





## ED opposes CA's bail plea

NEW DELHI, July 11: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has opposed the bail plea of a chartered accountant, arrested in a money-laundering case and allegedly having links with RJD chief Lalu Prasad's daughter Misha Bharti who is also under scanner in an alleged disproportionate assets case.



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the right stage to release the accused on bail.

Agarwal had sought the relief claiming he was in judicial custody and was no longer needed for custodial interrogation.

According to the ED, Agarwal was associated with some transactions involving a firm allegedly linked to Misha Bharti, which is under scanner for suspected tax evasion.

Additional Sessions Judge Ajay Pandey put the matter for arguments to July 21.

Public prosecutor Nitesh

Rana claimed that the probe was still on and this was not

with evidence.

According to the ED, Agarwal was associated with some

transactions involving a firm

allegedly linked to Misha

Bharti, which is under

scanner for suspected tax

evasion. -PTI

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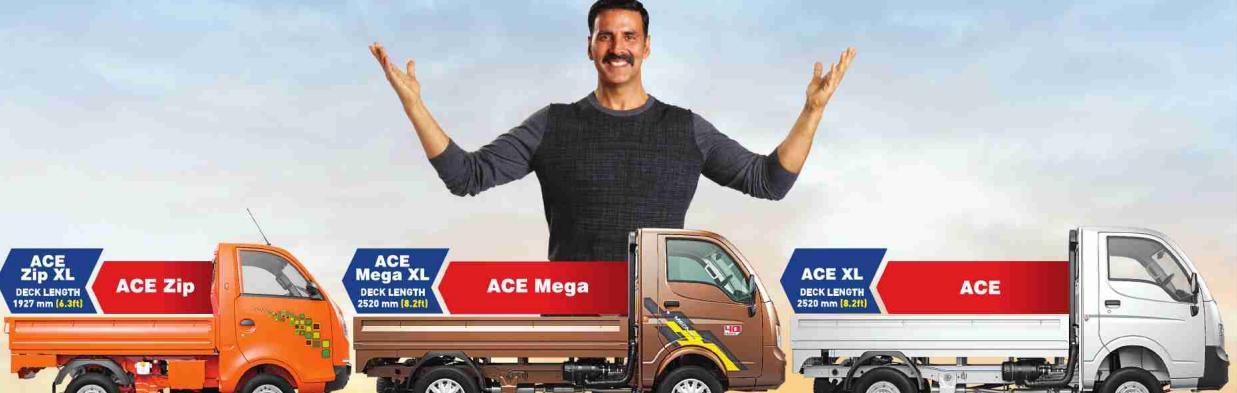
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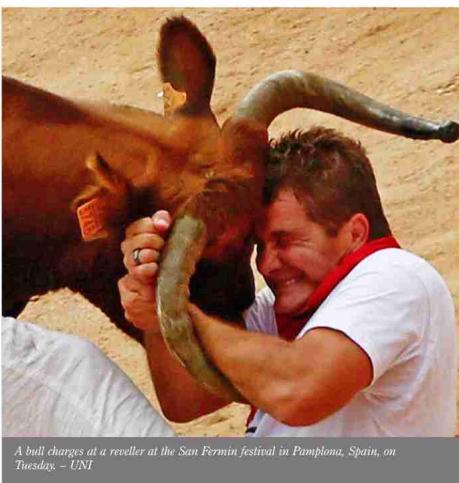
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A bull charges at a reveler at the San Fermín festival in Pamplona, Spain, on Tuesday. — UNI

## Sharif meets aides after Panama probe panel report

ISLAMABAD, July 11: Embattled Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif today met his close aides to chalk out a strategy to deal with the legal and political implications of the damning report by a probe panel on the Panamagate scandal that recommended filing of a corruption case against him.

The six-member Joint Investigation Team (JIT) that probed the Sharif family's business dealings, in its 10-volume report submitted to the apex court, recommended that a corruption case should be filed against Sharif and his sons, Hassan Nawaz and Hussain Nawaz, as well as daughter Maryam Nawaz, under the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) ordinance, 1999.

The report found Sharif and his children to be "living beyond the known means of income." The report, however, was slammed by the Sharif Government as "trash" with Sharif's close aide and Minister of Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal, in a press conference with other ministers, saying they would challenge the report in the Supreme Court and "completely expose and unveil its contradictions and falsifications."

Sharif today consulted senior party leaders and loyalists to formulate a policy to

deal with the legal and political consequences of the high-level inquiry report against him. Sharif called his younger brother and Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif from Lahore, who was part of a meeting attended by Defence Minister Khawaja Asif, Railways Minister Khawaja Saad Rafiq, Interior Minister Nisar Ali Khan, Minister of Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal and Minister of Petroleum Khagan Abbasi and members of his legal team.

According to sources, today's meeting is more focused on how to defend the Prime Minister and his family in the Supreme Court which will hear the case on July 17 and has already asked the parties to respond in the light of the JIT report. "The meeting has also expressed complete confidence in the leadership of the Prime Minister," the source added.

Sharif faces formidable legal and political challenges after the report. His fate is dependent on the verdict of the Supreme Court which will hear the argument and decide a future course of action. It is likely that it may ask the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) to launch the corruption case against Sharif and his children. But it may also reject the report after hearing the objections by the Sharif legal team. — PTI

## Theresa May vows to win 'battle of ideas' in Parliament

LONDON, July 11: British Prime Minister Theresa May said today that she has won a "battle of ideas" in Parliament and the country after losing her majority in last month's election.

In a speech both conciliatory and defiant, May urged her political opponents to contribute their "views and ideas" to help shape government policy. May spoke nearly a year after taking office, and just over a month after she suffered a setback from voters in a June 8 snap election.

She acknowledged that the election result was "not what I wanted," but said she remained committed to building a fairer Britain as the country

leaves the European Union. May was speaking at the launch of a report on how to guarantee protections for the growing number of workers in the "gig economy."

May became Prime Minister on July 13, 2016 through a Conservative Party leadership contest after predecessor David Cameron resigned when voters decided, against his advice, to quit the EU. She called an early election in an attempt to bolster her majority and strengthen her authority during the Brexit talks.

The gamble backfired when voters stripped the Conservatives of their majority in Parliament and boosted the number of seats held by the left-of-centre Labour Party.

The result means May must rely on deal-making and compromises to pass legislation, and is struggling to persuade her party that it is not a lame duck.

The election setback has led the government to abandon many of the pledges May campaigned on, including plans to reform secondary education and make senior pay more for their long-term care. Instead, the government says it will devote its energy to trying to pass the laws needed to pave the way for Brexit due to take place in March 2019. — PTI

### State govt ...

(Contd from page 1)

Rishi Kant of Shakti Vahini, an NGO working on human trafficking issues, has welcomed the initiative and said that maintenance of a migration register is slowly fitting good results in Jharkhand, a hotbed for traffickers.

On the current scenario, Senior Superintendent of Police (COP) Indranil Baruah said that the district anti-trafficking units are already put on alert and the respective SPs of the flooded districts on the job to thwart any such attempts.

Meanwhile, police sources informed that there was also a need to regulate the functioning of placement agencies in the State, which have become a major link in the vicious human trafficking chain. "Assam is a hotbed for them. Unfortunately, not enough is done to break the nexus. Police alone cannot do it. Departments like Labour and Social Welfare are very important agencies to rescue the trafficked people too in the rescue and rehabilitation initiatives," sources added. Police in the last six years has registered nearly 800 cases of human trafficking, arresting around 600 accused and rescuing over 600 victims.

### Gopalkrishna ...

(Contd from page 1)

joint opposition candidate for the post of Vice President of India, the Congress president said after the meeting.

After leaders of all parties unanimously picked the 72-year-old for the post, Congress' Ghulam Nabi Azad, TMC's Derek O'Brien and CPI(M)'s Sitaram Yechury talked to him over the telephone to seek his consent. "He actually expressed his gratitude to all the leaders who met here to decide on his candidature," Sonia Gandhi said. — PTI

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## INTERNATIONAL

### US conducts successful missile intercept test

WASHINGTON, July 11: The US military has conducted a successful test of a missile intercept system, officials said today, as tensions soar following North Korea's test launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile that could potentially reach Alaska.

The test of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system saw a ballistic and intermediate-range ballistic missiles during their final phase of flight. Though such exercises are planned months

in advance, it comes after North Korea's first-ever test-firing last week of an intercontinental ballistic missile capable of reaching parts of the United States including Alaska. THAAD is not designed to stop an ICBM—that job is left primarily to the Ground-based Midcourse Defense interceptor system.

The US military this year began deploying THAAD to South Korea, a move that infuriated China, which has argued the de-

signment would further destabilise the situation on the Korean peninsula. This was the 14th successful intercept in 14 attempts for the THAAD weapon system, the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) said.

"I couldn't be more proud of the government and contractor team who executed this flight test today," MDA Director Lieutenant General Sam Greaves said in the statement.

"This test further demon-

strates the capabilities of the THAAD weapon system and its ability to intercept and destroy ballistic missile threats. THAAD continues to protect our citizens, deployed forces and allies from a real and growing threat." The US also has a THAAD system installed in Guam. THAAD uses the "hit-to-kill" technology where kinetic energy from the interceptor missile destroys an incoming target. — AFP

## 'India becoming more attractive to foreign firms'

BEIJING, July 11: India is becoming more attractive to foreign firms but its path of reforms, including the implementation of the GST, will not be easy, an article in a state-run Chinese daily said today.

"As low-cost manufacturing is gradually moving away from China, it is now critical for India and even the world whether it can replace China as the next 'world's factory,'" an article in the *Global Times* said.

The Indian Government has rolled out "aggressive reforms" aimed at unifying the country's market, which is very attractive in the eyes of international investors, even though there are huge challenges such as poor infrastructure and difficulties in policy implementation across different states, the article opined.

Referring to the commitment by Foxconn and Midea to invest in India, it said these investments are coming close on the heels of India's decision to implement the Goods and Services Tax (GST), the country's biggest tax reform since its independence in 1947.

"The new tax regime is expected to give a boost to the 'Make in India' initiative because it is aimed at unifying vari-

ous state and central taxes into a single tax system, thus laying the foundation for a common national market and improving India's manufacturing competitiveness," the article said.

"In fact, prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Make in India' initiative in September, 2014, the Indian Government has been making aggressive efforts in uniting the country as a whole, with the aim of building it into an attractive manufacturing destination for global businesses," it said.

The article, however, cautioned that it will not be easy for India to achieve its goal. It stated that regulatory and bureaucratic challenges across the country's 29 states meant that the implementation of the reform measures would be far from simple, while poor infrastructure and cultural complexity may also undermine India's advantage in terms of cheap labour.

"Obviously, India is at a critical juncture for market opening-up and unification, which requires strong faith and assertiveness. Whether it can eventually pull off the current tasks will depend on whether the Modi Government is steadfast in pushing forward with its reform programme," it said. — PTI

## Priyanka's next Hollywood film goes on floors

LOS ANGELES, July 11: After stealing the hearts of millions with her Hollywood debut, *Baywatch*, Priyanka Chopra is yet again ready for another international movie, *Isn't It Romantic?*, alongside Rebel Wilson and Liam Hemsworth.

New Line Cinema has announced the start of principal photography for the romantic comedy, being directed by Todd Strauss-Schulson. Priyanka will be seen in the role of yoga ambassador, Anna Wilson, while Wilson will play an architect Natalie from New York City.

Hemsworth stars as Blake, a handsome client with Adam Devine as Wilson's earnest best friend, Josh.

In the film, Natalie works hard to get noticed at her job, but is more likely to be asked to deliver coffee and bagels than to design the city's next skyscraper.

Strauss-Schulson is directing the project from a screenplay by Erin Cardillo.



Io, Dana Fox and Katie Silberman and Paula Pell.

The film is set for a Valentine's Day release in 2019. — PTI



Women cry near coffins of their relatives, who are newly identified victims of the 1995 Srebrenica massacre, lined up for a joint burial in Potocari near Srebrenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina, on Tuesday. — UNI

## State flood situation ...

(Contd from page 1)

poultry, said the official flood bulletin here this evening.

Today, 70 boats have been deployed by the SDRF, NDRF,

local people and revenue cir-

cle authorities to rescue the

marooned people in different

districts. In all, 1,245 marooned

people have been rescued by

the agencies today from vari-

ous flood- hit areas.

DG State Disaster Re-

sponse Force A P Rout has

said that four additional

teams of SDRF have been de-

ployed in the Majuli and Lakh-

impur districts and so far 1,576

marooned people have been

rescued by the SDRF in the

State since July 2.

The SDRF has stated that

its teams have rescued 122

marooned villagers from Dibrugarh, No. 1 and No. 2 villages under Bihupur revenue cir-

cle of Lakhimpur district. An-

other NDRF team has eva-

cuated nine villagers from Dubi

under Gohpur subdivision of

Biswanath district. Five search

and rescue teams of the

NDRF have been deployed in

the flood affected districts of

Lakhimpur, Sonitpur, Barpeta,

Cachar and Biswanath for con-

ducting rescue operations.

The official flood bulleti-

nets under Bihupur, Dibrugarh

and Lakhimpur districts are

available on the website of

the State Water Commission (CWC) flood

bulletin.

It is hoped that the

State flood situation will

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2017

CORRIDORUM

**Due to opening of GST w.e.f. 01-07-2017, the following additional terms and special conditions are given in E-Tender Notice No. KIR/Engg/H/2017/Dated: 01-07-2017.**

(A) For the tenders due open before roll out of GST- All the bidders/bidders while quoting the rates should clearly indicate the rate of applicable cut-off taxes included in the rates quoted by them. Any variation in tax structure/rate due to introduction of GST, shall be dealt with Statutory Authority.

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(A) Tenders will be available from the office of the DCMT/Tinsukia from 10.00 hrs. to 17.00 hrs. from 18-07-2017 to 18-07-2017 upto 12.00 hrs.

**Tender submission start date and time:** 08-08-2017 from 10.00 hrs. **Tender submission End date and time:** 18-08-2017 upto 12.00 hrs.

**Tender will be opened at 15.30 hrs. of 18-08-2017 in the chamber of ACMC/Tinsukia.**

**Website address for downloading tender form:** www.nfr.indianrailways.gov.in & E-Tender Notice No. LMG/2017 (Item No. 1,2 & 3) Dated: 06-07-2017.

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**SN 22. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 23. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 24. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 25. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 26. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 27. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 28. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 29. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 30. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 31. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 32. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 33. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 34. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 35. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set under ADEN/UD (Total 16 sets).**

**SN 36. BG Through renewal (with sleepers) 1 m 12 (King & Queen Size) 1 set**



## Borjhar areas under water, but no threat to airport, say authorities

STAFF REPORTER/  
CORRESPONDENT

**LOCAL FORECAST:**  
Generally cloudy  
sky. Moderate rain  
thunderstorms are very  
likely to occur.  
**Maximum temperature:**  
is most likely to be  
30°C on Wednesday.

