



The Assam Rising

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NEWS IN BRIEF

AANLA cadre

Assam Rising
Guwahati, August 03:

One cadre of the All Adivasi National Liberation Army (AANLA) surrendered through the 18 Garhwal Regiment of the Army and 171 Battalion of the CRPF at the superintendent of the police office in Dibrugarh on Wednesday. The AANLA cadre identified as Devid Brajnayak (31), surrendered before Dibrugarh SP Shwetank Mishra with one 0.32mm pistol, one magazine and three rounds of bullets. The surrendered ultra is a resident of the Na-Bill village of the Golaghat district.

Fresh flood

Assam Rising
Guwahati, August 03:

Fresh flood in parts of Assam in the last 24 hours left more than 36,000 people reeling from the effects of it, data from state disaster management authority showed on Tuesday. As many as eight districts in the state still remain under the grasp of flood. According to data from ASDMA, these are Bajali, Baksa, Chirang, Darrang, Dhemaji, Laakhimpur, Tamulpur and Udalguri. A total of 91 villages falling under 12 revenue circles in Assam still remain either partly or entirely affected by the floods.

Terrorists arrested

Assam Rising
Guwahati, August 03:

Two suspected terrorists having links with an Al-Qaeda network in Bangladesh have been arrested in Barpeta district of Assam. According to reports, one terrorist was arrested on Sunday night from Garemaripathar and the other was apprehended from a village in Kalgachia area on Tuesday morning. Assam Special Director General of Police (Law and Order) Gyanendra Pratap Singh had on Monday said 11 people were arrested in Morigaon, Goalpara, Guwahati and Barpeta for their alleged links with Bangladesh-based terror outfit Ansarul Bangla Team (ABT). Meanwhile, a team from the National Investigation Agency (NIA) reached Barpeta on Tuesday to interrogate all the alleged ABT members arrested in the last five days.

CM Himanta Biswa assures strict actions against jihadi elements



Assam Rising
Guwahati, August 03:

Some Muslim leaders are apparently concerned about the growth of private

madrasas. According to Advocate Hafiz Rashid Choudhury, a working committee member of the All India Muslim Personal Law Board, there is a need for a regulatory agency to supervise the activities and functions of the madrasas. The nearly 1,000 private madrasas currently running in Assam are being considered for regulation by the state government led by chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma. This follows the recent detention of 11 people in the districts of Morigaon, Barpeta,

Guwahati, and Goalpara for their purported connections to international terrorist groups including Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) and the Bangladesh-based Ansarul Bangla Team (ABT). The mastermind of this network, Mustafa alias Mufti Mustafa, was imprisoned with other people on Wednesday 27th July 2022. He was a teacher at the Saruchala Al-Jamiyat Salihat Madarasatul Banat in the Saharia Gaon village of

Morigaon. According to a report there are at least 1,000 private madrasas operating in Assam, up from 788 in 2016, despite the fact that there is no formal tally of them. Government records regarding these madrasas affiliation are not proper. The state government has already made the decision to turn government-aided madrasas into conventional schools. Assam's Education Minister Ranaj Pegu said, "We are collecting reports and examining if we can enforce certain rules in the private madrasas and give

direction to impart modern education there. We are taking legal opinion. I am not aware of any board which is running these private madrasas. We don't have any specific data on these madrasas." Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta, the director general of the Assam Police, asserted that the police had conducted a survey of these madrasas and had full information. Nonetheless, the officer withheld the specifics. Chief Minister Himanta

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CM Dr. Sarma holds meeting with civil and security administration

Assam Rising
Guwahati, August 03:

Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma asked the civil and security administrations to make elaborate arrangements for celebrating the upcoming Independence Day in a grand manner. It may be noted that the nation will complete the 75 years of Independence on August 15 next, when India celebrates its yet another Independence Day. Convening a meeting with the senior officers of civil and security administration from police, army and air force in the conference hall of his office in Janata Bhawan here today, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma made an



earnest call to the senior officers to make the celebrations of Independence Day a memorable one. He also asked the officers to prepare blueprints for a three day

celebration during 14 to 16 August. Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said that the celebrations of the occasion should be thought and executed in such a way to

evoke nationalism and patriotism and enable the people to appreciate the ethos associated with Independence Day. He also said that an all-out preparation

should be made to enable the people from all sections of the society to celebrate the festivity associated with the occasion. Considering the supreme sacrifices of scores of freedom fighters for the sake of freedom, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said that the programmes

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Japanese Encephalitis : 52 people have died so far



Assam Rising
Guwahati, August 03:

According to state health officials, besides Japanese Encephalitis, acute encephalitis syndrome has killed 16 people this year and there are 143 cases so far. Since the outbreak of the disease, 52 people have died so far,

according to the National Health Mission in Assam. Four died on August 2 itself in Nagaon district. As the flood water recedes after unprecedented rain in Assam, the fear of Japanese Encephalitis is looming large in the state. Usually when flood-affected

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National Herald case

Enforcement Directorate seals premises of Young Indian company

New Delhi, August 03:

New Delhi: Day after raids at the head office of the National Herald newspaper in Delhi, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Wednesday (August 3)

'temporarily sealed' the premises of the Young Indian Pvt Limited (YIL) located in the Congress-owned office. The ED officials told PTI that the action

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Mamata Banerjee expands cabinet, inducts nine new faces

New Delhi, August 03:

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday (August 3, 2022) expanded her cabinet and inducted nine new faces including former BJP MP Babul Supriyo. The cabinet reshuffle, the first since the Trinamool Congress (TMC) returned to power for the third consecutive term in 2021, saw Supriyo, Snehasis Chakraborty, Partha Bhowmik, Udayan Guha, and Pradip Majumdar taking oath as cabinet ministers at Raj Bhavan by Governor La Ganesan. Birbaha Hansda, a tribal leader, and Biplab Roy Chowdhury took oath as ministers of state with independent charge. Tajmul Hossain and Satyajit Barman were sworn in as ministers of state. Mamata Banerjee's cabinet reshuffle comes amid the party facing the heat over the arrest of senior minister Partha Chatterjee by the ED in the school jobs scam. Earlier on Monday, Banerjee had carried out a major overhaul in her party and announced



that a cabinet reshuffle will take place on Wednesday. Babul Supriyo, who took oath as a West Bengal minister, is a former Union minister and BJP MP who joined the saffron party and quit the Mamata Banerjee-led TMC after being dropped from the Union cabinet last

