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RN-1127/57 TECH/GH – 104/2015-2017, VOL. 79, NO. 114, GUWAHATI, SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2017, Pages 20

Price Rs. 6.00



## NEWS CAPSULE

### House session

GUWAHATI, April 29: The special session of the 14th Assam Legislative Assembly will be held from May 8 to 11. The session will be mainly on business, passage of Supplementary Demand for Grants and Supplementary Appropriation for 2017-18, a press release stated.

**Manipur ambush**  
IMPHAL, April 29: Two Border Road Task Force personnel, identified as Laliamang and Ginalam Khate, were killed in an ambush by rebels in the Churachandpur sector of Indo-Myanmar border today. – Correspondent

(Details on Page 7)

### Pak teen

CHANDIGARH, April 29: The Border Security Force today handed over a Pakistani teen who had crossed into Indian territory inadvertently in the Abohar sector in Punjab on Friday. Razak, aged around 15, hails from Kasur district in Pakistan. – IANS

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



Destruction caused by a heavy storm in Guwahati on Friday night. – UB Photos

## Govt flayed for not submitting affidavit on citizenship

### STAFF REPORTER

over the issue would weaken the case for the indigenous people of Assam.

Addressing the media here, Prajrajit Virothi Manch today lashed out at the State Government for not submitting its affidavit in the Supreme Court supporting the demand of making 1951 as the base year in Assam for determining citizenship, instead of 1971.

Ahead of the ensuing SC hearing on the important issues of base year for determining citizenship and granting citizenship to the descendants of Bangladeshi immigrants, who were born in Assam till 2004, the Manch said that the State Government's silence

Needless to say, the State Government's stand would enough significance.

"But unfortunately, the present State Government is also towing the line of the previous Congress government that supported 1971 as the base year for citizenship in its affidavit, which was also supported by the AIUDF," he said.

The apex court's five-member constitution bench will start the hearing from May 11, 2017 on the two very important issues that will determine the future of the indigenous population in Assam.

(See page 12)

## Assam probe team to visit US

### R DUTTA CHOWDHURY

GUWAHATI, April 29: The Assam Government is likely to send a team of investigators to the United States of America (USA) in connection with the much talked about Louis Berger bribery scam. However, the date for finalising the team is yet to be finalised as necessary formalities have to be completed before that.

The investigation of the Louis Berger bribery scam slowed down as the relevant information from the USA is yet to be obtained and a New Jersey court has already taken action against officers of the Ameri-

can company for its alleged involvement in payment of bribes in several countries in Asia.

In Assam, the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of Assam Police is probing the allegation of the American company paying bribe to obtain the job of consultants in the water supply scheme being implemented by the Guwahati Metropolitan Develop-

ment Authority (GMDA). Official sources told *The Assam Tribune* that the CID has already questioned several officials, including senior Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers, in connection with the bribery case. But obtaining the details of the investi-

gations in the USA is vital for a thorough probe of the case.

The CID sent letters rogatory through a competent court seeking details of the investigation of the case from the New Jersey court and the American investigators. But so far the CID has not received the relevant documents and other materials concerning the investigation of the case.

Sources said that instead of sending the documents and other materials, the US authorities wanted that a team of investigators from Assam should be sent to that country for the investigation of the case in collaboration with the American investigators. Fol-

lowing the request, the State Government has decided to send a team to the US for the investigation of the case.

However, the American investigators also requested that (See page 12)

## EC for all-party meet over EVM row

### CHANDIGARH, April 29:

The Election Commission of India may soon call a meeting of all political parties in order to convince and assure them that the electronic voting machines (EVMs) cannot be hacked, Chief Election Commissioner Nasim Zaidi said here on Saturday.

"We will soon hold an all-party meeting to tell them that our EVMs are non-tamperable and secured as per our administrative and technical safeguard system," Zaidi told reporters here.

He said that the poll panel intends to use Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) units

attached with EVMs in the coming elections for greater transparency and restore voters' confidence in the electoral process.

A VVPAT chute is a paper slip confirming the party and candidate a person has voted for. This slip is kept in EDC records for future reference.

The government has earlier this month sanctioned funds of Rs 3,173.47 crore to buy 16,15 lakh VVPATs as sought by the EC. The poll panel has already placed an order for the same with Bharat Electronics Ltd and Electronic Corporation of India Ltd and expects to get the machines by September 2018. – IANS



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## Derogatory post on social media

### DSP Anjan Bora arrested

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Jnana Party (BJP). Bora was later granted bail by the Court of the Chief Judicial Magistrate here. (See page 12)

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(See page 12)



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ABHLASH DUTTA Roll No: 10705434 Marks: (GEN) <b>86</b>	JUPITER GOSWAMI Roll No: 10709993 Marks: (GEN) <b>86</b>	LIZA BORAH Roll No: 10702179 Marks: (GEN) <b>86</b>	PRASHANTA KARMAKAR Roll No: 10801746 Marks: (GEN) <b>86</b>	DIPITA CHOURASI Roll No: 10801972 Marks: (GEN) <b>85</b>	HIMANGSHU SAIKIA Roll No: 10707373 Marks: (GEN) <b>85</b>	PREASINIT DEB Roll No: 10709571 Marks: (GEN) <b>85</b>	MAMATA ROY Roll No: 10800499 Marks: (GEN) <b>84</b>	MANASH JYOTI LAL Roll No: 10718669 Marks: (GEN) <b>84</b>	MANASH JYOTI LAL Roll No: 10718669 Marks: (GEN) <b>84</b>
RAJDEEP DUTTA Roll No: 10709285 Marks: (GEN) <b>83</b>	SURAJ DUTTA Roll No: 10704798 Marks: (GEN) <b>82</b>	RUPESH NEELAKSAR Roll No: 10800016 Marks: (GEN) <b>81</b>	SASHANK DUTTA Roll No: 10716185 Marks: (GEN) <b>81</b>	DEBASHISH DUTTA Roll No: 10704892 Marks: (GEN) <b>80</b>	NG MONJOTI DUTTA Roll No: 10705945 Marks: (GEN) <b>80</b>	JITENDRA DUTTA Roll No: 10702128 Marks: (GEN) <b>79</b>	RAJNITA DUTTA Roll No: 10702128 Marks: (GEN) <b>78</b>	PRIVA DEBNATH PERI Roll No: 10710471 Marks: (GEN) <b>71</b>	DENIM DUTTA Roll No: 10703653 Marks: (GEN) <b>77</b>
SAYAN DUTTA Roll No: 10700088 Marks: (GEN) <b>77</b>	ARUNADHYO SURADHAR Roll No: 10800050 Marks: (GEN) <b>76</b>	DEBORSHYAN DUTTA Roll No: 10709337 Marks: (GEN) <b>75</b>	SUPARSHAN DUTTA Roll No: 10705937 Marks: (GEN) <b>75</b>	SHUBHANOO SOGOL Roll No: 10716171 Marks: (GEN) <b>75</b>	ANTU DUTTA Roll No: 10705932 Marks: (GEN) <b>72</b>	KANSHU DUTTA Roll No: 10716653 Marks: (GEN) <b>72</b>	HOHICARAN PERI Roll No: 10710463 Marks: (GEN) <b>71</b>	PRIVA DEBNATH PERI Roll No: 10710463 Marks: (GEN) <b>70</b>	VISHAL NANDAN MEDHI Roll No: 10707598 Marks: (GEN) <b>70</b>
TAPAS POTTI DEKA Roll No: 10705289 Marks: (GEN) <b>70</b>	RAJDEEP BORGHANI Roll No: 10703072 Marks: (GEN) <b>68</b>	SALINAKADI NATH Roll No: 10800427 Marks: (GEN) <b>68</b>	SUMIT DAS Roll No: 10706047 Marks: (GEN) <b>68</b>	BISAL NATH Roll No: 10805753 Marks: (GEN) <b>67</b>	KHUSHROO KUMARI Roll No: 10712288 Marks: (GEN) <b>66</b>	PREASINIT DEB Roll No: 10709571 Marks: (GEN) <b>66</b>	SAMPRTI GOGOI Roll No: 10700963 Marks: (GEN) <b>66</b>	HIMAKSHI DEVI Roll No: 10714555 Marks: (GEN) <b>65</b>	KAUSIK RAY Roll No: 10703964 Marks: (GEN) <b>65</b>
BIBHUTI BORAH Roll No: 10714532 Marks: (GEN) <b>64</b>	PRAGYAN DAS Roll No: 10709004 Marks: (GEN) <b>64</b>	RAJESH DAS Roll No: 10709467 Marks: (GEN) <b>63</b>	SWARNALEE DUTTA Roll No: 10704005 Marks: (GEN) <b>63</b>	AHANA DASH Roll No: 10704703 Marks: (GEN) <b>62</b>	SHUBHAJYOTI DAS Roll No: 10800582 Marks: (GEN) <b>61</b>	ABHISIT DAS Roll No: 10716839 Marks: (GEN) <b>61</b>	BHUJASHI DAS Roll No: 10702732 Marks: (GEN) <b>61</b>	KAMAL LOLO Roll No: 10704693 Marks: (GEN) <b>61</b>	BIPRAJIT MAZUMDER Roll No: 10800064 Marks: (GEN) <b>60</b>
SUBHAM DUTTA Roll No: 10700560 Marks: (GEN) <b>60</b>	JOYDEEP DAS Roll No: 10801255 Marks: (GEN) <b>58</b>	MANU DAS Roll No: 10720272 Marks: (GEN) <b>58</b>	BODH DAS Roll No: 10801112 Marks: (GEN) <b>57</b>	ESHAN DAS Roll No: 10705875 Marks: (GEN) <b>57</b>	SUBHROJYOTI DAS Roll No: 10800958 Marks: (GEN) <b>57</b>	ACHYUT DAS Roll No: 10716291 Marks: (GEN) <b>55</b>	ARNAUL DAS Roll No: 10800204 Marks: (GEN) <b>55</b>	BINAY DAS Roll No: 10710428 Marks: (GEN) <b>53</b>	PLABITA DAS Roll No: 10715186 Marks: (GEN) <b>53</b>
INDRANEE CHONGMIAL Roll No: 10704580 Marks: (GEN) <b>52</b>	SURA JYOTI NATH Roll No: 10800609 Marks: (GEN) <b>52</b>	AVANIKA DAS Roll No: 10716812 Marks: (GEN) <b>51</b>	BHANU DASH Roll No: 10706269 Marks: (GEN) <b>51</b>	RONALD KHUNDRAKHAM Roll No: 10716121 Marks: (GEN) <b>50</b>	ARINDAM DAS Roll No: 10709387 Marks: (GEN) <b>50</b>	BIJU KRISHNA PEGU Roll No: 10710487 Marks: (GEN) <b>50</b>	NITU VERMA Roll No: 10713992 Marks: (GEN) <b>49</b>		
BITHIKA SAIKIA Roll No: 10709293 Marks: (GEN) <b>50</b>	GOURAB YADAV Roll No: 10800042 Marks: (GEN) <b>50</b>	PRASANJIT SHARMA Roll No: 10800072 Marks: (GEN) <b>50</b>	SHUBHAJYOTI NATH Roll No: 10800504 Marks: (GEN) <b>50</b>	ANIKU KUMAR DEBNATH Roll No: 10716119 Marks: (GEN) <b>49</b>	SAYAN SUMANADYA Roll No: 10703007 Marks: (GEN) <b>49</b>				
DHRITIM PANI Roll No: 10711822 Marks: (GEN) <b>47</b>	ANKURIT DAS Roll No: 10800553 Marks: (GEN) <b>46</b>	ANUP KUMAR RABHA Roll No: 10714451 Marks: (GEN) <b>46</b>	PALLAB BORA Roll No: 10800579 Marks: (GEN) <b>46</b>	ANAND KUMAR MALI Roll No: 10713413 Marks: (GEN) <b>45</b>	BIPANSHI SHIVAN Roll No: 10703300 Marks: (GEN) <b>45</b>	BIJU KRISHNA PEGU Roll No: 10710487 Marks: (GEN) <b>45</b>			

All results could not be included due to lack of space

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## Replacement of old land laws sought for State's indigenous people

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 29: The Coordination Committee of the Tribal Organisations (CTCOA) today made a plea before the Committee for Sustaining Protection of Land Rights of Indigenous Peoples of Assam to recommend replacement of the 1886 Assam Land Revenue Regulation (ALRR) with a modern, progressive and pro-people legislation.

In a memorandum submitted to the Chairman of the Committee HS Brahma, the CTCOA also pleaded for formulating a comprehensive land policy as the first step towards drafting the new legislation. The provisions of the Chapter-X of the present ALRR should be expanded to maximum possible extent, that is, the list of protected class of people and the area to be covered by Protected Belts and Blocks are to be maximised, said the CTCOA.

It pleaded further that the Constitution of the country

should be amended suitably to accommodate the provisions of Chapter-X of the ALRR and also the autonomous councils either in the Sixth Schedule or the Fifth Schedule, or by creating yet another schedule in the Constitution.

It called for steps for restoring all the lost tribal territories and returning it to the legal owners of the land as per the 1960 UN Dhebar Commission Report, evicting all illegal land settlers from the tribal belts and blocks, including two representatives of the All Assam Tribal Sangha in each of the district and subdivision-level land advisory committees of the State and viewing implementation of Clause VI of the Assam Accord from the above perspective by treating the issues concerning land rights as the focus area, followed by reservation of seats in the State legislature. The CTCOA also called for steps to implement the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Right) Act, 2006.

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## Trade unions gear up to observe May Day

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 29: Along with the rest of the country, trade unions of the State will be observing May Day on May 1 as a mark of solidarity with employees' associations, Assam Pradeshik Bank Karmachari Samiti, SBI Staff Association (NE Circle), Assam Tribune Employees' Union (ATEU), BSNL Employees' Union, Assam Rajiv Karmachari Federation, National Federation of Postal Employees (Assam Circle), Central Govt Employees' Coordination Committee, North East Oil Workers' Co-ordination Committee, etc.

In the city, the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) will centrally observe the occasion on the bank of the Dighalipukhuri by hoisting the May Day flag at 12 noon. This will be followed by a mass convention and a procession. All the workers and employees engaged in the industrial sector will unfurl their flags at their work sites in the morning.

The Assam unit of All India Officers' Confederation (AIROC) will also be observing May Day under the theme 'Save

public sector, save farmers and save India Day' in the wake of the call given by the central committee of the All India Bankers' Confederation.

The Assam Tribune Employees' Union (ATEU) will also be observing the day in a befitting manner. The day's proceedings will begin with the unfurling of the flag on the ATEU's permanent campus by president Siva Prasad Deka at 9.30 am. This will be followed by hoisting of the flag on the Assam Tribune campus by Nagen Kakati, a senior employee of the establishment, at 10 am.

It will take out a procession at 10.30 am and join the central programme at Dighalipukhuri, scheduled for 12 noon.

### State BJP executive meeting begins

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 29: A two-day meeting of the newly elected office-bearers and executive unit of the State BJP went under way today in the conference hall of the Railway Indoor Stadium and Rang Bhavan at Maligaon.

Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, State BJP president Ranjeet Kumar Dass, MPs, MLAs and members participated in the meeting. While the meeting was

on till late in the evening, the State BJP president said among the decisions, one was to undertake a survey in the constituencies which are not in the party's kitty. He said he would himself visit some 50 such Assembly segments, interact with locals and organisations and study the situation.

Issues regarding the panchayat elections were also taken up during the meeting.

The BJP-led government's fight against corruption and coordination between the party and the core committee.

### Prof Barua's death condoled

GUWAHATI, April 29: Socio-cultural organisation Jyotiropa has condoled the death of eminent educationist, economist and a pioneer of quizzing in the State, Prof Dilip Kumar Barua.

"Professor Barua contributed immensely the fields of education, quiz, debate, etc., with utmost honesty and sincerity. The eminent educationist and economist will always be remembered by the people of Assam for his contributions to society," a statement issued by Jyotiropa president Prafulla Govinda Baruah and general secretary Naren Hazarika said.

Members of the organisation prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul and also extended their sympathies to the bereaved family. — Staff Reporter

### Damage control after hailstorm

GUWAHATI, April 29: District administration officials along with GMC, SDRE, Forest Department, power supply utilities like APDCL are working together to restore normalcy following last evening's hailstorm that left a trail of destruction in the city, said Kamrup Metro Deputy Commissioner M Angamuthu.

Circle Officers have also been asked to assess the damage and report for further compensation and rehabilitation, he added.

The storm and rain hit localities like Jalukbari, Boraigaon, Lokhra, Betkuchi, Lalmati, Basistha, Uzan Bazar, Kharughali, Latalasi, Fancy Bazaar, etc. Over a hundred residential houses were damaged and a number of trees were uprooted, in some cases causing disruption of traffic, officials in the administration said, adding electric wires were also snapped and damaged in many locations, resulting in prolonged power cuts in many areas.

Infrastructural damages were also reported in public property, including the hockey stadium, Gauhati University, Dr Bhupen Hazarika Memorial, etc. Pandals erected for Bihu and other functions were also damaged at various places. — Staff Reporter

### OPD clinic at Press Club

GUWAHATI, April 29: The Saturday evening OPD clinic at the Guwahati Press Club was conducted by city-based Dispur Hospitals. Dr Udayan Saikia from the healthcare institution offered free consultations to over 30 participants, who also got the opportunity to get their weight, sugar and blood pressure checked.

Health workers Sonmani Dutta and Biswajit Das assisted the physician in conducting the camp. — Staff Reporter

### OBITUARY

#### Dilip Kr Aich

GUWAHATI, April 29: Dilip Kumar Aich, a resident of Maligaon and a retired employee of the NF Railway, died at a local hospital last night.

He was 82, and is survived by his wife and two sons. An architect of Bhamti Sevashram Sangha and an originator of Accommodation Colony Dungapara Committee for the last 40 years, his death cast a pall of gloom in the area.

**WEATHER GUWAHATI**  
LOCAL FORECAST:  
Partly cloudy sky becoming generally cloudy. Rain/thunderstorms likely to occur. Maximum temperature is most likely to be 32°C on Sunday.  
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**MESSAGE FOR TODAY**

Zebra crossings are places where you can die with the knowledge that your killer was in the wrong.

— LUCY WADHAM

**The Assam Tribune**

**Pedestrians' woes**

Amid the chaos that has come to characterize the city's traffic, the pedestrian invariably finds himself in a desperate situation. This is because every driver – whether it's a private or a commercial vehicle – has made it a habit to flout the norms and rules aimed at providing the pedestrian a safe passage while crossing the road or walking by the roadside. The plight of the pedestrian is more acute when it comes to crossing a busy road, as the zebra crossings have been rendered completely immaterial with vehicles encroaching on the zebra crossing while stopping at traffic intersections. As the traffic policeman rarely intervenes, stopping of vehicles over zebra crossings has become the perverse norm today. At other points too, vehicle drivers give a damn to waiting pedestrians at zebra crossings. Even a cursory look at the status of the pedestrian in the city will make it clear that convenience and safety of the pedestrian figures at the bottom of the priority of the administration, police and civic authorities. The expanding city urgently needs some scientifically-constructed foot over-bridges for giving some succour to the harrowed pedestrian. Then, most of the city footpaths have given been encroached upon by petty vendors, eroding their utility for the walker. Given the shocking inconvenience the pedestrians have been facing, it's time the authorities took the matter of pedestrian safety in all seriousness. The rules concerning zebra crossing must be enforced strictly and drives made to respect the rights of the pedestrian.

With every passing year, the city's traffic woes continue to mount. This warrants urgent interventions by the authorities. A long-term, futuristic approach taking into account a host of factors including the city's growth in the coming years can ease things. Lack of parking space is another critical shortcoming that can be addressed by having multi-storey parking lots at strategic points. Lack of parking space is aggravating traffic congestion as sides of roads are invariably occupied by parked cars, hindering smooth vehicular movement. Yet another urgent need is to have a reliable mode of mass rapid transport. The feasibility of introducing circular trains and running metro trains needs to be explored for reducing the traffic burden on the city roads. Widening of roads should also be done wherever possible. Another practical step could be to facilitate cycle paths for encouraging people to go for this non-polluting mode of transport for covering short distances within the city.

**Bamboo revolution**

While speaking at the Green Gold Bamboo Summit Assam's Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal waxed eloquent on the virtues of the wonder-plant, the bamboo. He was correct on almost all counts. Indeed, bamboo has lain at the core of the socio-cultural evolution of the numerous communities which inhabit not only Assam, but the entire North-East. Since the pristine past these communities had built their dwellings by using bamboo, cane and thatch; wooden structures came about much later while masonry was introduced relatively in recent times. Numerous utensils for cooking and eating, fishing and hunting equipments, furniture etc. even today are made from bamboo, especially in rural areas. Equally true is Sonowal's assertion that bamboo as a raw material is eco-friendly and can help preserve the environment for future generations. However, what may be subject to question is the CM's assertion that even today 70 percent of the country's bamboo is produced in Assam. It may be kept in mind that utilization of the bamboo to revolutionize Assam's economy is not a new concept, having been touted before by earlier Governments. For instance, paper-producing mills had been set up in the State using bamboo as a raw material. Unfortunately, while our planners made provision for purchase of bamboo stems by the mills, they made no provision for replanting the same. The consequences were negative, to say the least. Price of bamboo shot up in the local market because of the demand created by the paper-mills. Since the planners had not made provision for replanting bamboo, shortage occurred after some years, and led to the closing down of the bamboo-based paper-mills! Assam has witnessed large-scale denudation of forest cover and the bamboo plant too has been a casualty. Thus while the CM is correct in asserting that with the adoption of latest technology, bamboo-based industry, especially bamboo wood, can revolutionize the industrial scenario of Assam, the first emphasis has to be placed on making the raw material continuously available to feed the proposed industry through replanting commensurate with usage.

**State Draft Population Policy**

■ Abhimanyu Hazarika &  
Subhrangshu Pratim Sarmah

**T**here has been a fair amount of buzz in media and policy circles about the draft population policy released by the Assam Health and Family Welfare Ministry, led by Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma (Cabinet Minister), particularly for its suggested 2-child norm. The actual text bears the typical bureaucratic finesse combined with subtly weaved in rhetoric characteristic of the said politician. While criticism has been made of the difficulties presented by precedents and cynicism underlying the realpolitik motives of the draft, this article shall aim to explore its implications with demographic precedents that justify its future enactment.

Eminent economist VKV Rao had noted, "There can be no doubt that the rate of population growth reached in 1971-81 needs to be drastically brought down in the next two decades if India is not to face an intolerable population situation by the beginning of the next century. If China, which had started from a demographic situation more or less similar to ours, could practically halve the growth rate of her population within two decades, I don't see why India should not be able to do the same."

