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Required 20 Nos. Marketing Executives M/F salary 20,000/- plus incentives mail your CV to ishank.sidvirg@gmail.com on 0361-2343888/811095706. SV/PA/4332/6

Shremork Kids Time requires Center Coordinator. Female Graduate with fluency in English, walk-in on 23rd July from 11.30 to 1.30 pm at House No. 1, Baghruhati, Tinali Panbari, Guwahati. Ph. 9864226404. Willing candidate may appear with application and necessary documents. SV/PA/1452/2

RANGAPARA COLLEGE
SITUATION VACANT
Applications with Bio-data including phone No. & Email ID and attested copies of testimonials are invited in Standard Form (as published in Assam Gazette, Part-X) from the candidates having UGC norms with NET/SLET/SET qualifications. The posts of Assistant Professor against the sanctioned positions in the following subject. Candidates having Ph.D. degree in accordance with the UGC (minimum standard and procedure for award of Ph.D. degree) Regulation 2009 shall be exempted from the requirement of NET/SLET/SET. A relaxation of 5% marks from 55% to 50% may be provided to the Ph.D. holders who have obtained their Masters Degree prior to 19.09.1991.

A relaxation of 5% may be provided at the graduate or Master's level for the SC/ST/Differentlyabled categories for term of appointment. The eligible marks of 55% and relaxation of 5% to 50% categories mentioned above are permissible, based on only the qualifying marks without including any grace marks procedure. The age of the candidates must not be, more than 43 years as on 01.01.2017 with a relaxation upto 5 years for SC/ST candidates. The candidates must submit a permanent Residential Certificate (PRC) and must know local language. The candidates who are in service must apply through proper channel with an NOC from the concerned authority. Moreover, the terms and conditions mentioned in the circular of permission of advertisement issued by the O/o DHE, Assam will be followed in the selection of the candidates. Applications accompanied by a Bank Draft of Rs. 2000/- (Two thousand) only (Non-refundable) in favour of Principal, Rangapara College payable at SBI, Rangapara Branch must reach the office of the concerned within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication of the advertisement.

1. Assistant Professor in Education: 1 (one) post for OBC/OMBC.
2. Assistant Professor in Education: 1 (one) post Unreserved.
Sd/- (B. Talukdar)
Principal /c.
Rangapara College
P.O. Rangapara
Pin Code - 784505
Dist. : Sonitpur.
CD/SA/1771/1

DARRANG COLLEGE, TEZPUR WALK IN INTERVIEW

Interested candidate may appear for interview along with an application and testimonials on 24th of July 2017 from 10.00 AM onwards till 3.00 PM.

Qualification: Master Degree in relevant subjects, NET/Ph.D candidates will be preferred.

Subject: Home Science, Chemistry, Botany, Assamese, History, Sanskrit, Salary: Rs. 15,000/- per month

Sd/- Principal
Ph. No.: 0372-220014

CD/SV/178/2/1

Recruitment required for Hotel Liliwati Grand, Panbari, Guwahati. Ph. 9707012741 (M). SV/PA/1451/2

A School of Arunachal Pradesh needs Science and English teachers. Contact: 913813801, 94062650176. hollychris363@gmail.com SV/PA/147/2

B.BOROOGH COLLEGE
Uluberi, Guwahati - 07, Assam
Website: www.bboroghcollege.co.in

Applications are invited for filling the position of Assistant Professor in the following vacant sanctioned posts. The candidates having the latest UGC norms with NET/SLET/SET as minimum qualification. Appointment of Assistant Professor in the following vacant sanctioned posts.

The candidates must have a Permanent Residential Certificate (PRC) and must know local language. Candidates in service must apply through proper channel with an NOC from the concerned Draft of Rs.1000/- (Rupees one thousand only) can be submitted to the Principal, B.Borogoh College. Payable at SBI, Chiknabari, Baruah must reach the office of the concerned within 15 days from the date of posting of Assistant Professor against the sanctioned positions in the following subject. Candidates having Ph.D. degree in accordance with the UGC (minimum standard and procedure for award of Ph.D. degree) Regulation 2009 shall be exempted from the requirement of minimum eligibility condition of NET/SLET/SET.

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Posts

1. Economics: 1 (One) reserved for OBC / MOBC
2. English: 1 (One) reserved for OBC / MOBC
Sd/- Dr. Satyendra Nath Barman Principal B.Borogoh College

CD/SV/171/1

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Hombased Dataentry Handwriting & Datotyping. Earn- 15000/- Minimum Registration, Guwahati (T.C.). Visit: I.P.C. Stipukuri, Ph: 9854279883. SV/PA/1451/4

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Discovery Kids Channel is hiring trainee for its school project. The candidate should have either B.Sc. or any related degree. We are looking for female candidate with good communication skills. Call for interview immediately. Contact - Dibya Banbhurh - 7577009090, 9854416657, Regional Office, Zoo Road, Guwahati.

NGI Skill India Partner invites application from interested candidates for: 1. Convener: Graduate with 1/2 yrs of Experience, 2. Trainee/Faculty- Computer Hardware- Diploma/ Graduate in Computer/Electronics with experience in Computer hardware and troubleshoot shooting apply. adityam.edu@gmail.com; Call: 995700951. SV/PA/1455/2

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Required HRM, Accountant (M/F), Front Office (F), Sales Executive (FMCG/Prints/Auto/ Telecom), Service Engineer, Android/Web Developer, Ph. 757887041, dragonhrassam@gmail.com, SV/PA/1453/1

Urgently required 2 Nos. Beauteician/mailllys experience for a reputed wellness company at Guwahati. Ph. 9706109004, 9854072684. SV/PA/1453/2

Required the following personals:

UPSC, RRB and SSC to share competitive exams' score online

NEW DELHI, July 20: Recruitment agencies like the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and the Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) have been asked by the Government to share online the scores of candidates taking competitive exams.

The initiative is aimed at the Government's effort to boost hiring by the private sector. The publicly available scores will act as a useful database to other employers to enable them to identify good and employable candidates.

"Now, it has been decided that all the recruitment agen-

cies viz. UPSC, Staff Selection Commission, RRB, etc. will use National Career Service or NCS portal of Ministry of Labour and Employment for disclosures of scores and ranks of the candidates," an order issued recently by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) said.

All the public recruitment agencies have been asked to link their respective web pages to the NCS portal – www.Ncs.GovIn – for disclosure of scores/rankings of all the candidates appearing in the final stage of each recruitment process being conducted by them, it said.

Mayawati's resignation from RS accepted

NEW DELHI, July 20: Rajya Sabha chairman Hamid Ansari on Thursday accepted the resignation of BSP chief Mayawati after she gave a three-page resignation to the Chairman Hamid Ansari, stating that she was resigning as she was not being allowed to speak in the House on important matters.

She had sought time to speak under Rule

267 but Kurien, who was presiding over the Rajya Sabha at that time, gave her just three minutes to speak as per Zero Hour rule. This enraged Mayawati, who announced then and there itself that she was quitting.

She was asked to furnish a fresh one-line resignation letter as required under the rules after her earlier missive was considered a condition-of offer which could not be accepted. – IANS

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Intermediate	Passed Foundation Course of the ICAI or Graduate in any discipline (other than Fine Arts)	Rs.20000/-
Final	Passed ICAI Intermediate Course	Rs. 17000/-

Prospectus will be made available at the Chapter premises on all working days on payment of Rs. 250/-.

Course fee can be deposited at any branch of PNB or IDBI Bank Ltd or Central Bank or SBI by filling up Pay Fee Challan, which can be obtained from the office of the Chapter or can be downloaded from the website: www.icmai.in

Last date for submission of duly filled up Forms along with relevant documents for the session, July, 2017 is 31st July, 2017 (5:00 PM)

For further details, please visit the Institute's website: www.icmai.in or contact the Guwahati Chapter at the address given below on working days between 6:00 PM. to 8:00 PM. For any query, please contact 7002818023/9435127388/9864235840 on working days

Chapter's Address: 3rd Floor, House of Runa Dutta, EM Road, Near Bata Show Room, Paltanbazar, Guwahati-781001 Phone No: 0361-2731259

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Eviction on road along Deepor Beel ordered



STAFF REPORTER

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This will not only reduce the gap between the rich and the poor but also give a push to the GDP.

- Hariom Kumar Ray, Bhetapara, Beltaola

Garbage from drains

On 6 April last, I filed an application before the GMC Commissioner, requesting the department concerned to

clean the drains of our locality adjacent to the Sonali Path by-lane at Beltaola Bazar. Although the dirt from the blocked drains was taken out after a few days, the same was not removed and left on the adjacent Sonali Path bylane, causing inconvenience to pedestrians.

Accumulated garbage has become a serious health, hygiene and cleanliness issue.

Such incomplete civic works do not solve the problem, but aggravate it as rain will again wash the dirt back into the drains. The authority concerned should also note that such incomplete works are obstacles to the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

- Amitabh Barua, Beltaola

Traffic snarls

The traffic jam menace cannot be adequately brought under control at the Basistha Road point near the National Highway crossing till the proposed flyover is made. The

proximity of the bus stands on both ends of the traffic point is the main cause of the traffic snarls. Haphazard parking of cycle rickshaws and e-rickshaws on the Basistha side also creates a lot of congestion.

Besides, roadside vendors have not only encroached on the footpath but also occupied nearly one-third of the main road.

The authorities concerned must address the problem to provide respite to the citizens in this regard.

- Pradeep Handique, Guwahati Landslide

In July last year, there was a landslide on Hemigiri Path. An elderly man was buried alive in the tragic mishap. A lot of dignitaries visited the site on that fateful day.

But even one year after the incident, the land that had slipped on the road had not been removed. There was a further landslip in the current month. The authorities concerned should look into the matter and clear the road soon.

- Jagat Tongbham, Guwahati

Two arrested for murder

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 20: Police today arrested two persons in connection with the alleged murder of Laxmi Shah, a resident of Bishnu Path locality of Basistha, who was found dead under mysterious circumstances on Tuesday.

The arrested include the deceased's husband, Bipin Shah, and brother-in-law Bikash Shah.

Family members have alleged that Laxmi was subjected to harassment by her husband and his family members.

One held for rape attempt

CORRESPONDENT

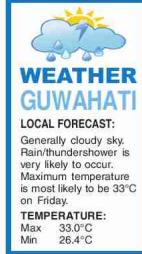
JALUKBARI, July 20: Azara police today arrested one Nasaudd Ali for allegedly trying to rape a 13-year-old girl at Majaploong, Dibrugarh.

Ali, a mason by profession, was arrested under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act and Section 376 (rape) of the IPC. He was later sent to jail, police sources said.

The team from Assam was given a warm reception by members of the University of Bolton, Manchester. The discussion held between the two sides was mainly on developing future collaboration, student exchange, faculty exchange and research collaboration programmes between educational institutions of both countries.

The team from Assam was

State educationists' fruitful visit to UK varsities



future collaboration with higher education institutions in Assam. The two officials are likely to visit Assam during December.

The team also visited the historic King's College and Trinity College in Cambridge University and Gauhati University, retired directors of education, principals, vice principals and faculty members of colleges from Assam visited a few universities and institutions in Edinburgh, Manchester, Oxford, Cambridge and London from July 8 to 16.

The main objective of the visit to the UK universities was to give exposure to higher education leaders of the State to the scope for developing academic collaboration and also to develop linkages with alumni living abroad.

At the Edinburgh University, the team had a discussion with two senior officials of the Scottish government Ms Kristen Spence and Geoff Pope regarding developing

long discussion followed by a visit to the laboratory/department, both sides expressed satisfaction with the ongoing collaboration programme between Brunel University London and Gauhati University since the signing of the MoU in 2012 between the two universities.

Dr Karuna Sagas Das, an alumnus of Gauhati University who is now a noted physician, social worker and chairman of the Srimanta Sankaradeva Cultural Centre in London, organised a cultural get-together in honour of the visiting team with non-resident Indians (Assamese) at Trinity URC Church, London.

Hiranmoni Sarman, an alumnus of Cotton College who now lives in London, talked at length about the need to develop Assam's education system to bring it at par with the best education system in the world.

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- Hari Ramasubramanian, GMU Lead, IBM Systems University
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- Amitabh Barua, Beltaola

Traffic snarls

The traffic jam menace cannot be adequately brought under control at the Basistha Road point near the National Highway crossing till the proposed flyover is made. The

proximity of the bus stands on both ends of the traffic point is the main cause of the traffic snarls. Haphazard parking of cycle rickshaws and e-rickshaws on the Basistha side also creates a lot of congestion.

But even one year after the incident, the land that had slipped on the road had not been removed. There was a further landslip in the current month. The authorities concerned should look into the matter and clear the road soon.

- Jagat Tongbham, Guwahati

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MESSAGE FOR TODAY

Love is everything it's cracked up to be. It really is worth fighting for, being brave for, risking everything for.

— ERICA JONG

The Assam Tribune

Need for stability

Recent political developments in Nagaland, indicating a power struggle within the Naga People's Front (NPF), threaten the stability of the State and go against its welfare. Till just a few months back, TR Zeliang had been the Chief Minister enjoying absolute support of his party. But his progressive decision to introduce 33% reservations for women in municipal and town council elections led a number of organizations under the banner of a Joint Coordination Committee to oppose the move. Their prolonged bandh disrupted normal life and Zeliang had to defer the elections for the Urban Local Bodies. Under the aegis of the Nagaland Baptist Church Council, a deal was brokered to bring an end to the agitation, but it left Zeliang politically weakened, leading to his resignation and elevation of Shurhozelie Liezetsu to the Chief Ministership. Apparently, Zeliang may have been down but not out, for he has all of a sudden succeeded in wresting a majority of the NPF MLAs, as also the four BJP members and eight Independents who constitute the Democratic Alliance of Nagaland (DAN), to his side. Shurhozelie Liezetsu for a while attempted to put up a fight, even approaching the Gauhati High Court for a reprieve to the Governor's directive to immediately prove his majority on the floor of the house, but then had to give up the essay because the odds were stacked against him.

It is, in a way, back to square one for Nagaland, provided that the leadership issue has been resolved and the infighting has been brought to an end. However, as the reservation for women episode had revealed, there are too many forces at play in Nagaland politics for one to confidently assert that relative stability has been attained and there would no longer be a tussle for power. At this moment more than ever the State requires stability, for the peace talks are reportedly reaching a definitive stage and there might be a settlement of the insurgency issue which had held Nagaland for so long in its thrall. Moreover, the NPF confronts danger from another front – the BJP has made no secret of its desire to bring the entire North-east under its political sway and has already succeeded in taking control in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. Significantly, where it did not have even a token presence, in the last Nagaland elections not only did it manage to win four seats, it even joined the DAN to be a part of the ruling coalition. Of course, more important than such issues is the reality that for social progress political stability is sine qua non, and any vitiation of the atmosphere would be detrimental to economic and infrastructural development. It is to be hoped that the diverse forces currently embroiled in Naga politics appreciate this and allows stability to prevail.

Pay hike

The contrast can never get bigger than this. Visuals of farmers from Tamil Nadu holding protests at Delhi's Jantar Mantar using desperate measures to draw the attention of the policy-makers to direct their attention towards their plight are being highlighted by the electronic media. The protesting farmers have tonsured their heads, conducted mock funerals and even carried skulls which they claimed were of farmers who committed suicide as they were unable to clear their loans. In this backdrop, the Tamil Nadu Government on Wednesday almost doubled the salary and allowances of the MLAs, taking their new pay packet to Rs 1.05 lakh per month. The announcement regarding salary hike was made by Chief Minister K Palaniswami in the State Assembly. The Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Assembly had a hard time in conducting legislative business in the House as the ruling party and the Opposition had opposing views on almost every issues. Acrimonious scenes dominated the Assembly. The Speaker's comment that he had seen happiness writ large on the face of all the MLAs cutting across party lines after the pay hike announcement was made indicates that when it suits their own personal interests, the lawmakers can sink all their differences. The Tamil Nadu lawmakers are now enjoying the almost 100% salary hike for themselves having no time or inclination to pay any heed to the demands of the farmers of the State who are facing a very hard time due to drought and debt. The insensitive action of the Tamil Nadu Government is akin to Nero playing the fiddle when Rome was burning.

However, Tamil Nadu is not just a one-off case. Lawmakers across the country shed all their differences when it comes to issues like salary hike. On Wednesday, a similar pitch was made in the Parliament when the Samajwadi Party MP Naresh Agarwal and Congress MP Anand Sharma demanded a pay hike for the MPs. While the MP's and MLAs get elected after convincing the electorate that their only aim is to work for the overall development of the society, but after getting elected, they are more obsessed with their own comforts having no time and inclination to think about the people who had elected them. While the MPs and MLAs can bulldoze their way and get their salaries hiked almost at will, for others it becomes a Herculean task to get their salaries and pensions hiked. The armed forces personnel had struggled for decades to get their One Rank One Pension demand materialized. The Government employees too have to constantly pressurize the government to get their legitimate dues. Less said about the unorganized sector is better. The lawmakers truly deserve a decent salary. But a 100% hike can in no way be justified.

Rising vigilantism: the new scare

■ Parvin Sultana

The image of a blood-soaked man begging for his life before he was beaten to death shocked the nation. This was the case of the lynching of two men in Jharkhand on suspicion of being involved in kidnapping of children. This incident of mob violence was not an isolated one. Of late mob vigilanism escalating to mob violence has become common. Many States have witnessed such crimes. The frequency and the pattern would force one to take cognizance of this phenomenon. How do we understand the rising vigilantism? Why do a large number of people spontaneously agree to undertake such a violent act? Do they believe their act is justified and hence they are immune to legal actions?

Vigilantism in fact is a reflection of the displacement of culpability by the State. While State blames people for taking violence in their own hands, the people justify their action by pitting it against State inaction. Vigilantism is anything but recent. However, it is the rising frequency which is alarming. In each and every case of mob vigilantism, the people are motivated by the peculiar mindset that it was their 'duty' to remove those they believe had subverted the discourse of morality in society.

What is also alarming is that the rise of such vigilantism is seen across the Indian subcontinent. Pakistan and Bangladesh are also reeling under the threat of self-appointed legal guardians which continuously undermine the state authority and institutions. As the three countries share more than mere history, this

phenomenon needs to be examined in that perspective.

In India, from Dadri onwards, most cases of mob vigilanism have been instigated by *Gau Rakshaks* – some self-appointed cow welfare officials. They often intercept cattle traders on mere suspicion of smuggling cattle for slaughter. This is followed by looting and physical assault. Many a time it has escalated to full blown murderous violence and led to lynching of people. Dairy farmers like Pehlu Khan were murdered on suspicion of cattle smuggling.

The *Gau Rakshaks* are acting as a parallel police force. This has become possible because most States lack adequate police force. The Supreme Court has in fact directed States to fill in the vacancies. Some States in the process ended up outsourcing enforcement of law and order to the vigilantes. In Maharashtra, the Government created the post of honorary animal welfare officer and placed one such officer in each district. In Haryana, *Gau Rakshaks* armed with hockey sticks patrol the national highway. In UP such a role is being played by the Hindu Yuva Vahini which reports to the new CM.

Gau Rakshaks are guided by emotional rhetoric and prejudiced hatred. The accountability is almost missing as mobs provide an anonymous cover for crimes. The States' hands are clean as violence is allegedly spontaneous. Cattle smuggling is a genuine problem. However, should illegal transportation of cat-

tle end in the lynching of a person if laws are there to take care of such offenders? The role of police as bystanders in such acts of violence is also worrisome. On the other hand, it is the systematic targeting of minorities and Dalits who comprise the lower rungs of society and whose livelihood and income are being jeopardized should make us wary of such extra-legal methods. The Una violence was an example of persecuting people for doing their

The murder of Mashal Khan shares its place in the nation's psyche along with the assassination of former Punjab Governor Salman Taseer, the witch-hunt against Asia Bibi and the multitude of victims who have been labelled as a blasphemer. The punishment under the blasphemy law is very rigorous. The punishment under the blasphemy law is very rigorous. And it is often used to settle personal scores. Interestingly, murderous mobs in Pakistan often target those accused of religious blasphemy or questioning the establishment. They are rarely out in the streets voicing public grievances. Political leaders often fall short of criticizing the blasphemy law which is at the root of such crimes. Vigilantes might be even enjoying political patronage. It creates an environment of all-pervasive fear when people not only give up their freedom of expression but stop reflecting on their condition.

