

## NEWS CAPSULE

### Probe order

GUWAHATI, July 12: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today ordered an inquiry into the alleged spurt in electrocution incidents during the seasonal floods. He directed Additional Chief Secretary (Agriculture) KK Mittal to inquire into the incidents, fix responsibility and submit a report. — Staff Reporter

### 2 jaws killed

SIRINAGAR, July 12: Two Army jawans were killed today as Pakistani troops violated the ceasefire in the Keran sector of Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir, an Army official said here. — PTI  
(Also see page 3)

### CBI recovery

NEW DELHI, July 12: The CBI today recovered Rs 3.5 crore cash and 5 kg gold during searches at the Kolkata residence of Jharkhand's Principal Commissioner of Income Tax Tapas Kumar Datta in a corruption case, the agency said. — PTI

(Also see page 3)

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

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Death toll rises to 44

## Flood situation still critical

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 12: The overall flood situation in the State has turned grave with the 17,18,35 people in 2,488 villages under 82 revenue circles of 24 districts reeling under flood during the past 24 hours. The current wave of flood has taken the toll of 44 human lives so far, and forced 97,077 flood-hit people to take shelter in 231 relief camps, said the official flood bulletin here this evening.

In all 7,814 marooned people have been evacuated so far in 16 districts by the NDRE, SDRE, Revenue Circle authorities and the local people, the bulletin said.

This wave of flood has affected a total crop area of 1,75,552.61 hectares in 25 districts. It has also affected 3,79,257 big animals, 2,23,585 small animals and 3,65,301 poultry, which may be viewed as a major blow to the agricultural economy of the State.

The bulletin said that the districts of Lakhimpur,邦加格, Darrang, Jorhat, Golaghat, Cachar, Dhemaji, Biswanath, Karimganj, Sonit-



Villagers with household essentials taking shelter on a road in Majuli, on Wednesday. — UB Photos

pur, Majuli, Barpeta, Nagaon, Nalbari, Silvassa, Morigaon, Chirang, Dibrugarh, Dhubri, Kokrajhar, South Salma, Charaideo, Goalpara and Karbi Anglong are affected by flood. It also maintains that in the districts of Hojai (590 hectares in 31 villages) and Kamrup (250 hectares in 20 vil-

lages) also floodwaters have af-

fected crop areas.

The Brahmaputra is flowing above its danger levels at its five gauge stations at Neamati-ghat, Tezpur, Guwahati, Goalpara and Dhubri, while its tributaries Burhi Dihing (at Khowang), Subansiri (at Lakhipur), Dikhow (at Siwas-

gar), Desang (at Nangalamurughat), Dhamrai-South (at Nalumalighar), Jia Bharali (at NT Road Crossing), Beli (at Road Bridge) and Sonokhola (at Golakganj) are also flowing above their respective danger levels.

In the Barak valley, the Kishenwari is flowing above its

danger level at Karimganj.

## PM expresses anguish over NE floods

### Rijiju to lead Central team

SPL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, July 12: Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has expressed his anguish over the situation arising due to floods in various parts of the North-East during this time. Centre assures all possible help to normalise the situation.

"I have spoken to Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Manipur from July 13 to July 15 and include members from National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).

All forces along with state agencies are involved in the rescue and relief operation in these states and if situation arises, additional Central forces can be deployed from other parts of the country, official sources said.

## National media ignoring NE floods: Rijiju

NEW DELHI, July 12: Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju and Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh today accused the national media of being "biased" towards the Northeast in reporting the massive floods and ignoring the region.

Taking to Twitter, Rijiju said unlike floods in Kashmir and Chennai, the national media is "ignoring" the Northeast and not giving due coverage to the deluge as the region "readily does not exist in the minds of mainland".

"Friends, don't cry that in this catastrophic moment national media ignores North East unlike Kashmir floods or Chennai floods. Govt cares," Rijiju, who hails from Arunachal Pradesh, tweeted.

(See page 4)

## NGT blames govt for wildlife deaths on Kaziranga roads

SPL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, July 12: The Government of Assam today faced severe criticism of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) for death of several animals in road accidents in the Kaziranga National Park (KNP) and was directed to ensure their safety, especially during monsoons.

Expressing concern over growing wildlife deaths in road accidents in the national park that is home to the world famous one-horned rhinos, a bench headed by NGT chairman Justice Swatanter Kumar directed the State government to take urgent steps to protect animals during the floods.

(See page 4)

"The animals are dying in road accidents on a daily basis. What are your traffic sensors doing? Tell us, why the sensors are not able to protect these animals," the bench said.

Dispirited informed the green panel that till July 10 it has issued challans to 1,010 erring vehicle drivers on the NH-37 that runs along the southern boundary of Kaziranga National Park for overspeeding and overloading.

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## Efforts on to resolve issue at diplomatic level

R DUTTA CHOWDHURY

NEW DELHI, July 12: The Government of India is not apprehending worsening of the situation along the international border with China despite the face-off in the Doka La area in the India-Bhutan-China tri-junction and efforts are on at political and diplomatic level to resolve the issue.

Highly placed sources in the Government of India told *The Assam Tribune* that the standoff may continue for some time till the issues are resolved. "But we are not apprehending any escalation of tension either in the Doka La area or in any other part along

the border with China," sources said.

Sources pointed out that both India and China are "mainly countries" and both the countries know very well that a full-scale war would not be beneficial for any of the countries. There would be differ-

### Doka La stand off



the border with China."

Efforts are on at various levels, both political and diplomatic, to resolve the dispute and the Government of India is hopeful that sooner or later the issue would be settled.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had a cordial meeting with the Chinese President on the sidelines of the G-20 Summit and dialogues are also being held at the diplomatic level. The dialogues also involve Bhutan. Senior army officers (See page 4)

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Editorial 1650 07-17



Tejaswi calls FIR  
political vendetta'

PATNA, July 12: A day after JD(U) asked him to come clean, Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejaswi Prasad Yadav today virtually ruled out his resignation, while dubbing the FIR registered against him under various anti-graft provisions as "political vendetta". - PTI

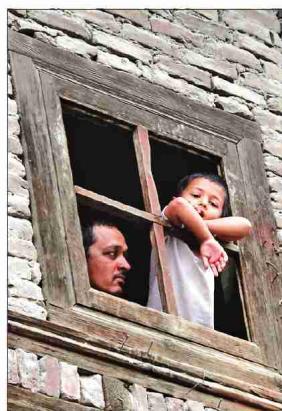
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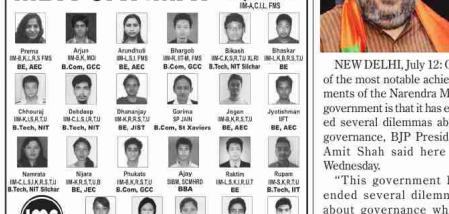


A child peeping through a window at Naseeb Bazar where curfew was imposed along with Shar-e-Khas in downtown Srinagar as a precautionary measure to prevent any violence. — UNI

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#### NATIONAL

## Highest alert sounded in J&K after Amarnath attack: MHA

NEW DELHI, July 12: A "highest alert" has been sounded across Jammu and Kashmir in the wake of the killing of seven Amarnath pilgrims by militants, the Home Ministry said today.

The alert was issued after a Central ministerial team comprising Minister of State in the PMO Jitendra Singh and Minister of State for Home Affairs Hansraj Ahir visited Kashmir and held extensive discussions with the top brass of the security establishment, Governor NV Venkaiah and Chief Minister Mehmood Ali Mufti on the prevailing situation.

"Considering the unfortunate loss of life and injuries suffered by the yatri (pilgrims) in the recent terror attack, the entire security apparatus has been put on the highest alert by the ministers," a Home Ministry statement said.

Seven Amarnath pilgrims, including six women, were killed and 19 injured when terrorists attacked a bus in Kashmir's Anantnag district on Monday.

The ministers visited Srinagar, following a directive from Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Rajnath Singh.

They discussed the security situation in detail with the Chief Minister and the Governor, before holding an in-depth security review with the local army commander, the chief secretary, the police chief and senior officers of the State Government, the DG of the CRPF, and senior officers of BSF and other security agencies, the statement said.

The Central ministers stressed that the entire country was with the Kashmiris and the pilgrims and that all arrangements for a safe and secure pilgrimage would continue with renewed vigour.

The Central ministers expressed their gratitude to the governments of Jammu and Kashmir and Maharashtra and the Sri Amarnath Shrine Board for the financial assistance announced for the victims of the attack.

It is a unique pilgrimage where people of one faith undertake the pilgrimage, while people belonging to all other faiths pay the host, the Home Ministry statement said.

The Central ministers also appreciated the proactive role being played by the Governor, the Chief Minister and the entire State

Send 'gau rakshaks' to fight terrorists:  
Shiv Sena

MUMBAI, July 12: The Shiv Sena took a dig at the Prime Minister and the BJP over the terror attack on Amarnath pilgrims, asking its senior leaders to "call up gau rakshaks" to fight terrorists in the Valley.

The NDA ally today said the Centre merely condemns such dastardly attacks on paper instead of bringing the terrorists to book and said a government having a "56-inch chest" was needed in the State to tackle Pakistan. The Sena was taking a swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his remark during the general elections campaign that a "56-inch chest" was needed to tackle Pakistan.

Seven pilgrims from Gujarat and Maharashtra were killed and 19 injured in Monday night's attack by terrorists. The attack was reportedly masterminded by a Pakistan-based militant leader.

The Sena today said in an editorial in part in mouthpiece "Saamana" that only answer the Centre had to the brutal attack was to condemn it on social media and Twitter.

Home Minister Rajnath Singh also saluted the people of Jammu and Kashmir who had condemned the attack on Amarnath pilgrims and kept the spirit of Kashmir alive. He described the attack as very "unfortunate and painful".

"The government machinery in Kashmir has completely collapsed today," the Sena said, adding that the prevailing crisis in Kashmir was dangerous for the unity of the nation. - PTI

Government machinery, Shri Amarnath Shrine Board and the security agencies, particularly the State Police, the statement said.

So far, more than 1.5 lakh pilgrims have visited the cave shrine located in the Himachalayas. The 40-day long pilgrimage started on June 29. - PTI

## SC Constitution bench to hear privacy challenge on Aadhaar

NEW DELHI, July 12: A five-judge constitution bench will hear from July 18 the challenge to the constitutionality of the controversial Aadhaar Act on the touchstone of privacy, an issue that has been pending for two years.

This government has ended several dilemmas about governance which used to exist earlier such as should industry be given priority or agriculture? Should government focus on rural development or urban development, should it take up reforms or should it focus on welfare?" Shah said while releasing a coffee table book on the life of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"But the Narendra Modi government has shown that both industry and agriculture can thrive side by side, that villages can develop along with big cities and that reforms can go hand in hand with welfare measures," Shah said.

He said the "jobless growth" criticism was misplaced as the government has given employment to 7.28 crore people through the Mudra Bank scheme, and added that it was not possible to create jobs for creases of people in the country.

Shah said that the Modi government had so much to do because the earlier governments did not do much.

"India is being seen differently by the world today," he said. - IANS

The question on the validity of Aadhaar scheme on the touchstone of whether privacy was fundamental right was referred to the constitution bench in August 2015.

The top court by its August 11, 2015, order had referred to the constitution bench challenge to the constitutionality of the Aadhaar scheme on the account of conflicting pronouncements of top court on the nature of the right to privacy.

Divan had argued that Aadhaar was violative of right to privacy but the Central government contended that privacy was not a fundamental right, citing the 1954 and 1964 judgements.

However, from the mid-1970s, smaller benches of two or three judges had been holding privacy as a fundamental right that can be read into the Constitution's Article 21 guaranteeing right to protection of life and personal liberty or was just a right. - IANS

The five-judge bench would examine the challenge to Aadhaar scheme with references to 1954 decision of an eight-judge bench and 1964 decision of a six-judge bench - both holding that right to privacy was not a fundamental right - and decide whether it required hearing by a bench of nine judges.

Takesingh (55), who had consumed poison on July 4 this morning, said police. The incident took place at Ajangon Pipiliya in Khargone district, about 340 kilometers from the state capital.

While the family members of Takesingh said he took the extreme step due to the debt burden and failure of crops, police said investigation into the matter was currently underway.

"He was under stress due to a loan of about Rs 8-10 lakh, which he had taken collectively from banks, societies and private lenders.

The crop of chili was also damaged resulting in further financial crisis," said Bablu, Takesingh's son.

Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP) Antra Singh Kanesh said Takesingh had consumed poisonous substance on July 4 at Ajangon Pipiliya under Bhilkangon police station.

"Takesingh was admitted to a private hospital after he consumed poisonous substance on July 4. The family members took him home for seeing improvement in his condition during the treatment. He was died this morning," Kanesh said. He said that a case has been registered and further investigation is underway. On the other hand, the state Congress claimed that over 55 farmer suicides took place in a month. - PTI

## CBI raids 23 locations

RANCHI/NEW DELHI, July 12: The CBI on Wednesday conducted raids at 23 locations in West Bengal and Jharkhand in connection with a graft case registered against the Principal Commissioner of Income Tax and others, an official said.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) took the step against Principal Commissioner Tapas Kumar Dutta, posted in Ranchi, and three of his colleagues - Arvind Kumar, Additional Commissioner of Income Tax Ranjeet Kumar Lal, an Income Tax Officer and another Income Tax Officer (Tech) identified only as Ganguly - following allegations of criminal conspiracy.

The four officials of Income Tax department, along with five businessmen and a Chartered Accountant have been booked on charges of criminal conspiracy, criminal misconduct and under the Prevention of Corruption Act. During the search operation, the CBI seized Rs 3.5 crore in cash, five kg gold and some incriminating documents from the premises owned by Dutta. - IANS

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## Erdogan: EU not indispensable, wasting Turkey's time



and four Arab nations, including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Egypt and Bahrain, Erdogan said that Turkey was not part of the rift and that the country wanted to promote "dialogue and peace" in the Gulf region, the BBC reported on Wednesday.

"We are in a hurry to find a solution here. Turkey is never in favour of Muslim killing Muslim in this region. We are fed up with this," Erdogan said.

He also denied that Turkey had jailed 150 journalists, saying only two people with press cards were in prison. "Please let's not deceive the world with these lies," he said.

Turkey also extended the detention of Amnesty International's local Director Ildi Eser and nine others. Eser was detained earlier this month along with seven other rights activists and two foreign trainers.

The 10 were accused of being members of an "armed terrorist organisation" — although Amnesty said it is unclear which one.

Their detention raised alarm internationally, increasing fears that freedom of expression was being suppressed under Erdogan.

According to the BBC report, some 160 media outlets had been closed down in Turkey, 250 journalists or media workers were sacked from their jobs, Erdogan, however, disputed the figure saying: "No one is jailed because of journalism here."

Erdogan was speaking almost a year to the day since the July 15 attempted military coup. At least 260 people died when rogue soldiers bombed government buildings and drove tanks into civilians, the report said. — IANS

ANKARA, July 12: Turkey does not see the European Union (EU) as "indispensable" and the country will find it "comforting" if the organisation says Ankara cannot be accepted as a member, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has said.

"If the EU, bluntly says, 'We will not be able to accept Turkey' this will relax us. We will then initiate our plan B, and C," Erdogan told BBC in an interview.

"The EU is not indispensable for us... We are comfortable," he said.

Erdogan said the Turks did not "want the EU anymore" and believed its approach to Turkey was "inconsistent".

The President recalled his first term as Prime Minister, saying that the EU praised Turkey for accomplishing a "silent revolution" during Erdogan's summit.

"But now the same EU not only doesn't invite us to the leaders' summits any more — they also waste our time. This is the situation right now," Erdogan said.

"Despite all this we will continue being sincere with the EU for a little more time," he added. Speaking about the ongoing crisis involving Qatar



German Chancellor Angela Merkel (Right), and founder and CEO of Brainlab Stefan Vilsmeier at the official opening of Brainlab headquarters in Munich, Germany on Tuesday. — UNI

## China must promote economic zones around India: Chinese daily

BEIJING, July 12: China must pursue economic integration with countries like Bangladesh to promote "a string of active economic development zones surrounding India," a Chinese newspaper has reported.

