

## NEWS CAPSULE

### Firing probe

GUWAHATI, July 6: Taking suo moto cognizance in the case of a death due to police firing at Golpara on June 30, the Assam Human Rights Commission has asked the district magistrate, Golpara to conduct an enquiry into the matter. — Staff Reporter

### CID search

GUWAHATI, July 6: The CID sleuths today conducted a search at the house of arrested Excise deputy superintendent Pranjal Boa and took possession of bank passbooks and insurance papers for examination.

— Staff Reporter

### Modi search

HAIFA, July 6: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today saluted the Indian soldiers who laid down their lives during World War I while protecting Haifa from Ottoman Empire forces and said their sacrifice is a mark of enduring bond between the two nations. — PTI

### Mallya case

LONDON, July 6: A default of Rs 9,000 crore by fugitive liquor baron sought by India for defaulting on several bank loans amounting to nearly Rs 9,000 crore, today appeared before the Westminster Magistrates Court here for the hearing in his extradition case. — PTI

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



Villagers commuting on a plantain raft in the flooded Rajnakhel Boklai area in Golaghat district on Thursday. — UB Photos

## CM reviews State flood scene

### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 6: In view of surging water level and consequent flooding of 15 districts, Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal directed the Revenue and Disaster Management Department and the district administrations to reach out to the affected people and step up relief and rescue operations across the State.

The Chief Minister took stock of the prevailing flood situation in the State in an emergency review meeting at his Janata Bhawan office here

today, an official press release stated. Sonowal directed districts, both civil and police, to provide relief to the next of the family members of those killed in the current spate of flood within 48 hours. Sonowal also asked Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department to undertake operations along with the SDRF to rescue the mired animals and provide fodder to cattle.

The Chief Minister also

asked the MPs and MLAs to remain in their constituencies and supervise rescue and relief operations.

He directed the Agriculture

(See page 4)

**Around 4 lakh people affected in 15 dists, death toll 19**

Department to disburse an ex gratia relief to the next of the family members of those killed in the current spate of flood within 48 hours. Sonowal also asked Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department to undertake operations along with the SDRF to rescue the mired animals and provide fodder to cattle.

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He also asked the Revenue

and Disaster Management

(See page 4)

## Atmosphere not right for Modi-Xi talks: China

BEIJING, July 6: The "atmosphere" is "not right" for a bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Hamburg, a Chinese official said today amidst a stand-off between the armies of the two countries in the Sikkim sector.

China also "strongly" urged India to pull back to avoid the situation from getting worse and lead to "some more serious consequences."

While India said that Modi will hold meetings with leaders of countries like Canada, Japan, and the UK on the sidelines of the



Narendra Modi



Xi Jinping

G20 Summit in Hamburg, there was no mention of any scheduled bilateral meeting with Xi.

The atmosphere is "not right" for a bilateral meeting between Xi and Modi, a Chi-

nese Foreign Ministry official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

On the sidelines of the G20

summit, which starts tomorrow, a meeting of BRICS lead-

ers is scheduled to take place. The grouping comprises India and China in addition to Russia, Brazil and South Africa.

China and India have been engaged in a stand-off in the Doklam area near the Bhutan tri-junction for the past three weeks after a Chinese Army's construction party attempted to build a road. Doklam is the Indian name for the region which Bhutan recognises as Doklam, while China claims it as part of its Dongding region.

China reiterated its position today during a briefing by Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang.

(See page 4)

## Security situation in 4 lower Assam dists assessed

### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 6: Director General of Assam Police (law and order) Kula Saikia today reviewed the law and order situation in four lower Assam districts of Bongaigaon, Chirang, Kokrajhar and Goalpara.

Saikia convened his first meeting with top police officials, including the Inspector General of Police (BTAD) and the superintendents of police

of the respective districts in Chirang where he assessed the existing law and order scenario ahead of a "rail roko" programme, ULFA's annual martyrs' day and also the country's Independence Day celebration.

He directed the top police officials to maintain vigil to thwart any kind of untoward incident.

The DG also visited Goalpara

and reviewed the situation along with police officials and members of civil administration.

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### Joti takes over as new CEC

NEW DELHI, July 6: Achal Kumar Joti today took charge as the 21st Chief Election Commissioner and said the poll panel will vigorously pursue its commitment to hold free, fair, inclusive and credible elections.

He also said that the mission of "no voter is left behind" will continue to be his priority even as focus area will be to actively promote e-governance for holding state and Lok Sabha elections. — PTI

I'm the only person to support GST... then as a Congress, now in BJP too...

## Kovind vows to keep President post above politics

### STAFF REPORTER



India) above politics," he said. "I will uphold the highest esteem of the office of the President," he added.

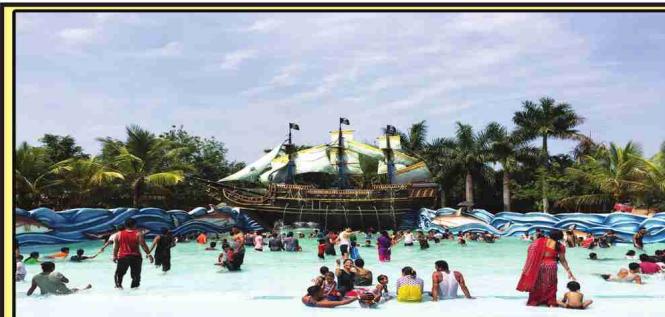
Kovind said that the post of President of India is the most revered office in Indian democracy and many luminaries have adored this highest position.

"I will try my best to see that every citizen and every region gets justice... Nation means every part and every citizen

(See page 4)

## HORIZON

- Taxed out!
- S Bhattacharjee
- Monsoon moods
- Dr MP Goswami
- The dark side
- Ronjoy Bordoloi
- Life and death!
- Tridiv Hazarika
- Society and education
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Kuchina – urgently required Sales Executive for Guwahati and Bongaigaon, walk in interview with Bio-data on 6th, 7th & 8th July, 2017, at 10 am to 5 pm. Add: Bajoria Appliances Pvt. Ltd. Sempati complex 2nd floor, Opp. Goswami Service Palti, Palti Pump Silpukhuri, Guwahati. Contact No: 03612666047. Bongaigaon-AOC Road, Near Prakash Meja Mart, Bongaigaon. 0366222127. SV/P/B/1340/1

Wanted male and female Sales Executives for a Jewellery Showroom at Kalapathar, Ghy. No. 9127385279, 9864506193. SV/P/1340/2

Wanted an experienced Housekeeping Incharge (F.M) with a diploma. Please submit your application along with Bio-data to Hotel Liluwati Grand, Panbari, Guwahati, Assam. 781001. SV/P/1337/4

Required one M.B.B.S. full time Doctor salaried post. Doctor's salary, T.E. P.O., Nazira, Silvassa (Assam), PIN No. 78565. Mobile No. 943571707. SV/152/2

Required Doctor in clinic. Contact: 9774688323, 8837407215, 9862623735. SV/P/1305/3

SBI Life required retired/srs. Bank/Government employees, housewives & Sales people whose age above 30 yrs (M/F) can apply for Guwahati. Ph: 970564062. SV/P/PA052/15

**SITUATION VACANT**

Applications in standard form (as published in Assam Gazette Part IX) with Bio-Data including Phone No. and Email Address and copies of testimonials from HSLC onwards are invited from the intending candidates having passed the examination up to the post of Assistant Professor (I.A.). Sanctioned Post in the following subjects at scale of pay of Rs 1500/- 39100 + AGP Rs 6000/- p.m. with other allowances.

**Subject:**

1. English – Reserved for STH.

2. Education – Un Reserved

Application along with a bank draft Rs 2000/- (Two Thousand) only (non refundable) in favour of Principal Jhansi H.N.S. College, Jhansi Payable at UBI Jhansi and reach the college on or before 27/07/2017.

1. The age of a candidate should not be more than 34 years as on 01/01/2017 and relaxation upto 5 years for STSC candidates.

2. Candidates must have minimum qualification of 5% marks in relevant subject (in a print scale) at the Master's Degree level in the relevant subjects.

3. Relaxation of 5% may be provided for SC/ST differently abled persons. A relaxation of 5% marks be provided to the PWD holders, who have obtained their Master prior to 09-09-1991.

4. However, the candidates who are or have been awarded a PhD degree in accordance with the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standard and procedure for award of PhD Degree) Regulation 2009 shall be exempted from the requirement of minimum eligibility condition of the concerned authority.

5. Candidates who are in service must apply through proper channel with an NOC from the concerned authority.

Sdr.-Principal  
Jhansi H.N.S. College  
P.O.-Jhansi, Dist-Sivasagar  
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CD/CSV/1542/1

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Applications for Indian citizens. All bio-data supported by self certified copies of certificates, mark-sheets and age proof certificate etc. for HSLC onwards having latest UGC norms and State Government norms are invited for the following post of Assistant Professor in M.Com department of the College.

Post of post of Assistant Professor in Statistics Qualification – M.Sc. in Statistics

Candidates must have Major in Statistics in B.Sc. Degree. Salary Rs. 22,000/- (approx) with annual increment.

Applications must reach the undersigned within 12 days from the date of publication of this advertisement. Those who are in service must apply through proper channel.

No call letter will be sent. Only shortlisted candidates will be called for interview over telephone. Two Mobile Numbers of the applicant must be mentioned both at the outside of the envelope and in the application.

**DATE OF INTERVIEW :**

26/07/17

**TIME : 2:00 PM**

**Contact No-8876506760.**

(Dr. H. Kalita)  
Principal

CD/CSV/1530/1

Reputed construction company looking for a Shillong or Guwahati based Civil Engineer with 20+ years experience in contractual correspondence and preparation of claims for Civil Engineering projects executed for State Government as well as PSU. Both Private and Government experience shall be considered. Retired Central Government Engineer shall be preferred. Engineer to work out of own premises on an assignment basis. Fees shall be paid on mutual consent. Please send CVs to : paleonconstructive@gmail.com

SV/P/1351/3

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SV/P/PA051/

Applications are invited from TET qualified candidates for the posts of Physics and Chemistry at Kherihardia H.S. School. Both the posts are reserved for HSLC.

The minimum qualification M.Sc. with 50% marks in relevant subject with B.Ed/B.T.

The candidate must be a permanent resident of Assam with MIL (Assamese) as one of subject at HSLC.

Age limit 38 years as on 01/01/2016.

The completed application must reach the undersigned on or before 12th July 2017. Date of interview: 16.07.2017. No separate call letter will be issued. Sd/- Member Secretary, SMDC, Kherihardia H.S. School, PIN-781102, Dist. Kamrup, Mobile No. 9435303880.

SV/P/1344/1

Applications are invited from TET qualified candidates for the posts of Physics and Chemistry at Kherihardia H.S. School.

Both the posts are reserved for HSLC.

The minimum qualification M.Sc. with 50%

marks in relevant subject with B.Ed/B.T.

The candidate must be a permanent resident of Assam with MIL (Assamese) as one of subject at HSLC.

Age limit 38 years as on 01/01/2016.

The completed application must reach the undersigned on or before 12th July 2017. Date of interview: 16.07.2017. No separate call letter will be issued. Sd/- Member Secretary, SMDC, Kherihardia H.S. School, PIN-781102, Dist. Kamrup, Mobile No. 9435303880.

SV/P/1345/1

Applications are invited from TET qualified candidates for filling up the post of PGT in English (SC/ECM) (OB/CMBC), Sanskrit (OB/CMBC) and Bouyani (ST/P) on or before 13.07.2017.

The candidate must be a permanent resident of Assam with MIL (Assamese) as one of subject at HSLC.

Age limit 38 years as on 01/01/2016.

The completed application must reach the undersigned on or before 12th July 2017. Date of interview: 16.07.2017. No separate call letter will be issued. Sd/- Member Secretary, SMDC, Kherihardia H.S. School, PIN-781102, Dist. Kamrup, Mobile No. 9435303880.

SV/P/1345/1

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SV/P/1344/8/

Applications are invited from TET qualified candidates for filling up the post of PGT in Economics (SC/ECM) Post-I or before 11.07.2017.

The candidate must have the Master Degree in respective subject (Regular) with minimum 50% marks having BTB/Ed Degree.

The candidate must be a permanent resident of Assam and must have MIL (Assamese) in HSLC.

Date of interview is 15.07.2017.

Principal, Tulsibari Bahumukhi Secondary School, P.O.- Tulsibari, Dist. Kamrup (R), Assam. Mobile No: 8811027440.

SV/P/1345/2

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SV/P/A235/8/

Applications are invited in standard form from TET qualified candidates having Master Degree with B.Ed/B.T. from recognised university, for the posts of Subject Teachers in (1) Political Science ST(P) and (2) English (UR). The applications must reach to the undersigned on or before 14th July, 2017. Interview will be held on 17th July, 2017 in school office from 11 a.m. Principal, Kathiati H.S. School, P.O. Kathiati, Dist.- Darrang (Assam), PIN-782427, (M) SV/P/1346/1

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995798585, SV/P/A2357/1

Applications are invited from PGT TET qualified candidates to fillup following posts of subject Teachers at Soalukhi H.S. School, 1, Assamee H.S. School, 2, Mathematics (ST-P), 3, Economics (UR), 4, History (ST/P). Residential Medical Officer (MBBS). Salary as per experience. Interested candidate may kindly apply to bethanyhospitalshillong@ yahoo.co.in or call 9612007599, SV/1528/2

Applications are invited (PGT)

TET qualified candidates to fill up the following posts. (1) One subject teacher in Education (ST/P), (2) One subject teacher in Assamee UR, (3) One subject teacher in English OBC/MBC. Qualification: Master Degree in relevant subject as per Govt. norms. Applications with documents must reach on or before 11th July/17, Date of interview: 14th of July Assamee, 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 15th English, 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 15th Education, 1.30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Principal, Rumpur H.S. School, P.O. Rumpur, Dist. Kamrup, PIN-781132, Ph: 7399013426, SV/P/1343/1

Applications are invited from TET

qualified candidates for filling up the

post of Subject Teacher in

Education (ST/P).

Applications are invited from TET

qualified candidates for filling up the

post of Subject Teacher in

Mathematics (ST-P).

Applications are invited from TET

qualified candidates for filling up the

post of Subject Teacher in

Economics (UR).

Applications are invited from TET

qualified candidates for filling up the

post of Subject Teacher in

History (ST/P).

Applications are invited from TET

qualified candidates for filling up the

post of Subject Teacher in

Science (ST-P).

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qualified candidates for filling up the

post of Subject Teacher in

Assamese (UR).

Applications are invited from TET

qualified candidates for filling up the

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English (UR).

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## No disqualification for not voting in presidential poll: EC

NEW DELHI, July 6: Members of the electoral college who abstain from voting or vote against party line in the July 17 presidential poll are not liable for disqualification for election, the Election Commission (EC) clarified on Thursday.

Political parties cannot issue whip to their members to be compulsorily present for the voting or to vote for a certain candidate, the poll panel said and cited two Supreme Court judgements (Kulip Nayyar vs Union of India, 2006, and Pasupati Nath Sukul vs Nemi Chandra Jain, 1984) to buttress its observation.

"Accordingly, in the commission's opinion, not voting or voting as per his/her own free will in the presidential election will not come under the ambit of disqualification under the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution and electors are at liberty to vote or not to vote as per their own free will and choice," an EC statement said.

The commission said it would like to clarify that voting for the office of President of India is not compulsory, like voting in elections to the Lok Sabha and state assemblies, where also there is no compulsion to vote.

It said as per Section 171(Ab) of the Indian Penal Code, every elector in the presidential election has the freedom of making a choice to vote for any candidate or not to vote at all, as per his/her to the top post. – IANS

## India-Vietnam mull ways to secure interest

NEW DELHI, July 6: Amid China's aggressive posturing in the Asiatic region, India and Vietnam discussed "concrete and feasible" steps to protect their interests while seeking to bolster their strategic bilateral ties.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Vietnam Pham Binh Minh, who concluded his four-day visit to India today, told PTI in an interview that the two sides also discussed the progress of implementation of the key-level agreements between them for creating a stable and facilitating framework to help their relations grow more "substantively".

The Vietnamese leader's visit comes in the midst of growing maritime aggression of China in the South China Sea as also its military stand-off with India in the Sikkim sector.

Vietnam and several other countries, including Brunei and the Philippines, are involved in territorial dispute with China in the South China Sea, seen as a potentially explosive diplomatic issue in east Asia.

China has also been objecting to India's oil exploration projects in maritime areas offered by Vietnam in the UNCLOS. – PTI

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PGDCA	22-07-2017	25-07-2017	Graduate in any discipline	17-08-2017

- > The Admission Form and Prospectus may be obtained from the College Office from 06.07.2017 onward between 10-30 AM to 4 PM on payment of Rs. 300/- in cash. A computer generated receipt will be provided against such payment.
- > Incomplete forms and forms without proper supporting documents will be straightaway rejected.
- > No claim for admission will be entertained after the date of Admission.

Sd/- Dr. H. Kalita  
Principal,  
R.G. Baruah Road, Guwahati-21

## Media rode Karnan wave unmindful of judiciary's image: SC

NEW DELHI, July 6: The extensive coverage of the Justice C S Karnan saga has come under the sharp attack of the Supreme Court which said the media remained "unmindful" of the damage being caused to the judiciary by "merrily" riding the Karnan wave.

Illegal orders and public utterances of Justice Karnan made the judiciary a "laughing stock" and gave an opportunity to foreign media, including BBC, to take a "dig at the Indian judiciary", a seven-judge bench headed by Chief Justice JS Khehar said in its judgement.

In its detailed verdict on the six months sentence awarded to the controversial high court judge, the bench highlighted the role of the media in giving undue coverage to Karnan.

The verdict, penned by the CJI on behalf of five judges of the seven-judge bench, also referred to the fact that even after its order restraining Justice Karnan from doing administrative and judicial work, he still would not attract the attention of the provisions of the Tenth Schedule for having so voted.

"The electors in the presidential election as member of the said electoral college and the voting at such election is outside the House concerned and not a part of the proceeding of the House," the EC observed.

The electoral college for presidential election comprises elected members of both Houses of Parliament and elected members of the state assemblies. Nominated members cannot vote.

National Democratic Alliance nominee Ram Nath Kovind will face opposition's candidate Meira Kumar in the July 17 election to vote for any candidate or not to vote at all, as per his/her to the top post. – IANS

"His interviews with the media, and the orders passed by him were extremely disparaging. Illustratively, by an order

### Karnan's orders



- On April 13, Karnan ordered the registration of a case under the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, against all the 7 members of the Bench.
- On April 28, he directed the Air Control Authority, New Delhi, not to allow any of the 7 members of the Bench to travel abroad.
- On May 7, Karnan sentenced all the 7 members of the Bench, and Justice to 5 years rigorous imprisonment.

dated April 13, he ordered the registration of a case under the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, against all the 7 members of the Bench; by another order dated April 28, he directed the Air Control Authority, New Delhi, not to allow any of the 7 members of the Bench to travel abroad and by yet

another order dated 7.5.2017, he sentenced all the 7 members of the Bench, and Justice to 5 years rigorous imprisonment. All these were widely reported by the media in India, as well as, by the foreign media." It said in the detailed judgement that followed after the May 9 order sentencing Karnan to six months jail term for its contempt. – PTI



Indian and Thai soldiers during a practice session at a shooting range during Indo-Thailand joint exercise Maitree 2017 at Bakloh in Dharmsala on Thursday. - UNI

## Salman fails to appear before court in Jodhpur

JODHPUR, July 6: Bollywood actor Salman Khan, who had to appear before a court here on Thursday for verification of bail bonds submitted by him in a case related to the Arms Act, did not make it citing security reasons.

Salman is accused of illegal possession of arms using which he allegedly killed blackbucks at Sarsog in 1998. He was, however, acquitted by the Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) court who

did not find him guilty of the charges under the Arms Act.

But the state government challenged this verdict before the District and Session court, where he had to appear on Thursday.

However, the actor on Thursday filed an application seeking exemption from personal appearance while citing security reasons.

"We informed the court that there were security and law and order issues in Jodhpur city in

view of the encounter of a gangster Anand Pal Singh," his advocate HM Saraswat told IANS.

Anand Pal was shot dead by the special operations group (SOG) of Rajasthan police in a village near Churu a few days back and his supporters are demonstrating in Jodhpur and across the state with the demand for an inquiry by the CBI.

The court, while allowing the application of Salman, deferred the hearing to August 4. – IANS

## 'Parties spent Rs 573 cr during 2016 Assembly polls'

NEW DELHI, July 6: Political parties shelled out more money than they collected during Assembly elections in five states last year spending more than Rs 573 crore although they had raised only Rs 355 crore, says a report.

The figures are cumulative for national and regional parties put together during the polls to the assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

"Total funds collected by the national parties during the five state Assembly elections held in 2016 was Rs 287.89 crore and total expenditure incurred was Rs 188.12 crore," a re-

port by think-tank Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) said.

Regional parties collected a total of Rs 67.22 crore and incurred an expenditure of Rs 213.97 crore, it added.

"Many political parties, while declaring their election expenditure in cash/cheque, have not included the expenditure incurred by them on their candidates. Hence, the difference in the total expenditure by the parties in cash/cheque (Rs 402.09 crore) and that under various heads (Rs 573.24 crore), it said."

National and regional parties spent a total of Rs 573.24 crore during Assembly elections in 2016, including in publicity, travel expenses, other expenses and lumpsum amount paid to candidates.

Among the national parties, BJP collected the maximum funds of Rs 131.72 crore which formed 45.75 per cent of the total funds collected by the 6 national parties at the central and state levels for the five state Assembly elections, the report by ADR said.

Out of total expenditure of Rs 112.14 crore, BJP incurred maximum expenditure of Rs 84.36 crore at the central level. At state level, maximum expenditure was incurred by the Kerala state unit (Rs 14.11 crore) followed by West Bengal (Rs 5.70 crore) and Assam (Rs 4.03 crore).

BSP declared that the party collected no funds at the central or state levels for the five state Assembly elections. – PTI

## Crack down on use of fake caste certificates

NEW DELHI, July 6: The Supreme Court on Thursday said that people securing government jobs or seats in educational institution in the reserved category on the basis of fake caste certificates would lose them.

A bench of Chief Justice Jagdish Singh Khehar, Justice DY Chandrachud and Justice NV Ramana said that fake caste certificate for getting government job or admission in educational institution in the reserved category can't survive just on the length of time that has gone by. – IANS

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## ACHIEVEMENT



Mrs. Palibhi Saikia, M. Phil, Research scholar, Department has been awarded "Doctor of Philosophy" (Ph.D) by Gauhati University for her thesis entitled "Influence of home environment and intelligence on academic achievement of Secondary School students". A study in Lakhimpur District of Assam. She has done her research work under the supervision of Dr. (Mrs.) Minati Choudhury retired Vice-principal Daudkhola College, Goalpara. Palibhi is the younger daughter of Sri Nabin Ch. Saikia and Mrs. Nirmala Hazarika of Panbari, Narayanganj, Dist. Lakhimpur and one of the three daughters of Mr. Jai Lal Kakoti and Mrs. Kakoti resident of Samanta path Survey, Calli, 984125562.

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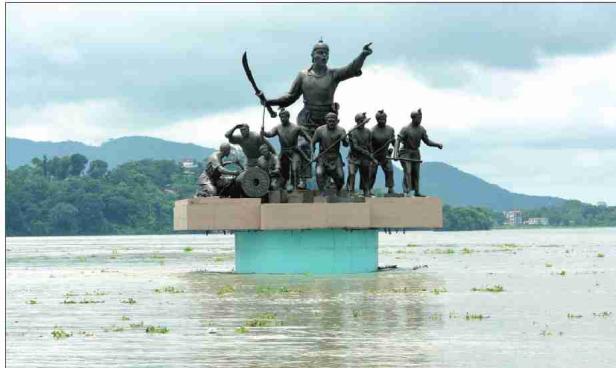
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**Book release**

GUWAHATI, July 6: *Saad Samudra Sankha Bajise Nat*, a compilation of selected articles on eminent poet Nilomoni Phukan, will be released on July 9 at 3 pm at the Kanaklal Baruah auditorium by noted scholar and critic Dr Hiren Gohain. The book has been published by the Sadou Asom Kavi Samman. — Staff Reporter



Rising waters of the Brahmaputra around the concrete pedestal supporting the statue of Lachit Borphukan and his band of brave warriors, in Guwahati on Thursday. — UB Photos

**All CCTVs installed in city under Govt scanner**

SANJOY RAY

is reluctant to agree to.

"The bank guarantee of Rs 1 crore deposited by the owners of the Level One Communications is still valid and no more money will be released until the quality check exercise is completed. The brand stickers pasted on

under the scanner after a technical committee comprising police officials and technical experts of the State Government found serious discrepancies in the entire proceedings and found that the cameras lack key security features."