Coming to Bangladesh, the country has witnessed the gradual mainstreaming of religious fundamentalism. In a country with corrupt police machinery and a very poor conviction rate, vigilantism has become an accepted phenomenon. Cold-blooded murders of atheist, rationalist bloggers, gay rights activists, etc., show the deep-seated problem in the society. By-standers shooting videos and keeping quiet are also complicit in such crimes. Fundamentalists who claim to be saviours of faith have indulged in such murderous activities regularly. However, the Government is wary of coming out in support of

the victims. The political hold of the right wing Islamist groups keeps any strict action at bay. As a result, the minorities and others who don't toe the majoritarian line of thought have to pay a heavy price.

In every case of mob vigilantism, fake messages are spread through social media platforms. The immediate instigation is to deliver 'instant' justice when courts take way too long. Due process of law must be defended because the requirement of intent and burden of proof allows for an impartial conclusion of guilt. However, mob lynching is portrayed as filling a gap in the justice system. Continued mob violence can be attributed to the State's inadequate response to social disorder and its inability to aggressively prosecute those involved in vigilante killings.

There is a gap between the pace at which information and misinformation is spread and verified. It is at this gap that vigilantism finds refuge. New media has paved way for anonymous social media handles to incite hatred and violence. While arrests have been made in the lynching cases in India, a speedy conviction and deliverance of justice is a requirement. The political class must send a stronger message that mob violence is not acceptable. It is very important to ensure that the faith of the people from judiciary is not replaced by kangaroo courts. Judiciary is bogged down by backlog. Filling up of vacancies both in the judiciary as well as in police and sensitizing the police force to constitutional values are a must. It is the rule of law that must prevail. Otherwise, law and order in the subcontinent will give way to the bloodlust of the mob.

Fostering creative spirit in teaching-learning

■ Dr Hemen Dutta

Teaching is nothing but the delivery of knowledge to the intended audience in a manner which is understandable and beneficial to them. Learning, on the other hand, is about gaining knowledge, which would subsequently help in developing individuals as good human beings. The teaching and learning process between teachers and students should not always be a one-way process in the sense that teachers should only teach and students should only learn. In fact, it should be a continuous and two-way process in the sense that either of them could learn from the other. One of the foremost practices in the teaching-learning process is that of extracting the maximum amount of knowledge from each other. Issues pertaining to ego should not come in the way of imparting or gaining knowledge. At times, however, an egotistic nature and reluctance to teach and learn could have the effect of overshadowing the spirit of the teaching-learning process. Improper knowledge and ignorance could also hamper the process, leading to unsavory incidents.

With the rapid rise of digital education, it is practically impossible to ignore the concept of digital teaching-learning process at any level of

education now. It has now become easier to collect newer information and knowledge from the internet and deliver them to an audience. However, it also raises several ethical concerns. Technology should be utilized in the teaching-learning process to augment the sharing of knowledge and not be used as an alternative to hard work. It is also important to understand the negative effects of the use of technology and accordingly devise strategies to overcome them. This would result in the creation of technology that is compatible with the teaching-learning process. It would be unfortunate if the spirit of the teaching-learning process is ignored by giving undue importance to new technology.

Let us consider a case in which person X stopped taking advice from a more learned person Y, and was not happy with this. Later, Y met X as an observer during the latter's presentation and verbally abused X for using the blackboard instead of PowerPoint by pointing out several faults associated with a PowerPoint presentation. The main purpose of a presentation is to deliver or defend one's knowledge. If one can deliver knowledge more effectively through a blackboard presentation, he/she should be allowed to do so. The duty of the observer or audience is to

check whether the desired knowledge is being disseminated. The duty of the presenter, on the other hand, is to meet the expectations of observers or audience by not getting into unnecessary arguments or providing justifications in the form of false arguments. Y could have tried to help the rest of the audience by raising important and relevant issues from X's presentation. Thus, the presentation missed out on fruitful discussion, which is certainly against the spirit of teaching and learning.

This is an example of an untoward situation, wherein both the parties fail to understand the spirit of the teaching-learning process. Thus, it is necessary to foster a creative spirit in the teaching-learning process as to avoid untoward incidents.

In academia, mental harassment and verbal abuse, involving students, teachers and colleagues, are not rare, and may also involve guardians and relatives. Academic harassment is a growing concern globally.

It is difficult to form a concrete image of what kind of behaviour might fall under the categories of academic harassment. The incidents of academic harassment may have several long-lasting effects on the concerned entities, causing damage that cannot be repaired easily.

One should be fully aware that academic harassment can also damage the physical or mental health of

the victim and can even threaten the victim's life. There are several instances globally in which courts found peoples associated with academic guilty for kinds of harassment that can be considered as academic harassment. It should be noted that a behaviour that may seem too insignificant to be harassment may be considered as harassment when such behaviour continuously recurs or is prolonged. A student may be unsatisfied or mentally depressed because of a teacher's behaviour conducted as a part of instruction, but the behaviour may be considered as a justifiable educational activity from an objective standpoint, but the behaviour may be considered as a justifiable educational activity from an objective standpoint. Thus, a decision on academic harassment based on unjustifiable behaviour should not be made relying only on the behaviour itself, but by taking various other factors into consideration. So, it is necessary that an academic institution prepare a list of examples of possible academic harassment so that a person associated with teaching-learning can continuously re-examine one's own behaviour in light of such examples and contribute to maintain a good environment, so as not to lose sight of the true purpose of teaching and learning.

In many cases, vested interests are also responsible for creating situations antagonistic to the spirit of teaching and learning. When such a situation occurs, it is necessary to investigate the pros and cons of the situation and examine its connection with the desired spirit. It is also necessary to try to resolve the problem or search for alternatives. In addition, it is not justifiable to continue with the same process in different situations or platforms without assessing the needs of the changing environment. If a changing environment or a specific need is ignored, not only would it be against the spirit of the teaching-learning process, but also result in it getting hindered.

It is the duty of all those concerned with teaching and learning to work toward inducing and fostering a more creative spirit in this process. This duty cannot only be fulfilled with the help of rules and regulations. In many situations, unnecessary or irrelevant rules and regulations are in place and in other cases, the requisite ones have been misinterpreted.

In the teaching-learning process, most of the issues depend on mutual faith and belief, and it is necessary to maintain such faith and belief among the ranks of the parties concerned.

In society, the teaching-learning process is looked upon with great regard, and so this process is rarely questioned compared to other processes. It is, therefore, important to keep aside personal beliefs and thoughts in the interests of the teaching-learning process.

Letters to the Editor

Special package for flood relief

so many deaths. Yours etc., PRATIM GAUTAM, North Lakhimpur.

Road repair

Sir.—The newly constructed PWD road near the village Sankuchuk under Balsara district is facing severe erosion of the Morapagadha river. A part of the road has already been eroded. Though the local MP and MLA had visited the area last year, no steps to protect the road from further erosion have been taken up. The government agencies should take up urgent steps to protect the road from further damage. Yours etc., LOHIT CH DAS, Barara.

Social media

Sir.—The extrapolation research of Facebook, July 2017, revealed that the highest number of Facebook users is from India. A total of 241,000,000 active Facebook users are in India and the number is rapidly increasing.

However, the impact of social media has turned towards a negative way. The incidents of various crimes through social media are growing as it has

become easy to access the personal accounts of different people, who too from different countries. These illegal hackers create fake accounts by using others' personal information and photographs. Many people, especially women and girls, have become victims of such crimes.

Social media has become unsafe to a large extent. So the authority concerned should take immediate steps to control the growing number of users committed through social media. Yours etc., ROUSHNI SHAIKH, Guwahati.

Drugs abuse

Sir.—The article 'Socio-legal effects of drug abuse' by Dr NK Dutta (AT, July 19) envisaged to give a sincere thought and drive all concerned with regard to drug abuse and addiction. The risk of development and enhancement of drug abuse may start in the family or school itself, or in the company of friends in case of the younger generation or in the society in case of adults. Alcohol or drug addiction generally begins with illicit or prescribed drugs used for

recreational purposes, which subsequently develops into an addiction. The society must try to prevent drug addiction through education, specifically through identification, monitoring and awareness programmes among the vulnerable lot, and also by taking up meditation, yoga, physical exercise, reading, sporting activities, etc. Only a healthy lifestyle can nurture a person to become a responsible citizen.

Yours etc., BHUPEN DUTTA, Bidyapur, Nalbari.

View on Darwinism

Sir.—I would like to express a view over the statements made hundreds of years ago by world famous scientist-philosopher Charles Darwin regarding the Theory of Evolution that the rational animal was in the process of evolution during hundreds of thousands of years through transformation and development from one species to another. His hypothesis is also known as the 'survival of the fittest'. But to my observation, the very opinion of Darwin may not be based on facts

and figures, because each and every creature on our earth has grown having own individual genes or chromosomes. Every creature, right from the smallest ant to the dinosaurs, has been created only genetically. In fact, the unfriendly creatures also have the right to survive in this world. Yours etc., NRIPEN MAHANTA, Kahlipara, Guwahati.

Life insurance

Sir.—Life insurance is a basic need for the economically weaker section. The bread-eamer hopes to protect his family by taking up life insurance policy. Due to GST tax deduction on such policies will rise by around 3%. The Centre should review the matter. The money collected by agencies like the LIC is available to the Central Government for executing welfare projects. As such, we feel there should be incentive for the customers too. Yours etc., DAS, AT Road, Guwahati.

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

Indigenous people must control State's economy: Dr Saikia

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 20: There is no conflict between our identities as Indians and as Assamese and both are not contradictory.

At the same time, all the constituent states of the Indian Union must grow strong and reach their full potential if India as a country is to become strong, said eminent litterateur and former president of Assam Sahitya Sabha Dr Nagen Saikia.

Delivering the Krishna Kanta Handiqui Memorial Lecture organised by the Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University here today, Dr Saikia also said that the local people of Assam must take control of

the State's economy and make all efforts to develop economically. He was speaking on the topic 'Mumunior Asom'.

He said that the tendency among youths of Assam still remains one of seeking only government service. Trade and commerce has still not entered the psyche of the younger generation in our State. He said that this lacuna must be addressed if we are to have control over our State's economy.

Referring to the period of the Independence Movement and also the initial decades of the post-Independence period, Dr Saikia said during those times there was no conflict between our identities as Indians as well as Assamese and added

that this is how we should go ahead in the coming days.

Stating that migration is a historical reality in almost all parts of the world, he said successive waves of migration have helped to create the Assamese society.

"Many of the people who came during the pre-Independence era from the then eastern part of Bengal became assimilated in our society and culture," he said.

Dr Saikia, however, warned against the pitfalls of continuing illegal immigration from across the border and said that if it is allowed to continue, it can have serious repercussions in case a "separate political identity" is created and allowed to foster.

He also came out against the idea of welcoming Hindus from Bangladesh and said it is different from the practice of earlier decades when certain political forces encouraged immigration of Muslims from the neighbouring country into Assam.

"Give us the breathing space to live as Assamese. Give us the breathing space to live as Indians," he said.

Dr Saikia said that a "positive pluralistic outlook" is needed to ensure the unity and survival of the Assamese society as well as that of India.

"We are a secular nation and we have to preserve secularism. We have to discard communal thinking," he said.

He said there is a need to imbibe the love for the mother tongue and respect for one's cul-

ture among the younger generation, even though we must also learn languages like English and Hindi to the best of our abilities.

"Mother tongue is like mother's milk. Without the mother tongue, there can be no social or moral progress," said Dr Saikia.

He added, "We are Indians, but we must also be Assamese. Without our Assamese identity, we cannot have an Indian identity."

He also expressed displeasure with the fact that a lot of areas of Assam have been encroached upon by the neighbouring states.

"Nagaland (sic) lays claim to land belonging to Assam. Over 80,000 hectares of Assam's land have been encroached upon over the years," said Dr Saikia.

He also ruled the fact that many flood-affected people have not received proper relief from the government and added that such things have the tendency to increase the sense of alienation.

"The Brahmaputra must not doubt be harassed. But that should not come about at the cost of flooding Assam... We need energy, but not by sacrificing the lives of the people. Please build dams, but ensure that they are constructed in a scientific manner so that Assam and its citizens are not hurt," said Dr Saikia.

He said there is a need to imbibe the love for the mother tongue and respect for one's cul-

ture," he said.

He said that languages across the world have evolved with passage of time and become enriched by assimilating words from others.

"Assamese language will have to survive if Assamese society is to live on. We must also adopt words from other languages which are necessary and useful, while at the same time discarding those which are not necessary," said Dr Saikia.

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Krishna Kanta Handiqui Lecture



Dr Nagen Saikia delivering the lecture. - *Photo*

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

It is hereby informed to the public that our Jorhat ECOS Clearing House will stop functioning from 21st August, 2017. This is as per the resolution passed unanimously by all the Clearing House Members of Jorhat Clearing House at the General Body Meeting held on 11th July, 2017, as the Jorhat Clearing House Member Banks have migrated to CTS-2010. Hence, the cheques will be processed through Cheque Truncation System(CTS) by all the Jorhat Clearing House Member Banks w.e.f 21.8.17.

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ASSAM INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

(A Govt of Assam Undertaking)

Industrial Estate, Barunimaidam, Guwahati-21; Phone: (0361) 2556864, 2550387; Fax: (0361) 2556864

Dated the Guwahati, the 20th July'17

BID NOTICE

(For allotment of plot of land at IGC Centre, Chaygaon in Kamrup district, Assam)

Assam Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (AIIDC) proposes to allot plot of land as given below on 30 years lease basis to accommodate industrial ventures in the following Industrial Area in Kamrup district, Assam.

Sl. No.	Name of the Industrial Area	Size of the plot	Reserve price for	
			Development charges	Existing assets
1	Industrial Growth Centre, Chaygaon at vili, Chatabari, Dist. Kamrup, Assam	6900.00 sq.m (approx. 5.15 bigha)	₹600/- per sq.m	₹7.50 lakh
2	Industrial Growth Centre, Chaygaon at vili, Chatabari, Dist. Kamrup, Assam	1000.00 sq.m (approx. 0.75 bigha)	₹600/- per sq.m	Nil
3	Industrial Growth Centre, Chaygaon at vili, Chatabari, Dist. Kamrup, Assam	640.00 sq.m (approx. 0.48 bigha)	₹600/- per sq.m	Nil
4	Industrial Growth Centre, Chaygaon at vili, Chatabari, Dist. Kamrup, Assam	500.00 sq.m (approx. 0.37 bigha)	₹600/- per sq.m	Nil

Sealed bids are invited from the interested companies/ parties for allotment of the same. The bid documents with terms and conditions will be issued to the intending entrepreneurs on payment of ₹1000.00 (non refundable) by Demand Draft/ Banker's Cheque drawn in favour of "AIIDC Growth Centre Chaygaon-Patgao". Bid not accompanied by the Security Deposit shall be rejected.

Sealed bids will be opened in the office of the undersigned, addressed to Managing Director, AIIDC up to 14.00 hours on 19-08-2017 and will be opened on same day at 15.00 hours in presence of the intending bidders/ representatives. Bids received after the above date and time will not be accepted. The bid document is also available in the AIIDC's website www.aiidccassam.in and may be downloaded from the website. In that case, the party has to submit the bid document of ₹1000.00 separately by Demand Draft/ Banker's Cheque along with the bid failing which their bid will be rejected.

AIIDC reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/- Managing Director
Assam Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation

Demand for
revival of
Tezpur (old) rly
station
SPL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, July 20: The Railway Ministry has confirmed having received a number of petitions demanding revival of the Tezpur (old) Railway station under NFR Railways in Assam.

In a Lok Sabha reply to a question by RP Sharma, Minister of State for Railways, Rajen Gohain said that a few representations have been received including a reference from Chief Minister, Assam on the revival of Tezpur (old) station. Dehkargaon railway station is located at a distance of about seven kilometres from Tezpur town.

Dehkargaon town, part of the metre gauge track, was not converted to broad gauge at the request of the then Assam Government. Reconnection of Tezpur town to Dehkargaon has been mooted subsequently, Gohain said.

**Yoga camp at
Hailakandi**
CORRESPONDENT

HAILAKANDI, July 20: On the occasion of the completion of one year of Patanjali Yoga Samiti, a day-long yoga camp for the age group of 8 to 80 years, was organised at Sanskrit Vidyaapeeth here.

It was inaugurated by veteran music teacher of Hailakandi, Harendra Chandra Nath. A large number of people from different parts of the district participated in the camp. The inaugural meeting was presided over by Sukomal Paul and was addressed by Ajit Chakraborty, Chanchal Paul, Sankar Choudhury and Viboyakshmi Sinha of Mahila Patanjali Yoga Samiti, among others. Yoga instructor Amit Paul conducted the camp. All the speakers highlighted the benefits of performing yoga in day-to-day life.

**Seminar on
tourism**

GUWAHATI, July 20: North East Vision, a Nagaland-based NGO, in association with Eastern Iconic Tours and Travels, Guwahati, organised a seminar on 'Potentials of tourism as a career option for students' recently at the North East Vision office premises here, stated a press release.

Around 40 students from different educational institutions of Nagaland attended the seminar. The key speakers in the seminar were Dr Sachindra Barakur, seminar-organiser and secretary of North East Vision and Udu Bhanu Barakur, Director of Eastern Iconic Tours and Travels, Guwahati, among others.

One electrocuted
DHEMAJ, July 20: One 40-year-old Andhular Saikia of Goromari village was electrocuted at Baljan village near Narua than in West Dhemaji when he came into contact with an electric wire that was hanging loosely near the Magurmari RCC Bridge to Baljan. The incident occurred on July 17. — Correspondent

**Meet on issues
of border areas**
CORRESPONDENT

DHUBRI, July 20: To raise awareness among the people living in the bordering districts of western Assam, Seema Chetana Manch, Purvottar, will organise its State annual convention in the District Library here.

The organisation, that raises awareness about the issues of the border areas of the region, stated in a press release that they are organising the programme in a massive way in the town on July 29-30.

The convention will be attended by 700 participants from across the State, the release added. The convention will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and will be attended by other political and apolitical dignitaries from all over North-east.

NEEPCO denies releasing flood water from power project

AJIT PATOWARY

GUWAHATI, July 20: On July 9 this year, the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO) allegedly released about 10,000 mm (that is – 10 metres in height) of water from its 450-MW Ranganadi Hydroelectric Power Project (RHEP) dam within a very short span of time and this resulted in the two breaches in the Ranganadi embankments causing havoc in a vast Lakhimpur district area, said highly placed sources in the State's Water Resources Department (WRD) here.

However, sources in the NEEPCO have maintained that under no

circumstances the NEEPCO had released floodwater from the RHEP that attained a height of ten metres that day.

It needs mention here that the WRD authorities were in the process of strengthening the Ranganadi embankments under an estimated Rs 36-crore Flood Management Programme (FMP), The State Government had a share of 30 per cent in this scheme.

WRD sources maintain that in 2008 also flood created havoc in North Lakhimpur town and other areas adjacent to this district headquarters town, when the NEEPCO authorities released around

5,000 mm (five metres in height) of water from the RHEP dam in a short span of time.

This time, the NEEPCO authori-

ties released water which was two times larger in volume than that of 2008. But due to the partial

Breaches in Ranganadi embankments

strengthening of the Ranganadi embankments, the flood could not create havoc similar to that of the 2008, WRD sources claimed.

NEEPCO sources, on the other

hand, claimed that the RHEP is a run-of-the-river scheme with very small pondage. The full reservoir

level of the project is EL 567 metre. This project generates highest amount of hydel power and contributes the highest amount of power to Assam, compared to other NE States. But it was not designed for flood moderation, they said.

They also maintained that num-

ber of tributaries have joined the Ranganadi in the downstream of the Ranganadi dam, which also carry sufficient water from their respective catchment areas to the Ranganadi.

In the wake of the 2008 havoc, several committees visited the affected areas and the RHEP as well. They maintained that the RHEP could not be linked with the catastrophe, said the NEEPCO sources.

Meanwhile, sources in the Brahmaputra Board maintained that the Ranganadi havoc could have been avoided, had the RHEP reservoir operated scientifically, by installing a network of designed rain gauge and pre-empting the reservoir before the floodwater impinging on it.



