

The Assam Tribune

79 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE NATION

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“ My vision for India's energy future has 4 pillars:
Energy Access, Energy Efficiency,
Energy Sustainability, Energy Security.”

- Narendra Modi

SANKALP SE SIDDHI

NEW INDIA MOVEMENT (2017-2022)

ONGC, ON ITS 62ND FOUNDATION DAY PLEDGES FOR A NEW INDIA

Since 1956, ONGC has been relentlessly striving in spirit and soul to accomplish the pledge for building an energy-sufficient India.

Today, as we celebrate our 62nd Foundation Day, let's rededicate ourselves towards the PM's vision of a 'New India'.

An India with energy access to all, energy efficiency, energy sustainability and energy security. An India we will all be proud of.



On this momentous day, we salute all the ONGClans
who are standing shoulder to shoulder to make this dream of New India, a reality.

Karenge aur Kar ke Rahenge

A PROUD MAHARATNA

- World's No.1 E&P company as per Platts Global Energy Rankings 2016
- India's largest producer of crude oil & natural gas
- Contributes 72% of O + OEG production in the country
- First to discover Shale Gas in India
- ONGC Videsh, our 100% subsidiary is present in 38 oil and gas projects in 17 countries
- First Indian company to produce equity oil and natural gas abroad
- Played a lead role in the National Gas Hydrates Programme (NGHP)
- Promoting sports, supporting over 170 active national and international sportspersons in various games
- Contributed over ₹ 2200 crore in CSR activities in last 8 years.

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited

COURAGE TO EXPLORE | KNOWLEDGE TO EXCEED | TECHNOLOGY TO EXCEL

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Joint Ventures

Petronet LNG Limited



Partners

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SITUATION VACANT

A PRE-ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOL IS COMING UP AT GUWAHATI. LATER IT WILL BE UPGRADED UPTO 12TH STANDARD. WE URGENTLY STANDARD REQUIRED EXPERIENCED HEAD MISTRESS, TEACHERS PREFERABLY FROM JYOTIKUCHI, DHOPAULI AREA. PLEASE MAIL YOUR RESUME AT adpgsy@gmail.com.
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Required one Computer Designer with flex Machine Operator and one Delivery boy urgently. Ph. 9864422272, 8011067472. SV/P/498/1

Required Electrical/Civil Engineer for Construction (Govt. Prog.) Exp. must - S-20-40K. 882818792, 9401068123. SV/P/A70/1

Faculty required for the post of English, Political Science, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Address-Principal, Prachya Bharati College, Nayanpur, Ganesghuri, Guwahati-5. SV/P/KP486/1

Established, Guwahati based International Call Center is recruiting CCE for its Canadian Mortgage Process. Good salary package with incentives (Limited Seats). Contact: +919706694262. Interview Timing: 7.00 pm onwards. SV/P/KP472/14

Applications in Standard Form (as published in Assam Gazette Part-X) with full Bio Data including Photo No and Experience certificate of relevant experience from HSC onwards are invited from intending candidates for filling up the following vacant sanctioned posts of Baruna College, Barma.

1. Assistant Professors:
 i) Political Science (One post)
 Reserved for OBC/MBC
 ii) Assamese, Group - A (One post)
 Unreserved
 iii) Bodo, Group - B (One post)
 Reserved for STIP

Start of Pay: Rs. 15000 - 39100+ AGP Rs. 6000/- p.m. with others allowances.

Qualification: Candidates must have the latest UGC norms.

1. Candidates must have minimum 55% marks (or an equivalent grade in a point scale) at the Master Degree level in the relevant subject. A relaxation of 5% marks will be given to the STSC and differently abled candidates. A relaxation of 5% of marks may be provided to the PhD holders, who have obtained their master degree prior to 19.09.1991.

2. Candidates must clear the NET/ SET/SET conducted by UGC.

3. Candidates who have been awarded a PhD degree must have minimum 55% marks (or an equivalent grade in a point scale) at the Master Degree level in the relevant subject. A relaxation of 5% marks will be given to the STSC and differently abled candidates. A relaxation of 5% of marks may be provided to the PhD holders, who have obtained their master degree prior to 19.09.1991.

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NEWS CAPSULE

Satellite launch fails after glitch

SRIRAKHOTA (AP), Aug 31: The launch of India's latest navigation satellite onboard its polar rocket failed yesterday following a technical glitch just prior to its scheduled orbiting in space. The rare setback for ISRO in India's space history involving the workhorse rocket Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle came shortly after a perfect liftoff of the PSLV C-39 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre here at 7 pm. — PTI

Building collapse

MUMBAI, Aug 31: An over a century-old five-storey residential building collapsed today in the Bhendi Bazaar area of south Mumbai, killing at least 19 people. Rescue teams with heavy machinery continued to look for survivors of the crash, a senior police official said. — PTI (Details on Page 12)

Rijuji on security

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju today said that national security and interest override everything, while referring to the recent Supreme Court judgment that declared right to privacy as fundamental right. — PTI

Pak summon

ISLAMABAD, Aug 31: Pakistan today summoned India's Deputy High Commissioner JP Singh over alleged "ceasefire violations" by Indian troops along the LoC that resulted in the killing of a civilian. Director General (South Asia and SAARC) Dr Mohd Faisal summoned Singh and "condemned the unprovoked ceasefire violations". — PTI

New Home Secy

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Seema Verma, who left Jayanta Gohain today took charge as the Union Home Secretary after supercession of incumbent Rajiv Mehrishi. A 1982-batch IAS officer of the Jharkhand cadre, 58-year-old Gohain will have a fixed two-year tenure in the sensitive post, a Home Ministry official said. — PTI

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

HORIZON

- Mystery road: Parag Phukan
- Are cars evil?: Angshuman Dutta
- The deadly Blue Whale
- Kangkana Goawami
- Roadside food fantasies
- Tridiv Hazarika
- Laughter therapy: Gunin Borah
- More than just a cup of tea!: Debarati Das
- Plus all other regular features

NE venture fund attracting young startups: Dr Singh

SPL. CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Over 60 proposals for startups are already in the pipeline for consideration under the North-east Venture Fund offered by the Ministry for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER).

Stating this, Union Minister for DoNER

Dr Jitendra Singh said that the North-east Venture Fund is attracting young startups in more and more numbers and has generated huge enthusiasm among the entrepreneurs looking for opportunities in the region.

Briefing newsmen after a meeting with

State Cabinet approves Population Bill

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 31: The Cabinet stated in its decision.

The Bill for setting up of the Assam State Population Bill. The Bill focuses more on women empowerment, said Industries Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary.

The Cabinet, he said, has also approved the proposal for allotment of a plot of land measuring 32 bighas in Beliabari area of the city for construction of an International Trade Centre comprising two towers with 65 stories.

A proposal to set up the second unit of the Assam Petrochemicals Ltd with an outlay of Rs 1,337 crore has also been approved by the Cabinet in its meeting here today.

In a major shift from the existing policy of providing appointment to eligible family members of the deceased State government employees, the Cabinet today decided that instead of such appointments on compassionate ground, families of the deceased government employees will get the last pay of such employees till the time of their retirement. This policy would come into force from April

Focus on women empowerment

Sanjukta Board would now come under the Kumar Bhaskar Barma Sanskrit University and the tols functioning under the Sanskrit Board would be merged with the Board of Secondary Education, Assam (SEBA). The University will prepare the curriculum of the tols and conduct their examinations, said the Cabinet.

The Bills for setting up of three new universities – Bhattacharya University, Madhabdev University and Rabindranath Tagore University – were also approved by the Cabinet today.

Besides, it approved the Assam Employees PRONAM Bill, 2017, Municipal Administration Reforms Bill and enhancement of the allowances in the Construction Workers' Welfare Fund.

The Cabinet decision to approve the Municipal Administrative Reforms Bill has paved

(See page 4)

GDP growth slows to 3-year low of 5.7 pc

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: India's GDP growth slumped to a three-year low of 5.7 per cent during April-June – lagging China for the second straight quarter – as manufacturing slowed ahead of the GST launch amid demonetisation effect.

China clocked 6.9 per cent growth in January-March as well as April-June quarters.

The expansion in gross domestic product (GDP) was 6.1 per cent in the preceding quarter and 7.9 per cent in the same period last fiscal. The previous low of 4.6 per cent was recorded in January-March 2014.

Gross value added (GVA) in the manufacturing sector fell sharply to 1.2 per cent, from 10.7 per cent a year ago, as the businesses focused more on clearing inventories rather than production ahead of the July 1 launch of GST.

A separate set of official data showed that growth of eight core sectors slowed to 2.4 per cent in July due to contraction in output of crude oil, refinery products, fertiliser and cement

Dip in growth 'not linked' to note ban

Denomination of high-value currency notes in November last year impacted economic activities in the January-March quarter as GDP growth slipped to 6.1 per cent and further to 5.7 in the three months to June.

Chief Statistician TCA Anant attributed the fall to the decline in inventories ahead of the rollout of GST as businesses re-labelled existing stocks and fashioned new ones in accordance with the new tax regime.

The drop in growth, he asserted, was not linked to note ban.

Anant said that as companies took to GST, inventory has returned to normal levels which will help revive growth.

The data released by the Central Statistical Office came in below market expectations, which predicted it to be at least a tad higher than Jun-July growth figure of 6.1 per cent. — PTI

(See page 4)

Over 60 startup proposals are in the pipeline for consideration under the fund

the officials of the Ministry of DoNER, Dr Singh said that hundreds of queries are pouring in each day and over 60 proposals are already in the pipeline for consideration.

Dr Singh said the fund is the first ded-

India, Switzerland hold talks to combat black money

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Ways to effectively combat black money and tax evasion figured extensively during talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Swiss President Doris Leuthard, who expressed strong commitment to help India to deal with the problem.

Modi thanked Switzerland for helping India become a member of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), a multilateral export control regime, and consistently supporting New Delhi's bid for membership of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).

Describing their talks as productive, Modi said transparency in financial transactions is a major global challenge and that cooperation between India and Switzerland over it will continue further.

"Be it black money, dirty money, hawala transaction or

money related to arms and drugs, our cooperation with Switzerland continues to deal with the global curse," the Prime Minister said in a state-

ment on Thursday.

(See page 4)

year, this law on automatic exchange of information will be passed and be operational by 2019 when the first exchange between India and Switzerland can go hand-in-hand to ensure financial transparency.

The issue of black money may have been a matter of major debate in India and Switzer-

land has been long perceived as one of the safest havens for the illicit wealth allegedly stashed abroad by some Indians.

In his comments, Modi also referred to the joint declaration on exchange of information relating to tax year. — PTI

(See page 4)

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In his comments, Modi also referred to the joint declaration on exchange of information relating to tax year. — PTI

(See page 4)

State Govt extends AFSPA term despite Centre's reluctance

R DUTTA CHOWDHURY

GUWAHATI, Aug 31: For the first time since 1990, it is not the Centre but the Assam government which has extended the term of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) to declare the entire State as a Disturbed Area for a period of six months.

As the overall law and order situation in the State has improved and the level of violence has come down, the Centre refused to extend the term of the Act beyond today. As per the provisions of the AFSPA, state governments also have the power to impose the Act and under such provisions, the Assam government decided to extend it for a

period of six months with effect from tomorrow. The State government's decision has also been communicated to all the concerned agencies.

Official sources told *The Assam Tribune* that the government decided to extend the term of the Act for a "limited period" as the militants are still active in the areas bordering Arunachal and Nagaland. However, there is apprehension that the militant groups, under the influence of the Chinese agencies, may try to step up the level of violence in the North East and that is why the State government decided to extend the term of the AFSPA, the State has been pressing the Centre to extend the same.

At the same time, the Central agencies were of the view that there was no need to extend the Act, at least in the entire State, because there is hardly any (See page 4)

Passenger trains to resume services tomorrow

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 31: Passenger train services between the Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) zone and the rest of the country will resume on September 2.

"While the goods train service resumed on August 29 after the restoration of Bridge No.133 in the Teltia-Sudhini section in Bihar, work is going on in full swing at the site for completion of balance work and further relaxation of speed. As only the Up line has been restored and traffic in the section is plying at the restricted speed of 10 MK per hour, the authorities have decided to go in for gradual introduction of passenger services from September 3 on that stretch," said Pranav Jyoti Sharma, Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO) of NFR.

As per the timetable prepared by the Railways, some passenger trains will resume operating from September 2. These trains will start from their stations of origin on September 2 and start passing through the Teltia-Sudhini section from the next day.

(See page 4)

Infrastructure in 3 hill dists to be improved

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 31: The State Government would take various actions for improving the infrastructure of the three hill districts and lot of steps have been already initiated in this regard, said Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today.

He was speaking while reviewing the budget announcement implementation status of Hill Area Development, Revenue and Minority Welfare departments here.

Sonowal directed that steps be taken for construction of a State Highway from Lunka to Hailong via Umrangsu in order to improve road connectivity in the hill districts. He instructed the Hill Area Development Department to

prepare the detailed project report (DPR) for the project in coordination with the Public Works Department.

Sonowal also directed that work be taken up for constructing a road at the Nagaland border in Dima Hasao district and he instructed that steps be taken to build the initial 5 KM of the road on a priority basis.

The Chief Minister instructed the Hill Area Development Department to construct a library-cum-convention centre at Dima Hasao district for immortalizing those personalities who made immense contribution in the fields of art, culture and literature of the 16 tribes inhabiting the district.

(See page 4)

State farmers to get insurance benefits beyond time limit

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 31: Under Atul Bora and senior officials, that the time limit for the crop insurance scheme – Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) – for the farmers of Assam would be extended in view of the prolonged sali season in the State, which continues till the first week of September.

Rupala, who was addressing a review meeting of various agricultural schemes attended by Assam Agriculture Minis-

try Atul Bora and senior officials, assured that the last date for crop insurance, which is July 31, would be extended to

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10 get bail in APSC scam

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 31: The Gauhati High Court today granted bail to 10 persons arrested in connection with the cash-for-jobs scam in the Assam Public Service Commission. Those who were granted bail include two suspended members of the APSC, Basanta Kumar Doley and Sameer Rahman.

Most of the arrested persons got default bail as the police could not file the chargesheet against them within the stipulated period of 60 days. However, at the same time, the Court made it clear that all the persons granted bail today can be re-arrested if any additional material is received against them during the course of the investigation.

The Court also laid down several conditions and said that none of the persons who were granted bail today should leave Guwahati without the permission of the special court and they would have to deposit their passports. The persons were asked to cooperate with the process of investigation and to appear before the Special Court or investigating officer whenever called for.

Meanwhile, commenting on today's judgment, special public prosecutor Bijon Mahajan said that a few of the persons got default bail as the recent law laid down by the Apex Court regarding default bail has been followed by the High Court and regarding the accused persons who have been released on bail on merit and quantum of detention taken into account by the Court.

Fire breaks out at State Secretariat

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 31: A fire broke out at the Finance department of the State Secretariat at Dispur here this afternoon. A Cabinet meeting was going on at the Secretariat when the incident took place.

The fire broke out around 12.20 pm at the chamber of the Finance Director (Budget) Purmendu Sarma located on the first floor of F Block. The fire damaged property like files, documents, computers and other hardware in the chamber and its adjoining rooms.

"Three fire-tenders were immediately pressed into service and the fire was doused in about 15 minutes," a Secretariat security official said.

While prima facie the fire appeared to have broken out due to a short-circuit in the AC room, police said forensic tests and other investigations would be conducted into the incident.

The incident laid bare several lapses in the safety measures at the high-security Secretariat.

"The fire-tenders had great difficulty in reaching the site. Excessive vehicles parked inside the Secretariat created the problem for emergency (See page 4)

JOCOSERIOUS



Our people are crazy for awards. Let's introduce 100 awards in Deendayal's name!

PLA says it will beef up patrols in Doklam, but mum on road

BEIJING, Aug 31: China's military today said it will beef up the presence of troops and patrols to protect "every inch" of its territory in Doklam but was evasive on the construction of the road which was stopped by Indian troops, leading to a 73-day standoff.

India and China on Monday ended their stand-off in Doklam by withdrawing their troops from the area, just days before Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to China to attend the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) summit.

"The Chinese military will continue to carry out its missions and responsibilities, beef up patrols and troops stationed there and resolutely safeguard national sovereignty and security,"

responsibilities, beef up patrols and troops stationed there and resolutely safeguard national sovereignty and security," Ren Guoqiang, a spokesperson for the Chinese defence ministry, said in his first interview with the media after the end of the standoff.

He, however, was evasive about People's Liberation Army's move to build the road close to the strategic Chicken Neck area in Doklam which prompted the Indian troops to intervene and stop its construction.

Bhutan, which claims sovereignty over the area, protested to China for building the road on Bhutanese territory.

"In the light of the changes in the landscape we have made adjustment in our deployment," he said, without elaborating.

The Chinese side will continue to patrol the Dong Long (Doklam) area for a long period of time to better guard borders and improve the living and working conditions of the military and civilians in the area," Ren said.

"We have long built infrastructure construction and including building of roads. In future, we will continue to make plan for infrastructure construction taking into consideration various factors including weather conditions," he

said, without elaborating about plans to build the road.

China has tried to highlight the Indian troops' withdrawal while remaining silent about the fate of the road which was the primary reason for India.

Ren also rubbished speculative reports in social media claiming that China planned India huge losses for the withdrawal of the troops.

"On your question about China providing loans to India to withdraw troops, we have checked with the relevant authorities of the government and such reports are pure fabrication," he said. - PTI

“The Chinese military will continue to carry out its missions and responsibilities, beef up patrols and troops stationed there and resolutely safeguard national sovereignty and security”



Two rescuers from US Navy Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 7 are lowered to a house after Tropical Storm Harvey flooded a neighbourhood in Beaumont, Texas, US, in a still image from video, on Wednesday. — UNI

State Govt ...

(Contd from page 3)

presence of militants in some districts. Central security agencies were of the view that the situation in the areas bordering Arunachal and Nagaland is a cause of worry, but there is no need for declaring the entire State as a Disturbed Area.

The security agencies were also of the view that the States facing activities of the Maoist rebel groups were experiencing a much higher level of violence. But such States are managing the situation without the imposition of the AFSPA. Similarly, the Act was imposed in Punjab in 1983 and was withdrawn in 1997 after improvement of the situation.

The Act was withdrawn from Tripura after improvement of the situation in 2010. And till 10:00 hrs of 04-09-2017, and up to 13:00 hrs of 09-09-2017. Tenders can be submitted online or by post or fax or e-mail or through DRMC/CLMG & ACMG/HM's from 10:00 hrs of 04-09-2017 up to 15:00 hrs of 09-09-2017 and will be opened on 19-09-2017 at 11:00 hrs at DRMC/CLMG's office. Detailed Tender Notice and Tender Documents are available at website www.nfr.indianoil.in.

Sr. DCM/CLMG

Serving Customers With a Smile

20 Rohingya refugees drown fleeing Myanmar

DHAKA, Aug 31: The bodies of 20 Rohingya refugees, including children, were recovered from Naf River on the Bangladesh-Myanmar border after their boat capsized while they were fleeing violence in Myanmar that has forced at least 18,500 Rohingyas to seek refuge across the border.

An official said the boat carrying the Rohingyas was attempting to cross the border into Bangladesh in the Shapardiwip area when it capsized on Wednesday night. Locals recovered the bodies from the river in Cox's Bazar's Teknaf on Thursday and handed them over to police, Xinhua news agency reported.

"Six bodies were found on Wednesday night and 14 more were recovered from the Bangladesh coast in the morning," said Chaitau Marma, Additional Superintendent of Police in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar district.

Bangladesh security forces also detained 75 Rohingya refugees, including women and children, when they were trying to cross the border into Bangladesh, Bloomberg.com said.

The cause of the accident is under probe.

"We're yet to find a survivor to know what

exactly happened at the time and how many Rohingyas people were on board which it capsized in Naf River dividing Bangladesh and Myanmar," said a police official.

The boat reportedly anchored near the Shah Porir Island of Bay of Bengal for a couple of hours as the Bangladesh forces did not allow them to enter Bangladesh territory.

The International Organization for Migration said on Wednesday that over 18,000 Rohingya people fled to Bangladesh from Myanmar's western Rakhine state amid a fresh wave of violence in the region since August 25.

According to reports, thousands of Rohingyas from Myanmar, mostly women, children and elderly people, were still waiting in no-man's land along Bangladesh's southeastern Naikhangchhari border to enter Bangladesh territory.

Bangladesh, which shares about 271 km of border with Myanmar, has refused repeated local and Myanmarese appeals to accept Rohingyas fleeing the coordinated rebel attacks on Myanmar border posts in which 100 people, including 80 insurgents and 12 members of the security forces, have been killed. — IANS

Harvey costliest natural disaster in US history, toll climbs to 38

HOUSTON, Aug 31: Hurricane Harvey, the costliest natural disaster in US history, may cost a whopping USD 160 billion in economic damages in Texas which resulted in massive destruction, killing 38 people and leaving tens of thousands homeless.

Harvey, now a tropical depression, made the second landfall yesterday, slamming into the Louisiana coast near the Texas border hitting the region with record-breaking rainfall and devastating floods.

Harvey has brought the heaviest rainfall in US history, soaking Texas with more than 52 inches since it first made landfall last Friday.

At least 38 people have been killed as a result of the devastating floods and that number was climbing as water receded, revealing the storm's awful toll, officials were quoted as saying by the New York Times.

Twenty people still remained missing in the city, according to Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo. The flooding in Houston, the fourth largest US city, is slowly receding in some areas for the first time since the weekend, authorities said.

Taking advantage of a less rainfall in Houston, Harris

County authorities finally located a van, containing six members of the same family, that had been washed off the road days earlier. All three were dead in what police say is the single deadliest incident stemming from Harvey, with victims ranging in ages from six to 84.

More than 32,000 people were in shelters in Texas, and 30,000 shelter beds were available, Texas Governor Greg Abbott said.

Accuweather estimated Harvey's cost at USD 160 billion, making it the costliest natural disaster in US history. — PTI

Fire breaks ...

(Contd from page 3)

services and vehicle movement. There is a shortage of parking spaces and vehicles are parked all along the roads. There is no specific slot for visitors. Vehicle passes issued are much in excess of the parking space," a security official said.

Sources also said a firm named Seema Enterprise looks after the fire safety at the secretariat. They have two persons round the clock at the Secretariat, but police said they failed to act with the water hydrants. The firm is in AMC for a year and the work was outsourced to them by PWD.

State Cabinet ...

(Contd from page 3)

the collection of soil samples in Assam was limited to four months only due to emergence of the soil for a major part of the year. "We explained the situation to the Minister. On the overall implementation of different centrally-sponsored and State agriculture projects and schemes, the Minister expressed satisfaction," sources in the Agriculture Department said.

The Cabinet also said in one of its decisions today that all ministers and senior officers would visit all flood-hit areas from September 15 onwards and extend necessary support for implementation of the Swachh Bharat Mission.

US flies bombers, fighters in show of force against NKorea

SEOUL, Aug 31: South Korea's military says the United States flew B-1B supersonic bombers and F-35 fighter jets over South Korea as a show of force following North Korea's latest ballistic missile launch.

An official from Seoul's Defense Ministry said today that two B-1B bombers and two F-35 fighters participated in training with South Korean F-15 fighter jets. He didn't want to be named, citing office rulers. — AP

Notice for Extension of bid

No. SSA/Est/Materials/SB/1163/2017/2897 Date: 31.08.2017 The submission of bid notice inviting e-tender vide No. SSA/Est/Materials/SB/1164/2017/2045 Date: 11.08.2017 and No. SSA/Est/Materials/SB/1163/2017/2046 Date: 11.08.2017 for supply of School Bags is extended up-to 14.09.2017 with certain amendment. The amendment can be downloaded from the respective website.

Sd/- Executive Director,
SSA, Assam, Kahilipara,
Jorhat
Janasanyog/CF/1333/19

No. CE/Maint/ARMF/111/2016/14 Date: 30.08.2017

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Chief Engineer PWD (Roads) Assam, on behalf of Governor of Assam re-invites bids for Construction of road from Asimganj-Anjupur-R.K. Nagar-Iswancherra upto Haikakandi Border under Assam Road Maintenance Fund for the year 2016-17 amounting to Rs. 900 lakhs in the district of Karimganj. Details may be seen at website <http://pmgsytendersassam.gov.in> and also at the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Chief Engineer,
PWD (Roads)
Janasanyog/CF/1327/17
Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3

THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT AT GUWAHATI

(The High Court of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram & Arunachal Pradesh)

SHORT TENDER NOTICE

Sealed quotations affixing Court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 only (Non-refundable) are hereby invited from the Local Printing Press/Firms for printing and supply of New Year's Greetings Cards for 2018 with Envelopes.

Details may be obtained from the High Court website www.gchonline.gov.in or the High Court Notice Board.

Deputy Registrar (Finance)

Janasanyog/C/3225/17

NO. : ITBP/10th Bn/Bn/Eng/NIT/2017

Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, 10th Bn Kimin

TENDER NOTICE

Commandant 10th Bn ITBP CO/9th APR/2017 dated on behalf of the President of India invited tenders for the works mentioned in the following technical & financial from eligible bidders on appropriate list of Railway Department of Telecom, MEG, CPWD and state PWD from the date of opening for the following construction work etc.

Sl. No.: 1. Name of work: ARM of Residential Building for Civil Maintenance for the year 2017-18 at BHQ of 10th Bn I.T.B.P. Police, Kimin SH. Finishing work.

Estimated cost: Rs. 2,90,166/- Earliest money: Rs. 58/03/- Period of completion: 2 months, Cost of tender set: Rs. 500/- Document download start date: 31.08.17, 09.00 Hrs.. Document download end date: 08.09.17, 10.00 Hrs.. Prepaid amount: Rs. 100/- Last date of submission of application: 08.09.17, 11.00 Hrs.. Date and time of opening of bid: 09.09.2017, 11.30 Hrs..