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Haven't levelled charges against Assam CM: Jharkhand MLA



RANCHI, August 03:

Amid a high-voltage political drama unfolding in Jharkhand, Congress MLA Kumar Jaimangal on Tuesday asserted he has known Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma for long and hasn't levelled allegations against him but only narrated to police information gathered from colleagues. Three Congress MLAs from Jharkhand --

Irfan Ansari, Rajesh Kachchap and Naman Bixal Kongari - were arrested in neighbouring West Bengal on Sunday after a huge amount of cash was seized from a car they were travelling in. The grand old party, which is a part of the JMM-led government in Jharkhand, alleged that the BJP was trying to topple the Hemant Soren government by offering Rs 10 crore each and a ministerial berth to

MLAs. Jaimangal had filed a complaint in Ranchi on Sunday alleging that Kachchap and Bixal Kongari had asked him to travel to Kolkata and offered him money, while Ansari wanted to take him to Guwahati from Kolkata to attend a meeting with Sarma. Reacting to Sarma terming the FIR as "fake", Jaimangal said it was up to the West Bengal CID to investigate whether it was fake or genuine. "Sarma was in the Congress for 22 years. I have been in active politics since 2001, in NSUI and Youth Congress. I haven't levelled any allegation against Sarma. I have narrated to the police of Jharkhand and West Bengal the information I gathered from my colleagues. It is a matter of investigation

whether that is fake or not," Jaimangal told. He said the CID will decide who had given that money. "I have lodged FIR and the police will take cognisance," he said. Earlier in the day, Sarma termed Jaimangal's FIR as "fake" and raked up the Bofors scam to hit back at the grand old party. Sharing a tweet by his cabinet colleague Pijush Hazarika, Sarma wrote, "Fake FIR in #Jharkhand. The so-called FIR looks like @INCIndia asking Ottavio Quattrocchi to file a case against Bofors." The Rs 64-crore Bofors payoff case involved the Congress-led Union government and members of Swedish government in an arms deal scam in the 1980s and 1990s, with Italian businessman

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Gold Medalist Nayanmoni Saikia To Be Promoted As DSP



Assam Rising
Guwahati, August 03:

Nayanmoni Saikia from Assam, one of the team members of Indian Women team who bagged gold medal in Lawn Bowl at Commonwealth Games, 2022 will be promoted as DSP in Assam. The decision was taken by Assam Forest Department. She is currently employed in

Assam Forest Department as a Constable. Nayanmoni was a very dedicated weightlifter earlier, her whole life revolved around sports. But a leg injury meant that her performances kept deteriorating. Till she found Lawn Bowls. That became her passion after that. She has faced many challenges in

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Shows a night view of the old city hall in Munich, Germany

Nancy Pelosi pledges US solidarity with Taiwan amid alarm at China military drills

Taipei, August 03 :US House speaker Nancy Pelosi has pledged America's "crucial" solidarity with Taiwan, in a historic meeting with Taiwan's president, Tsai Ing-wen, who vowed not to back down in the face of military threats from China. At a press conference on Wednesday, Pelosi questioned the motivations of Chinese president Xi Jinping when asked about his strong response to her visit. China has vowed "consequences" and has said it will begin live fire drills close to Taiwan on Thursday. "Its really important for the message to be clear ... [the US] is committed to the security of Taiwan ... but it's about our shared values of democracy and freedom and how Taiwan has been an example to the world ... Whether there are insecurities of the president of China relating to his own political situation I don't know." Pelosi is in Taiwan for a controversial visit that has prompted a furious reaction from China, including planned missile

tests and military "operations" around the island, which Taiwan has said breach international law. She arrived on Tuesday night, and addressed Taiwan's parliament on Wednesday morning before having a public meeting with Tsai. "Our delegation came to Taiwan to make

"crucial". Pelosi said 43 years ago the US made a "bedrock promise to always stand with Taiwan". "On this strong foundation we have built a thriving partnership," she said. Earlier on Wednesday, Pelosi told Taiwan's parliament the delegation came "in



unequivocally clear we will not abandon Taiwan, and we are proud of our enduring friendship," Pelosi said on Wednesday. Now more than ever, US solidarity with Taiwan was

friendship to Taiwan [and] in peace to the region". Pelosi, the US's first woman speaker, praised Taiwan's growth into a leading democracy, now led by its first woman

SpaceX capsule confirmed as source of debris that crashed on Australian farm

Melbourn, August 03 : The Australian Space Agency has confirmed the space debris found in the Snowy Mountains in southern New South Wales belongs to a craft built by Elon Musk's SpaceX company. Technical experts from the agency visited the remote location on Saturday where sheep farmers Mick Miners and

Jock Wallace each discovered a piece of space debris on their respective farms. The agency had been alerted by Brad Tucker, an astrophysicist from the Australian National University, who first realised the timing and location of the debris falling coincided with a SpaceX spacecraft which re-entered the Earth's atmosphere at 7am on 9 July, 20 months after its launch in November 2020. Tucker believes the debris came from the unpressurised trunk of the SpaceX capsule, which is critical to take off but dumped when returning to earth.

Dev Patel breaks up fight in South Australia in which man was stabbed

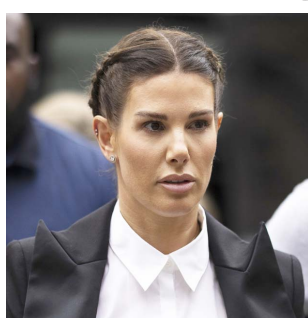
London, August 03 : English actor Dev Patel successfully broke up a

fight outside a convenience store in South Australia in which a man was stabbed in the chest. Representatives confirmed Patel - who has starred in films including Slumdog Millionaire, Lion and The Green Knight - and his friends witnessed "a violent altercation that was already in progress outside a convenience store". In a statement given to Variety, they said: "Dev acted on his natural instinct to try and de-escalate the situation and break up the fight." English actor Dev Patel has witnessed a stabbing in Adelaide's CBD which left a man hospitalised. "The group was thankfully successful in doing so and they remained on site to ensure that the police and eventually the

fuss" about this visit because of her status as speaker. "I don't know if that's a reason or an excuse." China's government has reacted to Pelosi's visit with outrage. After her arrival its military announced joint air and sea drills near Taiwan, beginning on Tuesday night and including test launches of conventional missiles in the sea east of Taiwan. Taiwan's defence ministry said on Wednesday the live-fire drills around the democratic island this week demonstrated Beijing's intention to destroy regional peace and stability. It accused China of violating international law with its plans to breach Taiwan's sovereign space.