A scene of devastation caused by the Ranganadi flood waters at Padabbeli of Nowbari, in Lakhimpur district on Wednesday. — UB Photos

Anti-superstition activists to approach new President

SANJOY RAY

GUWAHATI, July 20: With the country all set to get its 14th President by Thursday, anti-superstition activists awaiting nod for 'The Assam Witch Hunting (Prohibition, Prevention and Protection) Bill, 2015' for over a year now, has decided to approach the new constitutional head of the country seeking intervention, as incidents of branding women and men as 'witches' continue to get reported at regular intervals from across the State.

Nearly 100 cases of 'witch-hunting' were reported in the State, told *The Assam Tribune* that the committee will move the new Presi-

dent in the last five years or so, while the conviction rate continues to be abysmally low in the State.

Activist Birubala Rabha, who is scheduled to deliver a speech on the issue in UN H u m a n

Rights Council in Geneva in September, too, is miffed at the pace things are moving, and opined that the dilly-dallying on the part of the government is not helping the cause of the vulnerable population.

Rabha, who is spearheading the anti-superstition campaign in the State, told *The Assam Tribune* that the war against superstitions needs a strict law and its effective implementation at the earliest.

Home department sources said that the Bill is currently with the human rights section of the Ministry of Home Affairs and there is no word on the approval as yet.

Convenor of the Coordination Committee against Superstition, an umbrella body of anti-superstition organisations in the State, Dr Natyara Das, said that the committee will move the new Presi-

dent of the country to take necessary action once he or she takes the oath of office.

"We are drafting a letter for the new President of India seeking his/her intervention in the matter. The letter will be dispatched within the next couple of weeks," Dr Das said.

"The ministry had sought clarifications on a few points which were clarified by the State government more than a year back. But despite all these, we are awaiting the nod as the delay has been discouraging the people working on the ground," Dr Das added.

Bill on witch-hunting

Progress of SBM (G) schemes in Jonai block reviewed

ANAN SERVICE

JONAI, July 20: Deputy Commissioner Roshi Aparani Korai, who reviewed the progress of ongoing Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) schemes in Murkongsele Tribal Development (Jonai) block, has urged the implementing agency to expedite the works to achieve set targets.

Attending a block-level meeting with Swachhagrani and officials of Public Health Engineering (PHE) department, Jonai SDO's office on Tuesday, the DC verified physical achievements of the ongoing sanitary latrine construction in 15 gram panchayats under Jonai block. The DC was satisfied with cent per cent achievement in Dekapam and Simenchari, while she appreciated the efforts of achieving above 90 per cent works

in Rayang-Bijoypur, Misamara and Sonokong panchayats.

The scheme, run under the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan incorporated to Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), is being implemented by the Dhemaji division of PHE. The implementing agency has a target to construct as many as 75,127 individual household sanitary latrines/toilets out of which 11,209 are allotted to Jonai block. As such, the district so far has completed construction of 41,543 sanitary latrines since 2010-11.

Jonai SDO(C) Jadav Pegu in his address urged the Swachhagrani to work as "messengers" of SBM schemes and motivate the community people to adopt hygienic practices such as use of sanitary toilets, safe drinking water and safe waste disposal.

On the occasion, the project consultant made an overview of panchayat-wise targets and physical achievements of sanitary latrine works of the block through power-point presentation.

According to him, Jonai block has achieved an average

of 70 per cent progress in the scheme and Simechepori GP under the block has been conferred prestigious Nirmal Gram Panchayat Award for the year 2010-11.

Presenting the 'sanitation profile' along with economic status of the targeted families, the consultant divulged that there were 39,233 households in the block as per 2012 baseline survey. The survey recorded 6,286 families belonging to APL and it placed 32,947 families in BPL category. Thus, the number of families use sanitary latrine/toilet was recorded 23,044 while 13,532 families found to adopt open defecation.

Among others, Jonai Assistant Commissioner Sujata Gogoi, Circle Officer M Payeng, BDO of Jonai (MSTD) block D Pathak and PHE executive Engineer Nabajyoti Neog also attended the meeting.

"Construction of sanitary toilets is not only a hygienic

practice, but it also an initiative of the Central Government to promote safety, dignity and health security of the women," said the DC while adding that she is planning to make short movies in local (tribal) languages in order to motivate the rural people on the necessity of sanitary latrine/toilet.

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"Construction of sanitary toilets is not only a hygienic

Mohilary announces construction of Haj House

CORRESPONDENT

KOKRAJHAR, July 20: The Chief of BTC Hagrama Mohilary on Wednesday announced that a Bodoland Hajji Musafir Khan (Haj House) would be constructed near the Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport in Guwahati soon for the convenience of the minority community.

Facilitating the Hajis going to Haj yatra at a function held on Wednesday, organised jointly by the Central committee of Bodoland People's Party (BPP) and BTC Region Mi-

wished a happy journey to them and said that the construction of the Bodoland Hajji Musafir Khan (Haj House)

in nearby areas of the Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport in Guwahati soon for the convenience of the minority community.

Mohilary also said that the

BTC government is committed for the welfare of the minority community of the region.

"I wish for a safe jour-

ney for the pilgrims from the BTC region and at the same time we will wait eagerly to receive them and I hope everybody will pray for peace and harmony of the BTC region as well as the State in Me-

ca," Mohilary said. On the occasion, BPP chief also handed over a cash of Rs 10,000 and kits to each pilgrim of BTC region from the party fund.

Alaudin Ali, president of

BTC Region Minority Cell;

Sultan Ali, secretary of BTC

Region Minority Cell; Moula

ma Abdul Malek, other MLAs,

EMs and MCLAs of BTC who

were present on the occasion,

appealed for universal brotherhood through the pilgrims.

It may be mentioned here

that this year, altogether 100

pilgrims from BTC region will go for the holy trip in Saudi Arabia from Guwahati Airport on July 24 next.

Honour for Assamese doctor in Denmark



Dr Arindam Bharadwaz

(Scandinavian) societies of Interventional Radiology comprising of societies from Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland in 2016. He was selected as the Chief Coordinator of the Nor-

probably the only Assamese to have acquired the degree of European Board of Interventional Radiology (EBIR).

Dr Arindam Bharadwaz is currently scientific committee member of European Society of Radiology (ESR) as well as of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiological Society of Europe (CIRSE), again probably the first and only doctor from Assam to hold the posts. He passed MBBS and MD (Radiology) from Guwahati Medical College in 1994 and 1999 respectively.

He is the second son of Dr Prabin Chandra Sarma, ex-MP from Guwahati and Geeta Sarma, a pioneer of Goalpara Lokageet and a retired school teacher.



Army personnel belonging to the Jat Regiment sweeping a road, as a part of the Sneech Bharat Abhiyan programme, in Baksa district on Wednesday. — UB Photos

Families of Cachar, Nagaon Paper Mill employees on verge of starvation

CORRESPONDENT

SILCHAR, July 20: The closure of the Cachar and Nagaon Paper Mill units of the State-owned Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited (HPCL) since 2015, has increased the woes of the family members of the mill employees.

In the words of Debodeepa Dhar, daughter of Jyoti Dhar, an employee of Cachar Paper Mill at Panchara and a resident of Sonai Road Silchar, "Our life has been badly hit because of the closure of the mill. My father is having no salary since

the mill was put under lock and key and now he has stopped my tuition and art classes because he cannot bear the expenses any more. We are being haunted with the bleak future of the mill."

According to sources, so far as many as 15 employees have died (11 from the Cachar Paper Mill and four others at the Nagaon Paper Mill at Jagiroad), while one employee allegedly committed suicide for the need of money for medical treatment. The Cachar Paper Mill has 680 employees.

"We are on the threshold of star-

vation. Our husbands are not getting salaries for the past 10 months despite the mill being a unit of the Government of India. We are deeply worried as we might have to sell our homes to pay the dues of Income Tax, LIC etc," said Sarbjaya Biswas and Dolly Dey, wives of the employees of Cachar Paper Mill.

Kamal Chakraborty, a former employee of the Cachar Paper Mill, has blamed the apathy of the HPCL management for such a situation. "Around 75,000 tonnes of bamboo is lying rotten in the mill campus

and there has been no production. We were assured by the government of a certain resumption of production, but nothing has materially so far dragging the lives of so many people into the mercy of the Almighty."

On the other hand, the family members and children of the mill employees staged a protest demonstration at the pedestal of Khudiram Bose on Wednesday. Besides the family members, State BJP spokesperson Rajdeep Roy, former president of Cachar district BJP Kausik Rai, front-

line leader of INTUC Kishore Bhattacharjee, Deepan Dewanjee and leader of CITU Supriyo Bhattacharjee extended support to their demands.

Kausik Rai read out the assurances given by the government for the release of the salaries. Also, questions were raised on the performance of former Union Minister for Heavy Industries Santosh Mohan Dey vis-a-vis the pathetic status of the mill.

Later, the family members of the employees sent a memorandum to the Prime Minister, Un-

ion Minister for Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises through the Deputy Commissioner, Cachar with copies of the same to Chief Minister in which they demanded immediate release of their salaries, resumption of production in the mill and a CBI probe into the reasons behind the sick status of the mill.

It may be mentioned that in 2015, the government, in reply to a question raised by Silchar MP Sismita Dev, had made it clear that the Centre has no plan to modernise the Cachar Paper Mill.

CAPSULE**Reliance Retail profit**

NEW DELHI, July 20: Reliance Retail, the retail arm of Reliance Industries, today reported 65.5 per cent rise in profit in the first 366 crore for the quarter ended on June 30, 2017.

The turnover in the quarter under review jumped by 73.6 per cent to Rs 11,571 crore compared to Rs 6,666 crore in the year-ago period. Reliance Industries said in a regulatory filing. —PTI

Toyota campaign

GUWAHATI, July 20: Following successful first two phases, Toyota Kirloskar Motor's sales campaign, 'Drive the Nation,' designed for government employees, has been extended to the third phase. The nationwide campaign offers unique value-added services on the purchase of Etios series cars. This campaign is in line with Toyota's 'customer first' philosophy, which has been the driving force behind the innovative products and services of the company in the market, a press release said here.

Wipro shares

BENGALURU, July 20: India's third largest IT firm Wipro today announced a mega buyback offer of Rs 11,000 crore, joining the growing list of Indian firms returning surplus cash to their shareholders. "The Board of Directors approved a buyback proposal, subject to the approval of shareholders through postal ballot, for purchase by the company of up to 343.75 million equity shares of Rs 2 each (representing 7.06 per cent of total equity capital). Wipro said in a statement. —PTI

Reliance Jio plans

NEW DELHI, July 20: Reliance Jio, the latest entrant in the telecom sector, will raise Rs 20,000 crore through a rights issue to meet its funding requirements. "The Board of Directors at its meeting held on July 20, 2017 has decided to make a rights issue of four billion, nine per cent non-cumulative optionally convertible preference shares (OCPS) of Rs 10 each for cash, at a premium of Rs 40 per OCPS, aggregating Rs 20,000 crore," Reliance Jio Incomedia said in a regulatory filing. —PTI

Blue Star

BENGALURU, July 20: Blue Star Ltd today announced the expansion of its range of products in water purifier business aiming to reach a 10 per cent market share in three years. As part of its aggressive growth plans, Blue Star, which entered the residential water purifier business in October last year, launched a range of 15 models. —PTI

Retailers' body calls for review of cash bills format

MUMBAI, July 20: The Retailers Association of India (RAI) has appealed to the Finance Minister to simplify the pre-scribed sale invoice format for cash bills rendered to customers claiming it is "confusing."

"There are some aspects of GST regime, which are causing a lot of challenges in business-to-consumer (B2C) at retail point of sale," RAI said in a letter to the FM.

"The need for individual item tax details and HSNS codes can be done away with for all intra-state retail sales (B2C), this exemption would be required for all retailers without any cap on sales turnover," RAI said. —PTI

Jaitley to launch pension scheme with 8% fixed rate today

NEW DELHI, July 20: Finance Minister Arun Jaitley will tomorrow launch a pension scheme for the elderly with 8 per cent fixed rate of interest on their savings.

It can be purchased offline as well as online through Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India which has been given the sole privilege to operate this scheme, the Finance Ministry said in a statement today.

PMVVY is a pension scheme announced by the government

exclusively for the senior citizens aged 60 years and above which will start from May 4, 2017 to May 3, 2018.

"Scheme provides an assured return of 8 per cent per annum payable monthly (equivalent to 8.30 per annum effective) for 10 years," it said.

Pension is payable at the end of each period, during the policy term of 10 years, as per the frequency of monthly, quarterly, half-yearly, yearly as chosen by the pensioner at the

time of purchase, it said.

The scheme is exempted from goods and services tax, it said, adding, loan up to 75 per cent of purchase price shall be allowed after 3 policy years to meet the liquidity needs.

Loan interest will be recovered from the pension instalments and loan to be recovered from claim proceeds, it said, adding, the scheme also allows for premature exit for the treatment of any critical or terminal illness of self or spouse.

Such premature exit, 98 per cent of the purchase price will be refunded.

On death of the pensioner during the policy term of 10 years, the purchase price will be paid to the beneficiary.

The shortfall owing to the difference between the interest guaranteed and the actual interest earned and the expenses relating to administration shall be subsidised by the Government of India and reimbursed to the LIC, it said. —PTI



Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Radha Mohan Singh launching the National Dairy Development Board's quality mark logo, in New Delhi on Thursday. —PIB

Govt unveils quality mark logo for milk, milk products

NEW DELHI, July 20: Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh today launched National Dairy Development Board's quality mark logo which dairy cooperatives can use after complying with quality norms.

The 'quality mark' logo will be valid for three years and surveillance audit for checking compliance with quality norms will be held once every year by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), an apex dairy sector body.

"NDDB's quality mark will provide dairy cooperatives and producer institutions the much-needed brand identity

and a competitive edge," Singh said in a statement.

This will bring process improvement in the entire value chain from producer to consumers to ensure availability of quality milk and milk products, he said.

An 11-member management committee will oversee the activities of quality mark. The panel comprises members from Agriculture Ministry and federations of four dairy governments as also a representative of food safety regulator FSSAI and two dairy experts.

Singh also presented quality mark logo certificates to 14 dairy

manufacturing units for adopting food safety and quality management systems and adhering to quality mark parameters.

Minister of State for Agriculture Sudarshan Bhagat, Animal Husbandry Secretary Devendra Chaudhary and NDDB Chairman Dilip Rath were present at the launch.

NDDB said the initiative does not propose any new/additional system for food safety and quality management but lays down the process required for ensuring quality and safety.

Since the rollout of the initiative in January 2016, the NDDB has received 55 applications

from cooperatives across the country. Of these, 14 units have successfully cleared the two-stage assessment process.

The remaining dairies were informed about the areas of improvement. They have been provided 6-9 months for implementing the corrective measures.

The Agriculture Minister said this initiative of NDDB will facilitate and strengthen the efforts of FSSAI. It will also create requisite awareness among various dairy units across the country for adopting quality measures detailed in the guideline document. —PTI

Need to catch up with changing technology, says Prabhu

NEW DELHI, July 20: Railways Minister Suresh Prabhu today described tracks as the backbone of Indian Railways and said it is necessary to catch up with the changing technology for better outcomes.

"Indian Railways is a very professional organisation that carries out both policy and implementation successfully," Prabhu said.

He was addressing an international technical seminar on "Global Trends in Track Technologies and Fast Paced Construction" organised by the Institution of Permanent Way Engineers.

"There is a greater necessity to catch up with the changing technology for better outcomes, especially with regard to increasing necessity for enhancing speed of implementation of projects and towards faster goals in building new tracks," he said.

Describing the tracks as the backbone of the Railways, Prabhu said that a corridor approach in construction of new tracks would lead to consolidation of gains with regard to new railway projects. —IANS

India to grow at 7.4% in FY18: ADB

NEW DELHI, July 20: Asian Development Bank (ADB) today retained India's growth projection at 7.4 per cent for the current financial year even as it raised the forecast for developing Asian region to 5.9 per cent.

In a supplement to its 'Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2017' report, ADB revised the forecast for developing Asia from 5.7 per cent earlier. For 2018, it was raised from 5.7 per cent to 5.9 per cent.

For India, it maintained the growth forecasts at 7.4 per cent for 2017-18 and 7.6 per

cent for fiscal 2018-19.

Forecasts for India are the same that the multilateral lender had projected in its yearly outlook report which is published in April every year.

"Consumption is likely to continue to be the main driver of growth. Higher crop sowing, helped by a healthy monsoon, and an uptick in rural wage growth will bolster rural consumption, while urban consumption will get a boost from pay hikes for Central and State government employees," the report highlighted about India.

Tata Motors celebrates milestone

BUSINESS REPORTER

Head, S&M, East Region (CVBU), and Sanjeev Mahatma, Head, S&M, North-east (CVBU), a press release said.

Giving a brief presentation on the newly launched Ultra BS-IV and AMT buses, Abhishek Dubey, Head, NE-CVBD, said, "Ultra BS4 buses offer the multiple advantages of strong chassis structure providing long life and heavy-duty aggregates, new generation CRDI engine ensuring minimum expenses

on maintenance, higher resale value and best ergonomics for drivers, owner as well as passengers."

On the occasion, Tata Motors has launched Starbus and Ultra range buses with BS-IV and AMT technology (automated manual transmission), besides unveiling its new eight-seater commercial passenger vehicle Tata Magic Express.

The events were followed by a key handover ceremony in which Wason presented keys to 10 privileged customers of Tata Motors, the release added.

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sengers."

On the creation of new jobs, Chandrashekhar said new jobs require higher skills subsequently leading to "re-skilling becoming very important to the industry."

"The jobs which are created is different from the jobs which are lost. It is not that 50 jobs are gone and 100 jobs are created. The (additional) 50 jobs created are different and that has implications," he said.

"The new jobs require higher skills

and therefore reskilling has become

very important," he said.

"Reskilling and upskilling have be-

come topmost priority for employee

retention so every employee knows

today if they don't upskill sooner or

later, they are going to be redundant," he said.

"It is also critical for companies also

to offer opportunities for their employ-

ees to be reskilled," he said.

Noting that 21 million jobs were lost

every year in the US, either due to tech-

nology or business changes, he said, "It

is not a sad thing. Because 23 million

jobs are created which is again an exam-

ple of the fact that technology creates

more jobs than it eliminates."

Personal loan

ICICI Bank offers up to Rs 15 lakh via ATMs

MUMBAI, July 20: Largest private sector lender ICICI Bank will be selling personal loans of up to Rs 15 lakh through its ATMs that can be availed by selected customers even if they haven't previously applied for one.

On death of the pensioner during the policy term of 10 years, the purchase price will be paid to the beneficiary.