**TEMPERATURE:**  
Max 29.7°C  
Min 25.0°C

### Complaint against former Kamakhya OC

GUWAHATI, July 11: The residents of the Kamakhya (Niachal) hillock have demanded stringent punishment to former Kamakhya Police Officer OC Balakrishna Giri and his subordinate B Chandra Baroi for their alleged unethical activities which vitiated the holy atmosphere of the Shakti shrine.

In all, 326 residents of the hilllock have alleged, in a memorandum to the State's Special DGP (Law and Order), that the two police officials had literally terrorised a number of pilgrims, besides demanding various kinds of favour, including financial gratification, from the complainants.

Giri often refused to register FIRs and was in the habit of refusing to give the complainants even when the complaints were registered. Thus, he was emboldening the perpetrators of the crimes to inflict more damage on their victims. This was done to earn financial benefits from both the complainants and the accused, alleged the residents.

Alleging that Giri gave protection to a rapist, the residents urged the police to initiate urgent measures to rehabilitate the rape victim, who has since become pregnant, and hand exemplary punishment to the culprit. The Police HQ here has sent the complaint to the City Police Commissioner for follow-up action. — Staff Reporter



*Closure of the sluice gates caused artificial flood outside the new radar facility of LGBI and other parts of Guwahati.*  
— Photo: Jatukbari Correspondent

July 11: With many parts of the State already reeling under flood and various rivers showing a rising water level, the Kamrup (Metro) district administration today said that it is maintaining a constant vigil and the situation is being monitored round-the-clock.

The rising water of the Brahmaputra has forced the authorities to close down sluice gates at Khamanukh, Bharalumukh and other places.

This has resulted in inundation of some places near the Lokapuri Gopinath Bordoloi International (LGBI) Airport and also at Bharalumukh.

Officials, however, added that there is no immediate threat to the operational area of LGBI

Airport, though water-logging has taken place at parts of the non-operational areas, including the car parking slot.

"There is no threat as such (to the operational area) and the areas in and around the airport are being monitored. We

are also studying the feasibility of interlinking the drainage network in that locality," Kamrup

### Goat Research Station flooded



*The inundated Goat Research Station. — Photo: Correspondent*

CORRESPONDENT

JORABAT, July 11: The only goat research station of Assam and the North East has been hit by flash-flood this season, affecting the normal working condition of the station.

The Goat Research Station (GRS) located at 13th Mile near Jorabat is under the Directorate of Research (vety) of the Assam Agricultural University. It has helped transform the living standards of people involved in goat farming. Apart

from this, GRS does breeding and carries out training programmes in which scientists visit the villages and try to develop goat villages in the State.

The flood water has submerges a large part of the GRS complex, making difficult for the staff to feed the goats kept in the shed.

Dr Kandarpa Baruah, Senior Research Fellow at GRS said a brief downpour results in flash flood at the station and nearby areas as the drain is occupied illegally resulting in a reduction

of its breadth in some stretches along the Jorabat-Birnai road and subsequent overflow of the drain water and submergence of the nearby areas.

The GRS has high quality goats like Betel, Sirohi, cross-bred and Assam hill goats. In the last few years 11 goats have died as flash flood damaged fodder meant for the goats. The station is witnessing flood every year after the construction of the four-lane national highway.

Dr Jai Prakash Sharma, another Senior Research Fellow of GRS said, "Flood has affected the station badly as we cannot feed the goats on time, having to wait for the floodwater to recede." The grass grown for grazing purpose has also been washed away by the flood, he added.

AASU's Jorabat unit advisor Arinab Bhattacharjee expressed concern over the issue, pointing out that man-made factors are mostly responsible for the frequent flash flood.

and there is no threat. However, the airport authorities have informed us that as a precautionary measure Bay No 9 may be closed down in case of rising water level," he said.

Besides the airport, important offices and residential places like the India Oil Regional Office, Software Technology Park of India office and SOS Children's Village are waterlogged now.

Across the city at many places there have been incidences of congestion of drains, including at Fancy Bazar, Athgaon, Bharalumukh, VIP Road, Pubaramatia and Narenji.

Officials said in case of heavy rainfall in the next one or two days some low lying areas may be affected due to reverse flow of water as the sluice gates are closed and the water level of the Bharali, Bahini and other channels is already high.

The forest department is creating two new stone quarries in Kamrup West Division this week in a move which is expected to ease the crisis of construction materials in and around Guwahati within a few days' time.

The quarries are located at Daklin Mandikata. The available quantity in these two quarries will be around 2 lakh cubic metres.

"We have already obtained the mining plan and environmental impact assessment (EIA) report from the authorities. The administration is also likely to give the blasting permission today itself, following which operations will start," a forest official said.

The forest department is not leasing out the quarries to mafduals. Instead, it has asked the Public Works Department (PWD) to recommend names of "big contractors" who can operate them. "The PWD has given them two names. We have given them the permits. These contractors will operate the

## Shortage of building materials to ease soon: Forest dept

STAFF REPORTER



Guwahati, July 11: The

forest department is creating

two new stone quarries in

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authorities. The administra-

tion is also likely to give the

blasting permission today

itself, following which oper-

ations will start," a forest offi-

cial said.

According to the PWD, the

requirement of stone chips for

the stalled projects in and

around Guwahati is around 2

lakh cubic metres.

Besides, the forest depart-

ment is also creating five new

quarries at Chandrapur.

"Action has been taken for

obtaining 'No Objection Cer-

tificate' and EIA clearance

from the district authori-

ties. The stone that will be

available after operation of

these five *mualabs* will be approxi-

mately 6 lakh cm. Another 23 stone

and sand gravel quarries are

being advertised for sale for

operation," the official said.

Shortage of stone chips has

hit construction activity in and

around Guwahati. The PWD

says projects of nearly Rs 450

crore have come to a standstill

due to the shortage. Price of

chips has shot up from Rs 1,400

per cubic metre (cm) to around

Rs 2,800 per cm in two months.

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- The information will be matched with the information in possession of the Income tax Department.
- Ensure that the ITR is compliant with amount deposited in bank accounts during the period of demonetization and while computing income, the amounts so deposited are considered/taken into account while paying taxes.
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## MESSAGE FOR TODAY

*Nothing is a waste of time if you use the experience wisely.*

— AUGUSTE RODIN

**The Assam Tribune****Living with floods**

Floods have been a natural hazard faced by the communities living in the Brahmaputra and the Barak Valleys since primordial times. For instance, Ahom *bunjis* record the great flood of 1570, which nearly reduced the Brahmaputra Valley to almost famine conditions. In 1863 J Fergusson of the Geological Survey of India called Assam "a region under the dominion of water". This is the reason why, even before the advent of "technology", many communities in Assam had learnt to live with the floods. Tribes which dwelt close to the banks of the river built their houses on stilts so as to tide over the months when flooding occurred. Every household had dugout canoes for emergency travel, while higher structures were built where food grains could be stored and family livestock could take shelter during inundation. The Ahoms had brought with them the technique of deep-water rice cultivation and this came of use when flood waters began receding. It may be noted that in Assamese villages, *bharts* or granaries are built upon stilts, so as to prevent water from seeping into the stored grains. These and numerous other measures aided the indigenous people to survive the period when the heavens poured down and rivers swelled up to inordinate size. But the various communities seem to have forgotten about such measures as witnessed by the number of deaths that occurred during floods this year.

Of course, factors such as thoughtless human intervention in the shape of ill-conceived embankments, the great earthquake of 1950 which lifted up riverbeds, the stupendous population explosion, etc., have been responsible for the fact that floods have assumed increasing potency as far as destruction to life and property is concerned. This year's floods, for example, have been extremely severe, affecting almost every part of Assam, resulting in the death of at least 31 people and causing havoc to infrastructure, crops, livestock, etc. The suffering of the afflicted millions is beyond imagination, with rural households being impoverished and the threat of post-flood epidemics looming in the aftermath. Though seven decades have passed since India's independence, not much has been effectively done to tackle Assam's floods and it is moot whether any success in this direction would be achieved in the decades to come. This is why modern technology must combine with traditional methods to devise new strategies in spheres such as house construction to enable people of flood-prone regions to suffer less loss during the monsoon months. Agriculture scientists need to create new cropping patterns so that farmers are not entirely devastated due to losses suffered if high floods occur. Institutions such as the IIT Guwahati and our engineering colleges need to focus their attention on creating appropriate technology to enable our rural communities to live with the floods without suffering the devastation these tend to wreak.

**Nagaland politics**

The border State of Nagaland is witnessing another round of political crisis. Less than five months after he assumed charge as the Chief Minister of the State, Dr Shurhozelie Liezetsu has now found himself under siege from his own comrades in the ruling Naga People's Front (NPF). Former Chief Minister TR Zeliang, who had been ousted following an inner party revolt in the NPF earlier this year, has now staked claim to form a new NPF-led Democratic Alliance of Nagaland (DAN) government. Shurhozelie, who had replaced Zeliang only in February, has sacked four senior ministers — Home Minister Y Patton, Forest Minister Imkong L Imchen, Power Minister Kipili Sangtam and National Highways Minister Kaito Aye — as he fights a beleaguered section to save his position. Shurhozelie has also sacked Zeliang from his post as advisor to the Chief Minister (Finance). Zeliang is the current chairman of DAN and he has succeeded in marshalling support of a majority of legislators to overthrow Shurhozelie even before the latter could enter the House through by-election scheduled for July 29. Reports suggest that Zeliang has the support of 34 NPF legislators out of 47 while seven independent members of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly are also supporting him. The MLAs from the Zeliang group are presently camping at a luxury resort in Kaziranga. This is the fourth intra-party rebellion within the NPF since 2014 and the second one of this year itself. This time Zeliang and Lok Sabha MP Neiphiu Rio, who is also a former three-time Chief Minister of the State, have come together against their common foe Shurhozelie. The reason behind the latest revolt is stated to be Shurhozelie's recent nomination of his son Khrishu Liezetsu as an advisor to his government with status and perks of a Cabinet Minister. Khrishu had earlier resigned from his MLA seat to facilitate his father's entry into the State Legislative Assembly. The role of Governor PB Acharya will be very crucial in this context in the coming days.

This kind of political crisis is not at all good for Nagaland. Only a few months ago, the State had witnessed a major turmoil and violent protest by tribal organizations who were opposed to holding elections to the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) with 33% of the seats reserved for women. The State is among the most backward ones in India and underground outfits are very active. Such a game of musical chair, where one leader is elected and hardly gets time to settle down before coming under siege from within his or her own camp, is not healthy for a democratic society. Politicians in Nagaland must show maturity. The State is anyway going for the polls next year and at this juncture all those in the Assembly should come together to provide better governance rather than indulging in practices which will only lead to further instability in Nagaland.

**Loan waiver no solution to farmers' woes**

■ Paramananda Das

**T**he loan waiver schemes for farmers announced by various governments have not served any meaningful purpose and the farmers who are demanding loan waiver are damaging their own prospect of prosperity through agriculture. Farmers are the backbone of the economy of our nation and all the political parties are using them as vote bank by inciting to go for agitation demanding loan waiver for all categories of farmers instead of spearheading revolution in agriculture by demanding timely and adequate credit, ensuring irrigation, liberal approach in crop insurance, non-discriminatory rural infrastructure in terms of road, electricity, provision of best variety seeds, bio-fertilizers and pesticides and assured procurement at Minimum Support Price. Loan waiver is bad in the sense that it demoralizes the farmers that we expect waiver of their dues every time they take loan. While the government is showing serious concern against the mounting non-performing assets or bad loans of the banks arising mostly from deliberate default in payment at the same time the same government succumbs under political pressure to declare debt waiver for all farmers. This is quite detrimental to the health of the asset portfolio of the banks and affects adversely in the economy.

It has also been observed from the previous loan waiver schemes that the honest borrowers who paid their dues in time were deprived of

the benefits available under the scheme as loan was either liquidated or there is little outstanding on the relevant date of debt waiver scheme. This will certainly compel these loyal farmers to think otherwise and join in the fray of the defaulters. Talking of food security is easy but only a few talks seriously about the protection of interest of the farmers and educating them about the benevolent personal accident insurance scheme with insurance premium almost free, availability of production credit at only 7% interest, etc. Corruption in various departments has become a great obstacle before the farmers as the benefits of the schemes do not get percolated down to their farm. Report of repeated incidents of distribution of spurious seeds resulting in crop failure is like slapping on the face of the farmers. After spending thousands of crores of rupees, farmers still do not get irrigation facility in time in the event of drought even after 70 years of independence; this is an insult to the farming community. We find no reason to rejoice over the talk of comfortable economic growth without resolving the issues of the farmers. The Madhya Pradesh Government has tried to show an example by assuring various measures like mandatory procuring food grains at Minimum Support Price (MSP) and provision of forward and backward

linkages to protect the interest of the farmers instead of declaring loan waiver unlike the Maharashtra Government.

Simply by blaming for the present plight of the farmers, political parties cannot escape their responsibility if they cannot insist upon the ruling governments to take measures to protect the interest of the farmers and not instigating the farmers to agitate over the issue of loan waiver. It is high time that all the

**After spending thousands of crores of rupees, farmers still do not get irrigation facility in time in the event of drought even after 70 years of independence; this is an insult to the farming community.**

State governments and the Centre think seriously on the following line of actions.

The MS Swaminathan Committee in its report in 2007 suggested implementation of MSP at the rate of one-and-a-half times of the average cost of production by all States. Unfortunately, this is not being implemented in all the States. The amount of debt waiver is to be paid by the government is not a small amount by any means. According to a report of an external rating agency, the Government of India will have to incur not less than Rs 2.5 lakh crore by 2019 if they

resort to loan waiver from now. If this amount is invested in infrastructure development in terms of cold storage, warehouse, procurement centres, processing units, etc., instead of debt waiver, farmers will not be compelled to resort to distress selling of their produce during the bumper production periods. The crop insurance scheme will be beneficial to farmers if the procedure for compensation payment is simplified. There is a gulf of difference between the amount of crop insurance premium paid and the amount of claim paid to the farmers. This trend will benefit only the insurance companies not the farmers. Trend of throwing the agricultural produce for not getting even cost price should stop immediately. During bumper production, farmers should go to the cold storage or warehouses and approach the banks for credit against the warehouse receipt and not to the market. The Government should ensure that the existing procurement centres are activated and new centres are opened wherever required while the marketing staff should be made accountable if they refuse to buy the produce of the farmers at MSP. All farmers should be encouraged by the banks to take loan for allied agricultural activities and non-farm agricultural activities for setting up of micro-enterprises also, so that their income generation remains steady throughout the year.

**The political contrast called Yogi Adityanath**

■ Dr Kamala Kanta Saharia

**G**oing by the recent media reports, one gets an idea that several unorthodox developments are taking place very fast in India. Demonetization, Digital India, cashless transaction and GST have affected all. On the other hand, the problem with Pakistan has intensified. The border dispute with China looks like a strategic aggression. Although in the sideline of the G-20 Summit both the countries agreed to resolve the issue through dialogue, but dialogues with both our neighbours are always doubtful. Darjeeling is burning continuously since June 8, 2017. The separatists in Jammu and Kashmir have dared to call a Kashmir bandh on the occasion of the death anniversary of an extremist. One Congress leader even supported him only to find the party distanced from his statement. Stray incidents linked to cow protection are increasing. The CBI raided Lal Prasad Yadav's house and grilled all his family members including his son-in-law. Nitish Kumar is leading the greatest alliance keeping a disturbing silence over his own party line. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had finished a suc-

cessful tour of Israel when Rahul Gandhi suddenly remembered the former's US tour and termed him to be the weakest Prime Minister of the country. Meira Kumar being the Opposition's committee Presidential candidate has termed her campaign a "battle of ideology" and is roaming all over the country. All these happenings with the State of Assam. Not realizing that at local levels, we saw one of our MLAs joining the people in *Shramdaan* and another holding the plough in the paddy field in Assam.