2. All details regarding the subject tender are available on our website www.govin.gov.in & www.procurement.gov.in & cpp portal. Any change/modification in the Tender Enquiry will be intimated through our website & cpp portal only. Bidder are therefore requested to visit our website & cpp portal regularly to keep themselves updated.

3. Manual bids will not be accepted.

4. Proprietary bidder/bidders of participating in this tender may submit their tenders to the undersigned at least one week before the date of tender opening. Based on queries Commandant 10th Bn ITB Police force. May amend tender.

5. Interested parties/firms may view and download the tender document containing the detailed terms & condition, form the website <http://eprocure.gov.in/procureapp>. Or ITBP website www.itbp.gov.in however bidding should be done at <http://eprocure.gov.in/procureapp>.

Commandant
10th Bn ITBP
date 19/11/2017

(ANNEXURE – II)

ENGAGEMENT NOTICE OF HOME GUARDS VOLUNTEER IN KAMRUP DISTRICT

Application are hereby invited directly or by general post from the intending Home Guards volunteer of Kamrup District (Rural & Metro) for engagement under various Agencies in Kamrup District.

Eligibility and other condition applicable for Home Guards volunteer are as per rules laid down in Assam Home Guards (Amendment) Rules 2015.

1. Number of post: 210

2. Place of Deployment: Kamrup District (Rural & Metro).

3. Educational Qualification: (i) Minimum class VIII Pass.

(ii) Home Guard volunteer certificate from Kamrup District (mandatory unless certificate obtained in 2015-16 from the competent authority for a period of three years) as per Assam Home Guards (Amendment) Rules 2015.

4. Desirable Qualification: (1) Driving License Holder.

(2) Computer proficiency certificate.

(3) Extracurricular activity certificate if any.

(4) Any skill development certificate.

5. Age limit: 55 years maximum (preferably below 35 years).

6. Important Dates: (a) Starting Date for submission of application: 01.09.2017 (b) Last date of submission of application: 26.09.2017

7. Wages: (i) Rs. 235/- per day for Basic trained Home Guards volunteer.

(ii) Rs. 250/- per day for Advance trained Home Guards volunteer.

The above mentioned wages are fixed and additional perks may be given by different agencies subject to fulfillment of performance and skill of the volunteer.

8. IMPORTANT NOTES:

* Home Guards volunteer will be shortlisted on the basis of First come First serve for the above mentioned tentative vacant post. The final list of candidate will be prepared based on the period of volunteers whose services is not utilized for more than One years , character and antecedent, overall fitness, smartness and turnout of Home Guards Volunteers. No TA/DA will be admissible. Intending Home Guard volunteers are requested to enquire about status of engagement and engagement at these help desk numbers 0677-2001, during office hours.

* No Home Guards volunteers can claim any appointment / engagement under regular Govt. Establishment by virtue of his/her performance as a Home Guard Volunteer during his/her deployment tenure. Hence volunteers are advised not to come under the influence of any false propaganda in relation to their engagement and thereby discourage and disown any tools who may be trying to do so.

* No Home Guards volunteers can dictate any terms regarding choice of deployment post. All the valid order of deployment from the competent authority to be strictly followed and disciplinary action will be initiate for non compliance of such orders.

* The undersigned reserves the right to change/modify/accept/reject any application without any information to the volunteers.

Sd/- District Commandant Home Guards
Janasanyog/D/6965/17
Kamrup: Assam

MESSAGE FOR TODAY

There is no such thing in anyone's life as an unimportant day.

— ALEXANDER WOOLLCOTT

The Assam Tribune

Killer 'game'

The pitfalls of technology have always been known but it is in today's age of digital empowerment that we are witnessing more and more sinister manifestations of technology abuse. The IT boom has undoubtedly opened up a new exciting world of mind-boggling opportunities and entertainment before us, enabling us to accomplish many a task with our smart-phones. But disturbingly, wrong, unethical and downright criminal use of the cyber space is undermining the utilities of the IT revolution. The IT-enabled environment has triggered an obsession among a growing number of internet users to live in and be concerned more about the virtual world than the real world. Again, it is also natural that antisocial elements and criminals too, would increasingly take recourse to technology to disturb their nefarious agenda.

It is against this backdrop of a disturbing penchant among people – children and youth in particular – to prefer the virtual world to the real one that we need to look at the consternation created by the video game called Blue Whale. The game – if at all it deserves to be called as such – is increasingly bringing more and more children and teenagers in its vicious folds, with a number of cases of suicide and attempted suicide across India already attributed to the deadly game. Significantly, it is not a downloadable game, application or software. It is a social media phenomenon which enters social media networks from secretive groups. Given the widespread social media addiction among the youth and even children, it is but natural that the killer game would find many takers. The game – involving emotional and psychological conditioning of the participants – lures the players into doing weird things including infliction of self-harm, culminating with the last challenge of committing suicide. One such case of attempted suicide has been reported in Guwahati also, prompting the Assam Police to issue an advisory to parents to monitor the internet activities of their children. Indeed, it is lack of parental monitoring, guidance and interaction that is largely responsible for the growing internet addiction among children. As the desired level of parental care remains out of bound for many of today's children, the children increasingly look for an emotional connect in the virtual world – often a dangerous place for vulnerable children. Parents should remember that it's their time which is the best thing they can give to their children for their healthy mental development. No less important is to initiate children to the outside natural world so that the unhealthy distractions like social media can be kept at bay. While social media has emerged as a happy hunting ground for cyber criminals, matters stand worsened because a vast segment of social media users are ignorant of the safe cyber practices. As much as 81% of cyber crimes involve social networking sites where cyber stalking, cyber defamation, phishing and vishing, and website defacement are quite commonplace. It is also time to update the existing legal mechanism and enhance the capacity of the law enforcers to deal effectively with cyber crimes.

Much-needed step

With over 13 lakh personnel, both military and civilian, within its ranks, the Indian Army has become an unwieldy behemoth in urgent need of revamp. This was the rationale behind the setting up of a Committee headed by Lt. General DB Shekhar (retired) to suggest structural changes to the army for better utilization of resources. The Committee has made no less than 99 recommendations, of which 65 have been accepted by the Government. The process of implementing them has already commenced and is scheduled to be completed by 2019. For instance, 39 military farms, a hangover from the colonial days when dairy products were supplied directly from farm to the army, are being gradually closed down through a decision made by the Cabinet Committee on Security. Naturally enough, a majority of the recommendations and the method of implementation have to remain secret, though some of the more plebeian ones as well as those of general nature have been placed in the public domain. Recommendations such as raising the bar for recruitment of civilian clerical staff and drivers, or the need for improvement in the National Cadet Corps are easily implemented, as is the closure of Army managed postal departments in peace locations. More pertinent would be how more sophisticated measures are feasibly effected, such as the creation of a single branch for greater efficiency in handling of Army logistics.

This will entail bringing together the Army's Corps of Electronic and Mechanical Engineers, Services Corps and the Ordnance Corps under a single head. There will also be a revamp of the logistics components including signals establishments, ordnance factories and depots, supply and transport facilities, vehicle repair units etc. However, the major thrust would be to bring about changes in the "teeth to tail ratio," enhancing teeth, or actual combat unit strength and numbers while streamlining the tail, meaning organisations which support and supply the former. The Army plans to take away a sizeable number of officers and jawans from non-combatant sectors and redeploy them in combat and operational roles, thereby strengthening India's frontline defence system. The NDA Government must be commended for undertaking a much needed step to restructure and revamp the Indian Army and trim and train it to be battle-ready. Though Union Defence Minister Arun Jaitley has denied that the revamp exercise is related to the recent stand-off at India-China border, yet it comes at an opportune moment given the belligerence shown both by China and Pakistan. However, merely restructuring the Army, despite being necessary, would not be enough. This has to be backed up by equipping it with state-of-the-art weaponry and communication equipment to increase its fire power and creating supportive infrastructure.

Children: the supreme national asset

■ Dr Dharmakanta Kumbhakar

Children are the supreme asset of a nation. They are the greatest hope for the future of a nation. Every nation, developed or developing, links its future with the status of their children. The future of a nation rests on healthy, protected, educated and well-developed children. They are the potential and useful human resources for the progress of a nation. Ignoring or neglecting the children means wasting the supreme national asset and loss to the nation as a whole. If children are deprived of their childhood – socially, economically, physically and mentally – the nation gets deprived of the potential human resources for social progress, economic empowerment, peace and order, social stability and good citizenship. All rights protect, nourishment and proper environment to grow into useful and responsible citizens to serve the nation. Children of today cannot develop to be responsible and productive citizens of tomorrow unless an environment conducive to their social and physical welfare is assured to them. Therefore, they are to be provided with all necessary facilities and atmosphere to grow into responsible and useful citizens of the nation.

Realizing the importance of the children in shaping the future of a nation, the lawmakers both international as well as national have always been concerned to accord

privileged status to children. In 1959, the United Nations passed the Declaration of the Rights of the Child and in 1989, it had the Convention on the Rights of the Child ratified by India as well in 1992. India has made good strides in uplifting the position of her children. The Constitution of India guarantees equality before the law to all citizens, and pledges special protections for children. In 1974, India adopted a National Policy for Children and declared it a supreme national asset. India has a full-fledged ministry and numerous agencies engaged in child welfare work. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has been set up as a statutory body under the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 to protect, promote and defend child rights in India. The 86th Constitutional Amendment made education a fundamental right for children in the age group of 9 to 14 years. There are various Acts like the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986; Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986; Protection of Children against Sexual Abuse Act, 2012, etc., to protect the child's right in India.

India has 440 million children constituting 42% of India's total population. As they are the supreme asset of our nation, they need appropriate attention and proper support to grow well to engage them use-

fully to serve the country. They are to be looked after and groomed well with great human touch and concern. We have both obligation and duty towards them. We should remember and remind ourselves that it is only strong, knowledgeable and virtuous children who can make our country strong and great. Their holistic development should be of great concern in their interest and in the interest of the country. Every child should receive services that

turing in order to ensure a better future for them. If we neglect and do not provide the basic needs of food, health and education to these children, heavy price will have to be paid in the future. If India is to live, children are to live well.

Every child in the country has a legitimate claim and is entitled to his or her share in the finances of the nation for harmonious and comprehensive development of his/her personality. There is a need to enhance the share in the budget for the development and welfare of children in their interest as well as in the interest of the country. Education must be our top priority. Government agencies need to increase investment in education. Spending money on education of the child is not a burden on the public exchequer but an investment in the long run. Education of the child is inextricably intertwined with the progress of a democracy. Democracy can succeed only with an informed citizenry. The education pattern, which must be applied not only at schools but also at homes, must be able to bring about character development, which will encourage the children to work hard and be optimistic, competitive and tough. Inculcating noble values among the children is crucial.

Children have to be protected against child labour, trafficking, communal and political violence, armed conflicts, terrorist activities, migrant situations, all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation and corporal punishment.

support early childhood care and development. Children should have access to preventive, protective and curative services, ensuring good quality health needs, nutrition, education and universal immunization against vaccine preventable diseases. They need adequate housing and shelter, better public health services like safe drinking water, sanitation, environmental protection, means to combat hunger and malnutrition by ensuring food security to families and nutritional security to children. They must receive the best education and nur-

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Psychological rehabilitation of flood victims

■ Meenakshi Medhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced a package of Rs 2.250 crore for all the north-eastern States for mitigating the impact of floods on short-term and long-term basis. He also assured all cooperation from the Central Government in overcoming the havoc caused by the floods in Assam and asserted that all necessary steps would be taken to help the State Government in solving the problem. Rs 100 crore has also been allotted to study the Brahmaputra for a permanent solution. The Government has taken the Assam floods as a calamity of 'severe nature' in terms of the operational guidelines of 2015-16 for constitution and administration of the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF).

The second wave of flood has affected 19 districts of Assam, namely, Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Biswanath Chariali, Sonitpur, Baksa, Barpeta, Gauhati, Salmara, Morigaon, Golaghat, Jorhat, Majuli, Sivasagar, Charaideo, Dibrugarh and Tinsukia. Dhemaji, Dibrugarh and Dhubri are among the worst hit this year.

Floods are the result of factors like inadequate infrastructure, population increase, degradation of natural wetlands and forest zones, encroachment of hillocks, clogging of natural drains which used to car-

ry off excess rainwater, etc.

Flooding is now the most frequent type of major disaster in a State like Assam. Flood damages road communication in the affected areas and submerge houses, schools and other public places. Many have lost their houses, houses, property and agricultural land. Floods have washed away the entire paddy crop in Kamrup district. Many roads have been destroyed leading to disruption of surface communication in the affected villages. Power supply in several areas also got disrupted due to heavy rains. Several schools buildings have collapsed; students' textbooks and study material got destroyed in parts of Assam due to the floods.

The incidence and prevalence of common mental disorders increase after flood and these disorders can persist long after the flooding has passed. It is necessary to know the severity, duration and impact of flood experiences on people's lives in differentiating distress and disorder. Common mental health disorders such as anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and suicide can affect the lives of the flood victims.

There will be significant increase in depression, anxiety and psychological distress among adults. Children may show aggression, bed-wetting and moderate to severe stress symptoms. Substance mis-

use might also be seen as an after-effect of flood.

Everyone may not have emotional reaction to flood and those who do will react in their own unique ways. Some of the most typical emotional reactions may include recurring dreams or nightmares about the flood; trouble concentrating or remembering things; feeling numb; withdrawn or disconnected; having burst of anger or intense anger; persistent physical symptoms of headache, digestion problem, muscle tension, etc.; being overprotected of family's safety; avoiding reminders of the flood; being tearful or crying for no apparent reasons.

While most people involved in disaster recover with support of their families, friends and colleagues, some might have an extension impact on health, relationship and welfare. This stresses the importance of planning and providing effective and timely public mental health and clinical services.

A new mental health policy should be formed for mental disorders that spring from environmental as well as physical and social risks. The policy should be an effort in developing people's resilience and preventing people from developing mental disorders. One of the environmental risks that threaten people's mental health is flood. This should include assessing and appraising the epidemiological evidence of flooding and mental health. Researches

should be made on identifying 'where' and 'how', which supports the development of future evidence. Formulation of practical methods to reduce the impact of flood on mental health should be an important step taken by the public sector in collaboration with NGOs and similar organizations.

People who have responsibilities for emergency preparedness within governmental, non-governmental and commercial sectors should also consider the short-term and long-term psychological consequences of flooding. They should work with agencies that are responsible for managing the environment. It is because the measures for preventing flood can reduce the health impact on the population.

There is a requirement of mental health approach to flooding that comprises of both universal and targeted plans for intervention, which are well coordinated with adequate, timely assessment of people in need as well as long-term availability of specialist care for a sizeable number of affected people. Primary care and specialist mental health services should be provided to recognize the long duration of stress among the affected people after there are inundated. Development of evidence-based policy in this area should be a priority for the people who are responding for responding to emergencies, health care, social care and mental health services.

Modi is not the Prime Minister of the BJP but he is the PM of the nation, that he uttered strong words against the hoodlums. The government should crack down heavily upon such religious gurus and fringe elements, punish the lawbreakers and ensure democracy. Yours etc., ASHIM KUMAR CHAKRABORTY, Pandu, Guwahati.

Historical verdict

Sir – It is laudable that the five-judge bench of the Supreme Court held that the triple talq is unconstitutional. Then, the unanimous judgment declaring the right to privacy as a fundamental right under Article 21 of our Constitution is another judicial landmark. The people who waged the legal battle against the instant triple talq have been socially boycotted in some places. A section of the people has also claimed that it is a violation of the religious rights of the minorities. Apropos the judgement on the right to privacy, from now on the eating

habits and dress codes of the people should not be questioned. Yours etc., PUTUL SARMA, Biswanath Chariali.

Wrong info

Sir – If someone enquires about a good commerce college of Assam, the first name that instantly comes to one's mind is the Gauhati Commerce College. But in response to a query made by Yogesh Baruiki in the column 'Xomidhan' (AT, August 28), the Gauhati Commerce College (GCC) was rated very low (though the rating was not mentioned) by Ellora Deka. It has also been stated that the college is a semi-government college, but so far my knowledge goes, the GCC was established by the Government of Assam in September, 1962. I hope that before publishing any write-up, such misleading or wrong information would be rectified. Yours etc., DIPAK KUMAR DAS, Beltoila, 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@assamtibune.com.

Letters to the EDITOR

Sir, – India being a diverse nation housing different religions, cultures and customs seems to have no dearth of so-called 'babas' or the self-styled godman who are known for their flamboyant lifestyle and seemingly non-taxable unaccounted wealth. From Sant Rampal, Asram Baupi, swami's like Nitishamanda, Bhimannand and Vikasana to the very recent Dera Sacha Sauda head Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh, all of them had a run with the law for heinous crimes like murder, rape and sexual abuse. The people of the nation should not give space to any such superstitious believers and the babas who proclaim themselves to possess miraculous powers. The blind faith of the followers makes our godmen so powerful that our politicians use another tactic to patronize them as baits to catch votes. The political leaders leave no stone unturned to woo and endorse such self-styled godmen for their vested interests. The

Blind faith, godmen and our politicians

Wilful negligence

Sir – The arrest of the self-styled godman Gurmeet Ram Rahim has frustrated his crores of disciples as much that they unleashed violence and terror killing many and damaging scores of vehicles and properties. Such unprecedented anarchy is predictably only in India, where many people got lynched in the name of religion, beef eating and cow vigilanteism since 2014. All this is happening when the pro-Hindutva BJP is in power and when the party is ruling 67% area of India. I feel Assam is a mini India as so many languages, tribal groups, religious groups, etc., are found living harmoniously in Assam. The culprits behind the antisocial, anti-national activities must be punished because they do not believe in peace and social harmony. Instead of blaming each other, a magisterial inquiry is suggested so that the people of Assam can understand the actual reason. Yours etc., Dr SHANKAR CHATTERJEE, Hyderabad.

Mahabir Lachit Award to Jayanta Baruah



STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 31: The proprietor of Assam Prati-din, Jayanta Baruah, has been honoured with the Mahabir Lachit Award by the Tai Ahom Yuva Parishad.

According to the president of the Yuva Parishad Dilip Gogoi, the award will be presented to Baruah on November 24 at a function to be organised at the Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra, Panjapukher here on the occasion of Lachit Divas.

Baruah has been chosen for the award because of his contribution to the society by highlighting regional issues through the popular Assamese daily, Gogoi added. The award includes a turban, a chakron and a citation, among others.

New chairman of Jorhat Municipal Board

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

JORHAT, Aug 31: The BJP on Wednesday evening announced the name of Jayanta Borkakati as the new chairman of Jorhat Municipal Board (JMB) after State party secretary and in-charge of Jorhat district, Debjadip Bora, held a meeting with the JMB ward members of the party at the Circuit House here.

Borkakati, member of JMB ward no. 11, will be replacing former activist Aruna Dutta, member of ward no. 1, who had resigned from the post on August 3. The JMB, having 19 wards, is run by BJP having 12 ward members and rest by the Congress.

OBITUARY
Dhanpati Kalita

CORRESPONDENT

M A N GALDAI, Aug 31: Dhanpati Kalita, a literary pensioner, social activist, retired teacher and a resident of Mangaldai Jyoti Nagar area passed away on Wednesday in a private hospital here due to old-age ailments. He was 85.

Born in Loxora village under Sipahar LAC, Kalita was socially and culturally active since his childhood and served in many local socio-cultural and literary organisations including Darrang Zila Sahitya Sabha as the president, Mangaldai Raas Celebration Committee as the secretary and Darrang district committee of Biswa Hindu Parishad as the secretary, among others.

He has several books to his credit including *Bhima Samay-Bhima Bhab, Chakr-Chanda, Daibojog, Mangaldai Sahar Ithas* etc. He was offered the literary pension in the year 2008.

He leaves behind his wife, a son and two daughters besides a host of relatives.

Aruna Mazinder Baruah: a tribute

Our mother, Aruna Mazinder Baruah, fondly known as Anu, left for her heavenly abode on August 20. She was 84.

Fourth daughter of the first Chief Minister of independent



Congress workers taking out a rally to protest against the BJP-led State government's inability to fulfil the poll promises, in Jorhat on Wednesday. - UB Photos

Sikh delegation visits Gurudwara Mataji, vows to uplift Assamese Sikh community

CORRESPONDENT

RAGHUA, Aug 31: A high-level Sikh delegation led by Manjinder Singh Sirsa, general secretary of Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee (DSGMC) visited the historic Gurudwara Mataji, at Chaparmukhi on Wednesday.

Kuldeep Singh Bhogal, senior Shiromani Dal leader and Indu Singh, social worker, were also part of the delegation.

The DSGMC general secretary added that the Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee has decided to set up the Assam Sikh Welfare Trust, which will include Sikhs from worldwide who will contribute to ameliorate the condition of the Sikhs in the State. He said that the trust will formulate a plan to achieve

Mughals. But even till this day, the social, economic and political conditions of the Sikhs in the State are not satisfactory.

The past governments in Assam have done nothing for the uplift of this community."

"Now, we are fortunate enough that the Sonowal-led government has been adopting a slew of measures for the welfare of the Assamese Sikh community," he said.

After visiting the Gurudwara Mataji, talking to this Correspondent Sirsa said, "The Sikh people came to Assam to help the native people to assist to help the

Mataji in Chaparmukhi, and work on the project will begin by mid-November this year.

He said that the DSGMC will also take the help of technical experts for the preservation of handwritten *Guru Granth Sahib* and other historical articles present in the Gurudwara Mataji in Assam.

Sirsa further said that the DSGMC has also decided to set up the Assam Sikh Welfare Trust, which will include Sikhs from worldwide who will contribute to ameliorate the condition of the Sikhs in the State. He said that the trust will formulate a plan to achieve

New Inspector of Schools of Tinsukia dist takes charge

CORRESPONDENT

DOOMDOOMA, Aug 31: Amir Hussain, an AES officer has joined as Inspector of Schools, Tinsukia District Circle recently. Hussain, who has been transferred from Goalpara district, will also hold the charge of DEO of the district.

After assuming office, Hussain on Wednesday held a meeting with the heads of high and higher secondary schools of the district at the Shikshak Bhawan.

Addressing the meeting, the new education officer sought the education officer also

cooperation from all to improve the education scenario of the district. He said that the government had approved the amalgamation of 46 schools of Tinsukia district. He expressed the hope that this step of the government would help to improve the quality of education of these schools.

Hussain also informed the meeting that the government had postponed the Ganotsava, which was scheduled to be held in the district from September 19. Now it will be held in the second week of October.

The education officer also

the purpose and implement it as soon as possible.

The delegation later met the Nagpur Deputy Commissioner, Shamsur Singh to discuss allotment of 10 bigbas of land to set up the social welfare project and establish a community centre and education

for which the Chief Minister has already sanctioned an amount of Rs 5 crore.

The Deputy Commissioner

assured the delegation that

within a period of one month,

he will move a proposal to the

government for allotment of the said land.

Brihattar Axomiya Yuva Mancha formed at Chabua

CORRESPONDENT

CHABUA, Aug 31: A public meeting was held recently at the Rupnagar LP School, Chabua under the presidentship of Kabujyoti Das, working president of Brihattar Axomiya Yuva Mancha to form the Chabua Anchalika Committee at Chabua.

Bhaban Sonowal, working president of Dibrugarh district unit of Brihattar Axomiya Yuva Mancha (BAYM) and Dibrugarh Gogoi, organising secretary of Dibrugarh district unit of Brihattar Axomiya Yuva Mancha (BAYM) attended the meeting as invited guests.

Tapan Das was elected as the president, Jyoti Saikia and Sanjiv Das as working president and Debojit Gogoi as the secretary general of the newly-formed Chabua Anchalika Committee.

The BAYM condemned the

Nagaon incident and also accepted five resolutions in the meeting.

Two held for bribing police

CORRESPONDENT

NORTH LAKHIMPUR, Aug 31: Two persons were arrested in Ghilamora for allegedly trying to bribe the police.

The incident occurred on Thursday when two persons, namely, Aza Doley and Neelakanta Mili visited the Ghilamora Police Station to bring back a tractor loaded with *shimul* tree logs.

The logs were confiscated by the police along with the vehicle earlier as there is a ban on felling of *shimul* trees. The two accused persons came to the police station to recover the logs with the vehicle by bribing the Officer-in-Charge Ajeez Kumar Bhuyan.

On finding their motive,

OC Bhuyan immediately ar-

rested them and registered a case under PC Act 12 and sent them to the North Lakhimpur jail.

That the State Labour department has fixed exorbitant registration fees i.e. Rs 240 per head in Assam, Tiwari demanded the Government to scale down the rates.

TUCC State president Ratneswar Gogoi, in his speech, alleged that the Assam Housing & other Construction Labour Board's formulation by the State Government is not properly functioning and, consequently, the poor labour families are deprived of their constitutional rights.

families.

That stating the State Labour department has fixed exorbitant registration fees i.e. Rs 240 per head in Assam, Tiwari demanded the Government to scale down the rates.

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Pension woes of retired employees of Dibrugarh University

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

DIBRUGARH, Aug 31: At least 182 retired employees of the Dibrugarh University have died without getting any pension benefits promised to them. Among the deceased, some 47 employees have left behind no heirs to claim the family pension if it is disbursed in the near future.

About 422 retired employees of the varsity, most of whom are in their eighties and nineties now, have been made to run from pillar to post for their due rights. About 40 of the retired employees are widows now. Four have been bound to wheelchairs. Several members have been ailing and are not in good physical and mental health.