Moreover, the sources further said that it would soon get in touch with the Haryana Government where a criminal case has allegedly been filed against Babu Joseph, the owner of the firm which was awarded the contract.

The contract (supply order) of the project worth Rs 10,16,75,000 under the Assam Police Intelligent Surveillance System (APISS) for Guwahati was awarded in September, 2011 with an undertaking that it would be completed within six months.

However, it took them more than five years to get the work done and a sum of more than Rs 1 crore has already been paid to the firm. The project was envisaged after the serial blasts of October 30, 2008 for improving artificial intelligence of the security forces. — Staff Reporter



the cameras do create doubts about their source," official sources said, adding that if necessary, legal action would be taken.

The entire process of CCTV installation in 91 locations of Guwahati for improving artificial intelligence came

more than five years to get the work done and a sum of more than Rs 1 crore has already been paid to the firm. The project was envisaged after the serial blasts of October 30, 2008 for improving artificial intelligence of the security forces. — Staff Reporter

**Services rendered by Rotary Club highlighted at installation meet**

GUWAHATI, July 6: The third installation meeting of Rotary Club of Guwahati Metro was held today at a city hotel.

State Assembly Speaker Hitenra Nath Goswami who was the chief guest of the occasion, appreciated the service rendered by Rotary Club of Guwahati Metro to society, particularly in the field of education. He urged the members to continue with such projects in future.

Noted eye surgeon Dr Harsha Bhattacharjee who attended the meeting as the guest of honour, appreciated the role of the club in rendering humanitarian service to society.

A new team for the year 2017-18 was installed under Madhukant Sharma as

president and Rajeev Ajitsaria as secretary.

Ongoing president of the club Dr BP Todi in his address said Rotary Club of Guwahati Metro, as part of its literacy mission during 2016-2017, rendered valuable service to lower primary schools in Aminigaon area of greater Guwahati. In the first year, the club adopted eight lower primary schools for their all-round development, he said.

Ongoing secretary Sabu Kasera said that the club extended multiple facilities to schools like providing safe drinking water, donating 20 water filters, maps, globes in local vernacular language, playing materials, conduct-

ing floor repairing works, providing library books, besides making provisions for hand washing so that 8 to 10 students could together wash their hands before meals.

The club also provided 20 pairs of desks and benches to two schools of the locality, he said.

The club also organised a mega cancer detection and awareness camp at Dharapur, off Guwahati, in association with Marwari Yuva Manch, Guwahati and their national office wherein blood samples of 157 patients were examined free of cost.

A large number of distinguished guests from different walks of life attended the meeting.

Free computer education for poor students CORRESPONDENT

JORABAT, July 6: The Dimoria regional unit of Assam Sangram Yuva Chhatra Parishad is organising free computer education classes for economically backward students of the region during the summer vacation.

The free classes being organised by the organisation will provide basic computer education. The classes, which started from July 5, will continue till the end of this month.

Akhtar Hussain, president of the Dimoria regional unit of the body, said that nearly 70 students are attending free classes at Perfect Educate, Computer Centre, Sonowal.

Other interested students can

also join the classes here. Hussain added.

**Plantation drive at Jorabat**

CORRESPONDENT

JORABAT, July 6: A tree plantation drive was organised at 10th Mile near Jorabat by the Khampana Wildlife Range this morning. On the occasion, the forest officials planted saplings and also distributed some to local residents for plantation. Van Mahotsav was usually observed in the first week of July every year and is celebrated on different days in different parts of India.

Jayanta Goswami, Ranger of Khampana Wildlife Range said that this type of plantation activity will help in increasing forest cover and conserving biodiversity. It should not be celebrated only as a ritual but people should know the importance of trees in their lives. He also urged people to actively participate in the plantation drive.

Over 100 saplings were planted and distributed as part of the Van Mahotsav celebration by the forest staff.

Forester Jitru M. Talukdar said the objective behind celebrating Van Mahotsav is to keep local people involved in plantation drives and spread environmental awareness. "Through Van Mahotsav we can also increase forest cover and bring back our lost forest areas," he added. The local residents also applauded the plantation activity of the wildlife range.

**World Zoonoses Day observed**

GUWAHATI, July 6: Assam Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Service Association, in collaboration with Indian Immunological Pvt Ltd, observed the World Zoonoses Day today at the State Veterinary Dispensary, Chenikuthuri, here with a free rabies vaccination programme.

The function was inaugurated by Dr Jitun Ch Bhuyan, Assistant Director, AH & Veterinary Department. Dr Rabin Saikia, Joint Director, and Dr Sarat Chandra Nath, Dist Veterinary Officer, Kamrup, were present as the chief guest and special guest respectively.

About 50 domestic dogs were vaccinated on the day.

The objectives of the function were stated by Dr Bhupan Chandra Sarma, general secretary, AAHVS, Dr Anil Kumar Sarma, Dr Bijay Choudhury, Dr Pramit Baruah, Dr Makhan Gogoi, Dr Pabitra Patow, Dr Jayoti Kalita, Dr Bipan Bhattacharjee, Dr Anup Tahukdar and Dr Sangita Bijuwan were also present in the inauguration ceremony.



Activists of All Assam Minorities Students' Union forming a human chain during a protest programme near Dighalipukhuri in Guwahati on Thursday. — AT photo

**State Govt not taking flood situation seriously: APCC**

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 6: The Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) today lambasted the State government for its alleged failure to take seriously the critical flood situation in the State, which has taken a toll of over 16 human lives and 42,500 cattle-heads and affected nearly four lakh people.

APCC secretary Prafulla Kumar Das while demanding urgent measures from the State government to tackle the issues arising out of the present flood situation, also informed that the APCC president

has urged the Congress workers to engage themselves in relief work among the flood-affected people.

Das alleged that the State government has not paid due attention to the plight of the lakhs of people hit by flood. It has deployed only 21 boats to rescue the marooned people and set up only 160 relief camps. The relief materials supplied to the flood-hit people are also very insignificant, he said.

The State government spent crores of rupees from the exchequer on Namami Brahmaputra festival, instead of paying attention to construction

and repair of the embankments, which has now resulted in the critical flood situation in 15 districts of the State, said the APCC secretary.

He also bemoaned the failure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to give equal treatment to Assam along with other states. While the Prime Minister rushed to the other states when they were reeling under flood and announced packages worth thousands of crores of rupees, Assam is yet to get a similar treatment from the Prime Minister, who boasts of his love towards this NE state time and again, Das alleged.

**Internet marketing workshop held**

GUWAHATI, July 6: WeB Style — Over Coffee ([styleovercoffee.com](http://styleovercoffee.com)), shared her personal experiences with fashion blogging over the last few years and provided tips about working as a full-time blogger as well as how to go big in the visible field of fashion blogging.

The second guest speaker was a young and rising YouTuber who goes by the name of Veg Chicken. He makes short comedy skits on his channel of the same name. He also shared his story of exploring and working on YouTube video content. The first day ended with the session by Anurag Saikia of the hugely popular Guwahati Metro Community.

The first half of Day 1 of the workshop was conducted by Indrajit Bhuyan, who introduced the participants to blogging and setting up a blog. He also covered vlogs and tips and trips to the inner workings of Internet blogging/vlogging. Bhuyan is the co-founder of Snoozepost, a lifestyle and technological news blog. Sharmistha Goswami, co-

founder of the fashion blog Style — Over Coffee ([styleovercoffee.com](http://styleovercoffee.com)), shared her personal experiences with fashion blogging over the last few years and provided tips about working as a full-time blogger as well as how to go big in the visible field of fashion blogging.

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methods of earning from the Internet. He dealt with not only blogging but also allied topics like social media marketing (on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) and crypto-currency. The guest speakers included experts recognised all over the world as bloggers associated with technology and web security. They flew in from Delhi for their sessions.

The first speaker was Mohit Kumar who is the founder of The Hacker News ([thehackernews.com](http://thehackernews.com)) — a leading security portal of the world with millions of readership. Kumar shared his experience of 10 years and more of blogging.

Deepanker Verma, founder of Delhi-based Techlomedia and one of the top influencers of the digital scene in the country, dwelt on transforming and creating a career out of content creation on the web.

Both sessions were succeeded by lengthy question-and-answer rounds of interaction with the audience. The participants with the release added.



Tree plantation at Jorabat. — Photo: Jorabat Correspondent

**SCERT workshop held**

GUWAHATI, July 6: In order to ensure quality elementary education for every child in the country, a multi-pronged approach has been initiated by NCERT, New Delhi, in collaboration with SCERTs of every State. As reflected in the RTE Act 2009, the 12th Five Year Plan of India and Sustainable Development Goals at the global level, it is envisaged that all children learn the basics and have opportunities to acquire transferable skills needed to become global citizens.

SCERT, Assam, in collaboration with NCERT, New Delhi, organised a three-day regional workshop on learning outcomes from July 4 to 6 at SCERT, Assam, Kaliapara here. A total of 75 participants from five north-eastern States namely, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Tripura and Assam participated in the workshop along with the Directors of SCERTs of their re-

pective States. A team of resource persons from NCERT, New Delhi and NERIE, Shillong, conducted the workshop so that a strong State resource group could be formed to carry out the programme to the school level.

The workshop was inaugurated on July 4 in which Prentom Saikia, Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam, Elementary Education Department, Prof Hrushikesh Senapati, Director, NCERT, New Delhi, Aruna Rajoria, Mission Director, SSA, RMSA, Assam, Prof Borthakur, principal, NERIE, Sewali Devi

Sharma, Director, SCERT, Assam and Joint Secretary to the Government of Assam, Prof Padma Yadav, NCERT, New Delhi, were present in the inaugural session and deliberated on learning outcome, National Achievement Survey, CCE, etc.

At the beginning of the inaugural session, a video message from Union Minister of Human Resource Development Prakash Javadekar was shown.

The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr Nirmali Hazarika, Deputy Director, SCERT, Assam, and coordinator of the workshop, a press release stated.

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ENDOCRINOLOGY & DIABETES/PAED SURGEON-23/09/17

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Opp. Govt. Bus Stand, G.N.B. Road, Ghy-3

Guwahati, Assam, 781014

Dibrugarh, 781016

Kohima, Nagaland, 796003

Guwahati, Assam, 781014

**MESSAGE FOR TODAY**

*Serving others is a source of inspiration, a source of strength, a reinforcement of faith.*

— RACHEL TALTON

**The Assam Tribune**

**Defying logic**

A benchmark of a 'civilized' society is that it accepts the rule of law. At the heart of human justice lies the concept that a person cannot be judged guilty unless proven so in a court of law. A State which turns its back on this and embarks on unilateral dispensation of 'justice' through tweaking the rules can be said to be uncivilized and authoritarian. This is precisely why certain 'Acts' contradict the principles of a democracy which India is supposed to be. For instances, in States such as Manipur and parts of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, the Indian Government has mandated that its armed forces embark on intensive anti-insurgency operations ignoring that occasionally innocent victims are targeted. In order to remove accountability for their action, the State has empowered them with the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA), thereby ensuring that they do not have to put details of encounters in the public domain. No doubt the Supreme Court of India has categorically asserted that the Army had no blanket immunity under this Act and has to follow established procedures while encountering a possible hostile individual or group. Equally momentous was its observation that ordinary criminal courts, and not only army courts, have jurisdiction to try allegations of extrajudicial killings by the Army. Yet, despite documented cases of extrajudicial killings being continuously exposed, a draconian Act like the AFSPA continues to operate.

Nor do we hear of armed personnel being prosecuted for being involved in extrajudicial killings. This is precisely why the 'mulling' by the Centre to 'partially' repeal the AFSPA from parts of Assam and Arunachal defies logic. Apparently, Delhi has suddenly discovered that the insurgency situation in Assam and Arunachal has improved in recent years and cited figures to highlight the same. In such a case the logical thing to do would be to repeal this draconian Act, which has been responsible for a number of killings of innocents, totally from these areas! The problem with extrajudicial killings is that victims mostly remain out of the gaze of the public, which would not have been the case had they been put under spotlight in a trial. Thus an equally logical thing to do is to make armed personnel accountable whenever there is possibility that fake encounters have taken place. Delhi, of course, is acutely conscious that it dares to impose such undemocratic acts only in remote, outlying areas. For instance, there have been more killings by Maoists in Central India of paramilitary personnel than by insurgents in Manipur; yet the Centre has not considered putting that region under AFSPA! This Act must be altogether repealed even in Manipur, for injustices committed under it actually serve to fuel anger amongst indigenous communities who are not necessarily pro-insurgents, and this anger is the funder which insurgents feed upon.

**Bogibeel bridge**

For development of trade, commerce and the overall economy, connectivity is a major issue. Better connectivity and access to markets ensures faster economic development. In this regard, the railway system has played a pivotal role across the world in the last over 150 years. Whereas the railway system has gone, faster economic growth and rapid development has been witnessed. However, since the time of Independence, successive regimes in New Delhi have failed to do much to expand the railway network in the north-eastern part of the country. Railway infrastructure in the North-east is still abysmal as compared to other parts of the country. At a time when the Indian Railways is thinking of operating superfast bullet trains to reduce travel time between major cities in the western and northern parts of the country, many State capitals in the north-eastern region are yet to be brought into the railway network. Double-tracking work has only now been sanctioned in the region. Electrification project in the region is still at a nascent stage. Suburban services are at best primitive. So, the North-east has missed out in a big way. The region, surrounded by foreign countries and having a hostile geography, desperately needs a world class railway network to catch up with the rest of India with regard to economic development. A major lacuna with regard to railway projects in the North-east has been the delay in implementation of schemes, and cost and time escalation. Hardly any project of importance is completed on time. The long-awaited Bogibeel rail-cum-road bridge is a case in point. It was a part of the Assam Accord. The bridge project was sanctioned in 1997 and was declared as a National Project in 2007. But work on the bridge is still going on.

Now, as per the Indian Railways, work on the ambitious project is finally nearing completion and it is planned for commissioning within the current fiscal. At 4.94 km, the Bogibeel bridge will be the longest bridge over the Brahmaputra river and also the longest rail-cum-road bridge in India. The bridge site is 17 km downstream of Dibrugarh. It connects Silapathar in Dhemaji district on the north bank of the Brahmaputra and Bogibeel in Dibrugarh district on the south bank. It is heartening to know that the girder fabrication and assembly works at the bridge are being executed with state-of-the-art welding technology as per European standards. The Rs 5,000-crore project has already been delayed and the Government must ensure that this time the deadline is adhered to. The Bogibeel bridge has been a long-standing demand of the people of this region. Besides facilitating trade, connectivity and passenger traffic, the bridge is also of vital strategic importance. Similarly, many other projects are running behind schedule and the Railway Ministry must fast-track the work in all such places.

# The midnight changeover

**■ Indrajit Borah**

**T**he midnight changeover, which culminated after a series of deliberations among the key stakeholders covering the entire political spectrum for decades, actually triumphs the Indian democracy. With 160 countries adopting the VAT/GST regime globally, in India, the prime aphorism behind this indirect tax system reform was to make it more efficient. The Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime is claimed to be the hybridization of the Value Added Tax (VAT) with the complexities of the federal structure in India. Firstly, with the introduction of modified value added tax (MODVAT) in 1986, initially VAT was combined with excise duties of the Central and state levels. VAT eliminates the cascading effects of indirect taxes in the value chain of manufactured goods and it was a historic first step towards a GST regime. Finally, in 2007, the Central Government targeted 2010 for implementation of a full-fledged, national VAT-based system covering both manufacturing and services.

GST is a shift from state VAT to national VAT regime. The predicted GST collection will be falling entirely in the domain of State governments, which will be shared with the Union Government. The tax structure is rationalized by grouping the goods and services to fewer flat VAT rates. It is actually expected to merge to possibly three in future. There can also be an element of equity in taxation by categorizing the commodities into essentials, necessities or luxuries with progressively increasing tax rates. Again, preferential tax benefits can also be selectively targeted at specific segments of a production value chain like the farmers as the primary producers.

In the pre-GST regime, as the Centre had the right to impose most direct taxes, the States also had significant powers for imposing VATs, sales tax and excise duties across States. Now, homogenizing the rates across States required amending the provisions in the Constitution defining the relative tax powers of the Centre and the States, the distribution of centrally-mobilized taxes between the two, and the distribution of the States' share among them. In this process, there has been concern over a probable decline in revenue mobilization capacity of States, which can be addressed by having two parallel GST systems – the Central GST and the State GST. Again, GST being a destination-based tax, not origin, there has been scepticism among the producing States because, a State that produces a commodity that is sold elsewhere will not have the right to impose a tax on the value added in that stage of production. Rather, the commodity can be taxed under the Central GST, and the Centre and the States will share the proceeds.

**GST has been the most significant economic reforms since 1991 and one of the most significant constitutional innovations since 1950. Although its institutional implications, financial consolidation thereof and income redistribution impact are very early to predict, any scepticism cannot be a reason for avoiding reforms.**

It amends the lists in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution that changes the balance of power in the federation of States. Again, Article 279A in the Constitutional amendment provides for the creation of a GST Council consisting of the Union and State finance ministers and other designated functionaries, who will make recommendations to the Centre and the States on exemptions including threshold exemption, tax rates, date of tax

on inter-state supplies. There will be a single return filed with a central registry, from which the information will be split between the Centre and the relevant States.

Indeed, the debate on GST has been substantially on the question of compensation to the States for the losses they may suffer owing to this transition. It is nothing but retaining the central power of imposing most direct taxes and collectivizing the States' discretion to impose a share of indirect taxes. It can create a genuinely empowered institution for 'cooperative federalism'. Therefore, the federal mechanism demanded constitutional provision of compensation to the States for any revenue shortfall for the initial period. But in the long run, for ensuring revenue neutrality of the States, it would be necessary to increase the VAT rates to a revenue neutral rate and ensure a suitable sharing mechanism. Indeed, how high a revenue neutral VAT rate would be? These are the pains of a common system to accommodate

the Centre can impose excise duties on them. Thirdly, looking into the concern by the producing States, the Bill empowers the Centre to impose an additional tax of up to 1% on the inter-state supply of goods for initial two or more years, the revenue from which will accrue to the States from where the supply originates. The discontent over the lower trigger limit of Rs 10 lakh for the north-eastern States against the national limit of Rs 20 lakh could only be understood in this context. At a time, when we talk about set-up to create young entrepreneurs, we are rolling over to a tax regime, where the indirect tax bracket is not revenue neutral that has direct implications on the State revenue. Actually, what the actual production-consumption bridle between Rs 10-20 lakh limits and its implications on the entrepreneurial development are should also be assessed in equal haste.

While the historical land reforms can be adjudicated by an expanding domestic market, the federal constitutionality segmented the Indian economy on the way to become a common market. The cherished dreams of our founding fathers to build a manufacturing economy could not be realized partly due to absence of an effective, efficient and transparent indirect tax regime. GST has been the most significant economic reforms since 1991 and one of the most significant constitutional innovations since 1950. Although its institutional implications, financial consolidation thereof and income redistribution impact are very early to predict, any scepticism cannot be a reason for avoiding reforms.

## Origin of the universe: void or vibration?

**■ Dr Sanjeev Kalita**

**H**ow did the universe begin? Is it a question too ambitious to be asked by humanity? Advances in astronomy over the last hundred years have unravelled a dynamic and evolving universe filled with complex network of trillions of galaxies hurtling through space, each containing billions of stars which in turn harbour thousands of planets each. When we look into a cloudless pitch black night sky, we see a tapestry of twinkling stars. These stars are confined to a stellar nursery called the Milky Way – our home galaxy. Powerful telescopes, both in ground and space, have peered through darkness of the night sky and uncovered billions of external galaxies embedded in the infinite ocean of empty space.

Let us try to pursue more on the question of the universe's beginning with the structure of the universe at large scales of galaxies, has undergone an unanticipated development from a regime of philosophy to data driven observational science. It has been possible since the advent of galaxy survey missions heralded by advanced light collecting detectors fed into astronomers' telescopes. Astronomers today can capture images of the galaxies in the far reaches of the universe and analyse their light to know when they formed and how they are evolving.

### Letters to the EDITOR

Sir.—India and China have disputes for the sovereignty of the land over the long 4,057 km border. But Sikkim is the only State in India which has a demarcated border with China based on the 1890 treaty. After a referendum in 1975, Sikkim voted to merge with the Union of India. The Kalash Mansarovar Yatra through the mountain terrain of the Tibetan Autonomous Region has been taking place from Nathu La since 2015. It is a 1,500 km long bus journey. The older other route – Lipulekh Pass – is there to trek through rough terrains of Uttarakhand, Nepal and Tibet.

Recently, China forcefully entered the Doklam plateau; it is Dokla La for India and Donglang for China.

The unmarked disputed border of China and Bhutan is strategically important.

The Bhutan army protested that the construction of road violated a bilateral agreement

The specialized mountain force

established the theory of origin of the entire universe in a Big Bang to unprecedented accuracy. We have come to know that galaxies in the universe are receding away from each other – the empty space between them is inflating. It indicates that the universe started from a primordial phase of colossal expansion of tiny volume of space, matter and energy. It had a beginning with infinite heat and infinitely dense packet of energy and space! Measurements of the ages of the oldest stars and galaxies have shown that the Big Bang occurred around 14 billion years ago. The remnant heat of the Big Bang has also been detected in the form of a cosmological background of radio waves (with a frequency of a few giga hertz).

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These developments have es-

and even time were curled up to infinite density. This primordial point was trillion times smaller than an atom! Cosmologists call it a 'singularity'. The primordial universe was this point of 'nothingness'. There was no space outside, no flow of time, no question of 'before' and 'after' and no matter at all. This primordial universe started expanding with infinite rate due to instability of the 'singularity'. Space was unwrapped and time started flowing. Matter appeared with infinite heat, energy and the first light came into being. The universe was born. Pure energy gave birth to fundamental particles out of which nuclei and atoms were synthesized. It is this primordial matter out of which stars and galaxies formed after a few billion years of the initial expansion.

Observations have confirmed this picture by measuring the remnant heat of the Big Bang, the abundances of the atoms synthesized in the early universe and by estimating the age of the oldest objects in the universe. However, the Big Bang model itself cannot explain the very cause of the primordial expansion and the galaxies themselves.

In 1981, the theory of initial condition of the universe was worked out. Alan Guth formulated that the primordial universe appeared out of microscopic ups and downs in energy of empty space. The absolute state of 'nothingness' was not 'nothing', rather was boiling with

## Pilgrimage, transgressions and threat to NE

ITBP marched ahead and has been locked in a stand-off with the PLA for a month. The Indian Army has displayed utmost restraint. In retaliation to the alleged action by the Indian Army, Beijing has blocked the entry of Indian pilgrims on way to Mansarovar.

China's game plan is to conduct military manoeuvres aimed at blocking the Sili-guri corridor – also called the chicken neck, the narrow stretch of land that connects India's seven NE States with the mainland. Both the countries have exchanged a war of words over the escalating border dispute. India's presence in Bhutan has irritated China, as they have no diplomatic relation with Bhutan. The construction of a road near the tri-junction would cause serious security implications for India. Is the North-east now in real danger of facing a possible military conflict? Yours etc., KAMAL, BARUAH, Rukminigong, Guwahati.

**Medical admission**

Sir.—I would like to draw everyone's attention towards the undergraduate medical examination of the country, NEET-2017. All

the students in Assam falling under the OBC category have been getting and should continue to get reservation.

On July 3, 2017, the Directorate of Medical Education, Assam invited application forms only from the OBC NCL (non-creamy layer) candidates for the OBC reserved seats, which is not fair as they have not informed about this before the examination.

This way, many deserving OBC candidates would fail to get seats in the medical colleges of the State. The Education Minister has only informed the public about the increase of OBC seats in medical colleges from the existing 15% to 26%. There was no mention about dividing the OBC category students into creamy/non-creamy layers. This sudden decision of the State Government without any notification has hampered the future of many students.

The matter should be looked into deeply and immediately so that the deserving OBC candidates rightly get the reserved category seats. Yours etc., AN ASPIRANT, Jakhaldanda.

**Medical terrorism**

Sir.—This refers to the letter 'Vindictive neologism' (AT, July 4). The writer has a complete misconception of the term 'medical terrorism'. It is not directly related to terrorism, but an extreme form of negligence in the health sector that creates a sense of fear of losing one's life at any time. A doctor's first duty is to instill into the mind and heart of the patients a sense of security.

'Medical terrorism' is a voice against the false identity of a doctor who takes the advantage of his/her position simply to make money. 'Medical terrorism' is a struggle of each person who feels insecure within the realm of a doctor. Yours etc., RAJA DAS, Jhalukbari.