"China should keep a close eye on economic cooperation with some South Asian countries like Bangladesh to promote economic integration," a report in the State-run *Global Times* said on Tuesday.

"This could promote the for-

mation of a string of active economic development zones surrounding India, which would not be a bad thing if it could place pressure on New Delhi to deepen its economic cooperation with neighboring countries."

The daily added that hopefully India could make a greater contribution to improving infrastructure in Myanmar under the framework of the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor.

"This would help to connect the markets in India, China and

Southeast Asia, the world's three most active economic regions."

The report said that as a key strategic location connecting China and India, Myanmar was reportedly making new efforts to make itself a free trade hub in Asia.

As Myanmar's largest trade partner and largest source of investment, China was crucial for Myanmar's external-policy strategy. It said that India was going all out to make the visit by Myanmar's military chief a

resounding success following

tensions on the border between India and China, "but there is no reason for China to feel any anxiety".

"Myanmar is unlikely to do

a rapid thing like supporting India's stand on the tensions in the border area as that

would risk cutting its economic

ties with China.

"There is tremendous poten-

tial for further economic and trade cooperation be-

tween China and Myanmar," it added. — IANS

## Thailand approves \$5.5-bn bullet train project with China

BEIJING, July 12: China has received the first overseas order to export its bullet train technology as Thailand approved a USD 5.5 billion high-speed railway project aimed at linking Bangkok with southern China.

The project is part of China's huge regional infrastructure plan to build a high-speed rail network connecting the southern city of Kunming with Laos, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore.

Construction has already begun in Laos but the Thai segment of rail has been stymied

for years by tussles over financing, loan terms and protective labour regulations in Thailand, China's state-run television CNTV has reported.

The high-speed railway is set to start operations in 2021.

The Thai order is a breakthrough for sorts of the Chinese multibillion high speed

train technology as China's attempts to export the bullet train technology were bogged down due to political issues, finance or stiff competition from Japan.

China is already trying to get the new Delhi-Chennai route

for the high-speed train and started feasibility study for it.

Beijing was upset after India's first bullet train route was bagged by Japan which is currently building Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train to operate its Shinkansen bullet trains.

China has already built a massive network of bullet trains connecting most of its cities.

It has the world's longest railway network, 22,000 kilometres by the end of 2016, about 60 per cent of the total

network. — PTI

## Efforts on to resolve ...

(Contd from page 1)

of India and Bhutan are also in regular touch for exchange of ideas on the ground situation.

Clarifying the Government of India stand on the Doka La face-off, sources said that the government's stand is very clear on the border. "As China is not accepting the McMohan Line as the international border, both sides have agreed to maintain the status quo along the line of control and we have told China that they should abide by the agreement."

Though the Government of India is not apprehending serious trouble along the international border, the border guarding forces including the Army and the Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) personnel have been directed to remain alert all along the border with China and patrolling in the vulnerable patches have been increased.

The incident was initially investigated by officers from Ealing Borough but has since been passed to the Homicide and Major Crime Command, the Met Police statement added.

Karanbir, known as Karan, was allergic to wheat, gluten and dairy, eggs, nuts and his condition was well-known at school.

On June 28, he went to the school office to inform them of a reaction to some cheese and staff gave him medication kept specially for him but his condition quickly worsened and he was rushed to hospital.

Doctors at Great Ormond Street hospital in London struggled to save his life but he died on Sunday.

His parents, who were by his bedside, are now demanding answers from the William Perkin High Church of England High School in Greenford and questioning exactly what caused their son's sudden death. — PTI

## NGT blames...

(Contd from page 1)

The tribunal directed the counsel for the petitioner to identify the stretches where semi-rigid barriers have not been installed so that it can be replicated in other areas.

The matter was fixed for next hearing on July 14. The tribunal had earlier said that any vehicle found crossing the 40-km speed limit on the NH-37 in the national park stretch would have to pay an environment compensation of Rs 5,000, besides a fine under the Motor Vehicles Act.

Three interceptor vehicles are operating round the clock on the 66-km stretch of the highway to book vehicles exceeding the 40-km speed limit, he added.

## National media ignoring ...

(Contd from page 1)

Five persons were killed and nine went missing as a massive landslide triggered by incessant rains hit eight dwellings in Arunachal Pradesh's Papum Pare district yesterday.

In Manipur, more than 20 per cent of the state's paddy fields in all five districts of Imphal valley were hit by the floods. Manipur has suffered a loss of around Rs 131 crore in the floods since cyclone Mora hit the state in late May, leading to floods and related incidents like landslides. — PTI

## Uncertainty over Baghdadi's fate after claims of his death

WASHINGTON, July 12:

The international coalition, led by the US, could not confirm Tuesday's announcement by a British-based monitoring group that claimed the leader of the ISIS Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi had died, but hopes that it was true.

"Despite all the helpful reports to us from every source imaginable, I'm unable to confirm or deny either where he is or whether he is alive or dead. Let me just say for the record my fervent hope is it is the latter," Lt Gen Stephen Townsend, who heads the Combined Joint Task Force in Iraq, told a news briefing from Baghdad via video conferencing.

In an email statement to Efe news agency, US Army Col. Joe Scrocca, director of public affairs for the Combined Joint Task Force, said: "We cannot confirm the report, but hope it is true. Strongly advise (the) ISIS to implement a strong line of succession, it will be needed."

However, the colonel said that he strongly urges the ISIS to apply a strong line of succession, as it will be necessary.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights had published a brief statement earlier on Tuesday on Facebook reporting

### CORRIGENDUM OF DUE DATE AGAINST Tender No. 10/12/2006

Please read Open Tender due date as 15-08-2017 instead of 14-08-2017. Date of tender document is 12/08/2017. Open Advt. No. 10/01/17 published Under Notice No. 23/2017 Controller of Stores, Maligon

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### CANCELLATION OF TENDER NOTICE NO. TSKENG/2018 OR 2017 DTD. 03-07-2017

The tender for the work mentioned below against the notice Open Advt. No. TSKENG/2018 of 03-07-2017 (Item-4) is treated as cancelled.

Name of Work: NAM-Provision of POF

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### EXTERIOR PAINTING OF COACHES

Tender Notice No. DBWIS / NIT-04/2017-Dated 11-07-2017. Sealed open tenders are invited for the execution of the work mentioned in the following:

Tender-14/PUR Painting of LHB Coaches-2017-18. Name of work:

Supply and application of Exterior Paints and Coatings on LHB Coaches.

Specification No. MSC/PCN/100/2009 for EPOXY cum Polyurethane

Paints.

Contract Value: ₹ 2,00,000/-

GST as applicable as per Govt norms.

Earliest Date of delivery:

01-08-2017.

Date of closing of E-

tender: 16-08-2017 at 15.30 hrs.

For details please visit N F Railway website <http://www.indrailways.gov.in>

St. No. 10, Sector 1, Electrical Engineer, Raniganj

© NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY Serving Customers With A Smile

### Engineering Works: "Contract of Surface Wheel Lathe, Model SWL-79"

Tender Notice No. DBWIS / NIT-02/2017-Dated 16-07-2017.

Open tenders in sealed covers are invited for the work as under:

Tender No. DBWIS/Tender/03/Sealed SWL-79/MCIC/2017.

18. Name of Work: 2<sup>nd</sup> Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of Surface Wheel Lathe, Model SWL-79 for a period of three years.

Tender Value : ₹ 55,23,540/-

Earliest Date of delivery:

01-08-2017.

Date of closing of E-

tender: 16-08-2017 upto 12.00 hrs. Date

of payment of tender documents:

From 26-07-2017 to 16-08-2017 upto 13.00 hrs and

Tender will be opened on 17-08-2017 at 10.00 hrs.

Office of the Chief Workshop Manager, N F Railway Mechanical Workshop, Dibrugarh, Assam.

Detailed Tender Notes and

Documents are available at [www.indrailways.gov.in](http://www.indrailways.gov.in).

Production Engineer, Dibrugarh.

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### ATTACHMENT OF ADDITIONAL COACH

It has been decided to attach one extra coach with the following trains on temporary basis to clear extra rush of passengers for the period of 2 months as under:-

#### TRAIN NO. & NAME

15517 From Guwahati-Naharlagun Doni polo Express

First Class

From 17-07-2017 to 16-09-2017

A/C 2-Tier (One)

From Naharlagun-Doni polo Express

General Manager (Operations), Maligonj

© NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY Please use Railway Enquiry Number 13451 (Ticket Counter), 162 (Security) & 139 (Train Information)

### ACTION SALE NOTICE

This is for general information for the public that it has been proposed by the Railway Authority to dispose off unconnected and undelivered consignments which are lying at Guwahati Parcel Office since long through public auction to be held on 14-07-2017, 28-07-2017, 18-08-2017, 08-09-2017, 22-09-2017, 13-10-2017, 03-11-2017, 17-11-2017, 08-12-2017 and 22-12-2017. If there is any bandh or holiday the same will be held on next date. Interested bidders are requested to deposit Rs. 5000/- (Five thousand) only individually towards security money before taking part in the auction along with PAN Card No. Registration Number, Aadhar Card No., 13451 (Ticket Counter), 162 (Security) & 139 (Train Information) without showing any reason. Security money deposited by the bidders will be forfeited, if any bidder does not offer any bid after enlisting their name in the bidder list and after bidding highest bid against any consignment and the same is not removed from Railway premises within 24 hrs. after auction/receiving lifting order after paying the full bidding amount.

Assistant Commercial Manager, Guwahati

© NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY



## Advertising Club annual meet held

GUWAHATI, July 12: The annual general meeting (AGM) for 2016-17 of Advertising Club, Guwahati, was held on Tuesday. The Advertising Club was launched in 2014 by Madison World chairman, Sam Basarca. The meeting was followed by a public discussion with Babita Baruah, managing partner of GTB India (a WPP company).

The meeting showcased the work done by the organisation last year and set a roadmap for the current year. Members and many representatives of corporate houses attended the event.

The AGM also marked the completion of term of the present office-bearers and appointment of a new executive committee to lead the organisation for the next two years. Angshuman Dey, business head of The Times of India Group for NER, has been selected as the president and Rishi Baruah of the Pratinidhi Group as the secretary.

The Advertising Club, Guwahati, is open for membership from representatives of client organisations (advertisers), professionals, and students, apart from members of the industry. It has 26 primary general members, including premier media houses and advertising agencies of the city.

## NRC duty

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 12: Chandana Mahanta, Deputy Secretary to the Government of Assam, Home & Political Department, rendering service in the Office of the State Coordinator, NRC, Assam, has been designated as the State Public Information Officer in respect of the subject matter of NRC update in Assam, an official release stated.

## Book release

GUWAHATI, July 12: A felicitation volume in honour of Asom Satra Mahasabha chief adviser Bhadra Krishna Goswami, edited by Prof Pona Mahanta, will be released at a function to be held at Ambarnath Hotel at 5 pm on July 14 by Dr Lakshmi Nandan Bora in the presence of Kanakeswar Deka, Harekrishna Deka and DN Chakravarthy among other dignitaries.

# Call to check garbage dumping on NH-37

CORRESPONDENT

JORABAT, July 12: Members of the Jorabat AASU unit, along with the secretary of Jorabat Unnayan Samity, today found a dumper offloading garbage along the NH-37 here.

A news report was published in *The Assam Tribune* regarding the issue on June 17 last, following which the Circle Officer of Sonapur allowed the Jorabat Unnayan Samity, a local organisation, to monitor the issue of garbage dumping along the national highway.

The Jorabat AASU unit and Jorabat Unnayan Samity team reached the spot while the dumper (AS 01FC 5717) was offloading the garbage in broad daylight on the highway. However, the dumper sped away from the site.

The AASU team managed to note down the registration number of the truck and capture some photographs while the garbage was being dumped.

An FIR was lodged by the secretary of the Jorabat Unnayan Samity at the Jorabat Police Outpost, calling for strict action against those involved in such



activities. There is fear of an outbreak of epidemic if the dumping of garbage continues in the area.

Dibyajyoti Medhi, adviser of the Dimoria AASU unit, said that the issue should be dealt with strictly, and that the people behind such mindless activities should be punished for polluting

the environment. Such haphazard dumping of trash affects the health of local residents and also degrades the environment.

Conscious sections of people here expect that the Circle Officer concerned and the police would take action to curb such menace.

## State Govt to engage PSU to study security features, quality

SANJOY RAY

GUWAHATI, July 12: The home department has decided to rope in technical expertise from a Government of India undertaking to audit all the parameters related to installation of 290 close circuit television cameras (CCTVs) in Guwahati, including their security features and the quality of the devices.

Sources told *The Assam Tribune* that the State Government is in touch with various public sector undertakings including the Engineers India Limited and the Projects and Development Authority of India Limited,

### CCTVs installed in Guwahati

comes in the execution of the project by Levelone Communications, thereby comprising with the security of the common man.

"We want to get the technical audit done within the shortest possible time as it relates to a very sensitive project. We are looking for

and very soon the decision to hand over the job of technical audit will be taken."

The decision to get a third party audit done was necessitated after an inquiry by a State-level technical committee hinted at various short-

time-bound completion of the audit so that other related aspects can be looked into as well," sources pointed out, adding that a team of Assam Police and experts have already done physical verification of the cameras, after

which the decision to entrust the task to a PSU was taken. "We want the technical team to basically unearth whether or not Levelone Communications had complied with what it had promised. The technical committee will look into all the relevant parameters, which will

help us come to a conclusion and take necessary action," sources stated.

"However, the good part of the story is the bank guarantee of the firm is still intact with us and the materials supplied so far are also worth more than what has already been paid to the firm," sources claimed, adding, "Public service cannot be compromised at any cost."

The entire process of installation of CCTVs in 91 locations of Guwahati for improving artificial intelligence came under the scanner after the State-level technical committee found that the cameras lacked key security features.

## Bharat Vikas Parishad foundation day celebrated

GUWAHATI, July 12: The foundation day of Bharat Vikas Parishad (BVP) was celebrated by its West Guwahati Branch on July 10 on the premises of Ram Thakur Mission, Panbari, stated a press release today.

Dr Mukta Biswas from the Department of Sanskrit, Gauhati University who was the guest of honour, explained the concept of service and praised the service-oriented activities of the BVP.

Partha Pratim Dutt, regional secretary (NE) spoke about Dr Suraj Prakash, founder of the Parishad and apprised the gathering about the country-wide mega blood donation programme undertaken by the Parishad.

The meeting was attended by members and well-wishers of the Parishad and was presided over by Dr Ganesh Ch Dev Sarmah, president of the West Guwahati Branch.

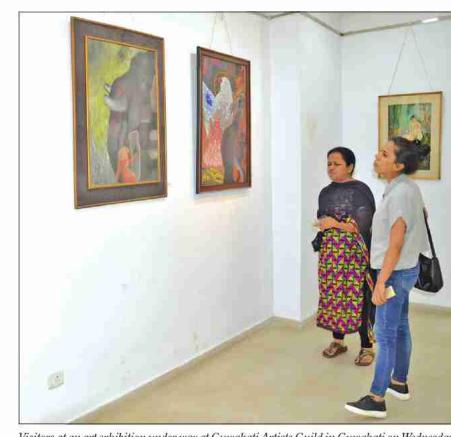
SL Mittal, Assam State general secretary threw light

on the activities of the Parishad in Assam.

On the occasion the Parishad's West Guwahati Branch handed over a hand-driven tricycle to Tleswar Das, a physically challenged student. The branch also extended a financial assistance of Rs 5,000 to Nababita Sarkar, a BCom student of West Guwahati Commerce College, who belongs to a poor family.

At the same programme Bharat Vikas Parishad's Assam State unit donated one lakh rupees to Kalyan Ashram, Assam for its hostels for boys and girls at Udaguri.

The meeting was attended by members and well-wishers of the Parishad and was presided over by Dr Ganesh Ch Dev Sarmah, president of the West Guwahati Branch.



Visitors at an art exhibition under way at Guwahati Artists Guild in Guwahati on Wednesday.