For India to realistically actualize that much-needed vision, states will need to imbibe in its residents a social structure, which with institutional mechanisms facilitates a small-family culture amongst the masses. However, many, Assam being one, have

been lagging in this regard. Although Assam witnessed a decline in the decadal growth of population (2001-11), the rate of increase at 17.0% is at an "unsustainable level", stresses the policy document. With a family size of 5.5 which is above the national average, a nationally-highest MMR of 300, a high MPR of 54, high incidences of child marriage, and with 90% of Assam's families earning less than Rs 5 lakh per annum, attention if not action was undoubtedly warranted. A boom in population not only constrains natural resources but also makes it difficult for the government to enhance the quality of life of its people.

Dr Sarma's draft population policy states these in its text, and hence seeks to empower each family in Assam to optimise their size and aspire for higher standards of living. By candidly identifying the challenges in implementing a population policy, such as the diverse customs and traditions of the different communities of Assam, geographical issues in hill districts, flood-prone areas, rampant presence of religious prejudices against family planning and lack of medical infrastructure, there is a call for a bipartisan agenda.

The policy doesn't rest at the disputation sought family numbers

alone, but recommends institutionalization of free and compulsory education for children under the age of 14 and reducing the number of school dropouts, bringing MMR below 100 and IMR below 30, making contraceptives of choice available to 100% of the population and integrating allopathic systems with indigenous systems of medicine, encouraging the Two Family norm – amongst others. A 5-tier decentralized structure has been suggested for better implementa-

tion. Dr Sarma has also suggested that the Assam government will forward the idea of two child norm for the parliamentary and state elections to the Union government. Moreover, a person getting married below the statutory age will be ineligible for any government employment. Clearly, lessons have been learnt and mistakes not repeated when compared to China's one-child policy of the 1980s, which relied on imposition of fine and which didn't apply to all sections of the popula-

Critics have opined that the focus should be on improving healthcare services and if implemented, the Assam population policy would end up disempowering rural women and prevent them from taking part in panchayat elections and also from jobs. Experts have also suggested that the Assam government should take a cue from Kerala which focused on literacy and making

fact, "there are differences in the growth rates of religious communities in India, and in the recent decades, the intercessional growth among Muslims has been higher than the average by about 8.9 percentage points and annual growth rate by 0.6-0.7 percentage point". While it has been argued that communication about family planning since then has increased amongst minorities, this "need not always result in family planning acceptance; it may result in its rejection also" (PH Reddy in response to Abusaleh Shariff). In light of these, the draft is actually intended as progressive action on acknowledgement of grim realities, rather than singling out any religion.

Additionally, Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma addressing some of these concerns has said that the intended law is not being made to target Muslims as even tea garden workers (who are mostly Hindus) have 4-5 children. He has stressed that the policy's enabling measures will have to be "humanised" in some special cases like a couple having twins or in case of death of a child or any such untoward incident.

tation. As Dr Sarma reiterated in a TV interview recently, incentives and disincentives have been suggested for effective implementation of the policy. What has received attention across the nation is the provision that for government jobs, only candidates having two children will be eligible, that government servants shall strictly follow the two child norm till the end of their tenure and the same would be applied in the Panchayats and legislative bodies along with the introduction of minimum education qualifications. healthcare accessible to all and lowered the fertility rate. These angles have been juxtaposed with the religion card – which this move selectively seeks to alienate one particular religious minority. Facts speak for themselves however. As per data from IIPS and ORC Macro (2000) and various state reports of NFHS-2, "in many states, contraceptive use is lower among Muslims than Hindus", and the community's use of contraceptives is lower than the all-India average. In

**'Let us go then you and I...'**

■ Stuti Goswami

**L**evels go then you and I..." A hundred years ago, a book of poetry published by the Egoist Press, London opened with this now-famous line, opening vistas unknown in literature and human thought. The book was Prufrock and Other Observations (1917) by the young expatriate American poet Thomas Stearns Eliot. The first poem of this collection, that contained the experiences of the Prufrock of the book's title and that began with the line quoted above, was *The Love Song of J Alfred Prufrock*. Of course this poem had been first published two years ago in the American magazine Poetry (June, 1915 issue), barely causing a stir. The reasons were not hard to find. For one, the *Love Song*, unlike its title was no love-song; its protagonist suffers from lovelessness in life at the same time as he is unable to communicate his feelings to someone; nor did it conform to the prevailing standards of love poetry, or poetry for that matter. And yet this poem signaled the beginning of literary modernism in the Western hemisphere, and attained along with its protagonist and speaker Prufrock and creator TS Eliot cult status in the literary, cultural, and creative landscape of the twentieth century.

With this opening line, Prufrock sought the readers' companionship as he embarked on a remarkable journey across "half-deserted streets" with "sawdust restaurants" and "one-night cheap hotels", a journey that took him to a fashionable gathering where "women come and go talking of Michelangelo", and where in spite of all his efforts (or non-efforts) he was subjected to constant scrutiny, much like an insect "pinched and wriggling on the wall". As the poem unfolded, various dimensions of Prufrock surfaced that were indicative of the malady of modern existence, and were to be immortalized in the annals of world literature. In the *Love Song* the speaker's anxiety about his identity, his acute self-consciousness, his ambivalent approach towards women, his sexual neuroticism, his indecisive nature, his concerns with ageing and his appearance, and his fashionably outmoded

classicism resonated with a reading public that was grappling with drastically changed socio-political-cultural historical circumstances in early twentieth century.

Charles Darwin's theory of evolution and natural selection, Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis, Karl Marx's economic theories, and the First World War were some factors that powerfully contributed towards the modernist experience – wherein the world, art, and life were all viewed through radically altered lenses. The rejection of moral and religious principles, given powerful expression to by German philosopher Nietzsche's proclamation that "God is dead" (The Gay Science, 1882) was reinforced by scientific and technological advancements that introduced rapid changes in the ways of life of the people. The rebellious attitude to literature, art, philosophy, and life, manifested in the expatriate American poet and critic Ezra Pound's clarion call to "make it new", found realization in the English language for the first time in Eliot's poems from this collection. For along with the *Love Song* the book has eleven of her poems that too dwell upon the modernist existential crises. Though often these other poems seem to reflect upon ideas, images, and metaphors that the reader first encounters in the *Love Song*. They together inaugurated a new literary aesthetic as well as a new language of expression and

new thematic concerns.

Prufrock is not simply the titular character of a poem, but the representative modern man-replete with fears and insecurities, hesitations and indecisions, and the struggle for identity in a faceless, nameless spatial and temporal zone. Prufrock's self-consciousness teeters on the edge of solipsism. Eliot began writing the *The Love Song of J Alfred Prufrock* when he was twenty-two years old. And thereafter the journey embarked upon by Prufrock in the *Love Song* was not Prufrock's journey alone: this poem and the book marked the beginning of Eliot's journey of companionship, kinship, a unique fellow-feeling with millions of readers across the social, political, intellectual, emotional, geographical, and cultural spectrum, and an appropriation of sorts that stemmed from each reader's interpretation of Eliot's verse. For these poems for the first time called out to the reader's active participation in understanding and interpretation, and where meaning was not decided upon by the poet but, in so many ways, by the reader himself or herself.

In his own lifetime, T.S. Eliot was extolled as the greatest living poet and a monumental figure in literature. But towards the end of his life and soon after his death in 1965 there emerged the possibility, rather the fear that he too would become another "frozen monument" – a monumental figure whose achievements resonate within a particular timeframe and experience. However, such fears were eventually allayed as Eliot's influence transcends borders and boundaries – geographical, linguistic, cultural, and temporal. Eliot's verse has continued to resonate with readers. The colloquial rhetoric of Eliot's words make it seem naturally enter our everyday lives through cracks and crevices. The settings are urban, dealing with the everyday problems of life in a city viewed through a fragmented vision. In an increasingly globalised, mechanized, urbanized twenty-first century world, Prufrock's experiences seem to hold true for most people. The city is not simply a background or a setting, it is a metaphor for life's existential questions.



T.S. Eliot

**Voices of the WEEK**

Courtesy: THE HINDU

"Necessary action will be taken against the official if he is found guilty." — MUKESH SAHAY, DGP, Assam, on officer making allegation against women politicians.

★ ★ ★

"We are working to make it mandatory for the owners to screen local language films for at least two weeks. It will be included in the film policy." — JATIN BORA, actor and ASFFDC chairman

★ ★ ★

"We are totally committed towards granting ST status to the six communities of the State. We are moving in the right direction." — SARBANANDA SONOWAL, Chief Minister, Assam

★ ★ ★

"I think the Railways is a mode of last resort for common people for transportation and we will have to bear that burden as well as the responsibility." — SURESH PRABHU, Railway Minister

★ ★ ★

"Everyone should be respected. My party has adopted this and we have not made any distinction between communities, castes, sex." — LK ADVANI, veteran BJP leader

★ ★ ★

"While the nation was shocked... the so-called proponents of human rights have maintained baffling silence." — VENKAIAH NAIDU, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting

★ ★ ★

"We must stamp out prejudice and anti-Semitism everywhere it is found. We must defeat terrorism." — DONALD TRUMP, President, USA

★ ★ ★

"Alexis Sanchez is an animal, always ready to kill the opponent. He will never give up." — ARSENIO WENGER, Arsenal coach

**Hats off !**

**The last word**  
**S RAGHUNATH**

state govt treasuries were they can be used to store dual Karnataka Govt accounts payee cheques for Rs 20 and lesser amounts which have bounced due to insufficient funds. We estimate that each bobby type hat can easily hold dual Siddaramaiah govt cheques of a cumulative value of Rs 2 crore."

The Secretary said, "We're also closely looking at the possibility of supplying the surplus police hats to Parliaments in New Delhi and to all state legislatures for use as protective headgear when fistcuffs break out to us to get rid of the surplus police hats without causing a loss to the state exchequer is to induce our simple, high-thinking Gandhian ministers and legislators to buy them in bulk at reduced prices for after all these dignitaries are 'high hats'!"

During the discussion there was difference among the Ministers on the regional language level. There also seemed to be agreement on primary education being made free upto class eight.

and dinner and thereby ease the pressure on the Public Distribution System.

But the most attractive avenue open to us to get rid of the surplus police hats without causing a loss to the state exchequer is to induce our simple, high-thinking Gandhian ministers and legislators to buy them in bulk at reduced prices for after all these dignitaries are 'high hats'!"

During the meantime, the Karnataka police in their old slouch hats are back on the streets, happy that they don't have to learn any new tricks under the bobby type hats!

**From THE PAST****Education Ministers' Meet****SHARP DIVISION OVER USE OF HINDI****Accord On Regional Language At School And Varsity Level**

NEW DELHI, April 29: The State Education Ministers' conference was today sharply divided on whether study of Hindi should be made compulsory in a student's educational career at one stage or the other.

The conference which will conclude tomorrow authorized its Chairman, Dr Triguna Sen, Union Education Minister, and the Secretariat to prepare a draft resolution incorporating its views on language, teacher's status and educational finance, primary education etc. The conference then adjourned for the day to enable the National Council of Educational Research to meet in the afternoon, reports PTI.

During the discussion there was difference among the Ministers on the regional language being the medium of instruction at the school and university level. There also seemed to be agreement on primary education being made free upto class eight.

SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 1967

# Arunachal BJP protests against China's renaming move

CORRESPONDENT

ITANAGAR, April 29 : Hundreds of workers of Arunachal Pradesh unit of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) today organised a protest rally in Itanagar against China for renaming six places of the frontier State in recent times.

Started from the IG Park Tennis Court here at 8 am, the rally, which was scheduled to

cumulate at Raj Bhawan, had to be restricted at the Raj Bhawan tri-junction near Mithun Gate here.

The protesters shouted slogans against the Chinese Government and its President Xi Jinping and burnt his effigy.

Addressing the protest rally, State BJP president Tapi Gao expressed anguish over the Chinese Government for repeatedly interfering in the

internal affairs of India.

"Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of India. We are Indian and will remain as Indian. They (China) have forcefully occupied Tibet in 1959 and now, they are planning to re-organise their border. We will oppose the move tooth and nail," Gao said.

He further said the State never had any link and border with China rather their forefathers had barter trade with the Arubitanans only.

Later, the BJP president along with party executive members, including Itanagar MLA Techi Kaso submitted a memorandum to the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi through the Governor.

"We the people of Arunachal Pradesh take strong exception to the illegal renaming of places in Arunachal Pradesh by China as reported in the media recently. It was always an integral part of India and will remain as an integral part of India," read the memorandum.

It also said the recent renaming of six places in Arunachal Pradesh by China was "a transgression of sovereignty and territorial integrity of India" which the BJP strongly condemned.



## EXTENSION NOTICE

Online Tender Notice NIT No. 17/2 dated 20/02/2017 for smart metering system tender at labour Quarters Electrification, the bid submission & evaluation of technical-commercial bid was fixed on 26/04/2017 which has been extended upto 20/05/2017 (12.30 hrs.) due to non receipt of any bid within the stipulated date and time. Bidders are also requested to submit the hard copies of their bid on or before the bid submission & opening date of technical-commercial bid.

Sd/-  
Chief General Manager (HQ), APDCL

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Stg. Prabhakar, Anushka Shetty etc.

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Morning show: Rs. 100/-, 80/-, 60/-

Online booking: [www.bookmyshow.com](http://www.bookmyshow.com)

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Dibrugarh, Assam

Screen-1

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Stg. Prabhakar, Anushka Shetty etc.

Regular Ticket Rates: Rs. 150/-, 100/-, 80/-, 60/-

Morning show: Rs. 100/-, 80/-, 60/-

Online booking: [www.bookmyshow.com](http://www.bookmyshow.com)

**BAAHUBALI-2 (Hindi)**

Stg. Prabhakar, Anushka Shetty etc.

Regular Ticket Rates: Rs. 150/-, 100/-, 80/-, 60/-

Morning show: Rs. 100/-, 80/-, 60/-

Online booking: [www.bookmyshow.com](http://www.bookmyshow.com)

**MEGHALAYA CINEMA**

Dibrugarh, Assam

Screen-1

AT 10:30 am, 1:30 pm, 4:30 pm & 8:30 pm  
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Stg. Prabhakar, Anushka Shetty etc.

Regular Ticket Rates: Rs. 150/-, 100/-, 80/-, 60/-

Morning show: Rs. 100/-, 80/-, 60/-

Online booking: [www.bookmyshow.com](http://www.bookmyshow.com)

**MEGHALAYA CINEMA**

Dibrugarh, Assam

Screen-1

AT 10:30 am, 1:30 pm, 4:30 pm & 8:30 pm  
**BAAHUBALI-2 (Hindi)**

Stg. Prabhakar, Anushka Shetty etc.

Regular Ticket Rates: Rs. 150/-, 100/-, 80/-, 60/-

Morning show: Rs. 100/-, 80/-, 60/-

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**MEGHALAYA CINEMA**

Dibrugarh, Assam

Screen-1



Members of Mod-Mukta Asom Dabi Samity (MMADS) gathered in front of the panchayat office in protest against giving NOCs to liquor vendors, in Golaghat on Friday. — UB Photos

## Adult JE vaccination programme to begin in Nalbari dist today

CORRESPONDENT

NALBARI, April 29: The Nalbari district health department has decided to cover 4,32,588 adult in the age group of 15 to 65 years with the Japanese encephalitis vaccination in the district. The massive drive against the Japanese encephalitis will begin tomorrow and will continue till May 20.

Addressing a press conference held on Friday, the joint director of health services Dr Chittaranjan Pathak said that the JE vaccine will be administered at 2029 stations to be set up at various schools and anganwadi centres. For this massive programme, a total of 10,145 ANM, ASHA workers, anganwadi workers and teachers have been engaged. The

joint director further said that to supervise the programme, a total of six block-level medical officers, 31 sector officers and 68 supervisors have been engaged.

He added that the programme will be inaugurated in a brief function to be held at Nalbari Hari Mandir health centre.

The press conference was attended by Dr Arup Deka, State consultant,

Udayaditya Gogoi, additional deputy commissioner of Nalbari, Dr Pratul Chakravarty, additional chief medical and health officer, Dr Hemanta Das, district immunization officer, among others.

It may be mentioned here that in Nalbari district, Japanese encephalitis claimed 21 persons since 2014 and 65 people tested JE positive.

## AALA demands use of Assamese language in judicial courts

CORRESPONDENT

TINSUKIA, April 29: For the sake of delivery of justice, the lower courts of judiciary should use Assamese instead of English as the court language in Brahmaputra valley. This was demanded by the All Assam Lawyers' Association (AALA).

The AALA has alleged that the practices of recording the depositions of both the petitioners - plaintiff or complainant as well as of defendants or opposite parties or witnesses of criminal cases etc., in English was depriving the illiterate or semi-literate litigants from getting the true picture of their respective cases. Litigants had to put their thumb impressions or signatures on the recorded sheets without elaborating as to what had been recorded, but the courts put their regular signatures on ROAC (read over and corrected) on it. He further added that depositions in the courts should be in that language which was used by the depositors and that was the practice during British rule.

Furthermore, translations of depositions to any other language were illegal if it had been given in the court language, the AALA vice president added. The practice of translations into English language was violating the very provision of Section 277 of Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) in which it was clearly mentioned that (a) if the witness gives evidence in the language of the Court, it shall be taken down in that language; (b) if he gives evidence in any other language, it may, if practicable, be taken down in that language, and it is not practicable do so, true translation of the evidence in the language of the Court shall be prepared as the examination of the witness proceeds, signed by the Magistrate or presiding Judge, and shall form part of the record;

(c) where under clause (b) evidence is taken down in a language of the Court, a true translation thereof in the language of the Court shall be prepared as soon as practicable, signed by the Magistrate or presiding Judge, and shall form part of the record: provided that when under clause (b) evidence is taken down in English and translation thereof in the language of the Court is not required by any of the parties, the Court may dispense with such translation.

Karmakar clarified that Assamese language was one of the Official Languages of India and it was the Court language alongwith English in the Brahmaputra valley of Assam and therefore depositions given in Assamese language in the Courts of Brahmaputra valley were legal and it needs no translations to English or to any other language. He urged that depositions given in Assamese should be recorded in Assamese in the Courts of the Brahmaputra valley of Assam for delivery of proper justice to the litigant people and informed that AALA had submitted a memorandum in this regards to Justice Ranjan Gogoi of the Supreme Court.

## Haimanti Sukla performs at Lumding

ANN Service

LUMDING, April 29: A two-day programme was organised by the Sangeet Bitan Music Academy of Lumding on April 22-23 in which among other events,

Haimanti Sukla sang melodious songs.

In this connection, a day-long workshop on music and 'gaan mela' was organised. In the evening, a cultural night was held where local artists also participated with along

with the students of Sangeet Bitan Music Academy, Lumding. Rita Gohain, the wife of Union Minister Rajen Gohain was the chief guest.

On April 23, a workshop on music conducted by Haimanti Sukla. A nice enjoyable

programme of music by Haimanti Sukla was arranged in the evening. The programme was conducted by Champa Saha Chowdhury, the Principal of Sangeet Bitan Music Academy and she was assisted by Sujit Saha.

ence to needy people, and we will earn respect from society," she once remarked.

Pritikana Das (popularly known as Putul) was a quiet but resilient proponent of women's education and empowerment. Her training in Wardha, Maharashtra and in other places of the country strengthened her resolve to spread the message of Streem Shakti whenever she interacted with women in Sarania Ashram and in rural areas of Assam and Meghalaya. Like her senior co-worker, the Late

Amal Prova Das Sarvodaya the Amal Prova Das Sarvodaya 2014.

On the day of my jethai's ayashradhha today, I join her many admirers in solemn prayers — May her soul rest in eternal bliss.

— PK Das

## Pritikana Das: a tribute

opened a fondness for books, and an interest in social welfare. From her family elders she had come to know about the dignified and resolute freedom fighter and socialist activist Amal Prova Das. The highly qualified woman with a brilliant academic career probably identified Pritikana as a person with potential and took the young woman under his wing. "Amol Baideh made many like me realise that being women, we should never feel weak or inferior. Our sincere work will make a differ-

ence to the world," she said.

Barada Barthakur

She actively participated in the social events and was popular for her involvement in social activities. She is survived by her three sons, three daughter-in-laws, two daughters, ten grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. Besides this she left behind a host of relatives and well-wishers.

Today on the occasion of her ayashradhha I along with the Barthakur family pay homage to the departed soul.

— Kakati Das Barthakur

## Stir against Bongaigaon refinery from May 8

CORRESPONDENT

BONGAIGAON, April 29: The All Organisation's Coordination Samiti, a conglomeration of 10 apolitical groups of Chirang and Bongaigaon districts, would launch an agitation against the Bongaigaon Refinery (BGR) from May 8 for failing to meet the demands put by the Samiti.

The Samiti includes the All Koch-Rajbongshi Students' Union, Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti, BTAD Citizens Rights' Forum, All Adivasi Students' Association of Assam, Koch-Rajbongshi Yuba Chatra Sammilan, All BTAD Koch Rajbongshi Sanmilan, All India Adivasi Chatra

Morcha, Hindu Yuba Chatra Parishad, All BTAD Bengali Youth Students' Federation and Popular Front India.

The Samiti had submitted a memorandum to the General Manager in-charge of the Refinery on March 8. It demanded cent per cent job reservation in the non-executive posts, 60 per cent in executive posts and engagement of cent per cent labourers on skilled and unskilled works.

The Samiti had also demanded from the Refinery authority to stop depletion of ground water and check the pollution level besides seeking community development work surrounding the Refinery, which is located at Dhaligaon in Chirang district.

But the Deputy General manager of the Refinery had rejected all the demands in his reply to the memorandum submitted by the Samiti as they did not match the Government's guidelines.

In its reaction, the Samiti said that it will enforce 12-hour closure of the Refinery on May 8. They would stage a blockade on the railway track and highway to stop the transportation of petroleum products from the Refinery on May 23 and at last they would go on a hunger strike from May 31 to meet their demands, said Phamindra Singh and Dilbor Ali, chief convenor and deputy chief convenor of the Samiti respectively recently at Kajalgaon in Chirang district.

## Tezpur College donates goods to orphanage

CORRESPONDENT

TEZPUR, April 29: Tezpur College, located on the bank of river Brahmaputra near Agnigarh Hilltop here has extended its helping hand to the Nabaprabhat Orphanage that came into existence at Ketekharia area here, two decades ago, under the noble effort of noted writer and journalist Bidyut Saikia to provide food and shelter and necessary education to many unfortunate orphans.