**UGC arrears**

Sir.—Under the 6th Pay Commission, the UGC scale of pay was revised in respect of the college teachers with effect from January 1, 2006. After the effect of the revised pay, the payment of arrears was made twice. But as of

now, the temperature of the cosmic relic radiation, it has been found that the remnant heat of the Big Bang has tiny fluctuations. COBE, WMAP and Planck are the space satellites which have detected such fluctuations.

It is a special nature of the science of cosmology that looking into the distribution of the galaxies, we can learn about the physical processes in the infant universe. The standard model in cosmology suggests that the tiny fluctuations of the primordial energy in the void were stretched into galactic sizes due to cosmic inflation. These ups and downs were converted into ups and downs in density of matter in the early universe. The over-dense regions became galaxies due to collapse induced by gravity and the under-dense regions became voids surrounding the galaxies. These fluctuations are embedded in an ever-expanding background of empty space.

The galactic surveys have shown that matter in the universe is quite clumpy. Galaxies are forming spongy structure of filaments and sheets surrounded by cold voids. A very recent meeting of the American Astronomical Society has announced the discovery of a huge cosmic void (about a billion light year in size) surrounding the Milky Way. These ups and downs in the matter distribution demand ups and downs of the temperature of the background heat released in the Big Bang. By measuring

now, the 7th Pay Commission recommendations in respect of the Central Government employees have already been implemented and revised UGC scale of pay to college teachers is on the anvil. However, most surprisingly, the UGC arrear under the latest pay panel with effect from January 1, 2006 for 24 months is still pending. Many teachers have retired from service without receiving the pending arrear amount even after 11 years. When a person delays in government payment, he or she has to pay interest or fine or penalty. But when the government itself defaults in paying the due arrear amount to employees for years together, who will bear the penalty? Does not this tantamount to irresponsible and indifferent governance?

Yours etc., Prof SUSANTO KUMAR GHOSH, Tarapur, Silchar.

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

**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GUWAHATI**  
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Walk in interview the post of Sr. Project Technician under a SERB sponsored project in the Department of Chemistry, IIT Guwahati! For detailed advertisement may please visit <http://www.iitg.ernet.in>

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**North Eastern Development Finance Corp. Ltd.**  
NEDFI House, G. S. Road, Dibrup, Guwahati-781006  
Tele +91 361 222200. Fax: +91 361 223773 / 34  
CIN No. U6592AS1995S004529

**EOI FOR SELECTION OF ARCHITECTS**

North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFI), Guwahati will be seeking Architects for Comprehensive Consultancy Services in proposed North East Craft Village at 9th Mile, Near Jorhat, Assam-781 023. Applications are invited from Architectural firms/Companies having at least 15 years of experience in consultancy work for developing State-of-the-art building and construction project-Heritage building/Craft Village/Modern building architecture/Site Central Government, PSSUs/Banks and other Corporate organizations.

The format of application and TOR can be downloaded from NEDFI's website [www.nedfi.com](http://www.nedfi.com) or on or before 17.07.2017. The last date for submission is on or before 3 PM on 24.07.2017.

GM, NEDFI

**Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati**  
Guwahati - 781 039, Assam

Sealed quotations are invited for supply & installation of the following items:

**Physics:** Grating Stabilized extended cavity diode laser, PC based Oscilloscope, **Guest House:** Wooden Dining Chairs, Wall to Wall Carpet, Bedsheet, pillow cover, shower curtains etc. **Establishment:** Ambulance on buy back mode, **Maintenance:** various electrical components **Gymkhana Sports:** Various sports items. For detailed specifications, terms and conditions, please visit our website at [www.iitg.ernet.in/tender/19](http://www.iitg.ernet.in/tender/19). Corrigendum in this regard, if any, will be published/intimated in the above mentioned website only.

Sd/-  
DR(S&P)

**State Bank of India**  
LANKA BRANCH

DIST: HOJAI (ASAM), PH. NO: 0974259508

Whereas,

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the State Bank of India, Lanka Branch, Hojai, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued in a Notice Demand called upon the borrowers and guarantors as noted here under to repay the amount mentioned in the notice (detail below) within 60 (sixty) days from the date of issue of the said notice besides further interest. The undersigned hereby declare that he has given due notice to the concerned borrowers and guarantors and public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rules.

The Borrowers/Guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties mentioned here above. Any disputes with the properties will be subject to the charge of the **State Bank of India, Lanka Branch, Lankha, Hojai**, except for the above noted amount with the contractual rate on the aforesaid amount and incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.

Name and Address of the Borrower/Guarantor	a) Branch b) Date of Demand Notice c) Balance outstanding as per d) Date of Possession taken	Description of Immovable Properties
1) Sri Rajib Shil (Borrower) S/O - Situb Ranjan Shil, Swarnaparna Path, Ward No.7, P.O. & P.S.-Lanka, Dist:- Hojai (Assam)	a) Lanka Branch b) 04.04.2017 c) Rs.631,080.00 + interest etc. d) 30.06.2017	A plot of land measuring 1 Katha 5 Leches covered by Dag No.420, Periodic Patra No.329 at Ward No.7, Swarnaparna Path, P.O. & P.S.-Lanka, Kissam under Lankha Muoz, Hojai Dist., Hojai (Assam). Property in the name of Sri Rajib Shil, S/O Situb Ranjan Shil. Bounded:- North: Plot of land Rupan Shil; South: Plot of land Narayan Shil; East: Plot of land Kishore Sekhar; West: Plot of land Situb Ranjan Shil.
2) Sri Rajib Lakher (Guarantor) S/O - Late Deben Lakher Lankeshwar Grant, Ward No.7, Lanka, Dist - Hojai (Assam)	a) Lanka Branch b) 08.06.2016 c) Rs.4,06,857.00 + interest etc. d) 30.06.2017	A plot of land measuring 0 Bigha 03 Kathas 0 Lecha covered by Dag No.5/25, P. Patra No.26 of Sankar Basat Kissam under Lankha Muoz, P.S.-Lanka, Dist:- Hojai, Assam. Property in the name of Sri Jay Ram Mandali, Son of Sankar Mandali. Bounded:- North: Plot of land Sunu Koth; South: Plot of land Bishnu Das Panika; East: Highway; West: Land of Sunu Koth.
3) Jay Ram Mandali (Borrower) S/O - Suhu Swami Mandal	a) Lanka Branch b) 08.06.2016 c) Rs.4,06,857.00 + interest etc. d) 30.06.2017	A plot of land measuring 0 Bigha 03 Kathas 0 Lecha covered by Dag No.5/25, P. Patra No.26 of Sankar Basat Kissam under Lankha Muoz, P.S.-Lanka, Dist:- Hojai, Assam. Property in the name of Sri Jay Ram Mandali, Son of Sankar Mandali. Bounded:- North: Plot of land Sunu Koth; South: Plot of land Bishnu Das Panika; East: Highway; West: Land of Sunu Koth.

Place - Lanka, Hojai

Date - 30.06.2017

Authorized Officer  
State Bank of India

**APPENDIX-IV**  
(Rule 8-1)  
**POSSESSION NOTICE**  
(For Immoveable Property)

**STAFF REPORTER**

**GUWAHATI**, July 6: The recently released Bollywood thriller drama *A Death in the Gunj* has a special Assamese connection.

The debut feature of director Konkona Sen Sharma has a full-length song in Assamese written by Rajdeep 'Jiri' It is for the first time that a full-length Assamese song has been used in a Hindi film made in Mumbai. It was an opportunity for me to work in a Bollywood movie and provide Assamese music at the national level," Rajdeep said.

Rajdeep has written several plays for mobile theatres and also composed songs for Angoram Papon Mahanta.

"This song was written last year after I wrote another Assamese song for MTV which was sumptuous," said the 31-year-old Rajdeep.

The film features an ensemble cast of Vikrant Massey, Tillotama Shome, Om Puri, Gulshan Devah, Kali Kechchim, Jim Sarbh, and Rekha Shorey.

Besides English and Bengali languages are also being used in the film which is set in McCluskieganj, nearly 60 kilometres from Jharkhand's capital Ranchi.

"I'm glad that my song was selected in the film. It

The music of the Assamese song has been composed by Sagar Desai. This is for the first time that a full-length Assamese song has been featured in a Hindi film made in Mumbai. It was very encouraging for me to work in a Bollywood movie and provide Assamese music at the national level," Rajdeep said.

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featuring four academic events – team debate, scholars' challenge, collaborative writing and scholars' bowl, in which the students of Maria's put up an impressive show. Besides, scholars from across the world performed together in programmes like Scholars' Fair, Scholars' Scavenger and Scholars' Ball, which made it possible for them to celebrate learning as part of the global family.

The 14-member student delegation, led by the founder and managing trustee of the institution Nellie Ahmed, also comprised two mentor-teachers Anjan Gogoi and Jabeen S Pathak. Based on their success in the regional round held in Guwahati in December last year, the students of the school qualified and earned for themselves, invitational berths for the World Scholars Cup Global Round, held in Hanoi from June 27 to July 1.

Founded in 2007, the World Scholars Cup is a global enrichment initiative for students of all backgrounds, in order to inspire them a zeal for learning, confidence in new skills and a sense of global citizenship.

The four-day programme

**Body found**  
CORRESPONDENT

**JALUKBARI**, July 6: The body of a man aged around 60 was found near Lakhra today around 7 am. Police sources said he might have been suffering from epilepsy or some age-related ailment.

After post-mortem at the GMCH, the body was handed over to some locals of Lakhra where he was staying for the last ten years. The police further said that the locals, out of affection for the man, used to call him Ramu.

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featuring four academic events – team debate, scholars' challenge, collaborative writing and scholars' bowl, in which the students of Maria's put up an impressive show. Besides, scholars from across the world performed together in programmes like Scholars' Fair, Scholars' Scavenger and Scholars' Ball, which made it possible for them to celebrate learning as part of the global family.

The 14-member student delegation, led by the founder and managing trustee of the institution Nellie Ahmed, also comprised two mentor-teachers Anjan Gogoi and Jabeen S Pathak. Based on their success in the regional round held in Guwahati in December last year, the students of the school qualified and earned for themselves, invitational berths for the World Scholars Cup Global Round, held in Hanoi from June 27 to July 1.

Founded in 2007, the World Scholars Cup is a global enrichment initiative for students of all backgrounds, in order to inspire them a zeal for learning, confidence in new skills and a sense of global citizenship.

The four-day programme

**Body found**

CORRESPONDENT

**JALUKBARI**, July 6: The body of a man aged around 60 was found near Lakhra today around 7 am. Police sources said he might have been suffering from epilepsy or some age-related ailment.

After post-mortem at the GMCH, the body was handed over to some locals of Lakhra where he was staying for the last ten years. The police further said that the locals, out of affection for the man, used to call him Ramu.

is very encouraging for the S' cultural scene. This is for the first time that a full-length Assamese song has been featured in a Hindi film made in Mumbai. It was an opportunity for me to work in a Bollywood movie and provide Assamese music at the national level," Rajdeep said.

Rajdeep has written several plays for mobile theatres and also composed songs for Angoram Papon Mahanta.

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## Documentary on ancient wall running through Narakasur Hills

STAFF REPORTER

the presence of such ruins on the hills from the late Dr Prabhat Malla Baruah, a popular resident of the Uzanbazar Naon locality till the other day and brother of poet the late Ajit Baruah.

It needs mention here that a group of enthusiasts, all of whom were secondary students then, met the then Director of the State Archaeology here sometime in 1989-'90 and handed over to him some pieces of the bricks used in

the wall in their houses built on the Narakasur Hills.

Vikramjit Kakati, now an academician, told this newspaper that his maternal uncle the late Dr Mohini Kumar Baruah, who was a well-known archaeologist, had informed him that there was a rampart to protect Guwahati in the bygone days, which ran from Chandmari to Garchuk via the Narakasur Hills. The present-day Rajgarh was a part of that rampart and it was breached at Bhangarpur point, but its southern end remained in the other hills of the city.

Considering all such aspects, Dr Phukan led the team to document the existence of the archaeological ruins of the Narakasur Hills to the people for societal action.

The documentary, planned and filmed and edited by Dr Phukan

gives viewers an idea of the city of Guwahati and its history with the mention of names like the Mekhela Upani Path which leads to the Shakti shrine Kamakhya and the findings at the Ambart archaeological site.

He asserted that the bricks used in the Narakasur Hills will be similar to those of the Ambart archaeological site.

The focus of the documentary is on the archaeological remains of the Narakasur Hills, which may throw new lights

on the history of Guwahati.

is very encouraging for the S' cultural scene. This is for the first time that a full-length Assamese song has been featured in a Hindi film made in Mumbai. It was an opportunity for me to work in a Bollywood movie and provide Assamese music at the national level," Rajdeep said.

The film features an ensemble cast of Vikrant Massey, Tillotama Shome, Om Puri, Gulshan Devah, Kali Kechchim, Jim Sarbh, and Rekha Shorey.

Besides English and Bengali languages are also being used in the film which is set in McCluskieganj, nearly 60 kilometres from Jharkhand's capital Ranchi.

"This song was written last year after I wrote another Assamese song for MTV which was sumptuous," said the 31-year-old Rajdeep.

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The four-day programme

**NERAMAC** 

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)**  
FOR SELECTION OF ARCHITECTS FOR COMPREHENSIVE CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NERAMAC OFFICE BUILDING AND COMMERCIAL BUILDING AT SIMRIK, GUWAHATI, ASSAM

The details terms & conditions are available in NERAMAC's website ([www.neramac.com](http://www.neramac.com)). The last date for submission of application is 31/07/2017.

Sd/- Managing Director,  
NERAMAC Ltd

**MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD.**  
CIN No.:L/H/2011/H/2010/P-C0002

IV/T/04@/003834(New),Manappuram House,Valapad,Thiruvalla - 680 567

**GOLD AUCTION NOTICE**

The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments placed in the below accounts is to be conducted at the following branches on 27/07/2017 from 11:00 AM onwards.

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# Over 30,000 families affected by flood in Kamrup dist

ANN Service

MIRZA, July 6: Flood situation in Kamrup district worsened today as the water level of the Brahmaputra river continues to show rising trend, inundating fresh areas of several villages in Palashari, Goroiomari and Hajo Revenue Circles in south Kamrup and affecting over 30,000 families. Several villages under Barkhetri LAC under Nalbari district have also been inundated.

Sources said that several villages namely, Bardia, Bhatkhowadia, Hengrati, Paghia etc., under

Palashari Revenue Circle in Kamrup district have been inundated, creating panic among the people. Sadek Ali Dewani, 60, of Balagaon village, a flood-affected person told this Correspondent that a large number of villages namely, Balagon no. 1, Balagon no. 2, Batahida, Sarapara, Koltuli, Maghuwa, Debiduba, Salmar, Duramari, Bhakwamari etc., under Goroiomari Revenue Circle were inundated today. Villages like Khetrapara and Naypara under Goroiomari Revenue Circle have also been inundated by the flood waters of the Brahmaputra river.

Musa Hoque, 50, of Laopara village said that flood has also in-

undated fresh areas of Ghulpar, Kurukhamari, Laopara etc., villages under Barkhetri LAC in Nalbari district.

Sources said that some of the villages like Polimangal, Panikukh etc., under Chamarai Revenue Circle under Kamrup district and low-lying areas of Sitali, Borchar, Gauburapam etc., under Hajo Revenue Circle under Kamrup district have also been inundated by the flood waters of the Brahmaputra river.

Musa Hoque, 50, of Laopara village said that flood has also in-

undated fresh areas of Ghulpar, Kurukhamari, Laopara etc., villages under Barkhetri LAC in Nalbari district.

"So far government has not provided us the boats and other rescue facilities and we demand the government to launch immediate relief and rescue operations to deal with any eventualities arising out of flood," said Sadek Ali Dewani.

Several hundred hectares of *ahu* paddy and other *kharif* crops of the aforesaid villages have been destroyed by the flood breaking the backbone of the concerned farmers.

"Flood has come early this year and farmers have failed to harvest 50 % of their *ahu* crops," said

Sadek Ali Dewani of Balagaon village in Goroiomari Revenue Circle in Kamrup district.

According to Water Resources department officials flood has not yet crossed the danger mark and that the flood was flowing 2 cm below the danger mark at Futuri village in Palashari LAC today till the filing of this report at 4 pm.

However, unofficial sources said that flood has been flowing above the danger mark in several villages including Bhatkhowadia, Sengrati etc., under Palashari Revenue Circle and Bal-

gaon, Maghuwa, Sarapara, Batahida, Koltuli etc., villages under Goroiomari Revenue Circle in Kamrup district.

A four-year-old boy, Rahiful Ali, of Natun Kitni (Sontoli) under Boko Revenue Circle had died yesterday after falling in a pond, sources said. Another two-year-old baby, identified as Almina Begum, had also died on July 5 at Pijupara area near Nagarbari in Kamrup district. Circle Officer, Palashari Revenue Circle, Sushapu Kakoti today visited some of the flood-affected villages and took stock of the situation.



A rhino swims through the flood waters in Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, in Morigaon district on Wednesday. — UB Photos

## Campaign against illicit liquor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

DIBRUGARH, July 6: In an effort to make the district free from illicit liquor, a workshop on rehabilitation of country-made liquor brewers was held here on Wednesday.

The workshop is an initiative taken up by the district administration in collaboration with the Excise department and United RSETI for country-made liquor brewers to rehabilitate and provide them alternative livelihood options. As many as 65 families engaged in brewing country-made liquor from Moran, Chabua, La-hawla and other areas of the district attended the workshop, an official release stated.

## Elephant cub rescued

GORESWAR, July 6: An elephant cub was found in Barnadi river at Dorgaon village near Ambiharshagar in Baska district on Wednesday morning. Sources said that the elephant cub was floating in the Barnadi river at Bagmati and the villagers rescued the cub and informed the Forest department. Forest department personnel rushed to the spot and rescued it. Forest personnel are trying to reunite the cub with its mother in the Barnadi Wildlife Sanctuary. — ANN Service

## AASU demands eviction of illegal gambling stalls at Kalaigaon

CORRESPONDENT

KALAIGAON, July 6: The AASU Kalaigaon anchal committee demanded immediate eviction of all illegal gambling (*teer* and dice) stalls and wine vendors in and around Kalaigaon town.

A delegation of the students' body met Sadhana Hojai, Deputy Commissioner of Udaguri on July 4 and submitted a memorandum regarding the eviction of illegal and anti-social elements at Kalaigaon. The AASU leaders alleged that illegal gambling and free

It may be mentioned here that most of the youths of the locality, mostly school dropouts,

have been addicted to drugs, wine and gambling causing social degradation. Youths addicted to drugs, wine and gambling have started stealing as the source of quick money for obtaining drugs and wine. Such a case occurred on the night of July 1 at Kalaigaon town, when miscreants committed burglary at houses of three families at number-2 Kalaigaon looting ornaments and clothing worth lakhs of rupees within the distance of just a kilometre from Kalaigaon police station.

## Dima Hasao celebrates 68th Vanamahotsav

CORRESPONDENT

HAFLONG, July 6: Along with rest of the nation, Dima Hasao district has been celebrating the 68th Vanamahotsav throughout the district.

On Sunday, the day was observed by planting of saplings in various educational institutions like Kalwan Ashra, Veer Samudhan Phonglo Chari Niwas etc., and along the sides of the NH-54-E by the Executive Member, in charge Forest etc., of the NC

Hills Autonomous Council, Thaisoona Thaosen and Divisional Forest Officer, East Division, Tumu Langthasa and other forest officials.

Talking to this correspondent, Thaosen said, "We are doing our best to create awareness among the people but for the success of our motto to make Dima Hasao green, the peoples' wholehearted cooperation is a must. I must appreciate the people of Dima Hasao for the active cooperation in making Dima Hasao a green region," he said.

## Malik Hafizur Rahman: a tribute



Alhaj Malik Hafizur Rahman, our dear Abba, who left us in the holy month of Ramzan on May 29, was born on March 23, 1946 in a humble family of farmers and freedom fighters at Chatamari village in Goalpara district. Both his father Gudrag Ali and his eldest brother were recipients of the freedom fighters' pension due to their active involvement in the Quit India Movement of 1942.

After his initial primary education at the local village school, he left for Guwahati and got himself admitted at Cotton Collegiate School,

Panbari, Guwahati, from where he passed his HSLC examination in 1964. Owing to financial hardships, he left 'Gauhati' in 1964 and enrolled himself at BN College, Dibrugarh where he successfully passed his Pre-University (PU) examination in the Science stream (then) under Gauhati University in 1965. Thereafter, he again came back to Gauhati and started residing in the Lakhottika area of the city, in a small rented room located inside the Lakhottika Mosque, sometime during the late 1960s. In between all these mundane struggles, he completed his graduation with much difficulty, from Pragyoyit College and

Gauhati College respectively. It was also around this time that he landed himself at the Directorate of Land Reforms in January 1969, which he continued till early 2003. In March 2003, he was transferred and promoted as an Administrative Officer, Directorate of Agriculture, Government of Assam, which he continued till his retirement towards the end of 2003 itself. One of his lifelong ambitions to perform the Haj was fulfilled with a visit to Mecca and Medina in 1998.

Apart from his administrative acumen, he was an accomplished poet, author and novelist, having penned down five Assamese novels,

*Madhuchandrika* (1988), *Ratr Ramdenu* (1990), *Nivedita Pratishruti* (2001) and *Umar Sapna* (2004). Besides this, he also wrote many short stories in *Asuri Bani, Mejangkori, Sadin, Dainik Agradoot, Asoniya Pratidin, Niyamika Barta, Prantik*, etc. One of his translated short stories *Khoma* (Mercy) was published in the *Sunday Reading supplement of The Assam Tribune* on May 5, 2013.

Today on his Chalisaa, I, along with all our family members and his well-wishers, pray to the Almighty Allah to grant *Jannatul Firdaus* (heavenly bliss) to our dearest Abba.

— Saikh Md. Sabah Al-Ahmed

## Construction of Dhubri-Phulbari bridge to start soon

CORRESPONDENT

DHUBRI, July 6: The long-pending demand of people of western Assam and the West Garo Hills will finally see the light of the day as the construction of the Dhubri-Phulbari bridge will start soon.

While attending various meeting with the stakeholders of Dhubri and Phulbari area, the representatives of the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation (NHIDCL) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) said that the Detail Project Report (DPR) of the bridge has al-

ready been prepared and they are now working with the district administrations of both the States on land acquisition.

Detailing on the proposed bridge, including approaches over the river Brahmaputra between Dhubri on the north bank and Phulbari on the south bank, A Chandrasekhar, Deputy General Manager of NHIDCL, said that the bridge will be 20-km long and will cost approximately Rs 4,000 crore. He also informed that 13 km of the bridge will be constructed over the river and 3.5 km road will be constructed on both sides of the bridge.

While talking to the mediapersons, Chandrasekhar explained that the DPR has already been prepared and the bridge will be built over the NH-127B, in EPC mode with the JICA. Within next three months, e-tendering will start, he said and added that the exact time of completion of the bridge can be known only after construction works begin.

**Land rights committee:** The committee for protection of land rights of the indigenous people of the State organised a meeting with the stakeholders representing various sections and communities of Dhubri district at the

## Khola Deoraja's Raj Avishek held at Silchung

CORRESPONDENT

raj-singhasan granan and felicitation.

JAGIROAD, July 6: The Raj Avishek of new Khola Deoraja Prabin Masron, after the dissolution of the previous Rajadarbar headed by Suman Deo-raja by the police, was held at Silchung under Jagiroad LAC with various traditional events on Wednesday.

The day-long programme began with the hoisting of Rajdarbar flag by Ganak Boro, president, Rajora Porichalona Samiti which was followed by smriti tarpan offered by Kulamoni Deuri. The other programmes included *panti-tula parba, snan parba* of the Raja in Morigaon, *pani-archana, basta prardhan, rajchora gaman, mallya pradhan* by 'konwar',

Tea labourers slam police over Neha Bagdi missing case

CORRESPONDENT

SILCHAR, July 6: After a month of tension, people belonging to the tea garden community gathered in large numbers on Wednesday and demanded that whereabouts of Neha Bagdi, a girl belonging to a tea community family in Irongrama area of the city, be found immediately.

Later, in a memorandum to the Cachar Deputy Commissioner, members of the Barak Cha Samik Union have also demanded to put a check on the police harassment meted out to the people living in Dorgaon and its adjoining areas. Former minister and general secretary of the union, Ajit Singh, said, "We are shocked by the police inaction to trace the girl even after a month. Despite repeated demands and appeals, no step has been taken to bring the girl back. We shall not hesitate to stage intense protest in the coming days if the police fail to recover Neha soon."