The shortfall owing to the difference between the interest guaranteed and the actual interest earned and the expenses relating to administration shall be subsidised by the Government of India and reimbursed to the LIC, it said. —PTI

Online sale of steel products

Portal for NE launched

NEW DELHI, July 20: A dedicated portal for online sale of steel products in the north-eastern region of the country," the ministry said in a statement. Singh said that the e-portal is an excellent example of synergy between "Digital India" and "Make in India" missions initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. —PTI

GOVT. OF INDIA MINISTRY OF DEFENCE BORDER ROADS ORGANISATION GENERAL RESERVE ENGINEER FORCE CHIEF ENGINEER PROJECT VARTAK	
1. The Chief Engineer Project Vartak, C/O 99 APO invites Online bids on single stage bid system from the eligible contractors for the following work with the given details:	
PARTICULARS OF WORK :	
Name of Work : RETENTION ON SHORT NOTICE FOR SUPPLY OF ADDITIONAL STONE AGGREGATES AT CRUSHER IN THE PERIPHERY OF 45 KM FROM BALIPARA IN THE STATE OF ASSAM FOR SURFACING WORKS BETWEEN KM 131.00 TO KM 140.00 AND BETWEEN KM 140.00 TO KM 174.00 ON ROAD BALIPARA-CHARDUAR-TAWANG UNDER PROJECT NO. 99-AEC/99-NIT No CE (P) VTK-01 OF 2017-18 (FOURTH CALL).	
Other Details:-	
(a) Cost of Work	: Rs. 10.26 lacs
(b) Period of completion	: 180 days
(c) Earnest money	: Rs. 2,00,000
(d) Cost of tender	: Rs. 1000/-
CRITICAL DATE SHEET	
Published Date	: 16 July 2017 at 1800 hrs.
Bid Document Download Date	: 19 July 2017 at 1000 hrs.
Classification Start Date	: 19 July 2017 at 1200 hrs.
Classification End Date	: 30 July 2017 at 1000 hrs.
Pre bid meeting	: 21 July 2017 at 1100 hrs.
Bid Submission Start Date	: 22 July 2017 at 1100 hrs.
Bid Submission End Date	: 02 Aug 2017 at 1200 hrs.
Deadline for Submission of Bid	: 02 Aug 2017 at 1200 hrs.
O/Bidding Date	: To be fixed later on
Note :- Full notice of tender, any change in above details, tender document (including eligibility criteria) and other details may be obtained from CPPI website: https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app . For any queries please contact on telephone No. 03712-230501, 221513, FAX No. 03712-230706.	
Sd/- (A.M. Shrivastava) EE (O/C) SV For Chief Engineer, davp 37102/11/0135/1718	

MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

Commander Works Engineer Shillong, SE Falls, Shillong – 11 on behalf of President of India invites online item rate bids on Single Stage Two Cover Bid System for the following work:-

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Period of completion	Tender ID No
1.	PROV OF FURNITURE FOR VARIOUS DELEGATED WORKS AT SHILLONG UNDER GE SHILLONG	50.00 Lakhs	6 Months	2017_MES_126029_1
2.	PROVISION OF DUTY ROOM, OFFICE FOR SA AND TEA ROOM NEAR BLDG NO A-273 AND PROVISON OF 02 X TOILET BLOCKS EACH ALONGWITH WATER STORAGE FACILITIES OF CAPACITY OF 1000 LTRS IN BLDG NO A-107 AND NEAR SHOPPING COMPLEX AT HAPPY VALLEY AT SHILLONG UNDER GE SHILLONG	26.00 Lakhs	6 Months	2017_MES_126031_1
3.	PROVISION OF RETAINING WALL BEHIND BLDG NO A-88 AND PROVISION OF SECURITY CHAIN LINK FENCING SURROUNDING QG AT SHILLONG UNDER GE SHILLONG	27.00 Lakhs	6 Months	2017_MES_126032_1
4.	PROVISION OF TEN SQUAD POSTS AT TRG AREA AND CENTRAL LECTURE POST (CLP) FOR 300 PERSONS AT HAPPY VALLEY SHILLONG UNDER GE SHILLONG	87.00 Lakhs	9 Months	2017_MES_126033_1

For further detail refer, website eprocuremes.gov.in/eprocure.gov.in

davp/10102/0652/1718

Appx A' CONDENSED VERSION OF ADVERTISEMENT IN NEWS PAPERS MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES

1. GARRISON ENGINEER (1) AF, ELEPHANT FALLS CAMP, POST NONGLYER, SHILLONG-793009 invites application from enlisted MES, PWD, CPWD and Railway Contractors of the appropriate Class for issue of tenders for following works:

2. Bidder shall upload copy of Provident Fund Code number and service Tax Regn Cert which are mandatory. Bidders not in possession of Provident Fund Code number and Service Tax Regn Cert shall be disqualified in "Technical" bid evaluation and their financial bid shall not be opened". Any Sub Contractor engaged should also have Provident Fund Code Number and Service Tax Regn Cert.

(Note: The details / documents required to be submitted by bidders in cover 1 shall be checked online also)

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated cost in lakhs (Rs.)	Earnest Money in (Rs.)	Cost of tender
1.	PROV OF CERTAIN WORK SERVICES IN BLDG NO. P-299, COMPOUND WALL ALONG THE BLDG NO. P-50, RETAINING WALL NEAR BUILDING NO. P-109 & P-110 AND PROVN OF WORK SERVICES FOR INTEGRATED CALL SWITCHING CENTRE (ICSC) AT COMMAND HQ BLDG NO. P-251 AT HO EAC(U), AF UNDER GE(I) AF SHILLONG.	49.46,000/-	99,000/-	Rs. 500/- in the form of the demand draft in favour of GE (I) (AF) Shillong
2.	SPECIAL REPAIRS FOR REPLACEMENT OF ASBESTOS/GI (OLD) ROOF WITH GALVALUME SHEET AT CERTAIN OMO BUILDING AT HQ EAC(U), AF UNDER GE(I) AF SHILLONG	47,45,800/-	95,000/-	Rs. 500/- in the form of the demand draft in favour of GE (I) (AF) Shillong
3.	SPECIAL REPAIRS TO CONVERSION OF GI PIPE NYLON NEWAR TO CHARPOY GI PLY TOP TO SMQS AT STN LAITKOR PEAK UNDER GE(I) AF SHILLONG.	17,16,000/-	34,400/-	Rs. 500/- in the form of the demand draft in favour of GE (I) (AF) Shillong

3. FOR THE WORKS DETAILS/CRITERIA SEE INDIAN TRADE JOURNAL PUBLICATION DATED 21 JUN 2017 OR MES WEBSITE: www.mes.gov.in

davp 10102/11/0651/1718



ASSAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ADVERTISEMENT

AVT NO. 07/2017

No. SPPSC/DR-5/1/2017-2018
Assam Commission invites application from Indian citizens as defined in Articles 5 to 8 of the Constitution of India for the under-mentioned posts under Assam Government in the scale of pay as indicated below and carrying usual allowances as admissible under Rules of the Govt. of Assam.

Name of the Post: Principal of Luit Konwar Rudra Baruah State College of Music Assam under Directorate of Cultural Affairs

(i) Scale of Pay: Rs. 3000/- to Rs. 11000/- plus Grade Pay of Rs. 1450/- PM Plus other allowances as per rules of the Govt. of Assam.

(ii) Age: Minimum Age 45 years and the upper age limit is 55 years on the 1st January of the year of the advertisement.

Academic Qualification: (i) Master's Degree in Music from any recognized university or its equivalent.

(b) Master's Degree in General Education (Arts/ Science/ Commerce etc.)

(c) A High Grade of AIR T.V.

Administrative Experience: Five years of administrative experience at least 5 (Five) years in an Executive Post in similar other organization and capability of running the college independently or teaching for at least twenty (Twenty) years.

HOW TO APPLY:

a. The name of the post applied for should be clearly written in bold letters in the Enclosure containing the application form and it should be addressed to the User Section.

b. Application form may be obtained by downloading the same from the APSC's website www.apsc.nic.in.

c. The last date of receipt duly filled up application form in the Commission is fixed as 21/08/2017 during office hours.

d. Applications (including applications received through post) received after the last date fixed for receipt shall not be entertained.

e. Applications received by the concerned authority will be examined by all particulars as called for in the application form prescribed by the Commission only shall be considered and candidates fulfilling all the terms of the advertisement of the respective posts shall be called for Screening Test / Viva-voce interview where necessary as decided by the Commission.

f. All candidates, whether Government employees or not, engaged under contract or other similar organizations/Corporations/boards or other employment must intimate their controlling authority instead of routing it through the same. However, the fact of the intimation may be reported to the Commission by the candidate.

(ii) After appointment if any candidate is not released by the concerned authority to enable him/her to join the new post.

HOW TO SUBMIT APPLICATION:

a. Applicants must affix 1 (One) copy of recent photograph on the space provided in the application form firmly with good quality glossy adhesive and also shall enclose one copy along with the application form. The photograph may be signed or unsigned.

The Commission shall not be responsible for detachment/ loss of the photograph.

b. In case of practice of furnishing attested copies of certificatesheets etc; by competent authority has been discontinued by the Govt., the applicant shall furnish copies of certificate/mark sheet etc., declared by himself/herself as certified to be true copy of the original certificate.

c. In case of detection of any false declaration / statement made by any applicant, his/her application will be rejected and he/she also be liable to be penalized under the provisions of the Assam State Civil Service Commission Sheet from HSLC onwards and also Cast Certificate / Registration Certificate / Experience Certificate (where necessary) should be submitted and should be accepted properly without any chance of getting test during trial. The Commission will not be responsible for any such loss due to improper tagging.

d. Incomplete application in terms of the advertisement will be last date of submission of application.

WRITTEN TEST / INTERVIEW:

If number of applicants received is large, the Commission will shortlist the number of candidates either on the basis of their marks obtained in the qualifying examination required for the post in terms of advertisement.

ii. By holding Screening test (Multiple choice objective type written examination) which will be notified in due course.

The list of candidates whose Applications are held valid or rejected will be made available in the Assam Public Service Commission's website (www.apsc.nic.in) showing grounds of rejections in due course.

■ The Advertisement is issued on the basis of draft advertisement sent by the Government.

Sd/- Under Secretary

Assam Public Service Commission

Jawaharnagar, Kharapara, Guwahati-22.

Janasanyog/5485/17

ADVERTISEMENT

NO.BNE- 72/2017/165: In pursuance of Govt. Letter No. ELE.97/2013/PT/95 Dated 06.06.2017, applications are invited in Standard Form as published in Assam Gazette in Part-IX from the citizen of India as defined in Articles 6 to 8 of the Constitution of India for filling up of the following posts sanctioned by Government vide letter No. ELE.32/2014/20 Dated 20.03.2015 in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Election Branch, Biswanath & Office of the Sub-Divisional Officer(Civil), Election Branch, Gohpur in the Pay Scale & Grade Pay with other allowances, as admissible under Rule as shown below.

Sl. No.	Name of Posts	Place of Posting	Reservation Category	Scale of Pay
1.	Data Entry Operator- 4(four) Nos.	2 (two) for Biswanath Election District & 2 (two) for Gohpur Election District	UR=4	Pay Band- 2 (5200-20200) + G.P. Rs. 2400 P.M.

1. Age limit not lower than 18 years and exceeding 38 years as on 01.01.2017. Relaxation of age is admissible as per existing Rules.

2. Education Qualification. Graduate in any stream with minimum 60% marks in aggregate with an UGC/AICTE approved/recognition in Institute in Computer Science/ Applications/ "O" Level or equivalent certificate from NIELIT.

Or

Diploma holder from Polytechnic, with minimum 60% marks in aggregate or equivalent grade from an UGC/AICTE approved/recognition Diploma in Computer Science/Computer Engineering / Electronics / Telecommunications / Engineering / Information Technology.

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

b. Other Preferences: Typing knowledge in languages like Assamese / Bengali / Devnagari would be preferable.

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

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

4. Mandatory particulars to be enclosed with the application are HSLC Admit Card, Pass Certificate & Mark Sheets of HSLC and Graduation, PRC, Caste Certificate, Employment Exchange Registration Card, 4 (four) copies of recent passport size photograph on front side with name of applicant and address of the applicant written on the rear side and 1 (one) of which will have to be pasted on appropriate opposition of the application. An envelope affixing postal stamp of Rs. 10.00 and also writing of applicant's full address shall be Submitted.

5. The last date for submission of application is fixed on 21.07.2017. Incomplete and incorrect application will be rejected.

6. Candidates applying for the post of Data Entry Operator will have to appear in a written test of 100 marks comprising General English, General Knowledge, General Aptitude & Current Affairs and the date for which will be intimated in due course of time through daily news paper. Call Letters for same shall be issued to the candidates. Successful candidates of written test for Data Entry Operators will be called for an interview and proficiency test in type writing and computer. The dates of interviews and test of proficiency in type writing and computer shall be advertised and call letters dispatched to successful candidates of written examination.

7. Candidates may also mention Mobile No and E-mail ID in their application.

8. If any eligible candidate does not receive the call letter before through Postal Department, he shall collect his call letter from the office of the undersigned on or before the date of respective interview. No admission to any interview hall would be permitted without production of call letter pasted with attested photograph of the applicant.

9. A selection committee shall be constituted to select the candidates for the said post. Candidature of candidates at any stage of recruitment after proper scrutiny of the documents/ testimonial etc.

10. The selected candidates for appointment shall have to give an undertaking that they will abide by the New Pension Rules of Govt. of Assam along with their Joining Report.

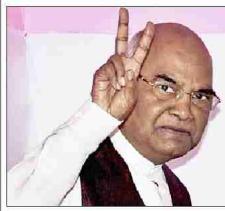
11. While considering for appointment, other claims under different Rules and the Govt. instructions as well as cases covered by Hon'ble High Court etc. would be placed before the Selection Committee as per Law. The onus for making various claims as above lies upon the applicant who shall submit the same along with applications. The onus for providing proof of special claims lies upon the applicant. Documents relating to various claims have to be submitted directly to the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Biswanath (Election Branch) physically on or before the last date of test (either interview or test or proficiency whichever is later).

12. The applications should be sent to the following address through Post or by hand superscribing the post applied for on top of the envelope. The address of recipient is office of the Deputy Commissioner, Biswanath District (Election Branch) PO:- Biswanath Chariali PIN-784176. Assam.

13. No TA/D will be admissible to the candidates.

Sd/- Deputy Commissioner, i/c
Biswanath, Biswanath Chariali.

Kovind: From quietude to presidential limelight



Meira Kumar represented Cong's dynasty culture: BJP

NEW DELHI, July 20: The BJP today took a swipe at the opposition's presidential candidate Meira Kumar's claim of fighting an ideological contest, saying she represented the dynasty culture of the Congress while its candidate Ram Nath Kovind showed its commitment to the marginalised groups.

BJP spokesperson GVL Narinsingha Rao said there were many to say that it was indeed an ideological contest with the NDA's "merit-based" selection pitted against the dynasty promoted by the Congress-led alliance.

The Congress stood for "fake" slogans of Dalit empowerment as it did not field a Dalit when its candidate won the country's highest constitutional post, securing more than 65 per cent of the votes in the electoral college. - PTI

Fought the poll with confidence: Kumar

NEW DELHI, July 20: The opposition's presidential nominee Meira Kumar today congratulated her poll rival Ram Nath Kovind for winning the election and said it had fallen on him to uphold the Constitution in letter and spirit in these "challenging times".

"I have fought this elections with faith, belief and confidence in the ideology. I also believe in inner voice of conscience," Kumar told the media.

Kumar said her fight for secularism, the oppressed and the marginalised would continue. - Agencies

and has a son and a daughter. It was a measure of his public person that though his wife Savita was his side during the weeks of campaigning, his children were not seen much or written about.

BJP chief Amit Shah said the party's parliamentary board went through a long list of potential candidates before choosing Kovind, who was MP in Rajya Sabha for two terms and headed its Dalit Morcha. Kovind's links to the party's controversial Hindutva politics are tenuous. Sources say he was drawn more to the politics of social empowerment of Dalits and other weaker sections than the plank of religion. - PTI

'PM discussed H1B visa issue with Trump'

NEW DELHI, July 20: Prime Minister Narendra Modi discussed the "spirit" of H1B visa with President Donald Trump during their recent meeting and made him agree on crucial contribution of the Indian skilled professionals to the US economy. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj said today.

"I take pride is saying that Prime Minister Narendra Modi successfully convinced Trump to admit that Indian skilled professionals have a big contribution in strengthening the US economy," she told the House where Modi was present.

Swaraj said though the word H1B was not used, the joint Indo-US task force issued after talks between Modi and Trump started with "applying" the contribution of Indian IT professionals. - PTI

Talking about the meeting between Modi and Trump last month in Washington, she said, "without using the word H1B, there was extensive discussion" on the "spirit" behind such visas.

"I take pride is saying that Prime Minister Narendra Modi successfully convinced Trump to admit that Indian skilled professionals have a big contribution in strengthening the US economy," she told the House where Modi was present.

Swaraj said though the word H1B was not used, the joint Indo-US task force issued after talks between Modi and Trump started with "applying" the contribution of Indian IT professionals. - PTI

CID summons Roopa, Vijayvargiya in child trafficking case

KOLKATA, July 20: BJP Rajya Sabha MP Roopa Ganguly, party national general secretary Kalash Vijayvargiya and two other leaders were today summoned by the CID for questioning in connection with the Jalgudi child trafficking case.

Hours after which the BJP national general secretary termed the summons a symbol of "fusillade and political vendetta" by the TMC Government.

"A notice has been sent to Kalash Vijayvargiya and Roopa Ganguly and two others in connection with the child trafficking case," a senior officer of West Bengal's Criminal Investigation Department (CID) told PTI.

"Vijayvargiya has been summoned to appear before the CID on July 24 while we will visit Ganguly's residence for questioning on July 29," he said.

These arrests were part of a widening probe into the adoption racket at the Bimala Shishu Grihi, a children's home in Jalgudi town. - PTI

No. SS/Child/2015/

SHORT TENDER NOTICE

The Secretary, Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra Society (SSKS), Panjbari, Guwahati- 37, invites tenders affixing court fee of Rs.8.25 (Rupees Eight and Twenty Five Paisa) from well experienced and registered contractors for the following works to be executed at Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra campus.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Fatd. Cost	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Paper	Time of Completion
1.	Supply and installation of Multi Activity Children Play Equipment at SSKS Campus (additional works)	8,00,000/-	16,000/-	500/-	21 days
2.	Renovation and upgradation of steps leading to Dibya Pushpa Bon (divine garden) at the hillock at the SSKS campus	9,70,000/-	19,400/-	500/-	30 days

Detail terms & conditions with scope of work can be obtained from the information counter of Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra during office hours from 24th July, to 31st July, 2017. The last date of submission of tender is up to 2.00 P.M. on 1st August, 2017 and will be opened at the same date at 3:00 P. M.

The undersigned reserves the right to reject all or any tenders without assigning any reason and does not bind herself to accept the lowest rate.

Sd/- Secretary
Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra Society.
Janasanyog@887/17

No.DME/2017/891

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)

FOR PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 200-BEDDED CANCER HOSPITAL (STATE CANCER INSTITUTE) AT GAUHATI MEDICAL COLLEGE, GUWAHATI, ASSAM.

1. We have a 200-bedded Cancer Hospital at Gauhati Medical College & Hospital, Guwahati. Recently, the Govt. of India has taken a decision to upgrade the said hospital to State Cancer Institute (SCI) under the National Programme for prevention of cardio-vascular diseases and cancer. The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to have state-of-the-art infrastructure facilities for detection, treatment and research in cancer in the state of Assam. The Directorate of Medical Education, Assam intends to hire an architectural consultant for survey feasibility and design. DPCR for the same.

2. **Important date of the REOI:**

Name of work: Comprehensive Consultancy Services For Infrastructure Development of the 200-Bedded Cancer Hospital (State Cancer Institute) at Gauhati Medical College & Hospital, Guwahati, Assam

Sl. No. Scheduled Start Date End Time

1. e- REO Publishing 21/07/17 12:00 Noon - -

2. e- REO documents Download from website 21/07/17 12:00 Noon 14-08-17 12:00 Noon

3. Submission of EOI 01-08-17 12:00 Noon 14-08-17 12:00 Noon

4. Date and time of opening of documents 14-08-17 at 02:00 PM

5. The detailed information of REOI/OrR are available at website www.dmeassam.gov.in

Sd/- Director, Medical Education, Assam

Janasanyog/1844/17

NOTICE

ADMISSION INTO ITI'S OF ASSAM FOR THE SESSION AUGUST' 2017

Registered candidates who have got their documents verified may note the following:

✓ Please visit website www.itiaassam.nic.in for rank generation on 21st July' 2017.

✓ Candidates may fill their choices of trades and ITIs according to their preference. First round of choice filing starts from 22nd July' 2017 to 25th July' 2017.

✓ Various rounds of allotment of seats will be done against the choice filling done by the candidate.

✓ Candidates must take admission in their allotted seats otherwise their candidature will be treated as cancelled and the candidate cannot participate further in the admission process.

✓ Candidates after taking admission in the allotted seat may wish to freeze his/her seat then the option of up-gradation of the seat cannot be availed by the candidate. If the candidate does not freeze his/her admitted seat then the seat will be upgraded as per the choice filling done by the candidate. Here the candidate has to take admission in the new upgraded seat as the earlier allotted/admitted seat will get cancelled.

✓ Candidates who will be allotted seat will have to go to allotted ITI for admission with original documents and with the allotment letter on the schedule dates for admission.

Changes if any will be notified on the portal.

Sd/- Director, Employment & Craftsmen Training, Assam

Rehabari, Guwahati-8.