- AT photo

## Chandmari traffic point

The road segment around the Chandmari traffic point, especially the eastern part of it, has been lying in a pathetic condition for



months, yet the Public Works Department has adopted a completely indifferent attitude in this regard, which is highly condemnable. The portion of the road is only serving as a 'speed-breaker' by default, even as it is giving commuters, particularly four-wheeler drivers, a harrowing experience every day. Make no

mistake, the digital signal system at this traffic point also gives the vehicles coming from the Bamunidam side just a few seconds (which

Being based in Delhi, I have been reading a lot about the 'Focus on Northeast' policy and various cultural, sports and other activities being organised by both the Centre as well as the Assam government spending crores of rupees to attract tourists to this neglected part of our country. But, when I landed in Guwahati on June 22 last and had occasions to visit Kumarpara, Machikhowa and the Old Jail area of Fancy Bazar, I witnessed the bitter truth on the ground – long patches of broken roads, huge garbage dumps and dirty surroundings all around.

I instantly recollect my equally frustrating experience during the jour-

ney by road that I took to my hometown, Silvassa, from the Jorhat Airport three weeks back, when I was shocked to see the extremely poor and almost non-motorable condition of the national highway. Consequently, on my return I was forced to take a flight to Delhi from Dibrugarh.

I have never understood till date,

### Tall claims

Being based in Delhi, I have been reading a lot about the 'Focus on Northeast' policy and various cultural, sports and other activities being organised by both the Centre as well as the Assam government spending crores of rupees to attract tourists to this neglected part of our country. But, when I landed in Guwahati on June 22 last and had occasions to visit Kumarpara, Machikhowa and the Old Jail area of Fancy Bazar, I witnessed the bitter truth on the ground – long patches of broken roads, huge garbage dumps and dirty surroundings all around.

– ML Lahoty,

Advocate, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi

ly, on my return I was forced to take a flight to Delhi from Dibrugarh.

I have never understood till date, with what courage the Central and State governments make loud noises, both in print and electronic media, that special attention is now being given to Assam and the Northeast states when the ground reality is totally different.

– ML Lahoty,

Advocate, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi

## Eviction drive at Garigaon

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 12: The Kamrup (Metro) district administration today carried out an eviction drive at Garigaon.

An area of around 200 metres along the National Highway 37 was cleared of encroachment during the drive, which was assisted by officials from the Guwahati Municipal Corporation (GMC) and the City Police.

The encroachers were squatting on the drains along the highway, which had led to blockage of the channels and waterlogging during the rainy period.

A number of illegal structures were demolished during the drive.

### Tree plantation at Panikhaiti

GUWAHATI, July 12: A tree plantation drive was undertaken at Panikhaiti by the Central Training Institute (Home Guards & Civil Defence, Assam) and District Training Centre (Home Guards, Kamrup) recently, stated a press release today.

Dr AP Rout, Director General of Civil Defence & Commandant General of Home Guards, Assam in his speech said plantation activity would bring mankind closer to Nature and help in decreasing natural calamities caused by deforestation due to human activity.

Dr Rout stressed that conservation of biodiversity should be understood as an eco-friendly measure to check Nature's fury.

By Director General CD & DG Commandant General Home Guards, Assam L R Bordoloi; Principal CTI (CD & HG, Assam) Sabidas Ch Das; v/c District Commandant Home Guards, Kamrup Suman Das and Junior Staff Officer Civil Defence BB Roy were also present on the occasion.

## APCC urges PM to assess State flood damage

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 12: The Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) today urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to depute a high-level team of the Union Government comprising Union ministers and officials of the Water Resources, Health and Family Welfare, Surface Transport and Agriculture along with the Veterinary and Animal Husbandry departments to make an immediate assessment of the damage caused by the current wave of flood to infrastructure and the loss of lives, and requirements in the areas of health care, rehabilitation and adequate compensation to the floodhit people of the State.

The APCC memorandum, signed by its president, Ripun Bora, stated that the presence of such a delegation is also needed to supervise and streamline the entire flood relief system in the State.

He alleged that the State Government and the district administrations have utterly failed to provide timely and immediate relief to the affected people. Lakhs of people are still living under the open sky and are at the mercy of the elements under an atmosphere of hunger, disease and misery. There is no clear direction to the district administrations and coordination among the government departments concerned is also lacking, which has affected the entire relief and rescue operations very badly.

It is also not comprehended as to what prevented the State Government from anticipating the flood this time and thus to make any contingency plans to combat the situation despite the fact that flood has now become a regular annual phenomenon in the State, he said.

He also alleged that the incompetence of the State Government has made things tougher in providing relief to the floodhit people and saving lives in the flood-hit areas. He asserted that such inadequacies in meeting the basic needs of the people are tantamount to gross violation of human rights.

## OBITUARY

### SURENDRA NATH DUTTA



All good things will come to an end  
Deceived by nature, we cannot bind  
Humbly bow to the Lord's commandment  
Praying that the noble soul may transcend...

On 3rd July 2017, you left us for your heavenly abode at the age of 85, leaving behind your loving wife Parul Ranjita Dutta, daughter, two sons and daughters-in-law, grandchildren, relatives, friends and admirers. Your unshakeable principles, uncompromising honesty and a loving and generous heart will be remembered by all. Your struggles in life and rise to prominence from humble beginnings, your social contributions and fearless writings will forever inspire us. Without you to guide and protect us we are utterly lost in the wilderness of life. On this day of your Adya Shradha, we truly pray to the Almighty that you may find eternal peace and happiness.

All family members

## Faculty Recruitment

### Pub Kamrup College

(Upgraded to 'Model College', under RUSA)

Bahalata Chariali-781381, Assam

Faculties in Physics and Chemistry are required to teach PG course in Biophysics. Monthly salary Rs. 22,000/- (fixed) plus annual increment. Candidates having UGC norms can appear in the walk in interview with all relevant documents on 21st July, 2017 (Friday) in Principal's office.

For details: website: [www.pubkamrupcollege.co.in](http://www.pubkamrupcollege.co.in), Email: [principal@pubkamrupcollege.org](mailto:principal@pubkamrupcollege.org), Mobile: +91 94351 19351

Sd/- Principal  
Pub Kamrup College

## JAWAHARLAL NEHRU COLLEGE

### BOKO, KAMRUP PIN-781123

#### ADMISSION NOTICE FOR M.A. / M. SC IN ASSAMESE & MATHEMATICS

Application in Prescribed form (available in college office) for admission into M.A. / M. Sc in Assamese & Mathematics for 1st Semester for the session 2017-18 are invited from eligible candidates per following schedule

Subject: Assamese & Mathematics

Issue of Forms: 14.07.2017

Last date of Form submission: 27.07.2017

Date of Publication of Merit List: 31.07.2017

Date of Admission: 07.08.2017

Date of Commencement of Classes: 16.08.2017

Sd/- Dr. N. Goswami  
Principal  
J.N.College Boko

## Admission Notice 2017-18

### M.Sc. in Biophysics (1st Semester)

Pub Kamrup College

(Upgraded to Model College, under RUSA)

Bahalata Chariali-781381, Assam

"I think it would be a wonderful course...I would be happy to be of any assistance in your program..."

Prof M.P.N. Murthy, Prof of Biophysics, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

- Students having any of the following eligibility can apply for the course:
  - 1. B.Sc. Major Students (or equivalent standard) in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Computer Science.
  - 2. B.Sc. Major Students (or equivalent standard) in Botany, Zoology, Biotechnology, Biological Sciences having Mathematics as one of the pass course subjects.

- Online application starting from 12/07/2017.
- Last date of online form submission: 30/07/2017; Merit list will be declared on 16/08/2017.
- Date of Admission: 07/08/2017
- Commencement of classes from 10th August, 2017.

Fees: Admission fees Rs. 35,000/- + security deposit (refundable) Rs. 5000/- (may be paid in two installments), Rs. 30,000/- for the subsequent semesters.

Features:
 

- Good infrastructure facilities with sophisticated laboratory set up.
- Supportive DBT sponsored Advanced Level Institutional Biotech Hub.
- Permitted to do practical in Guwahati Biotech Park and free college laboratory facilities.
- Arrangement of summer research project in reputed state/national level research institutes.
- Hospital for Girls

Scope:
 

- Bright Research Field.
- Placement in Medical Colleges, Research institutes, Pharmaceutical Companies etc.

Contact details: website: [www.pubkamrupcollege.co.in](http://www.pubkamrupcollege.co.in), Email: [principal@pubkamrupcollege.org](mailto:principal@pubkamrupcollege.org), Mobile: +91 94351 19315

Sd/- Principal  
Pub Kamrup College

## MESSAGE FOR TODAY

One thing evangelicals want is a reprieve from intolerance against their beliefs, values and practices.

- RONALD H. NASH



## Transient reprieve

Time and again the Indian Judiciary has stepped in to prevent undue intervention of the Legislature and Executive into the lives of the people. Now, once again, the Supreme Court of India has had to take a step to stem what indubitably is an authoritarian diktat by the NDA Government, which had indirectly asserted that certain food items were taboo in our society, and enacted legislations to enforce it. The notification issued by the Union Environment Ministry in May this year prohibiting the country-wide sale of cattle in livestock markets for 'slaughtering purposes' was yet another instance of such legislation. Cattle in the notification included bulls, cows, buffaloes and camels, which registered abattoirs would have to buy directly from farms, while farmers who buy cattle from livestock markets for other purposes could not resell them for six months. In what amounted to hypocrisy, the Environment Ministry had stated that its aim in imposing this ban was to curb 'cruelty to animals'; but one did not need to look too hard between the lines to guess what the actual objective was! Given the anti-beef stance of the Sangh parivar, and the murder of at least a dozen innocent cattle traders, the notification was a way of curbing availability of beef. Moreover, regulation of cattle markets is a State subject and thus the Centre had no constitutional right to issue a notification imposing a country-wide ban.

Little wonder that when the notification was challenged, the Madras branch of the Madras High Court had no hesitation to order an interim stay on the ban. By stating that the direction of the High Court staying the Centre's notification banning sale and purchase of cattle from animal markets for slaughter will remain in force and cover the entire country, the Supreme Court of India has thrown its weight behind the Madras High Court directive. One may recall that no less an entity than a member of the Sangh Parivar, the right-wing Shiv Sena, had hit the nail on the head by asserting that "the issue of beef is related to eating habits, business and employment", and the Centre should not have issued the notification. In fact, not only had this ban impacted adversely on rural economy, it had also deprived poorer segments of society from getting access to a cheap item of nutrition. However, the Supreme Court's directive too is interim in nature, and the Additional Solicitor General representing the Centre has stated that a fresh amended notification to meet Constitutional requirements would be re-notified. This means that the Centre has all intention of continuing with the ban and once again the judiciary would stand between the Government and the people! Considering the adverse impact this ban has made, enlightened opinion in the nation certainly hopes that the current stay will not be a transient reprieve.

## Social media

Social media has in a very short period of time assumed such an important role in our life that almost all of us, whatever may be our position in life, have started giving a lot of importance to what passes through it. Within the last one decade, we have witnessed an enormous increase in influence of the social media. The Arab Spring, which shook the foundations beneath long-established dictatorships in many countries, was in many ways facilitated by social media. Social media has also changed our traditional media and the way it functions. With various social media sites, now is the era of the citizen journalist. It has to be admitted that social media has brought about very many positive changes to millions of people across the globe. However, there have been pitfalls too. All of a sudden, it has become very easy to spread rumours, canards and false information and bombard the target audience in such manner that everybody becomes convinced. The latest communal clashes in Baduria and Basirhat areas of West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district are a case in point. As per police reports, the violence in those areas, located not far from the India-Bangladesh border, first started after a school student allegedly shared a controversial picture on Facebook. The post depicted a particular community in bad light. Soon communal elements of all hues jumped into the fray and the situation went from bad to worse. There were road blockades and disruption in train services at many places. The Centre also rushed in additional forces at the request of the West Bengal Government. The Kolkata Police have also arrested a person for sharing an image from a Bhopuri film and passing it off as one of the incidents which took place during the violence at North 24 Parganas.

This is not the first time that social media has been used to fan communal tension or create unrest. Some years back, thousands of people belonging to Assam fled from States like Andhra Pradesh following threatening messages against them spread by the social media in the aftermath of violence and killings in the BTAD region. Times are now such that these days nothing escapes the scrutiny of the social media. Off course, there cannot be any censorship in a democratic country like India. But, at the same time, our government and every right thinking person must deliberate on ways to ensure that social media does not turn out to a curse on the very fabric of our society and polity. Awareness can be generated to promote the good usage of such a medium. Besides, the government agencies can coordinate with companies like Facebook and WhatsApp to ensure that ideas and messages promoting hatred, blatant untruths and venom-spewing views do not find place in their sites.

## Democracy: a self defeating exercise

**ROUGH & TUMBLE**  
By Patricia Mukhim

**D**emocracy defined as a government of, by and for the people seems to be failing us on all fronts. Whether we look at the massacre of Amarnath pilgrims in Kashmir or the collapse of a bridge in Nagaland's Dimapur while its legislators play musical chairs at a resort in Kaziranga, or the continued devastation of lives and livelihoods due to floods in Assam, there is a pall of gloom all around. In tribal states, democracy boils down to electing not the best, most creditable representative but a Facebooker from the clan and as a Facebooker comes in rather wryly if I dared to challenge what his claimants have decided is the best candidate then he scores the chance of being socially ostracized. And in a state where the village chieftain votes for everyone, the voice of sainy is not tolerated. Democracy in India never contemplated with the last common denominator – all the cast, religious loyalties – all of which bear greater resemblance to class in an oligarchy.

It is of course a misplaced idealism to look for men and women of honour and integrity when all around us morals are crumbling like pineapples. Those who look for solutions to this political depravity have a somewhat simplistic solution. They suggest that perhaps the focus on value education in schools might help. But this is a short-sighted solution to a complex psycho-social problem, proposed by those who don't know what else to say and what to attribute the falling human value systems to. Schools may teach value education,

but, I recall being told early in life that values are caught, not taught. Values are caught from the early environment of the child and that is the home. If the values a child imbibes at home are at variance with the ones taught at school where she spends five or six hours of her time, it is evident that the child will be confused. What are the right values? If the teacher preaches that collaboration is far superior to competition but the parents are pushing the child to score over her nearest rival in class, in terms of percentage scored, what happens to the child? How does she express her predicament? She can neither argue with the teachers nor with her parents. It would take a very confident child brought up in a tension-free, liberal environment to be able to question parents and teachers. So when we have today is a generation of insecure individuals. And these individuals brought up in the atmosphere of schizophrenia make up the Donald Trumps of today!

But Trump is only one example.

Closer home we have many public representatives who profess and exhibit one set of values in churches and practice the complete opposite in public life. Add to this the complexities that are thrust on our faces by a system that ignores geography, history and sensitivity and you have a demographic that is teetering like a see-saw. On July 11, the media was overwhelmed with news and debates about the seven pilgrims who were attacked by unknown terrorists on the Amarnath Yatra, a day before, in Kash-

mir. On July 11, a bridge collapsed in Dimapur leaving four people dead and five injured yet that news never featured in the national consciousness because Dimapur is not Kashmir and terrorism in Kashmir makes television anchors and commentators (retired army generals) froth at the mouth in what is a growing climate of nationalistic fervor! There is nothing to froth and fume about when people die in Nagaland or in Assam (floods) especially when they don't die by

was already fragile and should not have been allowed to be used. But who cares? And no one knows where the money is or why the project took so long to be implemented. Probably all such monies are used by a aspiring chief minister to buy the loyalties of the same MLAs who profess their faith in a Christ – the symbol of truth and unquestioned integrity. So what sort of Christianity are these MLAs, their supporters and henchmen practising? Os it new age Christianity where the yardsticks are bent beyond recognition? Why are those leading the churches unable to speak power to truth? I recall a church belonging to one tribe casting a whipping Re 36 crore being inaugurated recently. One might ask where the money came from but there are always explanations, aren't there?