It needs mention here that after the untimely demise of caretaker of the orphanage, Bidyut Saikia in 2011, its responsibility was taken up by a trust. The orphanage growing up amidst many ups and downs has successfully been able to do a lot including basic needs like education, for a child's future. Extend-

ing their support to the continued noble venture of the orphanage, a team from Tezpur College under the aegis of its Principal Dr Jyoti Kamal Hazarika recently visited the orphanage and donated some necessary goods and interacted with the dedicated people involved with the orphange.

The college in association with its Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) donated 100 books of children literature, one almirah, one water tank of 500 litre capacity and some eatable items. A meeting was also held in the orphanage which was presided over by the GB Chairman Prof. MN Keot wherein Principal Dr Jyoti Kamal Hazarika declared that the college would bear all the expenditure of education that for two girl inmates and also declared that for every child's future. Extend-

all the expenditure up to degree level will be borne by the college. The chairman of Sonitpur District Children Welfare Society, Prof Kanakeswar Sarma speaking on the event shared his experience with the Nabaprabhat orphanage. Other dignitaries present in the brief function were GU nominee to GB, Prof Upendra Nath Sarma, Vice Principal, KC Upadhyay, Subhas Sarma, Dr Pranjit Hazarika, Dr Ranjan Kalita and Rupali Daimari. The entire event was conducted by Basanta Kalita.

The management in-charge of the orphanage, Trishamoni Laskar was felicitated by the college authority who subsequently offered the vote of thanks. The chorus presented by the inmates of the orphanage mesmerised one and all present in the event.

## Move to clean drain at Baihata Chariali lauded

ANN Service

BAIHATA CHARIALI, April 29: People of Baihata Chariali have lauded the move to clean road side drain at Rangeya road on National Highway 31 here recently by the administration.

As the old drain was clogged by the accumulation of mud and other garbage like coconut shells, plas-

tic bottles, polythene etc., the normal flow of rainwater through the drain had been disturbed and an artificial flood during the rains was witnessed.

The people of the area and a number of organisations here had organised several discussions with the administration regarding the problem and as a follow-up of those discus-

sions, the Deputy Commissioner of Kamrup (R), Vinod Seshan had ordered the cleaning of the drain. The work of clearing the drain was carried out under the supervision of Gunajit Roy Choudhury, Additional Deputy Commissioner of Kamrup (R), Bedanga Talukdar, Circle Officer of Kamrup Revenue Circle and Mantu Lalukdar, Officer in Charge of Baihata Chariali police station.

The public of the area have appreciated the drive of the administration and urged the Deputy Commissioner of Kamrup (R) to allot a scheme for the construction of concrete drains along with footpath on either side of the road for a solution to this perennial problem.

## Atlanta Assamese community celebrates Rongali Bihu



GUWAHATI, April 29: In tune with Assamese culture and traditions, the Atlanta Assamese Community (AAC) celebrated Rongali Bihu on April 22 amidst great enthusiasm, fun, food, and cultural performances. The AAC included the Assamese diaspora from the States of Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee in the United States. This was stated in a press release.

The day-long programme started with kids' performances in a wonderfully presented fictional drama highlighting the glory of Bir Lachit Borpujan in front of Mughal emperor Aurangzeb mesmerising the audience with a Zirib composed by Sufi poet Azam Fakir from the 17th century. There were another two solo performances by 10-year old kids who glorified Bhupen Hazarika's Bistiro Parore and the all-time classic Bohagobati senoi oi. This was followed by adult chorus song singing Namami Brahmaputra, the popular track from the recently-concluded Namami Brahmaputra Festival

2017. A spectacular Bihu dance followed, which thrilled the audience to dance with the Bihuwas on stage. There was also a solo performance of Bhupen Hazarika's Mayya which mesmerised the spectators. This was followed by a traditional Jhumur dance, the folk dance of the tea-gardeners of Assam, which was much appreciated by the audience. This year, the goal was to include as many diverse performances from different spheres of Assam and a fond remembrance of the heart and soul of Assamese tradition. This was followed by a traditional Jhumur dance, the folk dance of the tea-gardeners of Assam, which was much appreciated by the audience.

Food is an indispensable part of Assam's rich cultural traditions. The diaspora gathered to celebrate Rongali Bihu with delicious pithas, chira-doi, nari-kolor lauri among other delicacies. The evening ended in a festive mode with a sumptuous dinner and a Mukoli Bihu by all members of the Assamese community.

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TL/P/8572/1

New 2 BHK flat for rent, besides  
Kahlipara Post Office,  
7896764592, 8876525790.  
TL/P/8573/1

One 3 BHK fairly new 1600  
sqft. flat with 3 bathrooms is for  
rent in prime location in Belota  
(behind Central Nursing Home),  
24 hrs running water, car  
parking. Rent 15,700/- 600  
(maintenance). Contact:  
9864105781.  
TL/P/8575/2

Shorou 1000 sq.ft. Uzan Bazar,  
Chariali, 9535013328.  
TL/P/8576/1

**1/2/3 BHK APARTMENTS  
AVAILABLE IN PANJABARI  
FOR RENT, 24 HOURS  
WATER, CAR PARKING  
ROADSIDE. 9864081615.**  
TL/P/548/1

3 BHK, 1550 sqft. separate staff  
room/bath, designated car park  
at Basisthapa, Byelane No. 3,  
Opp. Old Passport Office,  
Guwahati. Preferably Bank/  
Company Executive. Call:  
9954083383, 9864054745.  
TL/P/549/1

First floor Parthouse with 2  
rooms & kitchen behind Down  
Town Hospital. Rent 8000/-  
Contact: 9508982303,  
9854046000.  
TL/P/558/1

Commercial space 600 square  
feet ground floor at Rajgarh  
Tinali for rent. Contact:  
7896713305.  
TL/P/8589/1

2 BHK flat at Arundai  
Residence adjacent to NABARD  
Bank Quarter, Dispur. Rent Rs  
10,500. Cont: 9435343622.  
TL/P/8560/1

3 BHK 1st floor house at  
Gandhibasti, Silphukuri,  
Guwahati. Rent 15000/-.  
9435042986.  
TL/P/8501/1

Single bed room with attached  
bath at Christianbasti. Cont:  
9435476442.  
TL/P/8504/1

RCC room attached toilet kitchen  
for student/family/office at  
Belota. 9864132037.  
TL/P/8505/1

3 BHK at 2nd floor semi  
furnished at Jitia, Kahlipara  
(near DPI, Kahlipara). Ph:  
8486025334, 9859116654.  
TL/P/8506/1

Fully furnished Sixmille, Jurpar,  
Byclane-16. Contact No.  
7002721717.  
TL/P/8510/1

**2 BHK HOUSE 2ND  
(SECOND) FLOOR AT BYE-  
LANE NO-3, RAJGARH  
ROAD (NEAR ICON  
ACADEMY) OFFICE  
PREFERRED. PH. NO.  
8876043275.**  
TL/P/8531/1

Rs. 7,000/- 2 BHK small house  
for 2/3 Bachelors combined at  
Belota. Contact: 98638962597.  
TL/P/8532/1

RCV 2nd part building for  
small family at Sewali Path,  
H.No. 45, Hatigaro, Ghy-38.  
Ph. No. 9577566849.  
TL/P/8533/1

1 BHK fully furnished at Mani  
Nagar, RGB Road for Company/  
Bank Executive single/spouse.  
Ring 9864045312.  
TL/P/8534/1

3 BKH, DD, 2 bath, prayer,  
parking, Rs. 9500/- on Rupkun  
path, Upper Hengrabari.  
943506062, 8749868772.  
TL/P/8539/1

One tip-top single room,  
attached bath, kitchen in a very  
secured campus at Hatigaro  
Chariali, Guwahati for single  
person on ground floor for  
rent @4000/p.m. Contact:  
9707025064.  
TL/P/AP227/1

4 BHK furnished flat (2nd floor)  
for rent at Mother Teresa Road,  
5th byelane, near Gitangapur  
Police Station, Guwahati. Rent  
Rs. 18,000/- Contact No.  
943535187.  
TL/P/AP238/1

2 bed room flats finished house  
for rent. Jonali, Zoo Road  
Contact: 9854460331,  
8638958077.  
TL/P/8571/1

2000 sqft. semi furnished 3 bed  
rooms at ground floor with  
running water. Preferred office  
cum residence. Bank Company,  
Govt. Officials, Coaching Centre  
located at 35 Chinaki path,  
Narkalbari, Guwahati. Rent  
20,000/-, Contact: 9864076686,  
2418257.  
TL/P/8572/1

New 2 BHK flat for rent, besides  
Kahlipara Post Office,  
7896764592, 8876525790.  
TL/P/8573/1

Company Executives furnished  
single room suites with food  
behind Downtown Hospital,  
9864072403.  
TL/P/AP202/1

1000 sqft. for rent office space  
(ground floor) backside R.G.B.  
Main road, preferred. Doctor  
Chakraborty, Tutorial home TV,  
book Repairs Centre, GYM,  
Laboratory, Clinic etc. Ph:  
9401656992 (M).  
TL/P/AP194/1

Groups and 2nd floor for rent at  
Bamunimaidam. Ph:  
9508613232, 7002613686.  
TL/P/AP211/1

1 BHK bedroom, drawing room  
kitchen with dining space attached  
feature bathroom fullsize Luchi  
Nagar, Byclane-8, House No. 5,  
Cont: 9864056969,  
9402308285.

2 bed drawing dining parking  
Rs. 7000/- 2 bed marble floor 2  
toilets Rs. 8000/- Hatigaro  
9706387394.  
TL/P/8565/1

1 room+attached bath & kitchen  
at Lachit Nagar @6000/-  
9435169066.  
TL/P/8566/1

2 BHK flat for rent Rajgarh Link  
Road. Rm. 10,000/-  
9864278389.

1 BHK/2 BHK for rent at Sewali  
Path, Hatigaro @7500/5500  
Cont: S. Kalita,  
9957195799, 9854284888.  
TL/P/8570/1

2 BHK first floor deluxe flat  
fitted with AC & covered car  
parking at Royal Heritage  
Apartment, Radha Nagar,  
Chachali, Sixmille, Ghy-22. Rent  
15000/- Society Charges extra.  
Mobile: No. 9864030856. Only  
for Corporate and Govt. Official  
preferred.

TL/P/8581/1

House is available for school  
(only nursery) with open space at  
Belota Basistha Road. Contact:  
9435048294.  
TL/P/8597/1

Two bed rooms, big drawing  
cuisine, dining, kitchen 2  
balconies with modern amenities  
at Rupkun Housing Complex  
near National highway,  
Khanamukhi, Pashim Jalukbari  
Guwahati-14. Contact:  
995750022, 9864049681.  
TL/P/8599/1

**NEW SPACIOUS  
BEAUTIFUL HOUSE FOR  
RENT @ RS. 12,000/- NEAR  
JATIA, CENTRAL BANK.**  
TL/P/8601/5

Fully furnished flat for rent at  
Hatigaro Sewali Path. Ph:  
7035342205.  
TL/P/8607/1

2 BHK house at Ajanta Path,  
Survey. Family preferred.  
Contact: 9435540094.  
TL/P/8608/1

2 BHK 1st & 2nd floor for rent  
at Kharphuli. Ph:  
9435706686.  
TL/P/8609/1

Two rooms attach bath, kitchen,  
Zoo Rd. Sanipati, byelane-1.  
9864855036, 8761049259.  
TL/P/8616/1

**FULL FURNISHED  
3 BHK APARTMENT WITH ALL  
MODERN AMENITIES/ COVERED  
PARKING/AC/MASTER BED/MODULAR  
KITCHEN AT SURVEY,  
BASISTHA ROAD FOR  
RENT. EXCELLENT  
LOCATION JUST AT  
SURVEY POINT ON THE  
MAIN ROAD. IDEAL FOR  
COMPANY GUEST HOUSE/CORPORATE  
EXECUTIVE ON BANK  
CALL: 9864064019,  
9864151788.**  
TL/P/8617/1

Assam type (Part house) 3  
rooms, kitchen, garage at  
Chandrami Baru, Belota, LIC,  
Central Govt. Officers. Contact:  
9435149258.  
TL/P/8620/1

Assam Type two rooms with  
attached kitchen/toilet and 24 hrs  
running water for rent. 7000/-  
H.NO. N/ No. 53, Kalyanpur  
Ganesghuri. Contact:  
9854381846.  
TL/P/8621/1

RCC single room attached B/K  
@Chandrami, Bamunimaidam,  
Jonali. Rm. 4500/-  
7076015059.  
TL/P/AP242/1

3 R.C.C. gr. floor rooms with  
attached kitchen, bath at F.A.  
Ahmed Nagar, Sixmille, Ph:  
9854381846.  
TL/P/8638/1

2 BHK flat available for rent at  
Loknagar Highway, big society.  
Children Park, Club house etc  
all modern facilities are  
available. Contact No.  
9954108787.  
TL/P/8639/1

3 BHK flat at Sorojini Apartment,  
Gita Nagar, near IOC Petrol  
Pump. Contact: 8472809622,  
8133081981, 9401507551.  
TL/P/8640/1

One BHK & two BHK flat  
available at Gandhibasti.  
Contact: 9856933856.  
TL/P/8641/1

Commercial Accommodation of  
950 sqft. in 1st floor, facing MC  
Road, Gauthati Club @ 32000/  
Ph. 9864039701.  
TL/P/8643/1

One BHK with tiles @Rs. 7000/  
Rs. 8000 available at Belota,  
Survey. Ph: 9864019611.  
TL/P/8670/1

Independent 1/2/3/4 bedroom  
Chandrami/Bamunimaidam/  
Rajgarh/Zooroad/Hatigaro/  
Ubari u b r i s t u p k u r i /  
8753074610, 9864822333.  
TL/P/8671/1

2 rooms with attached toilet and  
kitchen for 2/3 persons near  
Down Town. 9435403393.  
TL/P/8672/1

2 BHK flat available for rent at  
Loknagar Highway, big society.  
Children Park, Club house etc  
all modern facilities are  
available. Contact No.  
9954108787.  
TL/P/8673/1

Independent 2 BHK house for  
small family. South Sarania,  
Ulbari, 1 car parking.  
8765644765.  
TL/P/8678/1

First floor family Unit near SBI  
Hatigaro for Govt/Bank Employee.  
Ph: 9613365102.  
TL/P/8645/1

Tolet 2 BHK flat for family at  
Panu-Sarania House No. 43-A,  
Byelane 10, 9508663480,  
9864041396.  
TL/P/AP260/1

3 BHK Belota Tinali 24 hrs  
water. Expected rent 14,000/-  
per m. Owner - Gaurav Borkatoy.  
9864017727.  
TL/P/AP262/1

Three bed room flat for rent near  
Zoo Road Tinali. 9954362018.  
TL/P/8650/1

3 BHK flats are two separate  
apartments in Rajgarh Road near  
Bigbazar. Bank/CGS/Company  
Executives preferred. Contact:  
9954072023, 9678010443.  
TL/P/AC67/1

4 rooms attached kitchen &  
bathroom at Dwarakanagar,  
Downtown. salaried preferred.  
Contact: 708607630, 7086088630.  
TL/P/AC67/20

Disang Boyz' PG- behind  
Gauhati Commerce College, 3rd  
byelane, House No. 28, Ph.  
9854036924/801178468, 46.  
PG/P/AP220/3

3 BHK flat for rent at Six M.  
VIP Road. Family preferred.  
Contact: 9435157767.  
TL/P/AC67/21

TWO NEW SPACIOUS  
SEMIFURNISHED 2BHk,  
RCC 2ND FLOOR AT  
HATIGARO PIPELINE FOR  
RENT. BANK/PSU/DOCTOR/  
CORPORATE EXECUTIVE  
PREFERRED. SECURED  
COMPOUND. 9864107954.  
TL/P/AC67/22

House for rent 2 bedrooms  
attached bathroom, kitchen  
drawing dining hall at Hatigaro  
757899802.  
TL/P/AC67/23

3 BHK flat (1270 sft.) at 1st  
floor, Kamakhya Apartment,  
Rehbari, Ghy-08. Contact No.  
9707024047, 97181102.  
TL/P/8627/1

1 room, kitchen bath attached at  
Gauhati Club area @7000/-  
9678558835, 9954518583.  
TL/P/8628/1

Flat at Hatigaro Chauri Zoo  
Narenji Road for immediate  
rent. Call: 9435041932.  
TL/P/8637/1

3 BHK flat at Synergy Imperial,  
Kahlipara (near Ganesh tuning)  
for 15000/month. Contact:  
9508331938m 700263813.  
TL/P/AP247/1

**3 BHK FULL FURNISHED  
PARKING CAT/PUBERUN  
PATH/HENGGRABARI ROAD  
DISPUR. VISIT: 9864032866.**  
TL/P/8640/1

2 BHK 1st & 2nd floor for rent  
at Kharphuli. Ph:  
9435706686.  
TL/P/8641/1

Two rooms attach bath, kitchen,  
Zoo Rd. Sanipati, byelane-1.  
9864855036, 8761049259.  
TL/P/8646/1

4 bedroom, 1500 sq ft flat with  
parking on rent at Soo-Narengi  
Road, 5th byelane. Contact:  
9864036232.  
TL/P/8647/1

Spacious 2 BHK house in ground  
floor with garage near KV  
Khanapara Rm. 12000/-  
Contact: 9401382252.  
TL/P/8648/1

4 bedroom, 1500 sq ft flat with  
parking on rent at Soo-Narengi  
Road, 5th byelane. Contact:  
9864036232.  
TL/P/8649/1

Duplex luxury 5 BHK attached  
T/K, 3 AC, Modular, Milapun,  
lawn @30,000/- Belota  
Wireless. 9954404682.  
TL/P/8719/1

RCC 3 bed room 2 toilets,  
drawing, dining, Dispur  
Wireless, Opp. Petrolpump  
(9300/-). 8876789958.  
TL/P/8640/1

Spacious 2 BHK house in ground  
floor with garage near KV  
Khanapara Rm. 12000/-  
Contact: 9401382252.  
TL/P/8641/1

4 bedroom, 1500 sq ft flat with  
parking on rent at Soo-Narengi  
Road, 5th byelane. Contact:  
9864036232.  
TL/P/8642/1

Spacious 2 BHK house in ground  
floor with garage near KV  
Khanapara Rm. 12000/-  
Contact: 9401382252.  
TL/P/8643/1

4 bedroom, 1500 sq ft flat with  
parking on rent at Soo-Narengi  
Road, 5th byelane. Contact:  
9864036232.  
TL/P/8644/1

Duplex luxury 5 BHK attached  
T/K, 3 AC, Modular, Milapun,  
lawn @30,000/- Belota  
Wireless. 9954404682.  
TL/P/8719/1

RCC 3 bed room 2 toilets,  
drawing, dining, Dispur  
Wireless, Opp. Petrolpump  
(9300/-). 8876789958.  
TL/P/8645/1

Spacious 2 BHK house in ground  
floor with garage near KV  
Khanapara Rm. 12000/-  
Contact: 9401382252.  
TL/P/8646/1

4 bedroom, 1500 sq ft flat with  
parking on rent at Soo-Narengi  
Road, 5th byelane. Contact:  
9864036232.  
TL/P/8647/1

Spacious 2 BHK house in ground  
floor with garage near KV  
Khanapara Rm. 12000/-  
Contact: 9401382252.  
TL/P/8648/1

4 bedroom, 1500 sq ft flat with  
parking on rent at Soo-Narengi  
Road, 5th byelane. Contact:  
9864036232.  
TL/P/8649/1

Duplex luxury 5 BHK attached  
T/K, 3 AC, Modular, Milapun,  
lawn @30,000/- Belota  
Wireless. 9954404682.  
TL/P/8719/1

RCC 3 bed room 2 toilets,  
drawing, dining, Dispur  
Wireless, Opp. Petrolpump  
(9300/-). 8876789958.  
TL/P/8650/1

Spacious 2 BHK house in ground  
floor with garage near KV  
Khanapara Rm. 12000/-  
Contact: 9401382252.  
TL/P/8651/1

4 bedroom, 1500 sq ft flat with  
parking on rent at Soo-Narengi  
Road, 5th byelane. Contact:  
9864036232.  
TL/P/8652/1

Spacious 2 BHK house in ground  
floor with garage near KV  
Khanapara Rm. 12000/-  
Contact: 9401382252.  
TL/P/8653/1

4 bedroom, 1500 sq ft flat with  
parking on rent at Soo-Narengi  
Road, 5th byelane. Contact:  
9864036232.  
TL/P/8654/1

Duplex luxury 5 BHK attached  
T/K, 3 AC, Modular, Milapun,  
lawn @30,000/- Belota  
Wireless. 9954404682.  
TL/P/8719/1

RCC 3 bed room 2 toilets,  
drawing, dining, Dispur  
Wireless, Opp. Petrolpump  
(9300/-). 8876789958.  
TL/P/8655/1

Spacious 2 BHK house in ground  
floor with garage near KV  
Khanapara Rm. 12000/-  
Contact: 9401382252.  
TL/P/8656/1

4 bedroom, 1500 sq ft flat with  
parking on rent at Soo-Narengi  
Road, 5th byelane. Contact:  
9864036232.  
TL/P/8657/1

Duplex luxury 5 BHK attached  
T/K, 3 AC, Modular, Milapun,  
lawn @30,000/- Belota  
Wireless. 9954404682.  
TL/P/8719/1

RCC 3 bed room 2 toilets,  
drawing, dining, Dispur  
Wireless, Opp. Petrolpump  
(9300/-). 8876789958.  
TL/P/8658/1

Spacious 2 BHK house in ground  
floor with garage near KV  
Khanapara Rm. 12000/-  
Contact: 9401382252.  
TL/P/8659/1

4 bedroom, 1500 sq ft flat with  
parking on rent at Soo-Narengi  
Road, 5th byelane. Contact:  
9864036232.  
TL/P/8660/1

Duplex luxury 5 BHK attached  
T/K, 3 AC, Modular, Milapun,  
lawn @30,000/- Belota  
Wireless. 9954404682.  
TL/P/8719/1

RCC 3 bed room 2 toilets,  
drawing, dining, Dispur  
Wireless, Opp. Petrolpump  
(9300/-). 8876789958.  
TL/P/8661/1

Spacious 2 BHK house in ground  
floor with garage near KV  
Khanapara Rm. 12000/-  
Contact: 9401382252.  
TL/P/8662/1

4 bedroom, 1500 sq ft flat with  
parking on rent at Soo-Narengi  
Road, 5th byelane. Contact:  
9864036232.  
TL/P/8663/1