These retired employees, including both teaching and non-teaching staff, have been fighting for their dues under the banner of the Dibrugarh University Pensioners' Association (DUPA) for the past few years. These octogenarians and nonagenarians even met the Assam Governor, Chief Minister, Education Minister and Vice Chancellor of the university more than once, both in Guwahati and here, but their efforts did not bear any fruits.

"We were assured on all occasions, but nothing was done. Finally, we approached the Gauhati High Court, which gave an interim judgment to make pension available to the retired staff of the Dibrugarh University before August, 2016. But till date, the retired

employees have been deprived of pension," rued Dr Sarat Chandra Sharma, executive member, DUPA, at a press conference here today.

It may be mentioned here that after long and sustained efforts on the part of the retired employees and the Co-ordination Committee of Dibrugarh University for Pension, the Assam Government passed the Dibrugarh University (Amendment) Act, 2013 to provide pension to the retired employees from April 1, 2013.

The Act clearly states in Section 30 (A) that all employees, who joined service in the Dibrugarh University before February 1, 2005 and who have retired or expired before the Act came into force, will be entitled to receive pension or family pension as the case may be under the provisions of the Act.

It is also stated in the Act that "the University shall regulate the matter regarding implementation and payment of pension and family pension to their employees by such Authority of the University as may be determined by the University." It is provided in the Act that "eligibility of pension shall be guided by the Assam Services (Pension) Rules 1969." Further, "pension under section 30(A) (3) shall include superannuation pension and family pension only and does not include gratuity."

The Government had later released Rs 2 crore to initiate the pension process. The uni-

versity authority started paying one-third of the dues as monthly pension from November, 2013 due to lack of sufficient funds, as informed by the then university authorities. The university gave one-third pension to pensioners and family pensioners for two years but stopped paying the same from November, 2015.

"The failure to disburse pension to the retired employees of the Dibrugarh University has pushed the pensioners to misery. Widows and ailing octogenarians and nonagenarians are particularly finding it hard to make ends meet. They hardly have money to purchase medicines for themselves," said Lakshyanta Kuli, working president of DUPA.

Dr RK Kar, former acting

vice chancellor and head of the Department of Anthropology, Dibrugarh University, said that the Dibrugarh University earn from several sources, including tea plantation, and yet it claims that it has no funds. The varsity authorities, however, do not have any trouble in carrying out unnecessary facelift works like beautification of halls, chambers and lawns, he complained.

Meanwhile, the Dibrugarh University authorities have circulated a notification for payment of some monthly gratuity to the employees who retired from service before April 1, 2013 and to give pension to those who retired after March 31, 2013 in apparent violation of the Dibrugarh University (Amendment) Act, 2013 and also the Gauhati High Court order of May 11, 2016. The pensioners' association has resolved to receive pension alone and not any gratuity.

GAUHATI UNIVERSITY ADMISSION NOTICE 31-08-2017	
Applications in prescribed forms from 31st August, 2017 to 8th September, 2017 are invited from eligible candidates for admission into the following courses:	
2. Post Graduate Certificate in French/Russian	
• Last date of receiving applications : 8th of September, 2017	
• Publication of List of Selected candidates : 11th of September, 2017	
• Date of Admission : 14th of September, 2017	
• Commencement of Classes : 16th of September, 2017	
For details, please visit www.gauhati.ac.in	
Sd/- Secretary, University Classes Gauhati University	

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GUWAHATI
Guwahati - 781 039, Assam
Ph-0361-2583000, Fax- 0361-260762

Online applications from eligible Indian Nationals are invited for appointment to the following posts.

Junior Assistant - 20 Posts (UR : 11; OBC : 07; SC : 01; ST : 01). The no. of posts may vary.

Scale of Pay : PB1 : ₹ 5200-22000, Grade Pay = ₹ 2000/-. Appointment will be initially on contract basis for a period of three years and likely to be regularized based on performance.

Details about qualifications/experience/application fees/procedure of selection/online Links etc. for the above posts are available at IIT Guwahati website www.iitg.ernet.in or www.iitg.ac.in. The last date of submission of online application form is 22.09.2017.

Jt. Registrar (Adm.)

Advt. No. IITG/R/09/2017 Dated : 30.08.2017

Jorhat Institute of Science and Technology students launch indefinite stir

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

JORHAT, Aug 31: Close on the heels of the demonstration staged by the students of Assam Engineering College, Guwahati, and Jorhat Engineering College on Wednesday in protest against the State Government's decision to shift the existing affiliations of all engineering col-

leges in the State to the Assam Science and Technology University (ASTU), the students of Jorhat Institute of

Shifting of affiliation

Science and Technology (JIST) at Sotai near here launched an indefinite strike from today demanding immediate withdrawal of the gov-

ernment decision.

The agitating students on the JIST premises shouted slogans against the Education Department, demanding the immediate roll-back of the decision. The vice president of JIST Students' Union, Manash Pratinidhi Choudhary, told this correspondent that the Government was forcefully imposing the move to shift the affiliation would harm the interests of the students.

The shifting of the existing affiliation of JIST from the Dibrugarh University to the ASTU would also affect the prospects of students who got admitted to engineering courses after qualifying in the JEST, Choudhary said.

Choudhary pointed out that all engineering colleges in the State were till now affiliated to two universities – Dibrugarh University in upper Assam and Gauhati University in lower Assam – which, he claimed, was beneficial to the academic interests of the students.

The union vice president added that the Government's new decision would have an adverse effect on the career prospects of engineering students. He said that the new-

ly-established ASTU (located at Tetelia in Guwahati) has neither the requisite infrastructure nor any NAAC accreditation, and hence the move to shift the affiliation would harm the interests of the students.

The shifting of the existing affiliation of JIST from the Dibrugarh University to the ASTU would also affect the prospects of students who got admitted to engineering courses after qualifying in the JEST, Choudhary said. He alleged that the Government's decision was in violation of Section 12B of the UGC Act.

Choudhary warned that the strike would continue if the Government did not roll back the decision on affiliation.

Apartment offering several premier institutes of engineering education in the State which was formerly known as Government Science College, was established in 1971. It also runs a number of BSC courses.

No ex-BLT members involved in Lafiqul killing: Hagrama

CORRESPONDENT

on August 1.

Refuting reports in a section of the media in this regard, the BTC chief reiterated that a special investigation team (SIT) was probing the murder case, which had since been handed over to the CBI. Mohiyari maintained that he would resign as the BTC head if the involvement of ex-BLT was proved in the assassination of Ahmed.

Meanwhile, the BPF chief also slammed BJP president Ranjeet Dass for his comments on the forthcoming election in the BTAD.

Talking to media persons, Mohiyari made it clear that no ex-BLT members were involved in the killing of the ABMSU president. Ahmed was shot dead by armed miscreants at Titagarh Bazaar here

on August 28.

Mohiyari said that the sole objective of the initiative is to inculcate in the students a scientific temperament by extending classroom learning and focusing on a well-planned research laboratory-based learning process. The programme is expected to connect 1,151 KV's with 38 national laboratories of the CSIR and will target 100,000 students and nearly 1,000 teachers annually.

It may be mentioned here that the CSIR, New Delhi, which is celebrating its platinum jubilee this year, launched this special scientist-student interactive programme in July, 2017 in collaboration with the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

The release stated that the total of 70 students of Class IX from Kendriya Vidyalaya, NEIST, and Kendriya Vidyalaya, Air Force Station, Jorhat, attended the sessions held during the programme.

It may be mentioned here that the CSIR, New Delhi, which is celebrating its platinum jubilee this year, launched this special scientist-student interactive programme in July, 2017 in collaboration with the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

The programme is aimed to promote his new film, today visited Pathsala, considered the hub of mobile theatre in the State.

Garg took to the stage of Kohinoor Theatre to promote

Zubeen upbeat about Mission China prospects

PATAPACHUKKI, Aug 31: Popular singer Zubeen Garg is hopeful that the new generation will accept his new venture in Assamese cinema, *Mission China*. The singer-actor, who has launched a massive publicity campaign to promote his new film, today visited Pathsala, considered the hub of mobile theatre in the State.

Garg took to the stage of Kohinoor Theatre to promote

ASSAM POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LTD.

SHUTDOWN NOTICE

It is for general information to all our valued consumers that power supply will be affected at the following areas as per date and time shown below for construction of new 33 kv line from Jawahar Nagar to Jata control room.

SL. No.	Name of Feeder	Date	Time	Area affected
1	11 KV Ajanta Path FEEDER	03-09-2017 to 06-09-2017	05:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.	Ajanta path all by lane, Basisthapur all by lane.
2	11 KV Ajanta Path, 11 kv BR Path Feeder & 33 kv Jawaharagar-II	07-09-2017 to 12-09-2017	05:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.	Ajanta path all by lane, Basisthapur all by lane, Bishnurava path, Belota bazar.
3	11 KV BK Path & 11 kv Tripura Road Feeder	13-09-2017 to 14-09-2017	05:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.	Beltola bazar, Jayanagar Charali, Tripura Road.
4	11 KV Old National Feeder & 11 kv BK Feeder	15-09-2017 to 16-09-2017	05:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.	Krishnapur, Beltola bazar, Jayanagar
5	33 kv Jawaharagar-II, 11 KV Old National Feeder	17-09-2017 and 19-09-2017	05:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.	33 kv Game village S/S, Krishnapur, Saurav Nager.
6	33 kv Jawaharagar-II, 11 KV IAS Feeder & 11 kv Old National Feeder	20-09-2017 and 21-09-2017	05:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.	IAS Colony Koinadhora, UPSC Building, Krishnapur, Beltola Jayanagar Road.

Inconvenience thus caused to our valued consumers is sincerely regretted. The undersigned reserve the right to charge the lines at any time after completion of the work.

Assistant General Manager,
Guwahati Electrical Division (E)
APDCL (LAR), Dispur, Guwahati-6

SA/2017/56



ASSAM HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION COUNCIL BAMUNIMAIMAD, GUWAHATI – 21

TENDER NOTICE

NO. AHSEC/ STORE/TENDER/ 3/17/84-93

Date: 29.08.2017

Sealed tender are invited from well established reputed and experience Firm/ Printing Press/ Vendors having GST registration, Business establishment of Assam and up to date sale tax clearance certificate for the following works.

Details of the tender documents may be downloaded from the Council website www.ahsec.nic.in and in such a case the tenderer shall deposit the cost of tender documents along with submission of the tender failing which tender shall not be valid and also obtain from Superintendent, Store Branch of the Council during office hours from 2nd September, 2017 to 14th September, 2017 on payment of Rs. 500/- (Rupees Five Hundred) (non refundable) in bank chalan of the Assam Co-Operative Apex Bank Ltd., Noonimati Branch or B/D of the Secretary, Assam Higher Secondary Education Council towards the cost of one tender documents.

The tender will be received up to 2.00 P.M. on 15th September, 2017 and will be open on same day at 3.00 P.M. on 15th September, 2017.

SL. NO.	NAME OF WORKS	EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT	TENDER COST
1	Carriage of Examination materials by Truck. (6 wheeler & 4 Wheeler)	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 500/-
2	Carriages of Examination materials by Star Bus, Tempo -Travellers & Light Motor Vehicle (LMV)	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 500/-
3	Wall Calendar, Diary & Engagement pad for 2018	Rs. 2000/-	Rs. 500/-
4	Supply of Gunny Bags. Length : 120cm Breath : 75cm	Rs. 2000/-	Rs. 500/-
5	Supply of Marlin Cloth Size : 110cm X 114cm	Rs. 2000/-	Rs. 500/-
6	Supply of Kraft Envelop with print Size : 28cm X 36cm	Rs. 2000/-	Rs. 500/-
7	Supply of Cloth pasted Envelop with print Size : a) 50cm X 38cm b) 36cm X 28cm	Rs. 2000/-	Rs. 500/-
8	Supply of Laminated Brown paper Size : 72cm X 108cm	Rs. 2000/-	Rs. 500/-
9	Rexin Binding a) Tabulation Register b) Manuscript Register	Rs. 2000/-	Rs. 500/-
10	a) Printing of various forms etc. b) Printing of graph paper (Paper Size : A4)	Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 500/-

Sd/- Secretary
Assam Higher Secondary Education Council
Bamunimaimad, Guwahati-21



**WEATHER
NORTHEAST**

Forecast for North Eastern States: Moderate rain/thunderstorms is very likely to occur at most places in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura.

Warning : Heavy rain is very likely to occur at isolated places on September 2 over Arunachal Pradesh; on September 2, 3 and 4 over Assam and Meghalaya and on September 1 and 2 over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura. Heavy to very heavy rain is very likely to occur at isolated places on September 1 over Assam, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh.

Temperatures:

	Max (°C)	Min (°C)
Dibrugarh	33.4	23.9
Tezpur	28.2	24.9
Gauhati	33.0	24.3
Guwahati	32.6	23.7
Jorhat	31.3	25.4
NLakhimpur	32.8	22.6
Shillong	22.8	16.5
Imphal	29.3	21.4
Mizoram	31.7	24.3
Agrahara	31.0	26.0
Kohima	24.2	19.6
Pasighat	33.3	24.0
Cherrapunji	24.0	18.4

Acharya, Khandu greet people on Solung fest

ITANAGAR, Aug 31: Arunachal Pradesh Governor PB Acharya and Chief Minister Pema Khandu today greeted the people of the State on the occasion of Solung festival of the Adi community.

Expressing hope that the socio-agricultural festival will continue to showcase the cultural richness of the State, the Governor in his message said that the Solung festival is the embodiment of Adi way of socio-cultural and religious life.

"On this auspicious occasion, I join my Adi brethren in offering prayers to the Almighty Donyi-Polo for peace and socio-economic wellbeing of all," the Governor said in his message. - Correspondent

Smuggled timber seized

TURA, Aug 31: Members of an NGO and police have seized two trucks carrying timber meant for smuggling. A truck carrying timber was apprehended by NGO members at Resubelpara, while the other pick-up van loaded with logs was caught by police at Rongiang in East Garo Hills.

"This shows the collusion of authorities with smugglers. These people are working hand in hand in destroying our forests along with these criminals," the members of the NGO alleged.

The truck, fully loaded with pine logs from Shillong, in Khasi Hills, was being taken to Rongiang in Assam, they said. The Transit Permit (TP) was issued by GDC of SONGSAK in East Garo Hills for transport of the timber to Assam. - Correspondent

Tibetan Rehabilitation Policy will not affect Arunachalees : BJP

ITANAGAR, Aug 31: Amid growing protests in Arunachal Pradesh against the recent decision by its Cabinet to implement the Tibetan Rehabilitation Policy, 2014, the ruling BJP has said that the policy will not affect the indigenous population in any way.

"The Tibetans are not claiming any citizenship but staying in three settlements in the State in an organised way unlike the Chakma and Hajong refugees," State BJP president Tapir Gao said during an interaction with the media here yesterday.

He said, the State Government has no separate policy on the Tibetans but is following the Central policy which is mandatory as India was a signatory of the Geneva Agreement. "The Rehabilitation Policy was framed during 1959 when the Dalai Lama fled Tibet and took political asylum in India. The policy which is being reviewed every 20 years is not an act so far. Since we respect human rights, we are obliged to follow the policy," he said.

Several organisations like All Arunachal Pradesh Students Union, Arunachal Citizen Rights, Arunachal Pradesh Congress Committee and Peoples' Party of Arunachal have protested against the decision of the State Cabinet to implement the policy and demanded its immediate rollback.

The decision, they claimed, would badly

NORTH EAST

Ahluwalia rules out creation of Twipraland in Tripura

PRABIR SIL

AGARTALA, Aug 31: In a major blow to the Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT), Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Agriculture S S Ahluwalia on Thursday ruled out the possibility of forming a separate State in Tripura.

"In case of forming a new State by carving out any territory, the concerned State needs to send an official proposal explaining logic behind forming a new State. Neither

Tripura Government nor West Bengal Government has sent any such proposal so far. Therefore, the question of forming a new State either in West Bengal or in Tripura does not arise," Ahluwalia told reporters here.

He said that the Centre is interested in empowering the tribal councils or the hill councils and in that case also specific proposals have to be submitted to the Centre on the basis of which a well-designed plan could be formulated.

IPFT has been pressing for

formation of a separate State - Twipraland by carving out the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAACD), which forms two-thirds of the State territory.

"This demand is not practical. Tripura is a small State and there is no question of forming a separate State. Likewise, there is no possibility of forming any State in Darjeeling district of West Bengal," he pointed out.

"Ultimately, development is essential. If people's problems could be solved through prop-



Lt Gen DS Ahuja, General Officer Commanding 101 Area laying a wreath in honour of the gallant heroes of the erstwhile 101 Communication Zone (now headquarter 101 Area) who were martyred during the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War in Shillong on Thursday. - UB Photos

Manipur Govt earmarks Rs 35 crore for small-scale industries

CORRESPONDENT

IMPHAL, Aug 31: Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh on Thursday said the State Government has already earmarked a sum of Rs 35 crore in the State budget for the "Start-up India" initiative to encourage the local entrepreneurs.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to encourage entrepreneurship in the country, the Central Government had set up "Start-up India" campaign, aimed at promoting small-scale industries in the country.

Biren was speaking at the 'Romi Industries Mega Event, 2017' held here on Thursday.

Urging the unemployed youths of the State to become job creators instead of becoming job seekers, he said that despite having vast resources, Manipur is still lagging behind in terms of small-scale industries. "We need to encourage the youths for which an amount of Rs 35 crore has been earmarked," he said.

He also urged the banks to encourage the local entrepreneurs and start-ups by extending financial support to the un-

employed youths.

Bandh affects Normal life: Normal life in parts of Manipur, including Churachandpur, Tengnoupal and Nungambakkam has been affected due to a 48-hour bandh called by various organisations on Thursday. However, there is no report of any untoward incident.

The All Manipur Border Area Development Association (AMBADA) had called the bandh in the border areas from August 30 till September 1 in protest against slow progress in developmental works in the bordering areas in the State.

Employed youths.

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Security forces arrest five in Manipur

IMPHAL, Aug 31: Security forces arrested five persons including four militants from various parts of the State, police said today.

Two militants belonging to the proscribed outfit United National Liberation Front (UNLF) and a former militant were apprehended yesterday from Imphal valley, SP of Imphal East, Kabul said. A double barrel gun, demolition notes and stolen vehicles were seized from the two arrested UNLF militants, the SP said.

A cadre of Kanglaipak Com-

munist Party was apprehended from Loushangkhong locality of Imphal East district by a combined team of police com-

munity and personnel of As-

sam Rifles, the police said.

A militant of the banned Kan-

glei Yawol Kanba Lup (KYKL)

was arrested by the State po-

lice commandos from the Indo-Myanmar border town of Moreh yesterday morning, said a senior police officer based at Moreh. - PTI

One arrested for posting obscene pictures

DIMAPUR, Aug 31: One person was arrested by Cyber Crime Police Station, Kohima for posting sexually explicit/obscene pictures on a Facebook.

A police release said the accused and the victim had come to know each other from Facebook and had a relationship.

Later, suspecting the victim of having other relationships, the accused had posted intimate pictures of the victim.

The release warned that under IT Act, 2008, publishing or transmitting of sexually explicit/obscene pictures in electronic form is a punishable offence with a minimum of three years imprisonment and fine up to Rs 5 lakh.

In many social media groups in Nagaland, including Face- book, WhatsApp, Instagram, Twitter, etc., it has been ob-

served that such posting of sexually explicit/obscene material is being done randomly. Hence,

the public have been advised to refrain from posting/forwarding/copy pasting any such material in electronic form, as it will attract penalty action.

The apex court then asked the petitioner to approach the High Court but ordered status quo till the matter was heard by the High Court. "We permit the applicant to be impleaded before the High Court. Be it noted, we have not expressed any opinion on the merits of the matter, the High Court is free to decide the same in accordance with the law," the bench, also comprising Justices Amitava Roy and AM Khanwilkar said.

The petitioner, Amritpal Singh Khalsa, had moved the apex court alleging that the State authorities have illegally removed the holy book, Guru Granth Sahib as per the Sikh code of conduct could be taken. - PTI

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The petitioner, Amritpal Singh Khalsa, had moved the apex court alleging that the State authorities have illegally

removed the holy book, Guru

Zeliang seeks solution to Naga issue before Christmas

CORRESPONDENT

DIMAPUR, Aug 31: Nagaland Chief Minister TR Zeliang accompanied by his colleagues and Lok Sabha MP Neiphiu Rio met President Nirmala Sitharaman and Vice President Venkaiah Naidu in New Delhi yesterday.

A CMO release informed that during a brief interaction with the President and Vice President, Zeliang urged them to solve the problems of Nagaland. He apprised the Union Minister of the challenges the State is facing due to lack of resources.

The highlighted the issue of non-completion of projects undertaken by State Plan Assistance as funds have not been made available under SPA since the formation of Niti Aayog, as a result of which many of the projects taken up under SPA are nearing completion but stuck.

BJP trying to fool people: Cong

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

SHILLONG, Aug 31: With the BJP managing to make its presence felt in the Meghalaya politics even without winning a single seat, the Congress today reacted and said the BJP is moving ahead with an intention to fool the people with false hopes.

The BJP has been able to persuade two independent Legislators from Jaintia Hills to join the party, although some reports say that the Legislators have joined the party with riders - the condition being lifting of coal mining ban in the region.

The BJP has been giving tacit assurance to the people that if voted to power it would lift the coal mining ban. Coal mining has been banned by the National Green Tribunal for the past several years until the time the State Government frames rules that such mining doesn't harm the environment.

Under the present political scenario, Union Railways Minister (State) Rajen Gohain went to Jaintia Hills on Tuesday. "It was a political visit. I went to Jaintia Hills as the party members have invited me," Gohain said here yesterday.

A Union Minister's visit to Jaintia Hills is a rare moment.

Most of the Ministers visit the State capital or at best West Garo Hills' headquarters Tura, places like Jaintia Hills has been off the political radar for

while stating that peace will enable development that will make Nagaland a vibrant State of the Indian Union.

The Chief Minister also invited the President and Vice President to Nagaland and experienced the rich cultural heritage of the State.

Earlier on August 29, the CM accompanied by MP Lok Sabha met Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh and urged him for an early settlement of the Naga political problem.

Zeliang mentioned the settlement of the long standing Naga issue will help usher in an era of peace and development, which will have an impact on the entire Northeastern region. The Union Minister assured all possible help, the CMO added.

National political parties

"The BJP is trying to fool the people by saying that it would lift the coal mining ban if voted to power," Urban Affairs Minister and senior Congress leader, Ronnie V Lyngdoh said today.

He said the party was making the false promises for electoral benefits, adding, the people are smart enough to understand.

However, there is a strong coal miners' lobby that has been putting pressure on the Congress-led Government to get the ban lifted. This lobby's patience seems to be running out and is willing to shift allegiance.

The Government brought a resolution urging the President to intervene and facilitate lifting of the ban through his discretionary powers under the Constitution.

Mizoram varsity students seek appointment of VC

CORRESPONDENT

AIZAWL, Aug 31: Mizoram University Students' Council (MZUSC) has recently faxed a letter to Union HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar, requesting him to immediately appoint a regular Vice Chancellor for the Central University.

The MZUSC said that the post of VC in Mizoram University has been lying vacant for almost two years.

A number of requests have been made to the authorities by the students as well as teachers' association for immediate appointment of a regular Vice Chancellor. Till now, all the requests have been meaningless as a regular VC is not appointed though interaction/interview for short-listed candidates has been done more than three months ago," it said.

The MZUSC stated that the absence of a regular VC for such a long time has severely affected the employees and students, and the academic atmosphere has suffered the most.

The students' council has threatened to launch an agitation if their request for appointment of VC is not fulfilled by September 5.



Nagaland Chief Minister TR Zeliang with members of US India Business Council (USICB) in New Delhi on Thursday.
- Newmai News

CAPSULE**E-way bill rules**

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: The Finance Ministry has notified the rules for e-way bill which requires online pre-registration of goods before transportation under the new GST regime. The date for implementation of the e-way bill mechanism would be notified separately, but sources said it is likely to come into force by October 1. Under the e-way mechanism, all goods worth over Rs 50,000 will have to be pre-registered online before they are moved for sale beyond 10 km. GST-exempted goods have been kept out of the purview of e-way bill. – PTI

SG India Forum

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Cellular industry body COAI today announced the formation of 'SG India Forum', with a view to bolster efforts around use and deployment of the technology. In a statement, COAI said "SG India will contribute to national policy on 5G along with Department of Telecommunication (DoT) and build consensus among all the entities involved, including private and government". The new forum will identify vertical application domains and outline benefits that can accrue from an early adoption of 5G, it added. – PTI

M&M tech features

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Home-grown utility vehicles major Mahindra and Mahindra (M&M) plans to introduce technological features such as Android Auto, Ecocoach and various apps on its other models like Scorpio, TUV300 and KUV100 in the next one year, says a senior company official. These, along with the company's emergency call feature, are available in its flagship SUV XUV500. – PTI

Nestle sales

NEW DELHI, Aug 31 (PTI) FMCG major Nestle India expects its "registered sales" growth to be impacted till June next year on account of GST. However, sales volume will not be impacted as much, the company said in a investors presentation. "The expected registered sales would be lower than what we had forecast as excise duty has now been subsumed in the GST so the sales line will take a number hit," said Nestle India CMD Suresh Narayanan. – PTI

PNB cuts rates

NEW DELHI, Aug 31 (Punjab National Bank has cut marginal cost-based lending rates by up to 0.25 per cent for select maturities, effective tomorrow. The state-owned lender has also slashed its base rate by 0.20 per cent to 9.15 per cent. "The bank has reduced marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCRR) by 20-25 basis points with effect from September 1, 2017," PNB said in a regulatory filing. – PTI

Matrimony.Com IPO

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: The initial public offer of Matrimony.Com, which runs online match-making business under the Matrimony brand, is likely to open on September 11. The issue of Matrimony.Com is expected to raise Rs 500 crore, sources said. The company's initial share sale offer is likely to open from September 11 to 13, they added. – PTI

CAIT calls for GST penalty waiver

MUMBAI, Aug 31: The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) today urged the government to waive penalty on late filing of GSTN for 3B, which is summary return for July.