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY, 2007-08)

Re-eProcurement Notice

The Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam on behalf of Governor of Assam invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, 2007-08, in the districts of Dhubri for 1 number of package (Balance Work) with estimated cost totaling Rs 253.43 lakh including routine maintenance for five years, from the eligible contractors registered with Public Works Department (Roads), Assam.

(Non-registered bidders may submit bids; however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract)

Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 26.7.2017, 1600 hours

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and should be submitted online in <http://pmgsy.tendersams.gov.in/>. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have a valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities. The bidders are required to submit (a) original Demand Draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (a) (ii) of ITB with Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati - 3 - on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the Bid, either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive:

Last Date/ Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 2.08.2017, 1600 hours.

Package wise details are as follows:

District	Package No.	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (Rs. Lakh)	Construction Maintenance	Total Cost (Rs. Lakh)	Period of Completion (In months)	Bid Submission Fee (in Rs.)	Bid Security (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Dhubri	AS-05-43 (Group-2)- Balance Work	i) 5th km of BS Road to Gupura ii) Bhelakoba Pt. I to Saptaagram iii) NH31 at Barkanda HS School to Beulkamini Pt. II iv) Bhasanigaon to Chinamari	232.26	21.17	253.43	12	7,600/-	5,06,900/-

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

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam
Chandmari, Guwahati-781003.

Janasanyog@890/17

Tobacco control a must

Tobacco use is still the leading single preventable cause of death worldwide, killing over seven million people each year.



Though the population worldwide protected by tobacco control measures has grown almost five-fold than ten years ago, the World Health Organisation (WHO) on Wednesday called on countries to do more to prioritize these life-saving policies.

In a latest report on the global tobacco epidemic, the WHO said about 4.7 billion people, or 63 per cent of the world's population, are covered today at least one comprehensive tobacco control measure.

Ten years ago, in 2007, the number was only one billion, or 15 percent of the world's population, Xinhua reported.

However, tobacco use has still become the leading single preventable cause of death worldwide, killing over seven million people each year.

Its economic costs are also enormous, totaling more than \$1.4 trillion in healthcare and lost productivity, according to the WHO.

Meantime, the tobacco industry continues to hamper government efforts to fully implement life-and-cost-saving interventions, by, for example, exaggerating the economic importance of the tobacco industry, distorting pricing science, and using litigation to intimidate governments, the report says.

"Governments around the world must waste no time in incorporating all the provisions of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control into their national tobacco control programs and policies," says WHO Director-

General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

"They must also clamp down on the illicit tobacco trade, which is exacerbating the global tobacco epidemic and its related health and socioeconomic consequences."

The new report, focusing on monitoring tobacco use and prevention policies, finds that only one third of countries have comprehensive systems to monitor tobacco use.

It suggests, however, that even countries with limited resources can monitor tobacco use and implement prevention policies.

"Countries can better protect their citizens, including children, from the tobacco industry and its products when they use tobacco monitoring systems," says Dr Douglas Bettcher, director of WHO's Department for the Prevention of Noncommunicable Diseases.

"Tobacco industry interference in government policy-making represents a deadly barrier to advancing health and development in many countries," says Dr Bettcher, "but by monitoring and blocking such activities, we can save lives and sow the seeds for a sustainable future for all."

Controlling tobacco use is a key part of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which aims, among other targets, to reducing one third of premature deaths from noncommunicable diseases, including heart and lung diseases, cancer and diabetes. —IANS

Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, July 21, 2017.

This year you might feel as if you are at the mercy of the unexpected. You can be changeable and moody, but with situations taking so many surprising turns, you understand how much your feelings can be affected. If you are single, you could meet someone who is very different from you. Learn to be more accepting; hopefully you can accept that the rest of your life will be unpredictable. Accept your differences rather than rejecting them. CANCER can and will give you tips for handling your emotional swings.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Negative; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ Every now and then your domestic life could be surprised by an unexpected visit from someone at a distance whom you care a lot about. Be open to making some personal changes that reflect a transforming you. Tonight: Homework bound!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Ready out to others. You might hear some news that makes you feel uncomfortable as of late. A strong action or decision could reverse the trend. You are ready for a change. Be honest with yourself about your feelings. Tonight: At a favorite haunt with favorite people.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Be aware of the costs of proceeding in the direction you are currently heading. It might decide to stop and reverse course. Finances probably are at the base of your decision: You could be surprised by a friend's insight and by his or her ability to dream. Tonight: Make it your treat.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Other look to your emotional tenor for lead as the day goes on. As you are, people respect the depth of your personality and feelings. Those closest to you often have trouble allowing that same kind of emotions to exist within them. Tonight: Be entertained.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Much is going on behind the scenes. You might hear gossip from someone who creates a sense of curiosity. Try to ferret out what is valid and what is not. Listen to someone who has a greater understanding of what is going on. Tonight: Varish, but don't count on being alone.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Zero in on what is going on with several friends. They might be involved in your right now. You will need to initiate a talk with someone as it could be very helpful. You'll hear multiple perspectives, and you'll have a lot to think about as a result. Tonight: Full of surprises.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ You might not have anticipated so much tension existing between you and someone. It seems to be full of implied demands. You cannot ignore what is happening, even if you are ready to head right into your weekend. Tonight: Indulge a desire, and listen to his or her lengthy tale.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ You might want to get past a problem. Read between the lines to find out if someone is keeping certain issues hush-hush. To not be surprised, keep your wits about you. Decide how to handle it. Tonight: Let the fun and games start. If you want to take off, do it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ You might want to head down a different path, but a loved one might try to persuade you to change your mind. Nevertheless, you are likely to decide to handle matters in your own way. Your actions will stir another person. Tonight: Be a little naughty and nice.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Others might think they are the cat's meow. You'll decide to go along with their ideas and let them believe, feel and act as if they are. You might be delighted by what comes up. Tonight: Continue to defer, knowing that you can direct whenever you want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ You are focused on getting responsibilities and work cleared ASAP. Nevertheless, you might encounter an unexpected obstacle or two. Maintain a sense of humor, as it will allow you to flourish and get through a lot of details. Tonight: Head to a favorite place with favorite people.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ You might want to take off early in the day. Why not let yourself be more spontaneous? Keep in mind that the financial implications could make you comfortable. Keep a close eye on whimsical spending, and you will be able to enjoy yourself. Tonight: Use your imagination.

Thought for the day:

In war, whichever side may call itself the victor, there are no winners, but all are losers.

— NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN

Kids

CN

colors

Entertainment

STAR

Zcafe

MOVIES

SONY

STAR MOVIES

S MOVIES

SONY PIX

HBO

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STAR GOLD

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NEWS

ANIMAL PLANET

Discovery

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Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pays tribute to the memory of victims of the Holocaust at a memorial in the main synagogue in Budapest, on Wednesday – UNI

EU treatment of Israel crazy: Netanyahu

JERUSALEM, July 20: Citizenship with Asian giants India and China, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu launched a blistering attack against the European Union (EU) describing its treatment of the Jewish state as 'crazy' and 'self-defeating'.

"We have a peculiar situation. The European Union is the only association of countries in the world that conditions the relations with Israel, that produces technology in every area, on political conditions. This is only one," Netanyahu told four European leaders yesterday during a closed meeting that was inadvertently caught by an open microphone.

The details of the meeting accidentally got broadcast to journalists in a nearby room because of the open microphone. The feed was cut off as soon as it was discovered.

Pointing towards Israel's

growing technological collaborations with India and China, while India and China, without such conditions, the Chinese President Xi Jinping called Israel an "innovation giant".

"We have a special relationship with China and they don't care about the political issues," said Netanyahu, adding that he had decided to take care of India's interests.

"I need more water, clean water. Where will I get it?" Netanyahu quoted Modi as saying.

He made the comments during the closed meeting with Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, Czech Republic PM Boryslav Sobota, Polish Prime Minister Beata Szydlo and Slovakian Vice Minister Robert Fico. – PTI

CANCELLATION NOTICE OF E-TENDER

In view of interim order passed by Hon'ble Gauhati High Court, Guwahati under WPCo No.657/2015 dt'd 16/10/2015, the tender No.SVSL/3/2017 dated 16/06/2017 on 10th April 2017 mentioned in https://assamtenders.in is hereby cancelled with immediate effect. The Tender Document Fee and the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) shall be returned the concerned bidders shortly.

Sd/-Deputy Commissioner, Sivasagar

CANCELLATION OF SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Reference this Office Memo No. CPG (R)/Q/2016-17/469-74 dated 30.06.2017 and subsequent Memo No. CPG(R)/Q/2016-17/2687-94, dated 11.07.2017 regarding Short Notice Inviting Tender for Supply of Traffic Road Safety Gadgets is hereby cancelled due to unavoidable circumstances.

Sd/-Deputy Commissioner of Police (Admn), Guwahati : Assam

NOTICE

It is for general information to all aspiring candidates of Special Teachers Eligibility Test (SET) for Graduate Teachers in Adarsh Vidyalayas of Assam that the examination date is scheduled to be held on 20th August, 2017. Zones for the said examination will be notified later in our official website www.msaassam.in.

Admit cards will be issued to only those candidates whose eligibility criteria are matched. Application Form No. RMSA/Special TET /842/2017/36 dated 07/07/17 & companion document No. RMSA/Special TET /842/2017/36 dated 13/07/17 after proper verification.

Admit cards of the said examination may be downloaded from our official website www.msaassam.in from 3.00 p.m. of 12th August 2017 to morning of 20th August 2017. Candidates will be required to report at 3 hours commencing from 10 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. on 20th August 2017.

Candidates are advised to visit the official website www.msaassam.in regularly for any instruction or notification for the said TET.

Sd/-Member Secretary, TET Empowered Committee for Secondary Education,

Janasanyog/5460/17

IMPORTANT NOTICE

A CLARIFICATION REGARDING WRITTEN TEST FOR JUNIOR ASSISTANT/ASSISTANT STORE KEEPER UNDER DIRECTORATE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION ASSAM

In continuation of the advertisement/ notice vide No. Janasanyog/497/17 published in The Assam Tribune and other Daily News Papers regarding the structure of the Written Test for recruitment of Junior Assistant/ Assistant Store Keeper under Directorate of Technical Education Assam.

The same Written Test will be held for both the posts of Junior Assistant/ Assistant Store Keeper on 30th July 2017. Candidates applying for both the posts will be evaluated for both the post based on the same Written Test. Accordingly, similar Roll Number will be allotted for sum of candidates. However, few candidates applying for both the posts may get two separate Admit Cards for both the posts due to mismatch of the data (such as identification fields by computer) entered by the candidate during online submission of their two applications. Such candidates can appear in the Written Test as per one of the Admit Cards and submit both the Admit Cards to the Assam Tribune as a proof so that their candidature can be evaluated for both the posts.

Sd/-Director of Technical Education,

Assam, Kahilpara, Guwahati-19.

Janasanyog/5473/17

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Offers in response to this expression of interest relate Civil Engineers (not below the rank of Supervisor/ Engineer), preferably employed in PWD Building Department or in services, having experience in design and construction, for post of a Project Engineer in the Assam Rajiv Gandhi University of Cooperative Management (ARGUCOM) Sivasagar, on contractual basis, for the construction work of University in Sivasagar. Period of contract: 01 year from the date of award.

Age: Not exceeding 65 years as on 01/07/2017

Remuneration: Negotiable

Interested persons may submit their offers with expected remuneration and credentials to the following address within 15 days from this advertisement.

Address for correspondence:

Vice Chancellor
Assam Rajiv Gandhi University of Cooperative Management (ARGUCOM), 2nd Floor, Barua Complex, A.T. Road, Sivasagar, Assam (786560)

Registrar (Admin)
Assam Rajiv Gandhi University of Cooperative Management, Sivasagar

Janasanyog/1856/17

Kuwait expels Iranian envoys over terror cell: official

KUWAIT CITY, July 20: Kuwait today ordered the expulsion of about 15 Iranian diplomats after the emir's top court convicted a "terror" cell of links to the Islamic republic, a government source said.

Kuwait also ordered the closure of the Iranian "military, cultural and trade" missions, the government official, who asked not to be named, told AFP.

The Gulf State's Supreme Court last month sentenced the mastermind of the cell to life in jail and condemned 20 others to various prison terms for alleged links with Iran and Lebanese Hezbollah and plotting terror attacks in Kuwait.

State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Abdulla Al-Sabah, who is also

acting information minister, confirmed that Kuwait had taken diplomatic action against Iran but declined to specify the measures.

"Following the supreme court ruling on the case... The government of Kuwait has decided to take measures, in accordance with diplomatic norms and the Vienna Convention, towards its relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran," Sheikh Mohammad told AFP.

He provided no further details.

The row comes at a time when Kuwait is trying to mediate an end to the Gulf's worst diplomatic crisis in years, after Sunni-ruled Saudi Arabia and its allies cut ties with Qatar over accusations it is too close to Shiite Iran and funds extremists.

The mastermind was sentenced to life in jail while 20 others were given various prison terms for alleged links with Iran and Lebanese Hezbollah, and plotting terror attacks in Kuwait

The Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Seyassah reported on Monday that 14 of the cell's 26 members had fled to Iran by sea.

They were convicted by a lower court early last year but had appealed on several months later and set free.

The Supreme Court, whose rulings are final, overturned their acquittal on June 18 and sentenced them to between five and 15 years in prison.

Kuwait's interior ministry confirmed on Tuesday that the 14 men were on the run but it said that they had not left the country through official exit points.

The case was busted in August 2015 and large quantities of arms, ammunition and explosives were seized from them, according to the Kuwaiti authorities.

Kuwaiti courts convicted them of working for Iran's Revolutionary Guards and Lebanese Shiite militia Hezbollah. They were also convicted of smuggling explosives from Iran. – AFP

Bellicose China mounting expansionist policy: Republican Party

WASHINGTON, July 20: A "belliqueous" China has mounted an aggressive and expansionist policy to further its influence in the region at the expense of established borders and sovereignty of other nations, many of which are key US allies. Small and remote islands like the Senkaku Island chain, as well as the Spratly and Paracel Islands, are now being threatened by China's Navy," the report said.

"While tensions between China and Taiwan have persisted since the 1950s, China has now mounted an aggressive and expansionist policy towards other nations in the region in order to enlarge their sphere of influence," the Republican Study Committee said in its report yesterday as the House of Representatives initiated steps to pass the annual budget.

The report, however, made no reference to the ongoing border stand-off between India and China in the Sikkim sector.

"Allowing for a bellicose China to seize these blips on a map would fur-

ther embolden the country to threaten key United States treaty-bound allies," the report said.

In November 2013, China unilaterally declared an Air Identification Zone over the disputed East China Sea, encompassing parts of Japanese and South Korean airspace. "This measure has forced international civilian airliners traversing this zone to report to China's Air Force, bringing geographic restrictions into the airspace domain," it said.

The Chinese military build up, the report said, threatens the basic freedom of navigation on the high seas that has always been a bedrock security, diplomatic, and commercial principle of the United States. – PTI

Trump son to testify before Senate panel

WASHINGTON, July 20: President Donald Trump's eldest son and a former campaign manager will testify before Congress next week as part of US investigations into the Trump team's alleged contacts with Russia, a Senate committee announced.

Donald Trump Jr and Paul Manafort are scheduled to testify in an open hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Wednesday at 10 am (local time).

Both men attended a controversial meeting with a Russian lawyer last year in which they were expecting to receive dirt from Moscow on Donald Trump's 2016 election win, CNN reported, citing Kushner's lawyer. – AFP



Adding to the political drama in Washington next week, Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner will testify before the Senate Intelligence Committee on Monday, albeit in a closed-door session, CNN reported, citing Kushner's lawyer. – AFP

The deliberate targeting of civilians is indeed deplorable and contrary to human dignity and international human rights and humanitarian laws," Faizal said.

He urged the Indian side to respect the 2003 ceasefire arrangement; investigate this and other incidents of ceasefire violations; instruct the Indian forces to respect the ceasefire, in letter and spirit and maintain peace on the LoC.

Faisal said that the Indian side should permit United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) to play its mandated role. – PTI

A two-month-old unnamed male baby elephant stands at the African Safari Zoo in Puebla, Mexico on Wednesday. – UNI



MH370 search reveals hidden undersea world

SYDNEY, July 20: The painstaking search for missing flight MH370 has uncovered a previously unknown underwater world of volcanoes, deep valleys and soaring ridges, according to detailed maps released by Australia.

Although no trace of the Malaysia Airlines plane was found during the search in the southern Indian Ocean – the most expensive ever of its kind – large volumes of data showing a detailed picture of the sea floor had to be collected to guide the probe.

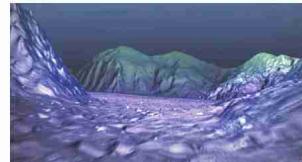
Scientists are hopeful the new maps will give their community greater insight into oceans.

"It is estimated that only

10 to 15 per cent of the world's oceans have been surveyed with the kind of technology used in the search for MH370," Geoscience Australia's environmental geoscience chief, Stuart Minchin said late yesterday. "(That makes) this remote

part of the Indian Ocean among the most thoroughly mapped regions of the deep ocean on the planet.

"So this data is unique both because of the remote location of the search area, and because of the sheer scale of the area surveyed." – AFP



MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

1. Garrison Engineers(North) Tezpur on behalf of President of India, invites online item rate bids on Single Stage Two Cover Bid System for the following works :-

Ser. No.	Name of Work	Estimated cost in Lakh	Period of Completion	Tender id
(a)	Prov'n of Certain LBW/Spl repairs/ Revenue/Minor works of AGE EM under GE (North) Tezpur	45.00	240 days	2017_MES_125744_1
(b)	Repair and maintenance of transformers, HT/OL, HT Cable, VCBs, APC/Fuses and certain other works at Sect I to Sect IX at Charduar under GE (North)Tezpur	24.00	270 days	2017_MES_125745_1
(c)	Repair to Transformer /HT distribution system and allied works at NAA under GE (North Tezpur	2050	270 days	2017_MES_125748_1
(d)	Repair/main/renewal, of internal electricification, repair/replacement of fittings and fixtures and Providing Services for internal electrical distribution system at Sect I to Sect IX at Charduar under GE (North) Tezpur	49.50	270 days	2017_MES_125751_1
(e)	Repair/Maint of street lights, solar lights and certain other works, Repair/Maint of Winter/summer appliance including replacement of unserviceable spares and fixtures at Sect I to Sect IX at Charduar under GE (North) Tezpur	35.60	270 days	2017_MES_125752_1
(f)	Repair/Maint of water Supply System, pipe line and certain other works and Repair/Maint of sedimentation tanks, pre-filters, pressure filters, PS OHT, Slice valves and replacement of filter media in water supply installations at Sect I to Sect IX at Charduar under GE (North) Tezpur	45.00	270 days	2017_MES_125754_1
(g)	Repair/Maint of road work, flooring, plinth protection, partition wall and allied works at Sector IIA, IIB, & IC Thakurbari under GE (North) Tezpur	25.00	270 days	2017_MES_12756_1
(h)	Repair/Maint of road work, flooring, plinth protection, partition wall and allied works at Sector II, III & IV Ambari, Phulbari under GE (North)Tezpur	25.00	270 days	2017_MES_125758_1
(i)	Spill Repairs to Bldy No P-3, P-4, P-10, P-11 of FDWksp Coy of EME Bn and Spl Repairs to Bldg No T-20 at SATA Regt and certain minor Works at NAA under GE (North) Tezpur	48.00	180 days	2017_MES_125759_1
(j)	Prov'n of certain sanctioned works i.e., LBW/Spl Repair/Revenue/Minor Works at Charduar under GE (North) Tezpur	45.00	180 days	2017_MES_125762_1
(k)	Periodical Services to Certain Buildings at various of AGE Charduar under GE (North) Tezpur	25.00	270 days	2017_MES_125765_1
(l)	Repair to LT CH Lines, UG Cable and allied works and Repair/Renewal of street lights at NAA under GE (N) Tezpur	41.00	270 days	2017_MES_125767_1
(m)	Providing Services for operation of pump house at NAA under GE (North) Tezpur	24.00	270 days	2017_MES_125768_1
(n)	Repair/Replace of PCC footpath and hard standing, fencing and gates at various sector of AGE Charduar under GE (N) Tezpur	32.00	334 days	2017_MES_125769_1
(o)	Repair/Maint of area drainage and cleaning of sewage line, manhole, septic tank etc. at various sectors of AGE Charduar under GE (N) Tezpur	32.00	270 days	2017_MES_125771_1
(p)	Repair/Maint of area drainage and cleaning of sewage line, manhole, septic tank etc. at various sectors of AGE Charduar under GE (N) Tezpur	32.00	270 days	2017_MES_125772_1

2. For further detail refer web site procurements.gov.in on or after 12 Jul 2017.

Note: Notice Inviting Bid as published in newspapers shall not form part of Notice of Tender/ Bid document.