Duplex luxury 5 BHK attached  
T/K, 3 AC, Modular, Milapun,  
lawn @30,000/- Belota  
Wireless. 9954404682.  
TL/P/8719/1

RCC 3 bed room 2 toilets,  
drawing, dining, Dispur  
Wireless, Opp. Petrolpump  
(9300/-). 8876789958.  
TL/P/8664/1

Spacious 2 BHK house in ground  
floor with garage near KV  
Khanapara Rm. 12000/-  
Contact: 9401382252.  
TL/P/8665/1

4 bedroom, 1500 sq ft flat with  
parking on rent at Soo-Narengi  
Road, 5th byelane. Contact:  
9864036232.  
TL/P/8666/1

Duplex luxury 5 BHK attached  
T/K, 3 AC, Modular, Milapun,  
lawn @30,000/- Belota  
Wireless. 9954404682.  
TL/P/8719/1

RCC 3 bed room 2 toilets,  
drawing, dining, Dispur  
Wireless, Opp. Petrolpump  
(9300/-). 8876789958.  
TL/P/8667/1

Sp

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT****MATRIMONIAL**

'Sanjyog Matrimony' choose your life-partner. Any Caste/ Age/ Community. Govt./PSU/ MNC/ Businessman. Contact Bride/ Groom Assam & outsider of Assam, India, Guwahati, Ulubari. @ 9706366444/ 8638153087. Mat/GP/AC631/

A reliable Matrimony Centre "Sandhani", Guwahati (ADC), Jorhat (Unnayan Bhawan), Dibrugarh (Chirang Chapor), Golaghat (Near Court), Nagaon (J.D. Nursing Home). 9707107771 (WhatsApp), 8011630847. www.sandhani.in Mat/GP/87291

**GROOM WANTED**

Muslim Assamese girl 35 years/ 5'4" fair good looking/ B.Sc/ father Retired Central Govt. employee/ no son of Guwahati looking for a suitable match. 9864393147. Mat/GP/69524/

Assamese/ Hindu General 31 years/ 5'2" Convent Educated, MA (English) PGD in Masscom/ working in a MNC in Delhi/ Home Guwahati. Contact directly 9859107191. Mat/GP/85451/

Buddhist 24 years, 4' beautiful, BF (Electronic) in Pvt. Sector. Ghy., Caste Buddhist. Ph. No 08257817304. Mat/GP/8543/

Wanted a suitable Bengali groom for a 30, 5'1", home Bengal Kavashta girl working in a School. Contact : 9957180475. Mat/GP/AP221/

Wanted groom for a Post Graduate girl of 30 years. Contact No : 9874838499. Mat/GP/8534/

Hindu Assamese fair slim 33/ 5'2", B.Sc., B.Ed., Convent Educated, Teacher in a reputed School Guwahati. M- Parent : 94345-09744. Mat/GP/8545/

Fair Complexioned, Hindu, Kalita, 30 yrs. MA from Delhi University of a cultured family. Contact directly : 9435544206. Mat/GP/8508/

Doctor \* Assamese Hindu 26, MBBS (2) Kalita 30, MBBS, MD (Medicine) (3) Kalita 28, MBBS, MS (ENT) (4) Kalita 30+, MBBS, MS, Guwahati. \*MATCHMAKER (M) 9842-03706. Mat/GP/8521/

\*Muslim Assamese girl 27, tall, very fair, good looking, BE Engineer working MNC in Bangalore seeks suitable match working in any Indian Metrocity. Contact (M) 9854063196. Mat/GP/8522/

Assamese Hindu General Caste 26+, slim, tall, very fair. B.Com, MBA, Teacher own Nursery School. Father Executive Engineer. Contact (M) 9401469135. Mat/GP/8523/

Fair & good looking Kalita girl 28+, 5'4", B.Tech, Engineer Accenture, Bangalore seeks suitable match working in Indian Metro. Contact (M) 9854063196. Mat/GP/8524/

Hindu Assamese, OBC, 26, 5'4", fair & 5'9" girl, MSW (Master Social Work) in Guwahati. Case no bar. Contact (M) 9584203706. Mat/GP/8525/

Muslim Assamese 30, 5'4", slim, fair good looking, B.Sc, MBA, B.Ed., Teacher Guwahati residence. Seeks suitable match. Contact (M) 9401469135. Mat/GP/8526/

Assamese Hindu General Caste 25+, 5'4", fair & pretty girl, B.Tech. Engineer working in TCS (MNC) seeks suitable match working any Indian Metrocity. (M) 9854063196. Mat/GP/8527/

Match invited for Kalita girl 27 yrs, fair & good looking B.Tech. Engineer working in Guwahati. Father Govt. Officer. Contact (M) 9401469135. Mat/GP/8528/

Muslim 25+, Assamese, slim, fair good looking MA in English from Gauhati University. Father Rd. Govt. officer. Contact (M) 9401469135. Mat/GP/8529/

Fair & pretty Kalita girl 27, 5'5", M.Sc (Microbiology) Clinical Analyst. Working MNC in Delhi. Father Officer Oil India. Contact (M) 9854063196. Mat/GP/8530/

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT****MATRIMONIAL**

Invited for Assamese Hindu girl, 29, Convent Educated, 5'3", Tula Rashi, General, Post Graduate of Delhi University, working at Mumbai (Relocatable Bangalore/ Delhi/ Abroad). Family Guwahati based, father Senior Govt. Officer. Interested parents/ boy upto 37, 38. May please email to jhr@guwahati@gmail.com Giving details information with contact number. Mat/GP/AP087/1

Assamese Hindu, 34+, 56 yrs. M.Sc, M.Sc, resident of Guwahati, Govt Teacher good looking girl. Contact : 8473882479. Mat/GP/8598/1

Fair and good looking Assamese Kalita girl 33 years, 5'3", MA in English, from Delhi University, working in Assam Research and Development Editor. Only daughter caste no bar. Contact Parents : 94353-06127. Mat/GP/8600/1

Assamese Hindu girl, 34, 5'3, MA in English, from Assam Research and Development Editor. Only daughter caste no bar. Contact Parents : 94353-06127. Mat/GP/8601/

Brahmin girl Assamese based in Guwahati. Master Degree holder. Seeks suitable alliance. 94351-15373. Mat/GP/8629/1

Assamese Hindu girl, MA, B.Ed., Govt. Hindu Teacher 34 years. Call : 8723915845. Mat/GP/AP264/1

Buddhist 24 years, 4', beautiful, BF (Electronic) in Pvt. Sector. Ghy., Caste Buddhist. Ph. No 08257817304. Mat/GP/8543/

Wanted a suitable Bengali groom for a 30, 5'1", home Bengal Kavashta girl working in a School. Contact : 9957180475. Mat/GP/AP221/

Wanted groom for a Post Graduate girl of 30 years. Contact No : 9874838499. Mat/GP/8534/

Hindu Assamese fair slim 33/ 5'2", B.Sc., B.Ed., Convent Educated, Teacher in a reputed School Guwahati. M- Parent : 94345-09744. Mat/GP/8545/

Fair Complexioned, Hindu, Kalita, 30 yrs. MA from Delhi University of a cultured family. Contact directly : 9435544206. Mat/GP/8508/

Doctor \* Assamese Hindu 26, MBBS (2) Kalita 30, MBBS, MD (Medicine) (3) Kalita 28, MBBS, MS (ENT) (4) Kalita 30+, MBBS, MS, Guwahati. \*MATCHMAKER (M) 9842-03706. Mat/GP/8521/

Brahmin girl, 41, 5'5", State Government employee seeks alliance preferably with Brahmin boy. Case no bar. Contact : 98549-34146. Mat/GP/8669/1

Bride Brahmin, East Bengal, 26, 5', Debon, Makar Rashi, working at a Govt. College in Ghy. Permanent post, father BSM pensioner, resident of Ghy. seeks suitable match. Cont : 9435541335. Mat/GP/8685/1

Assamese ST Plain M.Tech (IT, Ghy)/BE (AEC), Assistant Professor (Central IT College) Tezpur. 9127023992. Mat/GP/8758/1

Assamese, General Kalita, 31, M.Sc (Dibrugarh University), Bank (PO) in Guwahati. 9845096933. Mat/GP/8759/1

Assumes Kalita, issued divorcee, M.Sc/ B.Ed (GU) Govt. Teacher in Central Govt. 8822230669/ 7576026601. Mat/GP/AP625/

Beautiful Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'5", MA, B.Ed. School Teacher in Ghy. residency. #081161568/ 970636644. Mat/GP/AC626/

Beautiful Assumes/ Kalita/ 25/ 5'4", B.Tech (SMIT), Engineer in Pune, Upper residency. #739475273/ 7086730669. Mat/GP/AC627/

Beautiful Kalita/ Assamese/ 29/ 5'3", BE, Central Govt. employee, Early marriage #984089793/ 970636644. Mat/GP/AC628/

Kalita Assamese good looking 27, 5'3", Tech. Working in repeated MNC at Metro. #984809793/ 970636644. Mat/GP/AC630/

Wanted suitable groom for Muslim, Assamese, 29, 5'2", M.Tech/ Assst. Professor belongs to an educated family based in Guwahati. #9854152573. 7035343836. Mat/GP/AC716/

29/ 5'9" fair girl well educated Central Govt. service holder seeks a well mannered boy for early marriage. 7670065577. Mat/GP/AC861/

27 yrs beautiful Bengali girl well educated, Govt. service holder seeks to an educated family based in Guwahati. #985404777. Mat/GP/AC862/

Good looking handsome boy wanted for a girl, working in a good Private School in Dispur, Guwahati, age 3 years. Contact : 9435083967. Mat/GP/8747/

SEEKING AN ASSAMESE GOSWAMI/BRAHMIN GIRL FOR 29 AGED BOY WORKING AS AN ENGINEER, RESIDENT OF GUWAHATI. CONTACT FATHER : #9864322128.

Age 27, Brahmin, LLB, Advocate, Mangalik, Ghy (2) 37, Brahmin, Masters/ LLB, Advocate, Ghy (3) 30, Brahmin, M.Sc/ SLET/ pursuing PhD, Ghy (4) 27, Brahmin, MBBS/ pursuing MD, Ahmedabad (5) 23, Brahmin, pursuing Masscom, Ghy (6) 30, Brahmin, M.Sc/ M.Tech, Lecturer, Ghy, coming from a reputed family of Guwahati. Girl preferably of Medical profession or any other related to Bio-science. Mob. No. +91 981699550. Mat/BP/8002/3

Alliance invited from well educated, working girl for a B.Tech, MBA, General Castee age 30, residence Guwahati, working in Metro city. Contact directly at No. 9435592023. Mat/BP/AP632/

Bangalore/ Chennai based working girl wanted for a Hindu boy, 30 yrs, 5'6", B.Tech, working as Engineer in reputed MNC Bangalore. Kalita, M.Sc, London (going to study) Canada. Sandhani. 8011630847. Mat/GP/8748/1

Age 27, General, BA / LLB, Lawyer, Delhi (2) 31, OBC, Hotel Management Service, Dubai (3) 27, Koch, MBA, MNC, Delhi (4) 32, Koch, LLB/ MBA, MNC, Delhi (5) 26, Brahmin, pursuing PhD, Ghy (6) 30, Brahmin, M.Sc/ M.Tech, Lecturer, Ghy, coming from a reputed family of Guwahati. Girl preferably of Medical profession or any other related to Bio-science. Mob. No. +91 981699550. Mat/BP/8002/3

Assamese/ Kalita/ 27/ 5'10", BE (SR), Software Engineer at Metro. Ghy, residency, Caste no bar. #8011641568/ 970636644. Mat/BP/8002/3

Assamese/ Kalita/ 27/ 5'10", BE (SR), Software Engineer at Metro. Ghy, residency, Caste no bar. #8011641568/ 970636644. Mat/BP/8002/3

Age 31 Kalita LLB, Advocate (divorcee) (2) 28, General, MBA, service (divorcee), Ghy (3) 32, Kalita, Masters, Central job (divorcee), Ghy, Sandhani, 8011630847. Mat/GP/8749/1

Age 24, Bengali, studying Masters, Jagirroad (2) 32, Bengali, HS Pass, Nagaon.

Handsome, 38, 5'7", HCE, MCA, stand alone, working with ARPS.

Call direct : 8415986337. Mat/GP/8750/1

Age 27 Kalita, Masters (pursuing PhD) Ghy (2) 32, Mabanta, S.B.C. Bank, SBI, Ghy (3)

35, Kalita, Masters/ B.Ed, Central

Teacher, Ghy (4) 35, Kalita, MA

(English), Govt. job, Ghy (5) 29,

OBCE, M.Tech, Govt. Engineer

Ghy, Sandhani, 8011630847.

Mat/GP/8751/1

Wanted MBBS/ Asst. Prof. (Govt.

Ph.D) Ghy (2) 32, Mabanta,

S.B.C. Bank, SBI, Ghy (3)

35, Kalita, Masters/ B.Ed, Central

Teacher, Ghy (4) 35, Kalita, MA

(English), Govt. job, Ghy (5) 29,

OBCE, M.Tech, Govt. Engineer

Ghy, Sandhani, 8011630847.

Mat/GP/8752/1

Age 33, Kalita, Mabanta, Ghy (2) 32, Mabanta, S.B.C. Bank, SBI, Ghy (3)

35, Kalita, Masters/ B.Ed, Central

Teacher, Ghy (4) 35, Kalita, MA

(English), Govt. job, Ghy (5) 29,

OBCE, M.Tech, Govt. Engineer

Ghy, Sandhani, 8011630847.

Mat/GP/8753/1

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8754/1

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8755/1

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8756/1

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8757/1

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8758/1

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8759/1

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8760/1

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8761/

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8762/

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8763/

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8764/

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8765/

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8766/

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8767/

Handsome Bengali boy/

girl based in Bangalore.

Seeking a girl of same

caste, preferably with a

professional qualification.

Contact : 9741793566.

Mat/BP/8768/





Women participating at an event on the occasion of World Dance Day, at Rabindra Bhawan in Guwahati on Saturday. —AT photo

### Dance show

GUWAHATI, April 29: Saroj Khan Dance Academy, a franchisee of legendary Bollywood choreographer Saroj Khan, is holding its annual dance show 'Confluence' at the ITI Pragjyoti Cultural Centre, Machikhali here tomorrow from 5 pm.

According to a press release, the celebrated Saroj Khan is scheduled to attend the event.

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Tender for sale of 18 numbers of salvage vehicles are invited from interested buyers within 15 days of publication of this notice. For details Contact:- **THE ORIENTAL INSURANCE CO.LTD., CDO-3, M.R.D. ROAD, Guwahati-21, Phone No-9435311989 / 9435072073** CD/IN/457/1

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- Increasing passenger Carrying Capacity of Coaches of Indian Railways.
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Details of Innovation Challenges viz. Participation procedure, terms & conditions, eligibility, guidelines etc are available at website [“innovate.mgov.in”](http://innovate.mgov.in). Last date for submitting the online applications is **20.05.2017** upto 6 pm.

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## Youth must play vital role in changing perception of State: CM

### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, April 29: "Assam is not a land of difficulties and problems. We must change the perception of the State into a land of opportunity where development of all sections of the society can be achieved by dedicated hardwork and sincerity. Our youth must play a vital role in bringing about a change in the way people perceive by outsiders," Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today asserted this while participating as the chief guest in the Mind Rocks programme of India Today Group held at a city hotel.

Urging the youth of the state to strive to realise their optimum potential and commit to the cause of the society with vigour and zeal so that Assam can be established as one of the top states in the country, Sonowal said that removing corruption from the system is one of the prime objectives of the government and tremendous success has been achieved in this regard.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has

also appreciated our government's zero tolerance approach towards corruption by pointing out Assam as the example where a consistent and ruthless campaign against corrupt practices in governance has been carried out," added Sonowal.

Stating that the youth of the state must shoulder the great responsibility of focusing the inherent strengths of the state at the national and international stage, Sonowal said that 21 percent growth in revenue collection of the State Government compared to previous year is a huge boost to the efforts of the government to bring about economic resurgence and sustainable development.

Saying that Assam is a land of potentialities, possibilities and prosperity Chief Minister Sonowal said that the government has started programmes like "Discovery of Assam" to highlight the inherent strengths of the state at the world stage and introduce outsiders to the beauty of Assam. He appealed to the youth to extend their cooperation in making this programme a grand success.

Referring to Namami Brahmaputra festi-

tival as the government's effort to highlight the immense potential of the great river, Sonowal said that the dredging of Brahmaputra would boost the flood management activities and provide huge fillip to inland water transport by enabling cargo ships to ply on the river that would bolster trade and business.

Saying that the youth must strive to achieve success and excel in their chosen fields through sincerity and dedication despite difficulties and overcome challenges so that they can take Assam towards a new direction of growth and prosperity, Sonowal urged them to take sports as a way of life and aspire for glory in sporting arena. The government is also working towards making Guwahati the sports capital of the country, he said.

The session ended with light-hearted moments when the Chief Minister shared his experiences with the Union Minister of Sports and giving insights into his daily fitness routine. On being requested, he also sang a few lines of a Bihu song to the loud cheers of a primarily young audience.

## Chandamukh Sattriya Academy anniversary

GUWAHATI, April 29: The 16th anniversary of Chandamukh Sattriya Academy was celebrated at Rabindra Bhawan here on Friday.

The programme was attended by Sattradhikar Dattadev Goswami of Bhogpur Sattras, Majuli; Sattradhikar Bhargav Manikanta, Sunderdhil Satra, Rangia; Bipul Das, Kathak dancer gurukul, Mahanta Tuluksar, Assistant Professor of Bhabanipur Anchikha College, besides others.

The programme started with lighting of the ceremonial lamp and tribute to Dr Anjali Mahanta Raichoudhury and Alami Pramana Mahanta. This was followed by guru bandana by Sattradhikar Hariprasanna Mahanta, Ishwar Sri Sri Dekabupura Sattras, Suwalkuchi and principal, Chandamukh Sattriya Academy. He had received the lifetime achievement award from Sanskriti Mahasava, Assam, recently.

The souvenir of the academy was also released on the occasion and followed by the programme – *Nirmali for Manu prabesh* by two students of the academy, Dikshita Sarma and Kritika Sarma. Sattriya song, dance and play by the students and ex-students of the academy.

The programme concluded with a prayer by the students of the academy and their families.

## Mask artisan felicitated

GUWAHATI, April 29: Renowned mask artisan Hem Ch Goswami was felicitated by the Rural Women Upliftment Association of Assam at a function held here today.

The organisation's chairman Surya Kr Bordoloi felicitated Goswami with a *gamosa* and a traditional *japi*, said a press release.

## Assam probe ...

(Contd from page 1)

before the team is sent to the US, there should be a video conference with the team members so that "both sides know the details of the process of investigation so far and what are the exact requirements of the investigators of the CID," The CID has requested the NIC to facilitate the video conference and the technical details are now being worked out, sources added.

Meanwhile, the government has started the process of finalising the names of the probe team members to be sent to the US. Sources admitted that investigation of the case, which has international ramifications, takes time as obtaining materials from other countries sometimes becomes a time consuming process. Moreover, the laws are different in different countries, which often slows down the process.

## Govt flayed ...

(Contd from page 1)

"The martyrs laid down their lives for 1951 and not 1971. The political leaders have built their political career on the foreigner's issue, they have conveniently betrayed the ideals of the Assam movement and the sacrifice of the martyrs," Hazarika said.

Taking a jibe at the present government for its involvement in organising a number of festivals in the State recently, he said that instead of fairs and festivals, the government must concentrate on addressing the basic concerns of the people of Assam. "To divert the attention of the people from the SC hearing, the government has come up with a tripartite discussion. In the last 32 years, numerous such tripartite discussions have been held with no significant outcome," he added.

The Manohar further alleged that instead of finding out and expelling the illegal migrants, the government is providing them opportunity to attain citizenship.

## DSP Anjan ...

(Contd from page 1)

After being questioned by the investigators of the CID for nearly two hours today, Bora was arrested in connection with the CID police station case number 7/2017, Bora's Geetajanagar house was also searched during which his cell phone and laptop have been seized.

The case has been registered under Sections 166, 167 and 506 of the Indian Penal Code besides Sections 66 and 67 of the Information Technology Act. The complaint was lodged by Inspector General of Police (Administration) PC Saloi.

Immediately after his arrest, the Home department has placed Bora under suspension. Earlier too, Bora was suspended for several months and was reinstated only recently after which he was posted in Kokrajhar.

Bora through his post in Facebook had alleged that the BJP legislature was indulging in immoral activities inside the State Secretariat (now Janata Bhawan). The State BJP too had lodged a complaint against Bora for his post in social media.

After being arrested, Bora told media persons that he has evidence to prove his allegations and that he would place them before the court. He also claimed that a Ratiyatra Swayambhunath Singh (RSS) worker is privy to the immoral activities taking place in the Janata Bhawan.

## Vision document for Jorhat Medical College

GUWAHATI, April 29: In conformation of the State Government policy to develop all the medical colleges of the State into premier learning centres, the Principal-cum-Chief Superintendent of the Jorhat Medical College (JMC) would like to prepare a vision document to make the medical college a premier institute of learning. This was stated in a press release.

The vision document will also aim to make the JMC a dedicated tertiary care institute of the State.

A programme was held in the Jorhat Medical College on Saturday where many prominent citizens, including the MP and MLAs of Jorhat, Deputy Commissioner, members of Pensioners' Forum and Senior Citizens' Forum, gave valuable inputs for the vision document.

The Principal-cum-Chief Superintendent of Jorhat Medical College has also sought suggestions from the local citizens for the vision document.

E-TENDER NOTICE NO.: EL-LM-17-18-03 Dtd.: 26-04-2017

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer Lending/acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-tenders against Tender No. EL-LM-17-18-03 closing Date 02-05-2017 at 11:00 hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed. Manual offers received after such manual offer received shall be ignored.

Contractors are invited to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment mode available on IRREP's portal like bank account, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

Name of Work: At Jamuguri & Naukuchiatal for construction of Additional Loop line Electrical Portion. Advertised value: ₹ 12,77,480/- Earnest Money: ₹ 1,02,530/- Cost of Tender Document: ₹ 1,950/- Completion Period : 90 days.

Date and time of Closing of E-tender: 11:00 hrs on 02/05/2017.

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# Keeping diabetes in check



The new system developed by researchers involves engineering insulin-producing cells to do their work when illuminated with infrared light

**S**cientists have successfully engineered cells to produce insulin under the command of a smartphone, helping keep blood sugar levels within normal limits in diabetic mice.

The new system developed by researchers, including those from East China Normal University, involves engineering insulin-producing cells to do their work when illuminated with infrared light.