In the first month of its implementation, GST has fetched a revenue of about Rs 93,000 crore with about 65 per cent business entities registered with GSTN portal, CAIT President BC Bhartia said in a release issued here.

The last date of filing GSTN form 3B, designed to furnish summary returns of transactions made in July, has already expired on August 28, he said.

But it is expected that remaining lot will file the return after paying a penalty of Rs 100 per day with a maximum penalty limit of Rs 5,000, he added.

As most traders have complied with the GST, CAIT urged Finance Minister Arun Jaitley to waive the penalty for July and August GST returns.

"Penalty at this point of time will affect the GST adoption among trading community," CAIT Secretary General Preaveen Khandwala added. – PTI

Pay dues or allow others to take control of business: FM to debtors

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Finance Minister Arun Jaitley today put pressure on private sector debtors to pay their dues to banks or allow somebody else to step in and take control of the business.

Using the new bankruptcy law, the Central bank had prodded banks to initiate insolvency proceedings against 12 large corporate defaulters to resolve Rs 2-lakh crore or almost a fourth of the country's bad debt.

More defaulters are being notified for action.

Jaitley said the government was open to providing more capital to banks but cleaning up stressed

loans was a bigger priority.

"Through the bankruptcy law, I think this is the first time that debtors in India are being taken to task," he said at the Economist Summit here.

Stating that the proceedings against major debtors would dictate how the banking situation improves, he said the process will take time. "You can't have a surgical solution to this."

"A very easy solution to suggest is, taxpayers must pay because the private sector has defaulted," he said, adding, bank recapitalisation, where the government puts in more capital in public sector banks

to shore up their books, effectively amounted to that.

"Therefore, I think let's try and make the private sector pay for their debts or allow somebody else to step in," he said.

The government, he said, has put Rs 70,000 crore in banks as capital and is "open" to putting in more money.

There is also a possibility of some banks raising resources from markets, he said.

"We are also at an active stage going for consolidation. We don't need so many public sector banks. We need fewer but stronger banks," he said.

The Union Cabinet had last week decided to speed up mergers among 21 public sector banks (PSBs) to scale up efficiencies and improve the quality of corporate governance.

However, absence of fresh capital infusions from the government had cast doubts if such mergers would improve public sector banks' weak capitalisation.

Jaitley said putting in more money at a later stage is a possibility.

The government owns majority stakes in 21 banks and merger of some of them is being considered for broader economic revival.

These lenders hold around 74 per cent of all deposits. – PTI

Destocking by industry caused drop in Q1 growth, says Jaitley

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: The fall in India's GDP growth in the first quarter of the current fiscal is the result of the destocking of inventories by industry in anticipation of the GST, which process is ended and manufacturing is expected to pick up from the current quarter, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said today.

"Manufacturing has gone down to 1.6 per cent, from over 3 per cent growth in the previous quarter," Jaitley told reporters here following the release of the GDP numbers for the April-June quarter by the official statistician.

India's economic growth rate in the first quarter of the current fiscal ended June fell to 5.7 per cent, as compared with 7.9 per cent in the same period a year ago, official data showed today.

"That manufacturing has fallen is essentially due to the anticipa-



Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju releasing the Summit Background Paper along with (L-R) DS Rawat, Secretary General, ASSOCHAM, Gulshan Rai, National Cyber Security Coordinator, Govt of India, Sandeep Jaiswal, President, Pratyaksh Kumar, Chairman, National Council on Cyber Security, ASSOCHAM, Gaurav Agarwal, MD, Symantec India and SAARC, Meenu Chandra, Sr Attorney, Microsoft India and Srivama Krishnan, Partner, PwC, at the 10th Annual Summit on Cyber & Network Security, in New Delhi on Thursday. – UNI

Economic growth slows down to 5.7% in Q1 FY18

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: A major decline in manufacturing and the lingering effects of demonetisation sharply pulled down India's economic growth rate in the first quarter of the current fiscal ended June to 5.7 per cent, as compared to 7.9 per cent in the same period a year ago.

According to data from the Central Statistics Office (CSO), India's gross domestic product (GDP) for the first quarter at Rs 31.10-lakh crore also registered a sequential fall compared with the 6.1 per cent growth in the fourth quarter of last year.

The principal reason for the decline in growth is a fall in manufacturing sector, which saw a growth of 1.2 per cent during the quarter.

"Principally, the major sector that has seen a sharp decline is industry," he added.

"The major reason for slowdown in growth at 5.7 per cent is on account of manufacturing, where

showing a growth rate of 5.7 per cent," a CSO release said here.

In terms of Gross Value Added (GVA), which excludes indirect taxes and subsidies, the growth was even lower at 5.6 per cent over the GVA for the corresponding quarter of last year.

Antaid said the slowdown in the first quarter of 2017-18 is largely contributed by the private sector. In all, 74 per cent of the GVA comes from the corporate sector. Its performance has been poor, though the sales growth is good," he added.

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He said there was a likely revision from the second quarter onwards as subsequently stocks would be revised to normal levels as the GST regime progressed.

The GVA in manufacturing was showing a declining trend from Q2 of the last fiscal, which has continued, he added. – IANS

He said there was a likely revision from the second quarter onwards as subsequently stocks would be revised to normal levels as the GST regime progressed.

The GVA in manufacturing was showing a declining trend from Q2 of the last fiscal, which has continued, he added. – IANS

Cos get socially more responsible, CSR spending up 47%: Report

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Corporate India's social responsibility graph is headed up with a 47 per cent jump in CSR spend since it became mandatory with 300 BSE-listed companies spending Rs 6.871 crore on CSR in 2016-17 while in 2014-15, when it became mandatory in India, the actual figure was Rs 4.678 crore.

According to India CSR Outlook Report 2017 by NGOBox, a corporate social responsibility (CSR) report received maximum 16.5% fund; 7 NE States together got just 2%

This increase in CSR funding in the last financial year, the report said, has given a lot of push to quality education initiatives along with intensifying Skill India Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission. Education

is one of the state-wise distribution, Maharashtra received the maximum at 16.5 per cent, followed by Gujarat with 6.9 per cent.

Odisha has seen a sharp jump on CSR fund beneficiaries mark, jumping to the third slot in 2016-17 from eighth in 2015-16, the report said.

However, the seven North-East States together got just 2 per cent.

However, urban slum development and welfare for Army veterans got scant attention from businesses, with just Rs 34 crore spent in both these areas.

Technology moderation for start-ups is gradually gaining traction with Rs 2.34-crore CSR expenditure.

Healthcare projects received 17 per cent of CSR funds. – PTI

Technology moderation for start-ups is gradually gaining traction with Rs 2.34-crore CSR expenditure.

Healthcare projects received 17 per cent of CSR funds. – PTI

CSIR ranked world's 9th top public research institution

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: India's largest autonomous public research and development organisation Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been ranked ninth amongst a total of 1,207 government institutions, according to the Scimago Institutions ranking World Report 2017.

With this ranking, CSIR comes in the company of globally renowned organisations, namely Chinese Academy of Sciences; Centre

for peer-reviewed research literature, to assess worldwide institutions.

Known for its cutting-edge research and development (R&D) in science and technology areas, CSIR has a dynamic network of 38 national laboratories and 38 outreach centres.

CSIR covers a wide spectrum of science and technology – from radio and space physics, oceanography, geophysics, chemicals, drugs, genomics, biotechnology and nanotechnology to mining, aeronautics, instrumentation, environmental engineering and information technology.

It provides significant technological intervention in many areas with regard to societal effects which include environment, health, drinking water, food, housing, energy, leather, farm and non-farm sectors. – IANS

Bid to fast-track mergers Govt exempts PSU banks from CCI approval

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Paving the way for fast-tracking consolidation in PSU banking space, the government has exempted mergers of nationalised banks from seeking fast track watchdog CCI's approval.

This exemption will be applicable for ten years and comes at a time when several experts and even policymakers have been talking about the need for consolidation in the banking sector, especially among the state-run banks.

Mergers and acquisitions beyond a certain threshold compulsorily require clearance from the Competition Commission of India (CCI), which is mandated to keep a tab on unfair business practices across sectors.

In a notification dated August 30, the government said it has exempted, in public interest, "all cases of reconstitution, transfer of the whole or any part thereof and amalgamation of nationalised banks, under the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, from the application of provisions of Sections 5 and 6 of the Competition Act, 2002 for a period of ten years". These two sections pertain to combination of enterprises.

Earlier this month, a similar exemption for five years was given for the government-directed mergers of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) which were set up to provide credit and other facilities to small farmers, agricultural labourers and artisans.

Karan Singh Chaudhary, Partner at law firm Chaudhary & Associates, said the exemption is unique as it lasts for 10 years. And shows that the government is cognisant that such combinations may take years to fructify. – PTI

I see convergence of GST rates in coming days: Jaitley

NEW DELHI, Aug 31:

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley today said that he expected convergence of two goods and services tax (GST) rates into one in the coming days while ruling out a single rate of taxation under the new indirect tax regime.

"I see two standard rates converging into one in future. The GST Council may decide on convergence of rates at an appropriate time," Jaitley said here at the inaugural session of 'India Summit 2017' organised by The Economic Magazine.

He, however, ruled out a single standard GST rate as it would be inflationary for a disparate range of consumers and add that one tax rate was inequitable.

He noted that GST implementation was quite smooth without any major glitches.

All goods and services under the pan-India GST regime, which has subsumed multiple Central and State levies, have been categorised in four tax slabs of 5,

12, 18 and 28 per cent, besides those items

that attract zero tax.

The Finance Minister had earlier said, "We can converge some taxation in the future. 12 per cent and 18 per cent can be converged into one. But if we make a single rate of 15 per cent now, then items like food, which is consumed by poor people, will get hit." – IANS



Minister of State for Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare Parshottam Rupala addressing an interactive session with the officials of Cooperation department and various cooperative societies of Assam, in Guwahati on Thursday. – UNI

Ex-principal of BRD medical college, his wife sent to custody

GORAKHPUR (UP), Aug 31: Former principal of BRD Medical College Rajiv Mishra and his wife Purnima Shukla were today sent to judicial custody for 14 days by a local court in connection with the deaths of scores of children in the State-run facility.

The doctor couple, arrested on Tuesday by Uttar Pradesh's Special Task Force (STF), was produced before the Court of Additional Sessions Judge Shivandan Singh, who sent them to the Gorakhpur district jail on a 14-day judicial remand. They were named in an FIR lodged by the UP government.

The two were brought to the court here amid tight security.

Mishra was suspended as principal of the medical college on August 12 after the deaths were reported. He resigned the same day owing moral responsibility.

There were allegations that the deaths happened due to disruption in oxygen supply as the vendor had not been paid for several months.

While the Uttar Pradesh government strenuously denied that shortage of oxygen led to the deaths, a high-powered probe committee headed by Chief Secretary Rajive Kumar indicted Mishra and others of laxity and some other charges.

Mishra was accused of sitting on the issue of payments to the vendor supplying oxygen gas to the hospital.

The doctor couple were booked on the basis of the report submitted to Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath by the Chief Secretary.

Adityanath had formed the committee on August 12, a day after the deaths of children were reported at the hospital. - PTI

12 killed, 14 injured in building collapse; many feared trapped



Fire brigade and NDRF personnel carry out search-and-rescue operation following the collapse of a building near Bhandi Bazar in Mumbai. Thursday - UNI

spot. Soon, 90 personnel of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) were also rushed to the spot.

"We immediately rushed fire brigade personnel to the site to rescue the trapped people," a senior MCGM official said.

The rescue operation is being carried out by the NDRF team with the help of fire brigade personnel.

A senior police official said 12 people, including an elderly couple, died and 14 others were injured in the incident. The injured were admitted to the J Hospital.

The deceased included nine men and three women, he said. Their identity is being established. The injured were carried in stretchers before being transferred to white ambulances. - PTI

No CE/Maint/ARMF/71/2016/36 Dated : 29.08.2017 PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Chief Engineer PWD (Roads) Assam on behalf of Governor of Assam invited bids for Periodic Renewal of PMGSY works which have completed 5 (Five) Years Routine Maintenance period for the year 2017-18 amounting to Rs. 3614.88 lakhs in 50 (fifty) nos. of packages in different districts in the state of Assam against financial incentive received from MORD as Central assistance under PMGSY for the year 2016-17.

Detailed may be seen in the website pmgsytendersassam.gov.in and also in the office of the undersigned in the "Maintenance Cell" during office hours from 15.09.2017 to 22.09.2017.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads)
Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3.

No. CE/DEV/RIDF-XXIII/116/2017-183 Dtd. 30.8.2017 SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Chief Engineer PWD (Roads), Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3 invites Bids on behalf of Governor of Assam for 49 (forty nine) Nos. of Packages for Roads and Bridge projects under RIDF-XXIII of NABARD in Dibrugarh, Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Golaghat, Jorhat, Dhubri, Goalpara, Kamrup, Morigaon, Nagaon, Tinsukia, Dhemaji, Kokrajhar, Udalguri, Sonitpur, Chirang, Basak, Cachar, Darang, Hailakandi, Karbi Anglong, Karimganj, Lakhimpur districts of Assam from approved & eligible Contractors consolidated with APWD amounting to Rs. 6959.12 lakh (approx).

Detailed may be seen at website www.assamtenders.gov.in Amendment /Addendum to the SBD, if any, and further notifications shall appear in this website and also at the office of the undersigned during office hours. The contractor/bidder must be registered with the Electronic Tendering System (ETS) of PWD, Assam website www.assamtenders.gov.in

Sd/- Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3.

Press Notice

NIB No. CE/PMGSY/ADB/02/2017-18/2 Date: 31/08/2017

Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam, on behalf of the Governor of Assam, invites Online Item Rate Bids from eligible Bidders for Construction of Rural Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana Batch III, 2017-18 (ADB Batch III) for the following Packages:

Sl. No.	Name of District	Name of PIU	No. of Work Packages/Groups	No. of Roads	Total Road Length in Km
1	Bongaigaon	Bongaigaon Rural Road division	11 packages & 3 Groups (9 packages)	20	46,015
2	Dibrugarh	Dibrugarh Rural Road division	13	38,752	
3	Goalpara	Goalpara Rural Road Division	5	5	9,810
4	Jorhat	Jorhat Rural Road Division	6	6	23,300
5	Karimganj	Karimganj Rural Road Division	6	6	18,240
6	Kokrajhar	Kokrajhar Rural Road Division	7	7	31,680
7	Darrang	Darrang Rural Road Division	10	10	31,760
8	Nagaon	Nagaon State Road Division	13	13	25,841
9	Soniapur	Soniapur State Road Division	26	26	86,139
10	Soniapur	Soniapur Rural Road Division	22	22	83,206
11	Tinsukia	Tinsukia State Road Division	1	1	4,824
12	Tinsukia	Tinsukia Rural Road Division	3	3	9,200
13	Baksa	Baksa/Rupnagar R & B Division	11	11	46,320
14	Chirang	Chirang R & B Division	2	2	6,307
15	Udalguri	Udalguri Rural Road Division	30	30	142,202
		Total	166 packages & 3 Groups (9 packages)	175	603,596

Detailed NIB and other details can be viewed on website <http://pmgsytendersassam.gov.in> after 16 hours on 15/09/2017.

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

অসম লোকসেবা আয়োগ ASSAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-781022

NOTIFICATION

It is for information of all concerned that the Assam Public Service Commission will hold interview/Viva-voce for the post of Asstt. Engineer Civil/Mechanical/Electrical under Public Health Engineering Deptt. as per programme given below at its office at Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-22.

Date	Name of the Post & Deptt.	Roll No.	Time of document verification	Time of Interview
18.09.17	Asstt. Engineer (Civil) under PHE Deptt.	Roll No. 0000003 to 0000488	9:00 AM	10:00 AM
19.09.17	Asstt. Engineer (Civil) under PHE Deptt.	Roll No. 0000490 to 0001180	9:00 AM	10:00 AM
20.09.17	Asstt. Engineer (Civil) under PHE Deptt. Asstt. Engineer (Mech.) under PHE Deptt.	Roll No. 0001189 to 0001554 Roll No. 0000008 to 0000793	9:00 AM	10:00 AM
21.09.17	Asstt. Engineer (Mech.) under PHE Deptt. Asstt. Engineer (Elect.) under PHE Deptt.	Roll No. 0000605 to 0001325 Roll No. 0000005 to 0000168	9:00 AM	10:00 AM

No. intimation letter, to the eligible candidates shall be sent separately by post. The intimation letter shall be uploaded in APSC's website (www.apsc.nic.in) on 11.09.2017. The candidates shall have to download their own intimation letter from the aforesaid website. Any query in this regard shall be entertained over telephone No.0361-2365426 during office hours w.e.f.15.09.2017.

Sd/- Under Secretary,
Assam Public Service Commission
Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-22

PUBLIC NOTICE

No. SSA/TT/InductionTraining/167/2012/906 Date: 30.08.2017

This is for general information that the Final Merit List of candidates for the post of Assistant Teacher (Lower Primary, Upper Primary- Social Science, Upper Primary-Maths & Science) on contractual basis under Sarba Siksha Abhiyan, Assam in connection with this office Advertisement No.SSA/TT/Engagement of Asstt. Teacher/1095/2017/1218, dated: 30th June, 2017, will be published on 1st September, 2017.

The Final Merit List will be uploaded in the official website of SSA, Assam (www.ssaassam.gov.in) on 1st September, 2017.

In case of detection of any ineligibility of these selected candidates (in future) as per terms and condition of the advertisement or NCETC norms the authority reserves the right to cancel/ reject the selection of such candidates even after issuing of engagement letter or his/ her engagement in school without any further notice. The selected candidates have to acquire professional qualification (if not acquired) per NCETC norms, for which they have to register in NIOS portal for D.El.Ed. course in ODL mode before 11th September, 2017.

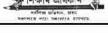
The details of the same are available at website of SSA, Assam (www.ssaassam.gov.in) The selected candidates will be given an orientation with the help of Krishna Kanta Handique State Open University, at below mentioned date, venue and time. Engagement letter of the candidates will also be distributed in the same venue. The selected candidates are requested to attend the orientation programme along with TET qualified certificate to collect their engagement letter

Date : 3rd September, 2017

Venue : Assam Veterinary College, Playgroud, Khanapara, Guwahati-22

Time : 9:00 AM

(Candidates are requested to report at the venue at 8:30 AM)



Sd/- Mission Director,
SSA, Assam, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19

COTTON UNIVERSITY Panbazar, Guwahati- 781001 Website: www.cottonuniversity.ac.in

Applications for JR/JRF/Project Fellow

Applications are invited for temporary appointment of one JR/JRF/Project Fellow in the Department of Geology for a period of 3 years. The DR/SEB project titled "Geological investigation and flow in controlling the genesis of mafic and other geological fluids: a theoretical and experimental investigation".

Essential Qualifications: Master's degree in Geology, Applied Geology (with Mathematics/Physics or Undergraduate level with 50% marks per class) or equivalent grade.

Desirable Qualifications: A valid NET/SET or GATE scores. Experience in MATLAB/FORTRAN or Finite Element Modelling or Computational Fluid Dynamics.

For application form and payment challan, please visit the website www.cottonuniversity.ac.in.

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Last date of application: September 14, 2017

Advt. No.: F/2017/04 Dated: August 31, 2017.

Janasanyog/DF/1067/77 Registrar

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) PREPARATION OF STATE ENVIRONMENT REPORT (SoER), ASSAM

The Forest Department, Government of Assam intends to hire the services of empanelled experts Institutions for preparation of technical reports related to Environment like State of Environment Report (SoER). Assam has prepared detailed Environmental Report of Reference (TOR) which can be downloaded from the website <http://183.8.249.31/assamforests/notificationsOrders.php>.

Interested empanelled experts may submit their Technical and Financial proposals in separate sealed covers to the Addl. Principal Conservator of Forests & Environment, Assam State Environment Report (SoER) Project, Parbatapur, Panbari, Assam-781026 upto 13th Sept, 2017 by 17:00 hrs. The respective sealed Technical and Financial bids may be dropped in a bigger sealed envelope by interested experts Institutions in the tender box to be placed in the room of Registrar of the O/o the PCPF & HoFF, Assam, 1st Floor, Aranya Bhawan, Aranya Bhawan, Guwahati-781001. The submission reason such as bench mark, the reason of bid offers will be deferred to the next working day. The opening of the bid offers will be on 14th Sept, 2017 at 11:00 AM in the office of the PCPF & HoFF, Assam, 1st Floor, Conference Room, Aranya Bhawan, Panbari, Assam-781026.

The financial bid offers of only those experts Institutions that are technically qualified will be opened.

The department reserves the right to accept any or reject all the offers received against the notice.

Sd/- APPCP (P & D) & Assam

O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, Assam, Aranya Bhawan, Panbari, Guwahati-781037, Phn: +91-9435078867

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES - FIRMS SELECTION)

INDIA
ASSAM STATE ROADS PROJECT
Loan No.: IBRD 8136 IN

Application Support Services for Assam PWMD e-portal
No. CE/APCP/125/2017/P/14

This Request for Expressions of Interest follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in 10th UND Development Business dgmarket on-line on December 4, 2010.

The Government of Assam has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Assam State Roads Project, and intends to apply for parts of the consulting services. The consulting services ("the Services") include support for the existing e-portal application to integrate the government's Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programme which provides food and primary healthcare to children aged between 0 to 6 years at the State-run day care centres.

The move is aimed at making the role of these new centres more meaningful and re-shaping the government's Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programme which provides food and primary healthcare to children aged between 0 to 6 years at the State-run day care centres.

The ministry officials said they have figured out alternative ways of distributing food so that the anganwadi workers can focus more on imparting education which is crucial for the development of a child.

Gandhi, who presented the National Level Awards 2016 to 17 to the anganwadi workers, alleged that they have been "misused" for over four decades as they were made to work for elections and attend political meetings and even greet VIPs, which was banned after she took over. - PTI

With false promises," he said. He stressed it was the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "direct responsibility as it was his personal decision". "The Prime Minister should take moral responsibility by accepting his mistake and apologise," he told reporters here.

Sharma alleged demonetisation had led to a GDP loss of Rs 2.25 lakh crore.

The Prime Minister had committed a breach of trust with the people by making false claims on the issue, he added.

Sharma said Modi had promised to unearth black money and end corruption, terror funding and counterfeit currency. None of the promises made by him while announcing

the budget in the Lok Sabha on February 1, 2017.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours, i.e. 1000 to 1700 hours. Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person or by mail, or by e-mail) by September 21, 2017.

Sd/- Office of the Chief Engineer (ARIASP & RIDF) Assam

Attn: Mr. Rajkamal Dutta

Fatashil Ambari, Guwahati-781025, Assam

Email: cea.apwd@nic.in

Opp parties meet Prez, seek floor test in TN Assembly

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Opposition parties today knocked at the President's door demanding a floor test in the Tamil Nadu Assembly, claiming that the Palanwani government in the State had been reduced to a minority after 19 AIADMK MLAs withdrew their support.

A delegation of Opposition leaders of the DMK, the Congress, the CPI-M and the CPI met President Ram Nath Kovind and handed over a memorandum to him.

The delegation that included Congress leader Anand Sharma, CPI-M's Sitaram Yechury, DMK leaders Kamalozhi and Tiruchi Siva, and CPI's D Raja urged Kovind to direct Tamil Nadu Governor C Vidyasagar Rao to hold a floor test in the Assembly.

The DMK approached the President after the Governor allegedly did not act on its request for a floor test.

"Each of the 19 MLAs has submitted letter to the Governor withdrawing their sup-

port. We cannot call it an internal issue of the party. When OPS (O Panneerselvam) demanded a floor test earlier, the Governor called for it, but it is surprising why he has not taken action in this case," Kamalozhi said after the meeting.

Raja told reporters, "Tamil Nadu politics is in dire straits today and its foundation has been questioned. The Governor should have acted in accordance with the Constitution by calling for a floor test."

The DMK said it would con-

tinue to take up the issue with various authorities until the Governor convenes a floor test. "The ruling party has only has the support of 113 MLAs pushing it below the majority mark. Whereas around 120 MLAs in the Assembly are against the ruling party. We have explained to the President," DMK leader and Rajya Sabha MP Tiruchi Siva said.

Responding to a question of AIADMK leaders claiming the rift was just "an internal issue", Kamalozhi said it could not be

called an internal issue even after MLAs withdrew their support.

The delegation also includ-

UGC asks for data on digital payments

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: The University Grants Commission (UGC) has asked all varieties and educational institutions to provide data of their digital financial transactions in the past one year.

The directive comes two months after the UGC asked all higher educational institutions across the country to ensure that no fee payment is made by students in cash mode from the upcoming academic session.

The universities have been asked to share data about the number of digital transactions

generated in a year through fee payment by students, vendor payments for services and through salary payments to teachers and staff.

In a communication to Vice Chancellors, UGC Additional Secretary PK Thakur said, "As this matter is being monitored at the highest level in the HRD Ministry your indulgence at personal level is solicited in the matter".

The UGC had in June directed universities that all receipts and payments related to the functioning of the institutions - PTI

HC judges inspect trial courts, find many judicial officers late

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: In an unprecedented move, Delhi High Court judges led by Acting Chief Justice (ACJ) Gita Mittal today paid surprise visits to the lower courts here and found that several hadn't started functioning as the judicial officers were late.