Rebekah Vardy feels 'let down by legal system' after losing libel battle

London, August 03 : Rebekah Vardy has said she feels "let down by the legal system", and has again denied leaking stories about Coleen Rooney to tabloids, following her loss of a libel battle at the high court. Vardy said she believed she was suffering from PTSD after losing the case and she now had a full-time security chief at her home in Leicestershire after receiving 100 abusive messages a day. Speaking to the Sun, Vardy said: "The whole thing has been awful. At its worst, I was worried to be on my own, to leave the house. I was scared to be out in public places. Even the smallest things, like going shopping, were horrendous." She added: "Everyone always says: 'These people wouldn't say things to your face', but actually you do get the odd few that go that extra mile.



The abuse I was getting was insane. I was linked to the disappearance of Madeleine McCann, people suggesting I was a member of IS, stuff like that. It was as if I'd murdered someone." Vardy has reassured her claim that she never leaked stories about Rooney to the tabloids. In the high court judgment issued on Friday regarding the libel case, the judge concluded that Vardy most likely worked with her agent, Caroline Watt, to leak stories from Rooney's private Instagram account to the Sun. The accusation came from Rooney in October 2019,

collective conscience of the people. The photograph was taken at a rally addressed by the prime minister during his Kashmir visit in November 2015 when Mufti Sayeed was chief minister of the erstwhile state. "Changed my DP since a flag is a matter of joy & pride. For us, our state flag was irreversibly linked to the Indian flag. It was snatched thus breaking away the link. You may have robbed us of our flag but can't erase it from our collective conscience,"



Mehbooba tweeted. The Twitter post by the former chief minister also comes two days ahead of the third anniversary of the revocation of Article 370 of the

Constitution that gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir. With the revocation of the special status, the Jammu and Kashmir flag was also derecognized.

South African police arrest more than 120 after gang-rape of eight women

London, August 03 : Dozens of men detained after the alleged gang-rape of eight women on a

people detained since the attack to more than 120. None of the men and boys arrested, however,



has reportedly been charged with sexual assault or rape. Police have said they hope DNA tests will enable them in coming days to connect some of those

detained with the alleged gang-rape. The men expected in court on Wednesday, who are understood to be miners working in South Africa's dangerous abandoned shafts, reportedly face charges including possession of firearms and illegal mining. On Monday, the South African president, Cyril Ramaphosa, implored members of the public to come forward to help find those who carried out last Thursday's attack. "These horrible acts of brutality are an affront to the right of women and girls to live and work in freedom and safety. We call upon communities to work with the police to ensure that these criminals are apprehended and prosecuted," he said. The attack took place at an abandoned mine in Krugersdorp where the

video crew of 22 people, including 12 women, were filming when they were attacked "by a group of armed men clad in blankets", according to a police statement. The suspects ordered everyone to lay down and proceeded to rape eight of the women and robbed everyone of their belongings before fleeing the scene," said the police commissioner for Gauteng province, Lt Gen Elias Mawela. Police were investigating 32 counts of rape, he added. The attack has shone a spotlight once again on South Africa's chronic problem of gender-based violence. In the first three months of this year, at least 10,818 cases of rape were reported, an increase of 13.7% over the same period in 2021. Far from all such incidents are reported and the real number is believed to be much higher. In Krugersdorp there have been complaints that the police and local authorities have not done enough to protect women and girls from crime. On Friday, after police made the first arrests, a resident was filmed haranguing police minister Bheki Cele over the security situation in West Village, a part of Krugersdorp.

Russia claims US 'directly involved' in Ukraine war

Lviv, August 03 : The role of American intelligence in the war in Ukraine has been put under scrutiny after Russia accused the White House of supplying targeting information used by Kyiv to conduct long-range missile strikes. Russia's defence ministry claimed Washington was "directly involved" in the war, and had passed on intelligence that had led to the "mass deaths of civilians". The US was responsible for rocket attacks by Kyiv on populated areas in the eastern Donbas and in other regions, it said. "All this undeniably proves that Washington, contrary to White House and Pentagon claims, is directly involved in the conflict in Ukraine," the ministry said in a statement. The Biden administration has so far given more than \$8bn (£6.55bn) in security assistance to Ukraine since Russia's February invasion, including an additional \$550m tranche unveiled on Monday. But it strongly denies it is a participant in the conflict or is at war with Russia. The Kremlin's comments came after an interview given to the Telegraph on Monday by Vadym Skibitsky, Ukraine's acting deputy head of military intelligence.



People watch a Kunqu opera performance at Miaoying Temple, also called Baita Temple, in Beijing

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CORRIGENDUM

In pursuance to the earlier NIT No. SEI/T-27/Pt-I/2021-22/1091 Dtd. 23-03-2022, it is for general information to all the tenderers who have already collected the tender papers (bid documents) are directed to submit their tender papers (bid) to the email address irrigsenagaon@gmail.com along with hard copies to the undersigned as per terms & condition of the mentioned NIT on or before 2.PM of 08.08.2022 as directed by Hon'ble Gauhati High Court in Order No WPO/2164/2022 Dtd 30.07.2022 (Shyam Choudhury vs. State of Assam and others). The same will be opened at 2.30 PM of the same day by the undersigned or officers authorized to open in presence of the intending tenderers or their authorized agents who would like to present at the time of opening.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
Nagaon Circle (Irrigation)
Nagaon :: Assam

Janasanyog/C/7597/22

No.DWCD (ICDS)/G/SNP/61/2022/55

EXTENSION NOTICE

The date and time of online submission and tender document to be downloaded in respect of Expression of Interest (EoI) No.DWCD (ICDS)/G/SNP/61/2022/31, Dtd. 13-07-2022 for supply of Ready to eat (RTE) food items such as Dal Khichdi, Multigrain Suji Halwa as cereal-based Micronutrient Fortified Energy Dense Food for Children of age group (6 months to 3 years), Children of age group (3- 6 years), Severely Malnourished Children of age group (6 months to 6 years) and Pregnant Women & Lactating mothers for various Anganwadi Centres and Mini-Anganwadi Centres at General areas of Assam for implementation of SNP during the year 2022-23 is hereby changed and rescheduled as follows:

SI No	Schedule	Earlier End Date and Time	Rescheduled End Date and Time
1	Tender Downoad	16/08/2022 at 3.00 PM	01/09/2022 at 3.00 PM
2	Bid submission	16/08/2022 at 3.00 PM	01/09/2022 at 3.00 PM
3	Bid opening	17/08/2022 at 11.00 PM	02/09/2022 at 11.00 PM

