over top-10 player Dominic Thiem at the Antalya Open.

"Wins give you confidence and big wins give you lots of confidence. I am sure it's a stepping stone in their process to make the top 100," Bhupathi said.

"Both Yuki and Ram have had very good summers so they have a lot of matches under their belt. Rohan, of course, made the final in Montreal and is a leader in this team. Saketh is getting better every week, it's always hard to

come back from a long injury layoff but he is committed," Bhupathi said, giving his assessment of the team.

Yuki had to endure tough times after breaking the top-100 barrier late in 2015 due to injuries but has done well this season. Ramkumar was also struggling initially this year but has shaken off the rust to come out stronger.

Bhupathi said the players are working very hard and will enjoy more success.

"I am sure they do work very hard. It's heading in the right direction," the 43-year-old Bhupathi, the former Grand Slam winner, said.

Bhupathi also felt that India can produce top-10 players like other Asian nations.

"If Japan, Thailand can

produce top 10 players, I believe India can too," he said without elaborating. - PTI

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Solution of last problem

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