ACJ Mittal, who herself visited the Patiala House courts complex here to get the first-hand account of punctuality of judges, working atmosphere and cleanliness, found that out of 27 judicial officers there, only eight were presiding over the courts at 10 am, the reporting time for the lower courts.

Registrar General (RG) Dipesh Kumar Sharma told PTI that the surprise move was aimed at checking various aspects of functioning of the lower judiciary, including punctuality and discipline.

Sharma said senior judges carried out similar inspections of trial court complexes at Tis Hazari, Karkardooma, Rohini, Dwarka and Saket.

Justice Ravinder Bhattacharya, Tis Hazari courts, Justice Sanjiv Khanna went to Rohini courts, Justice GS Sistani showed up at Karkardooma courts, Justice S Muniaraj at Saket court and Justice Vinay Singh went to Dwarka court," the RG said. He said the "unprecedented" decision to conduct surprise checks was taken by ACJ Mittal.

On being asked whether any action would be taken against the judicial officers who were late-comers, the Registrar General said the high court will take "appropriate action".

Court sources said that a majority of judicial officers were found to be late and many of them arrived only after 10:30 am, though the reporting time is 10 am.

The High Court, in the recent times, has taken strict view of laxity and impropriety on the part of judges of the subordinate judiciary. Recently, the services of a judicial officer was terminated days before taking charge as a Metropolitan Magistrate in Tis Hazari court.

The high court had also compulsorily retired an Additional Sessions Judge over graft allegations which came to fore in a complaint lodged by the ED. - PTI



Photos of Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh of Dera Socha Snauda, convicted in rape case, in a drain in Sri Gangamagar on Thursday. - UNI

Asaram trial Security of rape victim beefed up

SHAJAHANPUR (UP), Aug 31: Close on the heels of Supreme Court questioning the tardy pace of trial in a case involving self-styled godman Asaram Bara, the district administration has bolstered the security of the rape victim here.

"Two more security personnel, including a lady constable, have been deployed at the residence of the rape victim and now half a dozen police personnel, including a lady constable, will remain on duty," Superintendent of Police KB Singh said.

Bullet proof jackets have been made available to two personnel so that they can move about to check security arrangements, he said.

The SP said that security had been provided to the entire family and he himself was monitoring it.

The father of the victim, however, alleged that he has been making requests for an arms licence for his son ever since the incident took place but to no avail. He stressed that it was important for their security.

He also sought additional security for local scribe Narendra Yadav, who had actively covered the entire incident in

a local daily, as he had been given only one security guard. He needs to be given proper security as per the SC directives, the victim's father said.

The 16-year-old Shahjahanpur girl had alleged rape against Asaram, his Jodhpur ashram and had lodged a case in this regard in Delhi's Kanak Market Police Station which was transferred to Jodhpur.

On August 28, a Supreme Court bench, comprising Justices NV Ramana and Amitava Roy, had questioned the delay in the trial of the rape case involving the godman asking the State government as to why the victim had not been examined till now.

The top court had earlier refused to grant bail to Asaram on various grounds including his poor health in two separate sexual assault cases lodged in Rajasthan and Gujarat.

The apex court, while dismissing his bail plea on January 30, had observed that Asaram had placed a "fictitious document" to persuade the court to grant him bail and had ordered registration of FIR against those responsible for preparing and filing the alleged fake papers. - PTI

Healthcare expenses paralyse family finances: AIIMS study

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Illness not only affects a patient's health but also financially harasses an entire family, be it poor or middle class, according to a study by the premier AIIMS.

The study conducted by the Department of Gastroenterology and Human Nutrition showed that out-of-pocket expenses on healthcare forced families to reduce expenditure on food, education and health.

Some even had to sell land, cattle or compromise on education of their children to meet medical expenses.

The study, published in the *National Medical Journal of India* last month, covered 374 patients, who had undergone treatment at the All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, and

Comprehensive Rural Health Services Project Hospital of AIIMS in Haryana's Ballabgarh.

Of the respondents, 51.3 per cent among the rural and 65.5 per cent among the urban patients were employed before illness but after illness only 24.4 per cent among the rural and 23.4 per cent among the urban patients remained in employment.

"The proportion of rural households of different socio-economic categories that experienced decrease in expenditure on food, education and health, whose children suffered was statistically significant."

The proportion of indebted families from different socio-economic classes was also statistically significant among both

rural and urban patients," said Anoop Saraya, head of the Department of Gastroenterology and Human Nutrition.

The questions included changes in household dietary intake in the wake of illness, per capita income of the household, illness expenditure, changes in the employment status due to illness, indebtedness, sale of movable and immovable property, changes in household expenditure on food, education and health, among others.

The change in household expenditure on food, education and health on account of illness in the family was elicited in terms of "increased" and "decreased" or "remained same" rather than as actual expenditure in rupees. - PTI

Shah holds meet for Gujarat polls

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: With 'Mission-150' on his mind, BJP chief Amit Shah today held a strategy session with the party leaders tasked with leading its charge in the upcoming Gujarat Assembly polls.

Gujarat BJP chief Jitubhai Vaghani also attended the meeting.

The Assembly poll are slated for later this year.

The party has set a target of winning 150 seats in the 182-member Assembly. In the last elections in 2012 when Prime Minister Narendra Modi was the State's Chief Minister, the BJP had won 113 seats. In 2007 and 2002, two other polls it fought under Modi, it had won 117 and 127 seats.

The State has witnessed a lot of development under Modi and it has to be continued, Yadav said today, adding that organisational matters related to the State elections were discussed in the meeting. - PTI

Cong panel to select Gujarat polls candidates

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Gearing up for the upcoming Gujarat Assembly elections, the Congress today announced the constitution of a committee for selecting its candidates in Maharashtra, as its chairman.

Former MP Meenakshi Narayanan, Congress Legislative Party leader in UP, Ajay Lalla and AICC secretary Girish Chodhan are the three members of the committee.

AICC general secretary Jayender Dave said in a statement. - PTI

Gandhi has constituted the screening committee for the forthcoming Gujarat Assembly elections, with Thorat, an MLA and former minister in Maharashtra, as its chairman.

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Drunk drivers add to menace of road accidents in Delhi: Court

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Drunk drivers add to the growing menace of road accidents in Delhi, a court said today as it refused to quash a seven-day jail term awarded for a man for the offence and jumping a traffic light.

Additional Sessions Judge Sanjeev Kumar made the observation while dismissing the 32-year-old man's appeal against the order convicting and sentencing him of offences under the Motor Vehicle (MV) Act.

"The appellant was sentenced for seven days simple imprisonment and fine of Rs 2,000 for offence under Section 185 (drunken driving) of the MV Act.

"The menace of road accidents in Delhi is increasing day by day and such grim scenario, driving by persons who are drunken to the extent at this case in hand, only adds to an already acute problem," the judge observed.

The court also relied on the breath analyser report that found 349 mg alcohol per 100 ml blood in his body which was more than the permissible limit of 30mg/100ml.

"Having considered the quantity of alcohol in the blood of the appellant as found in breath analyser test, I am of the view that the Metropolitan Magistrate had rightly sentenced the man for the offence," the judge said.

According to the prosecution, Amit Kumar, a south Delhi resident, was found driving his two-wheeler on September 26, 2014 in a drunken condition and had jumped a traffic signal.

He was chased by the traffic police who conducted a breath analyser test that revealed he was heavily drunk, it said, adding that Kumar also failed to produce the registration papers of his vehicle and a driving licence. - PTI

BJP to highlight TRS apathy towards celebrating merger day

HYDERABAD, Aug 31: Telangana BJP president K Laxman would lead a week-long yatra of the State unit from tomorrow to highlight the alleged apathy of the TRS government towards officially celebrating the day (September 17) of merger of the then Hyderabad State with the Indian Union.

The Hyderabad State under Nizam

rule was merged with the Indian Union on September 17, 1948 following the intervention of country's first Deputy Prime Minister Sardar Patel.

Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao, who hit out at the then Chief Minister of undivided Andhra Pradesh K Rosaiah for not officially celebrating the day, has ignored the event since he assumed office three years ago,

Laxman told reporters here today.

"The present Chief Minister KCR is saddening the separate statehood move as Andhra rulers ignored an issue linked to the self-respect of Telangana people and that they suppressed history for decades," Laxman said.

Rao had even asked the then ruling Congress legislators to quit the government to "stand by the people"

for celebrating 'Telangana's Independence Day', he said.

"BJP has been questioning the (TRS) government for the last three years. But, the Chief Minister (Rao) is following the path of Rosaiah... I am questioning you (Rao) on behalf of BJP why you are not implementing what you spoke earlier. What is the reason? What are your objec-

tions," Laxman said.

"Is your reason for not celebrating the day), the hurdle created by MIM or anything else? It is your responsibility to say," he said.

Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh would attend a public meeting to be organised by BJP in Nizamabad on September 17 on the issue, Laxman added. - PTI

Tamang says no differences with GJM chief

DARJEELING (WB), Aug 31: GJM convenor Binay Tamang today ruled out having any differences with party chief Bimal Gurung and said he was asked by the party's leadership to join a meeting convened by the West Bengal government recently to discuss the situation in the bandh-bound Darjeeling Hills.

He said the State government had sent a letter in his name to attend the August 29 meeting but that he had refused to go. He further said the party made him convenor at a meet-

ing at Mangung and he was asked by the GJM leadership to join the talks. "What wrong did I do? I have been threatened on Facebook for joining the talks. I felt insulted," he said.

Tamang said the indefinite shutdown in the hills, which had completed 78 days today, demanding a separate Gorkhaland State, had paralysed normal life.

"The indefinite bandh will remain suspended for 12 days from tomorrow. Shops, markets, offices, schools, ten gartangs will open and transit will be on the road from 6 am tomorrow," Tamang told reporters after the party's central committee meeting.

GJM general secretary Ro-

shan Giri, however, said the bandh will continue.

Tamang said the next round of dialogue with the State government on the situation in the hills is scheduled for September 12.

"If the outcome of the dialogue is not positive, we will convene a meeting on the same day and decide whether to resume the shutdown or chalk out a new course of action," he said.

Asked whether GM supreme Bimal Gurung, who was not present in the meeting, had been apprised of the central committee's decision to suspend the bandh, Tamang said, "He will be informed."

But, GJM general secretary Ro-

shan Giri said the bandh will continue. - PTI

GJM suspends bandh in Darjeeling Hills

DARJEELING, Aug 31:

The Gorkha Janmukti Morcha put off indefinite bandh in the Darjeeling Hills from tomorrow till the next round of talks with the West Bengal government on September 12, its convenor Binay Tamang said today.

The indefinite shutdown in the hills, which had completed 78 days today, demanding a separate Gorkhaland State, had paralysed normal life.

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shan Giri have been fighting for Gorkhaland since 2007, he said. - PTI



Children being served food during Onam celebration by Kerala State Council for Child Welfare, in Thiruvananthapuram on Friday. - UNI

4,208 people recommended rape convict Ram Rahim for Padma Award

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: More than 4,200 people recommended 'Saint Dr Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh Ji Insan' for a Padma Award in 2017, while the self-styled godman and now rape convict proposed his own name for the honour five times.

According to the list of recommendations or nominations for Padma Awards 2017, the Union home ministry received 18,768 applications.

The highest 4,208 recommendations, including two from 'Saintgurge William Sonet' and 'India Saintgurge', both from Hissar in Haryana, were received for conferring any one of the three Padma Awards on the controversial Dera Sacha Sauda chief, re-

vealed documents accessed by PTL.

All recommendations were marked in the name of 'Saint Dr Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh Ji Insan', also known as 'rockstar baba' and 'guru of bling', and almost all had come from Sirsa in Haryana, the headquarters of the Dera Sacha Sauda.

Gurmeet, who was sentenced to 20 years in jail for raping two followers this week, recommended himself five times. While his address was given as Sirsa three times, on the other two applications he gave Hissar in Haryana and Gangnam in Rajasthan, where he was born.

According to the documents, of the five recommendations, one was for 'Saint Dr

Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh Ji Insan' by 'Saint Dr Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh Ji Insan'. The overwhelming majority of those who recommended the Dera chief's name for the highest civilian honour in the country used single names like Abha, Aditya, Akbar, Afex, Baljinder, Milky, Gajal, Komal, Jony, Jessie and Ishwar. An application based in Sirsa, recommended Gurmeet's name 31 times and a Sunil nominated him 27 times.

A few recommendations were also from his birthplace Gangnam.

The Padma Awards seek to recognise works of distinction and exceptional achievements in different fields and disciplines such

as art, literature and education, sports, medicine, social work, science and engineering, public affairs, civil service, trade and industry. Anyone can nominate any person for the Padma Awards.

Nominations or recommendations for the awards can be made online only on the portal www.padmawards.gov.in designed by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Recommendations also can be made by State governments, UTs, ministries, departments of the Government of India, Bharat Ratna and Padma Vibhushan awardees, Central and State ministers, Chief Ministers and Governors and Members of Parliament.

The nominations are placed before the

Padma Awards Committee, constituted by the Prime Minister every year.

The awards — Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri — are announced on the eve of the Republic Day.

Political stalwarts Murli Manohar Joshi, Sharad Pawar and former Lok Sabha speaker late PA Sangma, cricketer Virat Kohli and Carnatic musician KJ Yesudas were among the 80 people who were selected for the Padma Awards in 2017.

A special CBI court on August 28 sentenced the Dera chief to 20 years in jail for raping his two followers, holding that he acted like a "wild beast" who did not even spare his own "pious" female disciples. - PTI



Food and Nutrition Board
Ministry of Women and Child Development
Government of India



Correct Norms for Infant and Young Child Feeding

Breast milk is best for the baby

- Start breastfeeding immediately after birth preferably within one hour.
- Breast feed exclusively until the child is 6 months of age.
- No other milk, water, sugar, honey needs to be given during first 6 months of life.
- No Infant Milk Substitutes unless medically indicated.



Complementary food from 6 months of age along with breastmilk

- Give mashed family food without spices.
- Continue breastfeeding till 2 years and beyond.
- Include mashed fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Give family foods like dalia, khichri, kheer, dhokla, upma etc.
- Premixes can be prepared at home using 3 parts of cereal and 1 part of any pulse.
- Add ghee, oil, butter, sugar or jaggery to make the food energy dense.



National Nutrition Week

1st to 7th September 2017

Optimal Infant & Young Child Feeding Practices: Better Child Health



davp 46101/3001/1718

A royal fan looks at flowers and tributes left in memory of the late Princess Diana, at the gates of her former residence in Kensington Palace on the twentieth anniversary of her death, in London, on Thursday. — UNI



UK pays tributes to Diana on 20th death anniversary

LONDON, Aug 31: Thousands of admirers of Princess Diana paid tributes with flowers, posters and images at the gates of Kensington Palace here as the UK today marked the 20th death anniversary of the "people's princess".

Members of the public have been visiting the Palace where Diana had lived for more than 15 years after her separation and then divorce from Prince Charles, the heir to Britain's throne.

Flowers, posters and images of the former Princess of Wales were piling up at the gates of the Kensington Palace.



Members of the public have been visiting the Palace where Diana had lived for more than 15 years after her separation and then divorce from Prince Charles, the heir to Britain's throne.

The tributes from her fans and well-wishers refer to her as "princess of hearts" and "people's princess".

So far, about 10,000 people have visited the palace to mark the 20th anniversary of her death in a tragic car crash in Paris at the age of 36.

It had also become the focal point for public tributes 20 years ago as the news of Diana's death unleashed a widespread public outpouring of grief among the British public.

Princess Diana had been in Paris at the conclusion of a European holiday with her Egyptian billionaire boyfriend Dodi Al Fayed when the limousine they were travelling in crashed at Alma Tunnel of the French capital as it tried to out-speed paparazzi

a ballistic missile that flew over Japan on Tuesday.

Her sons, Prince William and Harry, had walked up to the mounting tributes at Kensington Palace yesterday after they took a tour of new White Garden in the grounds of the palace created in memory of their mother.

The princes, who were 15 and 12 years old at the time of the tragic accident in 1997, have spoken out about their grief for the first time in a series of television documentaries in the last few weeks and will be marking the day itself in private.

"All of us lost somebody," Harry said to repre-

sentatives of charities supported by Diana during the tour of the White Garden.

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Beijing slams calls for new North Korea sanctions

BEIJING, Aug 31: China condemned "destructive" calls for new sanctions on North Korea today, warning Japan, the US and Britain that diplomacy was needed to avert crisis days after nuclear-armed Pyongyang fired a missile over Japan.

Foreign ministry spokesman Hu Chunying said sanctions alone "cannot fundamentally resolve the issue", amid reports the three countries were pushing for new restrictions on North Korean oil imports and foreign workers.

"It is a pity that some countries selectively ignore the requirements for dialogue in the resolutions — they only emphasise sanctions," she told a regular press briefing, adding "these words and deeds play a destructive role instead of a constructive role in solving the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue".

The current situation on the Korean peninsula is not a screw-up, it's not a computer game. It is a real situation that directly bears on the security of the people on the peninsula and the regional peace and tranquility," she said.

Her comments came as Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono told reporters today that Japan and the United States would seek fresh sanctions to stop the North's missile and nuclear tests.

Tokyo planned to enhance efforts with Washington to persuade China and Russia to change their positions against an envisaged oil embargo with a new UN Security Council resolution, Japan's Jiji news agency reported Thursday, citing informed sources.

Britain, whose Prime Minister Theresa May is visiting Japan, has called for new UN sanctions against North Korea that would target guest workers sent mostly to Russia and China, and whose wages are a source of revenue for Pyongyang. — AFP

Keeping all options on table: White House on North Korea

WASHINGTON, Aug 31: The White House has said that it has put all options on the table to tackle the threat posed by nuclear-armed North Korea, which fired

Sarah Sanders told reporters yesterday on board with Trump on the Air Force One.

She was responding to ques-

tions on statements by the presi-

dent that he would continue to be one of them, but only part of the integrated policy and plan moving forward," Sanders said.

She said the Trump administration has been taking serious action by putting strong sanctions on North Korea, continuing to put pressure across the board, and weighing its options.

"When the President makes a decision about next steps, we'll certainly keep you guys in the loop on that front," she said.

The missile, fired on Tuesday, travelled around 2,700 kilometers (1,677 miles) and reached a maximum height of 550 kilometers (341 miles) as it flew over the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido.

a ballistic missile that flew over Japan on Tuesday.

I think the President (Donald

Trump) has been very clear about his position on North Korea, certainly in his statement by saying all options are on the table, and that continues to be the case," White House Press Secretary

Jim Mattis on the repeated ballistic missile tests by Pyongyang.

In a tweet, Trump had ruled out talks with North Korea, while Mattis has said that US is not out of diplomatic options.

"...As we've said before, we're going to use all methods and that

is Dubai since last year when he was allowed to leave Pakistan on pretext of medical treatment.

The judge sentenced former

ISLAMABAD, Aug 31: Pakistani former dictator Pervez Musharraf was today declared a fugitive by an anti-terrorism court which ordered seizure of his property

and sentenced two senior police officers to 17 years in jail in the Benazir Bhutto murder case, nearly 10 years after her assassination.

Bhutto, the Pakistan Peoples Party chief and a two-time prime minister, was killed along with more than 20 people in a gun and bomb attack in Rawalpindi's Liaquat Bagh during an election campaign rally on December 27, 2007. She was 54.

The case was registered soon

after her assassination and the trial went through many ups and downs until it concluded yesterday in Rawalpindi.

Bhutto was killed along with more than 20 people in a gun and bomb attack in Rawalpindi's Liaquat Bagh during an election campaign rally on December 27, 2007. She was 54.

Judge Asghar Khan announced the verdict, declaring Musharraf a proclaimed offender and ordered seizure of his property.

Musharraf, 74, has been living

in Dubai since last year when he was allowed to leave Pakistan on pretext of medical treatment.

The judge sentenced former

Rawalpindi CPO Saud Aziz and former Rawalpindi SP Khurram Shahzad — suspects out on bail — to 17 years in prison and ordered to pay a fine of Rs 5 lakh each. — PTI

অসম দক্ষতা বিকাশ অভিযান (এএচডিএম)

যুব প্রজন্মক দক্ষ কৰি তোলাৰ দিশত এটি প্ৰয়াস

চাহিদা থকা নিম্নলিখিত খণ্ডসমূহৰ পাঠ্যক্ৰম

- পৰ্যটন আৰু আত্মিধ্য
- নিৰাপত্তা (চিকিৎসিতি)
- অটোমটিভ
- কৃষি
- খুচৰা বিজ্ঞী (বিটেইল)
- স্বাস্থ সেৱা
- সৌন্দৰ্যচৰ্চা
- নিৰ্মাণ
- ইলেক্ট্ৰনিক আৰু হার্ডৱেৰ
- ঘৰৰা শামিক (ডেমেষ্টিক বৰ্কাৰ)
- বন্দৰ আৰু বয়ন
- আৰু বহুতো..

পঞ্জীকৰণৰ বাবে লগ-অন কৰক asdmonline.co.in

বিনামূলীয়া দক্ষতা বিকাশ প্ৰশিক্ষণ কাৰ্যসূচীৰ বৈশিষ্ট্যসমূহ

- হস্তকলীন প্ৰশিক্ষণ (সৰ্বোচ্চ ২-৩ মাহ)
- আৱাসিক/অনাবাসিক প্ৰশিক্ষণ কাৰ্যসূচী
- চেষ্টাৰ ক্ষেত্ৰ কাউন্সিলৰ দ্বাৰা প্ৰমাণিত পাঠ্যক্ৰম

আমাৰ বেচাইটৰ লগ-অন কৰক- www.asdm.assam.gov.in

পঞ্জীকৰণ
চলি আছে



Assam Skill Development Mission

Exhibit/ASDM/P?

Millennials – people aged between 18 to 36 years – are increasingly choosing healthy lifestyle habits such as exercising and eating right to manage chronic pain, instead of turning to addictive painkilling drugs, a US study has found.

Often spending their days hunched over

millennials did not know the best way to safely dispose of opioids, and only 37 per cent were aware that a collection centre at a local police station, hospital pharmacy or drug store was the best method of disposal.

"It's encouraging that millennials see the value of opting for safer and often more effective methods of managing pain," said ASA President Jeffrey Plagenhoef, MD. "But clearly they are in need of further education when it comes to opioids and chronic pain because using the drugs initially to treat pain can turn into a life-long struggle with addiction," Plagenhoef said.

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The source of that pain is reflective of millennials' lifestyle, including technology use (leading to eye strain, neck aches, hand or finger pain, wrist or arm pain), migraines and sports injuries.

According to the survey, millennials and members of Generation X are most likely to report pain interfered with their work responsibilities, parenting abilities and participation in family activities.

Engaging in lifestyle changes before chronic pain can gain a further foothold is preferable. When possible, prevention is best, researchers said.

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(Source: PTT)

Millennials choose healthy habits over painkillers, finds a study

phones, tablets or computers and their free time at spin class or playing sports, millennials are the next generation poised to experience chronic pain. Even at their young age, acute and chronic pain are already interfering with their daily lives.

A survey commissioned by the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) found that millennials make lifestyle changes such as exercising, eating right, quitting smoking and losing weight to manage pain.

The survey found that millennials are half as likely as baby boomers to have turned to opioids to manage pain, and one in five millennials regret that they used the highly addictive painkillers. It found many millennials were more likely to obtain opioids appropriately.

One in 10 millennials obtained opioids through another household member's prescription, compared to three per cent of Generation X (ages 37-52), and one per cent of baby boomers (those born in the 60s or before).

They were also more likely to think that "it's OK" to take an opioid without a prescription, and less likely to dispose of leftover opioids safely.

In fact, one in five



Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY Birthday for Friday, Sept. 1, 2017.

This year you first that anger is close to the surface. You will often discover that you cannot suppress your feelings and might be prone to outbursts of anger. Try to cool out what is causing you to anger and find that you can't control your anger. Relating to someone who is angry can be to be more in touch with your anger and triggers. Relating to someone who is angry if you relate to someone who is unusually creative and/or artistic. If attached to two of you enjoy a close relationship where you often listen to each other's ideas and dreams. You are great together. CAPRICORN allows you space to think, and be impulsive. You enjoy relating to this sign.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) *** Your day side emerges, adding a new tone to what has been normal. Thought might not have the intention of being so intuitive. You are especially hot-tempered when others make "stupid" mistakes, at least from your perspective. Try to cool off. Tonight: Plans could change.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) *** If you are honest with yourself, you might be tired of repeating the same adventure every Friday night or weekend. If you want a change, you need to make a real adventure going out of town, simply trying a new spot or option for a totally different type of activity. Tonight: Make sure you are well entertained.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) *** Gemini draws someone in. This person could become angry out of the blue. You'll want to stay on top of any problems. Your creativity and how you present yourself define who comes toward you. Your feelings might come to the surface quickly. A partner could change. Tonight: Fearless, fearless defines the evening.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) *** Refer to others in general, but focus on a new friend or colleague. You'll want to make sure you are on the same page once you get past Friday's activities and clear out some extra work. Understand what you want out of your weekend as well as your relationship. Tonight: Responsive to a change of plans.

LION (July 23-Aug. 22) *** Beam in much more of what you want. You could become frustrated or wake up in a bad mood. You will have the opportunity to grow with your partner. A partner or loved one spins a very interesting tale. You might want to believe what you hear, but somehow you feel it is off. Tonight: The bottom slowly.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) *** You might be surprised, only to see yet another problem pop up. Tap into your creativity for solution. You could be surprised by what happens around you. Your caring energies and helps discharge some of the stress you are feeling. Tonight: You are in a better mood, so why not see a personal situation differently. Tonight: Paint the town red.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) *** Star signs are changing what is happening on the home front. Above all, plan your marketing and workflow as swiftly as possible. You might have a lot of questions that you want to air out and talk through. You don't need to automatically. Timing makes all the difference. Ride through a problem. Tonight: Be available for a chat.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) *** Keep conversations moving and be willing to listen. Above all, plan your marketing and workflow as swiftly as possible. You might have a lot of questions that you want to air out and talk through. You don't need to automatically. Timing makes all the difference. Ride through a problem. Tonight: Be available for a chat.