## OBITUARY Rabindra Gogoi

CORRESPONDENT

DHEMIAJ, July 6: Rabindra Gogoi, an assistant teacher of Surjyoti High School at Kalakata in West Dhemaji and an inhabitant of Kawaimari village here died yesterday morning on the Naruathan-Burahat road. As reported, while returning home, the teacher fell down on the road at Dhanguri portion with his bicycle following an attack of epilepsy and died on the spot. He was 51.

Born at Kawaimari village in 1967, Rabindra Gogoi joined as an assistant teacher at then Surjyoti Girls' ME School in 1991, which was later amalgamated with Surjyoti High School located at the same campus. He donated two-and-a-half bighas of land for establishing the school. He was loved and respected by all in the locality.

His sudden death has deeply mourned in the area. A condolence meeting was held at Surjyoti HS today where the teachers and students of the school observed a minute's silence for the eternal peace of the departed soul. He leaves behind his wife, a son and two daughters along with a host of relatives.



State Agriculture minister and AGP president Atul Bora, along with others, visiting the India-Bangladesh border at South Salmara-Mankachar district on Wednesday. — UB Photos


**GOODS AND SERVICES TAX**


# List of Exempted Goods under GST

S. No.	Classification*	Description of Goods	S. No.	Classification*	Description of Goods	S. No.	Classification*	Description of Goods
1.	0101	Live asses, mules and hinnies	49.	0802	Other nuts, fresh such as Almonds, Hazelnuts or filberts ( <i>Corylus spp.</i> ), walnuts, Chestnuts ( <i>Castanea spp.</i> ), Pistachios, Macadamia nuts, Kola nuts ( <i>Cola spp.</i> ), Areca nuts, fresh, whether or not shelled or peeled			parched rice, commonly known as khoi, parched paddy or rice coated with sugar or gur, commonly known as Murki
2.	0102	Live bovine animals	50.	0803	Bananas, including plantains, fresh or dried	96.	1905	Pappad, by whatever name it is known, except when served for consumption
3.	0103	Live swine	51.	0804	Dates, figs, pineapples, avocados, guavas, mangoes and mangosteens, fresh	97.	1905	Bread (branded or otherwise), except when served for consumption and pizza bread
4.	0104	Live sheep and goats	52.	0805	Citrus fruit, such as Oranges, Mandarins (including tangerines and satsumas); clementines, wilkins and similar citrus hybrids; Grapefruit, including pomelos, Lemons ( <i>Citrus limon</i> , <i>Citrus limonum</i> ) and limes ( <i>Citrus aurantifolia</i> , <i>Citrus latifolia</i> ), fresh	98.	2106	Prasadam supplied by religious places like temples, mosques, churches, gurudwaras, dargahs, etc.
5.	0105	Live poultry, that is to say, fowls of the species <i>Gallus domesticus</i> , ducks, geese, turkeys and guinea fowls.	53.	0806	Grapes, fresh	99.	2201	Water [other than aerated, mineral, purified, distilled, medicinal, ionic, battery, de-mineralized and water sold in sealed container]
6.	0106	Other live animal such as Mammals, Birds, Insects	54.	0807	Melons (including watermelons) and papaws (papayas), fresh	100.	2201	Non-alcoholic Toddy, Neera including date and palm neera
7.	0201	Meat of bovine animals, fresh and chilled.	55.	0808	Apples, pears and quinces, fresh	101.	2202 90 90	Tender coconut water other than put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name
8.	0202	Meat of bovine animals frozen [other than frozen and put up in unit container]	56.	0809	Apricots, cherries, peaches (including nectarines), plums and sloes, fresh	102.	2302, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2308, 2309	Aquatic feed including shrimp feed and prawn feed, poultry feed & cattle feed, including grass, hay & straw, supplement & husk of pulses, concentrates additives, wheat bran & de-oiled cake
9.	0203	Meat of swine, fresh, chilled or frozen [other than frozen and put up in unit container]	57.	0810	Other fruit such as strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, mulberries and loganberries, black, white or red currants and gooseberries, cranberries, bilberries and other fruits of the genus <i>vaccinium</i> , Kiwi fruit, Durians, Persimmons, Pomegranates, Tamarind, Sapota (chico), Custard apple (ata), Bore, Lichi, fresh	103.	2501	Salt, all types
10.	0204	Meat of sheep or goats, fresh, chilled or frozen [other than frozen and put up in unit container]	58.	0814	Peel of citrus fruit or melons (including watermelons), fresh	104.	2716 00 00	Electrical energy
11.	0205	Meat of horses, asses, mules or hinnies, fresh, chilled or frozen [other than frozen and put up in unit container]	59.	9	All goods of seed quality	105.	2835	Dicalcium phosphate (DCP) of animal feed grade conforming to IS specification No.5470: 2002
12.	0206	Edible offal of bovine animals, swine, sheep, goats, horses, asses, mules or hinnies, fresh, chilled or frozen [other than frozen and put up in unit container]	60.	0901	Coffee beans, not roasted	106.	3002	Human Blood and its components
13.	0207	Meat and edible offal, of the poultry of heading 0105, fresh, chilled or frozen [other than frozen and put up in unit container]	61.	0902	Unprocessed green leaves of tea	107.	3006	All types of contraceptives
14.	0208	Other meat and edible meat offal, fresh, chilled or frozen [other than frozen and put up in unit container]	62.	0909	Seeds of anise, badian, fennel, coriander, cumin or caraway; juniper berries [of seed quality]	108.	3101	All goods and organic manure [other than put up in unit containers and bearing a registered brand name]
15.	0209	Pig fat, free of lean meat, and poultry fat, not rendered or otherwise extracted, fresh, chilled or frozen [other than frozen and put up in unit container]	63.	0910 11 10	Fresh ginger, other than in processed form	109.	3304	Kajal [other than kajal pencil sticks], Kumkum, Bindu, Sindur, Alta
16.	0209	Pig fat, free of lean meat, and poultry fat, not rendered or otherwise extracted, salted, in brine, dried or smoked [other than put up in unit containers]	64.	0910 30 10	Fresh turmeric, other than in processed form	110.	3825	Municipal waste, sewage sludge, clinical waste
17.	0210	Meat and edible meat offal, salted, in brine, dried or smoked; edible flours and meals of meat or meat offal [other than put up in unit containers]	65.	1001	Wheat and meslin [other than those put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	111.	3926	Plastic bangles
18.	3	Fish seeds, prawn / shrimp seeds whether or not processed, cured or in frozen state [other than goods falling under Chapter 3 and attracting 5%]	66.	1002	Rye [other than those put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	112.	4014	Condoms and contraceptives
19.	0301	Live fish.	67.	1003	Barley [other than those put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	113.	4401	Firewood or fuel wood
20.	0302	Fish, fresh or chilled, excluding fish fillets and other fish meat of heading 0304	68.	1004	Oats [other than those put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	114.	4402	Wood charcoal (including shell or nut charcoal), whether or not agglomerated
21.	0304	Fish fillets and other fish meat (whether or not minced), fresh or chilled.	69.	1005	Maize (corn) [other than those put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	115.	4802 / 4907	Judicial, Non-judicial stamp papers, Court fee stamps when sold by the Government Treasuries or Vendors authorized by the Government
22.	0306	Crustaceans, whether in shell or not, live, fresh or chilled; crustaceans and molluscs, shell, cooked by steaming or by boiling in water live, fresh or chilled.	70.	1006	Rice [other than those put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	116.	4817 / 4907	Postal items, like envelope, Post card etc., sold by Government
23.	0307	Molluscs, whether in shell or not, live, fresh, chilled; aquatic invertebrates other than crustaceans and molluscs, live, fresh or chilled.	71.	1007	Grain sorghum [other than those put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	117.	48/4907	Rupee notes when sold to the Reserve Bank of India
24.	0308	Aquatic invertebrates other than crustaceans and molluscs, live, fresh or chilled.	72.	1008	Buckwheat, millet and canary seed; other cereals such as Jawar, Bajra, Ragi [other than those put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	118.	4907	Cheques, lose or in book form
25.	0401	Fresh milk and pasteurised milk, including separated milk, milk and cream, not concentrated nor containing added sugar or other sweetening matter, excluding Ultra High Temperature (UHT) milk	73.	1101	Wheat or meslin flour [other than those put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	119.	4901	Printed books, including Braille books
26.	0403	Curd; Lassi; Butter milk	74.	1102	Cereal flour other than of wheat or meslin, [maize (corn) flour, Rye flour, etc.] [other than those put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	120.	4902	Newspapers, journals and periodicals, whether or not illustrated or containing advertising material
27.	0406	Chena or paneer, other than put up in unit containers and bearing a registered brand name;	75.	1103	Cereal groats, meal and pellets [other than those put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	121.	4903	Children's picture, drawing or colouring books
28.	0407	Birds' eggs, in shell, fresh, preserved or cooked	76.	1104	Cereal grains hulled	122.	4905	Maps and hydrographic or similar charts of all kinds, including atlases, wall maps, topographical plans and globes, printed
29.	0409	Natural honey, other than put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name	77.	1105	Flour, of potatoe [other than those put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	123.	5001	Silkworm laying, cocoon
30.	0501	Human hair, unworked, whether or not washed or scoured; waste of human hair	78.	1106	Flour, of the dried leguminous vegetables of heading 0713 (pulse) [other than guar meal 1106 10 90], of sago or roots or tubers of heading 0714 or of the products of Chapter 8 i.e. of tamarind, of singoda, mango flour, etc. [other than those put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	124.	5002	Raw silk
31.	0506	All goods i.e. Bones and Horn-cores, unworked, defatted, simply prepared (but not cut to shape), treated with acid or gelatinised; powder and waste of these products	79.	12	All goods of seed quality	125.	5003	Silk waste
32.	0507 90	All goods i.e. Hoof meal; horn meal; hooves, claws, nails and beaks; antlers; etc.	80.	1201	Soya beans, whether or not broken, of seed quality.	126.	5101	Wool, not carded or combed
33.	0511	Semen including frozen semen	81.	1202	Ground-nuts, not roasted or otherwise cooked, whether or not not shelled or broken, of seed quality.	127.	5102	Fine or coarse animal hair, not carded or combed
34.	6	Live trees and other plants; bulbs, roots and the like; cut flowers and ornamental foliage	82.	1204	Linseed, whether or not broken, of seed quality.	128.	5103	Waste of wool or of fine or coarse animal hair
35.	0701	Potatoes, fresh or chilled.	83.	1205	Rape or colza seeds, whether or not broken, of seed quality.	129.	52	Gandhi Topi
36.	0702	Tomatoes, fresh or chilled.	84.	1206	Sunflower seeds, whether or not broken, of seed quality.	130.	52	Khadi yarn
37.	0703	Onions, shallots, garlic, leeks and other alliaceous vegetables, fresh or chilled.	85.	1207	Other oil seeds and oleaginous fruits (i.e. Palm nuts and kernels, cotton seeds; Castor oil seeds; Sesame seeds; Mustard seeds; Safflower ( <i>Carthamus tinctorius</i> ) seeds; Melon seeds; Poppy seeds; Ajams, Mango kernel, Niger seed, Kokam) whether or not broken, of seed quality.	131.	5303	Jute fibres, raw or processed but not spun
38.	0704	Cabbages, cauliflower, kohlrabi, kale and similar edible brassicas, fresh or chilled.	86.	1209	Fruits, fruit and spores, of a kind used for sowing.	132.	5305	Coconut, coir fibre
39.	0705	Lettuce ( <i>Lactuca sativa</i> ) and chicory ( <i>Cichorium spp.</i> ), fresh or chilled.	87.	1210	Hop cones, fresh.	133.	63	Indian National Flag
40.	0706	Carrots, turnips, salad beetroot, salsify, celeriac, radishes and similar edible roots, fresh or chilled.	88.	1211	Plants and parts of plants (including seeds and fruits), of a kind used primarily in perfumery, in pharmacy or for insecticidal, fungicidal or similar purpose, fresh or chilled.	134.	6703	Human hair, dressed, thinned, bleached or otherwise worked
41.	0707	Cucumbers and gherkins, fresh or chilled.	89.	1212	Locust beans, seaweeds and other algae, sugar beet and sugar cane, fresh or chilled.	135.	6912 00 40	Earthen pot and clay lamps
42.	0708	Leguminous vegetables, shelled or unshelled, fresh or chilled.	90.	1213	Cereal straw and husks, unprepared, whether or not chopped, ground, pressed or in the form of pellets	136.	7018	Glass bangles (except those made from precious metals)
43.	0709	Other vegetables, fresh or chilled.	91.	1214	Swedes, mangolds, fodder roots, hay, lucerne (alfalfa), clover, sainfoin, forage kale, lupines, vetches and similar forage products, whether or not in the form of pellets.	137.	8201	Agricultural implements manually operated or animal driven i.e. Hand tools, such as spades, shovels, mattocks, picks, hoes, forks and rakes; axes, bill hooks and similar hewing tools; secateurs and pruners of any kind; scythes, sickles, hay knives, hedge shears, timber wedges and other tools of a kind used in agriculture, horticulture or forestry.
44.	0712	Dried vegetables, whole, cut, sliced, broken or in powder, but not further prepared.	92.	1301	Lac and Shellac	138.	8445	Amber charkha
45.	0713	Dried leguminous vegetables, shelled, whether or not skinned or split [other than put up in unit container and bearing a registered brand name]	93.	1404 90 40	Betel leaves	139.	8446	Handloom [weaving machinery]
46.	0714	Manioc, arrowroot, salsep, Jerusalem artichokes, sweet potatoes and similar roots and tubers with high starch or inulin content, fresh or chilled; sago pith.	94.	1701 or 1702	Jaggery of all types including Cane Jaggery (gur) and Palmrya Jaggery	140.	8802 60 00	Spacecraft (including satellites) and suborbital and spacecraft launch vehicles
47.	0801	Coconuts, fresh or dried, whether or not shelled or peeled	95.	1904	Puffed rice, commonly known as Muri, flattened or beaten rice, commonly known as Chira,	141.	8803	Parts of goods of heading 8801
48.	0801	Brazil nuts, fresh, whether or not shelled or peeled				142.	9021	Hearing aids

(\* Chapter/Heading/Sub-heading/Tariff Item)

Note: For conditions and other details, please refer to relevant notifications on www.cbec.gov.in

Date: 15/07/2017



## Ravi starts consultative meets

DIMAPUR, July 6: The Government of India's interlocutor for Naga Peace Talks, Ravi, has begun holding consultative meetings with various Naga civil society organisations this evening in Kohima.

Ravi arrived in the Nagaland capital today. Soon after

reaching Kohima, he called on Chief Minister, Dr Shurhozele Liezetsu, and held a meeting this afternoon. However, what transpired between the two leaders was not known. Later, Ravi started holding consultative meetings with Naga civil society organisations. - Newmai News



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At 10:00 pm

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Spider-Man: Homecoming (H-3D)

At 10:15 am, 4:00 & 7:00 pm

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**TRANSFORMERS: THE LAST KNIGHT**

Screen-2

At 10:00 am, 3:15 & 8:30 pm

**MOM**

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# Securing international border our topmost priority: Kovind

CORRESPONDENT

ITANAGAR, July 6: The National Democratic Alliance (NDA)'s Presidential candidate Ram Nath Kovind today assured that if elected he would uphold the dignity of the President of India, a post already served by several distinguished personalities like Dr Rajendra Prasad, Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and APJ Abdul Kalam, besides vowing to secure the country's international boundary.

"The President of India, being the supreme commander of all the three services, maintaining the security of country's international borders, should be the topmost priority," said Kovind without taking any name amid the ongoing military stand-off between India and China.

Arunachal Pradesh shares over 1,680 km of international boundary with three neighbouring countries, of which 1,080 km is with China.

"We have to maintain the principle of equality – equality among the States and equality among the citizens – then only we can realise the goal of all-round development of the country," he said.

Stating that country's youths have high hopes and aspirations from the government, he said, "We have to bring modern education forward. We have to build a new India."

Earlier, the NDA nominee, who accompanied by BJP national general secretary Ram Madhav, Union Ministers Narendra Singh Tomar and Kiren Rijiju, and Northeast Democratic Alliance (NEDA) convenor Dr Himanta Biswa Sharma, arrived at the Banquet Hall here in the morning. He was accorded a warm reception by the Chief Minister and the State's strategic location.

Kovind also had a separate meeting at the State Guest House here with the legislators of regional party, People's Party of Arunachal Pradesh (PPA), a constituent of NEDA, which had already assured their support to the NDA's Presidential candidate. In the 60-member House, the ruling BJP has 47

members, PPA has nine, two independents and one Congress member with one seat, Prikke-Kessang, being vacant.

In their speeches, Chief Minister Pema Khandu and MoS for Home Kiren Rijiju lauded Kovind for beginning his Northeast visit from Arunachal Pradesh – breaking the tradition of Presidential visits by normally restricting their NE tour to Guwahati only.

Khandu said that he felt honoured that Kovind had started his NE tour from the State and urged him to give more focus on NE, especially in Arunachal Pradesh, keeping in mind the State's strategic location.

Earlier, the BJP leader Ram Madhav tutored the legislators about the procedures of casting votes, asking them to avoid using personal pens while exercising their franchise. He said that the legislators should use the ECI-provided pens; otherwise their polled votes will be cancelled.

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## Manipur budget session

IMPHAL, July 6: The Budget Session of the 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly has been summoned from July 20 next.

The State Cabinet took a decision in this regard in its meeting held in the Cabinet Hall of the Chief Minister's Secretariat with Chief Minister N Biren Singh in the chair.

The Cabinet also decided to engage a consultant for the preparation of detailed project reports (DPRs) for rejuvenation of Imphal, Nambul and Kongba rivers to check flash floods.

The Cabinet observed that due to massive deforestation in the catchment areas and large scale burning of the forest areas in the hill districts for shifting cultivation, flash floods occur frequently. — Correspondent

## SHORT TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders affixing non refundable court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight and paisa twenty five only) are invited from intending Parties for supply of "Printed items & Stationeries" enclosed at Annexure-A & Annexure-B at Election Office, Kamrup Metropolitan Election District, Guwahati.

The tender will be received at the Election Office, Kamrup Metropolitan Election District, Guwahati on behalf of the concerned authority upto 2.00 PM of 20.07.2017. The tenders should be submitted in Two Bids (Technical Bid & Financial Bid) system in two separate envelopes and the envelopes should be superscribed as "Tender for supplying of Printed Items and Stationeries".

The Technical Bid of each tender should contain the following:

1. Qualification Information and supporting documents such as quantity of works executed, commitments, machinery list, item list, bank certificate, affidavit and undertaking etc.

2. Technical Bid should include the "Tender Bid" of the bidder with signature affixing court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight and twenty five paisa only) on the top.

3. Certificate of past experience, if any, having undertaken such operation in other Govt./Semi Govt. Organization.

4. Firm Registration Certificate.

5. Valid GST Registration Certificate.

6. Trade License.

The Financial Bid of each tender should contain the following:

1. Schedule of rates (rates to be quoted by the bidders as per schedule of quantities of the item).

2. Item list as prescribed in the bidding documents.

3. Tender submitted, not in conformity with the above terms & conditions and having enclosures, overwriting etc will be rejected. Further, the Election Officer reserves the right to (a) accept or reject any/all the tenders submitted by the parties, and (b) cancel the process as any time without any liability and assigning any reason thereof.

How the bids will be submitted/evaluated:

Part-I (Technical Bid) of the tender should contain technical details and commercial terms and conditions, and Part-II (Financial Bid) should indicate group-wise price as mentioned in the Technical Bid to be submitted in two separately sealed envelopes distinctly marked and both to be put inside another envelop, which should be sealed and superscribed with tender notice No. and due date. The bidders should submit bids duly signed in their own letter heads. Complete tenders should reach the Election Office of the District Election Officer on or before scheduled date and time specified above.

The technical bid will be opened first to evaluate the technical specifications of the requisite items. Thereafter the financial bids of only technically qualified bidders will be opened.

Technical Bid Evaluation: The technical bid will be evaluated in the presence of the representatives of intending bidders who will be able to clarify technical aspects of their bids, if any, required by the Technical Evaluation Team.

**Opening of Financial Bid:** The Financial Bids of the bidders qualifying the technical bid will only be opened, the date of which will be intimated to the short listed bidders accordingly.

The rest of the bids will be rejected.

## ADVERTISEMENT

No.BNE-7724-17/07/17. In Pursuit of Govt. Letter ELE. 97/200-9/PT/TG-Dated 06-06-17. Applications are invited in Standard Form as prescribed in Part-IV from the citizens of India as defined in Articles 6 to 8 of the Constitution of India for filling up of the following posts sanctioned by Government vide letter No. ELE.321/2014/20 Dated 20.03.2015 in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Election Branch, Biswanath & Office of the Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil), Election Branch, Gohpur in the Pay Scale & Grade Pay with other allowances, as admissible under Rule as follows below.

Sl. No. Name of Posts Place of Posting Reservation Category Scale of Pay

1. Data Entry Operator-4(4) nos. 2 (for Biswanath Election District & 2 (for Gohpur Election District)

UR-4 Pay Band- 2 (5200-2000+ G.P.Rs. 2400 pm.

2. Age limit not lower than 18 years and exceeding 38 years as on 01/01/2017. Relaxation of age is admissible as per existing Rules.

3. Education Qualification: Graduate in any stream with minimum 60% marks in aggregate with an UGC/AICTE approved/recognized Diploma in Computer Science/Computer Engineering / Electronics / Telecommunications / Engineering / Information Technology.

a. Desirable Conditions: Candidate must have the typing speed of not less than 8000 key depressions per hour. A certificate of typing/Skill Test is needed.

b. Other Requirements: Typing knowledge in languages like Assamese Bengali / Devangari would be preferable.

c. Experience: Minimum 2 years of experience in data entry operator in needed.

3. Candidates already in Government service should apply through proper Channel.

4. Mandatory particulars to be enclosed with the application are HSLC Admit Card, Pass Certificate & Mark Sheets of 10th & Graduation, PRC, caste Certificate, Employment Exchange Registration Card, 4 (Four) copies of birth passbook size photograph from self with name of applicant and address of the applicant written on the rear side and 1 (one) of which have to be pasted on appropriate opposition of the application. An envelope affixing postal stamp of Rs. 10.00 and also writing of applicant's full address shall be submitted.

5. The last date of submission of application is fixed on 21/07/2017. Incomplete and incorrect application will be rejected.

6. Candidate apply for the post of Data Entry Operator will have to appear in a written test of 100 marks comprising General Knowledge, Reasoning, English, Hindi & Assamese.





**NOTICE INVITING RE-TENDER**

Sealed tender (re-tender) affixing court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25/- (Rupees eight and twenty five paise only) are invited from intending parties/bidders for supply of Dietary and Non-Dietary articles in the Home for Destitute Women and Helpless Persons, Bamunigaon Department of Social Welfare, Govt. of Assam. The bid documents will be available to be collected in a bids (Technical & Financial bid system) in a separate sealed envelope. The tender documents may be collected from office of the Supdt. Home for Destitute Women and Helpless Persons, Bamunigaon during office hour in all working days up to 5 p.m till 17th July 2017. The tender will be received up to 1 p.m on 19th July 2017 and will be opened on the same day at 1.30 P.M. In case of tie, the bid will remain closed/opened for any discrepancies on tender responses/queries etc. The award will be received/opened in the next working days. Details term and condition may be seen in the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintendent  
Home for the Destitute Women and Helpless  
Persons, Bamunigaon

No CE/PMSY/122/2015-16/31 Date: 5/7/2017

PRADESH MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOGANA

(PMSY), 2016-17, Batch-1

For more information

The Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam on behalf of Governor of Assam invites the item rates in electronic tendering system for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, 2016-17, Batch-1 in the districts of Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Sivasagar and Tinsukia for 29 number of packages with estimated cost totaling to Rs 69.37 Crore including their maintenance for five years, from the eligible contractors registered with the concerned State Government.

(Non-registered bidder may submit bids; however, if the successful bidder must register in appropriate class with appropriate authority before signing the contract)

Date of release of invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 12/7/2017, 1600 hours Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and should be submitted online in <http://pmgsyndersassam.gov.in>. The bidder would be required to log on to the website and follow the instructions for submission of the bid. It is also necessary to have a valid digital Signature Certificate (DSG) from the PWD authorized Certifying Authorities. The bidders are required to submit a original Demand Draft towards the cost of bid document and a original bid security is required in form of a original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (e) (ii) of Tenders with Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati - 781003 on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the bid, either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive.

Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 19/07/2017, 1600 hours. For further details please log on to <http://pmgsyndersassam.gov.in>

Sd/- Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam

Chandmari, Guwahati - 781003

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT, ASSAM  
RAJ BHAVAN : GUWAHATI-781001.**

**Notice**

In continuation of this Secretariat earlier Notice as published in the daily Newspapers namely The Assam Tribune, "The Sentinel" & The Asomita Pratidin dtd. 9th November 2016, this is for information of all concerned that due to some communication lapses that occurred in the computer practical tests, which were held on 28.12.2015 & 29.12.2015 respectively in the 0/0 the Assam Electronics Development Corporation Ltd, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati, for the recruitment of Junior Administrative Assistants and Computer Operators in the Governor's Secretariat, Assam, and after obtaining legal views on the matter from the Judicial Department, Govt of Assam the authority concerned of Governor's Secretariat has taken a decision that a fresh computer practical test will be conducted on 25th July 2017 in the Office Premises of the Assam Electronics Development Corporation Ltd Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-21 for those candidates who could not appear in the computer practical test held earlier, for whatever reasons it may be. The Schedule of the test is as under:

For Junior Administrative Assistant : On 25/07/2017 from 11.30 A.M. to 12:20 P.M.  
For Computer Operator : On 25/07/2017 from: 2:00 P.M. to 2.40 PM

Candidates are requested to report to the centre before 30 minutes of the actual time of test.

In this regard, the concerned candidates are hereby requested to visit the Govt. of Assam website [www.assam.gov.in](http://www.assam.gov.in) for downloading and printing of admit card for computer practical test. Other necessary communication will also be sent to the candidates' email addresses.

Sd/-  
Joint Secretary to the Governor of Assam.  
Janasanyog/4816/17

**Admission in to ITI's of Assam for the session  
August 2017**

Online application for Admission into the Govt. ITI's of Assam for NCVT / CoE / trades, SCVT trades, SCVT under IMC (SCVT trades run by IMC in some ITI's on payment of higher fees by candidates) under Craftsmen Training scheme for the session commencing from August' 2017 are invited from permanent residents of Assam.

The passed out candidates for NCVT trades will be issued NCVT certificates & from SCVT trades will be issued SCVT certificates.

The age of the candidates for admission must not be below 14 years as on 1st August' 2017.

To participate in the e-counselling the candidates shall fill all his particulars on the counseling website [www.itlassam.nic.in](http://www.itlassam.nic.in).

The date of online registration is w.e.f. 07th July 2017 to 17th July, 2017.

Candidates must get their registration confirmed by getting their documents verified at their nearest Govt. ITI within 1st July' 2017. They are advised to bring one copy of their registration details printed out from the portal alongwith their original copy of documents.

Candidates should note that after verification they may fill their choices of trades and ITI's according to their preference to enable them to participate in the allotment process. Allotted candidates should take admission in their allotted seats otherwise their candidature will be treated as cancelled.

For further details candidates may go through the information given in the website ([www.itlassam.nic.in](http://www.itlassam.nic.in)) and may also visit their nearest Govt. ITI & Employment Exchange.

Sd/- Director,  
Employment and Craftsman Training,  
Assam, Rehbari, Guwahati-8.  
Janasanyog/4812/17

## 'No compromise will be made in equipping paramilitary forces'

NEW DELHI, July 6: Emphasising the need for identifying new technologies and procurement of required security equipment along with necessary training, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday that no compromise will be made in equipping parliamentary forces.

The Minister was speaking as he chaired a meeting to take stock of the status of procurement of essential and critical equipment required by the forces for internal security operations and border security.



"No compromise will be made in adequately equipping

challenges. Quick and prompt action should be taken by the forces and concerned ministry officials," he said.

He also emphasised the need for identifying new technologies and procurement of required security equipment along with necessary basis.

Minister of State for Home Affairs Hansraj Gangaram Ahir, Union Home Secretary Rajiv Mehrishi, the Directors General of the Central Armed Police Forces and the senior ministry officials were also present.

Singh also reviewed the procurement process and directed officials concerned to take suitable steps to expedite the process, cut delays and ensure that essential equipment is procured in time basis.

He also directed the ministry to explore options of further delegation of powers of the forces and to simplify various steps involved in the process of procurement.

In the meeting, it was also decided that reputed academic and professional institutions such as Indian Institute of Technology and National Institute of Public Finance and Policy

should be involved to assist in building capacity of all concerned in the ministry and the forces in framing proper request for proposals (RFPs) for timely procurement. — IANS

### CORRIGENDUM

Please read the name as "Panitema Satgaon Anchalk High School" instead of Panitema Satgaon High School" in the advertisement (Sl. No.-15) regarding for filling up the vacant post of Hindi Teacher (Reserved for SC) already published on 21st June'2017 at Daily News Paper "Niyamika Barta" and Assam Tribune on 22nd June 2017.

The submission of applications date is extended up to 12-07-2017.

Sd/-  
Inspector of Schools, K.D.C.,  
Amingaon, Guwahati-31.  
Janasanyog/4810/17

### NOTICE FOR AWARD OF POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDENTS OF TEA & EX-TEA GARDEN TRIBES FOR THE YEAR, 2017-18

Applications in prescribed forms obtainable from Project Director, ITDP/Sub-Divisional Welfare Officers are invited from the students belonging to Tea & Ex-Tea Garden Tribes for award of "Post-Matric Scholarship" (Higher Secondary/BA/B.Com/B.Sc/Polytechnic and ITI etc.) for the year 2017-18. Filled in forms are to be submitted to the Heads of the Institutions and the Heads of the Institutions in turn will submit the same to the Project Director, ITDP/Deputy Commissioners in hill districts/Sub-Divisional Welfare Officers of respective districts/Sub-Divisions to reach the undersigned by 31.08.2017.

Photostated copy of application form will also be accepted.

Sd/- Director,  
Welfare of Tea & Ex-Tea Garden Tribes, Assam, Guwahati-32.

### NOTICE FOR AWARD OF SCHOLARSHIP FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HIGHER STUDIES FOR THE YEAR 2017-18 (FOR THE STUDENTS OF TEA & EX-TEA GARDEN TRIBES)

Applications in prescribed forms obtainable from Sub-Divisional Welfare Officers are hereby invited from the students belonging to Tea & Ex-Tea Garden Tribes for award of scholarship for Financial Assistance for Higher Studies for the year 2017-18.

Applications are invited from economical weaker section of students belonging to Tea & Ex-Tea Garden Tribes pursuing higher studies in the following disciplines or similar other specialized courses above or equivalent thereto, for award of financial assistance.

The financial assistance will be paid through e-transfer, all applicants must apply with details of Bank Account No. with IFSC Code.

#### Particulars of course of studies:

Applicants may apply as per the following categories:

1. Group - A : MBBS, BDS, MAMS, BAMS, BVSc, MVSc, IIT, BE, B.Tech, M.Tech including Architecture and equivalent
2. Group - B : MBA/BBA, M.Sc (Agril), B.Sc (Agril), B.Sc (Bio-Tech), and equivalent
3. Group - C : Post-graduate courses (Like — MA, M.Sc, M.Com, MSW, LLM and equivalent) Post Graduate Research Work.

Filled in forms are to be submitted to the respective Sub-Divisional Welfare Officers/Deputy Commissioner/SDO (C) through the heads of the respective institutions where the applicant is studying latest by 31-08-2017.

Sd/- Director,  
Welfare of Tea & Ex-Tea Garden Tribes, Assam, Guwahati-32.

### NOTICE FOR AWARD OF ANM/GNM/B.SC AND M.SC. NURSING SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDENTS OF TEA & EX-TEA GARDEN TRIBES FOR THE YEAR, 2017-18

Applications in prescribed forms obtainable from Sub-Divisional Welfare Officers are invited from the students belonging to Tea & Ex-Tea Garden Tribes for award of "ANM/GNM/B.Sc. and M.Sc. Nursing Scholarship" for the year 2017-18. Filled in forms are to be submitted to the Heads of the Institutions and the Heads of the Institutions in turn will submit the same to the respective Sub-Divisional Welfare Officers/Deputy Commissioner/SDO (C) in respect of Diphu, Hamren and Bokajan Sub-Divisions to reach the undersigned by 31-08-2017.

Photostated copy of application form will also be accepted.

Sd/- Director,  
Welfare of Tea & Ex-Tea Garden Tribes, Assam, Guwahati-32.

### NOTICE FOR AWARD OF PRE-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDENTS OF TEA & EX-TEA GARDEN TRIBES FOR THE YEAR, 2017-18

Applications in prescribed forms obtainable from Heads of the respective institutions are hereby invited from the students of Class —IX and X belonging to Tea & Ex-Tea Garden Tribes for award of Pre-Matric Scholarship for the year 2017-18. Filled in forms are to be submitted to the Heads of the Institutions and the Heads of the Institutions in turn will submit the same to the respective Sub-Divisional Welfare Officers/Deputy Commissioner/SDO (C) in respect of Diphu, Hamren and Bokajan Sub-Divisions to reach the undersigned by 31-08-2017.

Photostated copy of application form will also be accepted.

Sd/- Director,  
Welfare of Tea & Ex-Tea Garden Tribes, Assam, Guwahati-32.  
Janasanyog/4823/17

## Graft in Assam Rifles HC junks plea for independent probe

"under instruction" of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

It noted that the petitioner, an ex-serviceman who claimed to be the Vice-President of Assam Rifles Ex-Serviceman Welfare Association, has placed nothing on record to show there was any infirmity in the action taken or the directions issued by the MHA.

The petitioner, Rampat Singh, had sought quashing of the departmental inquiry ordered by the Director General of the Assam Rifles and appointment of an independent probe agency, saying that the sting operation had alleged there was active involvement of the sen-

ior officer.

The sting operation was carried out and published by the media house in 2014 and based on it, a departmental inquiry was initiated by the Vigilance Wing of the Assam Rifles.

The Centre, during the proceedings, had opposed the plea saying the petition was a proxy litigation initiated at the behest of a blacklisted ex-contractor of the paramilitary force or those indicted by the inquiry.

Assam Rifles had told the court that the progress in the inquiry was regularly communicated to the MHA and the ministry was actively involved in all the decisions tak-

en by the force.

The force had also claimed that the court of inquiry held by the MHA had established certain evidence against certain persons involved and accordingly, disciplinary action was directed against all the Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs) and four Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs).

"Administrative action against one officer and one other rank was also directed," Assam Rifles had told the court.

Accepting the contentions of the government and the paramilitary force, the court dismissed the plea saying it lacked merit. — PTI

## Indefinite shutdown to continue in Darjeeling, says GJM



GJM supporters taking out a rally demanding separate Gorkhaland, at Mangpoor near Darjeeling on Thursday. — UNI

KOLKATA, July 6: The indefinite shutdown in north Bengal hills to press for a separate Gorkhaland state will continue, the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) announced on Thursday, accusing the administration of Jalpaiguri and Siliguri of blocking supplies of essential items to Darjeeling and Sikkim.

This is the third all-party political meeting in 22 days held in the Darjeeling hills over its political agitation.

The meeting also marked the maiden gathering of the newly-formed GJM-chaired Gorkhaland Movement Coordi-

nation Committee (GMCC).

The GJM declared the agitation will continue in Darjeeling and Terai regions with the cooperation of people from all communities.

He claimed that "the district authorities in Siliguri and Jalpaiguri are blocking passage of essential items to Darjeeling and Sikkim".

This is the third all-party

political meeting in 22 days held in the Darjeeling hills over its political agitation.

The meeting also marked the maiden gathering of the newly-formed GJM-chaired Gorkhaland Movement Coordi-

nation Committee (GMCC).

Its members were injured in police firing. Tamang said legal cell, human rights and data research cell under the GMCC would be formed.

"The cells are responsible for gathering evidence and data related to human rights violations and to file cases against Bengal government and administration," he said.

The parties also requested all chairpersons and members of the development boards formed for various hill districts to resign. — IANS

## Life limping back to normalcy in Bengal's violence-hit pockets

KOLKATA, July 6: Life in the communal violence-hit areas of West Bengal's north 24 Parganas district was on Thursdays limping back to normalcy after remaining tense for the last three days.

In Baduria, Baritala and Tetulia — the worst affected areas in Basirhat sub-division, some roadside shops opened and public transport commenced playing.

The roads were mostly deserted and the few locals who came out on the road said they

wanted peace to be restored in the affected areas.

"We all want peace to be restored. People of all communities have been staying together for ages here. We want things to be that way," a pedestrian said while talking to a news channel.

"No fresh incidents of violence have been reported from the region. There are enough police personnel and security forces personnel to avert any untoward situation," an officer from the Baduria police sta-

tion told IANS.

Armed paramilitary personnel were seen marching on the streets while a large number of state police personnel kept vigil at check posts and pickets in the violence-stricken pockets.

Trains services on the Sealdah-Burhat line also normalized after being partially disrupted for the past two days.

"Today, train services on that line are normal till now. No trains have been cancelled so far," Ravi Mahapatra, Chief

Public Relations Officer of Eastern Railway, told IANS.

However, internet and Wi-Fi services continued to be suspended in the affected areas.

Cashes broke out after a Facebook post by a local youth went viral earlier this week.

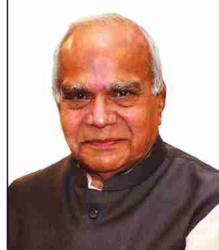
Though the youth was arrested and the post deleted, trouble broke out and spread to several areas as trees were felled to put up road blockades, vehicles, including those of the police, torched and houses and shops damaged. — IANS



অসম চৰকাৰ  
পৰিৱেশ আৰু বন বিভাগ

## ৬৮ তম পন মাহাত্ম্য, ২০১৭

বৃক্ষৰোপণ আৰু বৃহত্তর গুৱাহাটী সেউজীকৰণ পদক্ষেপৰ  
আনুষ্ঠানিক শুভ আৰম্ভণি



৭ জুলাই, ২০১৭, সময় দুপৰীয়া ১২ বজা, খাৰঘূলি, গুৱাহাটী

### বৃহত্তর গুৱাহাটী সেউজীকৰণ পদক্ষেপ শুভ আৰম্ভণি

মহাআন্ত্র গান্ধী পথ, খাৰঘূলি

উদ্বোধক

শ্রীযুত বনোৱাৰীলাল পুৰোহিত  
মাননীয় বাজ্যপাল, অসম

সেউজ গুৱাহাটী আমাৰ কাম্য,  
সেউজ অসম আমাৰ লক্ষ্য

বৃক্ষৰোপণত অংশ গ্ৰহণ কৰক,  
মহৎ কাৰ্য্য অংশীদাৰ হওঁক।



উত্তৰ-পূৰ্ব দ্বৰাৰম্ভ গুৱাহাটী  
মহানগৰীখনক বৃক্ষৰোপণেৰে সেউজী  
কৰো আইক।

গ্ৰহণ কৰিব লগীয়া বিভিন্ন ব্যৱহাৰলী সমূহ

- সংৰক্ষিত বনাঞ্চল, পাহাৰীয়া অঞ্চলত বৃক্ষৰোপণ
- পথৰ দার্তি বৃক্ষৰোপণ
- বিভিন্ন শিক্ষানুষ্ঠান সমূহৰ চৌহদত বৃক্ষৰোপণ
- চৰকাৰী আৰু চেৰকাৰী কাৰ্যালয় সমূহৰ  
চৌহদত বৃক্ষৰোপণ
- বাণিজগত আৰু সামাজিক অনুষ্ঠান, প্ৰতিষ্ঠান সমূহত  
বৃক্ষৰোপণ

আপোনাৰ দিহা পৰামৰ্শ আৰু সহায়  
সহযোগিতা আন্তৰিকতাৰে কামনা  
কৰা হ'ল।

● আপুনিৰ অংশীদাৰ হওঁক বৃক্ষৰোপণৰ পৰিত্র কাৰ্য্যসূচীত।

● এটিকৈ হলেওঁ গচ্ছপুলি ৰোৱক,  
অসমখন সেউজ কৰাত অৰিহণা  
আগবঢ়াওক।

● আপুনি ৰোপণ কৰা গচ্ছপুলিটোৰ  
প্ৰতিপালনৰ ওপৰতো দৃষ্টি  
ৰাখক। সঠিক প্ৰতিপালনেহে  
নিশ্চিত কৰিব গচ্ছপুলিটো বাঢ়ি গৈ  
বৃক্ষ হোৱাৰ।



আপোনাৰ অকণমান সহযোগে অসমী আইৰ  
বুকু সেউজ আৰু প্ৰদূষণমুক্ত কৰি  
ৰাখাত সহায় কৰিব।

বিনামূলীয়াকৈ গচ্ছপুলি পাবৰ বাবে ওচৰৰ বনাঞ্চলিক বিষয়াৰ  
কাৰ্যালয় নতুবা বন সংমণ্ডল বিষয়াৰ কাৰ্যালয়ত  
যোগাযোগ কৰক।

**জৰুতৰে | my  
GOV**  
মেৰি সরকাৰ

## 'Why can't Guv's office come under RTI ambit?'

NEW DELHI, July 6: Why can't the office of high constitutional functionaries like Governor come under the ambit of the Right to Information (RTI) Act, the Supreme Court asked today.

A bench of Justices Arun Mishra and Amitava Roy raised the question during the hearing of a plea filed by the Centre challenging a 2011 order of Bombay High Court directing the disclosure of Governor's report given to the President about the political situation in Goa in 2007.

"Why cannot the office of high constitutional authorities like Governor be brought under the ambit of RTI? There should not be anything to hide," the bench remarked.

Solicitor General Ranjit Kumar appearing for Centre said a similar petition was pending before the apex court which should also be tagged along with the current petition.

He said a petition relating to disclosure of assets by Chief Justice of India has been referred to a constitution bench and the petition should also be tagged along with it.

To this, the bench said, even Chief Justice should not have any reason to keep the information under the wraps regarding his assets.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for an intervenor, said the Governor's report also cannot be kept under wraps and it should be brought under the ambit of the RTI Act.

He said reports of governor should be disclosed as directed by the Panaji bench of Bom bay High Court.

The bench said that for tagging the earlier petition with

### Issue of farmers suicides can't be dealt with overnight: SC

NEW DELHI, July 6: The issue of rising farmers' suicide cannot be dealt with "overnight," the Supreme Court said on Thursday while agreeing with the government's request for a stay to review effective results of its pro-farmer schemes like Fasal Bima Yojana.

"We are of the view that the issue of farmers' suicide cannot be dealt with overnight. It is justified on the part of the government to seek time for effective results," a bench of Chief Justice J S Khehar and Justice DY Chandrachud said. — PTI

the current petition, the petitioner will have to mention the matter before the Chief Justice.

It posted the matter for further hearing in the third week of August.

The Panaji bench of Bombay High Court had extended the ambit of the RTI Act when it had ruled that a Governor's report to the Centre about the political situation in the state should be disclosed.

The High Court had refused to accept the argument that the President and the Governors were the heads of the country and the state respectively and were not amenable to directions from any other authority like the state information commission. — PTI

## Sunanda Pushkar's death Swamy moves HC for court-monitored probe



Directorate, RAW, Delhi Police and headed by CBI", or a time-bound CBI probe.

"It's an extreme example of the slow motion of the criminal justice process and the extent to which it can be subverted by the rich and influential. It upholds the apparent apathy on the part of all those concerned with the administration of criminal justice," said the lawyer.

The PIL has been filed against Delhi Police, the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Central Bureau of Investigation.

The PIL said that even three years after Pushkar's death, no charge-sheet has been filed and no arrests have been made.

"The fact that influential political personalities and their henchmen are involved in this case, leading to attempts to protect them, and the matter has faced a lot of unnecessary delay already."

The PIL sought a court-monitored investigation by constituting a "multi-disciplinary SIT consisting of Intelligence Bureau, Enforcement

PSB, 52, was found dead under mysterious circumstances in a luxurious Delhi hotel on January 17, 2014.

Swamy sought a time-bound probe in the case, saying "very influential people are involved in the case, leading to attempts to protect them, and the matter has faced a lot of unnecessary delay already".

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PSB, 52, was found dead under mysterious circumstances in a luxurious Delhi hotel on January 17, 2014.

Large crowds donning traditional dresses began to assemble since morning at the Shriwati Phodrang complex on the city's outskirts for the birth-day celebrations.

"Special prayer sessions were held for the long life of His Holiness," a Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) spokesperson told IANS.

The Dalai Lama, revered by the Tibetans as a "living god", attended the prayers and blessed the gathering.