Human cells can be genetically engineered into living factories that efficiently manufacture and deliver hormones and signalling molecules, but most synthetic biological circuits do not offer the same degree of sensitivity and precision as digital sensors, researchers said.

They put the cells in an insulated sheath that also contained red LED lights – then, they placed the sheath under the skin of test mice.

They controlled the lights remotely via smartphone app, sending signals to a control

box containing a coil that activated the lights. The smartphone received data from an embedded blood glucose metre. The result was a closed-loop system in which the glucose metre automatically conducted glucose testing on a periodic basis.

The smartphone app analysed the data to determine when and how much insulin needed to be produced.

It then sent a signal to the control box, activating the LED lights, causing the cells to produce and release insulin into the bodies of the mice.

The researchers tested their system with mice over a period of several weeks and report that it successfully maintained insulin levels.

"Successfully linking digital signals with engineered circuits represents an important step toward translating smaller cell-based therapies into the clinic," researchers said.

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engineered circuits represents an important step toward translating smaller cell-based therapies into the clinic," researchers said.

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They controlled the lights remotely via smartphone app, sending signals to a control

Kids	Entertainment	Movies
<b>CN</b> 13:00 Larva 13:30 Motu Patlu Doodh... 19:30 Robot No. 21 20:00 Land Before Z 23:00 Dragon Ball Z 23:30 SesameStreet	<b>StarPlus</b> 18:00 Summer Express 2017 <b>Zcafe</b> 13:00 The Big Bang Theory 15:00 Scandal 16:00 Just for Laughs 17:00 American Housewife... 18:00 Lethal Weapon <b>nick</b> 13:00 Mira Pataki 13:30 Doraemon 15:00 Moto Kart 17:00 Ninja Nation 18:00 Ninja Nation 19:30 Ninja Nation 21:00 Oggy & the... 21:30 SpongeBob SquarePants 22:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja... 23:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja... 23:30 Nickelodeon	<b>SONY PIX</b> 13:30 Crime Patrol - Batarek <b>colors</b> 13:00 Naagin 15:00 Koi Naay Ke Hai Aya... 17:30 Jhoom Barabar 18:00 Men Angne Mein 18:30 Meri Dunga <b>Life OK</b> 15:00 Naagin 17:00 Chhote Myan Dhaakad 17:30 Jhoom Barabar 19:30 Saimir Sikri 21:00 Naagin 22:00 Chhote Myan Dhaakad <b>STAR MOVIES</b> 13:30 The A-Team 15:00 Army Man 16:30 Predator 21:00 Life of Pi <b>WBF</b> 14:15 Detective Dee and the Flame 18:30 Ghost Ship 19:20 The Good Son, Part 2 21:00 The Town 22:00 Solomon Returns
<b>Discovery</b> 13:00 Cristiano Ronaldo The World At His Feet 14:00 National Geographic 15:00 Ed Stafford 16:00 Man vs. Wild 17:00 Steve Backshall 18:00 Discover India 19:00 Savage Family Diggers <b>NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL</b> 13:00 Wild Weather Extreme 14:00 India's Magic Kitchens 15:00 Science of Stories 16:00 Animal Fight Club <b>DOOR &amp; DIE</b> 17:30 Magic Inductions 18:30 Do or Die 19:30 Nat Geo Weekends 20:30 Mystery Lab 21:00 World's Most Extreme 22:00 Do or Die 23:00 Do or Die Club 23:30 Science of Stupid	<b>ANIMAL PLANET</b> 13:00 Jungle Talkies 14:30 The Pack 15:00 Jungle Status 16:30 India's Wild Life 20:00 Genghis Khan's Predation 21:00 Predator 22:00 Predator's Prey 23:00 Jungle Safari Adventures <b>NAT GEO</b> 13:00 Discovery 14:00 Andrew Smith Australia 14:30 Croton's Finest 15:10 Miguel's Tropical Kitchen 16:00 Mystery Lab 16:30 Billionaire Gok's Chinese Takeaway 17:30 Gok's Chinese Takeaway 19:15 Chow 19:45 Fish of the Day 20:30 The Last Great Heritage 21:30 Gok's Chinese Takeaway 23:30 Restoration Man 23:30 Lucky Fish of the Day 23:30 Fan of the Day	<b>NEWS LIVE</b> 01:00 Breakfast Live 08:00 Live at 6 09:00 Good Morning Assam 10:00 Assam News 11:00 Assamnews news 12:00 Assamnews Day Live 13:00 Assamnews feature file 13:30 Discussion Show (R) 14:00 Discussion Show (R) 14:30 Breaking @ 630 15:00 Assamnews 6:30 News Time 20:00 Discussion Show (R) 21:00 Kotha Bars 21:30 India's Best 22:00 Live at 6 22:30 Nano Guwahati 23:00 Nano Bafot <b>STAR GOLD</b> 13:00 Rajdhani Express 13:30 Assam State Train 14:00 Shanti Express 14:30 Samudra Express 15:00 Chhat Gachar Mai Maji 15:30 Naya Kanai 16:00 Asser Bafot 16:30 Naya Kanai 17:00 Nishomose Bafot 17:30 Rupali Chou 18:00 Rupali Bafot 18:45 NE News <b>WB</b> 21:00 The Town
<b>Infotainment</b> 13:00 Cristiano Ronaldo The World At His Feet 14:00 National Geographic 15:00 Ed Stafford 16:00 Man vs. Wild 17:00 Steve Backshall 18:00 Discover India 19:00 Savage Family Diggers <b>NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL</b> 13:00 Wild Weather Extreme 14:00 India's Magic Kitchens 15:00 Science of Stories 16:00 Animal Fight Club <b>DOOR &amp; DIE</b> 17:30 Magic Inductions 18:30 Do or Die 19:30 Nat Geo Weekends 20:30 Mystery Lab 21:00 World's Most Extreme 22:00 Do or Die 23:00 Do or Die Club 23:30 Science of Stupid	<b>Region</b> 01:00 Breakfast Live 08:00 Live at 6 09:00 Good Morning Assam 10:00 Assamnews news 11:00 Assamnews Day Live 12:00 Assamnews feature file 13:00 Discussion Show (R) 14:00 Discussion Show (R) 14:30 Breaking @ 630 15:00 Assamnews 6:30 News Time 20:00 Discussion Show (R) 21:00 Kotha Bars 21:30 India's Best 22:00 Live at 6 22:30 Nano Guwahati 23:00 Nano Bafot <b>SPORTS</b> 20:00 Best of ICC WTC 2016 20:30 Global Legends 21:00 Superstars 22:00 ICC Cricket 360 23:00 Cricketing India 23:30 Asia Cup 2017 14:00 Asia Cup 2016 10s 14:30 Superstars 14:30 Superstars 14:30 Asia Cup 2016 15:00 Asia Cup 2017 15:30 Cricket 360 17:00 England Tour of India 2016 17:00 England Tour of India 2016 17:00 England Tour of India 2016 18:30 England Tour of India 2016 18:30 England Tour of India 2016 19:30 Superstars 20:00 Best of ISL 2016 21:00 Superstars 22:00 Superstars 23:00 Asia Cup 2017 23:30 Cricket 360 <b>STAR 4</b> 13:00 T20 Big Bash League Hts 14:00 Extreme Salting 14:30 Cricket 360 15:00 Superstars 15:30 T20 Big Bash League Hts 16:00 Cricket 360 17:00 T20 Big Bash League Hts 17:30 Superstars 18:00 Cricket 360 19:00 T20 Big Bash League Hts 20:00 Cricket 360 21:00 Superstars 22:00 Superstars 23:00 Asia Cup 2017 23:30 Cricket 360 <b>NEO SPORTS</b> 14:00 Dutch League 2017 Hts 15:00 Extreme Salting 15:30 Cricket 360 16:00 Cricket 360 16:30 PGA Tour 2017 21:00 Mobil 1 The Gulf 22:00 Cricket 360 23:00 PGA Tour 2017 <b>TEN 1</b> 14:30 F1 2017 Hts 15:00 Cricket 360 16:00 IPL 2017 Live 16:30 Extra Innings 17:00 Cricket 360 23:30 Extra Innings	
<b>Tribune Sunday Crossword - 976</b> A 3 — reason : makes complete sense? (6,2) 4 "..., and Eve" (4) 5 Lacklustre (4) 6 Cricket administrator and player Borda (6) 7 Sleep, doze (6) 8 First alphabets of some one's name? (6) 9 In Saurashtra, a pilgrimage site for Jainis (11) 14 Begins or commences a journey (7,2) 18 Bloodsucking (9) 19 Looks after; deals with? (5,4,2) 21 Ex-India batsman Mankad (5) 22 Anxiety (5) 23 Being in Latin (3) 25 Foolish or stupid person (4) 27 J.K.'s capital (8) 29 Strong (8) 30 Indication (8) 33 Linda hermit-life (6) 34 Martial art (6) 37 Sun for an artist (5) 39 Church section (4) 40 Chase wild animals as a sport (4)	<b>HEALTH CAPSULES®</b> by Bron Smith IS THE TOMATO A FRUIT OR A VEGETABLE? CONTRARY TO POPULAR BELIEF, TOMATOES ARE A FRUIT, NOT A VEGETABLE. LYCOPENE, THE ANTIOXIDANT FOUND IN TOMATOES, HAS BEEN SHOWN TO BE BENEFICIAL TO HEART HEALTH. STUDIES ARE NOW UNDERWAY TO DETERMINE IF LYCOPENE IS ALSO BENEFICIAL TO CARDIAC AND HEART HEALTH. Health Capsules is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature.	<b>SOLUTION TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD - 976</b> 1 Dandies or fops (5) 2 Kidnaps (7) 8 U.S. tax dept. (3) 10 Small one (3) 11 Turkish title (5) 12 Bhubaneswar 13ingo (5) 13Blanket prohibition on the use of some particular monicker (4,3) 15Secret store (5) 16Gidder (7) 17Bhupesh 18Naskari to his friends and admirers (4) 20Scarlett's home (4) 23Dash or zest (4) 24Spanish friends (6) 26Infrequency or singularity (8) 27Lone musicians (8) 28Rapid (6) 31Navigate the

## MOOSE AND MOLLY



Thought for the day

Some pray to marry the man they love.  
My prayer will be heaven above.  
I humbly pray to Heaven above.

That I love the man I marry.

- ROSE PASTOR STOKES

**Model killed**

KOLKATA, April 29: Popular model and TV prime time host Sonika Chauhan was killed, while actor Vikram Chatterjee was injured when the SUV in which they were travelling met with an accident in south Kolkata today.

The police said the SUV mounted the pavement while trying to avoid an approaching car from a nearby lane and partially lured on one side at around 4:30 am near the Rashbehari Avenue crossing. Vikram and Sonika were brought out from the mangled car by locals and rushed to a private hospital, police said. — PTI

**In loving memory of****Syed Abdul Matin**

Born: 1-11-1949

Death: 30-04-2016

On this very day a year ago, you left us all for your heavenly abode leaving us behind, that can hardly be filled up. Your fond memories remain the foundation of inspiration in our life. May Allah bless you with eternal peace in Zainab

**Syeda Anara Begum (wife)**  
Syeda Hasnara (daughter)  
Asif Ibrahim (son-in-law)

**Syed Md. Sabir (daughter)**  
Syed Hafiz Ali (son-in-law)

**Syeda Sammi Akhtar (daughter)**  
Rezaul Hoque Choudhury  
(son-in-law)

**Syed Md. Imtiaz (son)**

**Syed Munawar Ahmed (son)**

Puhor, Noman and Aman  
(grandsons)

**N Korea test-fires missile, defies US push for new sanctions**

SEOUL, April 29: North Korea test-fired a ballistic missile today in apparent defiance of a US push for tougher international sanctions to curb the Asian country's nuclear threat.

"North Korea fired an unidentified missile from a site in the vicinity of Buchang in Pyeongannam-do (South Pyongan Province) early this morning," the South Korean news agency, Yonhap, reported, adding that the missile "is estimated to have failed."

A US defence official confirmed North Korea had fired a missile. The launch comes with tensions high on the Korean peninsula, with US President Donald Trump warning of the risk of a "major conflict."

It came just hours after US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson addressed the UN Security Council for the first time and called for a global campaign of pressure on Pyongyang — with China playing a major role — to halt its nuclear and ballistic missile programmes.

"Failing to act now on the most pressing security issue in the world may bring catastrophic consequences," he warned.

He repeated Washington's threat that US military options were "on the table."

Tillerson said China had "unique leverage over its communist ally and neighbour." — AFP

**Don't politicise triple talaq issue: Modi**

NEW DELHI, April 29: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today urged Muslims not to view the triple talaq issue from a political perspective and expressed the confidence that efforts to end the practice would be led by "enlightened" members of the community.

At a function to mark the Basava Jayanti celebrations in honour of Kannada philosopher Basaveshwara, Modi referred to the 12th century reformer's movement against regressive practices to speak about triple talaq.

"I appeal to you not to view the triple talaq issue from a political perspective. Come out and find a solution. That solution will have its own majesty and generations will come forward to end this practice, lib-

erating our Muslim daughters and mothers from the scourge. I am sure enlightened Muslims will take this responsibility upon themselves."

Modi also released a digital volume of Basaveshwara's works titled *Vachan* in 23 languages. The works comprise 2,500 sermons delivered by the philosopher.

The event assumes significance in view of the 2018 Assamese elections in Karatataka, where Lingayats are a formidable community. Basaveshwara, also known as Basavanna, is their most powerful icon.

The Prime Minister spoke about women's empowerment, equality and good governance, as preached and practised by Basaveshwara.

Referring to triple talaq, Modi said, "I am sure enlightened people will also emerge from among Muslims and come forward to end this practice, lib-

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Sd/- Director,

Elementary Education, Assam Kahlipara, Guwahati-19.

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM**  
**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, ASSAM, KAHLIPARA, GUWAHATI-19**  
**Chief Minister's Special Scholarship -2015.**

Ceremonial distribution of Chief Minister's Special Scholarship to the eligible students of Kamrup Metropolitan and Kamrup districts for the year 2015, which was scheduled to be held on the 12th April 2017, has been re-scheduled to be held on the 4th May 2017 at the open space of Sarusojai Stadium at Sarusojai, Guwahati-40.

**Janasanyog/1027/17**

**INSTITUTE OF HOTEL MANAGEMENT, CATERING TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED NUTRITION, GUWAHATI**  
(An Autonomous Body under Ministry of Tourism, Government of India)

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

Applications are invited from registered firm for the issue of Financial bid paper for supply of Uniform. For details visit our website and also contact office during office hours.

**Principals**  
**Institute of Hotel Management**  
V.I.P. Road, Upper Hengrabari, Barbari, Guwahati-36.  
Website: ihmcangny.org.in  
Phone : +91 9811011770, 0361-2337245  
Janasanyog/269/17

**N Korea has disrespected China's wishes: Trump**

WASHINGTON, April 29: US President Donald Trump has said that North Korea has "disrespected the wishes of China" by carrying out another missile test, as Pentagon confirmed it was a failed attempt by Pyongyang.

"North Korea disrespected the wishes of China and it's highly respected President when it launched, though unsuccessfully, a missile today. Bad!" Trump said in a tweet last night, hours after North Korea carried out yet another failed missile test.

The North Korea missile test came a day after the Trump administration praised China and its President Xi Jinping for having prevailed over Pyongyang in not carrying out a nuclear test or missile test. "The US Pacific Command detected what we assess was a North Korean missile launch at 10:33 am Hawaii time on April 28," Dave Benham, PACOM spokesman, said in a statement. — PTI

**India welcomes Cyprus support for NSG bid**

NEW DELHI, April 29: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has welcomed Cyprus' support to India's bid for membership of the 48-nation Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG). Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades also reaffirmed support for the "enhancement of the representative character" of the United Nations Nuclear Security Council (UNSC).

Anastasiades had earlier emphasised on making the UNSC "more effective, efficient and representative of the contemporary geopolitical challenges."

The two leaders also supported forward movement on the Intergovernmental Negotiations (IGN) on UNSC reform and reiterated their commitment to make continuous efforts to move towards text-based negotiations.

"Both leaders underlined the need for decision action against states supporting, sheltering and sustaining 'violence factories' in their regions."

"The two sides welcomed the recent adoption of UNSC Resolution 2347 (2017), aiming to combat the unlawful destruction of cultural heritage, religious sites and artifacts, and the smuggling of cultural property by terrorist groups during armed conflict," the statement added.

The two sides exchanged views on developments in their respective regions and on international issues of common concern, most notably the fight against international terrorism, it said. They also discussed ways to reinforce measures to combat the review stream towards terrorist groups, the statement said.

During their delegation-level talks yesterday, Modi and Anastasiades had strongly

pitched for decisive action against states supporting, sheltering and sustaining "violence factories" in their regions."

"The two sides welcomed the recent adoption of UNSC Resolution 2347 (2017), aiming to combat the unlawful destruction of cultural heritage, religious sites and artifacts, and the smuggling of cultural property by terrorist groups during armed conflict," the statement added.

Both countries also shared the view that the successful conclusion of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT), proposed by India at the UN, remains a priority and would be a decisive step to further strengthen the global normative framework that would support vigorous international action against terrorism. Anastasiades is on a five-day visit to India which concludes today. — PTI

**2019 LS polls on BJP agenda in Jodhpur meet**

JAIPUR, April 29: Preparations for the Rajasthan Assembly elections due next year and the 2019 Lok Sabha polls will be the key agenda of the BJP's two-day State executive meeting beginning in Jodhpur tomorrow.

Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje will inaugurate the meeting at a hotel in Jodhpur in the presence of senior party leaders, including V Satish, Avinash Ra Khanna and Om Mathur.

The strategy for winning the next State Assembly and Lok Sabha elections will be discussed in the meeting, BJP's State general secretary Bhajan Lal said.

Further strengthening of the party and workers' network at all the levels, reaching out to public with the Government's programme and policies will also be on the agenda of the meeting he said. — PTI

**Sec 144 imposed in Odisha town**

BHADRAK (Odisha), April 29: A rumour from a fire incident in the main market at Dhammagar sparked off communal tension in the town in Bhadrak district, forcing the executives to clamp prohibitory orders today.

"Prohibitory orders under Section 144 of the CRPC were imposed and armed forces deployed in the town to maintain law and order and prevent any flare-up," Superintendent of Police Anup Kumar Sahoo said.

The situation is under control and no untoward incident has taken place, but prohibitory orders will remain in force at least till tomorrow as a preventive measure, he said.

The situation will be monitored by the police and the concerned authorities will take appropriate action, he said.

Police personnel will be deployed in the town to maintain law and order and prevent any flare-up," Superintendent of Police Anup Kumar Sahoo said.

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# RCB all but out of contention for IPL play-offs

PUNE, April 29: Formidable Royal Challengers Bangalore led by India captain Virat Kohli became first team to be thrown out of contention for play-offs after a humiliating 61-run defeat against Rising Pune Supergiant in an Indian Premier League encounter, here today.

Although the RCB bowlers managed to keep the Pune batsmen under a tight leash restricting them to 157 for three but another shoddy batting performance saw them finish at a dismal 96 for 9 after 20 overs. While Pune kept themselves in contention with their seventh win in nine games, RCB are practically out of the tournament with their seventh win in 10 games and only five points in their kitty.

Pune bowlers rose to the occasion defending a par-total with a controlled bowling performance.

Imran Tahir was the pick of the bowlers with figures of 3/18 from four overs, while Lockie Ferguson claimed 2/7 in four overs to claim the Man of the match award. Jaydev Unadkat, Daniel Christian and Washington Sundar took one wicket each.

This is one of the rarest occasions when a team has been bundled out below 100 runs twice in the Indian Premier League.

RCB were shot out for 49 by KKR in an earlier game in the tournament. Chasing a modest 158, Bangalore just kept losing wickets despite skipper Kohli holding his ground at one end. Apart from Kohli, who came up with an uncharacteristic 48-ball-55, studied with four boundaries and a six, none of the other RCB batsmen could reach the double-digit mark.

Though not in his usual aggressive self, Kohli single-handedly tried his best to bail the team out of trouble but just did not find a able partner at the other end. The highest partnership of just 21 runs tells the dismal saga of a vaunted batting line-up.

The visitors were gasping at 48 for 5 in the 10th over and there was no time when RCB showed any signs of revival. Kohli only reduced the margin of defeat with a gritty knock.

Earlier, RCB bowlers dominated the proceedings from the word go after inviting the Pune outfit to take first

strike, with left-arm spinner Pawan Negi returning with impressive figures of 1/18 from his 4 overs.

Stuart Binny (1/17) and Samuel Badree (1/31) chipped in with wicket

apiece.

Despite losing just three wickets, Pune batsmen could not upset the ante even though the pitch was reasonably batting-friendly.

Skipper Steven Smith top scored with 32-ball-45 that included five boundaries and a six, while Manoj Tiwary (44 no, 35 balls) and opener Rahul Tripathi (37) also made important contributions.

However, Pune could bring up 100 runs only in the 14th over.

## SCORECARD

**Rising Pune Supergiant:** Travis Head 5, Mandeep Singh 4, Virat Kohli 6, Jaydev Unadkat 3, Lockie Ferguson 2/7, Imran Tahir 3/18, Stuart Binny 1/17, Samuel Badree 1/31, Steve Aravind 4/30-0, Yuzvendra Chahal 2/0-5, Pawan Negi 4/0-18.1, Stuart Binny 2/17-1, **Royal Challengers Bangalore:** Travis Head 9, Virat Kohli 6, Agarwal 2/10, Christian 55, AB de Villiers 2/10, Jaydev Unadkat 2, Mandeep Singh 4, Manoj Tiwary not out 44, MS Dhoni not out 21. **Extras:** (LB-1, WD-3) 4. **Total:** (For 3 wickets in 20 overs) 157. **Fall of wickets:** 1-18, 2-10, 3-18, 4-18, 5-18, 6-18, 7-18, 8-35. **Stumps:** 1/21-1. **Man of the Match:** Aravind 4/0-30-0, Yuzvendra Chahal 2/0-5, Pawan Negi 4/0-18.1. **Stuart Binny:** 2/17-1.

**Rising Pune Supergiant:** Travis Head 5, Mandeep Singh 4, Virat Kohli 6, Jaydev Unadkat 3, Kedar Jadhav not out 7, Sachin Baby 3, Rohit Sharma 2, Shikhar Dhawan 1, Suresh Raina 1, Pawan Negi 4, Christian 55, Adam Milne 2, Smith 6, Tahir 5, Samuel Badree 2/10-2, Steve Aravind 4/0-30-0, Yuzvendra Chahal 2/0-5, Pawan Negi 4/0-18.1. **Stuart Binny:** 2/17-1.