It was only in February

this year when the game of musical chairs was

played

by Nagaland MLAs

in amidst the fury against the women's reservation

bill seeking 33% reservation

for women in elections to the urban local bodies (ULBs). A new Chief Minister – Shurhozelie Liezicta, already past his 80th year, though not an elected MLA, chose to be chief minister to quell the disenchantment against TR Zeliang who is perceived to have caved in to the demands of the women's group allowing 33% seat reservation for women in the ULBs. Speculations have been on as to whether or not Shurhozelie would contest the bye-election in order to continue as chief minister. Many believed he

would step aside but Shurhozelie evidently is not doing so. Interestingly, the Northern Angami constituency was represented by Shurhozelie's son Khrishu Loiezicta who vacated his seat in May this year to make way for his father. Recently Shurhozelie appointed his son as advisor to the CM (himself) with cabinet rank and all the accompanying perks. This is what triggered the rebellion against Shurhozelie! If this is not nepotism then what is! Khrishu is now also projected as standby candidate.

Evidently TR Zeliang was asked to take over as CM on July 8 but preferred to rebel instead. The polling date for the bye election is July 29 and the counting will be on August 3. If Shurhozelie is re-elected as is likely to be the case then his continuance as CM is inevitable. So the offer of the CM's post to TR Zeliang is a bit curious. Zeliang must apparently be aware of this ticklish situation hence he prefers to wrest the CM's post by proving his majority in the House. Meanwhile, the floor test scheduled for July 15 has been shifted on account of the Presidential election. It would be interesting to see which way Nagaland votes under the circumstances.

The problem with India is that politicians see the country as a family estate and politics an entitlement. Can we imagine a

democracy which allows a father

to appoint a son as his advisor at a cost to the public exchequer?

But of course we will cite the

example of Donald Trump who has appointed his entire family to some post or the other!

(patricia.mukhim@gmail.com)

## Future prospects of solar energy in India

■ Dr Pradip Kumar Das

**E**nergy is one of the most important factors for the development of a country. There is a direct and close relation between the availability of energy and the growth of a country. Energy is consumed by all sectors of economy and all sections of society in India.

On account of growing energy needs and increasing environmental concern, the most promising alternative is use of solar photovoltaics, solar thermal electricity, solar architecture etc. This form of energy holds out a major promise to overcome energy crisis in our country. Thus solar energy is one of the ultimate solutions to power crisis, either in the form of solar thermal power or solar photo voltaic. Solar energy is also renewable energy.

India has an ideal location for solar energy utilization. In a recent study conducted by the Renewable Energy Research Centre, it is found that the average solar radiation in the countries varies between 4 to 6.5 kWh per day. Maximum amount of radiations are available in the month of March to April and minimum in December to January. Moreover, in the rural areas where still there is no electricity facility, photovoltaic technology can be a blessing. Further in the area where solar intensity is very high, solar thermal power

plants can be installed. Solar thermal energy does have advantages like other forms of solar energy. It is used for solar water heating, solar pool heating, solar space heating etc. Besides these, solar dryers, water heaters and solar cookers have directly contributed in the conservation of electricity.

The solar photovoltaic system consists of solar cells, electronic devices that convert sunlight into electricity. It is an electrical device that converts the light energy directly into electricity by photovoltaic effect. It is a form of photoelectric cell which when exposed to light can generate and support an electric current without being attached to any external voltage source.

Solar radiation on earth is the indirect source of nearly every type of energy used by us. The sun creates its energy through a thermo-nuclear process. That converts about 650 million tons of hydrogen to helium every second. The process creates heat and electromagnetic radiation of spectral range of 2000-20000A<sup>0</sup>. The electromagnetic radiation includes 45% visible light, 52% in the near infra red, rest in ultra violet and for infra red radiation. The radiation streams out into space in all directions. Although only a very small fraction of the total radiation produced in the sun,

reaches the earth but this much radiation is much larger than the global need of energy.

Due to the nature of solar energy, two components are required to have a functional solar energy generator. These are a collector and storage unit. The collector simply collects the radiation that falls on it and converts a fraction of it to other form of energy. This form of energy is either electricity and heat or heat alone. The storage unit is required because of the non-constant nature of solar energy; at certain times only a very few amount of radiation will be received. At night or during heavy cloud cover, the amount of solar energy produced by the collector will be quite small.

The storage unit stores the excess energy produced during the periods of maximum productivity and releases it when the production drops.

There are two types of solar energy. Passive solar energy is a method in which solar energy is harvested in its direct form without using any mechanical devices. Drying clothes in daylight is an example of using solar energy passively. Passive solar energy has a few applications like day lighting, passive solar heating and passive solar cooking. The active solar energy employs mechanical, electrical equipment for functioning and increase the system's

efficiency. As an example, water pumps are used to circulate water. Through the active solar energy water heating system, some important applications of active solar energy are active solar water heating, active solar pool heating and active solar space heating.

As a whole, solar power is the conversion of sunlight into electricity. Sunlight can be converted directly into electricity using photovoltaics (PV) or indirectly with concentrated solar power (csp), which normally focuses the sun's energy to boil water which is then used to produce power.

Solar energy provides a huge advantage for satellites because they can be launched into orbit without the added weight of a fuel supply. Moreover, solar power generation provides energy where and when it is needed and is highly scalable to match the electrical demand. Since solar energy cells have no moving parts, they are reliable and easy to maintain.

The use of solar energy has some advantages. The first commercial use of solar energy nearby 50 years ago was power generation satellites in near earth orbit. The declining cost and increasing efficiency of solar energy technology has given rise to practical applications from powering personnel electronic devices, home and factories to generate utility scale power.

The continuous increase in population and industries increase the demand for electricity day by day. The conventional sources of power generation are not found to be sufficient. Thus it is essential to diversify our energy sources. Concrete steps such as investing for renewable energy and promoting of environment friendly practices must be taken.

In our country, the potential of solar energy remains untapped. The need is to focus on the use of solar energy sources so as to gain maximum benefit. In the area where solar energy intensity is very high, solar thermal power plant should be installed more and more so that we can utilise the solar energy more and more for our benefits. It should be mentioned that Gujarat, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu are getting benefits by utilising solar power energy. But, the NE region has got less benefit from solar energy. Adverse climate condition is one of the reasons for this. But, it should be examined and its benefits and drawbacks should be found out so that we can also utilise this type of energy. In this connection, it should be mentioned that Assam Science, Technology and Environment Council has played an important role in the field of application of solar energy in the State. Assam. It is known that nearly 1600 solar domestic lighting systems have been installed till now.

Letters  
to the  
EDITOR

Sir, – This refers to your

editorial 'Poaching of wildlife' (AT-  
July 9). It is observed that hunting and killing of animals has become a form of recreation. Murdering humans is considered a crime. But killing and wiping out an entire genre is hardly given consideration.

Hunting has tradition and the support of very powerful people on its side and due to their influence, hunting has been left untouched by legislation – the Protection of Animals Act only

covers captive and domestic animals. High officials, who are supposed to be the guardians of law, often abuse their powers to shield the rich and powerful.

We should know that we are not just animals, but that we belong to the same family tree as other mammals, that our physiology and bodily processes are just like theirs, and that our mental processes too are from the

same general pattern. Among animals, some are fewer in number than the others. If proper care and security are extended to them, the rare animals would survive. Only the future can tell whether the nation's animal wealth will survive to maintain the much-needed ecological balance. If we delay now, it might be too late. Yours etc., VINOD C DIXIT, Ahmedabad.

State floods

Sir, – Floods in Assam have become an annual tragedy to be forgotten once autumn sets in. There seems to be no end to this cycle in the foreseeable future.

There is a seeming lack of fresh ideas or probably an inability to implement them that has led to this present situation. Knee-jerk responses are not acceptable anymore. It is an injustice to the suffering millions.

The loss to Assam is not only to the humans, animals or crops. It's far more profound and depressing. It's the loss of time and energy. Adding to a feeling of hopelessness and

an injury to the psyche. A far more forethought approach can prevent this yearly curse. These are the days of technology of satellite imaging, of tremendous and magnificent engineering marvels. Everything is and can be made possible. We are a land of innovation and deep thinking. Surely a way can be found out.

We can even learn from the Dutch and the Japanese. They have become masters in keeping flood waters at bay, both in their cities and their countrysides. It's imperative not only for our future generations to whom we shall pass the baton but also because we love Assam. Yours etc., DR PRADIPTA SANKER GUHA, Guwahati.

USA's isolation

Sir, – After the conclusion of the G-20 Summit 2017 at Hamburg, Germany it is clear that the USA, the so-called undisputed leader of the world and economy has started losing its importance among the nations of the G-20. Earlier, the US President Donald Trump had signed on the Paris Climate Accord 2016, but still

showed absolute irresponsibility by ignoring the other 194 nations and withdrew from the agreement. Now that all the other 19 nations have supported the Paris Climate Agreement, the USA has been left isolated from the other 19 nations.

It is as clear as the daylight that Mr Trump always wants the most powerful in the world, but is not ready to take the responsibility of the increasing pollution. Now that, France, England, Italy and even the likes of Russia, China and India have stood together for the implementation of the Paris Climate Accord, Trump has realised that America is about to get isolated from the other nations regarding the climatic issues and international trade policy. His failure to re-establish the US dominance has raised hope of building a better relationship among the nations of the third and fourth world.

From India's point of view, it

was really important especially at a time when the going is not that good with the China of late. Above all, it was very essential for all other nations too to let the USA become the lone powerhouse of the international economy but rather try to build together a pollution-free better world. Yours etc., KALYAN RABHA, Bhergaon, Dalguri.

Ministry expansion

Sir, – More than one year has passed since the Sarbananda Sonowal-led Government was formed in Assam. But the ministry has not been expanded since then and one minister has been burdened with several important departments, which they may not be able to look after thoroughly. It is high time that the Chief Minister expands his ministry. Yours etc., PUTUL SARMA, Biswanath Chariali.

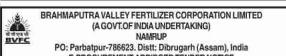
Articles (within 1000-1100 words) and Letters to the Editor for publication in the editorial page can be sent to the email ID: editor@assamtribune.com.

## Design awards

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 12: City-based JD Institute of Fashion Technology organised its '12th JD Excellence in Design Awards' ceremony here recently.

The event, held to provide a platform to aspiring student designers to exhibit their designs to the industry, was inaugurated by Femina Miss India World 2016 Priyadarshini Chatterjee and noted interior designer Nira Kar along with the directors of the institute Sumita Dey Deka and Ushmita Dey.



PO-Participate-78653-Accredited-Dibrugarh/Assam, India  
E-PROCUREMENT BRIDGED TENDER NOTICE

ONLINE Bids in two stages through http://bvtcl.tenders.in are invited for work of 'Annual Electrical Maintenance of Residential Quarters and Public Buildings at BAPUL Township', against our NIT No. Nam-Elec-TSMNT-09/2017/1236 dated 10.07.2017

T.J. Gehain  
Plaint Engineer (Elect.)



भारतीय विमानपत्रन संस्थान  
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

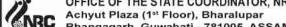
CORRIGENDUM No.1

Tender Reference : CNS-P-04-2017-18 (Tender ID : 2017\_AAJ\_1346\_1)

SITC of FDF Software with 8 nos. of Licenses with AMC of 5 years

Bid submission date & time has been extended to 09 August 2017, 1200 hrs. Please refer CPP Portal: http://tenders.gov.in/eprocure/app for further details.

N-6/2017-B



OFFICE OF THE STATE COORDINATOR, NRC

Achyut Plaza (1st Floor), Bharatapur

Bhagatgarh, Guwahati - 781005, ASSAM

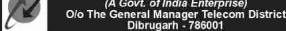
No. SPNU/NRC/SVC Bills/333/2016 Dated 11/7/2017

TENDER NOTICE

The Office of the State Coordinator, National Register of Citizens (NRC), Assam invites Tenders from eligible Firms/Agencies for Printing Works. The detailed information can be obtained from the official website www.nrassam.nic.in. Last date for receipt of tender is at 2.00 p.m. on 26-07-2017

Sd/- State Coordinator

National Register of Citizens (NRC), Assam



BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED

(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

O/o The General Manager Telecom District

Dibrugarh - 786001

Corrigendum

NIT No: MM-686/GMTD.DR/Tender/IOCL-Gopanari/2017-18

dd 12/07/2017

With Reference to MM-686/GMTD.DR/Tender/IOCL-Gopanari/2017-18 dd 13/06/2017 the following errors related to tender are revised due to administrative reasons:

1. Last date and time of issue of tender forms:- 18/07/2017 (11:00 hrs to 16:00 hrs).

2. Last date and time of submission of tender forms:- 19/07/2017 (14:30 hrs).

3. Date and Time of opening of Tender:-19/07/2017 at 15:30 hrs.

4. Upload GSTIN in Technical bid along with other documents as mentioned in Tender paper.

5. Rate quoted by the bidder will be inclusive of GST.

Details on our website [www.assam.bnsl.co.in](http://www.assam.bnsl.co.in) & <http://tenderwizard.com/BNSL>

Sd/- AGM (Planning)

O/o the GMTD, BNSL, Dibrugarh



P.O. DULIA-JAN - 786 602 ASSAM

CIN : L11101AS1959G001148

RECEPTION IN OIL

OIL INDIA LIMITED (OIL), a Navratna Public Sector Undertaking, invites online applications from eligible Indian Nationals, to fill up the following posts in Grade 'C' in the pay-scale of Rs. 32900-52000:

POST	
Senior Engineer-Drilling	
Senior Engineer-Field Engineering	
Senior Engineer-Pipeline	
Senior Engineer-Production	
Senior Engineer-Civil	
Senior Chemist/Senior Research Scientist	
Senior Biotechnologist	
Senior Officer-HR	
Senior Engineer-IT/ERP	
Senior Engineer-Telecom/Instrumentation	
Senior Officer-HSE/ Senior Engineer-Fire Service	
Senior Officer-Public Affairs (PA)	

The last date of receipt of Online Application is 12.08.2017

For details visit: <http://www.oil-india.com/oilnew/current-openings>

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, GUWAHATI

FIRST FLOOR, APSARA BUILDING, DR. B. BARUAH ROAD, GUWAHATI-781007

DPRC NO. 1584 DATED 10.02.2015 ARISING OUT OF O. No. 778 OF 2014

IN THE MATTER OF

STATE BANK OF INDIA, CHAPANGANI BRANCH

- VS -

MD. SAYED RAJIB HUSSAIN

SALE NOTICE

The under mentioned property will be sold by on line e-auction through website <https://dr.auctionguru.net> AS IT IS WHEREVER IT BEAS FOR recovery of Certificate amount in case number mentioned hereinabove.

Description of the land: It has pearly and of land measuring 20 (Twenty) Biswa, 100 (One hundred) Biswa covered by Patta No.448, Dag No. 656 of village Abhoyguri, Moza-Khaldi, P.S. Namiri, Sub-Registrar Office Naora, District Sivasagar, Assam.

Date and time of auction: 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2017 between 15:00 hours to 16:00 hours with auto time extension of 5 (Five) minutes till sale is concluded.

The Reserve Price of the property is fixed at Rs. 14,00,000/- (Rupees Fourteen lakhs only).

Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): EMD is fixed at Rs. 1,40,400/- (Rupees One lakh forty thousand four hundred and) which is to be paid by the bidder at the time of bidding in form of Demand Draft / Pay Order / RTGS / NEFT / GPF / IFSC Code: SBIN0007429, in State Bank of India, Chapangani Branch, P.O. Namiri Charai, District Sivasagar, Assam or before August 26, 2017 within 16:30 hours (4:30 PM) along with proof of EMD. However, bidders are also allowed to submit duly signed and filled up bid form and declaration in PDF Form along with proof of EMD to the Recovery Officer to his official e-mail ID drguwahati-dfs@iitjor.com within the above mentioned date and time. No bid will be accepted after the said date and time.

The other details about EMD and the terms and conditions of the sale are available on:

(i) [www.auctionguru.com](http://www.auctionguru.com)

(ii) <https://dr.auctionguru.net>

Intending purchasers may contact Shri Rajen Pega, Deputy Manager, State Bank of India, Chapangani Branch (Mobile Number: 9435443322) during 11 AM to 4 PM on working days.

(K. MUKHERJEE)

RECOVERY OFFICER-II

# ASEB engineers' body for underground power distribution

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 12: Reacting to the recent spate in electrocution-related incidents in the State and the subsequent upsurge, the Association of Engineers, ASEB (AEA), has laid stress on underground power distribution system to minimise power interruptions and electrical accidents.