Tibetan Prime Minister Lobsang Sangay also attended the

S. No.	District	Package No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lakh)		Total Cost (Rs in lakhs)	Period of completion (in months)
				Construction	Maintenance		
67	Barpeta	AS-01-242	Agarjan to Ag-manda Madhyapara	150-92	13.39	164.31	12
68	Barpeta	AS-01-247	to New E & B Bund	43.72	3.47	47.19	12
69	Barpeta	AS-01-258	Mourpam to Bhairapam Chariali	92.32	8.41	100.73	12
70	Barpeta	AS-01-260	Paharpur to Bamun Dongra	158.40	12.72	171.12	12
71	Barpeta	AS-01-281	Manda GP Office to 2 No Bordori	118.48	10.30	129.78	12
72	Barpeta	AS-01-286	Kimati Moinbari to Matirupor Manas	82.90	7.74	90.64	12
73	Barpeta	AS-01-302	parghat				
74	Barpeta	AS-01-304	Kuipen Barhbar Road to DK Road	120.21	14.52	134.73	12
75	Barpeta	AS-01-305	Tok to Khandrapur	70.59	8.99	79.58	12
76	Barpeta	AS-01-306	Tok to N 7 Kawaimari Block	67.63	8.08	75.71	12
77	Barpeta	AS-01-307	BB Road to Keotpara	96.80	12.47	109.27	12
78	Barpeta	AS-01-309	Patmanara RCC Bridge to Bowkarmen	38.29	4.38	42.67	12
79	Barpeta	AS-01-310	BB Road to Paninmaria	72.99	9.32	82.31	12
80	Barpeta	AS-01-311	Naligan to Baktarhoda Bazar	73.31	9.77	83.08	12
81	Barpeta	AS-01-321	Pithat to Bathashaha Bazar	121.01	14.53	135.54	12
82	Barpeta	AS-01-325	Puthman to Danupan	216.20	21.42	237.62	12
83	Barpeta	AS-01-326	Sanekura to Sonfily	164.95	18.89	183.84	12
84	Barpeta	AS-01-328	Sankura to Cheki	194.10	18.38	212.48	12
85	Barpeta	AS-01-329	Malpara Chowk to Railway Gate	87.74	9.03	96.77	12
86	Barpeta	AS-01-331	Chauabati to Palla River	108.38	9.61	117.99	12
87	Barpeta	AS-01-332	Chariali to 4 No Bordori	62.16	4.66	66.82	12
88	Barpeta	AS-01-333	Jadupur High School to Solimpur	78.32	6.61	84.93	12
89	Barpeta	AS-01-334	MPNP Road				
90	Baska	AS-24-102	Patthachari Bazar to Madhupali via	133.11	11.64	144.75	12
91	Baska	AS-24-125	Kakhar ME Madrasa				
92	Baska	AS-24-136	Tarakandi (Joybari Bazar) to	147.89	12.80	160.69	12
93	Baska	AS-24-137	Sikatana Gaon (Joybari Gaon)				
94	Baska	AS-24-138	Naokata to Patharhigat (T06 to	122.69	14.08	136.77	12
95	Baska	AS-24-139	Pukhuri Road via	104.79	13.84	119.63	12
96	Baska	AS-24-145	Pukhuri to Fulguri via	136.18	16.79	154.97	12
97	Baska	AS-24-146	Barakalape (T06) to Sarubichha	87.21	10.72	97.93	12
98	Baska	AS-24-147	Bangarama to Dhekhabhanga	288.53	29.36	317.89	18
99	Baska	AS-24-153	Chama to Pachim Kathalmah	87.37	10.99	98.36	12
100	Karimganj	AS-13-108	Kurdungan to Silbari Road	152.86	19.14	172.00	12
101	Karimganj	AS-13-148	Kokolimukh to Paschim Daffola via	182.12	16.34	198.46	12
102	Karimganj	AS-13-151	Adimalia				
103	Karimganj	AS-13-153	Chitika to Kukhola Road	238.32	21.22	259.54	12
104	Karimganj	AS-13-154	Chitika to Kukhola Road	282.85	22.03	304.88	12
105	Karimganj	AS-13-155	Chitika to Kukhola Road	255.30	20.00	275.30	12
106	Karimganj	AS-13-157	Chitika to Chongru (CR) Road to	349.59	28.37	377.96	18
107	Karimganj	AS-13-158	Chitika to Teraherra				
108	Karimganj	AS-13-160	Anjupur - Zamuan NEC Road to	318.92	21.69	340.61	12
109	Karimganj	AS-13-162	Chitika to Kukhola Road to	331.85	25.06	356.91	18
110	Karimganj	AS-13-163	Jungli Block				
111	Karimganj	AS-13-164	Patahkar Kazbari Road to	283.15	24.44	307.59	18
112	Karimganj	AS-13-165	Dihualahit Kitte Madhurabondh	212.62	16.30	228.22	12
113	Karimganj	AS-13-166	Fardikuni				
114	Karimganj	AS-13-167	A Road from Kanbaraz to East	252.24	18.23	270.47	12
115	Karimganj	AS-13-168	Chitika to Kukhola PWD Road	512.07	41.01	553.08	18
116	Karimganj	AS-13-169	Chitika to Kukhola PWD Road	199.49	16.32	215.81	12
117	Karimganj	AS-13-170	Jungli Block	318.22	26.24	344.46	18
118	Karimganj	AS-13-171	T02 to Burungura Cherragaon	241.15	19.73	260.88	12
119	Karimganj	AS-13-172	T02 to Saruchalha	265.69	25.61	291.30	18
120	Karimganj	AS-13-173	T03 to Adiyara Nar JV	366.22	25.59	391.81	18
121	Karimganj	AS-13-174	T03 to Chandanpur	399.95	13.73	413.68	12
122	Karimganj	AS-13-175	T03 to Dakshin Kharagpooj TE	331.91	27.49	359.40	18
123	Karimganj	AS-13-176	Chitika to Dakshin Kharagpooj TE	172.10	16.41	188.51	12
124	Karimganj	AS-13-177	Chitika to Kukhola - Rongpur (CR) Road to	220.06	16.99	237.05	12
125	Karimganj	AS-13-191	LK Road to Jacobnagar F.V.	258.11	17.34	275.45	12
126	Karimganj	AS-13-194	T02 to Barchara	305.57	26.51	330.08	18
127	Karimganj	AS-13-201	T02 to Borhol Pt XI	204.24	19.02	223.26	12
128	Darrang	AS-16-73	Korojani to Althenhar	163.99	12.70	186.69	12
129	Darrang	AS-16-74	Arinam No 1 to Arinam No 1	230.58	22.70	253.28	12
130	Darrang	AS-16-75	Molapara No 2 to Banajor No 12	127.08	12.45	139.53	12
131	Darrang	AS-16-81	Garapani Kharaji to NH52	174.19	18.45	192.64	12
132	Darrang	AS-16-83	Dharanipuri to Shyampr No 4	261.86	20.37	282.23	12
133	Darrang	AS-16-84	Suktiguri No 2 to Dumunichowki	318.19	10.90	329.09	18
134	Darrang	AS-16-85	Kharanpa No 1 to Dumunichowki	44.89	4.35	49.24	12
135	Darrang	AS-16-86	Purbu Marampa				
136	Darrang	AS-16-88	Heparama to Tenglia Mahalia pars	222.82	27.18	250.00	18
137	Darrang	AS-16-89	Kachomari Chapori	347.94	11.81	359.75	18
138	Darrang	AS-16-101	Khetcharer No 2 to Arinam No 1	112.68	10.30	122.98	12
139	Darrang	AS-16-102	Bagherbari to Kachomari Chapori	242.69	20.02	262.71	12
140	Darrang	AS-16-105	Habi				
141	Darrang	AS-16-106	Simalguri to Deorigaon	138.80	14.38	153.18	12
142	Darrang	AS-16-108	Haribari to Mizagon No 1	177.19	7.91	185.10	12
143	Darrang	AS-16-112	NH 7 to Nagagan	191.06	17.83	208.99	12
144	Darrang	AS-26-106	Bengon to Pusindia Bazar	161.00	15.42	176.42	12
145	Darrang	AS-26-108	Pakbari to NH-52 (Track 33)	194.45	5.88	200.33	12
146	Darrang	AS-26-78	Khoka Basta to Kathalgar	164.00	18.41	182.41	12
147	Darrang	AS-26-79	Majagona to Bhrainpur	98.18	9.89	108.07	12
148	Darrang	AS-26-81	Majagona No 1 to Bandarguri No 2	189.90	19.47	209.37	12
149	Dhubri	AS-05-104	Santingar				
150	Dhubri	AS-05-109	T02 to Sujayatha II	154.72	16.19	170.91	12
151	Dhubri	AB-05-119	T02 to Gopigona I	134.77	13.65	148.42	12
152	Dhubri	AS-05-120	T02 to Lalapara	116.44	12.12	128.56	12
153	Dhubri	AS-05-121	T02 to Janduar II	44.41	4.86	49.27	18
154	Dhubri	AS-07-144	Ambari to Kashbari	110.01	13.12	123.13	12
155	Dhubri	AS-07-160	Jharbari to Kadamtola	188.41	15.26	203.67	12
156	Dhubri	AS-07-161	Ambari to Kashbari	188.41	15.26	203.67	12
157	Dhubri	AS-07-162	Jharbari to Kadamtola	188.41	15.26	203.67	12
158	Golaghat	AS-08-302	T02 to Tenghola No 1	172.88	20.37	193.25	12
159	Golaghat	AS-08-305	T11 to Singimari No 2	160.78	14.55	175.33	12
160	Golaghat	AS-08-307	T11 to Sarusawari	211.04	20.37	231.41	12
161	Jorhat	AS-10-137	T02 to Ghobr Chuk	278.07	29.29	307.36	18
162	Jorhat	AS-10-163	Jorhat Chuk to Kathori	77.09	9.51	86.60	12

CONT. ON PAGE- 16

## Huge floods sweep southern Japan, two dead, 18 missing

ASAKURA, July 6: At least two people have been killed and 18 others are missing in huge floods that are surging through southern Japan, with authorities warning hundreds of thousands of people to flee.

Unprecedented torrential rain has caused rivers to burst their banks, sweeping away roads and houses, and destroying schools. Thousands of soldiers and other rescue workers were scrambling Thursday to reach people cut off by torrents of swirling water or threatened by landslides, as fore-

lesser warnings remained in place. Japan is deploying 7,500 police, rescue personnel and troops in affected areas of Kyushu, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said.

"There is a lot of information about people who are unaccounted for," he told a press conference, declining to confirm the number of people missing.

Those included a child reportedly carried off by a fast-flowing river and a couple who had not been seen since their home was swept away.

A man was found dead in the city of Asakura in Fukuoka prefecture, public broadcaster NHK and Jiji Press reported, citing police sources.

NHK and Jiji also reported that a man died in a landslide in Hita, in Oita prefecture, but an official there could not immediately confirm it.

Local officials said in total they knew of 18 people who were missing in Fukuoka and Oita. Television footage showed rolling waves from swollen rivers hitting residential areas, tearing up roads and inundating farmland. Asakura was among the hardest hit with foot-age showing floodwaters surging through the streets.

Ryoichi Nishioka, who grows flowers in the city, said he tried to save them from damage and fast rising waters the night before. "I tried to protect them by covering them up but couldn't make it," he told AFP. "Then the swirling water flooded this area and swept away the greenhouses."

Nishioka, 67, also described helping a man who clung to an electric pole as muddy waters rampaged through the area.

"We had a blackout, so I used a flashlight from the second floor and put light for him," he said. "I was calling out to encourage him for three hours from 8pm to midnight." - AFP

**Thousands of soldiers and other rescuer workers were scrambling to reach people cut off by torrents of swirling water or threatened by landslides**

casters warned of worse to come. "We are in an extremely serious situation," Deputy Prime Minister Taro Aso said, warning of the danger of collapsing hillsides and adding "many people are still missing".

More than 50 centimetres (20 inches) of rain deluged parts of Kyushu, the southernmost of Japan's four main islands, over 12 hours on Wednesday, the meteorological agency said.

Downpours will likely continue through Friday, the agency said as the region grapples with the aftermath of a typhoon that raked the country this week. Authorities listed "special" heavy rain warnings for the hardest hit prefectures of Fukuoka and Oita, although



Houses damaged by a swollen river after heavy rain hit the area, are seen in Asakura, Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan in this photo taken by Kyodo on Thursday. - UNI

## Bangladesh Opposition activists held in secret detention: HRW

DHAKA, July 6: Bangladesh security agencies have secretly detained scores of Opposition activists many of whom have later been killed, an international rights group said today.

Amid heightened political tensions, the Human Rights Watch report was released only days after a high profile government critic briefly disappeared.

HRW said Bangladeshi authorities have detained hundreds of people in secret locations since 2013, including at least 90 last year.

The New York-based group said it has documented 21 cases of detainees who were later killed, and nine others whose whereabouts are unknown.

"Bangladeshi security forces appear to have a free hand in detaining people, deciding on their guilt or innocence, and determining their punishment, including whether they have the right to be alive," Brad Adams, HRW's Asia director said.

"The disappearances are well-documented and reported, yet the govern-

ment persists in this abhorrent practice with no regard for the rule of law," he said. Among those missing is Sajedul Islam Suman, 37, a Dhaka neighbourhood chief of the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP).

Sumon's sister Sanjida Islam said Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) officers detained her brother and five other BNP activists on December 4, 2013. This was one month before a controversial 2014 general election which the BNP boycotted.

"Some 20 construction workers who were on the site told us RAB officers picked them up and led them away on a RAB van. They were never returned," Islam told AFP.

"For the last three years and eight months we've knocked on doors, gone to every agency's office and met the home minister to know my brother's whereabouts," she said.

The RAB and police have denied involvement in the disappearance.

Political tensions are growing again as

a national election is widely expected next year. And mothers of 22 of the missing activists have set up a group, Moyer's Daak (Mother's Call), to seek government answers on the cases.

Islam said the family was hopeful her brother, a father of two, would be found, just as police found a prominent government critic this week just 18 hours after he was allegedly abducted.

Authorities said Farhad Mazhar, a poet, writer and dissident, was found on a coach around 200 kilometres (120 miles) from the Dhaka, where he lives.

The 69-year-old was escorted back to the capital and a kidnapping case was filed.

"He was blindfolded, picked up on a vehicle and taken away," Abul Baten, joint commissioner of detective police, quoted Mazhar as saying.

According to HRW, in the first five months of 2017, 48 disappearances were reported. Local rights groups said at least 326 people have disappeared since 2009, mostly opposition activists. - AFP

## US conducts airstrikes on Shabaab militants in Somalia

WASHINGTON, July 6: The US military conducted an airstrike against a group of Shabaab militants in Somalia early today, officials said, the third such action in a month.

The military's Africa Command said the strike occurred about 1:30 am local time some 300 miles southwest of Mogadishu.

"Working from actionable intelligence, the Department of Defense conducted a successful collective self-defense strike operation against an al-

Shabaab troop concentration," Africom said in a statement.

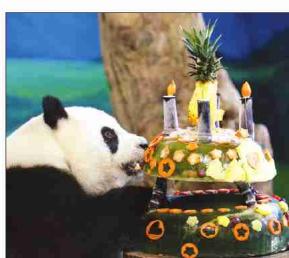
It was the third US strike on Shabaab Islamist militants since President Donald Trump authorized the Pentagon in March to take counter-terrorism actions – whether airstrikes or ground raids – when it deems them necessary to support the Somali government.

Today's strike follows a July 2 attack on Shabaab militants and a June 11 raid of a training center.

It was within the Pentagon's "parameters of authority to engage in collective self-defense of our Somali partners," Pentagon spokesman Navy Captain Jeff Davis said.

Before Trump broadened the Pentagon's authorities, US military actions in the eastern African country each required high-level review by different agencies. US special forces have been deployed in Somalia for years. There are currently about 50 US troops there.

Shabaab, an Al-Qaeda linked group, has been fighting since 2007 to overthrow the internationally-backed government in Somalia. - AFP



A giant panda Yuan Zai eats her 'birthday cake' made from rice and fruits at Taipei Zoo, in Taipei, Taiwan on Thursday. - UNI

**SITUATION VACANT**  
Applications are invited from the candidates with full Bio-data having NET/SET/SET for the under-mentioned concerned post having at least 55% marks (or an equivalent grade in a point scale) at the Masters Degree level in the relevant subject! A relaxation of 5% may be provided for the ST/SO/Differently-able candidates as well as the Ph. D holders who have obtained degree prior to 19/9/1991. However the candidates who have been awarded a D Degree in accordance with the UGC (minimum 55% marks) or an equivalent degree in D Degree Regulation 2009 shall be exempted from the requirement of NET/SET/SET. The age of candidates should not be more than 43 years as on 01/02/2017 and relaxable up to 5 years for SC/ST candidates. Candidates must know local language and they must submit their duly completed applications with relevant documents and testimonials, PRC and mobile no. on or before 21<sup>st</sup> July, alongwith non refundable A/C payee of Rs. 200/- (Two Thousand) only in favor of Principal, H.P.B. Girls' College, P.O. Payatas & S.B.I. Golaghat Branch.  
The candidates who are in service must apply through proper channel with an NOC from the concerned authority.

1. Asstt. Prof. in Political Science - One(unreserved)

Sd/-

(Dr. B.C. BHUYAN)

PRINCIPAL

H.P.B. GIRLS' COLLEGE, GOLAGHAT

1. Associate Professor in Political Science - One Post.

2. Associate Professor in Sociology - One Post.

3. Associate Professor in Commerce - One Post.

4. Assistant Professor in Mass Communication - One Post.

The Form of application with details of required qualification, scale of Pay, age limit etc. can be downloaded from the website of the University [www.kkhsou.in](http://www.kkhsou.in) or can be obtained from the university office at Patgaon/Housefed Complex. The application should be accompanied by a Bank Draft of Rs. 500/- (Rs. 600/- in case of application form obtained from the university office) in favour of KKHOU to be drawn at Guwahati. The applicants who had already applied for the post of Assistant Professor in Mass Communication against advertisement No. R2 2014, are requested to apply again (if desired) mentioning his/her/their upgradation in academic career, in any, without any processing fee. The last date for submission of application is 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2017.

Application in the prescribed format should be send to the undersigned in an envelope superscribed.

Application for the post of.....

## Pakistan minister survives rocket attack

ISLAMABAD, July 6: The Health Minister of Pakistan's restive Balochistan province today survived a rocket attack when unidentified assailants targeted his convoy, a media report said.

Unidentified assailants attacked the convoy of Balochistan Health Minister Rehmat Saleh Baloch in Panjgur town today, officials said. The minister and his aides remained unharmed in the incident, they said.

The minister's convoy was targeted while he was travelling to Panjgur from Panjgur, Assistant Commissioner Panjgur Abdul Jabbar was quoted as saying by the Dawn news.

The militants used various weapons, including rockets in the attack. However, the assailants escaped the scene when security personnel opened retaliatory fire. Upon receiving reports of the incident, security personnel and Frontier Corps (FC) officials sealed the area and started a search operation. - PTI

### ADVERTISEMENT

"It is general information for the candidates who have applied for the post of Chowkidar and Lib Bearer in Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Adarsha Mahavidyalaya, Erailgoal, Karimganj that due to shortage of time no individual call letters will be issued to them. However information regarding date, time, venue etc of interview for the eligible candidates in order of merit will be uploaded in website i.e. [www.karimganj.gov.in](http://www.karimganj.gov.in) and also the shortlisted name of the applicant is hanging in the notice board in the functional office of PDJAM, near office of the Deputy Commissioner, NRC Building, Karimganj. So they are hereby asked to visit the website for this purpose."

Sd/- Deputy Commissioner, Karimganj & President PDJAMV, Erailgoal, Karimganj.

### No. OH-3/BMG/Pl-V/2017-18/73

#### NOTICE INVITING RE-TENDER

Sealed tender (re-tenders) affixing court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25/- (Rupees eight and twenty five paisa) only are invited from the concerned institutions run by the State Government. Non-Dietary articles in the Govt. run children Institutions run by Department of Social Welfare, Govt. of Assam for the year 2017-18. The tender should be submitted in two bids (Technical & Financial Bid) system in two separate sealed envelope. The tenders received may be considered in the office of the Director Of Observation Home, Bokum, Bamunigaon office hour in all working days up to 5 p.m till 17th July 2017. The tender will be received up to 1 P.M. of 19th July 2017 and will be opened on the same day at 1:30 PM. In case the office will remain close/bandh for any circumstances on tender receiving/ opening date, then same will be received/opened in the next working days. Details term & condition may be seen in the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintendent i/c Observation Home, Bokum Bamunigaon, Kamrup

**K. K. HANDIQUI STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY**  
**City Office: Housefed Complex, Last Gate, Dispur, Guwahati-6**

### (Advt. No. R2/2017)

Applications are invited from the Indian citizens for the following Academic posts:

1. Associate Professor in Political Science - One Post.

2. Associate Professor in Sociology - One Post.

3. Associate Professor in Commerce - One Post.

4. Assistant Professor in Mass Communication - One Post.

The Form of application with details of required qualification, scale of Pay, age limit etc. can be downloaded from the website of the University [www.kkhsou.in](http://www.kkhsou.in) or can be obtained from the university office at Patgaon/Housefed Complex. The application should be accompanied by a Bank Draft of Rs. 500/- (Rs. 600/- in case of application form obtained from the university office) in favour of KKHOU to be drawn at Guwahati. The applicants who had already applied for the post of Assistant Professor in Mass Communication against advertisement No. R2 2014, are requested to apply again (if desired) mentioning his/her/their upgradation in academic career, in any, without any processing fee. The last date for submission of application is 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2017.

Application in the prescribed format should be send to the undersigned in an envelope superscribed.

Application for the post of.....

Sd/- Registrar  
Janasanyog/695/17

### ADMISSION NOTICE (LL.B. 3 YEARS Ist SEMESTER COURSE)

#### SESSION 2017-18

Applications in prescribed forms are hereby invited from intending candidates for admission into the LL.B. 3 years 1st Semester Course of B.R.M. Govt. Law College, Guwahati -37 for the session 2017-18. The prescribed forms for admission are available in the College Office at Panjabari, near Shilparam, during 10.00 A.M. to 3.00 P.M. from 07-07-2017.

#### ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION

Any graduate in any discipline of degree course from Gauhati University or any other recognized University with a minimum percentage of marks not below 45% of the total marks in case of General category applicants and 42% of the total marks in case of SC/ST applicants can apply for admission. The maximum age for seeking admission into 3 year LL.B. course is 30 years for General category and 35 years for SC, ST and OBC/ MOBC applicants.

The application forms will be received in College Office up to 18-07-2017 and list of eligible candidates for oral test/interview will be displayed on 21-07-2017. The interview and oral test of the candidates for admission will be held from 10 A.M. to 3.00 p.m. on 22-07-2017. The candidates are requested to bring the testimonials in original and also necessary fees for admission. The selected candidates will be admitted on the same day. If any candidate fails to appear in person for admission will forfeit the seat.

The admission will be strictly on the basis of merit. The Rules and Regulations framed by Gauhati University, the Bar Council of India and the Government of Assam in matter of admission will be applicable.

Sd/- Principal  
B.R.M. Govt. Law College, Guwahati-37  
Janasanyog/480/17

S. No.	District	Package No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (Rs In Lakh)	Total Cost (Rs in lakhs)	Period of completion (in months)
153	Jorhat	AS-10/16	T-03 to Balipuram	96.87	12.42	109.29
164	Kamrup	AS-11/270	Road from Rupnagar LP School to Suritiri Namgar	31.62	3.98	35.60
165	Kamrup	AS-11/271	Halogeno Baishya subha to Subanpur Natchuba Road	65.24	7.69	72.93
166	Kamrup	AS-11/279	Road from Kenduna Changari to Khudra Sessa	83.58	8.44	92.02
167	Kamrup	AS-11/280	Road from NH-31 to Dinkar	34.86	3.61	38.47
168	Kamrup	AS-11/281	Road from Kemarpur Morow to Meguri	79.59	8.73	88.32
169	Kamrup	AS-11/282	Road from Barheria to Saster	186.81	21.23	209.84
170	Kamrup	AS-11/285	Road from Gosapir Chowk to Dotolota Chiba Road	93.90	3.17	96.47
171	Kamrup	AS-11/291	Sankardev Sishu Niketan to Lankapara Road	31.22	3.71	34.93
172	Morigaon	AS-17/104	Kodomota to Daklini Tengarji	227.36	23.28	250.64
173	Nagaon	AS-19/443	Rampur to Nandupur Tinali Road	116.96	15.54	132.50
174	Nagaon	AS-19/584	Dijewly TE to Dijewly Colony	219.23	22.23	241.46
175	Nagaon	AS-19/593	Rampung to Pachim Basabbari	87.88	8.67	96.55
176	Nagaon	AS-19/595	Solman to Sugatara Pachim	69.99	8.73	78.72
177	Nagaon	AS-19/604	B.B. Road to Miki Banuri Grant	29.93	4.25	34.18
178	Nagaon	AS-19/609	Kadamguri to Muwanari Out Post	81.20	9.52	90.72
179	Nagaon	AS-19/810	Missa to Sitalakhya (Ranrapath)	74.00	8.38	82.38
180	Nagaon	AS-19/812	No Sardana to Pub Sardaria	265.92	31.60	297.52
181	Nagaon	AS-19/614	Derapherha 2 to Koch Gaon	97.61	11.35	108.96
182	Nagaon	AS-19/624	Kali Mudiani Road to Krishnapur	51.94	5.94	57.88
183	Nagaon	AS-19/631	Medhya Samrali to Pub Samarali	46.53	6.81	53.34
184	Nagaon	AS-19/632	Kuruk to Kuruk nh 36 Road	80.33	11.00	91.33
185	Nagaon	AS-19/635	Lutumari Longlap Road to Tangiabagan	186.27	21.19	207.46
186	Sonitpur	AS-22/185	Borbikachari to Ghotes L27 (T02 to Ghouts L027)	135.60	13.65	149.25
187	Sonitpur	AS-22/188	Cheniniari to Ghogra Barpeta (T06 to Gomara Bengal)	154.40	17.14	171.54
188	Sonitpur	AS-22/205	Nurupurji No 2 to Singri L 28 (T03 to Shah Pukun Village)	285.69	31.41	317.10
189	Sonitpur	AS-22/234	Karbarai to Tarabari L071	139.34	13.77	153.11

For further details please log on to <http://pmgytendersassam.gov.in/>

Sd/- Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam

Chamhani, Guwahati-781003

Sd/-

Mission Director NHM, Assam

Sd/-

B.R.M. Govt. Law College, Guwahati-37

Janasanyog/480/17





# Djokovic races to victory against Pavlasek

LONDON, July 6: Second seed Novak Djokovic moved into the third round with a straight-set win against Adam Pavlasek at Wimbledon here today.

The three-time champion raced to a 6-2, 6-2, 6-1 victory in just over 90 minutes on Court One against the 22-year-old.

Djokovic, 30, rarely looked troubled against the world number 136 from the Czech Republic, who was making his debut at the Championships.

The Serb will next play either Argentina's Juan Martin del Potro or Latvia's Ernests Gulbis.

Elsewhere, 13th seed Grigor Dimitrov beat former Wimbledon semifinalist Marcos Baghdatis in straight sets to reach the third round.

Bulgaria's Dimitrov, 26, secured a comprehensive 6-3, 6-2, 6-1 victory over the Cypriot with a stunning forehand volay.

The 13th-seeded Bulgarian looked less like his "Baby Federer" nickname and more like the Swiss maestro all grown up as he made light work of Baghdatis, a former semifinalist at the All England Club.

The 26-year-old, who also reached the last four in 2014, perhaps struggled to live up to his promise as a youngster.

Yet, having reached the semi at the Australian Open earlier this year be-

fore losing to Rafael Nadal in a titanic five-set battle, he showed on a sun-baked Court Two that he has the potential and the game to trouble the established favourites.

The Bulgarian looked intensely focused as he raced through his opening four service games conceding just two points, before breaking for a 5-3 lead and then wrapping up the first set in the next game with his third ace.

It was then a case of simply tightening his stranglehold, which he did by breaking Baghdatis in the first game of the second and again in the seventh, eventually taking the set after a behind-the-back trickshot.

Dimitrov did not have everything his own way in the third, and was forced to save seven break points, but still broke three times himself to claim an emphatic win, which he sealed with a superb diving volley after one hour and 42 minutes.

Spain's David Ferrer reached the third round after his opponent Steve Darcis was forced to withdraw with a back problem.

Ferrer, twice a quarterfinalist, was leading 3-0 after 18 minutes of play on Court 17, before the Belgian retired.

Ferrer is now set to play against the winner between American Ryan Har-

rison and Czech Tomas Berdych, seeded No. 11.

Darcis is the ninth player to retire from Wimbledon singles' competitions this year, as well as another player from the doubles, in just four days.

Earlier on Tuesday, Elina Svitolina of Ukraine and Romania Simona Halep sailed into the third round with contrasting victories.

No. 2 seed Simona Halep lost the first three games of her second-round encounter with Beatriz Haddad Maia, but turned the match around in emphatic style to knock out the Brazilian, 7-5, 6-3, and reach the third round.

Halep has twice reached the second week at the All England Club—most recently last year when she fell to eventual finalist Angelique Kerber in the quarterfinals—and has a shot of wresting the No. 1 ranking from her German rival should she reach the semifinals here for the second time in her career.