In the middle of all these, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is proclaiming that the culprits and criminals in UP would not be spared. He has emphasized zero tolerance against corruption, like our own Sarbananda Sonowal. He has also produced the report card of his 100 days in office with no progress from any quarter. He has promised tax on the people in the coming budget against the assurance of waiving the farmers' loans. The Arunima Romeo squad is already working in all the cities to the relief of the girl students and their parents. To pull down the rate of crime in the State, he has not asked the Centre for ex-

tra forces but encouraged the State police to meet the challenges and the reluctant police officers have been suspended. In similar situations in Assam, no step has been recorded. Yogi has already gone to Ayodhya, where neither Rahul Gandhi nor Akhilesh Yadav ever visited in the fear of losing the Muslim votes. Organized crimes have started infesting under the script designed by the Opposition parties. Yogi has also taken note of the crimes in the UP-Nepal border, which no Chief Minister ever dared to intervene. Many patrol pumps have been sealed for cheating the consumers. Similar issues exist in softer intensity in Assam, but some are addressed and others not by the State Government.

Crime, corruption, conspiracy and covering up are the integral parts of politics in India. Without the support of these elements, no party wins elections. Parties may differ, but indulging in such practices is the safest route to success. Today, corruption is a relative term and, therefore, that relativity is allowed to continue in such a way that the mechanism does not come to light. Policy decisions are made by people who are party to the benefits to be accrued. For initiating disinvestment, the Vajpay-

e regime was under scanner, but today, FDI, sale of shares of the public enterprises, Make in India, Stand-up India and different exchange programmes are being floated, expected to yield better health for the nation, though we have not been able to see, or show, any sign of change in Assam so far.

What Yogi Adityanath is responsible for is that, in addition to waiving the farmers' loans, he has also indulged in prompt compensation against insured crop failures. This single attempt has destabilized the whole farmer-Government equation in all other BJP/NDA-ruled States, except Assam. Yogi has further worked against the norms. He has drastically cut down the expenditures of the Ministry and the Ministers — to which many of his own Cabinet colleagues are not very happy. His visit to Aparna Yadav's *goshala* was termed as a major political stunt. But everybody was surprised when within a week's time, the money (in crores) allotted to that *goshala* came into the open. The Akhilesh Government's nepotism in giving above 90% allocated funds to that single family *goshala* is a big scam. Yogi promptly declared an investigation. In Assam, repeated appeals against corruption are falling on deaf ears. Cow-keeping in India is a holiest

**Letters to the EDITOR**

Sir — Never has the onus of self-responsibility been more on us than it is right now. Technology has brought in progress but unless used adeptly may upset its very purpose. It has unleashed a capability which may be too much for us to handle. A nuke bomb in the hand of a rogue nation easily testifies it and later on it may be justified as *caveat belli*. The lurking danger of technology is that it has all come down to the touch of a button, good, bad, evil, destruction, spiritual, moral, creation, *et al.* The accidental spark that gave us fire gives us electricity to run all our machines and put the rocket on orbit. However, fortuitously, when we try to draw an analogy we are left, grappling to save the planet from our own plundering through all the G summits.

The flip side of progress has touched our lives in ways we had hardly fathomed. One technology that has almost taken over our lives is the mobile phone and now the smart phone. It seems to have changed the very perspective of life. It has come down to now or never? The impatience of the user

**Flip side of technology: the new normal**

is evident in the restless flickering of the finger on the handset of the newer, fancier and more updated versions.

Added to this is the false sense of privacy to some users,

whereas our movements are privy to so many eyes, that of the legitimate moderators, the cyber criminals, the hackers and so on.

Another very serious fallout of technology is the internet in the private lives of people. At what point of time the internet gained entry into the privacy of a couple's bedroom through the mobile phone is very difficult to mark out. But today it has become a major cause of rift in relationship. It could be simply seeking of diversion, out of boredom, in search of an emotional outlet or the irresistible appeal of the unknown; reading out to someone else in search of instant gratification has been on all time high with a heavy toll in previously long-term stable relationship.

Probably technology has brought this new normal in the different shades of grey. Yours etc., DR ARACHANA DEKA, Basantapur, Tezpur.

**CBSE students**

Sir — Through the columns of your esteemed daily, I would like to draw the attention of the

authorities concerned towards the discrimination being meted out to the CBSE students during admissions in the different colleges of Assam.

As per a media report, the CBSE students are going to suffer because of the standardization of marks in Cotton University and other such colleges of the State. This is totally unjustified on the ground that the CBSE HS answer scripts are evaluated according to rules made by experts.

The other universities and colleges outside the State are not doing such standardization.

Such standardization will discriminate against the CBSE students.

This is not fair and will deprive many deserving student from getting admission in reputed colleges.

So, I would like to appeal to the authorities concerned not to make such standardization.

Yours etc., UTPAL CHAKRAVARTY, Silpukuri, Guwahati.

**DU exam process**

Sir — It has been more than five months that Dibrugarh University has conducted the MA final exams of distance education but the result is yet to be declared. The MA final exam of the academic session 2014-2016 was conducted on January 2017 which was supposed to be

conducted in June 2016 as per various norms of the UGC. The session which was supposed to be completed in two years already consumed three years in June 2017.

This is the regular practice of Dibrugarh University in case of the last four-five batches, i.e., from 2012. The university seems to be overwhelmed by examination, as they have a lot of affiliated educational institutions outside of their jurisdiction area. Therefore, the State Education Minister and the UGC should interfere in this matter to short out all reasons for delay and make the process smooth and fast.

Yours etc., SOME STUDENTS, Dibrugarh.

**Flood havoc**

Sir — This is regarding the series of deaths of citizens due to floods in Assam. I know flood is a natural calamity but why is the Government not taking any preventive security measure?

We have departments like SDRF, ASDMA and various NGOs but still we are unable to spread the awareness of the danger that befalls during the heavy rains.

The people who man the present

Government had criticized the earlier Congress Government a lot

but it seems there is no difference

between the two now. The Chief Minister should understand that a mere visit to the flood-affected areas won't solve the miseries suffered by the people. The departments concerned must prepare an action plan for the same. Yours etc., DIGANTA BORAH, Dhekaijuli.

**Unfair fare**

Sir — I want to share one incident which indicates how the public in general is being looted in daylight by the auto-rickshaw drivers in Tinsukia. I came across an embarrassing situation when I was on my way to my hometown, Digboi recently. I reached New Tinsukia around 4:30 am by train. From there I had to take an auto to the Tinsukia ASTC counter. To my dismay, the driver was charging Rs 50 per head for a mere distance of less than three km, which is five times the actual rate. People were also boarding the autos helplessly. I protested in vain. I shared this in the anticipation that some organization will take this matter to a higher level. Yours etc., ANIL PAUDEL, Maligon, Guwahati.

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.

## CM's intervention sought for fair probe

STAFF REPORTER

### Arunachal girl's death in Guwahati

GUWAHATI: July 11: Alleging that the Assam Police was ignoring the circumstantial evidences leading to the death of Titer Bagra, a schoolgirl from Arunachal Pradesh, Guwahati on June 14, her family and the Arunachal Pradesh Women's Welfare Society (AP-WWS) have sought Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal's intervention for an unbiased investigation into the incident.

Titer's family has filed an FIR at the Bassista Police Station (52/17) suspecting that she was murdered.

Titer, from West Siang district, who had just passed her Class X examination from Aza Public School, Guwahati, was staying at a close friend's house at Bishnu Patha Batal, before the time of her death.

"The police said it's a hanging case but several of the circumstances and the condition of the place where the incident occurred, present a picture in contrast. Despite pointing out the mysterious circumstances, the Assam Police is not looking into the matter as



APWWS members addressing the media. - UB Photos

seriously as it should have been," said the father of the deceased Titer Bagra.

The family alleged evidences of the alleged murder were destroyed as the room was not sealed by the police.

It may be noted that the incident has sparked protests and candlelight vigils in Arunachal Pradesh demanding justice for the schoolgirl.

Titer's family further said that facts like lack of initiative from the home's

family to inform about her death to her parents, the considerable distance from the bed to the fan from which she had supposedly hanged herself, bruises on her wrist and other body parts should be taken into account during investigation, without a hurry to wrap it up as a suicide case.

"She called me at 11 am on the fatal day and appeared normal and happy about her return to Arunachal. When I

called back to inform about her bus ticket I was told she was dead," Titer Bagra said.

Arunachal Pradesh Women's Welfare Society, which sent an independent fact finding team to Guwahati, met the Chief Minister and informed him about the mysterious circumstances. "The CM has assured us of all possible help," Begum Dipti Tadar, president of the Society, said.

The APWWS has also sent a questionnaire to the State Child Rights Commission for securing answers from close friends and her brother who was staying with Titer Bagra.

The police on the other hand, said that all the necessary procedure was followed and the body was examined in the presence of the police AC, a magistrate and the investigating officer.

"The police also recovered a suit case note from the site which has been sent for forensic examination. The final post-mortem report would also come after the viscera examination in the forensic lab, after which the investigation would move forward," police sources said.

The police has also sent a questionnaire to the State Child Rights Commission for securing answers from close friends and her brother who was staying with Titer Bagra.

## LPG scheme for BPL families launched in Kamrup (M)

STAFF REPORTER

PRADHAN MANTRI UJJAWALA Yojana was today launched in Kamrup (Metro) district at an event held at the Khampanara Veterinary College ground.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said that the Central and State governments have been taking several steps for around development of rural areas and women belonging to the below poverty line (BPL) segment.

"The Ujjwala Yojana is one such pet programme of Prime Minister Narendra Modi which has enabled many rural women to get access to free LPG connection, besides helping them to go forward in life," he said.

Sonowal said the scheme would enable the poor women to live a life of dignity and cook in a healthy environment.

ed LPG connections today.

Referring to problems faced by the people during the current floods in the State, Sonowal said the government is taking steps to provide relief materials and has stepped up rescue operations for ensuring proper arrangement for flood-affected and relief camp inmates.

He also said that the deputy commissioners of all districts have been directed to release the ex-gratia for flood-affected people within 12 hours and undertake prompt action to the fight the menace.

Minister for Food and Civil Supplies Rihon Daimary, Lok Sabha MP Bijoya Chakravarty, MLAs Atul Bora, Siddhartha Bhattacharya, Ramendra Narayan Kalita and Ashok Sarma, GMC Mayor Mrigen Sarania, top oil company officials and other dignitaries were present at the event.

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#### NOTICE

The candidates shortlisted for appointment to the post of AAO in APDCL which was published in the newspapers notification dt. 03.06.2017 are requested to appear for medical examination to be held on 17.07.2017 and 18.07.2017 at 10.30 AM at CMO's chamber, Bijulee Bhawan, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Paltanbari, Guwahati-1.

They will have to bring and produce their Call letter issued for Computer Proficiency Test before the Chief Medical Officer, APDCL during Medical Examination.

No Travelling Allowance or Daily Allowance will be admissible in connection with the journey for appearing in the medical examination.

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Chief General Manager (HRA)  
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NIT TECHNICAL 2017-18/05

Sealed tenders in two bid system are invited from reputed, registered, Professional Security Agencies having experience of at least 5 (Five) years of Providing Security Services in Central Govt./State Govt. Department / Institutions with ISO 9001 certified for providing total campus security services and Institute Vehicle driving services in NIT Silchar for a period of 1 (one) year.

Prescribed tender documents containing terms & condition can be obtained from the office of the Estate Engineer on payment of Rs.3,000.00 (non refundable) or may be downloaded from the website [www.nits.ac.in](http://www.nits.ac.in) & [www.tenders.gov.in](http://www.tenders.gov.in). The detailed notice inviting tender may be seen in the website. Tender document should be submitted along with cost of tender paper and EMD of Rs 4,50,000.00. Last date of submission of tender will be 25.07.2017. Director NIT Silchar reserves the right to accept or reject any/all the tenders without assigning any reason.

Registrar

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#### ADMISSION NOTICE

Admission into the following programme for the session 2017-18 has been scheduled as under:-

Programme	Last date of submission of Forms	Date of admission	Date of Commencement of Classes
MA in History & Education 1st Semester	24.07.2017	28.07.2017	07.08.2017
PGDCA 1st Semester	20.07.2017	21.07.2017	01.08.2017

\* Issue of Forms and Prospectus : 14.07.2017

\* For details candidates may contact 03624-281238, 94352-97690.

Principal  
Tihu College, Tihu

## Artists' Guild foundation day

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 11: The 41st foundation day of the Gauhati Artists' Guild (GAG) was celebrated with a daylong programme today.

The programme started with hoisting of the GAG flag. Noted artist and filmmaker Pulak Gogoi inaugurated the programme. An exhibition of the art works of the pre-Independence era artists of Assam was also organised.

Inaugurating the catalogue of the exhibition, Pratim Saikia, Commissioner and Secretary of the Department of

erbal issues like water crisis, dilapidated condition of roads, non-availability of street lights, poor garbage collection, rise in antisocial activities and other problems in the area.

As most of the areas under Ward No. 17 of GMC are hilly, people in those areas have to face difficulties while moving around.

Speaking on the problem, MLA Bhattacharya said the GMC water supply project would be commissioned soon in the area. The MLA alleged that GMIDC has excavated many roads for installing water pipes, but no steps were taken to reconstruct the roads once pipes were laid.

Lashing out at IVRCL, the

local residents raised questions on sev-

plementing the water supply project funded by JICA, Bhattacharya said Guwahati is being destroyed in the name of development.

"There are several roads in the city that have been ploughed through just after a few days of their construction. IVRCL has been repeatedly urged to coordinate with other departments before carrying out its work. It has happened on several occasions when one side of a newly constructed road was demolished and I had to rush to the spot. Moreover, the roads should be restored to their previous condition, but it is evidently not being done," Bhattacharya added.

He also announced that con-

struction of four new roads in

## VHP programme

GUWAHATI, July 11: The Biswa Hindu Parishad, Guwahati city unit, is organising a programme at 3 pm on July 13 at its Panbari office to felicitate 33 of its members who will go on a pilgrimage on July 16. The places to be visited by the pilgrims are Vashno Devi, Golden Temple, Pushkar, Dwarka, etc., according to a press release issued here today.

The new executive body of the VHP unit, too, will be formed during the programme, the release added.