It also called for creation of new electrical sub-divisions of the Assam Power Distribution Company Ltd (APDCL) and one electrical circle for every district to facilitate better service to the consumers along with better electrical safety, considering the growing number of electricity consumers.

The association rued that around 30 APDCL sub-divisions are running without sub-divisional officers, while at the technical level, the need-based requirement of Inmetts and sahayads (technicians) has crossed the number of 1,000.

The APDCL should also look into the matter of training of its recent recruits and the technicians of the contractors in electrical safety and workmanship, it said, adding, the State government should look into the issue of acute shortage of manpower at the field level in APDCL and recruit new engineering graduates, diploma holders and ITI-certified technicians, it said.

In a statement here today, the association rued that all existing overhead low voltage lines, whether bare conductor or ABC, should be protected by Moulded Case Circuit Breakers (MCCB). No transformer, whether located in urban areas or in rural areas, should be kept in energised condition unless the outgoing lines are protected by the MCCB to prevent electrical accidents.

It reasoned that these protective devices are much more effective in cutting off power supply than the fuse wire and cut-out switch, though these devices cannot be equated with the High Voltage Circuit Breakers in this respect.

The association also called for installation of thermal cameras to detect hot

spots which can provide early warning before snapping of lines.

In the urban areas, High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS) can be introduced. This system instantaneously trips and stops the flow of electric current when a line falls on the ground, the association said. However, it added that this system is economically not viable for Assam's rural areas, which have scattered households.

It maintained that ensuring electrical safety is becoming a major challenge in the State these days because of the rapid extension of rural electricity network, artificial floods and waterlogging due to unplanned growth of cities and towns. This has necessitated swift flow of information from the public to the APDCL authorities.

Moreover, streamlining of the affairs and duties and responsibilities of the office of the Chief Electrical Inspector, which is under the State power department, is also necessary in this respect.

Earlier, the Electrical Inspectorate acted as the third party inspectors of electrical safety. But now the Electrical Inspectorate has been restricted to authorising charging of privately-owned transformers in housing societies, commercial complexes and government buildings and other mundane works. There are allegations that it issues electrical licences to persons whose shoddy works lead to many electrical accidents.

## Minimising electrical accidents

(ABC) which they have installed already in Guwahati and other urban areas, it said.

It further said all existing overhead low voltage lines, whether bare conductor or ABC, should be protected by Moulded Case Circuit Breakers (MCCB). No transformer, whether located in urban areas or in rural areas, should be kept in energised condition unless the outgoing lines are protected by the MCCB to prevent electrical accidents.

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Participants at a Borgeet competition during the Mahapurusha Geet Mahotsav organised by Sonasara at the District Library in Guwahati on Wednesday. – UB Photos

## Call to fight against Govt policies

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 12: The 40th annual general meeting of the Gauhati Division Insurance Employees' Association's branch No 2 was held recently in the city, said a delayed release.

Speaking on the occasion, noted trade union leader and president of the North East Insurance Employees' Association Santanee Das severely criticised the policies adopted by the government. He called upon the employees to build up a strong movement against these policies.

The programme was attended by Dr Ganesh Saikia, Joint Director of Health Services, Dr BN Pora, former family planning consultant of NHM, Dr B Bordoloi, Inspectorate Superintendent of District Police and a number of senior officials.

A rally was also organised on the occasion.

Dr Saikia informed that this year during the 'Family Planning Fortnight' a target has been set for 700 female sterilisation, 200 male sterilisation, 1,500 contraceptive device (IUD) insertion and for 500 postpartum intrauterine contraceptive device (PPIUCD) insertion in Kamrup (Metro) district.

He said that during the 'Family Planning Fortnight' counsellor will be given to eligible couples and will be motivated to adopt various family planning methods.

Dr Bora spoke about the importance of family planning and its effect on society, especially its effect on socio-economic imbalance.

A street play was also conducted on family planning on the occasion by Jagreeta Cultural Centre.

## World Population Day at Dimoria

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## Poor landline service by BSNL

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 12: Customers using landline phones of the BSNL are having a harrasing time because of the failure of the company to take necessary steps to ensure smooth service. Whenever a phone connection is disrupted for some fault or the other, the customer concerned has to a tough time in getting the connection restored.

One such example is the landline number at the residence of SG Barua, Director of The Assam Tribune Group of Publications located on Rajbari first byzline. His landline number (D524461) is dead since June 25 and despite lodging repeated complaints, he has not been able to get the line restored. Every time he calls, it is told that the matter is being looked into, but the phone connection has not been restored so far.

Diabetes camp

GUWAHATI, July 12: MVD Health Plus, in association with T Limasungba Trust has launched a free diabetes detection and screening programme at its centre at Christian Basti, under which a camp will be held every Sunday from 8 am to 12 noon, a release said. The first camp was held on July 9.

Corrigendum

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Corrigendum

GUWAHATI, July 12: The 40th annual general meeting of the Gauhati Division Insurance Employees' Association's branch No 2 was held recently in the city, said a delayed release.

Speaking on the occasion, noted trade union leader and president of the North East Insurance Employees' Association Santanee Das severely criticised the policies adopted by the government. He called upon the employees to build up a strong movement against these policies.

The programme was attended by Dr Ganesh Saikia, Joint Director of Health Services, Dr BN Pora, former family planning consultant of NHM, Dr B Bordoloi, Inspectorate Superintendent of District Police and a number of senior officials.

A rally was also organised on the occasion.

Dr Saikia informed that this year during the 'Family Planning Fortnight' a target has been set for 700 female sterilisation,

200 male sterilisation, 1,500 contraceptive device (IUD) insertion and for 500 postpartum intrauterine contraceptive device (PPIUCD) insertion in Kamrup (Metro) district.

He said that during the 'Family Planning Fortnight' counsellor will be given to eligible couples and will be motivated to adopt various family planning methods.

Dr Bora spoke about the importance of family planning and its effect on society, especially its effect on socio-economic imbalance.

A street play was also conducted on family planning on the occasion by Jagreeta Cultural Centre.

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THE ASSAM TRIBUNE, GUWAHATI 7

B.N. COLLEGE, DHUBRI

P.O. Bidyapara, Pin-783234

ADMISSION NOTICE: 2017-2018

Admission into the 1st Semester

M.A. (Assam), M.Sc. (Chemistry)

Class No. of seats Last date of submission of form Date of notification of Merit List Date of admission Commencement of class

M.A. 25 25/07/2017 31/07/2017 03/08/2017 07/08/2017

M.Sc. (Chemistry) 12 25/07/2017 31/07/2017 03/08/2017 07/08/2017

Admission Form & Prospectus will be issued from 12.07.2017 from the college office counter during office hours on payment of Rs. 20/- through ATM card.

Principal,  
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THE NEF Law College

Affiliated to Gauhati University

# Protest against delay in repair of National Highway

CORRESPONDENT

MANGALDAI, July 12: The Darrang district unit of AJTCP with active participation of its Pub Mangaldi branch staged dharna on the NH-15 at Kermuri yesterday in protest against alleged failure of the authorities concerned to repair of a long stretch of the road.

The protesters shouted slogans against the PWD department demanding immediate repair of the road considering the gravity of the situation. They also shouted slogans

against the Chief Minister, PWD Minister and MLAs for their inaction. However, the protesters withdrew their agitation following assurance from the representatives of the district administration to address their grievances at the earliest. Later, a delegation led by president of the organisation Bhabesh Kakati met the visiting Governor of Assam at the Mangaldi Circuit House and submitted a memorandum.

In the memorandum they demanded early improvement of the NH-15 stretch in

the district and upgrade it to four-lane for better communication. "As the road is said to be the lifeline for the people of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, the State Government should repair the dilapidated stretch," the delegation said in the memorandum.

"The Central Government has accorded priority to the NH sector in order to provide better communication to the people of the country. Moreover, several new schemes have already been announced by the Prime Minister. But surprisingly enough, our State

Government has turned a blind eye," the protesters alleged.

It may be mentioned here that PWD Minister Parimal Shuklakabaidya along with higher PWD officials visited the district on May 3 last and admitted the poor state of the NH-15 and assured all possible steps for repair of the road within two months. But, apart from some minor repairing, in and around the Mangaldi town, the majority of the road has been left unattended even after expiry of the time frame he assured.

## Humanitarian aid for flood victims in Sonitpur district

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 12: With over 6 lakh children directly affected by the current wave of flood in Assam, 'Save the Children' has embarked on a child-centric humanitarian assistance providing family kits — comprising hygiene and shelter kits — to the families in Tubaikar village of Charduar circle in Sonitpur.

It will reach out to about 1000 families within a week and aims to reach a total of 3,000 families in Dhemaji and Sonitpur districts during this phase of the flood response.

"The non-profit organisation is continuously assessing the

needs of the children and their families to determine expansion of its assistance. Save the Children has completed a rapid assessment of the situation as part of the Inter-Agency Group in Assam," a press release stated.

Chittapriyo Sadhu, team leader for Save the Children for the Assam flood response, said, "Children can't wait during emergencies. Attention needs to be paid to ensure that they get adequate food for children, clean drinking water and health services. They also need to be protected, as families are often separated or children have to live with strangers. Psycho-social needs begin to surface during the emer-

gency and can continue for a prolonged period even after the catastrophe is over."

"Children's vulnerability had increased due to the fact that many of the Anganwadi Centres, schools and health facilities are not functioning. Therefore, Save the Children has begun to operationalise up to 10 child-friendly spaces (CFS) which are being set up in the worst-affected areas," the statement informed.

The leading non-profit for children in India maintains that children have specific needs during such emergencies, which require focused and coordinated action by the Government, civil society organisation and the affected communities.

Since there is no school, children have to be tended by persons who are equipped to manage them in a safe environment. Each CFS can accommodate up to 40 children and has a trained local facilita-

tor," it added.

Save the Children has been working in Assam since 2002 and our experience shows that child-protection issues, like trafficking and labour, get exacerbated due to humanitarian crises.

Like the last two years, Save the Children was among the biggest responders to the floods in Assam and the only one offering a composite child-centred response.

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**WEATHER  
NORTHEAST**

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

**Warning:** Heavy rain is very likely to occur at isolated places on July 13 over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura.

**Temperatures :**

	Max (°C)	Min (°C)
Dibrugarh	33.1	22.3
Tezpur	30.5	24.4
Silchar	31.5	24.4
Dhubri	28.4	25.4
Johnhat	33.3	24.4
Mahingpur	32.2	21.0
Shillong	23.1	15.8
Imphal	29.4	21.8
Itanagar	33.5	21.6
Aizawl	26.6	12.4
Agartala	32.2	25.0
Kohima	35.0	18.4
Pasighat	32.2	22.9
Cherrapunjee	22.2	17.9

**BSF-BGB meet gets underway**

**SHILLONG,** July 12: A four-day Border Coordination Conference between Border Security Force and Border Guards Bangladesh began at BSF's Meghalaya Frontier headquarters here today.

The meeting is being held at the Inspector General level between the two border troops. The Indian side is being headed by BSF Inspector General UC Sarangi while BGB is being led by Md Zahid Hasan, Additional Director General, Regional Commander, North East Region.

The conference is held bi-annually between the two border guarding forces to discuss the issues related to peace and tranquility along the border. The last such conference was held at Sylhet, Bangladesh in November 2016.

The two sides would discuss on a wide ranging topics that includes infiltration by militants and anti-socials, smuggling, confidence building measures and other bilateral issues, officials said. — Staff Correspondent

**Khandu visits landslide-hit Laptap village**

**ITANAGAR,** July 12: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu today visited the landslide-hit Laptap village near Sagale in Pum Pare district, where 14 people had lost their lives on Tuesday.

The Chief Minister inspected the site of the incident and interacted with officials from district administration, NDRF and State Police engaged in the rescue operations.

He also met the relatives of the deceased and offered his deep condolences while assuring all possible help from the State Government. Later, the CM handed over Rs 10 lakh to the next of kin of the victims' families as immediate relief. He also donated Rs 30 lakh from his personal means as immediate assistance to them.

Expressing his deep sorrow over the incident, the CM said it is a moment of great sadness that 14 members from a single family have lost their lives in the tragic incident.

During the visit, the Chief Minister was accompanied by State BJP President Tapu Gao, Home Minister Kumar Barua, UD Minister Nabam Rebia and others. — Correspondent

**Shirhozelie's sole opponent files papers**

**DIMAPUR,** July 12: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given its approval for upgrade and widening of 65 km of Imphal-Moreh section of NH-39 in Manipur at a cost of Rs 1,630.29 crore.

Briefing newsmen, Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari said that for fulfilling India's "Look East" Policy and to promote and enhance trade link with South East Asia, the Government of India has notified an Integrated Custom Post (ICP) at Moreh. The development of this project is essential in order to support the increased traffic volume due to coming up of ICP.

Besides socio-economic develop-

# Modi takes stock of Arunachal flood situation

**CORRESPONDENT**

ITANAGAR, July 12: Prime Minister Narendra Modi took stock of the prevailing situation in the flood and landslide-prone State a day after rain-triggered landslides claimed 14 lives in Laptap, a remote village under Sagale sub-division in Papum Pare district.

Landslides and flash floods triggered by incessant rainfall in the last many days wreaked havoc across the hilly State, claiming several lives, and leaving behind trails of large-scale devastations in the entire State. Many district and

administrative headquarters have been completely cut off from the rest of the world.

Expressing his deep sorrow

over the loss of lives at Laptap, besides a minor in Tawang, the Prime Minister conveyed his condolences to the bereaved families. In his telephone conversation with Khandu, Modi said that the country is with Arunachal during this trying time, according to a press note.

Khandu briefed the Prime Minister that the State Government is making all efforts to combat the situation.

Relief camps have been set up in affected areas and strict advisories issued to the general public to vacate from the vulnerable areas to the designated relief camps. He further informed, ex-gratia payments are

being released to the victims. Modinformed Khandu that he has directed Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju to visit Arunachal immediately to take stock of the situation. Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh spoke to Khandu. He assured possible assistance from his Ministry to Arunachal Pradesh, Union Minister of State, PMO and DeNCR, Jitendra Singh also talked to the CM over phone and sought a report from the State Government.

Khandu has meanwhile directed the Secretary Disaster Management to immediately submit a report to be forwarded to Government of India on the current situation.



The flooded ICAR complex in Lamphelpat, near Imphal on Wednesday. — Correspondent

## No question of floor test: Liezetsu

**CORRESPONDENT**

form the new government.

Zeling claimed that he commands support of 34 NPP MLAs and seven Independents out of 59 members. The release also refuted the reports circulating on social media that the Governor had issued directive to postpone the floor test of the Assembly on or before July 15 does not arise since the Cabinet had not recommended the same to the Governor.

Governor PB Acharya yesterday directed Chief Minister Dr Shirhozelie Liezetsu to obtain a vote of confidence on the floor of the Assembly on or before July 15. A Raj Bhavan release said the directive comes following the claim submitted by former Chief Minister TR Zeling to

Cabinet Secretary Pankaj Kumar, the present dissidence within the NPP legislature was caused by dissident MLAs for change of leadership and so an internal party affair. There is no split in the NPP party and it supports the present Council of Ministers headed by Shirhozelie, it said.

Meanwhile, former CM Zeling has refuted the claims made by NPP spokesperson Yitachu that CM Shirhozelie honored him the office of Chief Minister but he declined the offer. Zeling, who issued a statement as leader of NPP Legislative Party and DAN chairman, said the statement of Yitachu was "a concoction of untruths."

According to a communiqué issued jointly by Shirhozelie Liezetsu and

the new government.

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## NEEPCO clarifies on downstream discharge on July 9

**SHILLONG,** July 12: North Eastern Electrical Power Corporation (NEEPCO) in a press statement issued today has claimed that had Rangangudi Dam not been there, the downstream situation could have been worse.

It further said that the same situation occurred in 2008 when various Committees had visited the site and agreed that this is a natural phenomenon and not connected to NEEPCO.