Rising Pune Supergiants skipper Steve Smith executes a square drive during their IPL match against Royal Challengers Bangalore in Pune, on Saturday.

## Shiva, Vikash get seeding in Asian boxing ch'ship

TASHKENT, April 29: Four Indian boxers, including Vikas Krishan and Shiva Thapa, were seeded while the entire 10-member team managed to get first-round byes in the Asian Boxing Championship which begins here tomorrow.

While former Asian Games gold-medallist Vikas has been given the top billing in the middle-weight category, former Asian champion Shiva (60kg) is seeded fourth.

Former Commonwealth Games gold-medallist Manoj Kumar has been seeded sixth in the welterweight division and

Gautam Gambhir has so far been the most consistent Indian boxer this year. His hitting is still smooth and layered and whenever his bat makes a contact, there is a rum. It's another matter he could've just played as captain and still be worth his weight in gold.

Indeed, he has been maverick as a leader of his men. Sunil Narine as opener has been an audacious move; Kuldeep Yadav flighting to Dhoni at the 18th over; or Uthappa unmercured by the field. For rivals, it's him in the wild.

As a batsman, he's been unstoppable. Nobody has hit more boundaries or 50s. His cuts still



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thread past the point-cover region; his dabs still have third man flinging themselves and raking up a laundry bill. That he hardly hits a six tells us about the optimism he still has at the crease. It's been a task for bowlers to keep him pinned to one end.

His stance of today bears little resemblance to his one in prime. He's now two-eyed with a lot more open shoulders. Trust me, rewiring your tech-

nique is a major ask for any amateur batsman. Very often, it leaves you muddled at crease; your instincts in fact conflict with the commands of your mind. That Gambhir has shown a man who would rather be drowned than give up on the promised land.

This man obviously aims to claim an India berth. KL Rahul is out of Champions Trophy; Rohit Sharma has missed the last IPL and Shikhar Dhawan is now warming up to the task. This 24-year-old could be a good man to have Kohli's ears and attention just in case there is another injury. Such whispers are now increasingly audible. — TCM

against SRH yesterday.

While Punjab's batting needs to fire in unison, the side will be hoping that their bowling mainstay Ishant Sharma, who remained wicketless and expensive yesterday, comes good against Delhi tomorrow. — PTI

MATCH STARTS AT 4 PM

## Gambhir obviously aims to claim an India berth in Asian boxing ch'ship

## Support of my countrymen gives me energy: Rashid

MOHALI, April 29: Afghanistan's leg-spinner Rashid Khan says the entire country watches Indian Premier League and the support of the people back home gives him energy to perform better in the cash-rich T20 tournament.

The 18-year-old Rashid returned with impressive figures of 4/0-16-1 to help his side Sunrisers Hyderabad beat Kings XI Punjab by 26 runs here.

"The whole of Afghanistan

Rashid, who hails from Nangarhar province in war-torn Afghanistan.

Rashid has impressed one and all as he not only has been among the wicketts but also putting brakes on the opposition run flow.

Asked what does his performance mean for Afghan cricketer, he said, "It means a lot to them because coming to this stage and performing here is a very positive message for the people of Afghanistan."

He said the message to the youngsters back home was "to work hard, do your best and you will achieve for which you have set your foot for".

"It is my message for youngsters of Afghanistan to work hard. It does not matter whether you are from Associate or other team, just do your best, you will get your achievements." — PTI

## Sharapova makes it to last-four stage

STUTTGART, April 29:

Kristina Mladenovic ramped up the pressure on Maria Sharapova ahead of their Stuttgart semifinal when she claimed the Russian superstar was getting "extra help" in her comeback from a 15-month doping ban.

Sharapova eased into the last four of the claycourt tournament by seeing off qualifier Anett Kontaveit for the third straight win of her comeback.

The 30-year-old five-time Grand Slam winner has yet to drop a set and powered past Estonia's Kontaveit, ranked 73rd, for a 6-3, 6-2 quarter-

final win.

The Russian former world number one has been given wild cards by tournament organisers in Stuttgart, Madrid and Rome and played his first match back here on Wednesday, much to the irritation of many of her rivals, including Frenchwoman Mladenovic.

"In sport nowadays it is also about the media and business.

Maria is a big name, who makes people come to watch her," said world number 19 Mladenovic after her 6-3, 6-2 win over Spain's Carla Suarez Navarro. — AFP

## Rampaging KKR up against defending champions SRH in IPL

(with just two losses), KKR have been in sublime form

in the ongoing edition of IPL. Sunrisers, on the other hand, are currently on the third spot with 11 points from nine matches.

The fact that some of the records in the ongoing IPL are held by KKR players reflect the red-hot form of the team, KKR captain Gautam Gambhir holds the Orange Cap in batting, Sunil Narine, who is now a dependable opener for KKR, is at the top in the race for 'Most Valuable Player' and Robin Uthappa has hit the 'Most Sixes'.

KKR handed a crushing defeat on Delhi Daredevils yesterday by winning the match by seven wickets with 22 balls to spare. Displaying some exemplary team work, KKR's Nathaniel Coulter-Nile scalped three

wickets to break the back of Delhi while Gambhir and Uthappa followed it up in the run chase by slamming half-centuries to seal the match in their favour.

KKR would look to continue their winning streak tomorrow at the Rajiv Gandhi International stadium, but Sunrisers would like to avenge their defeat in their previous meeting in Kolkata on April 15. — PTI

MATCH STARTS AT 8 PM



## SU DO KU



### Solution of last problem

Originalizing Japan, su do ku do not have to be solved with proper reasoning and logic. Fill the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3 x 4 box accommodates the digits 1 to 12 without repeating any.

## KXIP and DD clash each other in desperate bid to stay afloat

MOHALI, April 29: Struggling teams Delhi Daredevils and Kings XI Punjab take on each other in an IPL match here tomorrow as they desperately seek to get back to winning ways to stay in the hunt for a play-offs berth.

With three wins from eight games, Punjab are placed at sixth spot while Delhi are at the bottom of the league table with just two wins from seven games.

For Delhi, it will be a do-or-die match as a loss tomorrow would virtually end their already wretched chances of making it to the play-offs. KXIP are a bit better off but a slip up tomorrow will also put them in a difficult situation to qualify for the last-four stage. Both Punjab and Delhi come into this match having been comprehen-

sively beaten in their last games against Sunrisers Hyderabad and Kolkata Knight Riders respectively.

The Glenn Maxwell-led Punjab missed the services of in-form Hashim Amla who was down with a hamstring injury — as they fell short by 26 runs while chasing a formidable target of 208. They will, however, take solace from the fact that Shaun Marsh looked in good touch yesterday and played a solid knock of 84 runs, studied with a range of shots.

Punjab will have to put up an all-round show tomorrow if they are to keep their chances alive in the competition, which they have never won so far. The home fans will be eagerly waiting for a big knock from Maxwell, who got out on a duck

against SRH yesterday.

While Punjab's batting needs to fire in unison, the side will be hoping that their bowling mainstay Ishant Sharma, who remained wicketless and expensive yesterday, comes good against Delhi tomorrow. — PTI

MATCH STARTS AT 4 PM

## KXIP and DD clash each other in desperate bid to stay afloat

YEDERABAD, April 29: A keen contest is on the cards when the rampaging Kolkata Knight Riders clash with defending champions Sunrisers Hyderabad in a second phase league match of the IPL here tomorrow.

Leading the points table with 14 points from nine matches

TILL THE FIRST MATCH OF APRIL 29

## POINTS TABLE

Team	P	W	L	Pts	R.R.
1. KKR	9	7	2	14	+1.223
2. MI	8	6	2	12	+0.514
3. SRH	9	5	3	11	+0.588
4. RPS	9	5	4	10	-0.240
5. GL	8	3	5	6	-0.360
6. KXIP	8	3	5	6	-0.448
7. RCB	10	2	7	5	-1.574
8. DD	7	2	5	4	+0.514

## জাপানীজ এন্কেফেলাইটিচ প্রতিষেধক টীকাকরণ অভিযান

### ৩০ এপ্রিলৰ পৰা ২০ মে' ২০১৭ লৈকে

উক্ত অভিযান এতিয়া নলবাৰী, মৰিগাঁও, বঙাইগাঁও আৰু কাছাৰ জিলাৰ প্ৰতিটি গাঁৰত  
১৫ বছৰৰ পৰা ৬৫ বছৰ বয়সৰ জাপানীজ এন্কেফেলাইটিচৰ প্ৰতিষেধক টীকা দিয়া হ'ব।

### আহক ৰাহিজ, এই সুযোগ গ্ৰহণ কৰক

### এটি মাত্ৰ টীকা, জীৱনজোৰা সুৰক্ষা



স্বাস্থ্য আৰু পৰিয়াল কল্যাণ বিভাগ, অসম চৰকাৰ

# BCCI team visits Barsapara stadium

**SPORTS REPORTER**  
GUWAHATI, April 29: A two-member team of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), comprising secretary in charge Amitabh Choudhary and general manager operation MV Sridhar, visited the Assam Cricket Association's (ACA) stadium at Barsapara here today.

The BCCI members were here to take stock of the present condition of the newly constructed cricket stadium

in order to recognise it as an international centre so that international cricket matches can be allotted to this venue.

Guwahati is already in the map of international cricket as altogether 14 One-day international (ODI) matches, since the India-West Indies ODI on December 17, 1983, were played at the Nehru Stadium in the RG Baruah Sports Complex. The BCCI had allotted 16 ODIs to Guwahati but two matches, on April 9, 2006 and November

29, 2008, both India vs England, were abandoned due to inclement weather and security reasons respectively.

But since the ODI match between India and New Zealand on November 11, 2010, Guwahati did not host any ODI as the facilities of the Nehru Stadium could not fulfill the criteria to host ODI.

The Assam Cricket Association's (ACA) stadium at Barsapara which has already hosted several Ranji Trophy matches since the 2013-14 season. But the stadium has not been able to draw the attention of the ICC or BCCI to get ODI match till date.

Today, after visiting the stadium, the BCCI officials expressed their satisfaction over the ground, galleries and other infrastructure. But they advised the ACA officials to complete the press gallery, dressing room within three months so that the stadium can be approved for this season's ODI.



BCCI official Amitabh Choudhary (2nd R) flanked by MV Sridhar (2nd L), ACA secretary Pradip Buragohain (L) and ACA vice president Dewaji Saikia (R) addressing the media in Guwahati on Saturday. — UB photos

Dhoni will be crucial for India in Champions Trophy: Ponting

MELBOURNE, April 29: Former Australian captain Ricky Ponting feels it would be a mistake to write off Mahendra Singh Dhoni just yet as India would need his ability to control the game in the upcoming Champions Trophy in England.

"Batting in the middle-order is someone who can really control a one-day innings. And that might be what you need in England," Ponting told Cricket Australia's official website.

"If the ball hits a bat early on, there's a chance India could lose top-order wickets and you'd need someone in the middle-order to guide the ship," he added.

Dhoni has been under pressure in the ongoing IPL due to his patchy form and was even removed as captain by his franchisee Rising Pune Supergiants.

"I think it's a downside of having the great success that he's had over a long period of time. I've been there myself and when you start to slide just a little bit, criticism is going to come your way," he said.

"And to be fair, he probably hasn't had much negativity come his way over the past 15 or 20 years. So it will be really interesting to see how he handles that over the coming weeks," added the flamboyant former skipper.

"It happened with (Glenn) McGrath and (Shane) Warne and all those great players that I was lucky enough to play with. He'll find a way and he'll win games for his team," he said.

Ponting is confident that Dhoni has a "thick skin".

"I'm not ever going to tell anyone when it's time to go or retire. That's up to the champions to make their own mind up." — PTI

## Oorja U-19 football tourney from tomorrow

GUWAHATI, April 29: The Oorja U-19 Football Talent Hunt Tournament, organised by the Sasthastra Seema Bal, Guwahati, will kick start at the Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium, Sarusajai, here on May 1.

Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal will be the Guest in the opening ceremony to be held at 11 am.

Altogether 16 teams, both boys and girls, will participate in the tournament. Kendriya Vidyalaya Kharpana and Malgajpur, Chandrapur High School Kamrup, Simlugar High School Sivasagar, Assam Valley School Sonitpur, Assam State team, Karbi Anglong Morning Star Football Club (all boys), Daksin Mazarbari High School Udaguri, Naokata Milsan High School, Assam State School Sonitpur, SAL SAG Centre Tinsukia, Gaurang High School Kokrajhar, Kiyang Khisia Tribal High School, Kakajan Women Club Jorhat, Jothai Sports Club Kokrajhar (all girls) will vie for titles in the league-cum-knock out championship. Top teams of each group will play the final of the first phase, stated a release.

## CC Dibrugarh Academy win

GUWAHATI, April 29: CC Dibrugarh Academy prevailed over Charidao CCC by 39 runs in today's match of the 7th Sitaram Agarwal Memorial U-17 Inter School/Organisation Cricket Tournament at the Assam Cricket Association's stadium, Barsapara here.

Opting to bat first the Dibrugarh boys gathered 167 all out in 43.1 overs and later bundled out the Charidao team for 128 in 31.2 overs. Gunjanjyoti Deka of the winning team was adjudged man-of-the-match.

**Brief scores:** CC Dibrugarh Academy 167 (Gunjanjyoti Deka 54, Arafat Nazir 34, Manabjoyti Barman 18, Rajdeep Ghosh 22, Ridup Mofeen 325, Sunmari Rajkumar 22/7); Charidao CCC 128 (Dibyajyoti Phukan 29, Protvijit Borah 28, Gunjanjyoti Deka 4/36, Arafat Nazir 4/24, Dibakar Saikia 2/10).



Anal Kashyap receiving the trophy from ATTA secretary Tridib Dwarahar after winning the men's singles title in the State Major Ranking Table Tennis Championship at Nagaon on Friday.

## Aizawl eye I-League history as Bagan hope for miracle

SHILLONG, April 29: Surprise league leaders Aizawl FC will need at least a draw against Shillong Lajong to script history, while former champions Mohun Bagan face a must-win home against Chennai City FC on the final day of the I-League football season on Sunday.

Mohun Bagan are placed second in the tenth team points table, three points behind Aizawl who are top of the tree. Kolkata giants Bagan have 33 points from 17 matches, while Aizawl have 36 points with a match to go.

If Bagan emerge victorious against Chennai at the Rabindra Sarowar Stadium in Kolkata and Aizawl succumb to a defeat at Shillong's Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, the Kolkata side will be crowned champions on better goal difference.

A draw will be enough for Khalid Jamil-coached Aizawl, one of the clubs with the lowest budget, to become the first club from the north-east to bag the first division title. Mohun Bagan beat Aizawl at home 3-2 but lost to them away 0-1 thus taking their head-to-head advantage out of the equation. On the goal difference count, Mohun Bagan are ahead by four goals than Aizawl.

"Our aim is to win and end the league on a high. I am not thinking about what will happen."

there (in Shillong)." Mohun Bagan coach Sanjoy Sen told reporters on the eve of the game.

"The so-called not so big teams like Mervana and Chennai, Mohun Bagan have struggled more against them at home or away. So I have told the boys to be extra cautious against these teams," Sen added.

Chennai coach V Soundarajan said it's a great opportunity for his one-year-old side who are dwelling near the bottom of the league table to play against a side like Mohun Bagan.

"Mohun Bagan is one of the best clubs in India. It is a great opportunity for us to play against Mohun Bagan. We will go all out."

Soundarajan said that injured defender Echeozona Anyiche has been ruled out, while Brazilian forward Charles will be the only foreigner in the starting XI on Sunday as fellow Brazilian striker Marcos Thon won't be available.

Both Mohun Bagan, Chennai City FC and Shillong Lajong, Aizawl FC will start at the same time.

Lajong, fifth in the table, have only pride to play for in the final fixture. Shillong Lajong FC coach Thangboi Singto has said that his wards are determined to defeat title contenders Aizawl.

"Our aim is to win and end the league on a high. I am not thinking about what will happen."

Printed and published by Gourish Ch. Das on behalf of Assam Tribune Pvt. Ltd. at the Tribune Press, Tribune Building P.O., Assam Tribune M.R.D. Road, Chandmari, Guwahati-781003. Tel.: 0691-2660102 (EPBMX), 0361-2661360, 0361-2668807 (News Desk). FAX: 0691-2666396. Editor: Prithiba Govinda Baruah

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Today, after visiting the stadium, the BCCI officials expressed their satisfaction over the ground, galleries and other infrastructure. But they advised the ACA officials to complete the press gallery, dressing room within three months so that the stadium can be approved for this season's ODI.

Australia will visit India in October for seven ODIs and two T20 matches.

The BCCI officials also expressed the ACA to improve the practice wickets, along with the flood-light systems as the matches are likely to be day-night affairs.

While interacting with media, Choudhary revealed the final decision on India taking part in the forthcoming Champions Trophy will be taken in a BCCI meeting soon.

### VACANCY

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## India squander lead twice as Britain earn 2-2 draw

IPOH (Malaysia), April 29: India squandered the lead twice as Great Britain rallied to earn a 2-2 draw in the rain-delayed opening match at the 26th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup hockey tournament here.

Akashdeep Singh (19th minute) and Mandeep Singh (48th minute) scored field goals to give India the lead two times in the match but only to see the Britons fight back through Tom Carson (25th) and Alan Forsyth (52nd). India survived a last-minute penalty corner that was awarded against them for an obstruction outside the circle.

The penalty corner was confirmed after the video referral by India, but British captain Phil Roper sent his drag flick wide to the right. In the last encounter between these two teams, India had defeated Great Britain 2-1 in the Champions Trophy in London last year.

The match started two hours behind schedule after the teams, who were warming up, had to scurry off the turf when lightning and heavy showers arrived in the afternoon.

Heavy showers and lightning have been a feature of the tropical weather this season.

Since the introduction of artificial pitches, hockey is no longer affected by normal rains, but matches are stopped midway at the slightest sign on lightning to avert any threat to players and officials on the pitch.

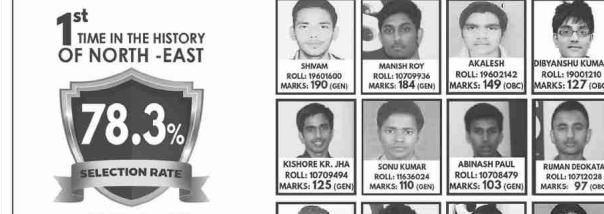
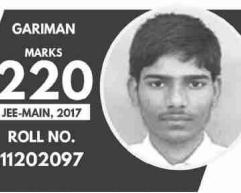
As the Indian and British players ran off the pitch and the start of the game was deferred, organisers were bracing for frequent disruptions during the week-long tournament.

Indians are scheduled to play four of their five round-robin league matches in the afternoon, exactly when dark clouds tend to drench the pitch at the Ipoli hockey stadium — PTI



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SELINA AKTAR ROLL: 10700638 MARKS: 85 (GEN)

RAHUL CHETRY ROLL: 1070701 MARKS: 81 (OBC)

OM KANT YADAV ROLL: 10715757 MARKS: 70 (OBC)

HIRBIT KR. SHAW ROLL: 10713949 MARKS: 49 (OBC)

KISHAN DOLEY ROLL: 10709024 MARKS: 45 (ST)

KISHAN DOLEY ROLL: 10709889 MARKS: 38 (ST)

UNESH DOLEY ROLL: 10707666 MARKS: 36 (ST)

DEBASREE RABHA ROLL: 10702094 MARKS: 32 (ST)

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# The Assam Tribune Sunday

There cannot be a bigger relief in a foreign country than spotting a mug inside the toilet! And that's precisely what made me 'home' again, way back in 1997, when I first landed in this country, which otherwise was supposed to be our enemy number one by default.

For reasons best known to the Volleyball Federation of India, it was decided to send the Junior Indian Volleyball team (instead of the senior team) to participate in a seven-match volleyball Test series with Pakistan's senior team in Islamabad and Lahore. I was fortunate to be a member of the junior squad.

Since there was no direct flight from Delhi to Islamabad, we took a connecting flight from Lahore. It was at the Lahore airport washroom, where I experienced my first 'feel at home' moment, finding a green mug inside the toilet, instead of tissue papers. It was followed by a grand welcome at Islamabad, which made us believe, for a while, that we were no less than Sunil Gavaskar or Kapil Dev. The excitement doubled when a convoy of four jeeps escorted our bus to The Best Western Hotel in Islamabad.

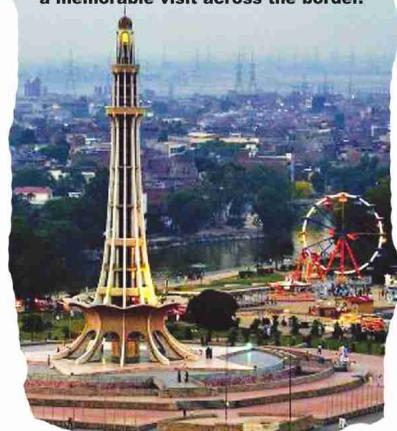
The delicious yellow *dal fry*, butter *naan* and butter chicken at the dinner buffet made me feel more at home. Next morning, at the practice session at the Muhammad Ali Jinnah Indoor Stadium, the team was pumped with confidence. We prepared a strategy to beat the Pakistan team in the evening. But all our excitement and confidence was punctuated within 24 hours of landing in this country. The mighty senior team of Pakistan beat us in three direct sets, in front of their home crowd. We were humiliated, dejected and felt like running away from the stadium. The night, at the dinner table, even the *Karachi* chicken curry could not stimulate our appetite.

In three days, Pakistan led 3-0 in the seven-match Test series. I had never read Urdu in my life, but in those three days, I could make out what those captions were all about in the sports pages of the local newspapers. There was a rest day before playing the last match in Islamabad. So, to make us feel better, our coach G. E. Sridharan took us out for sightseeing. Islamabad was a new city, established in the 60s. Looking at the government buildings, Faisal Mosque, neat and clean surroundings, with no traffic jam, we thought enviously, how could a Pakistani city be so beautiful? Only when we were taken to Rawalpindi, which is on the outskirts of Islamabad, we felt like home. Crowded, congested with middle class people, just like us.

During our five-day stay at Isla-

## The Pakistan trail...

**ABHIJIT BHATTACHARYA** recounts a memorable visit across the border.



bad, I had become quite close with the bus conductor/helper, who was responsible for taking us to the stadium. He was around 14 years old. We both used to share stories from our villages. Listening to his stories, I felt life both the countries are almost the same. I named him Sukhvir, as his face resembles my friend Raghuvir's brother, Sukhvir Singh. Sukhvir was our lone, silent supporter in the foreign land.