## THE ASSAM TRIBUNE, GUWAHATI 7



Activists of the State Anganwadi and Helpers' Association staging a protest demanding increase in salaries and other demands during their nationwide protest, at Moshalpur, on Monday. — UB Photos

## Demand to allot stone mahals of Deoduar Gopeswar RF to locals

CORRESPONDENT

BAIHATA CHARILLI, July 11: The public of Deoduar, Madanpur, Piyalukha, Alipup and Baitaha Charilli area have urged the Forest Department to allot the stone mahals at Deoduar Gopeswar Reserve Forest under North Kamrup Division of Forests to the local people.

The public concerned with the business said that since a long time back, the Forest Department had allotted stone mahals at Deoduar Gopeswar Reserve Forest and that was the only main source of livelihood of the local people and more than 1,000 families were dependent on that job. In the year 2005-2006, as the expansion work of National Highway 31 was started, the Forest Department had cancelled the permits of local contractors and allotted the mahal No. 1, 2 and 3 to the National High-

way constructing companies. However, the local public had continued the extraction of stones from the area and supplied the boulders to different government projects of the Water Resource Department, PWD and also different stone crusher units of the area giving royalty through challans to Deoduar and Mandakata.

Thereafter, though the department had given permit issuing the challans of Agyathuri mahal to the local contractors, but practically due to some local problems they could not extract stones from the Agyathuri mahal. In this connection, the local contractors and the public involved with this held a meeting on March 2, 2015 in the presence of then ADC, Kamrup BC, SPDO, Rangya, K Gogoi, Circle Officer of Kamalpur BC, Das, ACF of NK Division of Forests AS Arif, FRO of Sila Range G Mahanta, CI of Police,

## Unbiased recruitment policy demanded

CORRESPONDENT

GOLAPARA, July 11: The Democratic Youth Federation of India (DYFI) has insisted that the district administration follow an unbiased and honest recruitment policy which should be free from any irregularities for the recruitment of office bearers for Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Adressa Mahavidyalaya at Amingora, Golapara.

In a press release, the DYFI stated that the advertisement for these posts vide letter number GPE 37/2017 dated May 2, 2017 drew a large number of educated unemployed applicants who after paying a Rs 100 in the form of demand draft along with Rs 25 as bank charges applied for these posts and were waiting eagerly for a call letter for the interview. But sadly another letter number GPE 37/2017/101 dated July 6, 2017 issued by the personnel branch of the district ad-

ministration invited only 40 short-listed applicants to appear for the computer test on 12/7/17 for the post of junior assistants and asst librarian. Further, it is not clear how the district administration have shortlisted the list of candidates on the basis of academic scores as no individual marks have been assigned against each of these names.

The release also mentioned that on the other hand, their counterpart in the neighbouring Bongaigaon district adopted a policy of giving a fair chance to all the applicants and that can be amply seen from a newspaper advertisement, Bongaigaon who in the capacity of chairman of the governing body of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Adarsa Mahavidyalaya, Tuliniga, Bongaigaon invited all the candidates who applied for the post to appear for the interview in batches from July 19-24, 2017.

## Seminar on Chemistry

CORRESPONDENT

JAGIROAD, July 11: The Department of Chemistry, Jagiroad College, is going to organise a two-day UGC-sponsored national seminar on 'Recent Trends in Chemistry towards Utilisation of Natural Resources and Constraints' with special reference to 'Northeast India' on the college premises on August 30-31.

The seminar will provide a common platform for scientists, faculty members, research scholars and students to come together and share their research ideas for emerging and challenging areas of Chemistry and its natural resources.

The convenor of the seminar organising committee, Dr Chitta Ranjan Sarkar, appealed to the academicians, researchers and students to participate in the seminar. Dr Sarkar further requested the participants to send papers or before July 30.

## Modern banking facilities highlighted

CORRESPONDENT

NAGAON, July 11: The SBI Nagaon branch arranged a customer interface on July 7 here. The programme began with a presentation of a short film about the achievements of the SBL. On behalf of the SBI Assistant General Manager Nima Baruah welcomed the guests.

Deputy General Manager Nagnara Malavina, Chief Manager Nilmani Kakati and others highlighted the different modern facilities like digital banking, Health Insurance, National Pension System, new ways to invest in RD and fixed deposit which earn more interest and attract no TDS.

On behalf of customers, Dr Sultan Ahmed Majumdar, Dr BK Bora, Lalit Ch Datta, retired Principals S Ojha and Mukul Saikia, Ranjit Tamuly Phukan, retired professor Bipul Kr Bora put forward a number of suggestions like arranging parking space, making arrangements for foreign exchange in the

branch, easy way to submit life certificates for pensioners etc.

The customers also thanked the bank authority for the service they offered during the demonetisation period.

The Vice-Chancellor of Maphurush Shrimanta Sankaradeva Vishwavidyalaya Dr KK Deka, business personality N Nahata, BC Goswami, Scientist Dr DP Borooah and others were also present on the occasion.

**Bank day observed:** The regional business office of SBI observed bank day and felicitated a number of students who had performed excellently in the last HSLC and Higher Secondary Examination in the district. Principal Dilip Bora, business personality Piyush Kanai Dey, Debasit Saikia, Bharat Ch Goswami, AGM of SBI Nagaon Nima Baruah and others were present in the function. Bijoy Ch Deka, Regional Manager presided over the function.

**Conference on noise pollution:** The Physics department of

Council employees protest over pending demands

CORRESPONDENT

HAFLONG, July 11: Normal functioning of NC Hills Autonomous Council has come to a grinding halt as the NC Hills Autonomous Council Employees' Union

started a five-day protest in front of Autonomous Council Office on Monday.

The employees' union has been demanding pending salary, regularisation of non-regular posts, gratuity of retired/ex-employees of the Autonomous Council.

Earlier, a general meeting of NC Hills Autonomous Council Employees' Union was held on July 8 at around 11 am at Autonomous Council field. The meeting was presided over by Joyraj Thaosen, vice-president of NC Hills Autonomous Council Employees' Union, Haflong.

In the meeting, it was also resolved that the office of the Divisional Forest, Dima Hasao (west division) will be closed due to non-payment of forest royalty to NC Hills Autonomous Council against the stone used by NKC Construction company. The NC Hills Autonomous Council Employees' Union will move for the release of Rajib Baruah, DFO of Dima Hasao district.

It was resolved that the Council Employees' Union will approach to the Council Authority for cancellation of 'Stone Mahal' system and implementation of the permit system so as to collect royalty properly.

Talking to this correspondent, Jayraj Thaosen said that they might go for 100 days non-cooperation if the NCHAC fails to fulfil their demand within five days.

The camp was organised by

the Principal of Don Bosco School, Boko, Fr. Sajal Kariyl

Fr. Francis Charuvala, LT (S),

Principal of Don Bosco School, Imphal, Fr. Dennis Solomon,

Principal of Don Bosco School, Umkachi, Fr. Nelson, principal of Don Bosco School, Silchar, AR Lazar, ALT(s) DOC and the Scout Masters and the Guide Captains of the participating schools, The Army Camp, Boko, CRPF camp, Chaygaon, the Boko Medical Hospital, cooperated by providing personal assistance during the camp. The camp was organised also in view of the preparation of the national level Scouts Camp at Mumbai that will be held in the month of January 2018.

## CID probe into agri scam

NALBARI, July 11: A four-member team of the CID which is investigating the multi-core scandal of Agriculture Department, on Monday visited the district agriculture office to probe the government schemes implemented in the district since 2010.

The team examined all the files and interrogated the officials concerned regarding the schemes. The CID team will also conduct a field visit in this connection. — Correspondent

## Concern over unabated cattle head lifting

CORRESPONDENT

GAURIPUR, July 11: Unabated lifting of cattle heads, not only in border areas under South Salmara Mankachar district but also in remote villages in Dhubri district has become a matter of concern for the farmers as cattle heads are a major source of income. In some cases, the police and the BSF in joint operations have been able to seize the smuggled cattle heads at the time of their transportation to Bangladesh, but miserably failed to nab the lifters. It is also interesting to note that the security personnel, including the police, had to face a lot of trouble in tending to the seized cattle heads in their custody as they have to feed them and also clean the temporary cowsheds.

Recently, 30 cattle heads, including two pregnant cows, were lifted from village Madhu Saulman here and the lifters took away the cattle heads in a truck.

The affected people alleged that there might be a nexus between the law-enforcing authority and the smugglers as they are seen to lift cattle heads without any difficulty even in remote areas of the district and are seen transporting those on trucks in the night through the village roads. Cases of cattle lifting seems to be on the decrease in Dhubri area but in South Salmara Mankachar area it is increasing.

**National Fish Farmers' Day:** Under the aegis of the Dhubri District Fishery Development Office, National Fish Farmers' Day was observed by organising a felicitation meeting on the premises of Dhubri Municipal High School on July 10.

The meeting was chaired by Mukul Sharma, Headmaster of the school, and the objectives of the day was observed by Mukul Sharma, Assistant Information Officer, DFDO. The meeting was ad-

dressed by Abhijit Paul, Fishery scientist, KVK, Kokrajhar, Superintendent of District Jail, District Veterinary Officer, Dr D Gogoi, Mitali Paul Ghosh, Associate Professor, BN College, Dhubri and a few others. Chayan Kr Acharyea, DFDO, Dhubri while explaining the importance of the National Fish Farmers' Day stressed the need of implementing the schemes with cooperation from all concerned.

Five progressive fish farmers of the district were accorded warm felicitations on the occasion. They were Dipak Sarkar from Golaghat Development Block, Abdul Karim from Rupshi block, Sipajuddin from Bilsapura block, Situ Prasad Ray from Agomani block and Maidul Islam from Gauripur block. On the occasion, fish seeds were also ceremoniously released in the ponds of the District Jail and BN College. Fish Farmers' Day was also observed at Bongaita.

## Rajen Gohain inaugurates school buildings

CORRESPONDENT

DHUBRI, July 11: Union Minister of State for Railways Rajen Gohain on Monday officially inaugurated the school buildings of the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) at Alamtangi in Dhubri district.

The school shifted to their permanent address recently, where the Union Minister of State officially inaugurated the campus buildings worth Rs 165 crore, in presence of Deputy Commissioner Dibriraj Chaudhury and Dhubri Superintendent of Police Longeet Terang.

While addressing the gathering, the Union Minister said that the school aims at serving this remote part of the country with world class education and bring out the real talents from the rural areas. He said that the school aims at serving 75 per cent rural students and 25 per cent urban students. He also urged the students to plant trees in the school premises.

However, the guardians of the students and local people expressed their grievances in front of the Union Minister about various issues relating to the school.

Meanwhile, the Minister also met an all-party delegation at the Dhubri Circuit House, who submitted a memorandum demanding better railway service to Dhubri. They also demanded daily service of Dhubri Silghat Rajya Rani Express.

## Fellowship for Dainik Asam staff

GUWAHATI, July 11: Bidyut Barun Sarma of *Dainik Asam* has been offered the Junior Fellowship in the field of Literature (sub-field Assamese) by Ministry of Culture, Government of India, for a period of two years with effects from July 1, 2017, stated a press release.

He will conduct a research on the 'Role of Contemporary Assamese Newspapers in the development of Assamese literature'. He is the eldest son of Dandadhar Sarmah and Bhanu Devi of Mangaldai, Darrang.



Workers of the State Fire and Emergency Services clearing a road in Golaghat district on Monday where a huge tree got uprooted due to continuous rainfall for the last few days. — UB Photos

Dhing College organised a UGC-sponsored State-level conference

on noise pollution on environment with special reference to traffic noise teachers, scholars, NGO activists, common people and media persons took part. The conference was formally declared opened by Dr SK Dutta, Principal of the college.

In his address, Dr Dutta highlighted the effect of traffic noise in our day-to-day life.

Delivering the keynote address, Prof Tulsi Bezbora of GU elaborately discussed the issue. Dr Amit Prakash of Tezpur University was the chief guest in the function. In the beginning, coordinator Prof Debrajita Debbarma explained the significance of the conference.

The conference recommended restricting of vehicular movement specially around hospitals and educational institutions, banning hydraulic horns, improving of roads and parking systems, public awareness about noise pollution, plantation drive etc.

Over 40,000 families of 40 villages affected

## Flood scene in Kamrup dist worsens

ANN Service

MIRZA, July 11: Flood situation in Kamrup district worsened today as the water level of the Brahmaputra river crossed the danger mark in most of the villages of Palashbari, Goraonari, Chamaria, Nagarbari and Hajo Revenue Circles in Kamrup district, affecting over 40,000 families of 40 villages.

Sources said that several villages namely, Baria, Bhatkhawdia, Hengratri, Banapara, Paglada, Kalandia etc., under Palashbari Revenue Circle in Kamrup district have been completely inundated, creating panic among the people.

A large number of villages, namely, Futuri, Bartari, Simina, Guimara, Panikhaiti, Charimari etc., under Nagarbari LAC have been partially inundated.

"Relief has not been provided to us. Adequate boats need to be provided for rescue of the affected families of Palashbari LAC and immediate relief needs to be distributed among the flood-affected families," said Mukadshed Ali of Kalidala village in Palashbari LAC.

Several villages, namely, Balagona 1, Balagona 2, Batahida, Sarapara, Kol-tuli, Maghura, Debdihua, Sal-mara, Duramari, Bhakua-wamari, Khetrapara, Nayara etc., under Goraonari Revenue Circle have been submerged by the flood waters of the Brahmaputra river today, forcing a large number of affected families to take shelter in the artificial highlands.

"At least 20 engine-fitted boats are necessary for conduct of relief and rescue operations in the affected villages under Goraonari Revenue Circle in Kamrup district

Circle but only five boats have been requisitioned for rescue and relief operations at the affected villages under Goraonari Revenue Circle in Kamrup district," said Sadek Ali Dewani, an affected villager of Balagona village.

Rukubdin Ahmed, MLA of Chhayaon LAC, Goraonari Revenue Circle Officer, BDO of Goraonari Development Block and other senior officials visited the flood-affected villages on Monday under Goraonari Revenue Circle and took stock of the situation.

Sources said that flood waters of Jalali river (a tributary of the Brahmaputra) has caused irreparable damage in several villages, namely, Pipajupara, Nagarbera (ward no. 1), Jamali, Mandira NC, Horidoba, Bokhuradia, Malibari, Tumapuri, Polasortari etc., under Bokho LAC in Kamrup district have also been submerged.

In Hajo LAC too, a large number of villages including Sivalmari, Borchar, Goburapam etc., have been inundated by the flood waters of the Brahmaputra. Several villages of Bokheli LAC, namely, Ghulorpar, Kurihamari, Laopara etc., under

and so far, relief has not been distributed among the affected families.

Boat have not been requisitioned for the flood-affected families under Nagarbari Revenue Circle, said Amal Das of Pijupara village in Nagarbari Revenue Circle.

Nandita Das, MLA, Boko LAC has, however, visited the affected families on Sunday and took stock of the situation.

Sources said that some of the villages including Polimangal, Panikhaiti, Arikati, Kamalapur etc., under Boko LAC in Kamrup district have also been submerged.