The release clarified that the 405 MW Rangangudi Hydro Electric Project developed by NEEPCO on river Rangangudi in Arunachal Pradesh is a run-of-river scheme with a very small pond-

age. The full reservoir level of the Project is 15,670 mmetre and water is stored up to this level. The maximum discharge of 160 cubic meter of water from Rangangudi reservoir is utilised for hydro power generation which is eventually diverted to Dikrong river through tail race channel which helps in mitigating the downstream discharges. The excess water beyond the capacity of the reservoir flows in the downstream area. The reservoir provides cushioning effect in controlling the downstream discharges. The natural flood occurring in the upstream of the Project cannot be absorbed by the reservoir itself, according to the release.

Owing to the incessant torrential rainfall in the catchment ar-

ea, the full reservoir level of the Project is 15,670 mmetre and water is stored up to this level. The maximum discharge of 160 cubic meter of water from Rangangudi reservoir is utilised for hydro power generation, excess water is spilled over through the gates of the dam in a controlled manner. It is important to mention that 200 cubic meter was utilised as power draft and retained within the reservoir, thus controlling the downstream discharges. The natural flood occurring in the upstream of the Project cannot be absorbed by the reservoir itself, according to the release.

"We need to have a systematic process and should maintain discipline that will help us to a large extent in normal functioning of office," he said.

Saying the future of Manipur lies in agriculture and tourism sectors, he said that the new

Government is committed to bringing in modern technology, especially in the agriculture sector. "As agriculture is the lifeline for the people, we have accorded top priority to this sector in order to boost rice production," Singh said and appealed to the farmers to adopt modern technology.

State Agriculture Minister V Narayan Singh said recently:

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The project will improve connectivity between Imphal with the eastern part of the State. Based on the existing and projected traffic requirements the NH-39 will be widened to four lane between Lilong village and Wangjing village, while the stretch between Wangjing village to Klongkhang will be upgraded to two lane with paved shoulder.

The project is being developed with ADB's loan assistance under the South Asian Sub-Regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) Road Connectivity In-

vestment Programme which aims at upgrading of road infrastructure in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and India (BRIN) in order to improve the regional connectivity among BRIAN nations. The project corridor is also a part of the Asian Highway No. 01 (AH01) and acts as India's Gateway to the East.

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The project will improve connectivity between Imphal with the eastern part of the State. Based on the existing and projected traffic requirements the NH-39 will be widened to four lane between Lilong village and Wangjing village, while the stretch between Wangjing village to Klongkhang will be upgraded to two lane with paved shoulder.

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Hindu Yuva Vahini activists shout slogans and burn a poster of Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif during a protest in Allahabad on Wednesday against the killing of seven Hindu pilgrims in a gunbattle that erupted in Kashmir - UNI

## SC raps ECI for 'unclear' stand on barring convicted lawmakers

NEW DELHI, July 12: The Election Commission today faced the flak of the Supreme Court for not taking a clear stand on a plea seeking barring of convicted politicians for life, as the top court made it clear that the poll panel cannot remain silent on the matter.

A bench comprising Justices Ranjan Gogoi and Navin Sinha came down heavily on the poll panel and also asked whether it was "constrained" to give its views in the matter.

"Is silence an option for you (ECI)? You must say either 'yes' or 'no' on whether you are supporting the petitioners. You are the ECI and here is a citizen of India who has come here to seek life-time debarment of convicted persons. Can you say I will be silent? No, you cannot," the bench said.

"If you (ECI) feel constrained by the legislature, then let us know. If you are even constrained to the extent of giving your view, feel free and say so clearly," it said.

Referring to the ECI's reply, the apex court said it was clear that the poll panel has supported the cause espoused by petitioner Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay seeking a life ban for convicted politicians.

When the bench asked ECI to clarify its stand, its lawyer said the poll panel is supporting the cause to the extent of decriminalisation of politics. The bench shot back, saying "Are you (ECI) supporting life-time debarment of what is there in this paragraph?"

The counsel submitted that one of the paragraphs of ECI's counter affidavit said the poll panel supports the cause and it should not be "read in isolation".

"Paragraph eight of your counter-affidavit is very clear that you are supporting it. You saying we have to read between the lines which we think we should not. We do not think why we should find out any other meaning of what is there in this paragraph," the bench said and fixed the matter for further hearing on July 19.



It also asked the ECI about what it had communicated to the Centre on the issue.

When the ECI's counsel said it has not said anything about it in the communication addressed to the Centre, the bench said "you cannot be silent".

However, the counsel said the ECI was not the "correct authority to comment on it" and they would file an additional affidavit in the apex court on the matter.

"It is submitted that accompanying PIL, to the extent of relief claimed under prayers, are not adversarial and the answering respondent (Election Commission of India) supports the cause espoused by the petitioners," the ECI had said in its affidavit filed in the court. - IANS

## 'India today better equipped than in 1962'



Jitendra Singh

The trespass by Indian troops in Doklam was different from the "frictions in the undefined sections of the boundary" between India and China.

Kumar reached the ED headquarters in Khan Market around 10 am, following the agency's summons issued against him on Wednesday.

He had on Monday also issued summons against Kumar but he skipped it then.

The ED officials had on Tuesday questioned Kumar's wife and Rajya Sabha member Misa Bharti for nine hours in the case to find out her role in relation to the Mishali Printers and Packers Private Ltd, her other finances and her links with arrested chartered accountant Rajesh Kumar Agarwal.

Bharti's questioning was related to the Rs 8,000 crore money laundering probe being conducted by the ED against Delhi-based businessmen brothers -

To a question on the situation on the border with China, where troops of both countries are engaged in a stand-off, Singh said that "India today is not the India of 1962", when it lost the war.

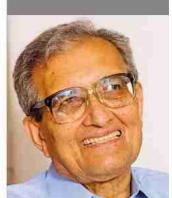
India today is much different and much better equipped to meet any challenge, he said.

His comments reiterate what Defence Minister Arun Jaitley said a few days ago that the India of 2017 is different from the India of 1962.

Jitender Singh's comments come as China on Wednesday demanded that India withdraws its troops from Doklam in the Sikkim sector as a precondition for dialogue.

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Geng Shuang said in Beijing that

**AMARTYA SEN DOCUMENTARY ROW**



## Bengal civil society reacts with anger, cries 'fascism'

KOLKATA, July 12: Up in arms against the CBFC's move to red flag a documentary on Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen because of some words uttered by him in the film, West Bengal's civil society on Wednesday minced no words in terming it "fascism" and a "shameful example of audacity" of the powers that be.

Writers, thespians, historians, filmmakers were unequivocal in their condemnation after the Central Board of Film Certification raised objections to four words and expressions - "Gujarat", "Hindi India", "Hinduva" and "cow" - used by the renowned economist and writer in the course of an interview that was part of an hour

long documentary by Suman Ghosh.

With Ghosh refusing to mute even a single word, the documentary "An Argumentative Indian" has not been cleared by the censor authorities.

"It is utter foolishness. If people can't express their views, then how can India be called democratic? And the person saying these words in the documentary is globally acclaimed and respected," said thespian Soumitra Chatterjee who was present at a special screening of the documentary on Monday.

"It is not grief, it's anger. What else can you expect from those who are dictating what food to eat? This is a form of fascism," he said. Octogenarian writer Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay

urged the director to move the highest judiciary on the issue.

"There is no question of muting those words as they are not at all objectionable. If the director should challenge the CBFC's move in the Supreme Court to teach them a lesson," said Mukhopadhyay, a Sahitya Akademi awardee. "The people who cannot take the words of a world famous person like Amartya Sen are not just idiotic but also the flag bearers of a certain political ideology. Everyone should condemn it," he said. Jnanpith awardee poet Sandhya Ghosh was equally severe in his criticism. "This is a shameful example of the extent to which their audacity has gone," said Ghosh. - IANS



### PM's policies created space for terrorists: Rahul

NEW DELHI, July 12: Stepping up his attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Congress vice president Rahul Gandhi today accused him of pursuing policies that created space for terrorists in Kashmir.

He also said that the Prime Minister's pursuit of economic and political gains from the BJP-PDP alliance in the State has cost the country dear and resulted in sacrifices of innocent Indians.

Modi's policies have created space for terrorists in Kashmir. Grave strategic blow for India. Short term political gain for Modi from PDP alliance has cost India massive," he said in a series of tweets.

Gandhi also tweeted, "Modi's personal gain comes at a tragic loss & sacrifice of innocent Indians abroad."

The Congress vice president had yesterday termed the attack on Amarnath pilgrims as a "grave and unacceptable security lapse" and asked the prime minister to accept responsibility. He had also said that India will never be intimidated by terrorists.

Opposition parties had also asked the government to introspect on its failure to prevent the "cowardly and gashly" terror attack on Amarnath pilgrims despite reports of additional security measures taken.

The government needs to interrogate as to why, despite advanced intelligence inputs, was there a failure to prevent this attack? a resolution passed by 18 opposition parties yesterday said.

The BJP however, asked Gandhi to "rise to the occasion" and not do politics over the Amarnath terror strike after he attacked the PM. - PTI

### Court seeks status report in case against Kejriwal

NEW DELHI, July 12: A court here on Wednesday sought the status report from Delhi's Anti-Corruption Branch on three FIRs registered against Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and others in connection with alleged irregularities in PWD works.

Special Judge Poonam Chaudhary asked the court to file its status report on the case and listed the matter for July 31 for further hearing. The court also asked the probe agency to file report on the allegations that complainants are receiving threats for filing complaint.

The court is hearing a criminal complaint filed by RJD chief Lalu Prasad's son-in-law Shailesh Kumar as part of its probe into over Rs 8,000 crore money laundering case against him and his wife Misa Bharti.

Kumar reached the ED headquarters in Khan Market around 10 am, following the agency's summons issued against him on Wednesday.

He had on Monday also issued summons against Kumar but he skipped it then.

The ED officials had on Tuesday questioned Kumar's wife and Rajya Sabha member Misa Bharti for nine hours in the case to find out her role in relation to the Mishali Printers and Packers Private Ltd, her other finances and her links with arrested chartered accountant Rajesh Kumar Agarwal.

Bharti's questioning was related to the Rs 8,000 crore money laundering probe being conducted by the ED against Delhi-based businessmen brothers -

ASSAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION				
NOTIFICATION				
No. 74PSC/DR-48/2/2014-15				
Date	Name Of The Post	Roll No.	Time of document verification	Time of Interview
25.07.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000001 - 0000010	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 00000011 - 0000020	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 00000011 - 0000020	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
26.07.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 00000021 - 0000030	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 00000021 - 0000030	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 00000031 - 0000040	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 00000031 - 0000040	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
27.07.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 00000041 - 0000050	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 00000041 - 0000050	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 00000051 - 0000060	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 00000051 - 0000060	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
28.07.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 00000061 - 0000070	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 00000061 - 0000070	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 00000071 - 0000080	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 00000071 - 0000080	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
29.07.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 00000081 - 0000090	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 00000081 - 0000090	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 00000091 - 0000100	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 00000091 - 0000100	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
31.07.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000101 - 0000110	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000101 - 0000110	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000111 - 0000120	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000111 - 0000120	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
01.08.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000120 - 0000129	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000120 - 0000129	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000130 - 0000138	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000130 - 0000138	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
02.08.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000139 - 0000148	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000141 - 0000150	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000149 - 0000157	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000151 - 0000160	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
03.08.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000158 - 0000167	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000161 - 0000170	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000168 - 0000176	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000171 - 0000180	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
04.08.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000177 - 0000186	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000181 - 0000190	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000187 - 0000195	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000191 - 0000200	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
05.08.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000196 - 0000205	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000201 - 0000210	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000206 - 0000214	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000211 - 0000220	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
07.08.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000215 - 0000224	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000221 - 0000230	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000225 - 0000233	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000231 - 0000240	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
08.08.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000234 - 0000243	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000241 - 0000250	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000244 - 0000252	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000251 - 0000260	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
09.08.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000253 - 0000262	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000261 - 0000270	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000263 - 0000271	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000271 - 0000280	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
10.08.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000272 - 0000281	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000281 - 0000290	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000282 - 0000291	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000291 - 0000300	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
11.08.2017	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000291 - 0000300	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000301 - 0000310	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000311 - 0000320	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000311 - 0000320	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
14.08.2017	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000321 - 0000330	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000341 - 0000350	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000351 - 0000360	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
16.08.2017	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000361 - 0000371	9.00 AM	10.00 AM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000383 - 0000393	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Social Studies	Roll No. 0000382 - 0000392	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM
	Lecturer Science	Roll No. 0000394 - 0000404	12.00 NOON	01.00 PM

No. intimation letter, to the eligible candidates shall be sent separately by post. The intimation letter shall be uploaded in APSC's website ([www.apsc.nic.in](http://www.apsc.nic.in)) on 18.07.2017. The candidates shall have to download their own intimation letter from the aforesaid website. Any query in this regard shall be entertained over telephone No.0361-2365426 during office hours w.e.f 20.07.2017.

Sd/- Secretary, I/C  
Assam Public Service Commission  
Janasangyo/5096/17  
Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-22



## US condemns terror attack on Amarnath pilgrims

WASHINGTON, July 12: The Trump administration has expressed concern over the "reprehensible" terrorist attack on Amarnath pilgrims in Kashmir that killed seven persons.

Several US lawmakers also condemned the dastardly act.

Seven Amarnath pilgrims were killed and 19 others were injured in a terrorist attack in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Monday night.

"We consider it to have been a terrorist attack in the state of Jammu and Kashmir in which seven religious pilgrims

were killed. That's of great concern to us," the State Department Spokesperson Heather Nauert told reporters at a news conference.

"These were civilians, they were killed as they were exercising their right to worship and that is, in large part, what makes this so reprehensible. That is a great concern to us and our thoughts and prayers go out to those people and to their families as well. Our prayers are with the victims and those who were affected," she said.

"My thoughts and prayers to all of the Amarnath Yatra terror attack victims and

were killed. That's of great concern to us," the State Department Spokesperson Heather Nauert told reporters at a news conference.

**These were civilians, they were killed as they were exercising their right to worship and that is, in large part, what makes this so reprehensible**

their families. The attack is reprehensible and must be condemned," said Congressman Will Hurd.

"The terrorist attack on Amarnath Pil-

grims is outrageous," said Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee. "Religion is a fundamental right and human right #AmarnathYatra #ReligiousFreedom," she tweeted.

Congressman John Ratcliffe in his tweet, sent his prayers to the families of those killed in the "horrible terrorist" attack. Congressman Jim Costa said he is "Deeply saddened at the cowardly attack" on innocent Amarnath Yatra pilgrims. "My thoughts and prayers are with you," he said.

"The terrorist attack on Amarnath Yatra

is reprehensible and must be condemned," tweeted Congressman Ted Poe. "Our hearts go out to the victims of the terrorist attack on #AmarnathYatra. We must stand united against these deplorable acts of terror," said Congressman John Culberson.

Hindus and pilgrims of every religion should be able to visit their holy places without fear of attacks by terrorists, said Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard.

"My prayers are with the victims & their families of this senseless, vicious attack on the #AmarnathYatra pilgrims," tweeted Congresswoman Anna G Eshoo. - PTI

## China to downsize army to under a million in biggest troop cut

BEIJING, July 12: China will downsize its 2.3 million-strong People's Liberation Army to under one million as the world's largest military effected its biggest troop reduction in history to bolster its navy and strategic missile forces, the official media reported.

The massive troop reduction is part of the restructuring of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and evenly proportion the army and other services, the *PLA Daily*, the official newspaper of the Chinese military, reported.

The PLA will increase the numbers of other services, including navy and missile forces, it said.

Jun Zhengping Studio, a Chinese social WeChat account run by the newspaper published an article yesterday on structural reform in the military, saying that "the old military structure, where the army accounts for the vast majority, will be replaced after the reform".

"The reform is based on

China's strategic goals and security requirements. In the past, the PLA focused on ground battle and homeland defence, which will undergo fundamental changes," the report said.

"This is the first time that active PLA army personnel would be reduced to below one million," it said.

It added that the number of troops in the PLA Navy, PLA Strategic Support Force and the PLA Rocket Force will be increased, while the PLA Air Force's active service personnel will remain the same.

According to the Ministry of Defence data, the PLA Army had about 8.50 lakh combat troops in 2013. No official numbers of the total strength of PLA Army were released.

Earlier, Chinese President Xi Jinping had announced that the PLA will be cut by three lakh troops.