Fortunately, we managed to win the Rawalpindi match and went to Lahore on a winning note to play the remaining matches. At Lahore, our humiliation continued and finally, the shopkeepers initially thought that we were from Peshawar. But after a while, they became convinced that we were neither from Peshawar or Karachi, but from a completely different place. They desperately wanted to know if we were from Kabul or any other place. I explained to them

one of the famous sweet shops. Nehru had visited Anarkali Market during the Lahore Session of the Indian National Congress in 1929.

After tasting the famous triple layer ice-cream of Anarkali Market, my friend Kapil (now an Arjuna Awardee) and I dodged the security guards and went to one of the narrow *gulies* in search of low-cost jeans. With little cash in hand, we started bargaining. Since they spoke Urdu, which is quite similar to our Hindi, but slightly different in accent, the shopkeepers initially thought that we were from Peshawar. But after a while, they became convinced that we were neither from Peshawar or Karachi, but from a completely different place. They desperately wanted to know if we were from Kabul or any other place. I explained to them

nearly glass, cut it in my own glass-cutting machine and then fixed it on the telescope," he says.

What made him take an interest in ham radio, telescope and other stuff? "I had an uncle in Jorhat who used to make radios. Looking at him, I developed an interest in technical matters," he remarks. Once he read in a magazine that Americans make private radio communication from home and he wanted to imitate them. "I enquired and found out that I could become a ham radio operator, but I would have to obtain a licence," Chaliba says. He then went to the wireless monitoring station in Shillong, brought forms and appeared for the examinations. Before doing all these, he learnt how to send the Morse Code.

The 65-year-old informs that in the Grade-I examinations, it was necessary to send and receive Morse Codes at 12 words per minute for General Grade and five words per minute for Restricted Grade. Chaliba obtained the ham radio operator licence in 1983. He informs, "VU2RCH is my identity to talk to ham radio users the world over. At every transmission, the call sign will have to be mentioned."

He assembled his own ham radio set in 1983. "I speak to ham radio operators in Sambalpur, West Bengal and Dhaka. Sitting in my room, I can talk to my friends in the US and all over the world, and without spending a single penny. We only have to pay the licence fee. Such is the utility of a ham radio set," Chaliba states.

He sums up by saying that amateur radio also acts as the 'second line' of communication in case of emergencies and natural disasters or when the existing public or government communication link fails to act. "It provides great service to the people in general by way of organising on-the-air emergency medical traffic, establishing emergency communication network during natural calamities like flood, cyclone, storm, earthquake or any other disaster," Chaliba signs off.

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that if we disclose our hometown, they would never offer us discount. Hearing our conversation, a few more bystanders arrived. Finally, I had no other option but to tell them that we were from India.

The atmosphere completely changed upon discovering that we were from Hindustan. More people gathered around the jeans shop. We were offered *chai*, ice-cream, *samosa*, *chole bhature*, and many more. "Bhaajan, aap Hindustan se aaye ho, aap humare meinhan ho, humko aapki sewa karne ka mukta diffe," they requested. The shopkeepers were quite enthusiastic to know more about Hindustan and their people. Once again, I felt at home. Soon, I realised they knew more about India, than I knew as an 18-year-old boy. We became instant celebrities. As the word spread and the crowd grew larger, the security guards arrived and escorted us away. Quickly, I tried to pay for the jeans, but Qbal *bhai*, the shopkeeper, was in no mood to take the money. Somehow, I kept the money on the table and left with my first ever pair of jeans. I had never worn a jeans in my life, till then. Next day, we left Pakistan after facing a humiliating defeat, but carried loads of beautiful memories.

The humiliating defeat was to be avenged. So, seven years later, we once again arrived at Islamabad for the South Asian Games, in 2004. General Musharraf was the chief guest at the opening ceremony. After the Kargil War, it was for the first time, that a multi-national sports event was being hosted by Pakistan.

At the Games, we beat Sri Lanka in the semifinals to meet Pakistan in the finals. It was the same Pakistani team, and the same Muhammad Ali Jinnah Stadium, where we had faced humiliation, seven years ago. The only difference was, we had seven years experience – with an old score to settle. At the finals, the stadium was over-packed. Our only supporters were the Indian badminton team of Juvala Gutta, Aparna Popat, Oli Deka, Krishna Deka, Vidya and Chetan Anand cheering for us, from one corner of the stadium.

The game stretched to the deciding set. It was a super-tense moment, with India leading 15-14. The crowd was so loud that we were unable to hear each other. Finally, a return cross court spike from Y. Subba Rao silenced the entire stadium. It took us some time to realise that we had won the gold medal, beating Pakistan, in Pakistan! The team held each other in a circle and we sent a silent thank you message to our gods.

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## Disembodied voices

**PARINITA DATTA**

**H**umility personified – this is how I would like to describe Ranjit Chaliba, a native of Nagaon. He has got a quiet, unapreciated strength about him. A ham radio operator, he prefers to tuck away in a corner of his house and work like an ant on his little inventions.

This may be the age of smartphones and the internet, but the ham radio is still relevant during times of emergency. Amateur radio (also called ham radio) is the use of designated radio frequency spectrum for purposes of private recreation, non-commercial exchange of messages, wireless experimentation, self-training and emergency communication," explains Chaliba. In today's hi-tech environment, the internet has turned the world into a global village. But very few people know that the forerunners in the field of communication were mostly amateurs (non-professionals). There has been a kind of renaissance in the telecommunication sector with cellphones invading the market and becoming an integral part of our lives. But, there are many people like Ranjit Chaliba, who would like to sit in the cosy confines of their room and talk with like-minded people staying in distant, unknown lands through the ham radio. These days, low-cost wireless sets are made available by some amateur radio organisations or one can also go for importing commercial equipment meant for amateur radio operation.

The ham radio enthusiast (who deals in the electronics business) has created a world of his own in his den – his 'workshop'. It is here that he spends most of his walking hours and dives into the world of gadgets away from media glare. A soft-



spoken man, Chaliba is a Science graduate, whose 'technical room' mirrors a virtual laboratory. Take a close look at his world and you realise his versatility. His 'wired up' room displays his inventions – his ham radio set, a small table fan, glass-cutting machine, inverter and a windmill – these he has made by assembling various parts together. This is not all; perched on the rooftop of his house is the huge telescope he has built. "I made the optics of the telescope with ordinary glass. I just brought ordi-

nary glass, cut it in my own glass-cutting machine and then fixed it on the telescope," he says.

What made him take an interest in ham radio, telescope and other stuff? "I had an uncle in Jorhat who used to make radios. Looking at him, I developed an interest in technical matters," he remarks. Once he read in a magazine that Americans make private radio communication from home and he wanted to imitate them. "I enquired and found out that I could become a ham radio operator, but I would have to obtain a licence," Chaliba says. He then went to the wireless monitoring station in Shillong, brought forms and appeared for the examinations. Before doing all these, he learnt how to send the Morse Code.

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**3 READING**  
Lost Spring - II

**4 THIRD EYE**  
The other woman



**UP CLOSE**  
**Shoma A. Chatterji**

## Life of a lake

**HAOBAM PABAN KUMAR**  
immortalises a legendary lake on film.

**W**ith his very first feature film – *Lady of the Lake (Loktak Lairembe)*, Haobam Paban Kumar has won a Rajat Kamal award at the recent National Film Awards. It was cited as the 'Best Film on Environment Conservation and Preservation'. The movie made its World Premiere at the 21st Busan International Film Festival, 2016, and its European Premiere at the Berlinale. In its Indian Premiere at the 18th Mumbai Film Festival (MAMI), it won the Golden Gateway Award for the Best Indian Film. Excerpts from an interview with this producer-director from Manipur:

● **How did the idea of making a film on this subject come up?**

I was planning my first feature film on contemporary life in Manipur. I went to the Loktak Lake for the recce. I went along with an environmentalist friend, who suggested a beautiful village. To our shock, the entire floating village had been burnt down and there was water all around. I was taken aback but immediately started shooting with a documentary in mind. Deep down, I was convinced that this was the perfect subject for my feature film. So, I slowly moulded my story into the crisis of the lake and what it meant for the fishermen community who lived right in the middle of the lake.

● **Tell us a little about the story.**

It is based on life on the Loktak Lake and the conflict situation in Manipur. It tells the story of a fisherman named Tomba, who lives with his family in a hut constructed on the *phum* (floating biomass) of the lake. He faces constant threat of eviction by the government. This fear keeps him confined to his hut, while his wife, Thambalsang, tries to make a living. They are a real-life couple, by the way. One day, Tomba finds a gun hidden under the biomass and transforms

himself into an assertive man looking for a target to attack. An old lady who mysteriously wanders in the lake knocks at his door in the middle of the night. Tomba suspects that this old lady is the spirit of all evils. He chases her in sheer terror and commits an unintended crime.

● **Is this the language of revolt and the only form of revenge available to the protagonist Tomba?**

My stories come from contemporary life in Manipur. When I was planning my feature film, the idea of gun/power became the central idea of my film. My protagonist and his community are already fighting a losing battle for a long time against the

authorities who come armed with guns and machines. While doing an earlier documentary called *Floating Life*, I always had this thought that if they took up arms, what would happen? In my film, it becomes extremely important for them. Nothing seems to work in their favour. They somehow must find a way of saving their home and their lives.

● **You have taken non-actors for the main roles. How did you train them for the film to avoid looking into the camera?**

I had always planned to do my fiction the way I do my documentaries, real people, and real situations. However, the two films are very different and independent entities, not because of the genre, but because of the narrative. I had already worked with these locals for *Floating Lake*. So this is their second film, and now they may be called professional actors (laughs). I shoot when people feel comfortable and sometimes I simply shoot candidly. You must know when to roll the camera. It is all about getting the right rhythm.

● **Is *Lady of the Lake* being screened across the globe and winning not only accolades, but also big awards. How does it feel?**

This is my debut feature film and I consider myself very fortunate that my film was World Premiered in the Asian New Current Section of the 21st Busan IFF and then the European Premiere at the 67th Berlin IFF. I am very happy when people watch my film and I am able to reach out with my story to more and more people. It also pushes me to do more and better.

● **Has the filmmaking scenario in the North-East, in general, and Manipur, in particular, changed in recent years?**

Yes, it has changed for the better, especially with the entry of digital filming, which has led to the production of 40 to 50 films a year in Manipur alone, considering the first film there was made way back in 1972. The first digital film in Manipur rolled out in 2002.

For filmmakers like myself in Manipur, cinema is a means of communication that helps us to tell stories about ourselves and about contemporary issues we live with. Filmmaking, for me, is a natural extension of what is around me – guns and violence that comes along with authoritarianism.

– Trans World Features (TWF)



## WOMEN PLUS

Ankur Bora

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## Unbowed!

**Birubala Rabha transforms the Assamese countryside.**

Often it is only when we are confronted with adversity that our lives are transformed to reveal the radiant power and wonder of human character. There are inspiring stories of people who have been changed by the calamities they've faced, emerging stronger, wiser and more alive than they have ever been. Their stories teach us that tragedies, when confronted with faith, courage, and tenacity could be overcome, and that at the depth of adversity lies the height and strength of our nobility as human beings.

The story of Birubala Rabha began in 1985, after some of the villagers branded her son, who was suffering from a mental illness, as being possessed by a fairy. Her husband took him to a quack who said he would die in three days. Fortunately, Birubala's son survived and months passed without incident. It was a life-changing experience as she witnessed first-hand the fear, ignorance and helplessness of the fellow villagers. Birubala made up her mind to fight the evil practice of witch-hunting and educate her community to break the stranglehold of superstition and thus, began a rewarding journey of endurance, fearlessness, compassion and hope.

The history of witch-hunting goes back to the Middle Ages, when in Europe, thousands of innocent victims, mostly women accused of practising black magic, were burnt at the stake. In India, countless instances of witch-hunting have been reported from dif-

ferent parts of the country. In the State of Assam and Northeastern region of India, such beliefs continue to prevail even to this day, in the 21st century, where gory murders of helpless women often take up newspaper headlines. In a world where technology is rapidly transforming aspects of everyday life, there is still the looming menace of superstition and barbaric crimes committed by humans on fellow humans. The basic rights and freedoms to which all humans are entitled never reach the remote corners of this world that is still shrouded in the darkest veil of evil acts of inhuman atrocities.

In Assam's remote countryside, the prevalence of witch-hunting is closely linked to absence of health care. Lack of access to hospitals and doctors nearby leads people to treat diseases through medicines prepared by *tantrik* or quacks who make a living from selling cures and conducting purification ceremonies. When the patients are unable to recover, these medicine hawkers are quick to lay the blame on someone else – often the most vulnerable in the village: unmarried women, widows or elderly people. Branded as witches, these victims are ostracised, even more dangerously, they are beaten, buried alive, or forced to undergo horrific rituals, such as being covered from head to toe with a ring and the onlookers pricking the body with sharp sticks.

Hailing from a poor family, Birubala Rabha was orphaned at the age of six. She could study only up to Class-V. She, however, picked up the skills of cooking, embroidery, weaving and poultry

rearing. Married at the age of 16, she withstood the challenges of raising three sons and a daughter. When things are tough, she draws upon amazing reserves of inner strength. Birubala confronted the villagers when her son was singled out, taking it all in, unbowed, unrelenting and thus, she changed the course of events herself, alone. Since then, Birubala Rabha has been relentlessly fighting against violence and thus, saving dozens of

innocent lives. She travels extensively from village to village, speaks out against evil practices, educates and brings awareness to villagers and school children. She has brought hope to countless victims and aroused fear in the perpetrators by making them accountable for their actions.

Birubala Rabha is a compassionate and kind human being, a woman whose strength from the heart endears her to others. In the book, *My Half of The Sky* authored by noted writer, columnist journalist Indrani Raimedhi, she describes her first meeting with Rabha. "In spite of all the honour and adulation heaped on this feisty woman, her life remains simple, ever harsh. The day before we came to meet me in Guwahati from her village, she had worked the whole day at a road-repairing site.

Birubala genuinely cares about and respects other people as evidenced by those known to her. Preetom Saikia, Commissioner and Secretary, Government of Assam, offers a glowing recommendation. "During my tenure as District Magistrate of Golparla from 2012-2014, I had the experience of associating myself with this lady of exceptional quality of vigour and courage."

The present Deputy Commissioner of Golparla, J.N.V. Subramanyam, acknowledges her immense contribution – "The brave effort of Birubala Rabha was successful in reducing the evil practice of witch-hunting from the society to a great extent."



**"Birubala made up her mind to fight the evil practice of witch-hunting and educate her community to break the stranglehold of superstition and thus, began a rewarding journey of endurance, fearlessness, compassion and hope."**

## LET'S CREATE

**M**ake-up is an essential part of every woman's beauty regime. We may not engage in the whole rigmarole every day, but we do need a dab of lip colour, a kohl or an eyeliner and a little blush to see us through a work day. On special occasions though, the entire make-up station comes out and that's when we all need a little help. So, here are a few make-up hacks that might make the whole process a lot easier, and less time-consuming.



Turn your eyeliner pencil into a gel liner by simply heating the tip with a lighter or with any other flame. Let it cool for a few seconds and see the difference.

Don't spray your perfume on your body. Only apply it to your pulse points – behind the ears, inside your wrists, the base of your throat, inside your elbows and behind your knees. And if you want your perfume to last even longer, rub a bit of Vaseline over the spot where you have sprayed the perfume. The Vaseline actually seals the perfume to your skin.

For your eye shadow colour to pop, apply white eyeliner all over your eyelid. Then apply your favourite shadow. This will help intensify the colour.

Before using an eyelash curler, heat it with a hairdryer so your lashes curl faster.

Mascaras tend to clump up all too quickly. Add contact lens solution or any saline solution to the tube and its back to being all black and glossy.

As for the brushes, sometimes you get a mascara brush you really like. You don't have to throw it away when the mascara is over. Clean it off, and use it with other types of mascara.

Don't throw away your broken eye shadows. Instead, turn them into lip gloss.

Crush the eye shadow into powder, and then mix with petroleum jelly to make any colour lip gloss you like.

## For glowing skin:

● Make a paste of besan, rose water and haldi.

● You can use tomato pulp as a natural bleach.

● Cold cucumber juice is also very good for your skin.

## For your hair:

Your hair needs extra attention. Massage with a good quality oil and use a natural hair nourishing mask. Shampoo with a mild, herbal shampoo. This should be done twice a week. Dandruff can be present in dry or oily scalps. The key to controlling dandruff is to switch to a gentler product.

● Massage with mayonnaise and honey, and shampoo after ten minutes for soft hair with a natural bounce.

● Make a paste of ground neem leaves and fenugreek seeds. Then apply on scalp. Leave this paste on for about half an hour. Shampoo with a mild, herbal, orange-based shampoo, because the citric acid in the orange will help get rid of the dandruff.

● For rough hair, oil your hair with a combination of almond oil and olive oil, followed by this homemade hair mask – take five tablespoons olive oil, two eggs, one tablespoon *amla* (crushed or powdered), two teaspoons mayonnaise. Mix well and apply onto the scalp and hair. Leave on for an hour, rinse off with a mild, herbal shampoo. Repeat at least once a week.

● For hair growth, take two handfuls of hibiscus leaves, ten peppercorns and 20 neem leaves. Mix all in a blender with the juice of one lemon. Apply this to the scalp and hair and leave on for half an hour. Then wash off with a mild, herbal shampoo. Repeat at least once a week.



## Fried sticky rice

- Ingredients:**
- Uncooked sticky rice (*bora sauf*) ..... 1 cup
  - Eggs ..... 2
  - Vegetable oil ..... 1 tsp
  - Mustard oil ..... 2 tbsp
  - Peas ..... ½ cup
  - Spring onions, finely chopped ..... 4
  - Coriander, chopped ..... 2 tbsp
  - Ginger, chopped ..... ½ tsp
  - Red or green chilli(es) ..... 1-2 fresh
  - Ground white pepper ..... to taste
  - Salt ..... to taste
- Method:**

Wash and soak the sticky rice for an hour in cold water.

In a pot, add the rice, a pinch of salt and about one-and-a-half cups of water.

Bring to a boil and then lower heat to medium and cook for 15 minutes.

Turn the heat to low and simmer the rice for another three to five minutes, making sure all the water has been absorbed and the rice is tender.

Turn off the heat and, using a fork, fluff up the rice grains.

Let the rice cool completely before proceeding with



the recipe.

Beat together the eggs, vegetable oil and a pinch of salt and set aside.

Heat mustard oil in a large frying pan.

Add the green chillies and ginger and sauté briefly. Mix in the peas and spring onions and cook until the onion pieces turn translucent.

Pour the beaten egg mixture and cook, stirring, until it begins to set.

Add the rice, salt, pepper and chopped coriander. Stir-fry until completely heated through.

Transfer to a serving dish and serve immediately.



Sharmin Pasha is a food writer currently based in Dubai, UAE, where she teaches privately-organised cooking lessons on different techniques of cooking. She also hosts an informative page featuring Assamese recipes on Facebook, which was created to showcase the culinary treasures of Assam to the world and to preserve ethnic recipes for generations to come.

## Sautéed baby potatoes

- Ingredients:**
- Baby potatoes ..... 30 (1/2 kg)
  - Red chilli powder ..... ½ tsp
  - Coriander powder ..... 1 tsp
  - Dry mango powder ..... ½ tsp
  - Chat masala ..... ½ tsp
  - Oil ..... 1-2 tbsp for deep frying
  - Salt ..... to taste
  - Coriander, chopped ..... to garnish

**Method:**

Wash the potatoes and place them, without peeling, in a large pot.

Cover with water and parboil gently, until starting to soften.

Drain and leave to steam-dry in the colander for a few minutes.

While they are still warm, press lightly with a spatula, so as to flatten the potatoes.

Heat oil over a medium flame in a frying pan.

Add the potatoes in batches and fry on each side, until golden.

Lift out with a large slotted spoon to drain on more kitchen paper.

In a small bowl, mix together the salt, coriander powder, *chat masala*, chilli powder and dried mango powder.

Sprinkle over the potatoes and mix well.

Adjust seasonings to taste, then garnish with coriander and serve hot.



## BEAUTY

Zarin Saleh Hussain

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## The natural way

With a little care and discipline, you can protect your hair and skin from the harmful effects of pollution. Just spare a few minutes each day for some pampering rituals using natural ingredients. This will make your hair shine and skin glow. You must try and keep the facial skin squeaky clean at all times. Even if you don't use make-up, a cleansing routine is mandatory.

Proper cleaning, moisturising and tightening will help dislodge dead surface skin. Besides, to get that instant glow on your skin at home, scrub your face and neck well. One of the most effective ways is to care for your everyday bathing routine. Regular pampering may seem like an indulgence, but the fact is that taking care of your whole body is vital for keeping it healthy.

The best way to be healthy and to take care of your skin is to drink enough water as it helps in hydrating the skin. It is important to have a healthy diet in order to have a glowing skin.

A few ingredients found easily at home can come to your rescue.

## For skin:

● Take raw turmeric, ground with *neem* powder or grounded *neem* leaves, *mullani mitti* and mix with rose water. Apply on skin. Leave on for ten minutes and then rinse off.

● Take two teaspoons sugar, one teaspoon fresh cream and mix lemon juice and massage this mixture on your face and neck until the sugar granules have melted completely. This simple, homemade scrub will make your skin glow and it will also feel soft.

## For treating dark underarms:

Dark underarms can be caused by dead skin build up, sweat and other impurities. It can also be caused by improper cleansing and using poor quality deodorants. To help lighten it a bit, you need to exfoliate.

Take one teaspoon oatmeal mixed with raw milk. Make a smooth paste and apply on your underarms. Exfoliate gently in a circular motion. After doing this, massage the skin with a few drops of Vitamin E oil.

You can make your own underarm lightening pack at home by mixing one tablespoon baking soda with a little bit of water. Make a slightly thick paste and apply directly onto the affected areas. Then leave on for ten minutes. Massage in small, circular motions gently and rinse off. Do this for a few days, for at least a month. Every time you need to clean your underarms, get your waxing done by an expert.

## To get rid of tan:

Take three teaspoons almond paste, two teaspoons milk, one teaspoon sandalwood powder, one teaspoon honey. Mix well. Apply this mask on your skin for ten minutes and wipe off with raw milk.

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FICTION  
Ghana Kanta Kataki

**W**eighed down with an excruciating pain, I asked Madhab about the other unfortunate boy, Tiku. "He has his parents," Madhab explained. "What of it? They are not strong enough to tear themselves free from the trap of trickery spun by the wily manager, Durjodhan."