Director,
Women and Child Development, Assam,
Uzanbazar, Guwahati - 1

Janasanyog/C/7590/22

Krishak connection meeting held at Bhuragaon



Assam Rising, Bhuragaon, August 3: Krishak Parishad's Krishak connection meeting is held at Bhuragaon

today. The meeting was chaired by District Agriculture Secretary Dibyajyoti Baruah. The

meeting was attended by Parishad Central Vice President Faizul Islam, Krishak Parishad General Secretary Anand Shaikia and Religious Minority Council Secretary Chand Mamood along with district and constituency level office bearers. The meeting was attended by several model farmers from Morigaon district. The meeting was

attended by a number of farmers from the district. The union leadership of the Assam Krishak Parishad addressed the farmers. The central leadership of the Krishak Parishad also assured that they would inform the government about the problems faced by the farmers in the district.

Strict action will be taken to curb the prevailing drugs menace in Nagaon-Pijush Hazarika

Assam Rising, Nagaon, August 3: The guardian minister of the district Pijush Hazarika expressed his concern over prevailing drugs menace once again in the district while attending a review meeting held at Nagaon DC's conference hall here today. While speaking to some local media persons right after the meeting, the minister said that he had already directed the district police administration to take adequate measures to tackle the situation as early as possible. He said he had come to know all about it through some digital media that the drugs dealers as well as other small sellers became active again in various areas of the district and widened its tentacles in the district so far. The BJP led state alliance government initiates a strong stand against drugs and hence I have already directed the district police administration to take strict action against drugs menace, Hazarika added. Referring to the recent row over anti national activities in some madrasa, the minister said the government would not tolerate any such anti national activities and strict action would be taken soon against such madrasa schools. Meanwhile the state finance and social welfare minister Ajanta Neog today inaugurated a training programme on 'Arunadoy' scheme held at Nagaon district library auditorium today here. While interacting with some local media persons, Neog said now onwards only the eligible beneficiaries will get the benefits under the ongoing scheme being sponsored by the state government. Those people who have tri - wheeler, four wheeler as well as refrigerator in their houses will not get the benefits of 'Arunadoy' scheme and if anyone among them are getting benefits, his or her name will be dropped soon from the beneficiary list, the minister said further. Besides, the minister also said that Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma led state BJP alliance government would ensure employment opportunities to one lakh youths of the state as it promised earlier and the process for fulfilling it was in its final stage.

Ranjit Rath takes over as CMD of OIL

Assam Rising, Guwahati,

August 3: Dr. Ranjit Rath, an alumnus of IIT Bombay & IIT Kharagpur, took over as the new Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Oil India Limited (OIL), India's second largest National Exploration & Production Company, on August 2 in Noida. Dr. Rath is a proud recipient of the prestigious National Geosciences Award from the President of India. A Geoscientist with impeccable experience and expertise of more than 25 years in the field of geosciences, Dr. Rath, prior to joining at the helm of affairs of OIL, the Navratna PSU under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Govt. of India, was the Chairman cum Managing Director of Mineral Exploration & Consultancy Limited under the Ministry of Mines; Chief Executive



Officer of Khanij Bidesh India Limited; Managing Director of Bharat Gold Mines Limited and also held additional charge of the Director General of Geological Survey of India under Govt. of India. Dr. Rath has a rich portfolio of diverse roles spanning from strategy formulation, business development and upstream asset

management to application of geosciences & exploration geology in several important projects including creation of Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPRs), a first of its kind initiative of Govt. of India entailing underground rock caverns for strategic storage of crude oil - An intervention towards Energy Security.

SBI Gossaigaon assures for separate counter for senior citizen

Assam Rising, Gossaigaon, August 3: In a cordial meeting held at the SBI Branch, Gossaigaon Budhiram Brahma, Manager SBI, Gossaigaon assured for a separate counter at its earliest for the senior citizens keeping in view of the conveniences faced by the senior citizens that while withdrawing their money by standing in a queue in the bank. The meeting was held between the SBI Branch manager, Gossaigaon and Gossaigaon Sub-division Government Pensioners Association and Gossaigaon Sub-division Se-

nior Citizens Association. In the meet that was held at the branch manager's room various issues pertaining to pensioners association and senior citizens were highlighted. The meeting discussed the difficulty faced by senior citizens in standing in queues for a long time in withdrawing money from banks. After a prolonged discussion the branch manager Budhiram Brahma assured to resolve the issues within a very short time and promised to open a counter separately for senior citizens so that they can do

their task easily and need not stand in a queue for a long time. In the meeting Besides the branch manager Sahendra Brahma, President of Gossaigaon Subdivision Government Pensioners Association, Secretary Khanindra Das, Gossaigaon Subdivision Senior Citizens Association President Isran Narzary, Secretary along with senior personalities including Parshu Kalita, Manik Deka and many senior citizens were present.

Heated situation in Margherita over infant death

Assam Rising, Margherita, August 3: The importance of negligence has been alleged against nurses and doctors at Margherita civil hospital in Tinsukia district. Sewali Kalwar, a resident of Khatangpani under Pengeri police station, was reportedly admitted to Margherita Civil Hos-

pital on July 27 for maternity reasons. The maternity was finally sent to Dibrugarh due to deteriorating health. But the infant died yesterday and various local organizations in Margherita hospital today took a heated turn. The family members have alleged that the nurse should send the

maternity to Dibrugarh without a doctor. The local organization has demanded a high-rise inquiry into the incident.

Special gram sabha held in 20 GP of Majuli



Assam Rising, Majuli, August 3: Special gram sabha meeting held at 20 GP of the district of Majuli on Wednesday. In that Gramsabha discussion was "Har Ghar Tiranga" celebrated from August 13 to 15 in conjunction with the Azadi Ka Amrit Festival. To create awareness among the people.