Sd/- AE (QS & C)
AGE Contracts
For GE (N) Tezpur

day 10102/1/10638/1718

US advance to Gold Cup semifinal

PHILADELPHIA, July 20: The United States overcame a battling display from El Salvador to advance to a CONCACAF Gold Cup semifinal showdown with Costa Rica here.

First-half goals from defenders Omar Gonzalez and Eric Lichaj yesterday secured a hard-fought quarterfinal win for the hosts, who are chasing their first Gold Cup title since 2013.

However, Bruce Arena's side were made to work all the way by El Salvador, and only some superb saves from Tim Howard kept the Central American side at bay at Philadelphia's Lincoln Financial Field. An unconvincing start saw the hosts give a let-off early on when Lichaj underhit a back pass to Howard.

Rodolfo Zelaya latched onto the loose ball and cleared expertly to be denied by a desperate late block from Howard, who had spotted the danger and advanced swiftly to snuff out the chance.

The remainder of the first half was dominated by a series of niggly fouls as El Salvador frustrated American efforts to impose themselves

on the contest.

The Americans were unlucky to be denied an opening goal midway through the half when Clint Dempsey released Gyasi Zardes who lifted his finish above Derby Carrillo, only to be flagged for offside.

Replays later showed that the Los Angeles Galaxy forward was onside.

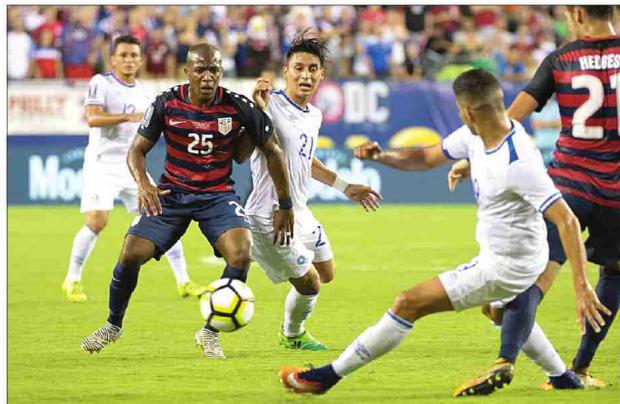
As tempers flared, Lichaj was lucky to escape a caution when he flattened Dennis Pineda near the halfway line.

Four minutes before halftime however, the US broke the deadlock when Gonzalez leaped to glance in Michael Bradley's teasing free-kick to make it 1-0.

Deep into first half stoppage time, Lichaj made it 2-0 with a goal that owed everything to the guile of Bradley.

The veteran striker left Henry Romero for dead with a brilliant turn and then slipped a pass into the feet of Lichaj, who controlled to shoot beneath Carrillo for his maiden international goal.

The Americans now face 2014 World Cup quarterfinalists Costa Rica in Saturday's semifinal.



Darlington Nagbe of the USA (L) vies for the ball with Bryan Tamacas of El Salvador (C) during the CONCACAF Gold Cup quarterfinal at the Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia, on Wednesday.

Focus on Rohit, Rahul in warm-up game against President's XI

COLOMBO, July 20: Back in the scheme of things, Rohit Sharma and fit-again KL Rahul will be aiming to get as much bat time as possible in the two-day warm-up game against President's XI starting here tomorrow, ahead of the three-Test series against Sri Lanka.

Rohit, who last played a Test match against New Zealand in October last year, did not feature in the Test series against England, Bangladesh and Australia during the home season.

The Mumbai batsman underwent a surgery after injuring his thigh during the ODI series against New Zealand. Although he has not played a first-class game since his recovery, he featured in the Indian Premier League and made a comeback into the national side for the Champions Trophy, where he amassed more than 300 runs.

But the national selectors specifically rested Rohit for the West Indies tour in order to keep him fresh for the upcoming long season.

Rahul, who had a run of six fifties in seven innings in the Australia series, is also back in the squad after recuperating from the shoulder surgery that ruled him out of the Indian

Premier League, the Champions Trophy and the West Indies series.

And both the batsmen will be looking at the practice game to spend as much time as possible at the crease to stake their claim for a place in the playing XI in the first Test against Sri Lanka, starting July 26 at Galle.

The practice game at the BRC Grounds here will also be Ravi Shastri's first assignment with the Indian team following his much-publicised appointment as head coach for a two-year tenure earlier this month.

Since it is a two-day game, a team can test all the players of its squad and India are expected to check all the weapons in their armoury.

All the Indian batsmen and bowlers will get a look in and skipper Virat Kohli is expected to decide his best possible combination for the playing XI for the first Test depending on their performances in the coming two days.

The match will also provide Kohli a chance to check his bowling unit, which features the pace duo of Ishant Sharma and Mohammed Shami who are making a comeback. - PTI

India lose to Syria in AFC U-23 qualifiers

DOHA, July 20: India lost 0-2 to Syria in their opening match of the AFC U-23 Championship qualifiers at the Jassim Bin Hamad Stadium, here.

Both the teams played cautiously at the opening half failed to produce any goals last night.

India pressed hard in their effort to unsettle the physically superior Syrians. The first chance of the day fell to striker Daniel Lalithapura but the ex-AIFF Academy cadet could not make the most of the opportunity.

Nikhil Poojary on the right flank kept the rival defence busy with his incisive crosses, as the Indian midfield preferred to rotate from one side to the other.

The high point for India came in the 37th minute when a string of passes found the tireless Gernpreet Singh but his prompt right-footer rebounded off the post for a corner.

The resultant corner, a long one from Anirudh Thappa was met by Nishu Kumar from the top of the box but it missed the target by a whisker as both teams headed to the interval locked goalless.

Changing over, striker Manvir Singh came close to scoring the opener but his header landed safely into the arms of Syrian goalkeeper's gloves.

Syria went ahead in the 66th minute through striker Robbie Sour who lobbed the ball over India goalkeeper Vishal Kaith who was caught out of position. Central defender Salman Ranjan Singh made a valiant attempt to keep the ball out of the net but to no avail. Syria sealed the fate of the match in the 88th minute when Fares Arnaout doubled their lead.

India U-23 boys will next play hosts and group favourites Qatar on Friday. - PTI

Taylor treble sparks England rout of Scotland; Spain beat Portugal

DOETINCHEM (Netherlands), July 20: England lost 3-0 to Syria in their opening match of the AFC U-23 Championship qualifiers at the Jassim Bin Hamad Stadium, here.

Both the teams played cautiously at the opening half failed to produce any goals last night.

India pressed hard in their

effort to unsettle the physically superior Syrians. The first chance of the day fell to striker Daniel Lalithapura but the ex-AIFF Academy cadet could not make the most of the opportunity.

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India U-23 boys will next play hosts and group favourites Qatar on Friday. - PTI

margin of victory in the tournament history.

England had a decent chance

in each half but were outclassed

on their first appearance at a major competition and extended their losing streak against

England in competitive matches

to seven.

In Doetinchem, first-half goals

from Vicki Losada and Amanda Sampedro handed Spain a con-

vincing 2-0 win against Euro-

debutants Portugal.

Barcelona midfielder Losada

opened the score on 23

minutes after a long pass from

Andrea Pereira, slamming the

ball past the helpless keeper

Patricia Morais.

Athletic's Sampedro made it

2-0 three minutes before half-

time, heading in a cross from

Mariona Caldentey. - AFP

Vicky Losada (L) of Spain celebrates after scoring against Portugal during the Group D match of the UEFA Women's Euro in Doetinchem, on Wednesday. Spain won the match 2-0.

minutes after a long pass from Andrea Pereira, slamming the ball past the helpless keeper Patricia Morais.

Athletic's Sampedro made it 2-0 three minutes before half-time, heading in a cross from Mariona Caldentey. - AFP

Pietersen eyes South Africa international return

LONDON, July 20: Kevin Pietersen has said that he has not ruled out resurrecting his international career with his native South Africa even though he'll be pushing 40 when he regains it.

The 37-year-old batsman will become eligible to play for the Proteas in 2019 having not been selected for England after being sacked in the aftermath of the 2013-14 Ashes defeat in Australia.

"You are talking about in two years' time. Would I? Who knows? We'll have to wait and see where I am," said Pietersen yesterday after smashing a thrilling half-century to lead Surrey to a 10-run win over Essex in front of almost 24,000 fans at the Oval in the

Twenty20 Blast in an explosive cricket.

"I'm going to be playing a lot of cricket in South Africa over the next two years, so we'll see."

Pietersen hit four sixes in an over on his way to 52 of 53 balls in a Surrey total of 150 for nine.

In reply Essex were restricted to 140 for seven.

Pietersen, who suffered a calf injury which prevented him from fielding, was playing his first English domestic match for nearly two years.

He had a lucky escape in the 10th over when he was dropped by Dan Lawrence off Ashar Zaidi and added 43 with Dominic Sibley.

Pietersen was eventually out in the 16th over, three balls after reaching his 40th half-century in T20 cricket. - AFP

"I love batting. I will bat for as long as I love the art of batting. I do at the moment, but I'm an old man now, I've just hurt my calf; I didn't field."

"I like feel like I play well over here. I like this kind of golf. You use a lot of imagination. You've got to use a lot of different shots. I really enjoy coming over here and playing," said Johnson, who tees off in his first round today.

He goes out in an all-star group with 2011 Masters champion Charl Schwartzel of South Africa and world number four Rory McIlroy.

The Northern Irishman won the Open in 2014, not far from Birkdale at Royal Liverpool.

He has been in poor form recently, missing the cut at the Irish and Scottish Opens in the past fortnight, but he is hopeful of winning a fifth major and a second Claret Jug come Sunday.

If he can do that, it would mean a 10th different winner in 10 majors, although it would end a remarkable

run of the last seven being won by first-time major winners.

"I hope it's me at the end of the week that's standing on the 18th green and getting the Claret Jug. But that is sort of where golf is at the moment. No one is really standing out and sort of taking it by the scruff of the neck," said McIlroy yesterday.

The run of new major winners includes Sweden's Henrik Stenson triumphing in the Open at Troon 12 months ago in a thrilling final-day duel with Phil Mickelson.

Organisers would settle for such a memorable climax this year, but picking a standout name is almost impossible.

Sergio Garcia comes with the Masters green jacket looking to keep the Claret Jug in Europe, while fellow Spaniard Jon Rahm and world number two Hideki Matsuyama of Japan are among those looking to

break their major ducks.

World number three Jordan Spieth, who tees off at 9:47am alongside Stenson and South Korea's Kim Si-Woo, is in good shape.

The view among the field is unanimous that Birkdale is one of the finest links courses of all time.

"I think the golf course is certainly a better test than St Andrews is," said Spieth.

With just two par fives, at 15 and 17, it doesn't play long, meaning many players might not even bother putting a driver in the bag.

But instead the onus is on craft and avoiding the many pitfalls, notably a left-to-right dog-leg that was the hardest hole on the course the last time the Open came here in 2008.

Padraig Harrington won them, and is still the last player to successfully defend the Claret Jug.

He is 45 now, but recent years have shown that age is not really a barrier to succeeding in the Open. - AFP

She will now miss the World Championships as the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) has suspended her provisionally for her dope offence.

AFI She will now be dropped from World Championships team," AFI president Adille Sumarwala told PTI.

The Asian Grand Prix comes under the aegis of the continental governing body, the Asian Athletics Association.

If her 'B' sample also returns positive, Manpreet could face a ban of up to four years for a first time dope offence.

Manpreet's second dope offence comes a day after she tested positive for the banned stimulant dimethylbutylamine from her urine sample collected by National Anti-Doping Agency officials during the Federation Cup National Championships held in Patiala from June 1-4.

It is a massive embarrassment for the country which might lose the gold medal clinched by Manpreet earlier this month in Bhubaneswar. - PTI

SU DO KU								
8	2			3	6	5		
7	6	2	8	1	4			
9	3	1	5	2				
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2	3	9						

Solution of last problem

4	8	9	6	2	7	1	5	3
7	2	1	3	4	5	9	8	6
3	7	5	8	6	4	2	1	9
2	4	6	5	1	0	7	3	8
9	1	9	2	7	3	5	6	4
8	9	4	1	3	2	6	7	5
5	6	2	0	8	9	4	1	3
1	3	7	4	5	6	8	9	2



Dustin Johnson in action during Wednesday's practice round.

Kritanta, Kristi, Ishika enter finals of OIL-AITA meet

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 20: Three Assam players – Kritanta Sarma, Kristi Boro and Ishika Chakma cruised into the finals of the boys and girls U-14 years singles events respectively in the OIL-AITA Super Series Tennis Championship.

At the All Assam Tennis Association complex in Chachar here today, Assam players did well and registered convincing victories. The semi-finals will start at 5.30pm tomorrow.

Semifinal results: (Girls U-12) 2nd seed Paru Singh (M) bt 3rd seed Swarna (WB) 6-2, 6-1; Top seed Sidhi Kendelwal (GU) bt 5th seed Madurima S. Sawant (MH) 6-2, 6-2; (Boys U-14) Bhushan Haobam (MN) bt top seed Aayush P. Bhat (KA) 6-3, 6-4 (Upset); 2nd seed Arunava Majumdar (WB) bt Jigyashan

Hazarkia (AS) 6-3, 6-3. (Girls U-14) 3rd seed Kristi Boro (AS) bt Kritanta Vijay (TN) 3-6, 6-6 (6); 6th seed Ishika Chakma (AS) bt 7th seed Siti Khandelwal (AS) 6-2, 6-2. (Boys U-14) Top seed Kritanta Sarma (AS) bt Arunava Majumdar (WB) 6-3, 6-0; 6th seed Arunava Majumdar (AS) bt 7th seed Kristi Boro (AS) 6-3, 6-4. (Boys U-12 doubles) Mustafa Murtaza, Raja (KA)/Satadeep Satheesh Nair (KA) bt Keshav Govil (WB)/Pratikrasana Tewari (GU) 6-2, 6-2; (Girls U-12 doubles) Didi Omraah Choudhury (DL) bt Bhicky Sagolom (MH)/Manan Nath (AS) 6-1, 6-3. (Girls U-12 doubles) Ridhi Choudhury (P) (AS) bt 5th seed Arunava Majumdar (WB) 6-2, 6-2; Paru Singh (MH)/Khushi Sarma (MH) bt Kanishka Shree (KA)/Namrata Das (AS) 6-0, 6-1. (Boys U-14 doubles) Kishore Choudhury (GU) bt Madhurima Sawant (MH)/Vaibhavi Saxena (KA) 6-3, 6-1.

Don Bosco to host badminton, TT meets

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 20: The Don Bosco Ahmedabad and Don Bosco School, Panbari are all set to host the 9th All Assam Major Ranking Table Tennis Championship and 6th All Assam Open Ranking Table Tennis Championship at the Don Bosco School premises from July 22.

The Assam Table Tennis Association and the Assam Badminton Association have recognised the tournaments where around 300 players in each event are expected to take part.

The badminton matches will get underway from July 22 and will feature 14 events which will be conducted for both boys and girls in U-10, U-13, U-15, U-17, U-19, men and women categories. The table tennis matches will also start on the same day at the Nihal Singh Thakur Indoor TT Hall. Altogether 12 events, from cadet to veteran, for both male and female will be held in the championship.

It was disclosed in a press conference here today by organising committee members Ankush Ranjan Das, Pradyut Bhuyan, Fr Pradip Ekka and ATTA secretary Tridib Duvarah.

Semifinal line-up drawn in IPSC U-14 football

GUWAHATI, July 20: The semifinal line-up has been drawn in the Indian Public Schools' Conference (IPSC) U-14 Boys Football Tournament, being organised by the Miles Bronson Residential School (MBRS), Bojhar.

Tomorrow, the first semifinal will be played between Sainik School, Gopinath and The Assam Vidyashala, Barpeta and in the second semifinal MBRS will take on Modern School, Barakhambha Road.

Quarterfinal results: Sainik School Goonsa 5-1; MBRS, Guwahati 5-2; Sainik School, Gopinath 5-0; The Assam Vidyashala 2-1; Modern School, Barakhambha Road/Vidyashala Public School 2-0.

Football coaching camp begins

CORRESPONDENT

JORAHAT, July 20: Jorhat Branch of AASU in association with the Lakshmi Bai National Institute of Physical Education, Sonapur Assam (LNIPPE) have organised a three-day football training camp in 12th Mile playground near Jorhat for the students of the region.

Chief guest, Dr Abdus Saleque, Chief Scientist of Goat Research Station, 13th Mile today inaugurated the camp. He said that this camp would help the youngsters of the locality.

Two coaches from LNIPPE will impart training to the youngsters. Dibyajyoti Medhi, adviser of the Dimoria AASU unit said that, "We have organised this camp to create an atmosphere of the game. It has been observed that not many youngsters here are much interested in this beautiful game."

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Editor: Pratibha Govinda Barua

Sr Blue, Jr Yellow champs

GUWAHATI, July 20: Senior Blue and Junior Yellow emerged champions in the City Cricket Coaching Centre organised inter-group cricket tournament.

In the finals played at the Parade Ground today, Senior Blue defeated Senior Yellow boys by 21 runs. In reply to Blue's 153, Yellow were all out for 132.

In the other final, Junior Yellow boys defeated Junior Blue by 21 runs. In reply to Yellow's 88, the Yellow team bundled out Blue for a paltry 67. Individual prize winners are, (Senior) Man-of-the-Final: Partha Best bowler: Deyon Nath; Best wicket keeper: Andi Deka; Best fielder: Meenakshi Promising players: Meen Rajkumar, Arindra Dutta, Arun Bora, Manish Arora, Debasish Deka, Arun Bora, Best batsman: Moksha Best batsman: Ravi Sekh Tiwari, Promising players: Arun Bora, Manish Arora; Player of the tournament: Khilji Betele – Sports Reporter

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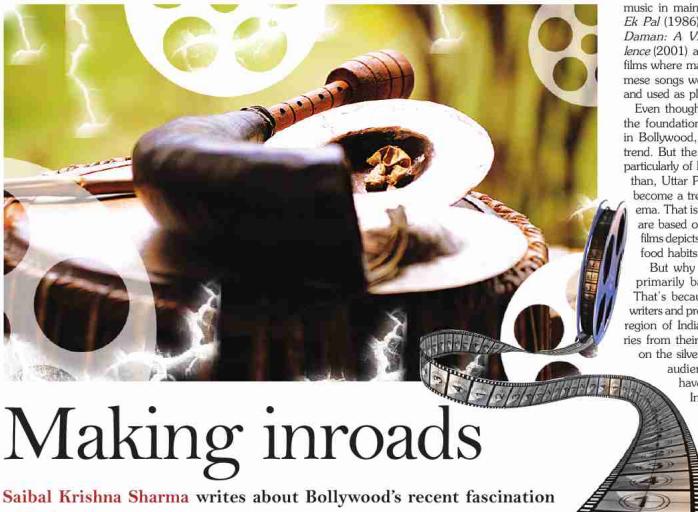
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Making inroads

Saibal Krishna Sharma writes about Bollywood's recent fascination with Assamese music.

The Anurag Basu-directed *Jagga Jasoos* hit screens last Friday and the lead actor Ranbir Kapoor's spontaneous performance has heightened the energy level of the film. The bright and varied colour palette used by the cinematographer S Rav Varman dazes the eye of the audience. Besides these, the preppy musical numbers are the talk of the town. Released a few weeks prior to the film, the song *Gali Se Mistake* sung by Arijit Singh and Amit Mishra has found instant popularity. What makes the song so special is that music director Pritam Chakraborty has taken inspiration from Assamese Bihu for the song.

Generally, Northeast folk music is deserted by mainstream Bollywood musicians. But this composer has tweaked the song in such a way that people from other regions of India can groove to its heady beats.