As I was told, Tiku's parents had been there twice over to take their child home. Tiku has had a lovely little sister only recently. He is now needed at home to look after the newborn. His mother has not gone to work for a couple of

days since the baby was born. How are they going to get on if they do not go around their business as usual? They explained everything to Durjodhan and begged him to send their child home with them.

But Durjodhan retorted, "Why not? He is your boy, after all, isn't he? I can't keep him back if you don't allow. You can take him right now. But what you are entitled to do before this is just clear and simple: It is not his right whatsoever to rob him like this of his childhood of chasing butterflies!"

"No, I won't accept any cash. I'd rather starve and die of hunger than live on the money earned by my dear little boy! I needn't money; I need my son, I need him." The father determined.

How naive the father was not to

see through the nasty trick of the wicked manager! A glimmer of hope for a little cash lit his sunken eyes! But soon something dampened his spirit. It is not cash at all, it is his dear little one's sweat, his blood! It is not time for him to sweat blood. It is not his right whatsoever to rob him like this of his childhood of chasing butterflies!

"It's the fifth day of the week. He will come the very day he succeeds in disposing of his tiny plot," said Madhab with an air of hope. "His failure in this case means lengthening of the hapless child's suffering!" I exclaimed almost despairingly.

"There is no other alternative either; later is better when the possibility of 'never' looms larger," Madhab philosophised and I nodded in unwilling agreement.

After a while, we saw the manager come tottering. He was roaring drunk. He had some crumbs of bread swimming from his finger in a small polythene bag. He shouted at the frightened little creatures and threw the packet at them. "Take your meal, you slugs, and get to work quickly." The two poor wretches, who had so long felt faint with hunger, ate up the crumbs of stale bread, went to the tub well and had a drink of water. What a pity!

(Concluded)

## MONEY SMART

Dipankar Jakharia

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In my last column, I told you how we, in Assam, are lagging behind when it comes to investing in mutual funds – compared to mainland India. This can be attributed to a pure lack of knowledge in the field of mutual fund investments. So here I am again, demystifying mutual funds for you without any delay.

Imagine yourself going for a vacation. A family vacation. You, your wife and two children and maybe also your parents. Now when you want to go for a vacation like this, you will consider many things. Because vacations come in many forms. A trip to Nature may lead to a hill station or a sea beach. A cultural vacation may lead you to Venice or Varanasi. Or an adventure trip may begin with Kenya or Kaziranga. Depending on the availability of funds for the trip, availability of time and taste of the members of the family, you decided to take a trip to, say, Goa.

When you decide on Goa, the very next thing to decide is – how to reach

there? Say, we have several flights from Guwahati to Goa. One direct and the rest via different destinations. For the flight company, what is its objective? Its objective is to take six of you from Guwahati to Goa. Now when it plans the flight path, it knows which route it will take and how long it will take. So before boarding the flight you also know

## Mutual funds made easy



what time you will board the flight and what time you will reach your destination. So to say, things are predefined. And it's the job of the flight company to deliver the services to you as promised before you embark on the journey. Remember,

every flight has a different destination or same destination, different purpose.

Here your destination is the objective of your investment. Before choosing the objective of your in-

vestment, you decide what kind you will require to take care of the stakeholders, which is your family. This is the same as choosing the vacation. Your airline is the mutual fund company and the pilot is the fund manager. Just like an airline company decides on a flight path, a mutual fund company also decides the

objective of a fund beforehand. And just like a flight path, a fund stays in course of the investment route as stated before the journey started. And a fund manager who manages the fund is a specialist like a pilot of an aircraft.

So in essence, when you decide

to invest in a mutual fund, you basically embark on a flight whose path is predefined, with thousand others anticipating similar risk with reward. Why do you do that? Or what is the advantage of doing that?

First, it's a group effort. Just like the flight to Goa, where 180 passengers pull their money to embark on a similar journey, in mutual fund investment, similar teamwork can be observed. Also, an airline's job is highly sophisticated and they have to go through a lot of regulatory issues. Similarly, a mutual fund also has to go through different tiers of regulatory issues framed by the government from time to time. And all this is for the safety and convenience of the investors.

So today, we have understood a few things which are: a journey, passengers, a pilot, airline company, safety issues and flight path and its similarity with mutual funds.

## Reality of life

Brig. R. Borthakur (Retd.)

**G**arima is indeed very late this time in carrying out this particular "annual ritual". Over a period, she has become lethargic and disinterested in many such chores which had given her immense pleasure some years back.

Each year – as the winter approached, she carefully took out all the cardigans from the black trunk kept underneath her bed. After airing them carefully, she neatly kept them in the steel almirah – to be worn during the winter. Similarly, by April, when the summer set in, she followed a similar drill and neatly kept the sweaters back in the black trunk. She has been following this routine year after year, without fail.

This time also, as she neatly laid all the woollens on the bed, and proceeded to put them back in the steel box, she realised that out of the huge collections of sweaters, she actually wore only four or five. As she got down to keep the sweaters in the box, she cor-

related the relations of each one of them in her life.

The maroon sweater was knitted for her by her widowed aunt in the early Seventies, when she had just joined college after her matriculation. Her aunt took a lot of time to knit the sweater, and it was the prettiest sweater going around at that time. Her friends envied her. She looked extremely elegant wearing the sweater and drew a lot of admirers.

The swan green V-neck sweater was presented to her by her uncle who had bought the beautiful piece from an up-market fashion store in London when he had gone on an official tour. It did cost quite a bit. Her uncle was very possessive of the same and did not appreciate any one else, except his niece wearing the sweater. To be honest, this was her prized possession. During that period, not many people had the opportunity to buy foreign items. Her hostel friends vied amongst themselves to get a chance to wear the same.

The white full sleeve cardigan was gifted to her by her husband a few days after their first anniversary. Though he had wanted to present the sweater on their anniversary day, it had got delayed. During that time her husband was posted with the Border Roads Organisation based at Leh. Unfortunately, he could not make it to the first anniversary of their marriage as the flights from Leh had been cancelled for days due to inclement weather. The sweater was made of special wool from a specific variety of Tibetan sheep, which are only found in certain areas of the Ladakh region.

However, as the years passed, almost all of them became redundant, outdated. Most of them became disposable items. In fact, her two daughters have been complaining of the junk lying in the house. Given an opportunity, they would throw them in the nearest dustbin.

But for Garima, she would like to hold on to them as much as possible. Each sweater was associated with

Garima's journey of life. When she had joined the newly-established English medium school as an English subject teacher, she was the only convenient educated teacher. She had also done a short course in the School of Foreign Language, Hyderabad. She was a go-getter, a dynamic teacher who was an asset to the school. Whether it was the school's Annual Day function or a VIP visit or the sports' meet, nothing moved without her.

She had also undergone a short training in the NCC, Academy, Nagpur, and because of her sustained effort, NCC was introduced in her school. Because of her dedication, hard work and motivation, two students were selected to participate in the Republic Day Parade in New Delhi in the second year itself. Whether it was a quiz competition, debate competition or a blood donation camp, she always took the lead.

But, for Garima, she would like to hold on to them as much as possible. Each sweater was associated with

## 3

## Lost Spring – II



## HEALTHWISE

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## Healthy teeth

**T**here has been a lot of advancement in the field of dentistry right from the time when people used neem twigs up until now when we use electronic toothbrushes. But many people are troubled by caries and poor dental health.

So first of all, we must know what are dental caries. Dental caries or tooth decay is nothing but the breakdown of teeth due to the activities of the bacteria, and they occur also when acids in your mouth dissolve the outer layer of your teeth.

## Why it occurs:

The bacteria formed in your mouth combines with small food particles and saliva to form a sticky film known as plaque which builds up on your teeth. So when you consume food and drinks that is high in carbohydrate, the bacteria in plaque turns the carbohydrate into an acid, which breaks down the surface of your teeth.

## Symptoms of tooth decay and when you need to see a dentist:

- Toothache: Pain while eating and chewing food.
- Tooth sensitivity: While drinking hot, cold or sweet food.
- Bad breath: We call it halitosis.
- Discoloured spots: Blackish, brown or grey discolouration seen on tooth surface.
- Bleeding red and swollen gums.
- Swelling on your jaws.
- Headaches which do not subside even on taking medication.
- Permanent teeth that are loose.

## How can we prevent it:

It is said that, "Every tooth is more valuable than a diamond". So brush your teeth twice a day, in morning and at night and even in the middle of the day, if you have time, and spend at least three minutes each.

- Always use a soft bristle brush and use it in back and forth movements, in short strokes.
- Use a dental floss because toothbrushes fail to clean the gap between the teeth.
- Always buy a fluoridated toothpaste as it prevents tooth decay.
- Use mouthwash regularly, but remember to use alcohol-free mouthwash.
- Use a tongue scraper to remove bacteria and tongue plaque.
- Drink lots of water as it helps in flushing away the food that gets stuck in between your teeth, and also keeps you hydrated.

## Diet:

Apples are also known as Nature's toothbrush, so try to add fruits and vegetables to your diet like – carrots, cucumbers, etc. Reduce sugar intake. Avoid candies, chocolates, ice-cream, cakes, etc.

## Habits:

Cut down alcohol consumption as it wears away the protective enamel coating. Quitting habits like smoking can help, as it can stain the teeth. Tooth grinding habits should be taken care of by using a mouth guard.

## Professional cleaning:

Dentistry is not expensive but neglect is. So, get a professional cleaning of your teeth and get examined every six months, and discuss your dental problems.



Slowly and gradually, Garima felt left out and neglected.

Yet, she was willing to contribute her part for the school, but a new Principal who joined a couple of months back somehow took an instant dislike for Garima for reasons unknown to her. She felt that some of her colleagues could have fed wrong information about her to the Principal. Garima was taken off from all school extracurricular activities in a phased manner. At home also, the children were not comfortable with Garima's traditional thought process and approach. They had their new ideas and philosophy. Advising them meant inviting trouble. Yet, she was happy when the children were around but both her daughters were working in Bengaluru and their visits to Assam were very rare and their stay was extremely short.

Thus, Garima became almost useless at school and at home and could be discarded anytime, just like the woollens that she so fondly stored.

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## The other woman

**L**et's see if you can get past this – what is the common link between Phryne, Veronica Franco, Madame Du Barry, Sally Salisbury, Nell Gwyn and Sada Abe? In case you are shaking your heads, here it is – these are some of the most infamous women of ill repute in history. They commanded astronomical prices, wore the best in furs and jewels, had access to movers and shakers of society, and led lives that virtuous women could only imagine. These women, legions of them, provide a service which is a 100-billion-dollar global industry whose legal status varies from country to country, an industry that has been traced back to 4000 years, in ancient Babylon.

Prostitution enjoys a strange status in India. It is legal but its related activities like soliciting, pimping are not. A Human Right Watch has it that there are 20 million prostitutes in India. Seductive sirens make a great impression in Indian mythology in the form of Meenakshi, Rambha, Urvasi and Tilitottama. Sanskrit plays have been written on courtesans as how Urdu couplets of great delicacy. Kings have treated them with respect. With the end of royalty and feudalism, these women have lost their place and are today labelled as just being in the flesh trade – their minds do not matter, nor do any cultured graces. But not all dismiss the women compelled to sell their bodies. One of the greatest Urdu writers Saadat Hasan Manto – whose biopic is being made by Nandita Das condemned the misogyny carried out in the name of honour and nationalism. His relentless gaze on the horrors of Partition showed ambivalent women who struggled to survive the madness of the age through humane ties. Manto's so-called women of loose morals like Saugandhi are complex characters who tussle with questions of life and living even as the crazed crowds look to kill and loot.

If you talk Hollywood, the most memorable tramps that instantly come to mind are Jodi Foster in *Taxi Driver* and Julia Roberts in *Pretty Woman*, and on the other end of the span serial killer Aileen Wuornos, in *Monster*. But the depiction of fallen women in Indian cir-

ema is far more nuanced and complex. Years ago, I met Basu Bhattacharya, the maker of *Aastha* and argued how financial problems alone could not lead a respectable middle class woman to prostitution. He was obdurate and said it was entirely possible. In *Chameli*, a young man shames a tramp, only to realise the challenges of her life.

Years earlier, during the golden years of Indian cinema, it was Jewish wom-

### THIRD EYE

**Indrani Raimedhi**  
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As a very little girl, I was hypnotised by Meena Kumari spreading her dark tresses on a marble bath by her bed. I can swear it had rose petals. But later, of course, I decided that all that melodrama was not worth a cooling head bath, hedonism be darned.

Even like Sulochana (Ruby Myers) and Nadira (Florence Ezekiel) of a Bagdad family who played vamps to the hilt and seemed to have a merry time too.

Then there is the artistic vision – night-time. The air is redolent with *atar* and jasmine. A circular room with velvet draperies and gleaming chandeliers, bolsters strewn on carpets are treated to music and dance by women of exquisite manners. Suggestive looks are exchanged... and the rest is left to the imagination. You saw it in *Paakeezah*, in *Umrao Jaan*, and a hundred other rip offs. Courtesans after all, were mentioned since Vedic times. But those days are gone and practitioners of this old art operate with none of the courtliness of a bygone era.

A moll with a golden heart was Waheeda Rehman's Gulab in *Pyaasa*,

who helps Guru Dutt during his times of the deepest darkness and arduous despair. Sharmila Tagore's coquettish charm helped her play the part, both in *Mausam* and *Amar Prem*. In *Manoranjan*, Zeenat Aman is at her uninhibited best and it was considered too risqué. Tabu struck all the right notes as a bar girl in *Chandni Bar*, eliciting sympathy for this beleaguered tribe in a prudish society.

No mention of films on this genre would be complete without mention of *Sold*, a narrative feature film based on Patricia McCormick's novel of the same name. The film tells the story of Lakshmi (played by Assam's own Nihar Saikia) who, after being trafficked, travels from a rural village in Nepal to a brothel called Happiness House in Kolkata. She risks everything in a heroic struggle to get away.

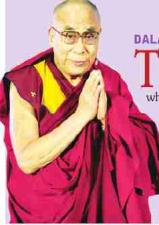
It would be undeniable that women prostitutes in film and literature also serve as feminist mouthpieces slamming patriarchy, hypocrisy and exploitation. They also serve to reinforce the idea of female solidarity. Shyam Benegal created memorable happy whores with Shabana Azmi, Smita Patil, Neena Gupta, Anita Karwar, etc., in *Mandi*. Perhaps, for the first time in Indian cinema, the women did not have a sordid story for their predicament.

As a confused and naive teenager I was totally besotted by Rekha in *Umrao Jaan*. I had no idea what she did, but was ready to give an arm and a leg to wear those gorgeous ensembles. As a very little girl, I was hypnotised by Meena Kumari spreading her dark tresses on a marble bath by her bed. I can swear it had rose petals. But later, of course, I decided that all that melodrama was not worth a cooling head bath, hedonism be darned.

In the latest *Begum Jaan*, the Begum and her fellow harlots are shown challenging the Radcliffe Line threatening to run through and destroy their only home. All such women negotiate a precarious space, always in peril of humiliation and displacement. There is a certain mystique about these women that will continue to be explored in the artistic sphere, even as no one lifts a finger to accord them a measure of safety and dignity.

### NEWSMAKERS

Compiled by: Bidisha Singha



#### DALAI LAMA

**T**he revered spiritual leader was in Assam during the early part of this month, wherefrom he travelled to Arunachal Pradesh. China, as was expected, made their disapproval apparent and went ahead with remapping six districts in the disputed Himalayan border region.

#### EVAN SPIEGEL

**F**or us, Indians, the Snapchat CEO became the 'villain of the month' as his alleged comment about India being a 'poor' country was perceived as a national insult. He was heavily trolled online, with many Indians deleting the app and many others giving it a one-star rating.

#### VIJAY MALLYA

**T**he 'King of Good Times' is having some really bad times, or so it seems. Arrested by the London police on extradition charges, his cup of woes runneth over. Not to be fustered, though, Mallya managed bail within minutes of his arrest, paying a hefty sum of £6,50,000.

#### SONU NIGAM AND ZUBEEN GARG

**T**he two popular singers were defiant in their personal beliefs, as the public scrutiny over their alleged 'misdeemeanours' reached deafening heights.

While Sonu's tweet against loudspeakers in places of worship was seen as bigoted, Zubeen's insistence on singing Hindi songs at a Guwahati *Bihu* caused a major cultural conundrum.



(MAR 21 - APR 19)

You begin this week in a sensible frame of mind. In fact, Monday is a great day for serious discussions with others, especially older or more powerful people.



(APR 20 - MAY 20)

This period is the perfect time to make new resolutions and goals for your future. Give this a serious thought. You will be more aggressive about earning money.



(MAY 21 - JUN 20)

You will blow hot and cold this week because there are contradictory influences for your sign. You will prefer to lie low, with a nudge in your hand. You might want to work alone or behind the scenes.



(JUN 21 - JUL 20)

This is a popular week for you! Wednesday is the best day for you to think about the friendships that you have. Never underestimate the power your friends have over your life.



(JUL 21 - AUG 20)

You will continue to be high this period. People notice you, especially bosses, partners and VIPs. Not to worry, because you look fabulous in their eyes.



(AUG 21 - SEP 20)

This is the perfect time to make travel plans. It's also a good time to plan for future training and education. Some will make plans in publishing, the media, medicine and the law.



(SEP 21 - OCT 20)

This is a passionate, intense time for your sign. You will now think about your values; and especially how your values differ from those of others. You might also come up with a better approach to reducing debt.



(OCT 21 - NOV 20)

You start this week off with a strong work ethic because you want practical results. In fact, now it is very much a 'work hard/ party hard' combo for you.

#### SAGITTARIUS

Although you are entertaining at home and probably redecorating and fixing up your digs, your primary focus is on work, because you want to accomplish a lot.

#### CAPRICORN

This the best time to think about how well you balance play and work in your life. Balance is the key. You need a happy balance between finding fulfillment and a sense of accomplishment.

#### AQUARIUS

Monday is an excellent day for serious discussions, especially how to deal with some past issues. Playful times with children will appeal now.

#### PISCES

Your fast pace continues as you juggle short trips, errands, discussions with everyone, plus increased reading, writing and studying. Your home life is hectic and chaotic right now.



### 5 THINGS/ Comic Capers

## "Peter Sellers was one of the most amazing comic actors"

Filmmaker KENNY BASUMATARY draws a list of films that have inspired his brand of comedy.

#### 1 The films of Jackie Chan

I can't really pick out one particular Jackie Chan film out of his humongous body of work. His whole style and ethos is the bedrock of what we try to achieve through the *Local Kung Fu* films. If pressed, I would pick *Police Story* (1 and 2), *Armour of God*, *Who Am I, Project A* (1 and 2), *Rush Hour* (1 and 2), *Drunken Master* 2.

#### 2 Love, Actually by Richard Curtis

A film I can watch over and over again. The ideal romantic comedy, containing funny moments and some heart-warming romance.

#### 3 Airplane!

This is a perfect example of a non-stop laughter ride, with gag after inventive gag, from start to finish.

#### 4 The Pink Panther Strikes Again

Peter Sellers was one of the most amazing comic actors. He could change himself and



become several different characters. Watch his three roles in *Dr Strangelove* for evidence of this.

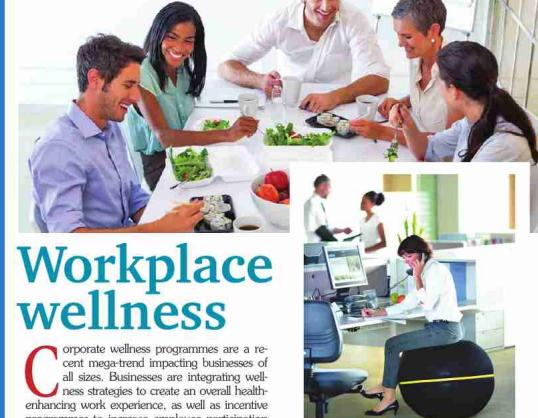
#### 5 Jane Bhi Do Yaaro

I first saw this film on Doordarshan in the 90s. It was the funniest Hindi film I'd seen till then, and it just might be the funniest till now, with *Andaz Apna Apna* and *Bollywood Calling* being close seconds.

(As told to Bidisha Singha)

### ALL IS WELL

Jennifer Patel



## Workplace wellness

**C**orporate wellness programmes are a recent mega-trend impacting businesses of all sizes. Businesses are integrating wellness strategies to create an overall health-enhancing work experience, as well as incentive programmes to increase employee participation and awareness in corporate wellness. The pursuit for innovative ways to keep employees engaged in wellness programmes is more important than ever before. Below are some trends that are helping shape health and wellness at the workplace:

#### • Lifestyle management

Work is a great place to integrate lifestyle-based healthy habits to fit it all into the day. Efforts, such as biometric screenings, flu shots and cholesterol screenings at workplace help prevent the risks for common, yet dangerous health problems, including diabetes, stroke and coronary disease.

#### • Weight loss programmes

Weight loss management at work is growing rapidly as many companies now offer free yoga, Zumba classes or individual workouts onsite or at a nearby facility to make fitness opportunities more accessible. Companies are starting to transform their workspaces to focus on weight loss by including vending machine options with fresh, healthy snacks, as well as fruits and veggies at meetings.

#### • Redesign workplace

A variety of office design options help encourage activity, including a desk outfitted with an exercise ball, instead of a chair, standing or treadmill workstations, anti-fatigue mats for employees to stand on while they work, ergonomic telephone headsets and keyboards and hand grippers, wobble boards and pedometers. These small adjustments to the workspace help employees get in the mindset of fitness from the minute they arrive

at their workstations until it becomes ingrained in their behaviours.

#### • Smoking cessation

While it's not a new trend in corporate wellness, smoking cessation programmes are often a wise investment. These programmes foster a healthier workforce and are viewed by many as a necessity that provides a direct correlation with good health. Some companies are executing smoke-free campuses and going so far as implementing 'no hire' policies for smokers.

#### • Stress management

Physical fitness has proven to decrease stress and increase energy. However, mental fitness is increasingly being recognised as an equally important trend. Stress management programmes recognise that dedicating a short time every day to your mental fitness through volunteering, journal writing or even daydreaming will reap significant benefits in terms of feeling rejuvenated and more confident. Meditation is also used as a daily tool to help with stress.

#### • Social networking

Wellness programmes can implement the ever-growing trend of social media by utilising social networks to get people on track toward improving their health. Creating social networks, mobile apps and online engagement help motivate employees to participate in your health and wellness programmes.

### The BETTER HALF

by GLASBEGAN