"The total PLA personnel was about 2.3 million before the country announced a cut of 300,000 troops in 2015," State-run *Global Times* reported. - PTI

## China's Nobel laureate suffers 'organ failure'

BEIJING, July 12: The hospital treating China's cancer-stricken Nobel laureate Liu Xiaobo offered a grim update on his health today, but human rights groups cautioned that the authorities may be manipulating the medical records.

The 61-year-old democratic advocate's life function continued to deteriorate and he suffered from "shock and organ failure", according to the First Hospital of China Medical University in the northeastern city of Shenyang.

The hospital's website has been giving regular updates about Liu's condition since he was admitted early last month after he was transferred from prison due to late-stage liver cancer.

The Chinese government has rebuffed international appeals to let Liu seek treatment abroad, saying he is getting the best possible care from top domestic doctors.

The United States repeated calls on Tuesday for Liu to be released and said it was ready



Liu Xiaobo

to welcome him if he chose to be treated there.

US and German cancer experts visited Liu last weekend and determined that he was strong enough to be medically evacuated, but the hospital has issued pessimistic medical updates since then.

"As the authorities are controlling all the information about Liu Xiaobo's health condition, it's difficult to verify if the information released on the hospital's website is true or not," Amnesty International's China researcher Patrick Poon told AFP.

"It's also legitimate to question if the authorities are releasing the information about his worsening health as an attempt to delay and justify not allowing Liu Xiaobo to leave the country," Poon said.

Human Rights Watch's Asia researcher Maya Wang said there has been little information coming from Liu's family about his health, limiting the amount of independent updates. - AFP

WASHINGTON, July 12: The US and Qatar have signed a deal to combat terror financing as the oil-rich Gulf nation faces sanctions from its neighbouring countries for allegedly supporting extremism.

US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson travelled to the Middle East to try to resolve the stand-off between Qatar and other Persian Gulf nations, which have accused their oil-rich neighbour of supporting terrorism.

"We worked out an arrangement with the Qataris separate from the Qatar feud. And this is something we're pretty proud of. That is the Qataris and the United States have signed a memo of understanding between the United States and Qatar on counter terrorism financing," State Department spokesperson Heather Nauert told reporters at a daily news conference.

This she hoped would pave the way for Qatar to go back into the fold of the other four countries: Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

"We can get to an agreement that terror financing is a major issue and a major concern," she said. "I think that helps set a good example for the other nations that we hope that they will come to the table with us as well," Nauert said. - PTI

"We know that all of those countries, as we talked about in Riyadh, share the concern about ISIS, the global terror network, and they recognise that we are all stronger when we are working together and coordinating in the fight against ISIS."

"So we believe that this memo of agreement between the United States and Qatar is a good first start to get that underway," Nauert said.

This new counter-terrorism financing

and funding initiative that Tillerson announced yesterday in the region with his Qatari counterpart is a good first place to start, she said.

"I think to highlight that the United States and Qatar have this agreement on terror financing sends a really good message to all of the nations that we can get to this agreement on this."

"We can get to an agreement that terror financing is a major issue and a major concern," she said. "I think that helps set a good example for the other nations that we hope that they will come to the table with us as well," Nauert said. - PTI



Paraguay's President Horacio Cartes (C) and Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen review the honour guard at a welcoming ceremony in Taipei, Taiwan on Wednesday. - UNI

## 'Arctic winter warming becoming more frequent'

WASHINGTON, July 12: Arctic winter warming events are becoming far more frequent and longer-lasting than they were three decades ago, due to human-driven climate change, a NASA study warns.

Since fall and winter is when Arctic sea ice grows and thickens, warmer winter air temperatures may further impede ice growth and expansion, accelerating the effects of global warming in the Arctic, researchers said.

The team analysed winter air temperatures over the

Arctic Ocean from 1893 to 2017 and found that since 1980, an additional six Arctic winter warming events are occurring each winter at the North Pole.

Researchers, including those from NASA's Goddard

Space Flight Center in Greenbelt in the US, also noted that these events are lasting about 12 hours longer than usual, on average.

Since 1980, the number of winter warming events in the North Pole each year has

more than doubled, from fewer than five events to more than 10 events, on average, and the average length of each event has grown from fewer than two days to nearly two and a half days, researchers said.

Researchers attribute the

increase in warming events to an increase in major storms in the Arctic. - PTI



In December 2015, scientists recorded a temperature of 2.2 degrees Celsius in the Central Arctic, the warmest temperature ever recorded in this region from December through March.

"These events are not unusual, but they are happening more frequently and with longer durations," said Robert Graham, a scientist at Norwegian Polar Institute in Norway.

Researchers attribute the increase in warming events to an increase in major storms in the Arctic. - PTI

## Iranian researcher detained at Boston airport

BOSTON, July 12: An Iranian cancer researcher arriving in the US to start work at a prominent Boston hospital has been detained at Logan International Airport.

Boston Children's Hospital said in a statement today that Dr Mohsen Dehnavi was prevented from entering the country with his wife and three young children despite holding a J-1 visa for visiting scholars. They arrived at the airport on July 10.

The hospital said the reasons for the detention were unclear and the family remained at the airport and could be sent back to Iran later today.

"Boston Children's hopes that this situation will be quickly resolved and Dr. Dehnavi and his family will be released and allowed to enter the US," hospital spokesman Rob Graham said in the statement.

The hospital is committed to doing its utmost to support Dr Dehnavi and his family."

US Customs and Border Patrol spokeswoman Stephanie Malin said the Dehnavi's family's detention was for "reasons unrelated" to President Donald Trump's executive order on travelers from six predominantly Muslim countries.

She said the stop was based on information discovered during the agency's review. She didn't elaborate. - AP

## Trump lauds son's 'transparency' on release of emails

WASHINGTON, July 12:

US President Donald Trump has lauded the "transparency" of his eldest son over the release of a chain of emails showing a Russian source offering "sensitive information" about his White House rival Hillary Clinton in the run-up to the presidential election.

The memorandum of understanding announced in Doha during a visit by US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson is "the result of pressure and repeated calls over the past years by the four states and their partners upon Qatar to stop supporting terrorism," said Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir.

"This step is insufficient," said the statement carried by Saudi state news agency SPA, adding that the four states would "carefully monitor the seriousness of Qatari authorities in combating all forms of financing, supporting and harbouring terrorism." - AFP



Hillary Clinton as part of Moscow's effort to help President Trump's campaign," said India-American Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi.

"The attempt by these top Trump advisers - to solicit the support of a hostile foreign power to win the American presidency - is unprecedented in our history," he said.

"The need for Special Counsel Mueller's investigation and our Congressional inquiries to continue has never been more clear.

"Pending any investigation, no one who participated in the Trump Tower meeting with Russian lawyer Natalia Veselnitskaya should have access to any classified information, especially material relevant to our national security," Krishnamoorthi said. - PTI

## Myanmar farmers stage protest over land grabs

MANDALAY, July 12: Hundreds of Myanmar farmers entered a seventh day of protest over land grabs today, demanding the government return seized fields and protect them from a surge in prosecutions over property disputes.

Land ownership is one of the most contentious issues in formerly junta-run Myanmar, where the army is accused of rampantly confiscating land during its 50-year rule.

Anger over land-grabs was a key factor that helped Aung San Suu Kyi's pro-democracy party sweep the first free elections in generations in 2015.

But little has been done to address farmers' grievances since they took office last year, while nearly 500 villagers in central

Mandalay region alone are being prosecuted in cases related to land-grabbing.

For the past week hundreds of farmers have been gathered in Mandalay city to protest the lawsuits.

At the foot of Mandalay hill on Wednesday, some 300 farmers chanted and waved signs next to a ramshackle makeshift camp where they have been living for the past seven days.

"We chose the new government but they don't do anything to defend the farmers," protest leader Mg Soe told AFP.

"We know it's hard for the government to solve all the land problems which festered for years when the junta was in power. But now, even more farmers are facing lawsuits under the new government." - AFP

# Konta makes history; Muguruza, Williams in semis

LONDON, July 12: Johanna Konta sealed a Wimbledon semifinal spot on Tuesday in a feast of tension-filled tennis, powering past Simona Halep 6-7(2), 7-6(5), 6-4 to become the first British woman to reach the last four after 39 years.

The second-seeded Romanian shamed the early Centre Court exchanges, pouncing on errors and breaking serve to lead 3-0, as the Briton struggled to keep her searing groundstrokes in court.

But with cheers and cries of "C'mon Jo" echoing around the roofed-in arena, sixth seed Konta fought back, cramping up her serve and winning eight straight points to draw level at 4-4.

Halep won the first set on a tiebreak with Konta, having squandered a clutch of break points, returning the favour in the second.

The intensity moved up a notch in the third set as the Briton hit harder and the Romanian tightened her defence, before Konta broke in the fifth game and held her nerve to serve the match out.

Virginia Wade was the last British woman to reach the semifinals in 1978.

On the other hand, Garbine Muguruza advanced confidently into the semifinals with a well-controlled 6-3, 6-4 victory over Russian seventh seed Svetlana Kuznetsova.

Muguruza, the 2014 French Open champion who lost to Serena Williams in the Wimbledon final the following year, had just that bit more control in a hard-hitting baseline duel to follow up her victory over top seed Angelique Kerber on Monday.

Seeded 14th, Muguruza, saved a tricky break point on her second service game – the one she faced all match – but worked back to break to love in minute to take the first set. Another early break in the second pried the pressure on Kuznetsova, the 32-year-old Russian with two Grand Slam titles to her name, and she was rarely able to threaten.

The American star, an eight-time Wimbledon finalist, will play Britain's Johanna Konta in Thursday's semifinal.

World No. 11 Williams, beaten in this year's Australian Open final, is chasing a first major title since winning Wimbledon in 2008.

Magdalena Rybarikova's Cinderella story continued with Wimbledon on Tuesday, as she ousted No. 24 seed CoCo Vandeweghe in the quarterfinals, 6-3, 6-3 to reach the final four at a Grand Slam for the very first time.

The World No. 87 came into the tournament as perhaps the most in-form player of the grass court season – boasting a record on the lawns with two titles on the ITF Circuit on the surface – after returning from a lengthy injury layoff and dipping outside the world's top 400 in the spring. – Agencies



Johanna Konta put in a spirited performance to beat Simona Halep 6-7(2), 7-6(5), 6-4.

## Kashyap, Prannoy in 2nd round of Canada Open

CALGARY (Canada), July 12: Commonwealth Games champion P Kashyap and rising star HS Prannoy registered straight-game wins to advance to the second round of the 65,000 Canadian Grand Prix here.

Coming back after recovering

from an injury, Kashyap,

seeded 16th, defeated Peru's Daniel La Torre Regal 21-11,

21-9, while second seed Pran-

noy beat Mexico's Job Castillo

21-13, 21-15 in another men's

singles match at Markin

MacPhail Centre.

Kashyap will meet Japan's

Koki Watanabe, while Prannoy

will square off against Scotland's

Kieran Merriels.

Among others, Lakhman

Sangkha eked out a 19-17, 21-

21-7 win over local shuttler Eu-

gene Chan, while Abhishek Yel-

egar saw off Vietnam's Hoang

Nam Nguyen 21-15, 21-5 and

Karan Rajan Rajaraman ou-

classed Croatia's Zvonimir Du-

rinkaj 13-21, 21-13.

Lakhman will next face top

seeded Korean Lee Hyun Il, Ka-

ran will take on England's Sam

Parsons and Abhishek will fight

it out against USA's Howard

Shu. It was however curtains

for Harsheel Dania after he lost

11-21, 7-21 to France's Lucas

Corvee, seeded 11th. – PTI

## IOC chief hoping for Paris-LA hosting accord

LAUSANNE, July 12: IOC president Thomas Bach said today that he is hoping Paris and Los Angeles will agree before the end of August on which of them will host the 2024 and 2028 Olympics.

The International Olympic Committee agreed on Tuesday to award the 2024 and the 2028 Games at the same time, effectively ensuring that the two candidates will each host a games.

Asked whether an accord could be struck by the end of August, Bach told AFP: "I am certainly hoping so because that would allow us to prepare well

for the (IOC) session in Lima."

The double award at the IOC session in Lima is conditional on a prior agreement between the two cities and the IOC will host the 2024 and 2028.

Bach said: "We are going to talk to the two cities directly. I hope we can make reasonably quick progress. You have seen the reaction of both cities, it was very amiable. If that continues we can reach agreement soon."

French bid co-leader Tony Estanguet said the IOC would lead the talks and would draw up a new hosting contract that would include 2028 as part of the double-hosting deal. – AFP

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## Dinesh Chandimal, Upul Tharanga to captain Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, July 12: Sri Lanka appointed two new captains today to replace Angelo Mathews, who resigned after his side's humiliating home series defeat to bottom-ranked Zimbabwe.

Chandimal will lead the Test side while Upul Tharanga will captain in limited-overs matches, Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) said.

The resolute caps a turbulent period for the beleaguered Sri Lankan side, whose loss to Zimbabwe followed a fitness and coaching crisis and an early departure from the Champions Trophy.

"Mathews deserved his resigna-

tion a short while ago this morning," said SLC chief Thilanga Sumathipala said.

"We want to regroup and restructure and move forward."

Mathews said he took the blame for Sri Lanka's recent woes, and was pushing him so his successor could prepare the side for the World Cup in 2019.

"There were times when I wanted to step down, but I did not want to let the team down at that time because there were no replacements as such," he told reporters.

"But I feel this is the right time. The team's interests supersede my

interests. My honest opinion is that there are candidates who can take over the reins."

Mathews bore the brunt of the criticism levelled at Sri Lanka's cricketers in the aftermath of their 3-2 series whitewash to minnows Zimbabwe on Monday.

Mathews described the shock defeat as lowest point in his career and a "hard pill to swallow."

The struggling side entered the series without a coach after Graham Ford's sudden exit following their poor showing in the Champions Trophy last month.

Sri Lanka's sports minister devi-

ered the squad an ultimatum after the squad an ultimatum after performance, ordering players to get in shape or face the boot after declaring them unfit to compete on the world stage.

Sri Lanka Cricket manager Asanka Gurusinha said: "It is a difficult role but I think he will be a good choice for the job."

Ronaldinho to visit Mumbai on Friday

On his upcoming visit to India, Ronaldinho will be with Premier Futsal's star-studded one.

Ronaldinho was forced to quit Premier Futsal last year after just two matches. He returned to his homeland as 'Brand Ambassador' for the Paralympic

Games in Rio de Janeiro after scoring five goals on his debut for the Goa franchise against Paul Scholes's Bangalore S's.

Ronaldinho joined the likes of

Premier Futsal president and Portuguese legend Luis Figo, Paul Scholes, Ryan Giggs, Hernan Crespo and Cafu to make the opening season of Premier Futsal a star-studded one.

Unfortunately, the 37-year-old former Barcelona star had to withdraw from the event when he was getting in his groove. Ronaldinho, a member of the 2002 World Cup-winning squad was in Pakistan recently. – PTI

Tharanga, who will take over in Twenty20s and ODIs, said there was much room for improvement following the embarrassment against Zimbabwe.

"As a team we did not perform well," he said.

The team remains plagued by fitness problems, with up to 20 players battling injuries in the past year, said chief selector Sanath Jayasuriya.

Mathews had to return home halfway through Sri Lanka's tour of South Africa earlier this year and missed Bangladesh's tour of Sri Lanka due to a hamstring injury. – AFP

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Mathews had to return home halfway through Sri Lanka's tour of South Africa earlier this year and missed Bangladesh's tour of Sri Lanka due to a hamstring injury. – AFP

## Umar Akmal not given central contract; Sarfraz in category A

KARACHI, July 12: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) today dropped batsman Umar Akmal from the list of 35 players awarded new 12-month central contracts but promoted captain Sarfraz Ahmed to the top category along with Muhammad Amir and Yasir Shah.

In a decision taken by the PCB in consultation with the national selectors and team management, a clear message was sent out to Umar Akmal that he needed to work on his attitude, behaviour and fitness.

Akmal was sent back home from the Champions Trophy in England after failing a fitness test before the tournament and was also sidelined in April for the tour to the West Indies for fitness and other reasons.