There was an unprecedented response and enthusiastic participation of the people in every Gaon Sabha. Notably that, each of the village meetings held on Wednesday was attended by a top official of

the district administration as the chief guest. Senior Additional Commissioner Bipul Kumar Das is in Garhmur GP, Additional Commissioner Kartik Kalita is in South Kamalabari GP,

Additional Commissioner Sanjeev Kumar Phukan is in Ratanpur GP, Assistant Commissioner Bharat Konwar is in Chilikala GP, Assistant Commissioner Dev Narayan Hazarika is in Pakajra GP, Revenue Circle Officer Jaydeep Rajak is in Kamalabari GP and Circle Officer Nabajyoti Das is in Sriram Gaon Panchayat present as a Chief guest. According to the District Commissioner Pulak Mahanta, In addition, the heads of departments of the district participated in various Gaon Panchayats. The meeting also discussed several other important issues like PMKISSAN, PMFBY, PMSYMY, JJM scheme, linkage of Aadhaar with Voter card, Arunodoi scheme, paddy procurement etc.

clared HSLC and HS examinations from the greater Balijan area were felicitated in a public meeting held at Balijan Namghar premises, Diplonga under Biswanath district today. The felicitations programme convened by Balijan village development committee was chaired by Ghanashyam Kalita, president of Nagsankar regional Committee of Srimanta Sankardev Sangha. Nripen Bora, secretary of the village development committee briefed the objectives of the meet-

ing that was graced by Md. Sahabuddin Ahmed, former principal of THB College as appointed speaker. The meeting began with a Borgeet performed by local artists. The meritorious students were felicitated with a citation, gamosa, a packet of books. Emerging poet of the area Biswajit Sut was also felicitated with a citation, gamosa and a packet of books by the organizers for his literary contribution. Dilip Bora, president of the organization offered a vote of thanks.

Drawing competition on the theme 'Har Ghar Tiranga' held

Assam Rising, Biswanath Chari, August 3: Lokra Battalion of Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ 21 Sector Assam Rifles and Inspector General Assam Rifles (East) organized Drawing Competition on the theme 'Har Ghar Tiranga' to promote Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative for

the school children of Assam Rifles High School in Lokra, Sonitpur district, Assam on August 3. A total of 46 children participated in the competition. The greater aim of the drawing competition was to create awareness of Har Ghar Tiranga drive among the school children and to inculcate patriotic values.

Kung Fu Sports Academy starts in Laharighat

Assam Rising, Bhuragaon, August 3: Black Belt Hasina Begum of Dhupguri, Laharighat, Morigaon district, who once made headlines in print media and electronic media, has been running Laharighat Kung Fu Sports Academy for more than a month. They are training everyone in kung fu. Black belt SIFU Hasina Begum said that children or students aged 6 to 21 years are eligible to enroll in the Kung Fu Sports Academy. The students of

Kung Fu Sports Academy are trained daily at 4 pm at Laharighat Block premises. Interested students can contact the Kung Fu Sports Academy directly at Laharighat Block premises in the afternoon. There was no Kung Fu training center in the Laharighat area before and with the efforts of instructor Hasina Begum, it was also completed. Now all we need is the support of the people and parents.



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THE ASSAM RISING

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The standoff between the US and China

The standoff between the US and China over Taiwan has thrown a spotlight on growing risks to one of the world's busiest shipping lanes -- even a minor disruption could ripple through supply chains. The Taiwan Strait is the primary route for ships passing from China, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan to points west, carrying goods from Asian factory hubs to markets in Europe, the US and all points in between. Almost half of the global container fleet and a whopping 88% of the world's largest ships by tonnage passed through the waterway this year, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. Any actions over Taiwan that affect the strait would be another blow to global shipping. Supply chains, which have been reeling since the start of the pandemic, have been struggling to recover this year from lockdowns in China's cities and Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The Taiwan Taix Shipping and Transportation Index slumped as much as 3.2% on Tuesday, among the worst-performing sub-indices in Taiwan's benchmark stock index. Taiwanese carrier Evergreen Marine Corp. dropped as much as 3.7%. Ms Pelosi is the third-highest ranking official in the US government and a long-time critic of Beijing. China has repeatedly warned against the visit and on Tuesday said the US would "pay the price". Taiwan is a self-ruled island, but claimed by China, which sees it as a breakaway province. Foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said China had been in communication with the US about sensitivity of the visit. On Tuesday China sent warplanes up to the median line, the informal dividing line in the Taiwan Strait between the Chinese mainland and Taiwan. Its forces have also been holding live fire drills and the Chinese military's eastern command posted a video online saying it was "fully prepared for any eventuality". Taiwan's defence ministry said it had a full grasp of military activities near the island and was determined to defend itself against any Chinese threats. The US has formal diplomatic relations with China and not Taiwan but maintains what it calls a "robust, unofficial relationship" with the island. Earlier in the week National Security Council spokesman John Kirby told reporters China could respond with military provocations - including firing missiles near Taiwan, launching large-scale air or naval activities or making "spurious legal claims" to justify a naval blockade of the Taiwan Strait.

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Editor,
The Assam Rising
Guwahati, Assam

NDA's LK Advani makes room for BJP's JP Nadda in new Parliament building

In the new Parliament building, many places that used to be the hallmark of the previous Parliament House have disappeared. For example, the room which had the nameplate of Lal Krishna Advani as working president of NDA, now has been allotted to the BJP and bears the name of party president J.P. Nadda. Anyway, the NDA now increasingly exists only on paper. It's hard to ascertain whether it has any room or function left to it. Another thing difficult to ascertain is whether JDU is part of NDA or not. Right now there is not a single JDU minister in the central government, even though there is a BJP-JDU government in Bihar. But the tussle in Bihar is that both the BJP and the JDU are saying they would contest all 243 assembly seats. It means that in Bihar, NDA is being interpreted as 'Nothing Doing Alliance'. Scenes of continuous ruckus and persistent high-pitched noises, etc are nothing new for parliamentary sessions. It's just like the good old days. The older mathadish do not see anything new in all this, although the newer hathadish feel that they are ushering in a



new revolution on a daily basis. Recently, 23 opposition MPs were suspended for the whole week due to their uproarious behaviour in the House. That's all right. After this, these MPs decided to sit on a dharna. That's fine, too. But they hadn't planned their next move, and so, in haste, they decided to stay there for the entire night. There was a heavy downpour and all of them had to seek shelter under the shed. When the rain subsided, mosquitoes started to sting the hapless MPs, forcing them to take cover of nets. Then, it started to rain again during the night, so they once again fled inside