"Several families of the affected villages have been hit by flood and erosion this year. Villagers must shift their properties and family members to the artificial highlands or camps. But, how would it be possible to launch any rescue and relief work when there is a ban on plying of boats during the floods. We demand that a ban on plying of boats during flood is not clamped as the boats are a vital communication link and rescue and rehabilitation tool for the flood-affected families," said Sadek Ali Dewani of Balagona village.

## Situation in Dhemaji remains grim

CORRESPONDENT

DHEMAJI, July 11: With incessant rainfall since the last three days in upper reaches of neighbouring Arunachal Pradesh, the flood situation in Dhemaji district has worsened today.

The surging waters of the Jadhav, Kumar, Gai, Behera etc., rivers have inundated a number of villages in West Dhemaji, Bordalani, Gogamukti and Sissiborgaon areas creating miseries for the flood-hit people here.

Almost 70 villages under Gogamukti Revenue Circle have been inundated by

current flood. The worst-affected villages include Nana-dai, Gosiabari, Kora-tani, Upar Chena, Bam Chena, Bettari, Bhebeli, Khana, Krishnapur, Sapekhati, Chut-karai, Phulbari, Cheljan, Kor-chabati etc.

According to the flood report published by the Dhemaji district administration today, a total of 468 villages in Dhemaji district under four revenue circles including Sissiborgaon, Dhemaji, Gogamukti and Jonai have been submerged by the current flood affecting a total of 1,93,281 people in the district. Moreover, 35419 hectares of cropland in the four revenue circles have also been affected by the current wave of flood.

## Udalguri dist safe from flood menace

CORRESPONDENT

UDALGURI: July 11: While most districts of the State are safe from flood and the two turbulent rivers, Dhansiri and its tributary Golondi, have been flowing below their estimated danger levels. This was conveyed to this Correspondent by Sadhana Hoja, chairman of DDMA and Deputy Commissioner of Udalguri district today.

The daily report on flood situation published by the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) today in-

said that the DDMA is ready to tackle any flood scene in the near future with its stock of relief materials.

Meanwhile, the swelling Golondi river waters have damaged croplands in Kabitabari, Batabar and Puroni Thana area near Udalguri town to some extent but the situation is under control.

## GAUHATI UNIVERSITY

GUWAHATI-14

Advt. No.NTS-07/2014

Applications are invited from the Indian citizens for non-teaching posts of ICT Engineer (Contractual) & ICT Assistant Engineer (Contractual) in Gauhati University. Details of the advertisement, other terms and conditions and the application forms are available in the University website [www.gauhati.ac.in](http://www.gauhati.ac.in). Last date of receipt of filled-in application is 25/07/2017.

Registrar  
Gauhati University

## SALE NOTICE NO. 2 OF 2017-18 FOR SALE

TIMBER LOTS

Searched tenders offering court fee stamp of worth Rs. 8.25 (Rupees Eight and paise twenty five) only on each tender are invited for sale of some timber lots kept in different locations within Nagaon South Division, Hoja. Details of lots etc. other terms and conditions shall be available in the Sale Notice which can be procured from the office of the undersigned during office hours of any working day on payment of Rs. 50.00 (Rupees Fifty) only for per copy of Sale Notice. Moreover, intending tenderers shall have to pay Rs.5.00 (Rupees Five) only for per copy of Form to submit their tenders. The due date for tendering has been fixed on 14-08-2017 up to 3.00 PM. (I.S.T) in the office of the undersigned. If the Office remains closed on that day the tender will be received next working day.

Sd/- Divisional Forest Officer,  
Jasanayog/1699/17

## E-TENDER NOTICE

The Director of Technical Education Assam invites a tendering in two bid systems from manufacturers or their authorized dealers for supply, installation and commissioning of Equipments & Machineto **Bineswar Brahma Engineering College, Kokrajhar, Assam** through e-tendering portal [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in)

**Important Dates:**  
DATE OF AVAILABILITY OF BIDDING DOCUMENT ON E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL : 31-07-2017  
LAST DATE AND TIME FOR ONLINE BID SUBMISSION : 03-08-2017  
TIME AND DATE OF OPENING OF BIDS : 03-08-2017, 14.30 I.R.S

**Bid submission end date & time :** 31-07-2017 before 11.00 a.m. & Opening date & time : 03-08-2017 after 11.00 a.m.  
**Document Fee :** Rs. 1000/-  
**NET NO.:** OC2200009  
**Job Name :** Contract for monitoring forest resources in 05 AACM Stations located around NRI.  
**Bid Submission end date & time :** 03-07-2017 before 11.00 a.m. & Opening date & time : 03-08-2017 after 11.00 a.m.  
**Document Fee :** Rs. 1000/-  
**NET NO.:** OC2200009  
**Job Name :** Contract for supply of fuel oil to 05 AACM stations located around NRI.  
**Bid Submission end date & time :** 03-07-2017 before 11.00 a.m. & Opening date & time : 03-08-2017 after 11.00 a.m.  
**Document Fee :** Rs. 1000/-  
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## CAPSULE

## AirSewa web portal

NEW DELHI, July 11: The Central Government today said it seeks to upgrade the AirSewa web portal and mobile-based application to make air travel more convenient and hassle-free for passengers. According to the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the upgraded version of the web portal and mobile app. – IANS

## Union Bank chief

NEW DELHI, July 11: State-owned Union Bank of India today said Kewal Handa, former Managing Director of pharma major Pfizer India, has been appointed as its Chairman for three years. Handa has been appointed Non-executive Chairman and part-time non-official Director as per a notification of the Finance Ministry. The tender said in a BSE filing – PTI

## Godrej soaps

NEW DELHI, July 11: Home-grown FMCG firm Godrej Consumer Products Ltd (GCL) has slashed its soap prices by 8 per cent, extending GST benefits to its consumers after absorbing the hike in hair colour. The company, which sells soaps under brands such as Cinthol and Godrej No 1, is optimistic about an upturn in the consumer demands due to GST and good monsoon from September onwards and expects a good second half this fiscal. – PTI

## IndusInd Bank

NEW DELHI, July 11: Private sector lender IndusInd Bank has reported an increase of 26.5 per cent in net profit at Rs 836.55 crore in the first quarter of the current fiscal. The bank's net profit in the corresponding April-June quarter of 2016-17 stood at Rs 326.55 crore, up 15.5 per cent of the tender rises by 21.5 per cent to Re 5,302.77 crore as against Re 4,363.57 crore in the year-ago period, the bank said in a regulatory filing. – PTI

## Vistara Airlines

NEW DELHI, July 11: After Air India and Jet Airways, Vistara Airlines today launched its check-in facility at the New Delhi Airport Metro Station, where passengers can have their luggage checked in and collect boarding passes. "Our partnership with the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation and Delhi International Airport Ltd adds to the multiple check-in options we offer to our customers. This will allow our customers to breeze through the check-in process..." Vistara CEO Phee Teek Yeh said. – IANS

## Service Tax Division shifted

## STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 11: The Commissionerate of Central Excise & Service Tax, Guwahati, now GST Commissionerate, has undergone reorganisation on account of the implementation of the Goods & Services Act 2017 which came into force on July 1.

Accordingly, the Service Tax Division, Guwahati, along with its GST Seva Kendra, operating from Housed Complex, Belota Basista Road, Guwahati, has been shifted to GST Commissionerate HQ located at Setif Trust Building, Bhengnagar, Guwahati in order to strengthen the existing Seva Kendra in the HQ, an official release said.

Accordingly, any taxpayer desiring to seek services of the Seva Kendra has been requested to visit the Seva Kendra at Bhengnagar Office. They may also send the queries/seek guidance electronically at [gstuwa@gmail.com](mailto:gstuwa@gmail.com) or telephonically at 0361-2465196 during office hours or tweet @gstguwahati.

## No change in plans for hybrid vehicles post-GST: Toyota

NEW DELHI, July 11: Toyota Kirloskar Motor today said it will not change its plan for hybrid vehicles in India despite increase in tax rates on the category of vehicles under GST resulting in higher prices.

Under the new tax regime, prices of the company's popular hybrid sedan Camry have gone up by an average of Rs 3 lakh.

The model, which is assembled at the company's Bengaluru plant, now costs around Rs 35 lakh as against Rs 32 lakh earlier.

Hybrid vehicles are on the same slab as luxury cars at 28 per cent GST plus 15 per cent cess at present. At 43 per cent, total tax incidence on these vehicles is higher from the previous effective tax rate of 30.3 per cent.

"We will continue with this journey of hybrid vehicles in India. Our commitment remains the same and we believe that this technology is good for environment," Toyota Kirloskar Motor Senior Vice-President and Director N Raja told PTI here. He said the higher tax rate under GST

## SHGs can create jobs with banks' funds, says Jaitley

NEW DELHI, July 11: Finance Minister Arun Jaitley today said that employment in the large unorganised sector can be improved if banks channelise funds through the self-help groups (SHGs).

"So if the banking system, through various schemes, diverts loans to this sector, there will be creation of more jobs," he said here at the 36th Foundation Day of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

"People who look for work in the unorganised sector are much more than those in the organised sector," Jaitley said.

Jaitley noted that during the growth of the country, "people on the margins are not benefited" and the aim of the government and State policies were to help in the unorganised sector could get

growth of such groups.

"In the last 2-2.5 decades, our growth has increased. When economy improves, in the development some people are left behind. The number of people left behind is not small. More

benefit is received in cities, businesses and organised sector. The urban slums, tribal areas, people on the margins, they do not receive much benefit," Jaitley said.

"The policies framed by the Centre and States aim that when resources increase in society, through these policies, these people who were left behind should receive benefits," he said.

Twenty-five years back, SHGs were devised so that such people in the unorganised sector could get

loans, he said.

At present there are about 85 lakh SHGs in the country.

Former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor C Rangarajan said that SHG has become a tool in the

banks for providing credit of small amounts to "vulnerable people".

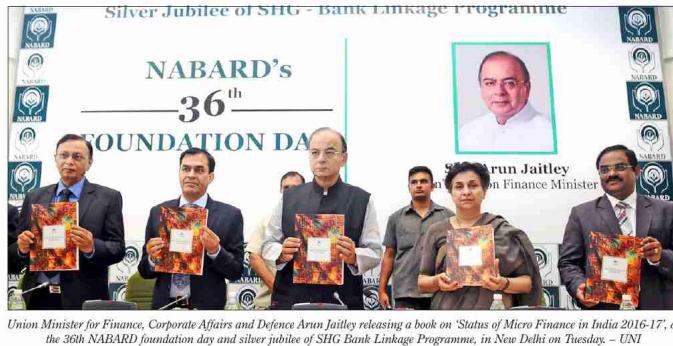
"The ability of other organised banking systems to reach out to small borrowers is very difficult. SHGs is a measure or tool through which the banking system can work," Rangarajan told reporters on the sidelines of the event.

The former RBI Governor said the SHG tool could come handy for the agricultural sector where the size of land holding is small.

"We should be permitting five to six farmers to form joint liability groups so that they can get some advantage by inputs and by way of sharing also," he said.

Financial Services Secretary Anjuji Chib Duggal said that apart from the credit linkage the government was also trying to link the SHG members to other social security schemes relevant to them. As per the scheme, Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana and Atal Pension Yojana.

"From apart ensuring credit linkages, we are working on linkage of SHG members to social security schemes relevant to them. We are trying to increase the reach of SHGs," Duggal, who also participated in the event, said. – IANS



## Nearly 67 crore bank accounts linked with Aadhaar: IT Minister

NEW DELHI, July 11: As many as 67 crore of the 110 crore bank accounts in the country are now linked with Aadhaar, the 12-digit unique identification number, IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said today.

"Of the 110 crore total bank accounts in the country, about 67 crore bank accounts are linked to Aadhaar," Prasad said, while inaugurating a workshop on Aadhaar services offered by the Common Services Centres or CSCs.

Lauding the contribution of village-level entrepreneurs in providing various services, Prasad noted that 22 crore Aadhaar enrolments had been done by the CSCs.

He urged the entrepreneurs not to be deterred by competition from other enrolment agencies, and

promised that the CSC business model will continue to evolve as more and more government departments take to new services and schemes to villages through the network.

The minister said while 10 lakh individual workers at the CSCs at present, he expects this number to increase to one crore in the coming 4-5 years, as new services and offerings enhance the appeal and utility of CSCs. "CSCs are providing 300 services today, from GST training to training on digital payments," he noted.

Taking a dig at critics of the unique identification number, the minister said the linking of Jan Dhan accounts with Aadhaar and mobile number had enabled the direct

transfer of subsidies into the beneficiary's bank account. This led to savings of Rs 50,000 crore, an amount that was earlier pocketed by the middlemen.

The Digital India drive under Prime Minister Narendra Modi ensured that every Rs 100 subsidy to the poor finally reaches the bank account of the beneficiary.

"Rajiv Gandhi had once said, we send Re 1 from Delhi and by the time it reaches the villages it becomes 15 paise. Under Modi government, we sent Rs 100 from Delhi and the poor man's bank account is credited with the full amount. This is digital India," he said. Terming Aadhaar as "safe and secure," Prasad said it provides minimum information about an individual. – PTI

## Move to cut down diesel use

## Govt to electrify over 10,000 mobile towers

NEW DELHI, July 11: The Department of Telecom today said it is working on electrifying 10,486 mobile towers from power grid in order to reduce diesel consumption on site cells.

The department said that the project is being undertaken in co-operation with the Ministry of Power, NITI Aayog, Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) and telecom industry for electrification of non-electrified telecom towers under Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojna (DUJY).

"Around 10,486 non-electrified mobile towers spread across the country are being taken up under this scheme and significant progress is achieved in electrification of non-electrified towers of BSNL and other telecom service providers," DoT said in a statement.

It added that out of total number of towers planned, 5,334 have been electrified. "As many as 4,796 (out of total 19,447) towers pertaining to TAIPA and 538 (out of total 1,039) towers of BSNL were electrified by March 31, 2017," the statement said.

The electrification shall ensure power supply to telecom tower and thereby reduce the diesel consumption at the BTS tower site, it said. – PTI

## Eateries should cut rates of food items post-GST: Adhia

NEW DELHI, July 11: Restaurants, hotels and eateries should cut rates on food items in their menu to reflect the benefit of being able to set off tax paid on inputs under GST, Revenue Secretary Hasmukh Adhia said today.

He also said that GST will be levied on entire sum of food bill,

including service charge, in a restaurant, while the value of alcohol or alcohol products consumed will attract VAT.

Previously, a service tax was levied on the bill. But the tax or hotel and restaurant operators paid on inputs could not be set off against the tax on final bill. This facility, called input tax credit (ITC), is available in the goods and services tax (GST) regime.

"Most of the restaurants should

review downward the rate charged on food items in their menu because of ITC, which is now available. So ITC should be accounted for now in the form of reduction in the value of sup-

pplies which they are giving," Adhia said in GST Master Class. Under the GST regime, while non-air-conditioned restaurants attract 12 per cent tax, AC restaurants and those serving liquor will attract 18 per cent.

Adhia further said that anything that is served as part of restaurant bill will be subject to GST, barring alcohol on which value-added tax (VAT) will be levied. "On the entire value of food bill, including service charge, GST will apply," he said.