SAGITTARIUS (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) *** You will want to move quickly while dealing with a financial master. You need to verify everything you are hearing is on the up and up. Note that there is an element of competition among others moving forward. You might want to play the sharing. Tonight: Stay close to a loved one. Listen to what this person is sharing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 20-Jan. 19) *** You might be surprised with a needed change than others. Attempting to convince others of how right you are could be challenging at best. You might be best off going on your own. Your imagination amplifies a certain kind that appears to be vague. Tonight: Living it up.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) *** You might want to assume a low profile, which is unusual for you. You need to be an active listener rather than a speaker. Help others listen. You are more likely to receive a positive reaction with, as you could make a mistake. Count your change. Make sure your figures are exact. Tonight: Do more listening.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) *** Focus on your key goals and/or a special friendship. You might often be vague yet inspirational to others. Laughter surrounds your interaction. Keep your eye on the big picture, and be aware of your role in realizing a desired outcome. A friend is able to adapt to different situations around you. Tonight: Change plans if need be.

Thought for the day

Love's pleasure lasts but a moment.
Love's sorrow lasts all through life.
— JEAN-PIERRE CLARIS DE FLORIAN

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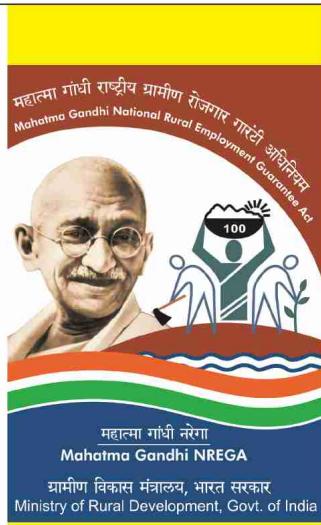
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গ্ৰাম্য অসমৰ অঞ্চলিক ভেটি সুদৃঢ় কৰাৰ সৱল পদক্ষেপ...

এই আঁচনিৰ অধীনত কোনো
ঠিকাদাৰে কাম কৰি থকাৰ
সন্তোষ পাইছে নেকি ?

আপোনাৰ জব কাৰ্ড বা পাছ
বুক কোনো লোকে বিচাৰিছে
নেকি ?

কোনোবাই জব কাৰ্ড ভাড়া
দিয়া তথ্য আপোনাৰ হাতত
আছে নেকি ?

তেন্তে পলম নকৰি ততালিকে
খবৰ দিয়ক

যিকোনো কথা জানিব লাগিলে
বা জনাবলগীয়া থাকিলে ফোন
কৰক এই
নম্বৰলৈ

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আপুনি জানেনে...

- ➥ এম জি এন ৰে গাৰ অধীনত কাম বিচাৰি আবেদন কৰাৰ ১৫ দিনৰ
ভিতৰত কাম পোৱা আৰু কাম শেষ কৰাৰ ১৫ দিনৰ ভিতৰত মজুৰি
পোৱাটো নিশ্চিত।
- ➥ আপোনাৰ জব কাৰ্ডত আপুনি কৰা কামৰ খতিয়ান ভৰাৰলৈ নাপাহৰিব।
- ➥ আপোনাৰ জব কাৰ্ড আৰু পাছ বুক কেৰল আপোনাৰ। কেতিয়াও
আনক ব্যৱহাৰ কৰিবলৈ নিদিব।
- ➥ বেংকৰ একাউন্টৰ পৰা টকা নিজে উলিয়াৰ।
- ➥ আপোনাৰ অঞ্চলৰ উন্নয়নৰ বাবে আমাৰ গাঁও আমাৰ আঁচনিৰ যোগেন্দ্ৰি
চলিত বৰ্ষৰ বাবে গ্ৰহণ কৰা আঁচনিসমূহত ইতিমধ্যে অনুমোদন জনোৱা
হৈছে। কামৰ বাবে আবেদন কৰক।

মনত ৰাখিব, আপোনাৰ সজাগতাই
উন্নয়নৰ গতি ত্বৰান্বিত কৰাৰ উপায়।

এচ এম এচ কৰক—৯৮০১৮-৮৯০২৪ নম্বৰলৈ

ফটো আৰু ভিডিও' পঠিয়ালৈ হোৱাট্চেপ কৰক—৯৮০১৮-৮৯০২৫ নম্বৰলৈ

পঞ্চায়ত আৰু গ্রামোন্নয়ন বিভাগ, অসম।

Sharapova battles on while Zverev, Kyrgios crash at US Open

NEW YORK, Aug 31: Former world number one Maria Sharapova battled back to reach the third round of the US Open while next-generation rising stars Alexander Zverev and Nick Kyrgios crashed out.

Sharapova, who downed second-ranked Simona Halep in her first Grand Slam match after a 15-month doping ban, defeated Hungary's 50th-ranked Timea Babos 6-7(4), 6-4, 6-1 at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

"It wasn't my best tennis," Sharapova said. "It was scrappy tennis but sometimes those kind of matches are a lot of fun and this was one of those days."

The 30-year-old Russian, who next faces Russian-born US teen Sofia Kenin, tested positive for meldonium at the 2016 Australian Open, has most recent Grand Slam appearance until this week.

"Every day I have the chance I have to play at the US Open is a special day and I'll look forward to the next one," 146th-ranked Sharapova said.

Sharapova, whose five Grand Slam titles include the 2006 US Open, played only one Open tune-up match after a forearm injury but wore down Halep and Babos to prove she's a threat to a deep run, with Latvian 16th seed Anastasija Sevastova her top-ranked potential semifinal obstacle.

Fourth seed Zverev, whose five ATP titles this year include a win over Roger Federer in this month's Montreal final, fell to 61st-ranked Croatian Borna Coric 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (7/1), 7-6 (7/4).

The 20-year-old German had been the highest-ranked player in his half of an injury-hit



Maria Sharapova of Russia in action against Timea Babos of Hungary during the US Open second round match in New York.

Open draw.

"It's upsetting because the draw is pretty open

in the bottom part," Zverev said. "I feel like I should have been the favourite there. I just played

a very, very bad match, so it's unfortunate."

Coric, who faces South African Kevin Anderson for a last-16 berth, was one point from a fifth set before winning five in a row to force the deciding tie-breaker.

"I was just thinking to keep the points short-

er," Coric said. "And yeah, I was a lit-

tle bit lucky."

Zverev's

ouster left

US 10th

seed John

Isner the

top-ranked

player in his

draw started and

Croatian fifth seed Marin Cilic the best in his half

of the draw.

Wimbledon runner-up Cilic, the 2014 US Open winner, reached the third round by beating German's Florian Mayer 6-3, 6-3, 6-3.

Kyrgios, the 14th seed and former top-ranked obstacle in Federer's quarterfinal path, hurt his right shoulder in a 6-3, 1-6, 6-4, 6-1 first-round loss to 235th-ranked fellow Aussie John Millman.

"Early in the third set I hit one serve and I never felt the same after that," Kyrgios said. "Something didn't feel right in my arm."

Kyrgios, 22, dropped eight of the last nine games.

"Nick's shoulder deteriorated as the match went on," Millman said after his first US Open triumph. "It's a victory but slightly hollow."

Austrian sixth seed Dominic Thiem ousted Aussie Alex de Minaur 6-4, 6-1, 6-1. Thiem is

the highest-ranked rival on the Federer and Nadal side of the draw.

Canadian 18-year-old qualifier Denis Shapovalov defeated French eighth seed Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 6-4, 6-4, 7-6 (7/3) to book a third-round date with Britain's Kyle Edmund.

"It's a dream come true for me," Shapovalov said.

Shapovalov became the youngest man in the third round of a Grand Slam since Bernard Tomic at the 2011 Australian Open and at the US Open since American Donald Young in 2007.

Wimbledon champion Garbine Muguruza reached the US Open third round for the first time by beating China's 92nd-ranked Duan Ying-Ying 6-4, 6-0.

"I had like a curse and I broke it finally. I'm so happy," Muguruza said. "I just put the heart on the court. I knew I had to be all the time fighting for the ball and in the end I won."

Beating Slovakian 31st seed Magdalena Rybarikova to reach the last 16 would make the Spanish third seed the leader in a seven-woman fight for world number one.

Russian eighth seed Svetlana Kuznetsova, the 2004 US Open champion, rescued three match points in defeating 67th-ranked Czech Marketa Vondrousova 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7/2) to reach the second round to stay in that hunt.

Ukraine's fourth-seeded Elina Svitolina did as well, downing 42nd-ranked Czech Katerina Siniakova 6-4, 6-7 (5/7), 6-3.

Another top spot hopeful is seven-time Grand Slam champion Venus Williams, the 37-year-old US ninth seed who beat France's Océane Dodin 7-5, 6-4. - AFP

Pujara, Kohli unchanged in Test rankings

DUBAI, Aug 31: India's Cheteshwar Pujara and skipper Virat Kohli remained static at the fourth and fifth position respectively in the latest ICC Test Players Rankings for batsmen, issued today.

However, young batsman KL Rahul slipped a rung to 10th.

The batsmen chart is being led by Australia skipper Steve Smith, followed by England captain Joe Root and New Zealand's Kane Williamson.

Among Indian bowlers, left-arm spinner Ravindra Jadeja maintained his top spot while off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin occupies the third place. James Anderson is on second spot in the Test bowlers rankings and the England pacer is followed by Ashwin, Sri Lanka's Rangana Herath and Australian Jhye Richardson.

Jadeja (2nd) and Ashwin (3rd) also feature in the top five all-rounders rankings, led by Bangladeshi Shahid Al Hasan, who consolidated his position with a great show in the historic win over Australia in the opening Test.

Among others, West Indies' Kraigg



Virat Kohli
Cheteshwar Pujara

Brahwaite and Shai Hope have attained career-best positions in the Test Player Rankings after their splendid performances in Leeds helped the Windies complete a series-leveling win against England.

The Barbados pair, which orchestrated a 322-run chase for an unforgettable five-wicket victory, gained massively in the latest rankings that also takes into account the ongoing Test in Dhaka which saw Bangladesh pull off a 20-run win over Australia yesterday.

Opener Brahma has risen 14 slots to 10th position after his innings of 134 and 95 in the second Test of the three-match series while Hope's knocks of 147 and 118 not out, the first pair of centuries in any first-class game at Headingly, have helped him secure a massive gain of 60 places to reach 42nd position.

West Indies captain Jason Holder has gained in both bat (up four places to 57th) and bowling (up two places to 37th) rankings while pace bowler Shannon Gabriel has gained two slots to reach 18th position after taking six wickets in the match. - PTI

Six U-23 players named in Indian squad for Macau match

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Six players from the AFC U-23 campaign in Doha last month were today named in the 24-member squad for India's AFC Asian Cup Qualifier football match against Macau on September 5. The squad will depart for Macau from Mumbai via Bangkok tomorrow.

India currently stand at top of Group A with six points, courtesy back-to-back victories against Myanmar and Kyrgyz Republic.

However, national coach Stephen Constantine felt there was "no reason to underestimate Macau as a team".

Macau will be playing at home and in front of their home crowd. There's always a marked difference between playing at home and playing away, the coach of course, added.

The Indian team has been camping in Mumbai since August 12 during which it played two international matches against Mauritius and Sri Lanka and Nevis in the tri-nation football tournament as part of the preparation.

"The matches provided us the much-needed match practice ahead of our challenge against Macau," said the coach.

Goalkeepers: Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, Subrate Paul, Albino Gomes.

Defenders: Pritam Kotal, Lalitha, Sandesh Jhingan, Anil Edathoda, Arunab Mondal, Salam Ranjan Singh, Narayan Das, Jerry Lalitha.

Midfielders: Udanta Singh, Jacob Singh, Nikhil Poogry, Eugene Lyngdoh, Rowlin Borges, Malhalque, Geetashree Singh, Anirudha, Hekilahan Singh.

Forwards: Joy Jeetaphoo, Sunil Chhetri, Robin Singh, Balwari Singh. - PTI

SHANGHAI, Aug 31: Badminton legend Lin Dan was so jet-lagged from a European trip that he feared falling asleep on court at China's National Games, and fuelled retirement speculation by saying it was likely his last appearance in the event.

Regarded as the best badminton player of all time, the 33-year-old nicknamed "Super Dan" is at China's so-called mini Olympics just days after losing the final of the World Championships in Scotland. After failing to win a sixth world crown on Sunday in Glasgow, Lin hinted that it might be his last tilt at the world title.

Back in China, the two-time Olympic champion



Alexander Zverev of Germany reacts after his second round US Open defeat against Borna Coric of Croatia.

said: "This should be my last National Games. I have played at the Games for 20 years." The tattooed Lin, who has fallen from the summit to fourth in the world rankings, was pushed all the way by little-known Sheng Xiaodong before struggling to an 18-21, 21-12, 21-7 first-round victory in the men's team event in Tianjin on Wednesday. - PTI

Missed opportunity haunts Zverev after US Open exit

NEW YORK, Aug 31: Alexander Zverev appeared to have the perfect draw for a deep run at the US Open, but now the 20-year-old German star can only ponder what might have been.

Fourth-seeded Zverev, the highest-ranked player in his half of the draw after Britain's second-ranked Andy Murray withdrew on Saturday, crashed out of the year's first Grand Slam event on Wednesday, failing to reach the 61st-ranked Borna Coric 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (7/1), 7-6 (7/4).

"It's upsetting. Today was upsetting. The way I played was upsetting. The tournament so far is upsetting for me," Zverev said.

"I was the highest-ranked player in the bottom half of the draw after Andy retired. Now I'm out of the draw."

Zverev reached the New York hardcourts off his best Grand Slam result, a fourth-round run at Wimbledon, and his five ATP titles this year included back-to-back US Open tuneups at Washington and Montreal, beating Roger Federer in the Canadian final.

"I know that I could have done some big things here. I know that I could have done

something that I haven't done before. But I won't. It's just as simple as that," Zverev said.

"It's upsetting because the draw is pretty open in the bottom part. I feel like I should have been the favourite there. I just played

so it's unfortunate."

Zverev said the major expectations upon him with such a wide open field, aided by injuries to Murray and other top stars,

did not impact his play.

"I've been dealing with expectations from a very young age," Zverev said. "I don't think about it. I just try to play every match the same way. Luckily for me most of the time this year I was winning."

On the Grandstand court, nicknamed the

"Graveyard of Champions" after past upsets,

Zverev made 58 unforced errors with 22 aces

and 43 winners.

"Physically I'm fine. I just played very

bad in the second and third set," Zverev said.

"I should have won the third. I definitely

should have won the fourth."

"My level wasn't high today, so that's more

the problem."

Coric won the last five points of the 12th

game in the final set after Zverev was one

point from breaking to force a fifth set.

"He played really well on the breakpoints.

Maybe had a little bit of luck on his side as well," Zverev said. "Caught the line, had a few let cards and stood like this."

"Everything was just a little bit against me."

Zverev was inconsolable when it came to

having him ponder the season-ending ATP

Finals or other future events.

"I just lost the second round of a major

where I shouldn't have lost, so I'm not thinking

about the rest of the year," he said.

"For me, nothing changes. I still have to go

back to work and then try to win this title

maybe in the future years." - AFP

Fit-again Tevez back in China after Argentina stay



Shanghai Shenhua's Carlos Tevez, one of the best-paid players in the world on reported weekly wages has scored just twice since joining the Chinese Super League (CSL) club in January.

Tevez angered supporters in April when he was spotted at Shanghai Disneyland the same day he missed an important match due to injury, and he has hinted that he may look to leave China at the end of the season.

Tevez has a history of falling out with clubs and coaches during a colourful career that has included spells at Man-

chester City, Manchester United and Juventus. Despite earlier hopes of a strong showing this year, Shanghai is below mid-table under Uruguayan coach Gus Poyet, who joined this season and is also in the hot seat.

The club's next league match is not until September 10 against struggling Henan Jianye. - AFP

Vikas' plans of turning professional on hold

HAMBURG, Aug 31: His World Championship campaign ending in disappointment, Indian boxer Vikas Krishnan has decided to put his plans of turning professional on hold and focus on recuperation from a hand injury that he claims, resurfaced during the event.

The 2011 bronze-medallist at the marquee tournament, Vikas, bowed out in the second round this time, losing to England's Benjamin Whittaker in a unanimous verdict.

"I was thinking of turning professional by the end of this year but that plan is on hold for now. A right hand injury which had troubled me some years back, seems to have flared up again. I need to get it

panned out but has vowed to come back stronger.

"Which athlete does not hurt from a loss? I am also disappointed," he said.

"But there was nothing lacking in my training. I had worked on myself quite hard in Pint's Army Sports Institute before the Championship. But after this loss I realise, I have to work harder on my weight and raise it for greater strength," he said.

The build-up to the Championship was not the most ideal for the 25-year-old, who had found himself at the centre of a disciplinary row after forfeiting his Asian Championships semifinal earlier this year in Tashkent. - PTI

SU DO KU

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

Solution of last problem

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

Kohli, Rohit hit tons as India amass 375/5

COLOMBO, Aug 31: Skipper Virat Kohli's power-packed ton complemented by Rohit Sharma's sublime century enabled India to post a record 375 for 5 in the fourth ODI, here today.

India's total was the highest posted by any visiting team in an ODI in Sri Lanka, bettering their own record of 363 for 5 at the same ground in 2009.

Courtesy skipper Kohli's (131 off 96 balls) 29th ODI hundred and his 219-run second-wicket stand with an in-form Sharma (104, 88 balls), India were able to lay the foundation for an imposing total.

Sharma, who hit back-to-back hundreds, now has 13 three-figure scores in the 50-over format.

The Indian batsmen made merry as Manish Pandey utilised his first chance of the series to the fullest with an unbeaten 50 off 42 balls while skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni remained undefeated one short of a half-century score in his 300th ODI appearance.

Incidentally, Dhoni got a single off the penultimate delivery of the 50th over as he remained stranded on 49 not out – one short of what could have been his 100th international half-century.



Indian opener Rohit Sharma celebrates after scoring his century against Sri Lanka during the 4th ODI at Colombo, on Thursday. – UNI

The Dhoni-Pandey unbroken partnership for the sixth wicket yielded 101 runs

in only 12.2 overs.

After winning the toss on a bat-

tinger, skipper Kohli joined Sharma after Shikhar Dhawan (4) was dismissed

trying to slash an Angelo Mathews delivery over point.

With the ball coming onto the bat, strokeplay became easy. Sharma initially took time to settle down as Kohli attacked the listless Sri Lankan bowling from the word go.

The first 50 came off 52 balls, but the innings slowly gathered pace as India crossed 100 off just 84 balls.

Kohli raced to his half-century of 38 balls even as their 50 partnership came off 46 balls.

The hectic pace of scoring continued as Kohli and Sharma celebrated their 100 partnership off only 76 balls with the latter also reaching half-century off 45 balls.

Kohli faced 96 balls and hit 17 fours as well as 2 sixes while Sharma's innings had 11 boundaries and three maxims.

En route their partnership, Kohli-Sharma duo broke a number of records.

Their partnership improved on the previous highest 2nd wicket stand on Sri Lankan soil – 197 runs added by Dhanaw and Kohli in the first ODI of this current series in Dambulla.

It was also India's third-highest 2nd wicket partnership against Sri Lanka

in ODIs, after 318 at Taunton in May 1999, and 236 at Nagpur in March 1999 – both set by Sourav Ganguly and Rahul Dravid.

This was also their third 200-plus stand as a pair equaling the record held jointly by Sachin Tendulkar and Ganguly, as well as Gautam Gambhir and Kohli.

Sri Lankan bowlers had a nightmarish time with pacers Lasith Malinga (1/ 82 in 10 overs) and Vishwa Fernando (1/ 76 in 8 overs) taken to task.

Akila Dananjaya (1/68 in 10 overs) also did not cause any trouble to the batsmen.

SCORECARD

India: Rohit Sharma c Dickwella b Mathews 104, Shikhar Dhawan c Pushpakumara b Fernando 4, Virat Kohli c Munawera b Malinga 131, Hardik Pandya c Hasaranga b Mathews 19, Lokesh Rahul c Hasaranga b Dananjaya 7, Manish Pandey not out 50, MS Dhoni not out 49. **Extras:** (LB, W-6) 11. **Total:** (For 5 wkt., 59 overs) 375. **Fall of wick-** eties: 1-92, 2-295, 3-302, 4-302, 5-34. **Bowling:** Lasith Malinga 8-1, 76-1, Angelo Mathews 6-22-2, Malinda Pushpakumara 9-0-65-0, Akila Dananjaya 10-0-68-1, Wanidu Hasaranga 2-0-19-0, Milinda Siriwardana 5-0-36-0. – PTI

City school to host CBSE basketball tourney

GUWAHATI, Aug 31: The Miles Bronson Residential School (MBRS) is going to host and organise the Central Board of Secondary Education's (CBSE) Cluster-I (East India Zone) Basketball Championship from September 7 to 9 in the categories of U-17 and 19 for both boys and girls.

Altogether 22 CBSE affiliated schools of entire NE India have confirmed their participation. The schools are: Army School, Narenge; Axel Public School, Lakdutta; Delhi Public School, Guwahati; Sarba Birha Gyan Jyoti, Amaignan; Sainik School, Goalpara; NPS International

School, Lakhra; St. Clares, Borjhat; Gurukul Grammar School, Guwahati; Royal Global School, Guwahati; Kaziranga English Academy, Ahomgaon; Maharisri Vidy Mandir, Silpukhuri; Indus Academy, Jagiroad; St Francis De Sales, Narenge; Maria's Public School, Narenge; Pragyoitish School, Borgaon; Don Bosco, Panbazar; St Xavier's School, Vidyut Nagar; Faculty of HS School, Aminingon; Montfort School, 10th Mile; Donyi Polo Vidyashala, Itanagar; Eklayka Model Residential School, Sikkim and the host Miles Bronson Residential School, Borjhat.

Assam team for Buchi Babu tournament

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 31: Mrinmoy Dutta will lead the 16-member Assam team in the Exposure Tour for the Buchi Babu Tournament to be played at Cherrapunji from September 5, informed Assam Cricket Association secretary Pradip Buragohain.

The team: Mrinmoy Dutta (Captain), Abhishek Thakuri (wk), Hrishikesh Tamuly, Biplob Saikia, Yasir Ali, Joy Singh Yadav, Rajak Uddin Ahmed, Dhrubajyoti Das, Jitumoni Kaita, Mukhtar Hussain, Rahul Singh, Akash Sengupta, Rryan Parag, Erik Roy, Rajat Khan, Subham Mandal, Chief Coach-Team Manager: Gautam Dutta, Coach: Pabitra Dutta, Physio: Dr Jaspal Singh, Trainer: Blaskar Borah.

NE taekwondo body's meet

GUWAHATI, Aug 31: The All Assam Shotokan Karate Seminar and Championship is going to be held on September 2 and 3 at the Bhogeswari Phukanani Indoor Stadium here.

Around 400 players from different group of Shotokan Style Karate under UKA have registered their names for participation in the championship which will be organised by the Shotokan Karate-Do Promotion Council of UKAA, hosted by the Japan Shotokan Karate-Do Kaminiyama Association, Assam in association with Greater Guwahati Karate-Do Association.

Altogether 65 different event for sub-junior (8-13 yrs), cadet (14-15 yrs),

junior (16-17 yrs) and senior (above 18 yrs), categories, both male and female, will be played in the meet.

Prior to the championship a day-long seminar on Shotokan Kata and Kumite will be held on September 2 which will be conducted by the 7th Degree Black Belt holder and referee Commission Chairman of Karate Association of India Renshi Paramjeet S Singh.

The meeting is called by Pelesie Khezhe, chairman of the NETA which will discuss for the development of the game in this part of the country, stated a release issued by AATA secretary Hiranya Saikia.



Pran Pratim Chaliha, secretary of the Armwrestling Association of Assam has been appointed manager of the Indian team which will participate in the 39th World Armwrestling Championship to be held at Budapest, Hungary from September 2 to 11.

CM's Media Adviser Hrishikesh Goswami (R) flanked by Nituya Barua, Rajib Prakash Baruah, Sangita Kakati releasing the book on Assam Kho-Kho in Guwahati, on Thursday. – AT Photo

Book on Assam kho-kho released

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 31: A book on the game of kho-kho in Assam, titled – *Assam Kho-Kho Natbarop* authored by senior bureaucrat Rajib Prakash Baruah, who is also vice president of the Kho-Kho Federation of India and president of the East Zone Kho-Kho Federation and Assam Kho-Kho Association, was released today.

The book was released by Hrishikesh Goswami, Media Adviser to the Chief Minister during a public meeting organised here on the occasion of the 30th death anniversary of noted journalist Harendra Nath Baruah.

The 70-page book contains different aspects of the game and its development in India and Assam.

Releasing the book Goswami mentioned that game is developing in Assam under proper guidance of Rajib

Karbachua who was also instrumental in including Assam players in the Indian teams which won gold medal in the South Asian Games.

Shotokan Karate meet in city

SPORTS REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Aug 31: The 1st All Assam Shotokan Karate Seminar and Championship is going to be held on September 2 and 3 at the Bhogeswari Phukanani Indoor Stadium here.