One of the features of every new regulation in India has been the requirement to set up a grievance redress mechanism for consumers. For example, the Information Technology Rules, 2021 and the Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020 require the appointment of a nodal or a resident grievance redress officer to address consumer complaints. The Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System has been set up so that citizens can lodge complaints about service delivery by public entities. The financial sector in India has been running a system of grievance redress for decades. Understanding what works, and what (mostly) doesn't, will hold important lessons for improving redress mechanisms in other domains. One would assume that it would be in the interest of firms to provide their customers with good service. A firm more responsive to complaints would attract loyal customers. However, this has not been our experience in the financial sector. Firms in India are not geared toward providing better systems of even collecting complaints, forget resolving them. Most financial firms do not provide details of their policy, and when they do, the



policies are extremely difficult to understand. Customers require college-level reading skills in English to make sense of the policies on offer. It is possible that firms do not see value in providing better systems of redress because of limited competition. Despite the great progress made on financial inclusion, customers repeatedly say that they fear retribution by financial firms, or fear not being able to access the product if they go against the provider. This is true especially in rural areas, where consumers do not seem to have much choice. It is not surprising then if firms don't seem too troubled at the prospect of losing a consumer; they probably know that this is unlikely to happen. The loss in revenue from a customer who exits may also not matter much to public sector financial firms. Unless firms see value in dealing with consumer grievances,

Renuka Sane

we are not going to see them making the investments to do so. If carrots don't work, perhaps the stick of regulation will? The regulatory process, however, also leaves much to be desired. The structure is broken. For example, in India, the regulator often appoints an 'Ombudsman', thus creating a potential conflict of interest. A redress agency will have more teeth if it is independent of the regulatory body. The processes at the redress agencies are complicated, and complaints are often dismissed due to technicalities, and not actually heard on merit. Even if a customer escalates the complaint, closure at the Ombudsman is uncertain. Most

importantly, the consequences of failing to comply with the decision of the Ombudsman are unclear. Of the 68 awards passed by the Banking Ombudsman in 2019-20, only 38 (or 56%) were implemented. There seems to be no penalty on the firm for not addressing the problem, and several financial sector regulators are not able to act against non-compliance by firms. Firms do not seem to be interested, regulation is broken. In such an environment, to what extent do consumers access the grievance redress mechanisms? The problem is that official records do not capture the extent of grievances. Firms do not adequately report the number of complaints that come to them, and the number they resolve. Annual reports by all financial sector regulators would have you believe that there is no problem. The extent and nature of grievances remain unknown. However, research finds that in the financial sector, actual grievances are 60-80 times of those actually reported. There are several reasons - sometimes consumers don't know where to go, and sometimes they have little faith that a resolution will be possible, and do not want to in-

vest their time in the process. It is true that not all the grievances may be legitimate, and that several of these (such as transaction failures on UPI) may get reversed in the next few days. But in the absence of regular and transparent capturing of this data, we will never know. Our experience from the financial sector tells us that it is not enough to have laws that set up a nodal officer. One needs a careful design of a system that sets the right incentives for firms and consumers. There may be lessons to be learned from international experience on issues of manner of establishment, governance, funding, dispute resolution processes, and performance evaluation of grievance redress systems. Closer home, in 2015-16, the Ministry of Finance had undertaken preparatory work for the setting up of the Financial Redress Agency to deal with consumer complaints against all financial service providers. Even if there is no appetite for reform in the financial sector, the findings of the task force may be beneficial for setting up redress systems in domains such as intermediary regulation and e-commerce. Finally, without regular evaluation of the working of any system through collection of qualitative and quantitative data, as well as mystery shopping exercises, we will all be flying blind.

Boris Johnson's allergy to the truth could be a winning strategy for Liz Truss

The Tory leadership contest is a three-way battle. Rishi Sunak campaigns against Liz Truss and Liz Truss campaigns against gravity. The former chancellor's pitch is to renew a party weighed down by 12 years in power. The foreign secretary pretends that those years are a burden on some other party. She offers the fantasy of regime change. It is a difference of demeanour more than policy. Sunak performs in the earnest managerial style of a minister holding a line in a broadcast interview. Truss's vibe is an opposition MP holding forth at a party conference fringe event. The foreign secretary doesn't even pretend to be in the business of serious government, which, to be fair, she isn't. She is playing by Boris Johnson's rules in a game that was never won with seriousness. According to that playbook, a leader can announce a half-baked policy one day and, on meeting with a

backlash, rescind it the day after. On Monday, Truss proposed a "war on Whitehall waste". Then Tory MPs who read the small print complained that the proposal meant docking the wages of teachers and nurses outside London. By Tuesday, Truss was denying she had ever had such a policy. Johnsonism is the technique of saying things to woo one's audience without caring how they will be heard farther afield. At a hustings event on Monday, Truss was applauded for saying that her approach to Nicola Sturgeon would be to ignore her as "an attention-seeker". The implication is that Sturgeon's demands for a referendum are a tantrum and that the UK prime minister is the adult in the relationship. No sympathy with Scottish nationalism is needed to see how damaging that is for the unionist cause. It stirs the exact grievance Sturgeon needs to whip up support for a second referendum in the absence of momentum for independence. In case anyone thought things would ever change at Westminster, here is the same old

English Tory arrogance as far as the eye can see. It is hard to get any other perspective when the mechanism for choosing a prime minister is a competition to satisfy the ideological fetishes of Conservative activists. It is harder still when the failings of the outgoing leader - estrangement from competence; allergy to truth - are forgotten so quickly that the favourite to succeed him is the one who mourns his departure. Truss's frontrunner

Rafael Behr

status is not certain. But it is supported by opinion polls and by a rush of opportunist MPs to endorse the candidate they think will win. If that bet pays off, the foreign secretary's anti-gravity platform will be the reason. She denounces a failing economy and pledges a rupture from prevailing orthodoxy as if



those things were properties of a government other than the one in which she serves. She seems to think Britain has been badly ruled for as long as anyone can remember, but also that Johnson has been a fine prime minister; maybe not beyond reproach, but not to be reproached by her. It would be a preposterous plan, defying all political logic, but for the recent precedent of a Tory prime minister taking over from another Tory prime minister and successfully pretending they had nothing in common. When Johnson replaced Theresa May, he cast his predecessor as a relic of the old politics. She was the last governor of Remainia - a country that was abolished by the Brexit revolution. May's time in office was written off along with the previous six years when David Cameron had been prime minister. That was possible because Brexit was an epoch-defining upheaval. There was a seismic scale to Johnson's landslide election victory that gave credence to his claim that a new era had begun. Then the pandemic hit and whatever had once felt normal was swept into an even remoter past. Those conditions won't pertain in September 2022. The part of Brexit that is done has failed and there is no mass clamour for the parts that the Tory party wants to do harder - purging legacy EU regulations; fighting Brussels over Northern Ireland. Meanwhile, prices are rising, real wages are shrinking and the health service is falling over. The prime minister will be new to the job but not to the country. The government will feel old. Gravity can be suspended during a leadership contest. It rarely stays absent for long in Downing Street. From the point of view of the Tory membership there is an obvious appeal in the pre-