Adhia further said that the tax department has received representation for transition provision of lease service industry. As per the GST provisions, ITC will not be available for central excise already paid on cars which are on lease.

"There are a lot of representations on this about transition for lease service industry. We are looking at the representation but we are not sure how to handle this," Adhia said. – PTI

## Tata Motors expands SCV range

NEW DELHI, July 11: Tata Motors today said it is expanding portfolio of its small commercial cargo vehicles under Ace brand with the addition of three new products priced between Rs 3.08 lakh and Rs 4.78 (ex-showroom Mumbai).

The company is introducing 'XL series' in its Ace Mega, Ace Zip and Ace range, offering 15 per cent longer loading deck as compared to the standard versions. Tata Motors said in a statement.

"With the introduction of BS-IV-compliant XL range of SCV (small commercial vehicles), we are offering a complete portfolio of last-mile delivery solutions," Tata Motors Head, Sales & Marketing (Commercial Vehicles), RT Wasan said in a statement.

"These will be available from tomorrow across all our 1,400 sales points across the country," Wasan said. Ever since its launch in 2005, the Tata Ace range has sold over 20 lakh units.

"We have been the leaders in the SCV segment and with the addition of these new XL series, we are hopeful of strengthening our market share even further," Wasan said. – PTI

## Jio unveils new packs, reduces Rs 309 plan validity

NEW DELHI, July 11: Reliance Jio, the newest telecom operator in India, today announced new tariff plans to replace its current dirct-cheap rates, offering lesser validity and data on a revamped Rs 309 plan and dishing out a bumper 84GB for Rs 399.

The new additions will address the emerging needs for a safer economy, and more reliable business transport solutions, he added.

With the implementation of GST,

Rs 509, instead of 84 days under the earlier offer.

The new plans will be available from today and will be applicable for all new as well as existing subscribers, Jio said in a press statement.

"Over and above the Prime-existing plans, Jio is introducing new 'Every Day More Value' plans. These plans provide 20 per cent more value than competitors' best plans," Jio statement added.

Apart from data benefits, customers will continue to get unlimited free local, STD and national roaming voice calls as well as unlimited national SMS.

The Mukesh Ambani-owned firm has also unveiled new plans, the most lucrative one being 84GB offer for 84 days for Rs 399. A Rs 349 plan offers 20 GB of data with no daily cap and a validity of 56 days. For Rs 999, 90 GB of data is being offered with 90 days of validity and no daily cap.

For post-paid customers, Jio launched a Rs 399 plan that offers about three months validity with 90 GB data. – PTI



(From L to R) Sunil Kataria, Business Head, India and SAARC, Godrej Consumer Products Ltd, Sangita Reddy, Joint Managing Director, Apollo Hospitals Group and Dr Anupam Sibal, Group Medical Director, Apollo Hospitals, launching India's first online 'Platelet Donor Community', in New Delhi on Tuesday. – UNI

# International community condemns barbaric attack on Amarnath pilgrims

NEW DELHI, July 11: Condemnation against the Amarnath attack poured in from the international community today, with the US and Iran deplored the strike and Germany, France and Bangladesh expressing their solidarity with India in the fight against terrorism and extremism.

While Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina wrote to her Indian counterpart Narendra Modi, condemning the "heinous" terror attack on Amarnath pilgrims and reaffirming her country's support to India at this "difficult hour", Nepal's Foreign Affairs Ministry, in a release, also strongly denounced the terrorist attack and expressed its condolences.

"We deplore the attack on #Amarnath pilgrims & condemn all acts of terrorism. Deepest condolences,"

The US Ambassador to India, but he is yet to



Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti meeting injured Amarnath pilgrims at a hospital in Srinagar on Tuesday. — UNI

to the families & all those affected," the US Ambassador's official Twitter handle posted.

The US has appointed Kenneth I. Juster as its Ambassador to India, but he is yet to

take office. France sent out a message of solidarity. "France respects the people and authorities of India in its solidarity in the face of terrorism. During their meeting in Paris on June

3 last, the French President and Modi had declared counter-terrorism to be a priority of their strategic partnership," said the spokesperson of the Ministry of Europe and For-

ign Affairs.

German Ambassador Martin Ney in his message said he strongly condemned the terrorist attack on behalf of his Government. He also con-

veyed deepest condolences to the families of the victims.

"Germany resolutely stands by India in the fight against terrorism and extremism," Ney said.

"As the G20 leaders just reaffirmed in Hamburg, we are resolved to tackle terrorism as a common challenge to the global community," he noted.

Hasina reiterated Bangladesh's "zero tolerance" policy against terrorism and vowed to continue to work together with India to eradicate the menace, a Bangladeshi Embassy release said.

The Embassy of Iran said in a release that it "condemns in the strongest possible words the Monday night terror attack on the Amarnath pilgrims." The Embassy also extended condolences to the Indian Government and families of the victims. — PTI

## Attack shows frustration of terrorists: Fadnavis

MUMBAI, July 11: Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis today condemned the terror attack on Amarnath pilgrims in Kashmir, saying the cowardly act showed the "utter frustration" of the terrorists.

"We condemn the attack on the pilgrims and pray that the departed souls rest in peace. It is an act of cowardice to attack innocent and unarmed pilgrims," he said. It showed the utter frustration of the terrorists and the "countries supporting them", Fadnavis said, adding that India would give a "befitting reply" to these "criminals of humanity".

The Chief Minister said he stood in support of the bereaved families, who lost their near and dear ones in the terrorists' gunfire, and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured.

Two of those killed in the terror attack – Usha Sonar and Nirmala Thakur – were residents of Dahanu near Mumbai. In a series of tweets, Fadnavis said his Government was making arrangements to bring their bodies back.

He added that the Government was in touch with the Centre and the authorities in Jammu and Kashmir. — PTI

## Driver's quick thinking saved many

MUMBAI, July 11: As gunshots rang out in the darkness on a deserted Kashmir road, Pallavi Abhyankar's first thought was that firecrackers were going off near the bus in which she and other pilgrims were travelling.

"It was only a few moments later that I realised the horror as I saw my fellow passengers hit by the terrorists' bullets," Abhyankar, 55, told this news agency.

The Maharashtra native was one of the lucky survivors in last night's terrorist attack in Anantnag district that left seven people dead, including six women, and injured 19 others.

The homemaker, who also runs music classes, said the bus driver's presence of mind saved many lives.

"Had it not been for the driver, the toll would have been more," she said.

The driver sped away amidst the firing and reached a safe distance out of harm's way, saving the lives of many of the pil-

grims on the bus.

The bus had over 50 pilgrims from Gujarat and Maharashtra, including 11 from Dahanu in Palghar district where Abhyankar is also from. Most of them were sleeping when their vehicle was attacked, she said.

"The terrorists fired from the front and the right side of the bus. Most of those who died or were injured were sitting on the right side," she said.

Abhyankar, who escaped unscathed, is now on her way to Dahanu. She said the bus, which left Srinagar in the afternoon, developed a flat tyre and stopped near Panipore. It resumed its journey at around 6.50 pm, said Abhyankar.

"The firing happened between 8.20 pm and 8.30 pm," she said.

After the attack, Army personnel took them to a safe location. The injured, among whom was the tour arranger, were taken to hospital, she said.

The survivors flew out of Srinagar today at 10.15 am by a special plane of the Indian Air Force and landed in Surat around 1.30 pm.

Mohanlal Sonkar, husband of Usha Sonkar, who was killed in the terror attack, said his wife had called him yesterday.

"She sounded very happy as this was her first trip to Amarnath," he said.

"I wasn't aware that the call would turn out to be the last one from her," the 58 year-old fruit-seller from Dahanu said.

Satosh Thakur, son of Bhagyalaxmi Thakur, 48, said he came to know last night that his mother, who was on the bus, was injured in the attack.

"This morning, my mother called and informed me that she was fine. She sustained a bullet injury on her hand," said Santosh, who is a relative of Nirmala Thakur, 50, who was killed in the attack. — PTI

## Intellectuals oppose Gorkhaland demand

KOLKATA, July 11: Intellectuals from diverse fields in West Bengal have written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking restoration of normacy in Darjeeling.

A host of intellectuals from the fields of literature, painting and acting, many of whom are of national repute, appealed to the Prime Minister to take steps to undermine the agitation and restore normalcy in Darjeeling hills.

A section of population of the Darjeeling hills of West Bengal have raised once again the demand for a separate Gorkhaland State on a flimsy ground. Their destructive activities have thrown public life totally out of gear there, the letter, a copy of which was given to this news agency, said.

Their demand for further division of Bengal is getting indiscriminate support from some political quarters operating from outside, the letter said.

Contrary to the allegation of the hill people, residents of Bengal have always stood by them in their efforts to enrich

their culture, language and ethos with proper honour, the letter said.

Sahitya Akademi award-winning authors Sirishendu Mukhopadhyay, Dibyendu Palit, Nabana Deb Sen, classical vocalist Pandit Ajay Chakraborty, painters Ganesh Halui and Wasim Kapoor and actor Ranjit Mallick are among those who signed the letter.

The West Bengal Government, in this direction, has constituted a host of language and development boards, the intellectuals wrote in support of the activities of the Mamata Banerjee-led regime in the state in connection with the hills.

In a statement, the body claimed that the ruling was in response to its petition filed in NGT in August 2016, calling for a nationwide ban on all forms of sharp kite-flying strings.

NGT directed all State governments to prohibit the "manufacture, sale, storage, purchase and use" of synthetic manja or nylon threads and all other synthetic strings used for flying kites with immediate effect.

PETA will continue its work to protect birds and humans from all forms of manja, the statement said.

In March 2017, a man in Chennai died after his throat was slit with sharp manja while he was driving a bike.

On August 15, 2016, three people – including two 3-year-olds – were killed in Delhi when their throats were slashed by manja.

Recently, three people died in a similar manner while riding motorbikes, including a man in Ghaziabad in July 2016, a man in East Delhi in August 2015, and a 5-year-old boy in Chennai who was riding with his father in 2015, PETA claimed.

The body said that thousands of birds are also killed every year when they are cut or trapped by manja, which can get entangled in trees or buildings or walls. — PTI

## NGT ruling on Chinese manja for kites lauded

NEW DELHI, July 11: The National Green Tribunal's ruling banning Chinese manja - the string used to fly kites - is a "life-saving" step, animal rights body PETA today said.

The NGT today ruled that there will be a complete ban on the Chinese manja strings or any synthetic material which is non-biodegradable as it poses a threat to the environment.

"This prohibition on the use of synthetic and nylon manja is a lifesaving step and now we must press on until all dangerous manja is banned."

Particularly worrying is glass-coated manja which has caused injuries and deaths of children, birds and others and so must also be banned," said Nishan Sharma, Lead, Public Policy, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA).

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The body said that thousands of birds are also killed every year when they are cut or trapped by manja, which can get entangled in trees or buildings or walls. — PTI

## Malayalam actor arrested in actress abduction case

KOCHI/THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, July 11: Malayalam actor Dilip was today arrested in connection with alleged abduction and assault of a South Indian actress, with her family expressing happiness over the outcome of the investigation.

Kerala Police chief Loknath Behra said the actor was arrested based on evidence police gathered during the process of investigation.

Dilip has been arrested. We are questioning him. Ar-

rest is a process of investigation," he told reporters.

He said no other person has been taken into custody in connection with the case. "We are very clear about proper treatment. There will be no violation of rights and all legal processes will be followed," Behra said.

Dilip is likely to be produced before the magistrate court tomorrow. Police had secured Dilip's custody on July 5 for five days from a magistrate court at nearby Kakanad. — PTI



Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare JP Nadda addressing participants on the occasion of World Population Day, in New Delhi on Tuesday. — UNI

## SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Online bids under two bid systems are invited through e-tendering from competent and experienced dietary services contractors for providing supply of cooked diet for indoor patients admitted to the Tezpur Medical College Hospital (TMCH), Tezpur, TMC & H.I intends to enter into Rate Contract for two years with approved licensed dietary service providers which can offer services as per terms & condition; contained in the Tender document. The bid documents for the above outsource dietary services for patients will be available online from 11.07.2017 (17.00 Hrs onwards). Last date to file/upload the tender through e-tendering is 10.08.2017 upto 14.00 Hrs & technical bid will be opened at 11.00 Hrs on 11.08.2017. For submission and to view tender's other details, please refer detailed NIT or e-tender portal at <https://assamtenders.gov.in>.

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

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

Janasanyog/1703/17

## ASSAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Jawahar Nagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-781022

No. 22PSC/CCN/Exam-15/2015-16

## NOTIFICATION

It is for information of all concerned candidates who appeared in the Screening Test for recruitment to the post of Research Assistant under Planning & Development Department held on 14.05.2017 that the Answer Keys of the above Screening Test for the subjects of General Studies is uploaded on APSC website and if any Answer key, in his/her opinion is found to be incorrect/wrong, he/she is asked to submit the Correct Answers as per his/her opinion along with supporting documents/papers etc. To substantiate the claim to the undersigned personally or by post latest by 16.07.2017 for taking necessary action from this end. No claim for correction of Answer Key will be entertained if same is not supported by specific documents. Reference to any website or any unspecified documents will not be entertained.

No objection will be received after the last date i.e. 16.07.2017.

**Sd/- Principal Controller of Examinations,  
Assam Public Service Commission,  
Jawahar Nagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-22**

Janasanyog/5050/17

## ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited from the intending candidates in the standard form of application published in the Assam Gazette Part-II ([can be downloaded from www.assamgazette.in](http://www.assamgazette.in)) for filling up the following vacant posts sanctioned by Govt. vide letter No. ELE-321/2014/20 dt. 20.3.2017 under the amalgamated establishment of Deputy Commissioner, Tinsukia in the scale of Pay Rs. 520/- 20,200/- plus Grade Pay of Rs. 2400/- under Pay Band-2 plus other allowances as admissible under rules.

**Name of post: Data Entry Operator (Grade-II); Category wise posts: Total Register: UR-5 Nos., ST(PI)-1 No.; Total vacancy: 5 (six) nos.**

1. Last date for submission of application is fixed on 31st July 2017. Applications are to be submitted/deposited at Public Grievance & Application Counter, Deputy Commissioner's office, Tinsukia. The deadline applies to applications received by post also. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

2. **Nationality:** Candidate must be a Citizen of India. Age - Candidate must not be less than 18 years or more than 38 years of age as on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017. Relaxation of age is admissible as per existing rules.

3. **Educational Qualification:** Minimum Graduate in any stream with minimum 60% marks in aggregate or equivalent grade from CA/CACIE approved recognized Diploma holder Polytechnic with minimum 60% marks in aggregate or equivalent grade from UGC/AICTE approved recognized Computer Engineering/Electronics/Telecommunications Engineering/Information Technology.

Candidates must have registered their names in the Employment Exchange and the Registration No. & Date must be mentioned in their application.

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

b. **Other qualifications:** Typing knowledge in language like Assamese/Bengali/Devangari would be preferable.

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

d. Candidates already in service should apply through proper channel.

5. The application should accompany attested copies of educational certificates, age proof, caste, Employment Exchange Registration card etc. alongwith (three) copies of recent passport size photograph duly signed by the Candidate on the reverse. The applicant shall send a self addressed envelope affixing postal stamp alongwith a self addressed envelope affixing postal stamp.