The tone of any Bihu song has a crescendo at the end and *Gali Se Mistake* has been composed in the same manner. However, the song is not raw Bihu completely as the lyrics are in Hindi. Moreover they have used the *dhol* and the *pepa*, which have been modified to merge in the original composition, making it sound like

electronic Bihu.

Pritam's programmer Dhruba Das, who comes from Assam, said in a statement, "Pritam has given a chance to Assamese Bihu folk song on such a big platform."

However, this is not the only instance where Assamese song and music has been used in a Bollywood film. *A Death in the Gunj*, directed by Konkona Sen Sharma, which released on July 2, has featured a full-length Assamese language song in the film.

The song *Jiri Jiri Noti* written by Rajdeep and composed by Sagar Desai is the first full-length Assamese song to be featured in a Bollywood movie. The song depicts the hopes, aspirations and dreams of the protagonist and has been sung by Pranali Pradhan, a known folk singer.

Rajdeep, in a *UNReport*, said, "I'm glad that my song was selected for the film. This is for the first time that a full-length Assamese song has been featured in a Hindi film made in Mumbai. It was an opportunity for me to work in Bollywood and promote Assamese music at the national level."

Rajdeep, who is one of the youngest playwrights of the State, has written several plays for the mobile theatre of Assam and has also composed

songs for Angaraag (Papon) Mahanta.

Speaking of Papon, on December 16, 2016, Papon along with EDM (Electronic Dance Music) artiste Nucleya launched a song on YouTube called *Memories*, which is a smooth confluence of traditional Assamese lyrics and electronic music. The song is inspired by Hampi's ancient history and the voices of the past that bring alive passion in the present. The song has had over three million views on YouTube and it is quite popular among the youth of the country. No doubt what Papon has been doing is a matter of sheer pride for the people of Assam.

Moreover Papon's initiative to popularise the traditional music of Assam at the national and international platform is quite commendable. He has performed various Assamese folk songs at several platforms such as MTV Coke Studio, *The Dwaravats*, etc. His Bihu performance at the Mirchi Music Awards of 2017 made Bollywood stars and starlets sway to his rhythm.

The inclusion of Assamese songs and music is not a new concept in Bollywood. In fact, legendary singer, lyricist, musician, poet and filmmaker Dr Bhupen Hazarika was perhaps the first person to introduce Assamese

it allows for an expression of emotion. They believe that digital photography is a continuation of the art of drawing or painting. On the other hand, some people argue that science is the true nature of this art. Their argument is that photography, unlike painting, actually comes from something existing and not from a painter's mind or emotion. This can be very persuasive since, indeed, a photographer does not actually make photographs, rather s/he takes them.

The true nature of digital photography will always remain a paradox and it will lie in the hands of the person who takes the pictures. The way a person treats the process defines the nature of digital photography for him or her. Today photography is a widespread business as well as a growing passion. The rising popularity of this interest can be validated from the growing number of photographers, exhibitions and various photography forums on social networking sites.

Travelling back in time, photography wasn't as simple as 'smile and click' as we see today. Back in the 1820s, earthen cameras would take several hours to actually capture a film. In those days, photographing people was one of the hardest tasks. With an annoyingly long exposure of several hours, photographing people was not really possible. But with technological advancements, photography has travelled from being a science to a form of art. Many people consider photography as an art because

music in mainstream Hindi cinema. *Ek Pal* (1986), *Rudaali* (1993) and *Daman: A Victim of Marital Violence* (2001) are some of the major films where many of his earlier Assamese songs were re-written in Hindi and used as played-back songs.

Even though Dr Hazarika has laid the foundation for Assamese music in Bollywood, it did not result in a trend. But the music of North India, particularly of Punjab, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, has become a trend in mainstream cinema. That is because most of the films are based on those regions. Hindi films depict their culture, language, food habits and music.

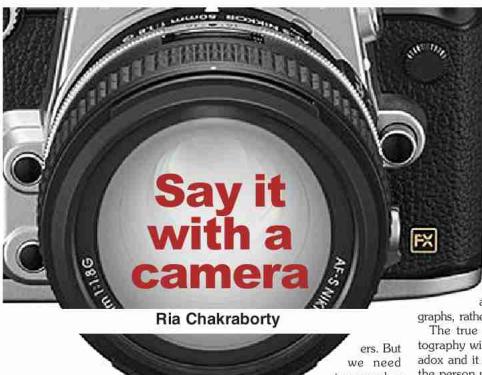
But why are mainstream films primarily based in North India? That's because many filmmakers, writers and producers come from that region of India. They bring out stories from their region and portray it on the silver screen for the Indian audience. As a result they have to use typical North Indian music to complement their stories.

The question here is why can't we produce such filmmakers, writers, and producers who can represent Assam and the Northeast on a national stage? No doubt there are the likes of Zubeens and Papons in the recent times who have charmed Bollywood with their magical voice and compositions. But that is not enough. Apart from these musicians, artists from different creative fields should be encouraged so that they can leave a mark at the national and international level.

The condition of the Assamese film and music industry is declining to such an extent that now we listen to songs that are based on *gutkha* and *pan masala*. When a noted Bollywood composer like Pritam can see the beauty of Assamese folk music and use it in a Hindi song, we, here, are busy making songs like *Washing Powder Nirma*, *Disco Bhoont*, and what not.

But there is always hope. Nilopthal Bora who is the new singing sensation of Assam has done a brilliant job in the song *Mayili* from his latest album *Pancham*. The mesmerising lyrics penned by Saranya Royvaria and Nilopthal's composition shows what music is all about. His other compositions like *Ghoromor Pokhi* and *Alay Sonor* are equally soothing and it shows that the future of Assamese music is in the right hands.

(saibalsharma13@gmail.com)



Ria Chakraborty

"Say Cheese!" The very instruction makes us cautious about how we are standing, smiling or giving facial expressions in order to be picture-perfect. Every type of creativity is a form of art. It is said that Nature is the volume of which God is the author. But the entire volume can be framed with a unique medium of art – photography. A photographer, with a camera in hand, captures the moment and freezes the time. Much like a painting, a photograph has the ability to move, engage and inspire view-

ers. But we need to remember that even diamonds started off as coal and so did diamonds.

Travelling back in time, photography wasn't as simple as 'smile and click' as we see today. Back in the 1820s, earthen cameras would take several hours to actually capture a film. In those days, photographing people was one of the hardest tasks. With an annoyingly long exposure of several hours, photographing people was not really possible. But with technological advancements, photography has travelled from being a science to a form of art. Many people consider photography as an art because

the first time were left because of their weight. Astronauts abandoned them when leaving the Earth's satellite. These cameras shot iconic images of the Moon's surface and were left behind to allow for the 25kg of lunar rock samples to be carried back instead.

Cheaper smartphones and DSLRs have contributed towards the upward trend in digital photography and much has been written about the way it impacts photography as an art form. But vision could not restrict the love for photography. With technical advancements in the domain of photography and with the boon of smart phones, a new type of photography has become a common household thing, the selfie. The selfie is ubiquitous in social media. Propelled by the ever-present camera phone, now most of these digital self-portraits are casual, spontaneous and off-the-cuff – literally taken at arm's length. Talking about the advancements in photography, stitching several frames together, now you can take wider-angle photos than your lenses typically allow by using the 'Panorama' technique. A panoramic image depicts a field of view considerably wider than the one that can be captured in one exposure, and it tells a more complex story and draws the viewer of the image closer to the feeling of what it was like to be there.

Photographers use their cameras as tools of exploration, passports to inner sanctums, instruments for change. Their images are proof that photography matters – now more than ever.

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How stressful is life?

Northeast India has grown tremendously in the field of fashion in the last ten years. Be it beauty pageants or national-level fashion weeks, renowned models and designers from Northeast India have gone beyond their limits and have time and again proven their worth at every new step and, of course, at every big platform they were a part of.

Debarupa Bhattacharjee

Men, modelling and more!

But while we get to see several beauty pageants for women in this region, both single and married, when it comes to men, the only popular name that comes to one's mind is Malestorm. It is organised by D'Creative People, an event management group, established in the year 1999, by a group of professionals, including

one of the most respected fashion designers and choreographers of Northeast India, Prasanti Ghosh.

"I started Malestorm in the year 2000 because there was nothing for men in the fashion industry of North-East during those days. Men in the industry are also in great demand. Though the volume of work available to men is lower than that for women, they

can have very successful careers for about five to eight years, depending on one's staying power."

Many people ask Ghosh if there is life after modelling. He says, "This is a great industry to make contacts in, you meet the high-flyers, the corporate bosses, the stars of the film industry, each one of whom could be a doorway to better things. Becoming a model and joining the industry is not as difficult as one would think. If you feel you have the potential, approach a photographer or a designer and find out if they'd consider giving you some work. Preparing a portfolio is usually a prerequisite for the job, and it does cost a certain amount of money to get started. But before going for a portfolio, make yourself ready in all physical aspects."

According to Ghosh, it's wiser to start preparing oneself at least three months in advance. He advises aspiring models to join a gym, to get their skin and hair look the best and to build a smart wardrobe with casuals, formal wear, western and ethnic garments for the photo shoot. "Talk to the photographers about locations and if you have any sample pictures, even ordinary ones, discuss your best angles and most flattering profiles. A good make-up artist and hairdresser are essential for a shoot. Tear out sheets from magazines where you like the model's look, which you think look good on you. Decide on the amount of looks you're aiming for and make sure that the accessories, jewellery and shoes match. Once your pictures are done, send them to all the model coordinators in the city and drop off copies at advertising and film agencies," he advises. Ghosh also asks models to be relentless in pursuing their contacts. "Make sure that they remember you, speak to choreographers of fashion shows and try to get an appointment. Notoriously difficult, but be inventive, meet them in a disco or at a restaurant and catch them there. Being shyness won't get you anywhere. Start getting a little work and it's bound to grow if you're any good. If you're not, you'll find out pretty soon."

The good news is that the modelling industry has now become a fertile trawling ground for the television and film industries, so chances are that you might get discovered and become the next Sidharth Malhotra or Deepika Padukone. The demand for models in music videos is also high, and one of the most visible ways to announce your presence in the industry is to gyrate to the maximum with a popular singer.



The last time we met!

I don't quite have a valid statistical inference, but I guess in our lifetime, a person at an average could develop close friendships and emotional bonds with at least hundred odd people, including relatives and immediate family members. Yes, for some who are instinctively very social and extrovert in nature, the figure could, of course, be much higher.

As social animals, we look forward to affiliation from the people with whom we develop reasonably close relationships. Our ability to cultivate these relationships of mutual trust, friendship, loyalty, affection and respect are critical in ensuring that the casual acquaintance graduates into a lifelong bond.

If we close our eyes and just quickly focus on the people in and around us, whom we really look forward to meet and chat to, the number of such people will not be too many. This is a common phenomenon and it is, indeed, not easy to develop truly close friendships even with one's own siblings. In many ways, modern technology has blessed us with the tools to overcome the challenge of distance and be in touch with those who have a special place in our hearts.

I have always cherished reading the story about how two friends who at one point of time were best of buddies, later on lost touch due to separate professional journeys. Sadly, both of them thought about meeting each other but somehow kept on postponing the event till one of the friends passed away. I have known people, including myself, who have regretted not spending enough time with someone very close until the person leaves the mortal world leaving us with regret. Life can be cruelly unpredictable and whenever we meet someone we are fond of, it could jolly well be for the last time. So it is essential to enjoy every moment when we are in the company of the people we love.

In life's roller coaster ride, when we look back, we will surely have many things to regret over. The academic course that we should have studied, the job we shouldn't have left, the car we shouldn't have bought, the property we could have bought, the woman or man we should have proposed, the insurance policy we should have bought... well, the list will be endless. But I am sure, out of all the regrets, we will always curse our lethargy of making an extra effort to call on a good old friend or a loving relative when we get to hear the news that he or she is no more.

I have clear memories of how I, and a very close college buddy said goodbye very nonchalantly one fine afternoon as I boarded a train, all set for a new academic career. Both of us at that point of time didn't think too much about the separation as we embarked on two different career paths. Somehow life kept both of us away from each other for years together and we even lost contact. But still somehow in the back of our minds, we longed to reunite and revisit our good old times. Thankfully, Facebook happened and bingo, we met online and thankfully didn't waste much time and met offline with our families. The feeling of reconnecting with a bosom pal can't quite be described in words. I guess this is true for every person. Despite the best of interest and genuine desire to be in touch with the people we care about, professional or academic compulsions deprive us from keeping in touch with those who we truly care for.

In her book, *Top Five Regrets of the Dying*, Bronnie Ware, a palliative care nurse has revealed the most common regrets of her patients. "I wish I had stayed in touch with my friends" is one of the top regrets of the dying, according to the author.

Yes, blessed are those who can manage to juggle their daily tasks and still manage to catch up with their near and dear ones. Because when someone close passes away, we should not regret of having not met for a very long time!

(tridiv@gmail.com)

LIFE SKILLS
Tridiv Hazarika

SCIENCE ZONE
Dr Raj Pratim Sarma

Modern dentistry has a lot of treatment options under its umbrella which can restore the aesthetics and functions of the oral cavity

Dental science or dentistry is that field of medical science which concentrates on the overall health of the tissues present in the oral cavity, primarily the teeth and gums. It is an indispensable branch of the allopathic system of medicine that makes an individual smile with confidence and elegance. Geriatric is a term used to define individuals in the elderly group of people. Therefore the term 'geriatric dentistry' encompasses the dental ailments and treatment required by the elderly group. However if strict definition is followed, then geriatric means people who are 65 years of age and above.

Geriatric individuals can suffer from a lot of common medical conditions like hypertension, diabetes mellitus, osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, dementia, parkinsonism, Alzheimer's disease, etc.

Thus geriatric care must be holistic in approach with comprehensive care, besides routine medical care, and include social, psychological and functional intervention to improve their quality of life.

The absence of teeth limited presence of teeth in geriatric people make them smile in limitation and communicate with hesitation due to feeble pronunciation; and eat and masticate with utmost difficulty, thereby compromising their health due to deficient nutrition.

Geriatric dentistry focusses on restoring the

functional apparatus of the oral cavity, thereby making their life easy and elegant.

Treatment modalities

Dental science has evolved from the past and progressed to a great extent. Modern dentistry has a lot of treatment options under its umbrella which can restore the aesthetics and functions of the oral cavity, irrespective of the medical conditions present in elderly individuals. Some of the common geriatric dental treatments include - With research progressing daily, dentistry will

COMPLETE DENTURE

It is the replacement treatment for all the missing teeth and can be removed at will by the wearer.

REMOVABLE PARTIAL DENTURE

It is a replacement treatment for a few missing teeth and can be removed at will by the wearer.

FIXED PARTIAL DENTURE

It is a replacement treatment for a few missing teeth but cannot be removed by the wearer.

IMPLANT RETAINED OVERDENTURES

It is a replacement treatment for all missing teeth and is fixed to implants placed on the bone.

definitely encompass more and more new sophisticated techniques and treatment modalities for people belonging to the geriatric group. A beautiful smile effects the teeth, gums, lips and musculature of the mouth, harmonising in unity, thereby rendering an individual with a pleasant outlook which boosts self-confidence and morale. Geriatric dentistry is dedicated and devoted to this mission in a scientific method.

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SDGs has been ranked 116th out of 157 nations with a score of 58.1 at the 2017 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) index and Dashboards Report that assesses the performance of countries towards achieving the ambitious SDGs. Sweden has topped the list, followed by Denmark and Finland. The 2017 SDG Index and Dashboards Report, released by Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the Bertelsmann Stiftung, shows that world leaders need to strengthen their joint efforts to realize the 17 global goals. The SDG Index ranks countries on their progress towards the SDGs, including economic, social and environmental sustainability, social inclusion and governance by good governance. The index collected available data for 157 countries to assess where each country stands in 2017 with regard to achieving the SDGs. It helps countries identify priorities for early actions and shows that every country faces major challenges in achieving these ambitious goals.

Maryam Mirzakhani, an Iranian-born mathematician and a professor of mathematics at Stanford University, died of cancer, recently. Mirzakhani was the first woman and the first Iranian to win the coveted Fields Medal in 2014, the most prestigious award in mathematics. The award recognised her sophisticated and highly original contributions to the fields of geometry and dynamical systems, particularly in understanding the symmetry of curved surfaces such as spheres. Her research topics include Teichmüller theory, hyperbolic geometry, ergodic theory, and symplectic geometry. (Information sent by Bikash Rabha, Goalpara)

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

MASTER'S CHOICE

- Which Oscar winning film has the phrase 'Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're gonna get'?
- What alternative name was given to German Shepherd dogs after World War-I because of the German part of their name?
- What is 'Eating', first published in 2004, involves placing different-coloured railway cars between destination cities on a map?
- Three continents lie on the Tropic of Capricorn. One of them is South America. Name the other two.
- Bellis perennis* is the scientific name for which flower commonly found in the wild in Britain?

QUIZ ZONE

Saleen Baishya

Picture clue:

19. Identify this former chief secretary of Gujarat. Recently he was appointed as the 21st Chief Election Commissioner of India. (Deepjyoti Patowary, Nalbari)



ANSWERS

- Forrest Gump, 2. Alsatian, 3. Ticket to Ride, 4. Australia and Africa, 5. Daisy, 6. Worldwide standard time zones, 7. Cornea, 8. Gary Kasparov, 9. Brazil, 10. Secure Digital, 11. Elan Nano Phone, 12. Barometer, 13. Kerala, 14. VD Savarkar, 15. Great Britain, 16. Operation Blue Star, 17. Mercury, 18. Helium, 19. Achal Kumar Jyoti, 20. The white saree with blue stripes worn by Mother Teresa, as well as by the nuns of the Missionaries of Charity.

6. Sir Sandford Fleming came up with a world changing invention when a mistake printed in a timetable caused him to miss his train; this apparently inspired which invention?

7. What part of the eye can be described as the transparent front part that covers the iris, pupil, and anterior chamber?

8. Between 1988 and 2005, which Russian chess grandmaster was once ranked world number 1 for 225 out of 228 months?

9. Which South American country declared independence from Portugal on September 7, 1822?

10. What does 'SD' stand for in the terms 'SD card' and 'micro SD card'?

READERS' CHOICE

11. The world's smallest GSM phone, almost the size of a credit card, is available Black, Gold, Rose and Silver colour options. It is 3.71 inches in length, 0.2 inches thick and 1.4 inches wide. Name the phone that was recently launched in India. (Jayanta Topadar, Dhemaji)

12. Which scientific instrument is used to measure atmospheric pressure? (Meenakshi Das, Shillong)

13. The world's first democratically elected Communist government was formed in which Indian state? (Ashish Agarwal, Morang)

14. "First Way of Indian Independence" – who said this for the first time, referring to the Roop of 1857? (Amriti Nath, Guwahati)

15. Which country has won the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup title after a gap of 23 years in 2017? (Niloplal Gohain, Tezpur)

16. What was the name of the military operation that took place in Golden Temple, Amritsar in 1984? (Naina Devi, via SMS)

17. Which metal was responsible for the fatal brain disease that affected people eating fish caught from the Minamata Bay off the Japanese island of Kyushu? (Rimjin Gogoi, Golaghat)

18. The existence of which gas was discovered in 1895 by British chemist Sir William Ramsay? (Bidyut Das, Guwahati)

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

- It was bought from Harrison Street, Kolkata, on August 8, 1948 and first worn on August 17, 1948. It is now produced by leprosy patients at the Gandhi Niwas in Titagarh, West Bengal. During 2015-16, it became a registered trademark for social and charitable services as well as for stationery and textiles. What is it? (Dr Jayanta Kr Sharma, Guwahati)

Gitasree Goswami

Stress is a choice, just like happiness or sadness. Whether you let it harm you or eliminate it from your life is your choice.

In medical terminology, stress is a physical, mental or emotional factor that causes bodily or mental tension. In simple words, the main foundation of stress is less work and more time or more work and less time. These two situations make people feel frustrated, angry or anxious.

How stressful is life?

ious. Different individuals will respond in different ways to these situations and will cope with different skills. Stress is a psychological aspect and occurs in different levels for different persons as the capacity to cope with a situation varies from person to person.