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India can dominate like China, Japan, Korea: Saina, Sindhu

NEW DELHI, Aug 31: Star shuttlers Saina Nehwal, PV Sindhu and K Srikanth today thanked the government for continued support and said India can dominate the sport for a long time like China, Japan and Korea if they keep believing in themselves.

The trio were speaking during a felicitation function organised by Sports Minister Vijay Goel at his residence here after Indian shuttlers returned with two medals – Sindhu's silver and Saina's bronze – from the just-concluded World Badminton Championships in Glasgow.

"We would like to thank the government and the Sports Minister for their continued support throughout the year. Sports is becoming quite popular in our country because of the encouragement from the government," Saina said.

"The facilities have improved and we shut-



ters need to believe in ourselves. If that happens we can come stronger and rule the sport like China, Japan and Korea," she added.

"Badminton in India as a sport has grown many folds. Many upcoming and bright players are coming up," said Sindhu, who lost the marathon title encounter 19-21 22-20 22-20 against Nozomi Okuhara of Japan.

"The World Championships final is one of the longest match I have played. At 20-20 in the last game it was anybody's game but in the end it was not my day," she said talking about the epic final.

Kidambi Srikanth, who had lost in the quarterfinals at Glasgow, said what is important for a sportsman is to get recognition and that is what they are getting right now.

The felicitation ceremony was initially planned at a makeshift tent in the lawns of Goel's residence but it was later shifted to one of the rooms inside his residence because of continuous downpour just before the start of the programme. – PTI

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Narayana Superspeciality Clinic

Liver and Digestive Disease Clinic

Dr. Subramaniam P. (Gastroenterologist)

Date: 3rd September 2017, Sunday

Dr. Saikat Mallik (Lap & GI Surgeon)

By appointment

Paediatric & Vaccination Clinic

Dr. Snigdha Pathak (Paediatrician)

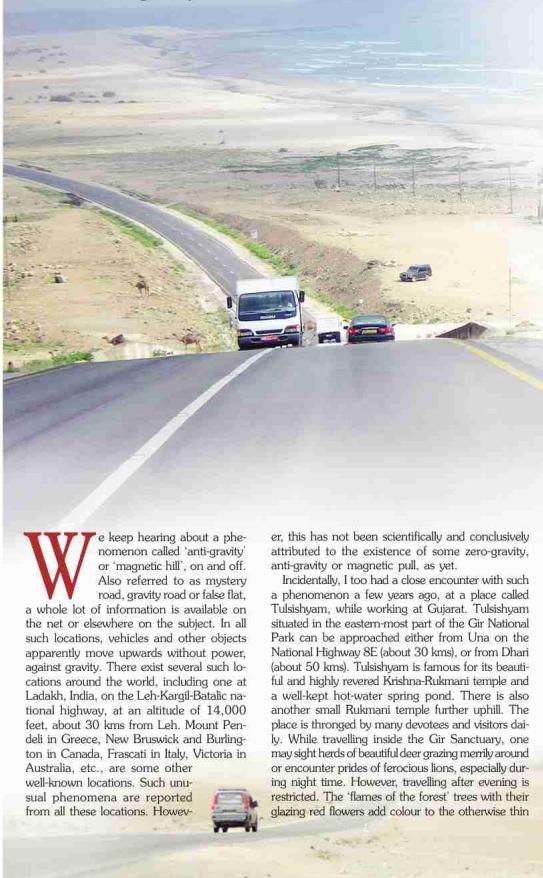
Date: 3rd September 2017, Sunday

Location: Ulubari, Near KFC, Guwahati, Assam

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Mystery road!

PARAG PHUKAN decodes a close encounter with anti-gravity.



We keep hearing about a phenomenon called 'anti-gravity' or 'magnetic hill', on and off. Also referred to as mystery road, gravity road or false flat, a whole lot of information is available on the net or elsewhere on the subject. In all such locations, vehicles and other objects apparently move upwards without power against gravity. There exist several such locations around the world, including one at Ladakh, India, on the Leh-Kargil-Batalik national highway, at an altitude of 14,000 feet, about 30 kms from Leh. Mount Perdita in Greece, New Brunswick and Burlington in Canada, Frasercat in Italy, Victoria in Australia, etc., are some other well-known locations. Such unusual phenomena are reported from all these locations. However,

this has not been scientifically and conclusively attributed to the existence of some zero-gravity, anti-gravity or magnetic pull, as yet.

Incidentally, I too had a close encounter with such a phenomenon a few years ago, at a place called Tulsiyam, while working at Gujarat. Tulsiyam situated in the eastern-most part of the Gir National Park can be approached either from Una on the National Highway 8E (about 30 kms), or from Dhar (about 50 kms). Tulsiyam is famous for its beautiful and highly revered Krishna-Rukmani temple and a well-known hot-water spring pond. There is also another small Rukmani temple further uphill. The place is thronged by many devotees and visitors daily. While travelling inside the Gir Sanctuary one may sight herds of beautiful deers grazing merrily around or encounter pride of ferocious lions, especially during night time. However, travelling after evening is restricted. The flames of the forest trees with their glazing red flowers add colour to the otherwise thin

forest. The topography is uneven with small hillocks. The geology represents patches of black rocky stones. The area is generally dry, and rainfall is scanty.

In 2012, I chanced upon a small newspaper report about how two gentlemen saw their parked vehicle near the Tulsiyam Temple (with cut-ignition and in neutral gear) start moving uphill towards the mandir. A vehicle going on an uphill road without power? Amazing indeed! The phenomenon seemingly defies all known laws of physics or scientific theories. It's a reality or an illusion? Some religious enthusiasts even suggested that it must be an act of God!

I decided to explore the mysterious phenomenon along with my wife and a junior colleague. The mysterious point was located about 500 meters from the temple gate, from where about 100 metres of the metal-top road appeared to run upwards, towards the mandir, with apparently more than one metre gradient. We parked the vehicle by the side of the road, stopped our ignition, put it in neutral gear, and lo! The car was moving upwards! We were dumbfounded as we were convinced that the portion of the road is definitely running uphill. The driver and I took turns at the steering wheel, some 20 odd times, with the same result. Stopped a few other vehicles, one loaded with 12 passengers; same procedure, same result! Threw some water, a roll of cigarette and an empty water bottle on the plain road, everything was moving upwards instead of downhill! We videographed the whole episode.

The following two weeks I was in a state of confusion: What was it – an anti-gravity point, a magnetic pull, some residual force working, some geological activity caused by the nearby hot-springs, a paranormal force at work or a pure optical illusion? Magnetic irregularity was ruled out as tester and cigarette sticks had also rolled upwards. Perhaps, the surrounding landscape had produced an optical illusion whereby the downhill slope appeared uphill. An obstructed horizon with leaning trees might have led to a reliable reference point being missing. Technically, when the horizon cannot be seen, we may get fooled by objects which are seen to be perpendicular but are actually not. Plain vision generally overestimates an angle of slope.

As it kept bugging me all the time, I decided to carry out a level survey with the help of my best civil engineer and his levelling instruments. Took an assumed Temporary Bench Mark (TBM) as reference point, and the readings were recorded in grids of five metres each. The readings were revealing. The road which appeared uphill to the naked eyes was actually a downhill tract with about 2-in-100 gradient. Well, 'seeing' may not be 'believing' always! But the location's optical illusion is so fascinating in itself! Till such time, when some new theories crop-up or some mystical occurrence gets added to such phenomena, let us keep our fingers crossed!

(paragphukan13@gmail.com)



Kangkana Goswami

While there is no dearth of sites and apps for the net-holic crowd in the contemporary world that keeps them occupied in the task of doing nothing, these distractions have now transgressed levels up to a shocking extent where one loses desires, even to live. Yes, that what you have just read. One game, 50 days, 250 deaths – The Blue Whale is spreading its tentacles globally, giving a sinister new definition to the word – world wide web (death trap). Engulfing teenagers across the world within its manipulating manhole, the killer game has now entered India where fresh cases have been reported in some parts of the country, including Chennai and Guwahati. Mumbai reported the first case in Indian territory where 14-year-old Manpreet Singh embraced death only to prove himself a real challenger to the Blue Whale administrator.

The Blue Whale is a challenger game that involves a player in

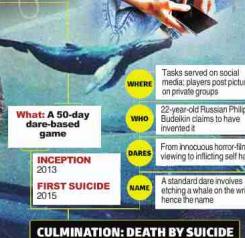


a 50-day challenge spree persuading the challenger into self-mutilation and finally suicide. The worst part of the story is that there is no revocation once you get into the game as the administrator claims to have all your private information and threatens harm to you and your family in case you quit midway. The array of challenges start with basic attractive ones like waking up at 4:20 am and watching a horror movie. It then extends to mildly bizarre ones like cutting out a whale in your hand with a sharp-edged weapon, choking yourself for the longest possible time and finally on the 50th day, it challenges you to jump from a seven-story building or take on other forms of embracing death. The game is specially designed to target teenagers who are under some sort of depression. What makes these games so addictive is the constant competition, ranking boards, the levels, etc., which tempt teenagers to thrive to be the best among others, at levels of such indulgence that the teenaged mind fails to differentiate between the real and virtual world. The administrator pushes them to prove themselves, dictating certain tasks. It's designed to suck you in, just like other social media platforms, gambling challenges, selfie challenges or other cyber chat spaces which have proved to be fresh proliferating grounds for severe addictive behaviours, irresponsible time management, addictive behaviourism, fatal conduct and cyber crimes.

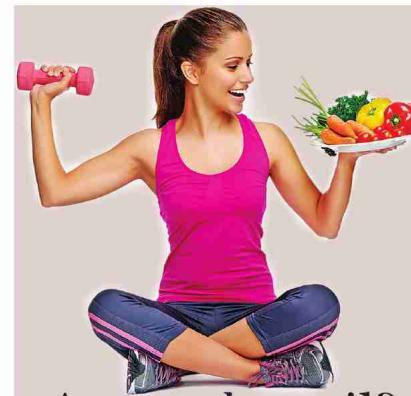
At a time, when manoeuvring through cyber space has become a challenge, the outbreak of such cyber acts has induced newer challenges to keep oneself, especially the teenagers, out of the reach of such trappings. Apps, sites, browsers and search engines are now flooded with such inciting attacks that transform these virtual leisure lullabies into the gamble of life. It is of utmost importance, therefore, to monitor the usage and to contain cyber addiction. While some of the telecom companies have come out with profound slogans like 'India hooked up on 4G', it's essential to check that this addiction doesn't replace 'hooked' for 'haunted'.

(kangkana2020@gmail.com)

THE DEADLY Blue Whale



©networks creative



Are carbs evil?

Angshuman Dutta

Carbohydrates are the body's primary source of energy; yet most fitness enthusiasts shy away from them. If you are following a "diet", you are most likely reducing your intake of rice. Even young athletes are resorting to low-carb diets in order to get "ripped" or make weight for their competition. Low carbs are the "in" thing. So, if you are a true-blue Assamese or a Northeasterner, for that matter, it might be bad news, as people from this region love their rice. So, are carbs really evil? Can one lose weight or follow a healthy lifestyle while eating their carbohydrates?

Carbohydrates can be broadly divided into simple and complex. Simple carbohydrates are rapidly absorbed in the blood stream, whereas complex carbohydrates need to be broken down before they can be utilised by the body. Both these forms of carbohydrates are critical for athletic success. Simple and fast digesting carbohydrates should form the basis of any post-workout or post-training meal. The body stores carbohydrates in the muscles and liver as glycogen. During intense training, the body uses this stored glycogen for energy. Research indicates that the glycogen stored in the muscles that are worked are used first for energy. So if you want to train hard and to your full potential, you need adequate glycogen in the muscles. Let's say you want to pump up your biceps; then you need adequate stores of glycogen in the biceps so that you can train hard and with full intensity. The body replenishes the lost glycogen from the nutrition you provide it with. So it might be prudent to restock glycogen stores with carbohydrates after your workout.

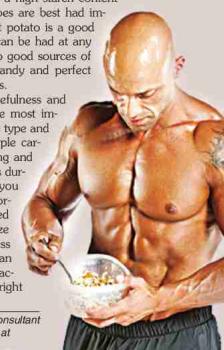
Carbohydrates also have a muscle sparing effect. To put it simply, if you want to keep your hard-earned muscles and grow some more, don't forget your carbs. Rice is a perfect post-workout carbohydrate; in fact, white rice would be better post-workout. At other times of the day, you are better off selecting brown rice. Red rice, a nutrient-rich variety found in Assam, is also a good source of carbohydrate. An added advantage of rice is that it is naturally gluten-free.

Whole wheat is a good complex carbohydrate; whole wheat chapatis and pasta are excellent sources of carbohydrates. Oats have become quite popular, especially among doctors and fitness trainers; it seems to be the most recommended form of carbohydrate. Oats is a quality source of carbohydrate and can form an integral part of any healthy eating plan.

However, the most ignored and often neglected source of carbohydrates are vegetables. Low in calories, rich in fibre and nutrients, vegetables should form a major part of any diet. Vegetables can be stewed, grilled, baked or stir-fried, except deep fried. So if you are counting on French fries, it's a no-go! Coming to French fries, potatoes are a staple in most parts of the world. They have a high starch content and glycemic index. So potatoes are best had immediately post-workout. Sweet potato is a good complex carbohydrate which can be had at any time of the day. Fruits are also good sources of carbohydrates; bananas are handy and perfect to use around training sessions.

When we talk about the usefulness and necessity of carbohydrates, the most important thing to consider is the type and portion sizes. If you have simple carbohydrates around your training and stick to complex carbohydrates during other times of the day, you should be doing fine. Also, portion sizes are critical; you need to find your optimum serving size depending on your age, fitness goal and body type. Carbs are an asset to any athlete; the only factor to consider is to select the right ones and not to overdo it.

(Angshuman Dutta is a fitness consultant and coach. He can be contacted at angshumanudutta@hotmail.com)





Roadside food fantasies

For someone who has grown up in Guwahati, amongst all the good, bad and ugly changes that I observe in the gateway city to the North-East, the city, in the last decade, has graduated into a foodie's delight with mushrooming growth of all kinds of eateries, from fast food corners to high-end restaurants flaunting multi-cuisines, and not to forget, the immensely popular ethnic food hubs.

Yes, most metros and big towns will always present great eating joints for those who love their food. But recently, took me to Itanagar and as we crossed Biswanath Chariali, about 60 kilometres from Tezpur, my driver told me that there is a very famous local *dhaba*, popularly known as Baideu's Hotel and enquired if we would like to have lunch. I was rather amazed at his appetite for lunch since we had had our breakfast just an hour ago. Sensing my utter disinterest in his offer, he quietly commented that we can always visit the hotel on our way back. He told me I would not regret the visit. Well, we finished our business in the hilly picturesque capital town of Itanagar in a couple of days and were on our return journey. This time around, me and my colleague Jayant were adequately hungry for lunch and we asked our driver to stop by any good roadside restaurant. The driver cajoled us to wait for a while until we reached Baideu's Hotel. I was not amused but somehow gave in to his persistence and eventually reached the hotel at around 3 pm, well past lunch-time. At first sight, Baideu's Hotel is as modest as a small roadside *dhaba* could be. Except the fact that the place was quite neat, there was nothing whatsoever that promised of a great meal. And then we were pleasantly surprised when the waiter served us a traditional Assamese *thali* with fresh fish and an assortment of close to 16 typical local delicacies, including a few unique presentations, supposedly Baideu's specials. True, we were famished, but being a foodie of sorts, Baideu's *thali* just won hands down.

As it has become a habit in recent times, I shared a few pictures of the awesome *thali* in social media. In the WhatsApp group formed by my school mate, there was an instant acknowledgment of the magic of Baideu's Hotel when one of my buddies and a connoisseur of good food — Rahul was quick to comment that Baideu's Hotel was indeed very special. Suddenly the other foodies in the group, Reja, Animesh, Rajdeep, Kumarali and Dibash in Lakhidih, Jangli Dhaba, Shikha Hotel in Bokakhat, Maa Kali in Barpeta Road, the local chain of Bodu (Bajaw) hotels in Bongaigaon, Kokrajhar and Goalpara... well the names kept pouring in and we all agreed that nothing can beat the authentic ethnic cuisine of the North-East.

Not that I don't like to drop into a KFC or Dominos, but you do feel that with similar marketing skills, the traditional ethnic food of this region could easily find its way into the dining plates of people world over. I have noticed that pure vegetarians always carry a bias towards say a typical fish-dominated Assamese meal. The fact that Assamese cuisine also has a very rich and varied vegetarian side to it is hardly noted by many, unless you make a serious effort to visit a Baideu's Hotel or an authentic ethnic restaurant that refrains from experimenting in food mixing.

India has always been a foodie's paradise with countless cuisines. At the same time, international food has also found a special space in the heart of Indians. In fact, we have gone to the extent of Indianising global cuisines like the most popular Indian Chinese. While we have reasons to celebrate our diplomatic triumph in handling the Doklam stand-off, we can also always put our backs for our ability to adopt foreign food and quickly influence it by our truly Indian gastronomic preferences... no wonder even McDonald's had to come up with a McAlao Tiki... I am just waiting for the McPitha now!

(tridivh@gmail.com)

Rahul Doshi, a 12-year-old boy of Indian-origin, has been crowned UK's 'Child Genius' in a popular television quiz competition, after answering all questions correctly. He won the Channel 4 show *Child Genius* by beating his nine-year-old opponent — Ronan, by a 10-4 margin in the programme's finale on August 20, 2017. In the final, Rahul impressed with his knowledge on his chosen subject — Edward Jenner's medical innovation and methodology in 18th Century England. He clinched the title by answering a question on 19th Century artists William Holman Hunt and John Everett Millais. He has an IQ of 162, which is believed to be higher than the likes of Albert Einstein and Stephen Hawking, and qualifies him to be a member of the Mensa Club — the largest and oldest high IQ society in the world.

QUIZ NEWS: The Nagaon Friends' Forum, in association with the Nagaon Quiz Forum, is organising the 6th Annual "Griscom Edin" — An All Assam Quiz Competition for students from Class-VIII to Class-XII on September 3 at the Nagaon District Library Auditorium. The prize money will be Rs 4,000, Rs 3,000 and Rs 2,000 for the top three teams. Two-member teams and cross teams will be allowed. There will also be a special round for the audiences with cash prizes. For more information, please call 7043652893.

Todays Master's Choice section has been compiled by one of our regular contributors, Adish Agarwalla, Morabhat. Meanwhile, keep writing to us with quiz reports, questions (with answers and full postal address) and interesting bits of information at: Quizone, Horizon, C/o The Assam Tribune, Maniram Dewan Road, Guwahati-781003. SMS at: 98640-26322 and e-mail at: tosalen@gmail.com or quizoners@gmail.com. To read Quizone online, you can log on to epaper.assamtribune.com

MASTER'S CHOICE

- Which hill station in India literally means 'Three Rivers' in Tamil and Malayalam languages?
- After the Maratha War, which treaty was signed between the British and the Marathas on May 17, 1782?
- Which 19th century painter from Travancore is known for his depiction of graceful sare-clad women?
- Which Indian newspaper once kept its editorial column blank as a mark of protest against the Emergency of 1975?
- Name the baby who was officially considered to be India's 'one billionth child' on May 11, 2000?

Misty eyes

Hi, there!
What's your story?
You seem to be struggling.
It's showing so clearly,
It's okay to let go,
It's okay to set it free,
And if it's turning your eyes misty,
Let them be.
Let them be misty.

A moving picture.
Heart-rending story.
Loss of someone you loved dearly.
Ultmost [sic] devotion.
Unspeakable cruelty.
Sacrifice for love, so great,
That it almost seems silly!

Whatever it may be,
Let your eyes turn misty.
For it's silly.
To hide beneath a
Façade of bravery.
It takes a lot more to
Let them be.
Let them be misty.
They look beautiful,
beautiful as they are!

Biman Sarma,
Brahmin

Curtains

Behind those doe-shaped eyes,
Lie an unfathomable desire,
To find the shelter,
To feel at home.
Behind that curve of the lips,
Lies some unspoken words,
That struggle to be free,
That wish to see the light.
Behind that curtain,
Lies a raging heart
A roar unheard.

Manisha Chetia,
Guwahati

SCIENCE ZONE

Dr Amit Krishna Bora



This is a transition period of life through which a young person enters the arena of self-dependence and bears the responsibility of adulthood.

The WHO defines "adolescents" as individuals in the 10-19 years age-group and "youth" as the ones in the 15-24 year age-group. These two overlapping age groups are combined in the group 'young people', covering the age range of 10-24 years.

This is a transition period of life through which a young person enters the arena of self-dependence and bears the responsibility of adulthood. The premises through which this group is operating. Besides the different physical problems, sexual misadventures lead to unwanted pregnancies in young females, unsafe abortion, STI/RTI, HIV/AIDS, emotional and psychological problems like depression, suicide, drug and alcohol dependence. Scholastic problems like school dropout, poor performance and many social menaces like juvenile delinquency, child abuse and trafficking, child labour and criminal tendency are the manifestations of maladjustments in this period.

Considering this peculiar need, a youth-friendly health programme has been started by the UN, which is flexible, emotionally and culturally comforting and provides privacy. The Adolescent

Sexual and Reproductive Health programme deals with preventive, promotive, curative and consultative services to these young people through the existing public health infrastructure. Adolescents often face constraints in seeking help from the existing health services. The well-known barriers to access such services are rel-

The marsh

The goods train dragged along listlessly, oblivious to the frenetic haste on either side Of the level crossing.
Roads teeming with traffic, spewing smoke, impatient traffic snarls — urban life gone amok; The fast and furious now chained, impatient to charge ahead.
Vying with each other in life's rat race.
My restlessness grows, my head reels,
My hands tighten around my steering wheel.
All at once, I stumble upon a sight so fine,
A soothing respite from the cacophony and grime; A humble marsh, swarming with life.
In a concrete jungle, a solace to sore eyes.
Crowded with water-lilies and overgrown greens, Water fowls feasted with zest and zing.
A presence so benign, can anybody deny?
How long can it evade the land grabbers' eyes?
Another concrete jungle will brutally wipe out, This oasis, this blessed haven, without a doubt.

Aniru Chatterjee,
Aitar, Rajasthan

The needle

We cried and cried,
For that one hand to soothe us,
For I hated the needle,
And that grip too strong;
I couldn't express,
The few seconds felt so long.

We joined school, we laughed.
Fear of injections reduced.
Frequency of visits dropped.
We could gauge the pain,
But not those untrained hands,
Carelessly looking for our vein.

And then we grew up, we smiled,
Learned how the balance works;
Happiness and pain,
Like a pendulum, swinging in the breeze;
Life gave more pain than the needle,
We learnt to smile at it with ease.

Snehal Deb,
Velore

Adolescence and sexual health



ed to their own personal issues like shyness, shame and embarrassment in disclosing problems, etc. Healthcare providers' unsupportive and judgmental attitude is another barrier that pre-

vents adolescents from seeking out their services. Adolescents/young people mostly prefer talking to their peers about sensitive issues. Keeping this in mind, Peer Group Educators (both females and males) are selected and oriented to promote adolescent-friendly health services. In addition to their orientation, they need to be followed up regularly to assess the work done, identify the problems, provide training and motivate them for further work. A peer group educator should be a good communicator, acceptable to the group, interested in the work, able to understand the problems of adolescents, have a good personality, and be confident.

At present, the awareness among people for the need of adolescent health services is not very high. Most parents may not consider that their adolescents need to consult doctors since they physically appear to be healthy. Even adolescents are not sure whether they can get help from the doctors, clinics or hospitals on the issues that are bothering them. Therefore, it is crucial that general awareness on adolescent health issues and need for timely help and availability of appropriate friendly health services should be raised among adolescents themselves, their parents and families, their teachers, as well as the community at large.

(amitjikmik@gmail.com)

QUIZ ZONE

Sailen Baishya

Picture clue:

19. Identity this world famous scientist from his childhood photo. (Konrad Pathak, Nandan Path, Narbal)



ANSWERS

- Munnar, 2. Treaty of Salbai, 3. Raja Ravi Varma, 4. *The Indian Express*, 5. Aastha Arora, 6. *Jai Hind*, 7. Aplastic Anaemia, 8. Dr Ruth Pfau, 9. Mohammad Rafi, 10. Dr Nagendra Singh, 11. Cambodia, 12. Julius Caesar, 13. South Korea and North Korea, 14. Puffin Books, 15. R K Narayan, 16. Amrit Puri, 17. *Cardenio*, 18. The Taj Mahal, 19. Albert Einstein, 20. Sarahah.

6. What words were inscribed on the first postage stamp issued in independent India?
7. Name the disease in which the bone marrow fails to produce adequate number of blood cells?

8. She was born in 1929 in Germany and founded the Marie Adelaide Leprosy Centre in Karachi in 1962. She was popularly known as Pakistan's "Mother Teresa" for dedicating her life to eradicating leprosy in the country. Name her.