6. Candidates applying for the post of Data Entry Operator have to appear initially in a written test of 100 marks comprising of General English, GK, Current Affairs & Current Affairs. Call letters for the same shall be issued to candidate. The date is subject to change in case of exigencies. The venue of examination shall be informed in the call letter.

7. The call letter for the written examination shall be sent to those applicants who do not receive the call letters may collect the same on or before 22.08.2017 from the Personnel Branch, D.C.Office, Tinsukia. The applicants who are allowed appear in written test may also check their names in the list uploaded on the website [www.tinsukia.gov.in](http://www.tinsukia.gov.in) & may appear in written test, (they will have to produce documents of the post for which they applied).

8. The successful candidates of written test will be called for interview and test of proficiency in Type Writing and Computer. The dates for interviews and test of proficiency in Typewriting and Computer shall be advertised and call letters despatched to Successful candidates of written examination. Results shall also be published in Tinsukia District web site [www.tinsukia.gov.in](http://www.tinsukia.gov.in).

9. No T.A. & A. will be admissible for attending the test/interview.

10. A selection committee shall select candidates for the said posts. Candidate of candidates is provisional and the Committee has the right to accept or reject the candidature of any candidate at any stage of recruitment after proper scrutiny of the documents/testimonials etc.

11. The selected candidates for appointment shall have to give an undertaking to the effect that they shall abide by the New Pension Rule of Govt. of Assam.

12. While considering the candidates for appointment, claims under different Rules and the Govt. instructions as well as cases covered by Hon'ble High Court orders will be given preference. The concerned officials shall have to directly reach the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Tinsukia on or before the date of interview.

**Sd/- Deputy Commissioner,  
Tinsukia**

Janasanyog/5043/17



## Detecting brain injury

New biomarkers may help detect brain injury faster, say researchers

**R**esearchers have identified inflammatory biomarkers which can be used to develop a test that can help detect whether the brain has suffered injury in the first hour of accident.

The test can be used on the side of a sports pitch or by paramedics to detect traumatic brain injury – which leads to very early alterations in inflammatory proteins – as soon as the scene of an accident, as well as improve clinical interventions, the researchers said.

"Traumatic brain injury is the leading cause of death and disability among young adults, and, according to the World Health Organisation, by 2020 this will become the world's leading cause of neurological disability across all age groups," said Lisa Hill from the University of Birmingham in the Britain.

The study identified three inflammatory biomarkers – known as CST5, AXIN1 and TRAIL – of traumatic brain injury.

While CST5 identified patients with severe traumatic brain injury within the first hour of injury, AXIN1 and TRAIL were able to discriminate between brain injury and uninjured patient controls in an hour.

"Early and objective pre-hospital detection of

traumatic brain injury would support clinical decision-making and the correct triage of major trauma," added Valentina Di Pietro from the University's Institute of Inflammation and Ageing.

Moreover, correct diagnosis of traumatic brain injury, which is one of hardest diagnosis to make in medicine, would allow clinicians to implement strategies to reduce secondary brain injury at an early stage, the researchers said.

Currently, no reliable biomarkers exist to help diagnose the severity of traumatic brain injury and identify patients who are at risk of developing secondary injuries that impair function, damage other brain structures and promote further cell death.

"In addition, this has potential implications for drug development, as novel compounds could be given immediately after injury and potentially commenced at the roadside, if there was sufficient confidence in the diagnosis of traumatic brain injury," Pietro said.

For the study, published in the journal *Scientific Reports*, blood samples were taken from 30 injured patients within the first hour of injury prior to the patient arriving at hospital. – IANS

## Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, July 12, 2017:

This year you often have to choose between using logic and tapping into your uncanny intuition ability. You are well-intended, no matter what you decide. Your relationships benefit from making the right choice in the past. You come to understand the importance of being good friends. You are single, you will meet someone who is capable of giving you a bad case of butterflies. Romance heats up in the fall. If you are attached, you sometimes experience some strong feelings, including jealousy. Treat your sweetie as if he or she is your best friend, and you'll witness a difference almost immediately. PISCES knows how to treat you!

The Star: Show me the way. Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)

\*\*\*\*\* You're off to a good day for an important discussion you'll begin this morning. You're focused on getting past a problem. You might be rehashing a conversation over and over again in your head. Take the space you need to do this task. Tonight: Not to be found.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20)

\*\*\*\*\* Your eyes tell all. You appear to be on the verge of something big and successful. You can't maximize the strength of your will and the support of others. These elements encourage you to take a lead. A friendly and/or good news heads your way. Tonight: Tonight.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)

\*\*\*\*\* Keeping out to someone who has unusual ideas. You could be surprised by how quickly you hear back. Conversations between the two of you almost always take an unexpected turn. Understand what is happening within your immediate circle. Tonight: Out with friends.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)

\*\*\*\*\* You're more nervous than usual when discussing a money issue. As a result, you might want to make a different choice. Perhaps there is more flexibility here than you realize. You will loosen up and relax later in the day, once you can detach. Tonight: Feed your mind some candy!

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

\*\*\*\*\* You will enjoy less responsibility and plenty of time to deal with a problem that keeps popping up. You also will create more free time for yourself. The unexpected marks the morning. Maintain a sense of humor. Tonight: Special time with a special person.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

\*\*\*\*\* You're in for an unusual efficiency right now. Your ability to adapt will tested by an unexpected turn of events. Others remain in control. Networks away and don't worry about anything serious. Let your fun personality emerge. Tonight: Soft talking invitations.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\*\*\*\* You're more careful, upbeat attitude could get you almost anything you want. One is the right person and will be all it takes. Charm works wonders, but you will need to demonstrate interest and competence when dealing with a difficult mate. Tonight: Others seek you out.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\*\*\*\* You're more focused by what occurs in the morning. Take some time to deal with a personal issue. The more relaxed you are, the easier the process will be. Use your intuition, no matter which direction you choose to head in. Tonight: Let your ingenuity lead the way.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

\*\*\*\*\* You're more playful in the morning. Before you know it, you'll be swapping jokes on the phone or speaking with one of your associates about a fun get-together. You might not want to settle in, but you're likely to change your mind as the day goes on. Tonight: Out late.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

\*\*\*\*\* You are very conscious of your funds and your needs. You sometimes have a sense that you will never have enough. That attitude is natural and helps drive you. In the afternoon, pick up your phone and connect with key people in your life. Tonight: Let your hair down.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

\*\*\*\*\* You'll achieve what you want in the morning; however, there is a bit of surprise involved. Enjoy the moment. If you don't maintain a sense of humor, you could get upset. Deal with the purchase of a new item in the afternoon. Tonight: Get into some summer shopping.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)

\*\*\*\*\* Take your time on a key issue that involves money. Listen to feedback in the morning. By midday, you will be energized like you rarely have been. Be more forthright with a child or loved one who adores being around you. Tonight: Take a midweek break if you can.

\*\*\*\*

Thought for the day

The mission of photography is to explain man to man and each man to himself.

- EDWARD STEICHEN

### Kids

CN

13:00 Roll No. 21  
14:00 Ben 10  
15:00 Roll No. 21  
16:00 Ben 10  
17:00 Team Trans Go  
18:30 Ben 10  
19:00 Ben 10  
20:30 Roll No. 21  
21:30 Ben 10  
22:00 Ben 10  
23:30 Telephone Z

POPU  
13:00 The Tom And Jerry Show  
13:30 Chota Bheem  
14:00 Mighty Rajput

14:30 Chota Bheem  
17:00 Mighty Rajput

17:30 Hole In The Wall

18:30 Chota Bheem

21:30 Tom And Jerry Show

22:00 Tom And Jerry Tales

23:00 M.A.D.

### Entertainment

Zcafe

21:00 Naamkarans  
21:30 Yeh Rikha Kehata Hai  
22:00 Ishqbaaz  
22:30 Imaan Pyar Ko Kya Naam?  
23:00 Aisi Deewangi...  
23:30 Crime Patrol Dial 100

STARPLUS

13:00 Crime Patrol Dial 100  
14:00 Ek Aashka Aise Bhee  
15:00 Dillagi  
16:30 Aisi Deewangi...  
17:30 Pyar Ke Kya Naam?  
18:00 Saath Nishanta Sainthay  
18:30 Imaan Pyar Ko Kya Naam?  
20:30 Chanda Nandni

colors  
14:00 Just For Laughs  
15:00 The Big Bang Theory  
16:30 Two and a Half Men  
17:30 Castle  
18:00 Castle  
19:30 Two and a Half Men  
21:00 The Catch  
22:30 Criminal Minds

14:00 Star Di Tak  
14:30 Shringaar  
15:00 Balaak Bhaag  
16:00 Star Di Tak  
16:30 Shringaar

17:00 Trupti Pyar Ki

17:30 Bhagy Balaak Bhag

18:00 Deviyan De College...

19:00 Deviyan De College...

20:30 Umar

21:00 Dabangg Da Shani

22:00 Dabangg Da Shani

23:00 Aisi Deewangi...

23:30 Criminal Minds

24:00 Woh Kaun Hain

25:00 Woh Kaun Hain

26:00 Woh Kaun Hain

27:00 Woh Kaun Hain

28:00 Woh Kaun Hain

29:00 Woh Kaun Hain

30:00 Woh Kaun Hain

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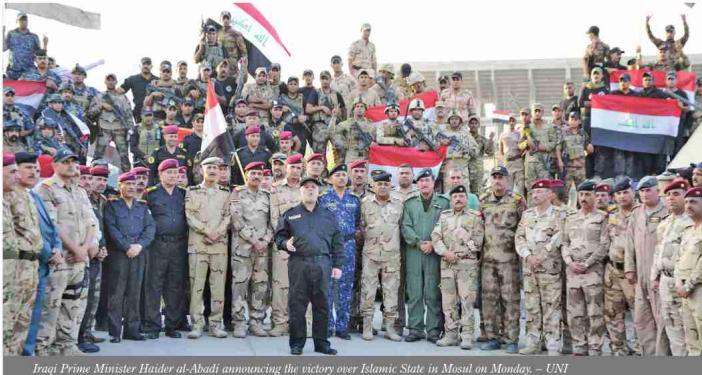
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Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi announcing the victory over Islamic State in Mosul on Monday. – UNI

## IS chief reported dead after fall of Mosul

BEIRUT, July 11: Islamic State group chief Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi was reported dead today, a day after Iraq declared it had driven the jihadists from their one-time biggest stronghold of Mosul.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a long-time monitor of the country's conflict, said it had information from top IS leaders confirming Baghdadi's death. The report could not be independently verified and Baghdad has been reportedly dead several times.

But if confirmed, his death would mark another devastating blow to the jihadist group after its loss of Mosul, which Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said on Monday had been retaken from the IS after a gruelling months-long campaign.

"Top tier commanders from the IS who are present in Deir Ezzor province have confirmed the death of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, emir of the Islamic State group, to the Observatory," the monitoring group's director Rami Abdel Rahman told AFP. "We learned of it today, but we do not know when he died or how."

Deir Ezzor, in eastern Syria, remains largely under the IS con-

### Sporadic clashes continue in Mosul

MOSUL, July 11: Sporadic clashes continued today in Mosul, a day after Iraq's Prime Minister declared "total victory" over the Islamic State group and at least one air strike hit the Old City neighbourhood that was the scene of the final days of the fierce battle. A plume of smoke rose into the air from the strike as IS mortar shells landed near Iraqi positions and heavy gunfire could be heard on the western edge of the Old City.

The US-led coalition said it could not yet verify the Observatory's information. "We cannot confirm this report, but hope it is true," said coalition spokesman Colonel Ryan Dillon.

"We strongly advise the ISIS

to implement a strong line of succession, it will be needed," he added, using a different acronym for the IS.

There have been persistent rumours of Baghdadi's death in recent months, and Russia's army said in mid-June that it was seeking to verify whether it had killed the IS chief in a May air strike in Syria. The US-led coalition fighting the jihadist group in Syria and Iraq said at the time it could not confirm whether the Russian strike had killed Baghdadi. – AFP

to control even as the group is losing territory elsewhere in the country and in neighbouring Iraq.

Abdel Rahman said Baghdadi

## 'India, China should deal with each other with strategic maturity'

SINGAPORE, July 11: India and China should approach each other with "strategic maturity," Foreign Secretary S Jaishankar said today while expressing confidence that the two countries would be able to handle the Sikkim stand-off as they have dealt with such border differences in the past.

"It is a long border; as you know no part of the border has been agreed upon on the ground. It is likely that from time to time there are differences," Jaishankar said while responding to questions on the stand-off between Indian and Chinese troops in the Doklam area of the Sikkim sector after delivering a lecture on 'India, ASEAN and Changing Geopolitics.'

Underlining that this was not the first time that China and India have had border differences, Jaishankar said, "When such situations arise, I see no reason, when having handled so many situations in the past, we would not be able to handle it."

"This is not to suggest that old problems have been all addressed or that new issues will not arise. India has an alarming trade deficit that in our view emanates from obstacles to market access in China," Jaishankar said.

Jaishankar, while talking of Sino-India ties during the lecture organised by the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy and the Indian High Commission, said negotiations on the long-standing boundary dispute still continue.

"Differences on issues like terrorism, nuclear energy access and connectivity initiatives have also acquired some prominence," he said, referring to the disagreements with China over Beijing's blocking of efforts to get JeM chief Masood Azhar banned by the UN, denying India entry into the Nuclear Suppliers Group and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project which New Delhi is opposed to as it passes through

Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

Noting that the India-China relations are multifaceted, Jaishankar highlighted that last month when the leaders of the two countries met at Astana, Kazakhstan, they reached a consensus on two key points: that at a time of global uncertainty, India-China relations are a factor of stability and in their relationship, India and China must not allow differences to become disputes.

"This consensus underlines the strategic maturity with which the two countries must continue to approach each other," he said.

China and India have been engaged in a stand-off in the Doklam area near the Bhutan tri-junction for over three weeks after a Chinese Army's construction party attempted to build a road.

Dokla La is the Indian name for the region which Bhutan recognises it as Doklam, while China claims it as part of its Donglang region. – PTI

## Chinese hospital scrambles to save ailing Nobel laureate

BEIJING, July 11: A Chinese hospital said today it was still scrambling to save terminally-ill Nobel laureate Liu Xiaobo, fuelling fears that he could die without getting the freedom urged by foreign governments.

The health of the prominent 61-year-old democracy advocate has deteriorated since authorities revealed last month that he had been transferred from prison to a hospital due to late-stage liver cancer. But Chinese authorities have ignored calls by international human rights groups, Western governments and local activists to grant him the wish to be treated abroad.

A day after reporting that Liu was in a critical condition, the First Hospital of China Medical University in the northeastern city of Shenyang said on Tuesday that the patient was "still in active rescue."

Liu has an abdominal infection, organ dysfunction and he went into septic shock, the hospital said in a statement on its website. He is undergoing kidney dialysis, and is getting anti-infection and organ function support therapy.