Situations that are considered stress-provoking are known as stressors. The three main types of stressors are Environment Stressors (weather, noise, crowd, pollution, traffic, unsafe housing and crime), Social Stressors (financial problems, job interviews, presentations, disagreements, demands for time and attention, loss of loved ones, divorce, separation and co-parenting) and Physiological Stressors (rapid growth of adolescence, menopause, illness, aging, giving birth, accidents, lack of exercise, poor nutrition and sleeplessness).

Stress can be caused by both good and bad experiences. Postponing and delaying of work are actually the starting points of stress. Although stress is typically discussed in a negative way, it has some positive value too. Char-

acteristics of positive stress are that it motivates and encourages us, improves our performance and is perceived as within our coping abilities.

Examples of positive stress are receiving a promotion at work, starting a new job, marriage, buying a home, having a child, child rearing and education, moving, planning a vacation, holiday seasons and commitment in relationship, etc. Characteristics of negative stress are anxiety, deficit in performances, etc., that can lead to mental and physical problems and are perceived as outside our coping abilities. Examples of negative stress are death of a partner or a family member, filing for divorce, conflict in interpersonal relationships, money problems, unemployment, children's problems at school, legal problems, job insecurity, excessive demands for something, etc.

Stress is a part of our everyday life that takes place at different levels for different people. But there is never a night that can defeat sunrise. Likewise there are various ways to rise above the struggle with stress.



Stress management practices include positive thinking, relaxation, exercise, good sleep, discussion with a close friend or counsellor, consulting a teacher or ideal figure, diverting focus from the stressful situation and involving in pleasurable activities, listening to soft music, praying, dancing, playing, going for long walks alone, prioritising work, meditating, watching motivational videos, restarting one's work, taking deep breaths, time management, smiling, open communication, trust in work, making flexible schedules, etc.

The main reasons for increasing stress levels among people is the result-oriented mindset and the focus on others' life rather than on one's own performance. People still believe that counselling is only for the mentally disabled people, not for normal ones. People are embarrassed to visit a doctor and talk about stress, rather they take medicines without a doctor's prescription, which can be harmful for our body. We should always take the help of a counsellor, doctor or a close friend and make an effort to eliminate stress for lifelong well-being. A stressful life not only affects an individual but also has an effect on the lives that are closely connected to him/her. So it is high time to exercise the greatest weapon against stress, which is to stand up to it or to make oneself strong enough so that no one can give stress to us as well as to our families at any cost.

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Occupational stress

Stress at work is commonplace, albeit not properly addressed. Stress resulting from one's occupation can occur at two levels. The stress that is associated while doing the job is termed operational stress. Another level of stress, that is, organisational stress, is related to the culture that is prevailing in the organisation within which the job is performed.

Raising level of awareness in this area has even led to the formation of an institutions like the International Institute of Organisational Psychological Medicine (www.ioipm.org). The Dean and Executive Director Global of this institute, Professor Russell Franco D'Souza is one of editorial board members of the *Open Journal of Psychiatry and Allied Sciences* (www.ojas.org).

The same journal in its current issue contains a research article titled "Occupational stress among police personnel in India". Law enforcement is an occupation associated with work stressors, and policing is among the most stressful. Police personnel working under the Calicut City Police Commissioner, Kerala, participated in the study, where their occupational stress was measured with the help of a questionnaire. Participants' socio-demographic profile, physical and mental health-related details were also collected. Stress is more among young, lower rank police personnel, and in women. Physical and mental health issues are higher, including substance abuse (alcohol and tobacco).

High occupational stress is a public health issue. Personal and family lives are affected, along with crime prevention and correctional services. Recommendations include – stress management programmes, periodic health check-ups at workplace, and administrative solutions, to reduce stress in job.

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MIND MATTERS

Dr Shyamanta Das

Mobile VR in India

The year gone by was touted as that of Virtual Reality (VR). In reality, with just \$2.7 billion in revenue in 2016, it is yet to take off as consumer VR content still lacks the ability to ensure huge adoption globally, including in India. When it comes to India, where the number of smartphone users is growing exponentially, mobile VR is definitely the future for the mass adoption of this immersive experience.

The promise of growth, however, comes with riders. Since VR is a highly individual experience where users are drawn into a virtual world – cut off from the rest of their surroundings – they need the right content: high-quality VR games and sophisticated headsets to stay hooked.

In India, the VR and augmented reality (AR) market are projected to register a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 55.3 per cent during 2016-2021.

"A rising number of consumer electronics applications such as gaming and entertainment are witnessing increasing adoption of AR and VR devices in the country," TechSci Research has said in its latest report.



TECH TRENDS

The VR explosion is still some years away and, according to analysts and industry players, mobile-centric VR headsets or screenless viewer headsets – and not PlayStations or PC/Console-enabled VR gaming – will see greater adoption in the mass market.

With mobile-centric VR headsets, "the pricing is more affordable and does not require complicated set-up to use," Kenneth Lieu, Senior Research Manager, Client Devices at International Data Corporation (IDC), told *ians*. The Samsung Gear VR headset (Rs 7,290) emerged as clear winner in 2016, with the company shipping 4.5 million (71 per cent) of the total 6.3 million shipments in the year.

On the other hand, Sony PlayStation VR (priced above Rs 40,000) that launched its first consumer-grade VR headset in October, shipped nearly 750,000 units.

According to Lieu, in the commercial space, companies are innovating to bring games and marketing content on to the VR platform to grab attention. VR is all about experience and price is one of the barriers to adopting and expanding the VR ecosystem. (ians)

To find what we seek

Debahuti Gogoi

There are times when we feel like our auras are dimming, our souls are getting tired of that same old nine to five desk jobs, and all we wish at times is to do something, somewhere that makes us feel rejuvenated again. And hence we travel. We travel to make our lives a bit more liveable with this act of self-fulfillment that comes at its own cost. It doesn't really matter if it's Shillong or Scotland or a walk in the park or by the Pacific Ocean. The fact that we have the courage to change scenarios according to our needs makes us no less than a super human.

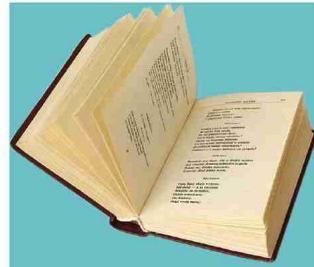
While some travel to relax, some to seek, some to forget, and some others to merely appeal to the idea of being there. But the true idea of travelling has always been based on "seeking". Seeking for answers, seeking for peace or maybe even love. Travelling is not always about expensive getaways, picture perfect blury backgrounds, exquisite cuisines, Goggle maps, shopping with Valentine or Forever 2. It might be about sleeping in one of those tents and witnessing the sun going down, it

might be about that song you sang by the fire, the air you inhaled, the icy cold water you dived in, that *lassi* you had sitting on those *khaties*, the mental picture you clicked by the blue river, that tasty fish you ate in one of those roadside eateries, the first person you hugged saying goodbye.

Travelling as I see it is life. Its life on wheels where we keep moving irrespective of what great hills or rivers we are to cross ahead. Sure the roads are unfamiliar but it's a risk worth taking. As eventually we either find a part of ourselves that we never knew existed or simply lose a part of us that never was ours in the first place. You might even be sad to lose things along the way but trust me you would love the one's you find.

That trip to Goa that you have been delaying for years, why not do it now? That person you have been giving excuses to, why not visit today? World history is that of seeking and conquering, so why don't we conquer our fears. fears of maybe holding onto things that we never want to lose. As Robin Scherbatay from the very famous TV series *How I Met Your Mother* puts it, "The future can be scary but we can't just run back to the past because it is familiar."

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ANTHOLOGY

ANTHOLOGY is derived from the Greek word *anthologia* ('anthos' meaning flower and 'logia' meaning collection). It has been found to be used to portray a collection of verses in a very poetic and tasteful way. French essayist Montaigne, in 1580, used the metaphor, 'It could be said of me that in this book I have only made up a bunch of other man's flowers, providing of my own as only the string that ties them together' – and the sense since carried on to mean 'a collection of select poems'.

WORDSPK

The story behind words
Bibekananda Choudhury

APLOMB

PLOMB in French means plumb line; 'a plumb' is 'straight as a plumb line'. The use of this word has developed from its early literal sense of being perpendicular or erect and steady, to mean 'doing something with self-assurance and confidence'.



Flood and wildlife woes

SEEDS OF CHANGE

Mubina Akhtar

The recent floods have left a trail of devastation in the entire Brahmaputra Valley. A week of heavy rains in Assam has caused the massive Brahmaputra to exceed dangerous levels. The Kaziranga National Park have both been ravaged by the recent flood, along with other key wildlife areas of the State.



Ninety-eight per cent of KNP was inundated after the flood levels of the Brahmaputra flowing through the north of Kaziranga crossed the danger level at Dhangsimuli. With rising water levels, most of the existing highlands inside the park were submerged and animals, including elephants, buffaloes, rhinos, deer and wild boars were seen crossing the NH 37 to take shelter in the Karbi Anglong Hills in the south. In the process, quite a number of wildlife were killed or injured by speeding vehicles on the highway. Absence of infrastructure facilities and insufficient manpower brought doom to a sizeable wildlife population in Kaziranga. More carcasses were found floating once the water levels receded.

Flood is not a new phenomenon in Kaziranga. In fact, grassland and swamps occur in riparian flats inundated by the floodwater of the Brahmaputra. The park hosts two-thirds of the world's Great One-horned Rhinoceroses. It also boasts of the highest density of tigers among protected areas in the world. The coffers of the National Park swelled after it received the status of a Tiger Reserve in 2006. So why is there no

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Vendetta

Meeting people in different stages of life has always bestowed us with some kind of knowledge. I still remember my mentor Shantanu Basu, who on a midsummer afternoon, while driving a car, spoke remarkably about a new parlance that I was unaware of. Vendetta. It means grudge that demeans the human personality. I was very eager then, to understand how vendetta somehow suffocates positive vibes and virtues.

Many hold grudges, deep ones, that can even last a lifetime. Many are unable to let go of the anger they feel towards those who have hurt them in the past, even though they may have made an effort to do so. We often hold back a grievance, quite unintentionally and unknowingly, while wishing we could drop them and live freshly in the present, without the injustices of the past occupying so much space in our minds. Then why do we hold grudges when they are, in fact, quite painful to maintain, and often seem to work against what we really want?

Why do we leave wounds open and active to distort our charisma? In the past doesn't let us move on. The most important question is how to let go. To begin with, grudges come with an identity. As much as we don't like it, there also exists a strength and rightness in this rightness. We have something that

defines us, our anger and our victimhood. This gives us a sense of purpose. To move on, we have to be willing to let go of our identity as the wronged one, and whatever strength, sympathy or understanding we receive through that erroneous identity. We have to be willing to step into a new version of ourselves that allows the present moment to determine who we are.

But what are we really trying to achieve by holding on to a grudge and strengthening our identity as the one who was wronged? In fact, the grudge, and the identity that accompanies it, is an attempt to get the compassion and comfort we didn't get in the past and the empathy for what happened to us at the hands of others.

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WEST SIDE STORY

Emma's ring hunt!

Emma Watson has posted an urgent appeal for fans to find three "special" rings she lost at a London hotel this weekend. The distressed 27-year-old confessed that her mother had bought one of the rings the day after she was born and gave it to her on her 18th birthday. The Harry Potter actress asked her fans to inform her in case they had any information, and provided an e-mail address that fans could message to.

Kendall, Gigi pair up for Fendi

CLOSE friends Kendall Jenner and Gigi Hadid are working together for the fall/winter 2017-2018 Fendi campaign. Images of the models shot by Karl Lagerfeld were shared recently where they were both in long red dresses and red high heel boots.

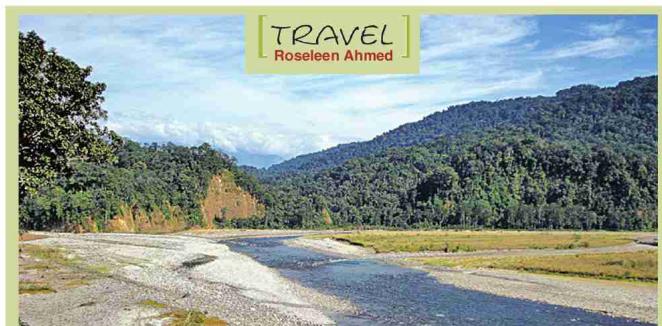
Kendall had on a semi sheer dress with a boxy cut on her chest, zig zags on her hips and striped on her knees, while Hadid looked sensational in her dress which is more conservative with roses on the front.

Ed returns to Twitter!

Ed Sheeran revived his Twitter account on Tuesday after it abruptly went missing hours after he garnered mixed reactions from fans for his cameo on the season seven premiere of HBO's Game of Thrones.

"I go on it and there's nothing but people saying mean things. Twitter's a platform for that. One comment ruins your day. But that's why I've come off it," the 26-year-old singer had said. His account is back now but all of his tweets prior to April 23, 2015 have been deleted and his followers dropped from 19 million to 15.2 million.

(AGENCIES)



Seeking serenity at Namdapha

Living in the concrete jungle, one often yearns to escape the hectic lifestyle and cacophony of urban life. One such day, back in 2013, I, along with a few of my friends, set out to find a quiet oasis to distress ourselves. One of my friends recommended that we should visit the Namdapha National Park, in Arunachal Pradesh – a biodiversity hotspot in the Eastern Himalayan belt.

"What is there to find in Namdapha?" someone asked, and my friend replied in a single word, "Peace!"

We started our journey early in the morning from Dibrugarh, and we made a stop at the Golden Pagoda in Chonglham. The journey itself was adventurous as after a particular point, the roads were non-existent and we had to drive through story roulette dried up streams and narrow roads with dense evergreen vegetation. We reached our destination by afternoon, and the view of the hilly picassoesque landscape on the banks of the formidable Nao-Dihing river left us awestruck.

We had a couple of hours before sun down and we started exploring the area. We went down to the river by a perilous path, jumping over fallen tree

branches, creepers, and slippery stones. The calm sound of the flowing river and chirping of birds were the only sounds that could be heard.

We stayed in a small guesthouse near the Chakma village on the banks of the Nao-Dihing River. After sunset, we started a campfire and sat around it sharing stories and memories of our childhood. There was no electricity or mobile network in that area, and we were able to connect more freely with nature, away from the clutches of techno-gadgets. The night sky was clear, covered with a blanket of stars. The dazzling stars, the sparks from the flames of our camp fire, and the numerous fireflies – all merged to create magic. I had never witnessed so many stars.

We cooked our dinner with the help of the caretaker of the guesthouse with the provisions that we had brought. He taught us a mouth-watering recipe of chicken cooked with local chillies. We retired to our beds early, listening to the night sounds of the river, occasional owl hoots, continuous cricket calls, and a few howls now and then. It was surreal.

The next morning, we crossed the river by boat, and started trekking inside the

Namdapha National Park. We were welcomed into the jungle by a kaleidoscope of butterflies and avian reverberations. Our guide explained that the evergreen rainforest supports various wildlife, including four big cats – the tiger, the leopard, the snow leopard, and the clouded leopard. The forest has different vegetation zones and a wide plethora of inhabitant species. However, the dense foliage around the jungle trails keep all these creatures hidden, and we were not lucky enough to sight the big animals.

We saw some monkeys and gibbons, swinging from overhead branches, various bird species and some fresh tracks of spotted deer. Our guide also told us interesting stories about the Lisu, Chakma, Tangsa and Singpho tribes who inhabit the nearby areas.

After returning from the trek, we took a dip at the Nao-Dihing River, and let the flowing cold water wash away all our stress and worries.

We started our return journey after lunch, with a renewed zeal for life, filled with boundless energy, restored creativity, and most importantly, the one thing that we had set out to find – peace.

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depicted well in the movie and was kept simple at the same time.

A picturesque African safari in the later part adds to the positives, provided the audiences hold their patience till the end.

Ranbir Kapoor, who plays the central character, does full justice to the role, keeping the audience interested, and hardly loses control over the character.

Katrina Kaif, who plays a journalist and Ranbir's partner-in-crime, played the second fiddle quite well. Both Ranbir and Katrina looked appealing together on screen.

However, it was Sawsawa Chatterjee (playing Ranbir's father) who deserves a pat on the back. The veteran in Saurav Shukla too was impressive, as he always is.

With the trend of compensating distributors by producers catching up in tinsel town, Jagga Jasoos could just be another such curious case in question.

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JAGGA JASOOS

DIRECTOR: ANURAG BASU
STARS: RANBIR KAPOOR, KATRINA KAIF,
SAWSAWA CHATTERJEE



In their attempt to sway the audience with a new genre of storytelling much like what the actor-director duo did successfully in their previous outing together in *Baati, Jagga Jasoos*, unfortunately, struggles to be gripping and falls apart more than once in nearly three hours.

Anurag Basu's directorial venture where he tries to take the audience through the life and adventures of a shy and curious boy, who in pursuit of his missing father eventually ends up exposing an international arms dealing racket, is found wanting in conviction.

The ambitious spy adventure plot somehow lacked the imagination that we associate with Basu, and goes off the radar more often than not, confronting the audiences with too many unrealistic and unconvincing sequences, which even the new-age children would find it difficult to digest.

While the screenplay is segregated into a series of three comic books, none of the constituents manage to leave any lasting impact whatsoever.

One gets the feeling that the director must have been in two minds while deciding on the age-group of the movie's target audience, despite it being a Disney co-production. And if it was supposed to be a spy thriller aimed at the Harry Potter generation, the director's theory does not seem to hold ground. The script of the movie is its weakest link and completely lacks reasoning and grip.

However, the movie does offer a few patches of novelty in between. The gripping narrative, although a brief one, surrounding the infamous Puriula arms dropping case, emerges as a saving grace.

The references covering Myanmar and Manipur too is



(mortwalkerbeetlebailey.com)

Post-vacation blues

I just need some time in a beautiful place to clear my head

Come July and it's literally a vacation boom for all and sundry to let their hair down. That doesn't mean that there aren't any other "suisse seasons" in a calendar year for one to head off for that much-needed break from mundane boredom and drudgery. Just like autumn, which for John Keats was a "season of mists and mellow fruitfulness", July, for that matter, has literally metamorphosed itself into a "season of vacations and bon voyages galore". And how does one come to this blissful conclusion? Social media, of course! One can easily come across scores of Facebook and Instagram pages flooded with family pictures, either on a tranquil hillock, on sun-soaked sandy beaches kissing the waves, near gothic architectural structures, et al.

But once the 'vacation euphoria' gradually drops off your head and you are basking in your twilight moments from your serene sojourn, it is here that your mind sadly trots back to the 'waiting workload' and the usual grind back home. Or have you ever found yourself regretting, at least playfully, a recent vacation not because of such obvious pit-



falls as jet lag and 'Montezuma's Revenge' (diarrhoea suffered by travellers), but because of the inevitable 'scare' you experience while getting back into your usual life?

You are now back from vacation which means you are likely feeling relaxed. But then the e-mails start to pile up, stress rises and suddenly it's as though everything feels ho-hum again. After weeks of travelling and resting, you come back home and you are lack energy. Even small tasks in front of you catapult into huge problems. When you get back from a fun vacation, it's hard to just drop everything and go back to your daily life instantly. Depending on how long you were away, jumping back into your sleep, exercise and work routines won't be that easy.

But sometimes these post-vacation blues serve a purpose. You can use your trip as motivation to get back into a productive routine that you enjoy. Experts also say they may help you realise that you need to shake things up at home in order to feel satisfied. So, how do you maintain the sunny outlook you had while you were away? How to prevent post-trip doldrums from turning into a real bout of depression? Bringing your vacation to a close can be a rewarding, emotional and slightly draining experience. After you have seen and been a part of many incredible things abroad, it can be hard to move on – as you compare your vacation lifestyle with the realities waiting at home. You can continue habits you took on during your trip. Often the freedom of travel encourages you to try new things. If you tried something new, like learning to swim (a bit) or meditate, keep it going once you get home. If you learned how to make something delicious, try to replicate it at home. And hopefully you will experience a smooth, turbulence-free landing back into your quotidian life, until you head off again to your favourite holiday destination next time.

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Articles for *Horizon* should carry the address and contact number of the contributor. Articles can also be e-mailed at - horizon@assamtribune.com