tence that none of what has come before is relevant to what can come next. Sunak is hardly assailing his party with hard truths, but there is something about his teetotal candidacy that feels like a spoilsport hand over the party's glass while Truss uncorks another bottle. It must also be hard also for voters in this particular contest to remember that they are just a tiny portion of the actual electorate. They all know it in theory, but in practice, when the Conservatives have been in power for so long, when they were in power more often than not in the 20th century, when they have already dominated this century despite Labour getting a head start, it is easy to imagine that, as a rule, British politics is English and English politics is Tory. Even in those febrile, convulsive years after the 2016 referendum, when the country was turned upside down by a supposedly anti-establishment revolution, the most establishment party on earth somehow landed back in government. With that record of revisionist chutzpah it is easy to see why Truss thinks she can wipe the slate clean. Declare Year One of the Trussian Age. And maybe she can. The same complacency that has some Tories thinking they are entitled to perpetual power infects the opposition with a neurotic fear that this is true. I detect a shift in Labour's mood - from glee at the prospect of taking on the gaffe-prone crackpot Truss to wariness. Gaffes are only a liability if the candidate is embarrassed by them. Cracks can give the pot a valuable ring of authenticity in an election campaign. There is still every reason to think that gravity will win the undeclared next round of the Tory leadership contest. But, such is the perverse state of British politics that Truss may be the one who is better placed to face that challenger by flatly refusing to accept it exists.

Bharat Agrawal

the shed while carrying the mosquito nets. Passing time became a laborious chore. In between, a friend of the MPs sent some dinner. And the meal turned out to be a sumptuous chicken recipe. Later, someone noticed that they were eating in front of the Gandhi statue and the bones of the chicken were also being discarded there. Now, the videos and photos of this night have gone viral on social media. It is yet to be decided as to who should be held responsible for this fiasco. It is often said that

Goddess Lakshmi is fickle in her nature - but we have only now come to know the extent of her fickleness. In West Bengal, cash worth crores and jewellery worth several lakhs were found at the residences of some of the aides of former TMC minister Partha Chatterjee. Then, also in West Bengal, a currency counting machine had to be brought in to count all the cash recovered from the car of three Jharkhand MLAs. It is rumoured that the Enforcement Directorate has also come to know that these days Goddess Lakshmi's benevolence is much more fruitful for the people from the eastern part of the country. The rest are worried as to when their photo will be published. In any case, Partha Chatterjee has given a big issue to his detractors. Such a hefty stash of money hidden in such plain sight! CM Mamata Banerjee's worry now is to ensure that the heat from the cash scandal does not affect the rest of her party, and even if it does, then it should be contained at least. This is called 'damage control'. CM Banerjee is soon going to meet PM Narendra Modi in Delhi during a meeting of the NITI Aayog. Last year, Banerjee did not attend the meeting. But this time, she has not

canceled her Delhi trip yet. It is being said that she would also carry out a wholesale reshuffle in the party as well as the state cabinet, and is also likely to hold a press conference in Delhi. Traveling in Haryana buses will teach you that the passenger is responsible for the safety of their belongings. Now this same idea seems to apply to the Haryana Pradesh Congress. The state unit has convened a Chintan Shivir in Panchkula like Udaipur. Invitations for this event, scheduled to be held in the first week of August, have been dispatched to all Congress persons, including Kiran Chaudhary. Now it's not known whether she will attend the camp or not. In fact, ever since Ajay Maken accused her of malpractice in the Rajya Sabha election, Congress leaders have been avoiding her. Will Vivek Bansal come? A state Congress leader, who is working in AICC, said that if he comes, then he will have to protect himself on his own. Bansal is rarely seen at the party headquarters these days.



NASA: A short story

Over the next three decades, NASA will send robotic probes to explore our solar system, including our Earth's Moon, the planet Mars, the moons of Jupiter and other outer planets, and will launch new space telescopes to search for planets beyond our solar system. These robotic explorers will pursue compelling scientific questions, demonstrate breakthrough technologies, identify space resources, and extend an advanced telepresence that will send stunning imagery back to Earth. Starting at the Moon in 2008 and at Mars in 2011, NASA will launch dedicated robotic missions that will demonstrate new technologies and enhance our scientific knowledge of these destinations. These new technologies and discoveries will pave the way for more capable robotic missions and eventually human missions. The first human explorers will be sent to the Moon as early as 2015, as a stepping stone to demonstrate sustainable approaches to exploring Mars and other worlds. To support these missions, a number of key building blocks are necessary. These include new capabilities in propulsion, power, communications, crew transport, and launch, as well as the refocusing of ongoing programs like Space Station research. Major achievements, including the completion of Space Station assembly, test flights of new crew transport capabilities, and space technology demonstra-

tions, are expected before the end of this decade. The activities in each of the sections in this roadmap, Moon, Mars, Outer Moons, Extrasolar Planets, and Exploration Building Blocks, are described in detail on the following pages. Sections describing changes in the NASA organization and resources to implement this plan are also included. During the late 1960s and early 1970s, the Apollo program demonstrated American technical strength in a race against the Soviet Union to land humans on the Moon. Today, NASA's plans for a return to the Moon are not driven by Cold War competition, but by the need to test new exploration technologies and skills on the path to Mars and beyond. Additionally, during the 1990s, robotic missions identified potential evidence of water ice at the Moon's poles, a resource that could make exploration further into the solar system easier to conduct. NASA will begin its lunar testbed program with a series of robotic missions. The first, an orbiter to confirm and map lunar resources in detail, will launch in 2008. A robotic landing will follow in 2009 to begin demonstrating capabilities for sustainable exploration of the solar system. Additional missions, potentially up to one a year, are planned to demonstrate new capabilities such as robotic networks, reusable planetary landing and launch systems, pre-positioned propellants, and resource extraction.