9. Which famous Indian singer started his playback career in the 1944 Punjabi movie *Gul Baloch*?

10. Who is the first Indian to become the President of the International Court of Justice?

READERS' CHOICE

11. The Khmer Rouge was the name given to the followers of the Communist Party of Kampuchea in which country? (Chinnay Jyoti Borgohain, Dibrugarh)

12. Which Roman Emperor proclaimed the first Leap Day in 46 BC? (Amrita Nath, via SMS)

13. The Battle of Daecheong was a 2009 skirmish between the navies of which two countries? (Amlan Dey, Silchar)

14. The children's literature section of Penguin Books are distributed under what name? (Sneha Das, Digboi)

15. Who won the Sahitya Akademi Award for *The Guide* (novel) in 1961? (Arup Sarma, Gouriahat College)

16. Which famous Indian actor played Mola Ram in Steven Spielberg's *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*? (Rohit Hazarika, Guwahati)

17. Name the play which is known to be written by Shakespeare but is now lost. (Adil Bora, via SMS)

18. Which Indian monument did Rabindranath Tagore describe as 'a teardrop on the face of eternity'? (Asifur Rahman Choudhury, Dibrugarh)

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

20. It is an Arabic term which means 'honesty', introduced as a website by Saudi Arabian developer Zain al-Abidin Tawfiq. Its app version was released on June 13, 2017 on both the iOS App Store and Google Play. The app allows users to send anonymous messages to anyone, there are reports that some people are misusing the app and are using it as a tool for rampant cyber-bullying. Name it. (Shajid Khan, Tangla College, Tangla)

Gunin Borah

We are born with the gift of laughter. Laughter is a natural medicine. It increases our spirits and makes us feel happy. Laughter is an emotion that brings people together. It can help us feel more alive and empowered. Laughter therapy is also called humour therapy, it is the use of humour to promote overall health and wellness. It aims to use the natural physiological process of laughter to help relieve physical or emotional stresses or discomfort.

Public interest in the health benefits of laughter started to develop in the 1960s and grew from there. Dr William, a professor of psychology at Stanford University, California, was the first scientist to suggest, in 1964, that laughter was a suitable field of study and the first to apply for public funding. Norman Cousins (1915-1990), the editor of a journal, raised a lot of public awareness about the healing power of laughter and positive emotions, following his miraculous 1964 'Laughter Recovery' from a fatal illness known as ankylosing spondylitis. Humour scholars started to meet formally and discuss findings at international conferences, starting 1976. The American Association of Therapeutic Humor (www.aath.org) was founded in 1978, and the formation of the International Society of Humor Studies followed in 1988. Both these organisations unite several hundred professionals interested in integrating humour into a variety of therapeutic modalities. The therapeutic effects of laughter have been clinically studied since the 1970s, but Dr Madan Kataria, who developed laughter yoga in Mumbai, intends to bring laughter therapy into the mainstream. Kataria set up the first Laughter Club in 1995. Now, there are more than 5000 Laughter Clubs worldwide. The World Laughter Day is celebrated worldwide on the first Sunday of May since 2005.

Laughing is an excellent way to reduce stress in our lives, and can help us cope with and survive a stressful lifestyle. Laughter therapy aims to get people laughing in both group and individual sessions and can help reduce stress, make people and employees happier and more committed, as well as improve their interpersonal skills.

It is fun to share a good laugh. Laughter is a strong medicine. It draws people together in a way that increases healthy physical and emotional changes in the body. Laughter strengthens our

immune system, boosts our mood, diminishes pain and protects us from the damaging effects of stress. As children, we used to laugh a hundred times a day, but as adults, life tends to be more serious and laughter more infrequent.

Laughter is a powerful medicine for stress, pain, and conflict. Nothing works faster or more dependably to bring our mind and body back into balance than a good laugh. Humour lightens our burdens, keeps us grounded, focused, and alert. It also helps us release anger and be more forgiving. A good, healthy laugh releases physical tension and stress, leaving our muscles relaxed for up to 45 minutes after. Laughter decreases stress hormones and increases immune cells and infection-fighting antibodies, thus improving our resistance to diseases.

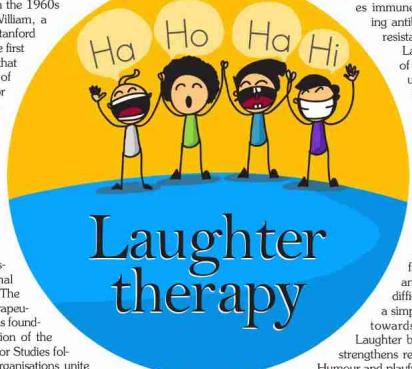
Laughter triggers the release of endorphins, the body's natural good chemicals. It promotes an overall sense of well-being and can even temporarily relieve pain. Laughter improves the function of blood vessels and increases blood flow, which can help to protect us against a heart attack and other cardiovascular problems.

Laughter gives us the courage and strength to find new source of meaning and hope. Even in the most difficult times, a laugh or even a simple smile can go a long way towards making us feel better.

Laughter brings people together, and strengthens relationships among people. Humour and playful communication strengthens our relationship by triggering positive feelings and fostering emotional connection. When we laugh with one another, a positive bond is created. Laughter unites people during difficult times.

Today's modern lifestyle has many negative effects on human health – lack of physical activity, combined with unhealthy eating leads to bad effects on the heart's health. Modern lifestyle increases the risk of obesity, leading to diabetes, heart diseases, and cancer. Psychologically, people are prone to increased stress levels and depression. Social isolation occurs as we spend long hours on electronic media. This affects both the physical and mental health of a person in the society. Laughter Therapy is one of the best natural medicines for both physical and mental health. So, laugh when you can because it costs nothing. If laughter cannot solve your problem, it will definitely dissolve your problem. Just laugh, stay happy, stay healthy!

borah.gunin@gmail.com



Laughter therapy

Smartphone addiction

Rani Pathak Das

To become smart, a child need not fiddle with a smartphone. While smartphones have taken the life of people to a different level, this 'unavoidable' nuisance seems to have enveloped the life of many children by gradually turning into a cocaine-like addiction for them. By the term addiction, people generally mean or refer to addiction of substance or things. But certain addictions can be related to behavioural patterns in different ways. Smartphone addiction is one such addiction.

Talking to this writer, Dipanjali Das Pathak, editor of an Assamese magazine published from Guwahati, agreed that the habit and addiction of cellphones is somewhat like cocaine addiction. "This is very dangerous for children. Many mobile games have violent themes, the kids sometimes get confused between what is virtual and what is real. They tend to become violent as they cannot maintain a balance between the virtual and real life. They become impatient," she said.

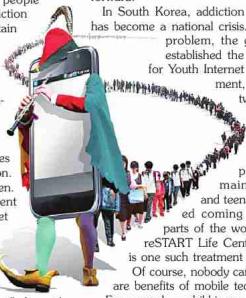
The easy access to internet through smartphones has made it very attractive for teenagers as they can see the world – both the positive and negative sides – in their palms. Young people receiving or sending pornographic images or videos through their devices have become a cause of concern. It can result in the increase of crime and violence in the society. Time spent on messaging friends on WhatsApp, Facebook or Instagram can be dangerously addictive for teenagers. Jeeta Baruah, Principal of the Crescent Academy Junior College in Jorhat is of the opinion that restriction on use

of mobile phones can do wonders in the academic results of the students. "I do not allow students in my college to keep mobile phones. After such restrictions, there are instances of students getting good results, who earlier performed badly due to misuse or excessive use of phones," she said. However, she believes that one cannot make a blanket ban on use of smartphones, and that restriction is the only way forward.

In South Korea, addiction to smartphones has become a national crisis. To address this problem, the government has established the National Centre for Youth Internet Addiction Treatment, located in Muju, two hours outside of Seoul. Rehabilitation centres to eradicate smartphone addiction, mainly among kids and teenagers, have started coming up in different parts of the world. In USA, the reSTART Life Centre, near Seattle, is one such treatment centre.

Of course, nobody can deny that there are benefits of mobile technology as well. For example, a child is more capable of rapid cyber searches, making quick decisions, multitasking, development of peripheral vision while playing games, etc. Here we may conclude that a moderate use is the immediate solution. One can even think of buying simple phones having only call and message facilities for their kids. Other aspects to be taken care of by parents or teachers would be: not to let smartphones interfere with playtime or socialising of children, limiting screen use to one or two hours a day, etc. Overall, it must be ensured that the lives of the children are not controlled by smartphones.

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Mood disorders

No age is exempt for the occurrence of primary psychiatric disorder. Young, as well as the old, become victims of mental illnesses. It often becomes a challenge to diagnose primary psychiatric disorders in the elderly. This population usually suffers from neurological and other diseases. And before making a final diagnosis, secondary causes need to be ruled out through evaluation. This is especially so in the case of the elderly.

In comparison to younger age groups, mood disorder in adults above 65 years of age is less common. The average age in late-onset is 56 years.

Mood disorders in the elderly is a serious clinical problem. This demands careful evaluation and management. It is also pertinent to note that there is a steady rise of mood disorders in the elderly population.

Manjunath Muraleedharan, Sunil Suthar, and Bhupendra Singh reported a case of very late-onset mood disorder. The age of the patient was 88 years.

Some of the symptoms that this patient displayed were: unduly cheerful mood, over-talkativeness, increased activity level, excessive worship of God, restlessness, and decreased need for sleep. These symptoms were observed over a duration of three months. The response to treatment was positive.

A case report on 'very late onset mania' has been published in the *Open Journal of Psychiatry & Allied Sciences* (OJPAS).

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MIND MATTERS

Dr Shyamanta Das

The outdoor smartphone segment in the European and US markets is seeing much excitement in the recent months. A new name to enter this segment is the small but niche Chinese manufacturer AGM, which launched its flagships AGM A8 recently.

As expected of an outdoor smartphone, the AGM A8 is IP68 dust and water-proof. It means that it can be submerged in one metre deep water for around half an hour and that it is completely dust-proof at all times. The phone features a very sturdy 5-inch display running at 1280x720 (HD) and a high capacity 4050 mAh battery. It runs on Android 7.0 and can take two Nano SIM cards.

The 13-MP main camera A8 sports is usual in the Rs 20,000 (online) price range, but the 2MP secondary front-facing camera certainly is subpar. Available only in black, the A8 has a 4050 mAh battery, which is user replaceable, but it is quite a feat: after unscrewing the rear cover with the enclosed miniature screw driver, the battery hides behind yet another cover.

come out as good as an outdoor guy would like to be.

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Outdoor smartphone



TECH TRENDS

Devo Nath

Glow-worms are less often seen now, than they used to be. There were those times in childhood when we would run after those twinkling tiny beacons of light during summer nights as if to accept their challenge: catch me if you can! There were cautions from elders not to catch a glow-worm because it may lead to bedwetting. Those cautions would hardly stop us from catching one! Glow-worms creating a magical sight on summer nights have inspired literature as well as curious beliefs. Many believed that these tiny beacons lead birds to their food. There were other suggestive notions about the insect's light – a complicated chemistry as to how it works, however, still less complicated to correlate between catching a glow-worm and bedwetting!

A glow-worm's light is produced when two substances – luciferin and luciferase – together react in the presence of oxygen. While the light is critical for mating, it doesn't help the tiny insect from falling easy prey to frogs and spiders at night. On the other hand, glow-worms in their larval stage are voracious eaters. They feed on snails and are useful to farmers-gardeners and horticulturists. But they shun eating once they become adults.

Like so many people, I too wondered why a glow-worm would carry a light, that too on the under side. Studies show that the light is critical for carrying the lineage forward. While in many species – like the birds,

whose males possess brighter plumage to attract females, in case of glow-worms, it is just the opposite. In glow-worms, the light of the male insects are feeble while the female glow-worms are bright. There are huge differences in appearance too.

The male glow-worm resembles a beetle and the female, sans wings, looks almost like lava. It is during the larval stage that female glow-worms become sexually active. Her life-span as an adult is not more than eight or nine days. During that period she waits for the male to find her on the leaf or stem of a plant, following her luminous signal. If that period lapses with no sign of the males, females end up without mating! This is one reason that stands out for their decline.

Sighting of this ornamental insect has become almost a rarity in cities where they are lost in the maze of 'commercial glow-worms'. The declining trend is set by other factors thought to be similar to those of other insects – rapid use of pesticides, greater pressure on the countryside due to rapid urbanisation, etc. Moreover, it so happens that male glow-worms are attracted by lights other than those emitted by the females. Whether it is a candle or the twinkling lights of a modern city, while males are allured by artificial lights, females die out waiting. This shows they are not intelligent enough and therefore deserve a fair deal. After all, we do need a world aglow with the light of the glow-worms!

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SEEDS OF CHANGE

Mubina Akhtar



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CALENDAR

The origin of the word calendar is traced to the Latin *kalendae* – as the first day of each month is called. This day was specially marked for settling the accounts every month, including payment date for debts. *Kalendae* had three significant monthly dates: the *kalendas*, the *nones* (falling on the 5th or 7th of every month), and the *ides* (falling on the 13th or 15th of every month). Julius Caesar was forewarned of his death on *ides* of March, which he ignored, but it unfortunately came true.

WORDSPREAK

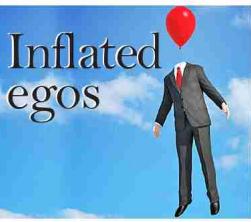
The story behind words

Bibekananda Choudhury

ICON

THE root of this word has been traced to Greek *eikon*, meaning 'a likeness, image'. In the early 1950s, it was used to mean a celebrated figure, such as a sporting icon or a pop star. Icons in computing appeared with the launch of the Apple Macintosh computer in 1984.





Inflated egos

We have all met him and can describe him. He is the co-worker who won't admit to his mistakes, the cab driver who will desert you on the highway to show you who 'the boss' is, the 'friend' who is secretly envious of your success, the CEO who will take all the credit for the good work of his employees. These are some people with inflated egos. And people with big egos have small ears! Because they are too absorbed in their own talk to truly listen to what others have to say.

Most of us exhibit mild traits of narcissism – a certain degree of self-interest is healthy and gives you the focus you need to achieve personal goals. We all start out life as narcissistic infants, completely self-absorbed and ruled by impulses. As we grow, our focus starts to expand so we can build meaningful relationships and develop emotional intelligence. However, these nine are the most commonly listed observations:

- A grandiose sense of importance.
- Preoccupation with fantasies of unlimited success, power, brilliance, beauty, or ideal love.
- She or he is special and unique and can only be understood by, or should associate with, other special people of high status.

• Requires excessive admiration (regularly fishes for compliments), and is highly susceptible to flattery).

- Has a sense of entitlement.
- Is interpersonally exploitative.
- Lacks empathy – is unwilling to recognise or identify the feelings and needs of others.

• Is often envious of others or believes that others are envious of him or her.

• Shows arrogant, haughty behaviour or attitude.

An inflated ego can prevent people from living a happy and fulfilling life. Constant comparisons with others, the lookout for validation and success bears risks. I used to know a person with such symptoms very well once, and the periods of heightened which were followed by periods of deep self-doubt, depending on external events, rather than a sense of internal self-worth, were always very confusing to observe.

They can be 'over-achievers' in their chosen field because their exaggerated sense of self-confidence and self-importance drives their determination to succeed. They feel the pressure to show the world just how important they really are. If they are succeeding and are at the top level in their field, they will probably never get diagnosed. The western society, especially, puts high value on personal success and supports high achievers.

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CHARISMA CHRONICLE

Anjan Chowdhury

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WEST SIDE STORY

It's 'over', says Katie

KATIE Price has slammed Kieran Hayler and confirmed that the couple's relationship is "over".

Recently, Kieran took to Instagram to post a series of clips and pictures of himself and Katie sitting together watching the McGregor-Mayweather boxing match.

However, Katie took to Twitter and said: "My heart is broken, Kieran's video is fake to make it look like I'm not serious. My story in The Sunday Sun is totally true... it's over."

Harris ignores Taylor's new song

TAYLOR Swift's new music video for *Look What You Made Me Do* was released at the MTV Video Music Awards last Sunday night. Taylor wasn't at the show to unveil the footage herself, but the audience was left in awe.

However, one audience member who was left unimpressed was Taylor's ex, Calvin Harris. The Scottish DJ was seen ignoring the music clip, instead choosing to talk to the person in the seat next to him as it played on the big screen.

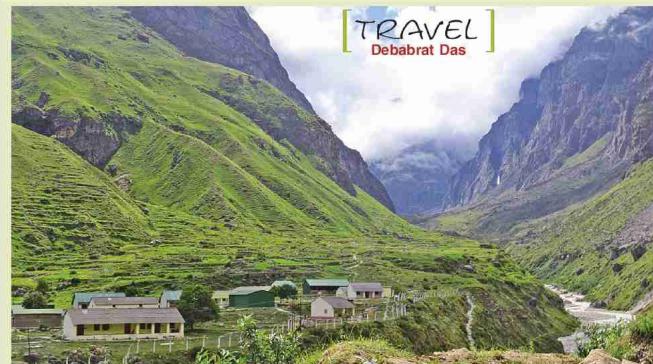
Taylor and Calvin dated for 15 months before splitting in June 2016.

Selena's Instagram hacked

SELENA Gomez's Instagram was hacked and several nude photos of her ex-boyfriend Justin Bieber were posted to the account recently. Gomez's Instagram was swiftly deactivated and the photos were taken down.

The *Hands To Myself* singer, 25, who is the most followed person on Instagram, with more than 125 million followers, has since re-secured her account.

AGENCIES



More than just a cup of tea!

A curious search for the 'last Indian village' in Google introduced me to the little village of Mana. After I saw photos of the gate welcoming people to the Last Indian Village and a shop claiming to be the last tea shop of India, Mana found place in my list of spots to visit. After a long wait for that special cup of tea at the last tea shop, my wish finally came true.

The village of Mana is located in the Indo-China border in the Chamoli district of Uttarakhand. Inhabited by the Bhotia tribes, Mana is just four kilometres away from the temple town of Badrinath.

I was already mesmerised by the beauty of the landscape while driving to Badrinath and this small portion of road till Mana was no different. In no time we were at the gate of Mana. My driver suggested that I take a guide along to show me around as there was much more than just the last tea shop in the village.

The guide echoed the same fact and narrated the mythological stories about the village. Listening to the stories aroused more interest. Before entering the village, my guide pointed towards two massive hills known as Nara and

Narayana hills. It is believed that Nara and Narayana (considered to be the fourth reincarnation of Lord Vishnu) went through their penance here.

The village has many places related to the *Mahabharata*, and it is said that the *Mahabharata* was written in this very village. As the story goes, Lord Ganesha wrote the epic while *Maharishi Ved Vyasa* narrated it to him. The particular place is preserved in the form of *Ganesha Gufa* & *Vyasa Gufa*, both located next to each other.

Just at an arm's length from *Vyas Gufa*, flows the River Saraswati. I was thrilled to know that the river flowing next to Mana is Saraswati. I was told that Ved Vyasa was disturbed by the gushing sound of the Saraswati River while he was narrating the *Mahabharata* to Ganesha, so he cursed her to vanish from there and said that she could re-emerge near Allahabad and join the other two holy rivers, Ganga and Yamuna. The Saraswati River merges with the Alakananda River at a place called Keshav Prayag.

The 'Bheem Pool' has another mythological tale associated with the *Mahabharata*. It is believed that on the way to heaven, the Pandavas passed through Mana. Draupadi was finding it difficult to cross the Saraswati River, so Bheem placed a giant rock over the river and used it as a bridge to cross the river. The bridge later came to be known as Bheem Pool. The rock is still there and is used by people to cross the river. There is also a giant footprint on the rock which is believed to be Bheem's footprint.

After exploring the above mentioned places, I still had one more place to visit – the main attraction for which I travelled so far – the famous 'last tea stall of India' and I didn't have to wait long for it. Just after crossing the Bheem Pool, I spotted it. Although there are a number of shops claiming to be the last tea shop, my guide took me to the oldest one. I relished my cup of tea, while enjoying the picturesque view of the small village in the lap of the Himalayas. After an hour-long journey, I bid adieu to this beautiful village.

Unlike what I imagined, Mana is much more than just the last village of India. The mythological stories and the proximity to Tibetan culture make it even more unique. Well, I did get my fair share of tea and stories, along with a spectacular view of the Himalayas. What more could I have asked?

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BABUMOSHAI BANDOOKBAAZ
DIRECTOR: KUSHAN NANDY
STARS: NAWAZUDDIN SIDDIQUI, BOTTABAG, SHRADHA DAS, JATIN GOSWAMI

Kushan Nandy's *Babumoshai Bandookbaaz* is another 'live-by-the-sword, die-by-the-sword' Bollywood tale of contract killers in northern India.

The story spins around a contract killer named Babu (Nawazuddin Siddiqui) who falls for a sultry debutante girl (Bridgitte Bag) and even agrees to kill her rapists to win her and that too against the whims of his political masters.

Now enters Banki (Jatin Goswami), another professional killer who idolises Babu for his style of functioning and even suffuses the word Banki after his name as a mark of respect for the senior pro.

While the idol and pupil compete, trying to outsmart each other in the killing spree that follows, there is a plethora of sub-plots – love, sex, betrayal, revenge and miracle – that the makers of the movie try to force on the plot, which eventually makes the narrative confusing.

The script loses its central plot in the director's bid to add too much *masala*. Nawazuddin, who obviously is the only reason why the movie has generated so much interest, looks at ease with the character, although the shades of his character are somewhat identical to the roles he has essayed not very long ago.

The movie impresses in parts but there are too many weak slots to fill up. Bridgitte Bag who plays the love interest of Babu, makes her presence felt and so does debutante Jatin Goswami. Despite some impressive performances, *Babumoshai Bandookbaaz* misses more than it hits.

AT THE THEATRES

Sanjopy Ray

A GENTLEMAN
DIRECTORS: KRISHNA DK, RAJ NIDIMORU
STARS: SIDHARTH MALHOTRA, JACQUELINE FERNANDEZ, AMIT MISTRY, SUNIL SHETTY

Designed to be an out-and-enter entertainment, director Raj and Krishna's *A Gentleman – Sardar, Suseela, Risky* manages to land just there and thereabout.

The Sidharth Malhotra and Jacqueline Fernandez-starrer, despite starting on a predictable note,

does the catching up business very well and more importantly just when it was most needed.

The story is about Gaurav, his love life and the complexities he has to undergo as a result of a mistaken identity and how he finally manages to bail himself out of the tangles. Thankfully, the movie does not cling to the predictable

style of storytelling and offers novelty in its treatment and barely strains to get the message across to the audience, especially in the second half.

Sidharth, as an actor, has come of age and is extremely effortless in both the avatars. Jacqueline provides the oomph factor to the movie but has very little to offer in terms of acting.

Jignesh, played by Amit Mistry, provides the right fillip to the script with his amusing comic timing. However, one gets the feeling that Sunil Shetty's character could have been worked on better.

(sanjopyray10@gmail.com)

Archie
HENRY SCARRELL, CRAIG BRAKMAN

YOU KNOW I DON'T HAVE TO TALK TO YOU

DO YOU THINK I'M STUPID?

LET ME HAVE A PEN! I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO DRAW IT!

FROM NOW ON, WE'RE ON FOR EVER!

BIT DOWN, BEETLE. I WANT TO TALK WITH YOU.

I LIKE YOU AND I THINK YOU'RE A GREAT GUY.

THE TROUBLE IS, YOU ALMOST DO WHAT YOU WANT TO DO.

IT TAKES TOO MUCH YELLING TO GET YOU AND YOUR BUDDIES TO BITE!

NO! I FORGIVE YOU!

YOU LET VERONICA TAKE MY PLACE AGAIN?

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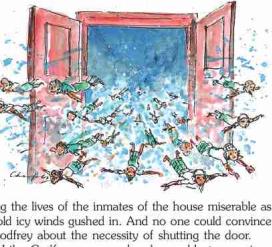
The open doors

The creative clairvoyants are an interesting lot. The way they predict the future in their writings is indeed mind blowing. Isn't it amazing to just think that Valmiki had composed the great epic *Ramayana* years ahead, even before Lord Rama was born?

No wonder Bill Clinton was flabbergasted during his visit to India while he was the US President. He had the shock of his life when he came to know that Ramon Saggar had directed the popular number *Monica, O' my darling* in a movie long before Ms Lewinsky came into the picture.

But among these creative clairvoyants, no one comes close to William Brighty Rands, so far as this State is concerned. In the mid-19th century, he could foresee the events which were to unfold 200 years later in a faraway land. No wonder his widely read poem *Godfrey Gordon Gustavus Gore* is similar to the peculiar problem that the State is facing over the decades. The verse is about a boy who would never shut the door, making

REVERSE SWEEP
Manish Goswami



ing the lives of the inmates of the house miserable as cold icy winds pushed in. And no one could convince Godfrey about the necessity of shutting the door.

Like Godfrey, no one has been able to convince those who are at the helm to seal the international borders of the State. In fact, the porous and broken border fences over the years have become a major tourist spot for people who matter. Be it student leaders, politicians, chief ministers, union home ministers, security heads, etc, they invariably visit to inspect the open borders. And after every visit, solemn assurances are made that the border will be sealed within the shortest possible period.

For the last so many decades the State has been busy erecting fences along the border, but the work never seems to end, just like Penelope's web. Deadlines after deadlines have been set, but they always remain elusive like the golden deer.

The interesting aspect is that a substantial recurring expenditure has been incurred in the name of securing the borders. But the irony is that this expense is just going down the drain. Had the authorities wished, they could have built a number of Taj Mahals to attract foreign tourists with the amount they have spent over the years in the name of fencing the porous border.

Once, the people of the State – realising the dangers posed by the open border, agitated for six long years. And instead of getting the border sealed, the people of the State got an accord, a few educational institutions, a cultural complex and a refinery, along with a political party.

For 32 long years, be it at the tripartite or bipartite level, the talks have been going on to implement the vital clauses of the accord, which includes sealing of the porous border. The talks have always generated a special interest as all the parties to it are committed to implement the accord in its true letter and spirit. The talks do speak eloquently about the commitment of the student leaders who, of course, are not getting any younger to keep talking about the implementation of the clauses of the accord over and over again.

The general refrain is that strong walls make good neighbours, but for the leaders of the nation, a porous border ensures a vibrant democracy as it ensures a never-ending supply of committed voters.

Finally, after creating a great deal of problem to his family members, good sense dawned on Godfrey Gordon Gustavus Gore. He realised the importance of shutting the door. But will such a realisation ever dawn upon the policy makers of the nation?

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