Elina Svitolina entered the third round for the first time after charging past Francesca Schiavone in straight sets.

The No. 4 seed took down the No. 72-ranked former Grand Slam champion, 6-3, 6-0 in just 50 minutes to earn her career-best result at the All England Club. —Agencies



Novak Djokovic of Serbia in action during the second round match of the Wimbledon against Adam Pavlasek of the Czech Republic, on Thursday.

## Sachin in final, 5 settle for bronze

BANGKOK, July 6: World youth champion Sachin Siwach (49kg) was the lone Indian to enter the final, while five others settled for bronze medals after losing their last-four stage bouts in the Asian Youth Boxing Championship here today.

Sachin defeated Thailand's Pannond Thitisan to enter the final, where he will face Uzbekistan's Samandar Kholmuodov tomorrow.



However, none of the other Indians in fray could advance and settled for bronze medals.

Ankit Kumar (60kg) lost to Thailand's Saksorn Ruamrungsa in a close bout. The Indian went down in a split verdict despite a fairly dominant show, especially in the second and third round.

Naveen Boora (69kg) was the next entry in for India and he too ended up on the losing side, beaten by Thailand's Peerap Yaesungsunon.

In the super heavyweight (+91kg) category, Harsheesh Sahrawat lost to Uzbekistan's Lazizbek Mullaqanov.

Harsheesh was fighting his first bout of the tournament after getting a direct entry to the semifinals owing to the small size of the draw.

Mohammed Etash Khan (56kg) also found the going tough against Thailand's Pluem Wang-khlakhang and ended up with a bronze medal.

The last man to compete for India today was Sachin (75kg) and although he gave a good fight to China's Zhu Chao, the effort could not get the judges' nod, who ruled in his opponent's favour in a split decision. —PTI

## Horn brushes off Pacquiao call to review loss

BRISBANE, July 6: Newly-crowned world welterweight champion Jeff Horn today brushed aside boxing legend Manny Pacquiao's call for a review of his controversial defeat and threw down the gauntlet for a rematch.

Thousands joined a ticker-tape parade in Brisbane in honour of the former school teacher, who said he doubted if Pacquiao had personally backed a call to review the outcome of last Sunday's title bout.

"I don't actually believe that



Pacquiao would be Pacquiao actually even saying that himself," the Aus-

tralian told Channel Nine. "Maybe it is his team around him. But Pacquiao seemed very humble in the way that he lost and thought the decision was correct. I am ready for a rematch. If he wants to come back and do it again, we will do it. That's up to him, he's got the option," Horn said.

Written off by most observers, the 29-year-old stunned the Filipino legend with his ultra-aggressiveness and earned an unanimous 12-round decision.

The result has been widely questioned, with many believing Pacquiao should have won. —AFP

## India coach targets quarterfinal finish in FIFA U-17 WC

NEW DELHI, July 6: India's U-17 coach Luis Norton de Matos is targeting a quarterfinal finish in the upcoming FIFA World Cup, his optimism emanating from the team spirit among the teens besides improvement in technique and tactic.

De Matos was appointed head coach in March this year and in a short span of time, he has tried to build a team ready to fight to the best.

"When we talk about targets we usually associate victories, a finish in the quarterfinal. That is a legitimate dream. We will

do everything to fight the favourites and the stronger teams," De Matos told PTI in an interview.

Talking about the larger scheme of things, he added, "The ultimate objective is to show the world our progress and growth that young Indian football players can practice fair and great football and there is hope for an even better future."

A former manager with the Pakistani reserve side, the Portugez had replaced Nicolo Adams, who was forced to re-

sign under controversial cir-

umstances after a revolt from the players.

The team had an exposure trip to Europe as part of prepa-

rations for the mega-event,

which will be held across six

venues from October 6 to 28.

"The team has made pro-

gress during these three

months of work. They have a

defined game idea which is yet

to be perfected. But through

the ongoing training exerci-

ses, game simulation, and our

playing model, we are work-

ing on that," —PTI

## PCB likely to release batting coach Flower

KARACHI, July 6: Former Zimbabwe batsman Grant Flower is unlikely to get an extension of his contract as batting coach when the performance of the national team support staff is reviewed by the Pakistan Cricket Board lat-

er this month.

Flower, who is with the Pa-

kistan team for the last three

and a half years, is the only

member of the support staff

who is likely to be released

by the PCB since it is be-

lieved he has not produced

desired results.

"A review committee which includes former Test players Haroon Rasheed, Mudassar Nazar and the PCB's chief operating officer Subhan Ahmad will submit a report on the performances of the coaches. It will be discussed at the Governing board meeting on July 29 after which a decision will be made on retaining or releasing the support staff," a source said.

The source said the Pakistan team's coaches, including head coach Mickey Arthur will reach Lahore on July 24 as a boot camp of the national team players is scheduled from early August in Kalu.

The review committee and chief selector Inzamam-ul-Haq will also meet with Arthur before submitting their recommendations to the Governing Board," he said.

Flower, since joining the team in late 2013, has worked with three separate coaches including Dav Whatmore, Waqar Younis and Arthur but Pakistan's inconsistent batting has the Board worried.

The source said the rest of the coaches including fielding coach, Steve Rixon, bowling coach, Azhar Mahmood, trainer, Grant Ludon etc, are all expected to get contract extensions until the World Cup 2019. —PTI

## Players boycott Australia A tour in pay dispute

"It is with great frustration that with no progress towards resolving the current dispute, Australia A players confirm they will not tour South Africa," ACA said in a statement.

"This decision is made in support of more than 200 male and female players who are now unemployed."

Cricketer Australia (CA) said it was disappointed with the players' decision not to go on the A team tour of South Africa.

"CA regards that players have made progress in talks between CA and the team despite progress made in talks between CA and the ACA in meetings over the past week, including regular communication be-

tween CEO's," it said in a statement.

"While a new MoU has not yet been agreed, CA is of the view that these talks should have enabled the tour to proceed as planned."

CA said it advised Cricket South Africa.

The players, selected for the Australia A tour starting on July 12, had been training this week with captain Usman Khawaja hoping for an end to the impasse before their scheduled departure on Friday.

The tour will include four-day matches and a limited overs tri-series, also involving India A.

Australia A's squad of 19 for both

formats included Test players Glenn Maxwell and Jackson Bird as well as Khyam.

"By making this call, the Australia A players have sacrificed their own ambitions for the collective – an incredibly selfless act that shows their strength and overall commitment to the group," the ACA said.

There are fears now that the pay row could scupper next month's Test tour to Bangladesh, the One-Day Internationals in India in September and even the Ashes against England, which are due to begin with the first of five Tests in Brisbane in late November.

CA and the players' union hit an impasse after the board attempted to scrap a 20-year-old arrangement giving cricketers a fixed share of revenues in favour of dividing surpluses among elite players and offering a pay rise.

Former Australian captain Michael Clarke has urged the parties to extend the old deal for 12 months to allow more negotiations in a bid to break the deadlock.

CA said it will continue to work toward a new MoU and called on the ACA to show "the feasibility clearly now needed to achieve that outcome." — AFP

## We cannot get carried away by rise in rankings: Constantine

NEW DELHI, July 6: Indian football coach Stephen Constantine has cautioned his players from getting carried away after the team achieved its best-ever FIFA ranking in the last two decades, asking them to keep getting better.

As India rose to the 96th spot in the latest FIFA rankings issued today, Constantine attributed it to team work.

"There is always the next game which comes to your mind. It is as you are always trying to get better. People may be tempted

to go crazy with the recent rise

in rankings and the results, but we cannot get carried away," Constantine said.

Constantine was in his room as the news broke, lonely but smiling nonetheless.

"It's just a respect for my job and respect for my players, as much it's the respect for the people around me. These are the key ingredients to any national team moving forward," — PTI

## Top three in tune, I'm like Ringo, jokes McIlroy

PORT STEWART (UK), July 6: Rory McIlroy joked he was now like Beatles drummer Ringo Starr having fallen to a number four in the world rankings ahead of this week's Irish Open.

The defending champion and host for this week's event at Portstewart on the rugged Northern Ireland coastline, had dropped to third in the world after missing the cut at the US Open last month.

He then fell a further place

number one Dustin Johnson and second-ranked Hideki Matsuyama when Jordan Spieth won the Travellers Championship to move into third.

"I am back to Ringo," McIlroy said smiling.

"It only bothers me I'm not where I want to be. But I feel like there's been a couple of things that have been out of my control this year that have led to that with the injuries

and stuff."

McIlroy had to adjust to new clubs this year after Nike stopped manufacturing equipment, suffered a rib injury which has limited him to just three tournament appearances since the Masters and had the bad luck of getting married in April.

"Like I've said all along, winning tournaments and playing well takes care of the rankings," said McIlroy. — AFP

South Africa's Elgar eager to get his own back on Broad

LONDON, July 6: South Africa stand-in captain Dean Elgar is confident that there will no "scoring" on when his side face England paceman Stuart Broad again in the first Test at Lord's today.

Broad's Test career has been studded with several dramatic match-winning spells, notably his Ashes-clinching eight for 15 against Australia at the Nottinghamshire quick's Trent Bridge home ground two years ago.

But opening batsman Elgar has first-hand experience of what can happen when Broad gets on a roll.

Last year's Johannesburg Test saw the now 31-year-old Broad take six for 17 in the second innings to lay the platform for England's series-winning seven-wicket victory over the Proteas.

Elgar, the first batsman Broad dismissed that day, insisted the spell would provide "motivation" to the Proteas rather than a source of lasting damage ahead of this four-match series.

"It was a freakish spell... A great ref-

erence point to look back at and tough us up a bit more," said Elgar, leading the side in place of Faf du Plessis, who has stayed at home to attend to his wife following the birth of their first child.

Stuart Broad

"It was an extraordinary bowling spell and great to watch," he added.

"It was bad being part of it as a batsman unit – but as a cricket lover and watcher, it was seriously good."

"I don't think there is any scoring. If anything it will serve as motivation."

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## Taxed out!

**SHIBDAS BHATTACHARJEE** on how the GST will impact the Assamese film industry.

The Goods and Services Tax and its probable impact on different fields is the most discussed issue in the whole country today. How much will it impact the different sectors and people belonging to different categories? That is the question on everyone's lips today and there is hardly any convincing answer to this confusing interrogative. People are discussing it mainly from individual economic status. This is almost clear that GST will increase the price of some items and decrease down certain others. No doubt, the Union Finance Minister had tried to convince people that the ultimate benefits of GST will go straight to the consumers. The prime minister is asking people to dream of a better economic status. But, understanding the probable impact of GST is not clear yet; it will take time to get accustomed to this new economic order.

Let us not discuss things only from the point of economic loss and gain. The fact is: GST's impact on the cultural field is far more important. One

area that could be badly impacted after the implementation of GST is the film industry of the country, for GST replaces the current entertainment and service tax with a single 28 per cent tax. This may be good news for Bollywood, where entertainment tax is as high as 45 per cent, particularly in the metros. But as far as the regional film industry is concerned, its impact seems only damaging. The competition between Bollywood and the regional film industries across the country has always been uneven. From funding to marketing, production cost and number of viewers, regional films can never compete with Bollywood. Now the 28 per cent tax burden may completely shut down some regional film industries. Even in South India, where Bollywood films have hardly any noticeable presence, perceives the fact as a potential threat. Reason is: the uniform tax slabs of entertainment make it quite harsh on the single screen owners or theatres from tier-2 or tier-3 cities to match up with the multiplexes of metropolitan cities.

### Ronjoy Bordoloi

Social Media has become an integral part of our lives, just like food! We may forget to eat our food, but we never forget to open our Facebook page for likes/comments, our WhatsApp to chat or our Twitter to comment, etc. And although this seems very attractive from the outside, the deeper we traverse into its vicinity, the darker it becomes.

Undoubtedly, social media has many advantages, as it is an encyclopaedia of knowledge and provides an opportunity to make new acquaintances and meet long lost friends and foes. However, if we probe a little deeper, it is also a dark world out there, with some negative aspects too.

If we can set aside these dark aspects, we can enjoy our social media experience. However, if we allow ourselves to fall into the dark side, then there may not be any saving our souls.

The first visible, detrimental feature is the negative stories and videos that are circulated through these mediums, which include violence at its worst,

styled vigilantes and robbers roaming the streets seeking vengeance.

Moreover, the sheer misinterpretation of beauty can also be termed as a harmful factor of social media. The pictures of beautifully and scantly clad ladies and gents getting more likes and comments, whereas simpletons not getting the attention they deserve, create a vacuum in their lives. The hype and hope for beauty has raised the standards of good looks so high that people unable to bear the burden of less attractiveness, usually fall into the pit of depression.

Another aspect of the social media epidemic is the utilisation of false names and identities to make friends. This factor is a cause of utmost concern as this creates the problem of someone posing as someone else and misutilising their identity and personal traits. This has given rise to a new brand of identity thieves.

Furthermore, even though the social sites are great places to meet new people and find out the ideal choice to fall in love or get married, there is a flip side to the

coin too. These sites have become warehouses of false love affairs, betrayals and revenge mechanisms. The identity thieves create fake accounts, even change their online gerkins and start manipulating their desired targets, which, in turn, leads to dissatisfying and dissenting emotional behaviour. These targets put all their hopes and obsessions on the person they meet and chat online. But when they eventually meet them in person, or, in fact, never meet, all their dreams come crashing down.

Therefore, as a conclusion, it could be reiterated that there are as many drawbacks of these social

sound. This is a natural phenomenon. What's important is that the artistic aspect of moviemaking has hardly been compromised here. Like the glorious Assamese movies of the bygone era, movies in recent years have also displayed great potential, considering all parameters of the established norms of global celluloid art. In 2016, Bhaskar Hazarika's *Kothanodi*, Rajesh Bhuyan's *Doordarshan Eti Janta*, Sanjib Sabhapandit's *Dikchow Barot Palash* proved to be crowd pullers not only for the inherent charm of regional films, or the settings and stories, but the mastery of celluloid presentation of a theme and elevating the cinema art of Assam. The year 2017 is also predicted to be a productive one. But how will this continue henceforth? How will the extra financial burden hamper film production in Assam and its market after the imposing 28 per cent tax through GST? How will film financiers react to this new economic scenario?

These are valid questions not only for those related to the film industry of Assam but for all who love the indigenous cine-art of the State. There should be a comprehensive debate in the cultural arena of Assam to find out a survival strategy for the Assamese film industry. Sounds of protest have already been aired by the regional filmmakers across the country. After the tax slabs were announced, the film industry, especially the small producers from the regional sectors have started to criticise it openly. If regional film industries get united and raise the demand for a roll-back, people in the Assamese film industry may also join the movement.

The Government of Assam also has a great responsibility in this regard. The West Bengal government has thrown a tax lifeline to save Bengal cinema from the impact of GST. Nepali and Santhali films of Bengal will also benefit from the move. The Bengal government has decided that the State government will not keep the nine per cent which it is entitled to. It will merely retain two per cent and pass on the benefit of seven per cent to the viewers. Relief has also been declared for those buying tickets valued above Re 100 that would attract GST at 28 per cent. For these tickets, the State would offer a rebate of 12 per cent on its share of 14 per cent. The Assamese film industry also needs such support from the State government. After all, all the hurdles that restrict the growth of Assamese films must be prevented for the larger interest.

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media sites as there are benefits. A very important suggestion to everyone will be that people should use their discretion and intuition in believing or not believing a piece of material information flowing incessantly, like a river, in these sites. Nobody should blindly believe anything that is posted or shown in these sites, as there is a vast difference between the truth and the illusion of truth.

These sites are not personally responsible for our behaviour and emotional traits. So, we must always rely on our common sense in assessing the details given in them, otherwise, the younger generation, along with many weaker sections of the society, will face evils like depression, and become suicidal or resort to anti-social behaviour.

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## Monsoon moods

**Dr Manash P Goswami**

**M**onsoon may sound like an ordinary event that comes every year, when explained in a textbook. On the contrary, however, it is an event filled with a lot of rejuvenation, mystery, romance and an elusive feeling that evokes many moods.

It is the sight of the first rainfall that brings a big relief from the torrid summer. It's like a magical downpour that cascades over the dried body of Mother Earth. With the arrival of the monsoon, the landscape abruptly changes, the trees that looked lifeless suddenly look green; all of a sudden the stone paved paths have grasses nudging from their edges and the skies look grey with clouds, waiting to open up at any moment. The earth smells fresh and green, the forests look lush, and the atmospheric temperature drops down.

The magical season of monsoon has always been the throbbing heart of Indian literature since ages. The numerous aspects of rain have been the pillar of creative manifestation, utmost inspiration and source for art, culture and literature. It has been the constant treasure trove in literary circles. The magical vagueness of rain permeate through the pages of literature, from the cosmic Hindu myths and classics of Kalidasa to modern Indian poetry. It could be intentional or instinctive: raindrops have always swayed the minds and hearts of writers and poets.

The classical *raga* of *Megh Malhar*, known as the king of *ragas*, evokes human emotions and sentiments in a powerful and irresistible manner in the beautiful season of monsoon. Etymologically, the word '*Malhar*' means cleanliness of the mind from evil or bad thoughts, similar to the rains that wash away all dirt from the environment. The enchanting beauty of monsoon inspired a great maestro like Tansen, so much so that he created a new *raga* called *Mian ki Malhar*. The *Kajri* – a semi-classical genre of music popular in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, is often sung during the monsoons to describe the longing of a maiden for her lover as the black monsoon cloud hangs in the summer skies.

Rain and love have been the fervently woven motifs in Indian literature, adding the enthralling beauty and magnificent description of the mood. Adorned with plentiful of rain images, the classical and medieval Indian literature perennially intoned the eternal romance in the rains. The eternal love story of Radha and Krishna is compared with the rain of monsoon in Jayadeva's *Geet Govindam*. His portrayal of the lovers' tryst in rain-drenched and thunder-lit nights has mesmerised poetic beauty.

The rhythm and beauty of the falling of rain drops of the monsoon have often inspired poets to describe the sentiments and emotions of lovers. In literature, classical Sanskrit or any other regional language, rain and its colloquial such as clouds, peacocks, thunder, lightning, etc., find importance in poetic expressions. The metaphor of a desolate lover looking for some news of the beloved from the clouds, as depicted in *Meghdootam* of Kalidasa, is a beautiful example of human emotion, coupled with the magical mood of the monsoon.

Vaishniki's *Ramayana* intensely describes the spirit of the rain of monsoon. It is the season of love and longing when Rama gets separated from his wife Sita. The separation of Rama as described in *Ramayana* is enormously beautiful. He visualises Sita shedding tears in isolation and the rains represent the waves of grief that hit him.

The desire for a spiritual union with the divine soul in the season of monsoon finds place in the poetry of Kabir, Surdas, Ramdas and Tulsi das. In fact, Tulsi das's *Ram Chaitanya* records some of the most enthralling descriptions of the rainy season.

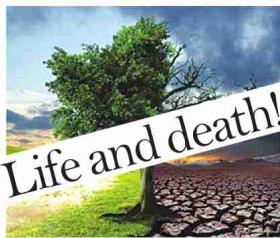
On the advent of monsoon, Rabindranath Tagore, wrote, "Esho Shyamo Surdaro Aro Tabo Tapohora Trishabha Shangoshucha. Birahini Chalija Ache Akasha," which means, "Come pleasant beauty. Bring your pleasant companionship to quench one's thirst and heat. Lovelorn beloved (earth) gazing at the sky with longing looks."

Even Bollywood's music veterans like RD Burman, Salil Chowdhury, Shailendra and several others composed numerous songs to capture the romantic mood of the season. Salil Chowdhury's *Jhiri jhiri badawra barse* and *Sawan ki raaton mein aisa bhii hota hai*, besides Shailendra's *Harijala sawan dhol bajeeta aya* celebrate the advent of monsoon.

It is the magic of the monsoons that transforms the ambience from scorching hot to unbelievably pleasant. The monsoon rain spreads sensuality, fragrance and a blissful mood in the atmosphere. It is the magic of monsoon that evokes myriad emotions and imagination to depict the beauty of nature.

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## Life and death!

**T**he last week has been very challenging for my family, especially at the emotional level, as my father-in-law passed away after fighting a losing battle against two vicious simultaneous virus attacks: Japanese encephalitis and dengue. At 78, he was healthier than most of us and that makes his demise ever so painful. As always, moments like these, when the ultimate truth: death, descends upon us, push us into a zone where the mind gets into deep reflection mode. These are times when one has to bank upon a different set of life skills to handle the pall of gloom and grief, as well as respond to the hard realities of a journey called life.

I distinctly remember how at a tender age when the head of a next-door neighbourhood family had met with an untimely death, I reassured myself with the thoughts that such a tragedy would not strike my family. But destiny, cruel as it can be, took away my father from us much before I was into my teens. Suddenly, our family also had to go through the same rigmarole of coming to terms with such a colossal loss; the consequential emotional and economic fallout which at that point of time, in the summer of 1983, was humongous. The scar of having lost someone very dear can't quite be erased permanently. Memories of the times spent with the departed one keep resurfacing to impact our mind with pleasant and at times poignant thoughts. It is extremely difficult to actually help someone prepare for such eventualities. Handling the passing away of a dear one is one experience that just can't be shared easily. One can only cross the bridge when he or she gets to it. But the fact remains that one cannot avoid such a day.

Having seen and faced such emotionally draining times several times, I thought it will be appropriate to put into perspective some thoughts that could be of relevance to my readership. In the social context, it is mostly on such occasions when a dear one dies that one can perceive the significance of the imitable role played by the biggest institution called society in our lives. The need and impact of the community and society that we live in is best experienced in moments of extreme grief. During such moments, people around us rise above our own expectations as they extend physical and emotional support, helping us to handle the grief and come to terms with the reality. We get to see why as a species we cannot live in isolation; why family, relatives, friends, neighbours, all play a vital role in our lives.

But in this so-called modern life, where we are apparently constantly connected to an ever-increasing universe of friends in the virtual world, we realise the value of real and visible connectivity with the world around us, mostly when we are confronted with grief. These are times when we need a shoulder to shed a tear, a hug from someone who can help us cope with the loss, words of wisdom and spiritual counselling from elders who have seen it all. Such inputs and support are priceless. At the same time, the fast-paced urban life and the proverbial daily grind is taking a toll on the modern man. Time now is a premium. People are constantly on their toes. Age-old rituals that need to be observed for the peaceful journey of the soul into the afterlife are under pressure because the work-related deadlines are no less in significance than death itself.

It is in such situations that the mind is forced to introspect and weigh the pros and cons of the so called advancements made by human civilisations over time. We start to philosophise on the very definition of modern ways of life, technological advancements, the rat race, the mad rush to meet professional deadlines and online commitments... Somewhere everything becomes so trivial when we have to handle the death of a dear one.

In its own bizarre way, death in all its glorious manifestation teaches us the essence of being alive and the infinite joy of being in harmony with the world around us; to cherish every moment that we get to spend with our loved ones and also always remain connected to these memories long after our dear ones depart this mortal world!

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**F**our-time FIFA World Cup winner Germany won the maiden FIFA Confederations Cup by defeating Copa America Champion Chile by 1-0 goals in the final match held at St Petersburg, Russia, recently. Lars Stindl of Germany scored the goal in the first half against the run of play. Chile was not able to score goals. Earlier, in the third-place play-off match, Portugal defeated Mexico by 2-1.

The FIFA Confederations Cup is an international association football tournament for national teams. It is currently held every four years by FIFA. It is contested by the holders of each of the six regional championships (UEFA, CONCACAF, CAF, AFC, OFC), along with the current FIFA World Cup holder and the host nation, bringing the number of teams up to eight. It was established in 1992. Since 2005, the tournament has been held in the nation that will host the next World Cup, acting as a test event for the larger tournament. Brazil has won the title a record four times (1997, 2005, 2009, 2013), followed by France, which has won twice.

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

### MASTER'S CHOICE

- Which famous writer was the first to use the proverb - 'The course of true love never did run smooth'?
- Dev Patel and Nicole Kidman star in which film which tells the story of an Indian boy who gets lost on the streets of Calcutta and is adopted and later tries to find his family?
- The withdrawal of which candidate led to Theresa May winning the Conservative Party leadership election on July 11, 2016?
- Name the South American capital city, which means 'the peace' when translated from the original Spanish.
- The Caspian Sea is the largest inland body of water on Earth. By which two continents is it landlocked?

### Abba

**O**h, Abba!  
We will now be without you,  
For till we all meet up above – there,  
But alas!  
Days and nights will not be the same;  
Without you:  
All the too familiar, comforting and consoling voice,  
Is now not there,  
We all depended upon you so much,  
For those small little mundane things.  
Till your last day,  
But alas!  
You left all of us suddenly,  
For His clarion call had come.  
To bid us all adieu,  
To your 'happier home' up there.  
A good soul – you left us in Ramzan,  
But Eid will not be the same for us,  
For years to come – without you,  
Oh, Abba!  
Oh, Abba!