The back-to-back pessimistic reports from the hospital came after foreign doctors who visited Liu over the weekend concluded that it was safe to transport him to another country, which contradicted Chinese medical experts.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel's spokesman had said yesterday that she hoped for a "signal of humanity" from China. A British Embassy spokeswoman said London expressed "serious concern at the treatment of Liu Xiaobo by the Chinese authorities" and called on officials to lift all restrictions on him and let him choose where to get medical treatment. The United States has urged Beijing to grant him full parole.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang repeated today that he hoped relevant countries can respect the judicial sovereignty of China and not interfere in China's internal affairs under the pretext of an individual case. – AFP



Liu Xiaobo

## Gandhi's pencil portrait auctioned for 32,500 pounds

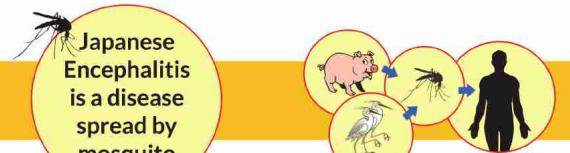
**“The pencil drawing was created by artist John Henry Amshevitz when Gandhi was visiting London for the Round Table Conference in 1931**



## JULY IS THE HIGH TRANSMISSION TIME OF JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS

### Be alert, take precaution

Any type of fever might turn out to be Japanese Encephalitis. Immediate medical treatment can save life and prevent complication of Japanese Encephalitis.



### Symptoms of this disease

Acute fever, headache, mental irritability, vomiting tendency, convulsion and loss of consciousness

### To prevent this disease

- Always wear fully covered clothes
- Fog your house in the evening
- Keep pigs and piggeries away from your house
- Keep the doors and windows open for half an hour during fogging operation conducted by Government
- Always use mosquito net (LLIN) while sleeping

If any of the symptoms is observed, contact health workers and rush the patient to the nearest hospital

For any help, dial 104

Progressive & healthy nation is our mission



National Health Mission, Assam

### US avoids comment on Sikkim stand-off

WASHINGTON, July 11: The US today avoided commenting on the Sikkim stand-off between the armies of India and China, saying that it has seen such reports.

"We have seen these reports (of India-China border skirmish). We refer you to the Governments of India and China for further information," said a spokesperson of the National Security Council, White House.

The remarks come amid a stand-off between the militaries of India and China in the Doklam area in the Sikkim sector, where Indian troops stopped road construction by Chinese soldiers.

India has said it is "deeply concerned" at the recent Chinese actions and has conveyed to the Chinese government that such construction would represent a significant change of status quo with serious security implications for India. "China has been calling for immediate withdrawal of the Indian troops from the area." – PTI

### Philippine city under IS siege

MANILA, July 11: The Philippine President said a disastrous siege by Islamic State group-aligned gunmen on a southern city might end in 10 to 15 days, but the threat posed by the brutal group would continue to plague the country.

President Rodrigo Duterte said today he would try again this week to travel to Marawi, to be with government troops, but acknowledged that in addition to bad weather, the danger posed by the militants' deadly firepower has frustrated his travel plans.

After 50 days of ground assaults and air strikes, troops have recaptured most areas of the Islamic city, with the death toll exceeding 500.

Military spokesman Brig Gen Restituto Padilla said 381 militants, 80 soldiers and policemen and 39 civilians have been killed in the fighting. – AP

LONDON, July 11: A previously unknown pencil portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, drawn from life and inscribed by him in 1931, was auctioned here today for 32,500 pounds, about four times its estimated price.

In addition to the portrait, a collection of handwritten letters by Gandhi to the family of Sarat Chandra Bose, a freedom fighter and the elder brother of Subhas Chandra Bose, fetched 37,500 pounds at a Sotheby's auction.

"Gandhi usually refused to sit for formal photographs, let alone a portraitist, making this an extremely rare portrayal of the political leader at work," the auction house said in a statement.

The sketch shows Gandhi writing with a look of intense concentration whilst seated on the floor, and is inscribed by him with the words "Truth is God/MK Gandhi/4.12.'31."

The pencil drawing is one of a number of portraits created by artist John Henry Amshevitz when Gandhi was visiting London for the Round Table Conference in 1931, a series of conferences organised by the British Government to discuss Constitutional reforms in India.

Gandhi stayed at Kingsley Hall at the time, a community centre in London's East End, at the invitation of one of its founders, Muriel Lester, who had previously stayed in Gandhi's ashram (hermitage) in India.

The pencil portrait, which was inscribed by Gandhi the day before he left Kingsley Hall, was given to a local resident who was closely associated with the hall throughout her life and has remained in her family ever since.

In one of the letters, Gandhi writes to Sarat Chandra: "You should give up the struggle for unity of Bengal and cease to disturb the atmosphere that has been created for partition of Bengal."

The portrait was estimated to fetch between 8,000 and 12,000 pounds, while the letters were valued between 23,000 and 33,000 pounds. – AP

# Djokovic in quarters of Wimbledon



Serbia's Novak Djokovic celebrates after winning the second set during the fourth round match against France's Adrian Mannarino, on Tuesday.

LONDON, July 11: Second seed Novak Djokovic eased into the Wimbledon quarterfinals with a routine 6-2, 7-6(5), 6-4 win over France's Adrian Mannarino on Tuesday.

The match was postponed after the marathon battle be-

tween Rafael Nadal and Gilles Muller concluded late on Monday.

Light rain led officials to close the roof over Centre Court.

Djokovic, who will face Czech Tomas Berdych in the last eight, received treat-

ment to his shoulder during a medical time-out late in the third set.

The Serbian occasionally doubted himself on serve and in his movement, but when it came to the crunch against Mannarino there were only roars of approval from the watching Andre Agassi and Maria Aincic, both brought in to help Djokovic rediscover his taste for Grand Slam championship glory.

For the first hour, the three-time former Wimbledon champion was faultless in his focus and execution, but in controlled conditions under the Centre Court roof, it was the firepower of his French opponent that temporarily put him on the back foot.

Djokovic raced to a 3-0 lead and as The Championships doctor came out, spectators reasoned towards a visit to Mannarino, who was seen to be nursing his lower back. However, the doctor stopped to Djokovic's chagrin. Later, in the third set, Djok-

ovic had on-court physio for a right upper arm and shoulder complaint, but resumed play to reach his 39th major championship quarterfinal. Last year, Djokovic beat Mannarino in straight sets in the second round.

Djokovic has a 25-2 lead against his next opponent, Czech No. 11 seed Berdych, who the Serbian will challenge on Wednesday at the All England Club. Berdych won their 2010 Wimbledon semifinal in straight sets en route to his lone Grand Slam final, but Djokovic clinched their second grass-court meeting 7-6(5), 6-4, 6-3 in the 2013 quarterfinals.

Djokovic must win his fourth Wimbledon title to have a chance of returning to top spot in the Emirates ATP Rankings, but his fate is not in his own hands. Should Andy Murray win his quarterfinal clash with Sam Querrey on Wednesday, the two-time Wimbledon champion would be promoted to No. 1. — Agencies

# Nadal vows return despite fresh Wimbledon headache

LONDON, July 11: Rafael Nadal must have realised it wasn't going to be his day at Wimbledon when he bashed his head against a door frame performing a warm-up leap in the bowels of Court One as he prepared to face Gilles Muller.

Almost five hours later, the great Spaniard was nursing a weighty dose of hurt pride as yet another Wimbledon cam-

paign slipped away from him.

His dramatic 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 15-13 fourth round defeat against Luxembourg's 16th seed Muller was his fifth exit before the quarterfinals in his last five visits to the All England Club.

It was a heartbreaking blow for Nadal who arrived at the tournament fresh from a record-setting 10th French



Spain's Rafael Nadal leaves the court after losing to Luxembourg's Gilles Muller, on Monday.

Open title with genuine belief that he could capture a third Wimbledon title and a 16th career major.

Despite his disappointment, and what appeared a vaunted rally wave to all corners of the shell-shocked court, the 31-year-old insisted he will be back in 2018.

"Never said I am not going to come back. I want to come back because I want to play more times in the Centre Court," said Nadal.

Nadal feels he owes his fans a successful last hurrah at a tournament where he has also been runner-up on three occasions.

"Great feeling. Great atmosphere. I put everything on the court. I played with all my passion. The crowd normally appreciates that," said the 2008 and 2010 champion.

"Sorry for the crowd that were supporting me."

World number two Nadal converted just two of 16 break points, while Muller fired 30 aces and 95 winners. — AFP

## BCCI put off SGM after State associations object

NEW DELHI, July 11: The BCCI today postponed its Special General Meeting after former president N Srinivasan and his faction raised objections against it on technical grounds.

Six State associations wrote to the BCCI's acting president CK Khanna, saying that protocol had not been followed while convening the meeting scheduled here today.

The units were, Srinivasan's Tamil Nadu CA, "disqualified" official Niranjan Shah's Sourashtra Cricket Association, treasurer Anirudh Chaudhary's Haryana CA, TC Matthew's Kerala CA, Goa CA and Karnataka State CA.

Acting president Khanna then wrote to acting secretary Amitabh Chaudhary, asking him to take appropriate steps going by the book.

All these associations had objected to the fact that a minimum 10-day notice period was necessary to convene a Special General Meeting of the BCCI as per the constitution (Article 17 sub clause (iii)).

Majority of the State associations were in favour of calling the SGM in order to break the impasse and move on by implementing all but three Lodha Committee reforms as recommended by the Special Committee of the BCCI.

The anti-Srinivasan faction's contention was that the late Jagmohan Dalmiya had convened a similar SGM back in December 2002 by giving a two-day notice.

However, a senior BCCI official, who had attended that meeting, said: "Yes, Mr Dalmiya had convened that meeting because all members had unanimously condemned the meeting and the meeting was held." — PTI

## WBO review rules Horn beat Pacquiao



Australian Jeff Horn's shock welterweight title victory over Manny Pacquiao was confirmed to day after a scoring review by the World Boxing Organization declared him the clear winner.

The WBO took a close look at the fight after Pacquiao, backed by the Philippine government's sports regulatory body, criticised the referee and the judges and demanded a review after losing in Brisbane on July 2.

Horn stunned the Filipino legend — who has won world titles in an unprecedented eight

A similar method has been used to review WBO title fights before.

"Upon the analysis, the findings stated that Pacquiao won the 3rd, the 8th and 9th by 100 per cent; the 5th round was won by 80 per cent; and the 11th round by 60 per cent," the WBO said in a statement. — AFP

weight divisions — with his ultra-aggressiveness to earn an unanimous 12-round decision.

The WBO — which does not have the power to reverse a decision unless fraud or law violations are proven — set up a panel of independent judges who were asked to watch the bout without sound and determine who won each round.

The results were tabulated to show clearly the rounds each fighter won using an average scale based on 60, 80 and 100 per cent, with three of the five officials needing to be in agreement.

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## Virat will be consulted on new coach, insists Ganguly

MUMBAI, July 11: Cricket Advisory Committee member Sourav Ganguly today asserted that Indian captain Virat Kohli will be consulted while selecting the new national coach, playing down reports that the high-profile position will be filled by this evening.

Kohli is not expected to be back in the country before July 17 as he is currently enjoying a break after the limited-overs series against the West Indies.

The CAC, which also includes Sachin Tendulkar and VVS Laxman, conducted interviews for the coach's position yesterday but did not announce the final decision. Ganguly had stated that the CAC needed some more time to work it out.

"We respect his (Virat's) decision. At the end of the day it is his team, he is going to lead the team. He (Virat) will be consulted and no, he will not be the main person and he doesn't

want to be the main person," Ganguly told reporters on the sidelines of a promotional event for Mumbai-based entertainment company Flickrstreet.

"When you speak to Virat Kohli, he is aware. He doesn't

want to be the main person," the Cricket Association of Bengal president said.

Ganguly had also created quite a flutter by stating that Kohli will have to understand how coaches work, as seen as a terrible message for the Indian captain who had a fallout with previous chief coach Anil Kumble.

Asked today whether it was

a message from the CAC to Kohli, Ganguly said, "There is no message. It's just to bring him in confidence. I respect him immensely. He is a terrific player for India and he will be the captain of India. We have to respect the captain of India and I respect him."

Ganguly's comments came in the wake of news reports that the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators, headed by Vinod Rai, has asked the BCCI to announce the name of the coach by this evening.

Asked about the report, Ganguly said, "We will speak to him (Rai), I will speak to him. He is a very respected man."

"This afternoon I was supposed to go to Delhi, but he had been cancelled. We will speak to him (Vinod Rai) because all that was announced yesterday was with everyone's permission and everybody was on board." — PTI

## India, Australia look to get back to winning ways

BRISTOL, July 11: Their four-match unbeaten streak brought to a halt, India will be keen to bounce back and take a step towards securing a semi-final spot when they take on the mighty Australia in the ICC Women's World Cup, here tomorrow.

India were on a rampaging run beating England, West Indies, Pakistan and Sri Lanka before South Africa disturbed their momentum with a massive 115-run win.

Similarly Australia's four-match unbeaten run was stopped by England in the previous game and they would also look to get back to winning ways.

Neither of the teams have yet qualified for the semifinals but Australia are in a better position by virtue of a strong net run-rate. The Aussies lost to England by just three runs, while India were defeated by a huge margin.

In the previous game against South Africa, India had a great chance of sealing a semifinal berth but now they have their task cut out in the remaining round robin games against two strong teams in Australia and New Zealand.

The last match witnessed an abject bat-banging surrender by India as they got out for a meagre 158 while chasing 274.

The game was pretty much done and dusted when India collapsed to 56 for six in the 17th over before Deepthi Sharma saved the team from the blushes of getting bowled out for under 100 by scoring 60 off 111 balls in the able company of number nine Jhan Goswami, who remained unbeaten on 43.

India's record against Australia is not great with eight wins in 41 completed matches, but skipper Mithali Raj's 80 set up a five-wicket win the last time the teams met. — PTI

## Paris, LA poised to win race to host Olympic Games

LAUSANNE, July 11: The International Olympic Committee is poised to hand the 2024 and 2028 Summer Games to Paris and Los Angeles today with a landmark double hosting deal set to be approved.

The IOC meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland, had initially been forecast as a key step in the battle for 2024, with teams from the French capital and California mega-city making fresh pitches to Los.

But the Paris-Los Angeles rivalry has been muted by an IOC plan to ensure that both cities come out as winners.

The IOC, which has struggled to attract prospective hosts given the enormous cost of staging the Games, did not want to risk a tie.

So IOC chief Thomas Bach pushed a plan to have both 2024 and 2028 awarded together at the organisation's main annual meeting in Peru in September.

That proposal, endorsed by Olympic executives last month, is expected to be rubber-stamped by the IOC's roughly 100 members on Tuesday.

With no other cities in the running,

the vote would effectively guarantee hosting rights to Paris and Los Angeles.

And it looks increasingly likely that Paris will go first.

The French side has insisted it was exclusively focused on 2024, the centenary anniversary of the last Games in Paris.

Both sides came to Lausanne with top-level political support.

French President Emmanuel Macron, who was a vocal advocate of Paris on a

Los Angeles, which last hosted in 1984, has indicated it was open to waiting four more years.

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