A PCB release said that a number of young players have been awarded central contracts this year keeping in mind that the national teams in all formats will be going through transition phase after a number of retirements from last year's central contract list.

In recent months, three of Pakistan's senior players and former captains – Younis Khan, Shahid Afridi and Misbahul Haq – have retired from international cricket.

The PCB said that the contracts were awarded after reviewing the players' performance, fitness and discipline with the number of players getting the new contracts being increased to 35 from 30 last year.

But the decision by the selectors, head coach and Director PCB to categorise the players is bound to raise questions as category A includes players like left-arm pacer Muhammad Aamir and leg-spinner Yasir Shah, who only plays Tests.

Similarly, including a senior player like Wahab Riaz with juniors and new entrants in category C is also under debate. – PTI

## Indian enter quarters of HWL Semi-Final

JOHANNESBURG, July 12: Preeti Dubey scored the all-important winner as a gritty India beat Chile 10-1 to enter the quarterfinals of the FIH Women's Hockey World League (HWL) Semi-Final, here today.

Preeti's 38th minute goal ensured that India earned their first win in the tournament after a goalless draw against South Africa and a 1-4 loss to mighty USA in their previous matches.

Both the teams traded penalty corners in the first quarter with Chile winning the first in the fourth minute of the match while India earned

their first short corner in the 12th minute but nothing came off from the opportunities.

Though it seemed like India had scored off the rebound when they earned another penalty corner in the 12th minute through a successful video referral, the goal was denied as it came off the body and not the stick.

In the second quarter, Chile managed to create some chances but that didn't stop India from creating scoring opportunities. One such chance came in the 19th minute when Anupa Barla brilliantly stole the ball from a Chilean player, setting up a counter attack, to

find Rani in the striking circle but the striker missed the post by inches.

After a barren first half, India finally made a breakthrough when Rani and Preeti worked in tandem.

The duo drove into the rival striking circle and Preeti produced the finishing touch with a quick kick to the ball past the Chilean keeper in the 38th minute.

India mounted pressure on Chile with consistent attacks and Rani got another shot on goal, only to be denied by the Chilean goalkeeper.

Soon after, Renuka Yadav found herself on the bench

with a yellow card forcing India to start the fourth quarter with 10 players.

Chile thus far had made zero attempts on goal despite 17 circle penetrations while India made 16 penetrations with five shots on goal.

The final 15 minutes saw some tense moments with Chile making desperate attempts to break the Indian defence.

Barla, meanwhile, did well to beat the first defender and then find a Chilean foot to win India another penalty corner in the 54th minute but their variation failed to yield the desired result. – PTI

## SU DO KU

4	7	6	1					
9			5	8				1
				6	7	2		
7	5			2	8	9		
			4	8	5	7		1
2	8	9						3
8	4		5					
3		2	7					9
				9	4	6	5	

### Solution of last problem

Originating from Japan, 'su do ku' is a mind game and a puzzle that can be solved with proper reasoning and logic. It consists of a 9x9 grid divided into nine 3x3 boxes. The aim is to place digits 1 to 9 without repeating any digit in each row, column and 3x3 box. The numbers 5, 9, 6, 1, 3, 2, 7, 4, 8 are placed in the first row. The numbers 4, 8, 2, 7, 5, 9, 1, 6, 3 are placed in the second row. The numbers 9, 6, 4, 8, 1, 3, 2, 5, 7 are placed in the third row. The numbers 2, 7, 1, 4, 9, 5, 8, 3, 6 are placed in the fourth row. The numbers 3, 5, 8, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9, 1 are placed in the fifth row. The numbers 1, 3, 9, 5, 2, 7, 6, 8, 4 are placed in the sixth row. The numbers 6, 2, 7, 9, 4, 3, 1, 5, 6 are placed in the seventh row. The numbers 8, 4, 1, 5, 3, 2, 7, 1, 9 are placed in the eighth row. The numbers 6, 4, 2, 8, 5, 7, 3, 9, 6 are placed in the ninth row.



Real Madrid players pose for a photograph ahead of their flight to Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES, July 12: The cream of European football will be on display in the United States this month as the International Champions Cup aims to cash in on the growing popularity of the world's most popular sport amongst American fans.

In the space of little more than a decade, the event has evolved from a haphazard collection of meaningless friendlies to becoming the most prominent pre-season tournament in the world, what organiser Charles Stilts describes as the "perfect marriage of football and commerce."

Manchester United, Juventus, Paris Saint-Germain, Roma and Tottenham Hotspur are all competing in the tournament which comprises 12 matches across 11 US cities.

The biggest coup for organisers has been securing a rare edition of the "Clasico" between Real Madrid and Barcelona in Miami on July 29, where tickets are on sale for between \$250 and







Little Hearts

Dear Ishani Aunty,  
My best friend and I had an argument and we stopped talking. I miss her company a lot and want to make up to her with a gift. What should I give her? — Roshi

Dear Roshi,  
I am glad you want to make up to her. You can give her a book or chocolates. But the best thing would be to write a letter to her, explaining what her friendship means to you.

Dear Ishani Aunty,  
My friend is often beaten very badly by his father. As a result, he is depressed most of the time. What can I do to help? — Raghav

Dear Raghav,  
You can do a lot, by listening to him and helping him cope. You could also help him get in touch with your school counsellor.

Dear Ishani Aunty,  
My mother has enrolled me in a summer drama camp. I am a shy person and am not enjoying the experience. Please help. — Rohan

Dear Rohan,  
You need to overcome your shyness and the camp is just the place for you. Open up and enjoy the experience. Don't hide behind shyness. Face the world and its adventures.

### JUNIOR PUZZLERS

1) Is it true or false that a female mosquito can drink 1.7 litres of blood in an hour?



2) Is the study of plants called zoology, botany, or heriology?



3) In Spain, is an afternoon nap called a catnap, a hibernation, or a siesta?



DID YOU KNOW?  
by Jake Martin



## Nelson Mandela

July 18 is celebrated as Nelson Mandela International Day

**N**elson Rolihlahla Mandela was a South African statesman who, for more than 25 years was the world's most famous political prisoner and then became the first Black President of the Republic of South Africa (1994-1999).

Mandela was born on July 18, 1918, in Umtata, Transkei. He attended Fort Hare College, where he first became involved in politics. Mandela left the Transkei

and became a mine policeman at Johannesburg. In 1944, he became a founder member with Walter Sisulu, Tambo, and Anton Lembede, of the African National Congress (ANC) Youth League; he became its national secretary in 1946.

Mandela became involved in social action against the government's apartheid policies. In December 1952, he was arrested for demonstrating without a permit. In November 1956, he was among 156 people charged with treason. He married Nomzamo Winnie Madikizela-South Africa's first black First Lady — known as Winnie Mandela, in 1957.

In January 1962, Mandela left South Africa and went to live in Ethiopia, to Africa continent, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to where he received some guerrilla training, and then to London, where he met opposition leaders. He returned to South Africa in July of that year and was captured again. He was charged with numerous charges of incitement and illegally leaving the country; he was sentenced to five years in prison.

While he was in prison, he and several other activists were put on trial, which came to be known as the Rivonia treason trial. He was sentenced to life imprisonment. He spent 18 years on Robben Island before he was released from Pollsmoor Prison, Cape Town, in 1982 when a worldwide "Release Mandela" campaign was launched.

The Government of President F. W. de Klerk released Mandela in February 1990. Mandela assumed the leadership of the ANC. Mandela and de Klerk shared the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts to end apartheid and promote racial harmony in South Africa. In May 1994, following the country's first non-racial elections, Mandela was elected president. In 1995, he established the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which included the former Afrikaner leader, Dr. Frederik Willem de Klerk, and the former President of South Africa, Mandela died in 2013.

July 18 is celebrated as Nelson Mandela International Day, to remember Mandela's achievements and his commitment towards conflict resolution, democracy, human rights, peace and reconciliation.

(E-mail on [youth@photon.co.uk](mailto:youth@photon.co.uk))



### PicSPEAK

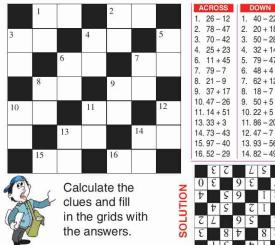
#### NEXT WEEK'S PICTURE



Please collect your certificates from our office.

[Send your entries to [planet.young@assamtribune.com](mailto:planet.young@assamtribune.com)]

### Mini M@ths



SOLUTION

Calculate the clues and fill in the grids with the answers.

© Ken Igles - minomaze

### RIDDLES

Susmita Talukdar, Class-VII, Arunoda Academy, Tengnali.

Q: "What belongs to you but others use it more than you do?"  
Ans: "Your name."

Q: "I am lighter than air but even a million of me won't lift me up. What am I?"  
Ans: "Bubble."

Q: "What is easy to get into, but hard to get out of?"  
Ans: "Trouble."

### Quiz

Abhishek Sharma, Class-VI, Mahadevi Vidya Mandir, Barasajal, Guwahati.

1 When and against which team did Virat Kohli make his international debut?

2 When was Virat Kohli appointed as captain of the Indian Test Team?

3 Against which team and where did Virat Kohli play his first match as Captain?

4 Virat Kohli scored four consecutive double hundreds in four consecutive test series. Name the teams against which he made this special achievement.

ANSWERS

5 Virat Kohli is the first India Captain to make a special achievement. What is it?

It is a lifetime, the average person spends a total of 33 years of his/her life with one eye open!

ANSWER

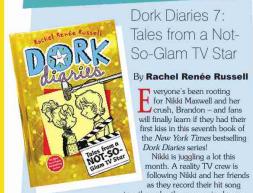
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**wordwatch**

1	<b>Brittle</b> a) Flaky b) Thin c) Fragile d) Flexible	4	<b>Impassive</b> a) Cannot be fooled b) Unfriendly c) Unmoved by emotion d) Stubborn
2	<b>Vertigo</b> a) Sickness b) Dizziness c) Eye disease d) Upright position	5	<b>Disengenuous</b> a) Not candid b) Native c) Confused d) Subtle
3	<b>Delude</b> a) To mix with water b) Set free c) Erase d) Mislead	6	a) (b) (c) (d) (e) 7

Pick the word that is closest in meaning.

## BOOK NOOK



Dork Diaries 7:  
Tales from a Not-Slam TV Star

By Rachel Renée Russell

**F**or Nikki Maxwell and her crab, Brandon – and fans will finally learn – they will have to say goodbye to the New York Times bestselling *Dork Diaries* series.

Nikki has had a lot to smile about this month. A reality TV crew is shooting a bold new episode as they record their hit songs,

dance practice, and more. But there are some lessons, pranks, Nikki's sise can handle together. But will all the excitement cause new problems for Nikki and Brandon, now that cameras are everywhere? Nikki goes!

Answers: 1. a) 2. b) 3. d) 4. c) 5. e)

6. a) 7. b) 8. c) 9. d) 10. e)

11. a) 12. b) 13. c) 14. d) 15. e)

16. a) 17. b) 18. c) 19. d) 20. e)

21. a) 22. b) 23. c) 24. d) 25. e)

26. a) 27. b) 28. c) 29. d) 30. e)

31. a) 32. b) 33. c) 34. d) 35. e)

36. a) 37. b) 38. c) 39. d) 40. e)

41. a) 42. b) 43. c) 44. d) 45. e)

46. a) 47. b) 48. c) 49. d) 50. e)

51. a) 52. b) 53. c) 54. d) 55. e)

56. a) 57. b) 58. c) 59. d) 60. e)

65. a) 66. b) 67. c) 68. d) 69. e)

74. a) 75. b) 76. c) 77. d) 78. e)

83. a) 84. b) 85. c) 86. d) 87. e)

92. a) 93. b) 94. c) 95. d) 96. e)

101. a) 102. b) 103. c) 104. d) 105. e)

114. a) 115. b) 116. c) 117. d) 118. e)

125. a) 126. b) 127. c) 128. d) 129. e)

130. a) 131. b) 132. c) 133. d) 134. e)

135. a) 136. b) 137. c) 138. d) 139. e)

140. a) 141. b) 142. c) 143. d) 144. e)

145. a) 146. b) 147. c) 148. d) 149. e)

150. a) 151. b) 152. c) 153. d) 154. e)

155. a) 156. b) 157. c) 158. d) 159. e)

160. a) 161. b) 162. c) 163. d) 164. e)

165. a) 166. b) 167. c) 168. d) 169. e)

170. a) 171. b) 172. c) 173. d) 174. e)

175. a) 176. b) 177. c) 178. d) 179. e)

180. a) 181. b) 182. c) 183. d) 184. e)

185. a) 186. b) 187. c) 188. d) 189. e)

190. a) 191. b) 192. c) 193. d) 194. e)

195. a) 196. b) 197. c) 198. d) 199. e)

200. a) 201. b) 202. c) 203. d) 204. e)

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780. a) 781. b) 782. c) 783. d) 784. e)

785. a) 786. b) 787. c) 788. d) 789. e)

**Sketch of the week**



Archaphuman Kar  
Maharani's Vanya Mandir, Sipakuri, Guwahati.



Antishikha Gogoi, Class-VIII,  
Kendriya Vidyalaya, Golaghat



**Your smile**

With a smile like that,  
You can never go wrong;  
Each sight I see of him makes a song;  
There is no one else I can trust by;  
On him, we could trust and always rely;  
Memories of him will always remain.  
Never let your smile fade away,  
With God and His son, who are there with him.

Dibyajyoti Tapadar, Class-X,  
Kendriya Vidyalaya, NFR, Mafgaon.



Hrismita Deka, Class-VIII,  
Shrimanta Shankar Academy, Guwahati

Arinna Dey, Class-VII,  
Christ Jyoti School, Nagaon



Dhrub Dhar,  
Kendriya Vidyalaya, Mafgaon



Rajtarangini Choudhury, Class-IX,  
Kendriya Vidyalaya, C.R.P., Guwahati

**Poem of the Week**

Andhranita Ishani, Class-VIII,  
St. Joseph's High School, Morarhat.

**Progress?**

Progress has led us to progress!  
Green trees are torn asunder,  
Huge men are tall trees to dash,  
Chopping off their green fingers.  
As the birds sing, "How far can we go?  
How far can we go?"  
How can we rob us of our homes, our hope?  
They feel like asking these axemen.  
The same axemen who  
Are busy reviving  
The same old paths  
Or the trees of the greenery.  
They only see the march of "progress".  
Which needs a four-lane road to walk on!

(During the construction of four-lane roads, huge, old trees were cut ruthlessly. The poem was written seeing the felling of the trees in the name of progress.)

**Stars**

When darkness covers us all,  
And there is no light,  
I love to look at the sky.  
As it is so bright.  
I love to see how they twinkle  
With such a gleam.  
How far could they be?  
In a place not near,  
In a place miles away,  
They are there,  
In the never-ending sky,  
In the dark night,  
And showing their light,  
In the sky.

Pranali Das Adhikari, Class-VII,  
St. Mary's H.S. School, Dhemaji



Jaanika Sarkar:  
Sri Guru Nanak National High School, Guwahati



Nilakshi Deka, Class-IV,  
Guwahati Public School, Guwahati

**The beautiful garden**

I saw a garden,  
When I opened the window,  
And found the world  
Truly glowing.

The grass was green,  
The flowers were seen  
In summer, they bloom,  
And nothing was there in gloom.  
Drowsiness had left the leaves of trees,  
And beside the window,  
I felt the touch of the soft blooming breeze.  
The birds were singing,  
The bees were sucking honey  
From flowers.

The day was bright,  
Everything was alright.  
Suddenly, I wake up ..  
And find myself by my bed,  
Calling me aloud.

Only then did I realise that

The beauty I had seen  
Was just a sweet dream.

Nihar Sarma, Class-VII,  
Vivekananda Kendriya Vidyalaya, Nalbari.



**Respect other religions**

Nowadays, some negative questions are on the rise like – "Why do we have to share our things with others? Why do we have to respect others? But, I feel – "Why can't we be friends? They are also like us, then too have to respect them. We have to respect God. So, why do we make such distinctions based on religion?"

Let us respect our religion,  
let us also respect other religions.  
Only then will brotherhood and peace prevail!

Ashmita Chowdhury, Class-VII,  
North East Public School, Guwahati.