Sakhi Md Sabah Al-Ahmed,  
Guwahati

### Books

**A** marvellous, precious wonder,  
That extracts the noble intellect of human mind,  
A cheerful and patient companion,  
That contains thoughts to inspire mankind.  
Monuments crumble and dynasties perish,  
Civilisations start growing old,  
But books continue to live forever,  
Carrying something more precious than gold.  
Books educate, entertain and enlighten,  
By embodying the potency of life,  
They comfort and console.  
The heart torn apart by strife,  
The enormous charm of books,  
Keeps me ever fresh,  
And I marvel at the way,  
That books can impress.

Santosh Kumar Das,  
Mirza

### SCIENCE ZONE

Dr Dharmakanta Kumbhakar



**Fluorides occur in traces in many foods, but certain foods such as sea fish, cheese and tea are reported to be rich in fluoride.**

## Fluorine: a double-edged sword

**F**luorine is the most abundant element in Nature. Being so highly reactive, it is never found in its elemental gaseous form, but only in combined form as fluoride (for example Calcium fluoride). The major source of fluoride for humans is drinking water. The recommended level of fluoride in drinking water in India is accepted as 0.8 mg per litre. In temperate countries, where the water intake is low, the optimum level of fluoride in drinking water is accepted as one to two mg per litre. According to the World Health Organisation guidelines, if the level of fluoride is 1.1 mg to two mg per litre of drinking water, then it is high. If level is 2.1mg to 5.0mg per litre of drinking water, then it is very high; and if it is more than 5.0mg, then it is dangerously high. Fluorides occur in traces in many foods, but certain foods such as sea fish, cheese and tea, are reported to be rich in fluoride. Fluoride may be found in the environment as industrial pollution also.

In the human body, about 96 per cent of fluoride is found in bones and teeth. It is essential for the normal mineralisation of bones and formation of dental elements for the maintenance of the structure of teeth and bones.



Fluorine is often called a double-edged sword, as prolonged intake of fluoride, exceeding the daily requirement, is associated with dental and skeletal fluorosis, osteosclerosis and inadequate intake causes dental caries. Fluoride has an important influence on the prevention of dental caries, since it increases the resistance of the enamel to acid attack. The benefit of fluoride is greatest when it is taken before the permanent teeth erupt, while the enamel is being laid down. The addition of traces of fluoride (at 1 ppm) in public drinking water supplies is now a widespread practice. Prolonged use of excessive quantities of fluoride in drinking water, excessive exposure to environmental fluoride, consumption of high fluoride containing food and use of high fluoride containing toothpaste may lead to deposition of fluoride in teeth, bones, joints and mucosae of the intestine. These deposited fluorides may lead to a state of chronic fluoride poisoning, a characteristic sequence of pathological changes in teeth, bone, periarticular tissues and intestinal mucosa called fluorosis. Fluoride induced osteomalacia can occur due to direct inhibition of bone mineralisation in workers handling cryolite (aluminium sodium fluoride), used in smelting aluminium.

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According to the Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine-National Academy of Sciences, Dietary Reference Intakes 2000-2002, the recommended intake of fluoride is:

0 to 6 months	: 0.01 mg per day
7 to 12 months	: 0.5 mg per day
1 to 3 years	: 0.7 mg per day
4 to 8 years	: 1 mg per day

Females	
9 to 13 years	: 2 mg per day
14 to 18 years	: 3 mg per day
19 to 70 years and more	: 3 mg per day
Pregnancy and lactation	: 3 mg per day

6. Booker T Washington was the first African American to be depicted on what in the United States?

7. Formed in 1650, what is the name of the oldest regiment in the British Army which remains in continuous active service?

8. What is the name of the river which rises in the Tibetan plateau and travels through China, Burma, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam?

9. In 1984, fearing a wipeout, the BJP tied up with Charan Singh's Lok Dal. Vaiphei gave a name for the combo. What was his choice?

10. The BBC documentary, *Something Beautiful for God*, broadcasted in 1969 was based on which legendary personality?

### READERS' CHOICE

11. Which species of birds is known by the collective noun *Venue*? (Nandita Das, Dibrugarh)

12. Management Guru Jack Trout passed away recently. Name the landmark book that he wrote with Al Ries. (Shajid Khan, Tangla)

13. Painted Lady, Red Admiral and Monarch are species of which kind of flying creatures? (Ningombam Duhita, Guwahati)

14. The Wildlife Protection Act, 1973 applies to all Indian States with the exception of one. Which one is it? (Anup Roy, Goalpara)

15. Which State in India started the *Apna Van, Apna Dhan* scheme for the protection of its forests? (Mridusmita Talukdar, Tengnoupal)

16. This phrase, mostly referred to in the context of education, literally means 'foster mother'. Which phrase is it? (Ranjim Gogoi, Golaghat)

17. In Roman mythology, who was the God of the Sun? (Pooja Saikia, via e-mail)

18. Who was the first Indian to win the best music for film at the Asia Pacific International film festival in Japan in 1993? (Biswajit Das, Darrang)

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

20. The name of this famous Indian company, founded in 1884 by a physician in West Bengal named SK Burman, is derived from the colloquial way in which the patients addressed him. Which company is it? (Dr Jayanta Kr Sharma, Guwahati)

### QUIZ ZONE

Sailen Baishya

Picture clue:

19. This is the childhood photo of a famous singer. Name him. (Arupa Sarma, Guwahati)



### ANSWERS

- William Shakespeare.
- Lion.
- Andrea Leadsom.
- La Paz.
- Europe and Asia.
- Postage stamp.
- Coldstream Guards.
- Mekong.
- NDA.
- Mother Teresa.
- Vultures.
- Positioning: *The Battle for Your Mind*.
- Butterflies.
- Jammi and Kashmir.
- Himachal Pradesh.
- Alma mater.
- Apollo.
- Dr Bhupen Hazarika for the film *Rudali*.
- Anthony Kiely of Red Hot Chili Peppers.
- Dabur, India's largest Ayurvedic medicine company. The name is derived from the first letters of *Dakta Burman*, as its founder was addressed by patients.



## Society and education

Trishna Goswami

**E**ducation is the root of success. It is the colour of a civilised society. It defines what we are and what we need. A person with education is treated as an asset to a country. Everything is possible only when one has education. But when we look into the matter of our education system, then a lot of questions strike our minds. When we talk about education, we just look into exams, results, marks and the status of the institution. People just castigate the non-achievers who get low percentages and never try to look for the hidden talents in them.

In our society, education only means degrees and not what one has learnt. If a name

has too many prefixes and suffixes then that person becomes a reputed man in the society. That person is revered like a god. It's okay to treat those degree holders well, but is it fair enough to judge them only because of their degrees and not what knowledge they have achieved or how concerned they are about the nation and its people? If a person has high degrees but never learns to talk politely, and only lives for the sake of money, must he be given respect? Appreciation is must for them but how are we treating the non-achievers?

In our society non-achievers are treated like criminals. Like they have committed some serious crime. They are neglected by friends, insulted by neighbours and criticised by

relatives and others. Whenever they go out, they need to have to answer hundreds of irrelevant questions. Because of this attitude, our country is still a developing one and we can't say when it will become a developed nation. A nation wants doers and these youths are also an asset for the country. It's our duty to support them and encourage them to get a better tomorrow, rather than disheartening them. Getting poor marks may indicate that they are not good in studies but it doesn't signify that they are not good at anything. God hasn't been partial to anyone. The Almighty has given some skill to everybody, but not everyone can find it. So it is we who must help them out and make them indulge in their

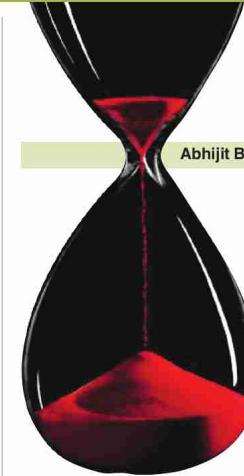
own talent.

Not all successful people have big degrees. Take the example of Bill Gates who used to bunk classes for his interest in software, and he even failed his exams. But he went on to own Microsoft and his fellow mates are now working under him. Another great personality is Sachin Tendulkar who has no major educational degree and yet he is the god of cricket. Education is necessary but it can be of any type and in any field. If we all chase white-collar jobs, who will play for the country, who will serve as labourers, carpenters, artists and who will save our culture with their musical skills? Talents can be of any type and we must welcome them.

Opportunities never die. One may need to lose a year or two but our goals should never fluctuate. Have you ever seen a football match? The goal never comes closer to the player so that he could put the ball in it easily. The player has to struggle to save the ball and score a goal. It needs dedication and hard work to win. Also they need chanting and cheering supporters. If we want to succeed in life, we need to do a lot of hard work and be determined with our goal of life.

Youths are the seeds that can sprout up into big trees and give shade to the whole country. All we need is encouragement from our elders. With their help we can grow and make the nation green, or else we will remain mere seeds. This way we the youths can change our society and the people's way of thinking so that they can support our education in any sector.

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## My life is worth it!

Abhijit Borah

mulaic life. Instead, they built their own nest where they have set impeccable standards in their avowed objectives. Some of them were school dropouts. However, one cannot ignore the necessity of planning a good career, but the objective must conform to the veracity of life. Financial destitution is acceptable, but destination in thoughts must not be the excuse in toppling the route.

The antithesis of career and life is, however, actuated by the entourage of education. The exam-oriented aura where one has given emphasis to exam skills over learning skills and the intensive courses or notes have created a very conservative mindset and imposed a certain set of limitations in thinking. An education can either be a stepping stone or a road block on the path to achievement. A driven personality always finds its way. So, if one finds education to be an obstacle, shouldn't he push it aside and go to its chosen route?

One should be ambitious and at the same time, one should be an independent thinker. There is no silver bullet to success but hard work and patience. No one can lead you to your goal but you can. The only person you can depend on is yourself. You are the best person to judge your own strengths and weaknesses and, therefore, always be prudent while choosing the path of your life.

Objectives of career shouldn't be only to feed the mouth but also to feed the life which we are fortunate to have. If you believe in your skills and wisdom, it's good enough to set your own standards. Social milieu can lampoon and muddle you up with many exhortations, but it's completely up to you which path you choose. The life is yours, and surely you will be accounted for all the happiness and obligations that may be extracted out of it. As the apocalypse of life is unconquerable, at death's door you should be courageous enough to say, "My life is worth it".

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## Cognitive function

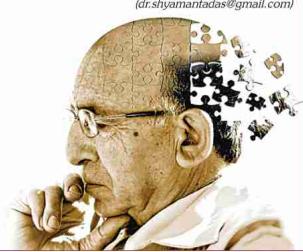
**P**sychiatry is that branch of medical science that treats disorders of ABC. Affect (emotion), Behaviour, and Cognition (thinking included). This is the only medical branch that does not have a veterinary counterpart. Though human beings are social animals, this subject deals with those higher functions of our brain that differentiate us from other animals: starting from 'attention', 'concentration', 'memory' through 'planning, sequencing, executing to abstract ability, judgement and reasoning'. These are few of those higher functions.

As our body goes through a downward slide with age, so does our brain. Subsequently, the higher functions also become comparatively 'lower', including memory. In major cognitive disorders like dementia (Alzheimer's, the prototype) these functions get impaired. Now, how do we differentiate the gradually progressing impairments of these higher functions of our brain? How do we tell if they are due to underlying undetected disorders or age-related?

A few non-institutionalised elderly in Kolkata were assessed by Sreerupa Ghose Sanjukta Das, and Anup Sadhu through neuropsychological tests and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) in order to arrive at an early identification of cognitive impairment. Age, sex, and education influenced the performance of tests on cognitive functions.

This research paper titled: 'Cognitive dysfunction in urban elderly people: an exploratory study using neuropsychological and neuroimaging perspective' published in the Open Journal of Psychiatry & Allied Sciences ([www.ojsas.com](http://www.ojsas.com)) draws attention to the fact that without manifestation of dementia also, the underlying problem can be detected by neuropsychological testing together with neuroimaging.

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Apple unveils sixth beta versions of iOS, macOS Sierra

A week after the last set of releases, Apple has launched the sixth beta versions of iOS 10.3.3 and macOS 10.12.6 for testing by developers. The updates are intended for maintenance, bug fixes and security enhancements, said a report on *AppleInsider*.

The current iOS 10.3.3 beta is either build number 14G57 or 14G58 while the macOS current Sierra 10.12.6 build is 16G24b. At its annual annual Worldwide Developers Conference (WWDC) recently, Apple introduced iOS 11, a major update to the world's most advanced mobile operating system.

With this, Apple announced it would bring new experiences and several new features to iPhones and iPads this fall. Augmented reality is coming to hundreds of millions of iOS devices with a new platform for developers to build apps that let users place virtual content on top of real-world scenes.

iOS 11 is the biggest software release ever for iPad, with powerful multitasking features, the Files app and more ways to use Apple Pen.



### TECH TRENDS

Samsung unveils redesigned version of flawed Galaxy Note

Samsung Electronics on Thursday unveiled the redesigned version of its Galaxy Note 7 smartphone, whose production and sale was stopped last year due to repeat incidents of handset catching fire.

This new modified version, Galaxy Note FE (Fan Edition) goes on sale today in South Korea, with a price tag of \$699.600 won (\$607).

Samsung had to halt production and sales of Galaxy Note 7 – the first-ever withdrawal in the history of mobile phones – due to faulty fire-prone batteries. The phablet's fiasco led to a net operating loss of almost 6.1 billion won for Samsung.

The redesigned Galaxy Note goes on sale with 400,000 units and has a battery with a 3,200 mAh capacity, less than the original model, which had 3,400 mAh. The latest device includes software like the Bixby voice assistant, used in its latest S8 smartphone, apart from hardware updates such as an iris scanner.

It is not yet known when and how many units will be available for sale in other countries. (IANS)



cycles ply on the city's roads every day (contrary to some 40,000 cyclists everyday in Copenhagen) and approximately 70 per cent of these vehicles don't have emission clearance certificates. The city has a higher concentration of black carbon aerosols during winter than is higher than in the other large cities in India and China, and much higher than in urban locations in Europe and the US. Even after such grave warnings, our politicians and city planners are yet to come up with a vision of working on a network of safe and inclusive cycling infrastructure.



## Riding the bicycle

### SEEDS OF CHANGE

Mubina Akhtar

Contrary to the Dutch, we have our own 'unpractical' notion when it comes to riding a bicycle to school, college or work! That notion has its roots in our chaotic and dysfunctional roads. Most roads in booming Indian cities don't have a designated cycle track or have a dysfunctional cycling track, putting cyclists at risk. As a result, cyclists were forced to move with the traffic on busy stretches that has made it too risky to cycle on city roads.

As for Guwahati, reports say some 400,000 vehi-

cles are on the city's roads every day (contrary to some 40,000 cyclists everyday in Copenhagen) and approximately 70 per cent of these vehicles don't have emission clearance certificates. The city has a higher concentration of black carbon aerosols during winter than is higher than in the other large cities in India and China, and much higher than in urban locations in Europe and the US. Even after such grave warnings, our politicians and city planners are yet to come up with a vision of working on a network of safe and inclusive cycling infrastructure.

When the Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte presented Prime Minister Narendra Modi a bicycle, there is certainly a strong message attached to it! The world is looking to countries like India with a burgeoning population, to lead the way towards global transition to a low carbon economy. Former UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon in a recent interview also expressed his hope that

Modi is working to make sure that green house gas emissions are reduced.

India's carbon footprint could be reduced if our day-to-day actions are

more environment-friendly at the individual level. Riding a bicycle can help to save on fuels and cut pollution levels in the atmosphere, get us some sunlight and fresh air and we could benefit financially, physically and mentally. But most importantly, riding the bicycle would lead us positively in reducing our country's carbon emission levels.

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### BOYCOTT

DURING the late 19th century in Ireland, the Irish Land League was campaigning for lower rent and land reforms. They resorted to a very effective tactic to stop any dealing with people opposing their effort – ostracise them. It so happened that, in September 1880, a land agent called Captain Charles C Boycott was the first such accused to be meted out the social 'treatment' – and the word 'Boycott' was born. Newspapers popularised the term enthusiastically and it percolated throughout Europe.

### WORDSPK

The story behind words

Bibekananda Choudhury



### PANACEA

PANACEA, daughter of Asclepius and Epione is the goddess of universal remedy in Greek mythology. Her sisters are Hygieia, Iaso and Aeso. From this, with time, any drug claimed to cure all ills or some solution that claims to settle all the myriad problems encircling an issue is called panacea – which, is, in fact, a myth. So, panacea is generally used sarcastically to denote a much hyped, all-encompassing solution to an impossible multifaceted problem. The word hygieia also has been dedicated to Panacea's sister Hygieia.



## Judicious encumbrance - III

**C**omplaining is simply a focus on what is wrong. This will make things seem worse than they are, and can easily distract you from all the good things going on in your life. Complaining can easily become a habit, at which point you will always see things in a negative light. The more you complain, the easier it becomes to take personal responsibility. A useful technique to combat regular complaining is to reframe your thoughts.

### Playing the victim

When you blame others, make excuses, and complain too much, you may develop a victim's mentality. The victim mentality is the opposite of personal responsibility. In fact, playing victim involves surrendering control over your life to external circumstances. Everyone will feel like this, at least, on occasion, but you can't let it become regular.

### CHARISMA CHRONICLE

#### Anjan Chowdhury

Recognise your choices

At any given time and in any given situation, you have a choice of how to respond. It doesn't matter how dire your circumstances are. You could be locked away in an extraordinary rendition prison, but you can still control your mental state. From now on, look at the choices you have available to you instead of feeling constrained.

### Accepting blame

When something goes wrong, openly acknowledge it as your fault, even if you feel there were external circumstances that contributed to the situation. If you shift responsibility to someone or something else, you will remain stuck in a rut. It doesn't matter whose fault it is.

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### WEST SIDE STORY

#### Bella stuns in tangerine dress

**BELLA** Hadid, spotted at the Haute Couture Fashion Week in Paris, dared to be different in a vibrant Giambattista Valli tangerine dress with a dramatic train as she joined the likes of Emily Ratajkowski and Cara Delevingne at the star-studded event. Bella, 20, looked beautiful in the bright one-shoulder number, featuring a thigh-skimming ruffled skirt that highlighted her slender legs.

#### Kylie re-inked after break up

**WHILE** Kylie Jenner dined in London Monday night, she unveiled her new 'la' ankle tattoo which used to be a lowercase 't' in honour of ex-boyfriend Tyga. The 19-year-old reality star finally ended her on/off three-year relationship with the 27-year-old Grammy nominee sometime in March. Adding insult to injury, the Lip Kit mogul and her new copper flame, Travis Scott, got matching butterfly ink on their ankles on June 12.

#### Pippa goes green!

**PIPPA** Middleton, known for her impeccable sense of style, certainly didn't disappoint at her best friend's wedding this weekend. Pippa, 33, attended the nuptials of Camilla Campion-Awwad in County Cork and was clearly keen to channel the spirit of the Emerald Isle by donning a bright green dress with an oversized flower embellishment. She completed the look with £2,200 citrine and gold earrings from Kiki McDonough.

AGENCIES



## Verdurous Nameri

**T**he alarm startled us on a chilly morning, forcing us out of our cozy beds. With a rejuvenating effect that early rise provides, carrying our backpacks, the six of us started our journey from Dibrugarh to Nameri. It was a misty morning and very little was visible even at stone's throw.

Our first stop was a roadside hotel at Moran for some tea. En route we stopped at Dergaon for breakfast in a hotel where we had *pooti* and *sabzi* served on banana leaves, reminding us of our grandmothers' delicacies.

Finally we reached the juncture where the road diverged – one to Guwahati and the other to Tezpur. Crossing the famous Kalita Bhumi Bridge, we reached the road leading to Nameri.

Nameri National Park is at the foot-hill of the eastern Himalayas, a few kilometres from Tezpur, adjacent to the Pobitora Tiger Reserve of Arunachal. We soon reached the Nameri Eco Camp run by the Assam Angling and Conservation Association. The camp was a lovely place with cottages and tents. Our tent was called 'Mohman'. We checked in to our respective camps and soon got ready for our first adventure: rafting. On reaching the Jia Bhoroli river, we were astounded by its beauty. The Jia Bhoroli is one of the major tributaries of the

Brahmaputra. This river was famous for the Golden Mahseer, which is considered endangered nowadays.

Rafting in Jia Bhoroli is of a mild nature. The water current is not too strong; in fact, it is more like sailing than rafting. Most of my friends were scared, but I enjoyed thoroughly, being the only swimmer in the group. The view was exquisite with the blue horizon as a backdrop. The sound of the water hitting the rocks was very sooth-

ing. We saw flocks of birds flying towards the forest – white-winged ducks, the Indian cormorant, Ibisbill, and Little brown cormorant. Nameri is renowned for its fauna, rich with around 300 species of birds. People from various corners of the world come here for bird watching.

After two hours, our rafting adventure came to an end and as dusk fell, people sat on the banks, enjoying the evening breeze. We reached our camp, tired after the rafting experience. We had evening snacks and freshened up for the bonfire party. Everyone had gathered near the bonfire, and there was music played in low volume. Amidst the deep jungle, we sat contemplating the beauty of nature. Away from our day-to-day work, it was a completely different scenario.

The next day we went on an early morning jungle trek. Our guide for the day was Mr Das. We reached Potasali Ghat, from where we crossed the Jia Bhoroli river to trek on the other side. On reaching the other side, we saw footprints of elephants. We kept on walking and clicking pictures of birds and trees, expecting surprise encounters with the inhabitants of the jungle. On the way, we climbed a watchtower where we rested for a while. The guide told us stories of his encounters with wild animals – some funny and some scary.

By the time we reached our cottage, we were all exhausted. Soon it was time for us to leave. At the reception counter, a warning sign said: 'While trekking, tuck your pants inside your socks to avoid leeches' – but it was too late. The damage had already been done!

There were stalls beside the cottages, which sold traditional attire, homemade pickles and locally grown vegetables. With some beautiful memories, as well as some delicious bamboo pickles, we took leave of this verdancy, via the historic Tezpur town this time.

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## AT THE THEATRES

Sanjoy Ray

### Hits and misses

**B**ollywood's half-yearly report is not an impressive one. And the second half of the calendar year 2017 too started on a topsy-turvy note for the Indian film industry with theater owners across Tamil Nadu observing a shutdown in protest of the local municipal tax levied on them, on top of the newly rolled out Goods and Services Tax (GST).

While the suspense vis-a-vis the effect of GST on the film industry should be clear by the end of 2017, more so in view of the languishing regional industry like in Assam, the pre-GST six months nevertheless had its share of ups and downs in Bollywood. Perhaps, there were more downs than ups with nearly 60 pan-India releases till date.

Despite Bollywood churning out movies at its customary frequency in the first six months, it was quality writing coupled with gripping story-telling that remained the mantra for success at the Box Office, albeit they were less to come by. While movies like *Rangoon*, *Phantom*, *Bejun Jaan*, *Sarkar 3*, *Meri Pyari Bindu*, *Raabta* and for that matter even *Tubelight* failed to set the theatres on fire, stronger scripts coupled with star value did rouse the mood at the box office.

The biggest question doing the rounds in the Indian

film industry for some time as to why *Katappa* killed Bahubali II too got answered with *Babubali – The Conclusion* setting an all-time collection record. Although no other movie could even inch closer to the magnum opus, movies like *Hindi Medium*, *Jolly LLB 2*, *Kaabil*, *Roses* and *Bodhrath Ki Dharani* did provide the movie buffs a stopover worth it.

But there is certainly a lot on offer in the year ahead. The much awaited *Shraddha Kapoor*, *Anurag Basu's Jagga Jasoos*, starring Bollywood heartthrob Ranbir Kapoor and Katrina Kaif; *Imtiaz Ali's Shah Rukh Khan and Anushka-starrer Jab Harry Met Sejal*, besides *Aishay Kumar-starrer Toilet: Ek Prem Katha* have already caught the attention of movie buffs and are scheduled to hit the silver screen very soon. Sanjay Dutt's comeback movie *Bhoomi* too is another film the audience is anxiously watching out for. Sanjay Leela Bhansali's period drama *Padmavati* and Salman Khan's next *Tiger Zinda Hai* too are waiting in the wings. But the biggest showdown has been booked for this Diwali when Aamir Khan's *Secret Superstar* and Rajinikanth-starrer 2.0 are expected to lock horns at the box office.

At half mark, Bollywood certainly has a lot of catching up to do to create the wow factor. (sanjoyray10@gmail.com)

Chennai, India

Sanjoy Ray

Chennai, India