Advantage of Solar energy in the current scenario

Solar energy, radiation from the Sun capable of producing heat, causing chemical reactions, or generating electricity. The total amount of solar energy incident on Earth is vastly in excess of the world's current and anticipated energy requirements. If suitably harnessed, this highly diffused source has the potential to satisfy all future energy needs. In the 21st century solar energy is expected to become increasingly attractive as a renewable energy source because of its inexhaustible supply and its nonpolluting character, in stark contrast to the finite fossil fuels, coal, petroleum, and natural gas. The Sun is an extremely powerful energy source, and sunlight is by far the largest source of energy received by Earth, but its intensity at Earth's surface is actually quite low. This is essentially because of the enormous radial spreading of radiation from the distant Sun. A relatively minor additional loss is due to Earth's atmosphere and clouds, which absorb or scatter as much as 54 percent of the incoming sunlight. The sunlight that reaches the ground consists of nearly 50 percent visible light, 45 percent infrared radiation, and smaller amounts of ultraviolet and other forms of electromagnetic radiation. The potential for solar energy is enormous, since about 200,000 times the world's total daily electric-generating capacity is received by Earth every day in the form of solar energy. Unfortunately, though solar energy itself is free, the high cost of its collection, conversion, and storage still limits its ex-

ploitation in many places. Solar radiation can be converted either into thermal energy (heat) or into electrical energy, though the former is easier to accomplish. Among the most common devices used to capture solar energy and convert it to thermal energy are flat-plate collectors, which are used for solar heating applications. Because the intensity of solar radiation at Earth's surface is so low, these collectors must be large in area. Even in sunny parts of the world's temperate regions, for instance, a collector

ceilings, it can provide space heating. Flat-plate collectors typically heat carrier fluids to temperatures ranging from 66 to 93 °C (150 to 200 °F). The efficiency of such collectors (i.e., the proportion of the energy received that they convert into usable energy) ranges from 20 to 80 percent, depending on the design of the collector. Another method of thermal energy conversion is found in solar ponds, which are bodies of salt water designed to collect and store solar energy. The heat extracted from

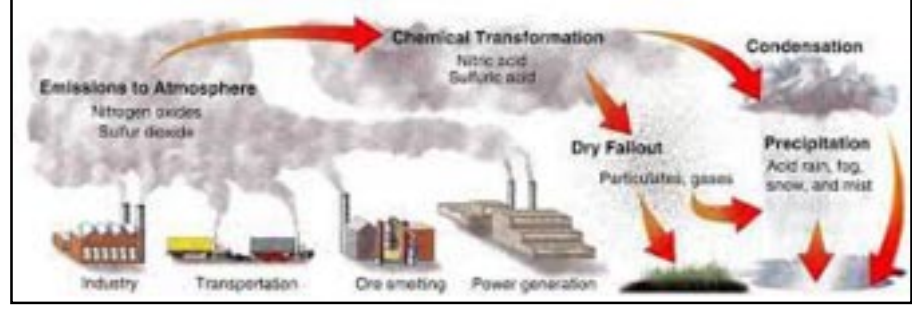
SOLAR ENERGY	
Advantage	Disadvantage
Renewable & Pollution Free	Needs Lots of Space
Reduce Electricity Bill	High Initial Cost
Less to No Maintenance for Years	No Solar Power at Night & Cloudy Days
More Solar Energy in Summer	Less Solar Energy in Winter
Diverse Application	DC Equipment are Expensive
Can be Stored in Battery	Expensive Battery

must have a surface area of about 40 square metres (430 square feet) to gather enough energy to serve the energy needs of one person. The most widely used flat-plate collectors consist of a blackened metal plate, covered with one or two sheets of glass, that is heated by the sunlight falling on it. This heat is then transferred to air or water, called carrier fluids, that flow past the back of the plate. The heat may be used directly, or it may be transferred to another medium for storage. Flat-plate collectors are commonly used for solar water heaters and house heating. The storage of heat for use at night or on cloudy days is commonly accomplished by using insulated tanks to store the water heated during sunny periods. Such a system can supply a home with hot water drawn from the storage tank, or, with the warmed water flowing through tubes in floors and

such ponds enables the production of chemicals, food, textiles, and other industrial products and can also be used to warm greenhouses, swimming pools, and livestock buildings. Solar ponds are sometimes used to produce electricity through the use of the organic Rankine cycle engine, a relatively efficient and economical means of solar energy conversion, which is especially useful in remote locations. Solar ponds are fairly expensive to install and maintain and are generally limited to warm rural areas. On a smaller scale, the Sun's energy can also be harnessed to cook food in specially designed solar ovens. Solar ovens typically concentrate sunlight from over a wide area to a central point, where a black-surfaced vessel converts the sunlight into heat. The ovens are typically portable and require no other

fuel inputs. Solar radiation may be converted directly into electricity by solar cells (photovoltaic cells). In such cells, a small electric voltage is generated when light strikes the junction between a metal and a semiconductor (such as silicon) or the junction between two different semiconductors. (See photovoltaic effect.) The power generated by a single photovoltaic cell is typically only about two watts. By connecting large numbers of individual cells together, however, as in solar-panel arrays, hundreds or even thousands of kilowatts of electric power can be generated in a solar electric plant or in a large household array. The energy efficiency of most present-day photovoltaic cells is only about 15 to 20 percent, and, since the intensity of solar radiation is low to begin with, large and costly assemblies of such cells are required to produce even moderate amounts of power. Solar energy is also used on a small scale for purposes other than those described above. In some countries, for instance, solar energy is used to produce salt from seawater by evaporation. Similarly, solar-powered desalination units transform salt water into drinking water by converting the Sun's energy to heat, directly or indirectly, to drive the desalination process. Solar technology has also emerged for the clean and renewable production of hydrogen as an alternative energy source. Mimicking the process of photosynthesis, artificial leaves are silicon-based devices that use solar energy to split water into hydrogen and oxygen, leaving virtually no pollutants. Further work is needed to improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of these devices for industrial use.

The Industrial Revolution in Britain led to widespread pollution in the form of factory smoke, and raised the issue of social relief. Scholars have argued that the Smoke Nuisance Abatement Act of 1821 resulted from the efforts of just one public-spirited politician. In this paper, however, through examining parliamentary debates on this issue, we analyze how politicians, landlords, and industrialists viewed the damages caused by air pollution, how they developed a framework for redress, and how they interwove their interests into the act. Landowners, and even the manufacturers who were responsible, recognized that air pollution caused damage to property. For this reason, the act was promoted by landowners and even some industrial capitalists, although they are normally regarded as opponents of smoke regulation. As smoke prevention techniques of the time might be a source of profit for manufacturers, the act of 1821 did not conflict with their business principles. The owners of private property were merely seeking redress for damages that they had suffered. It was not until 1840s that more interventionist legislation aimed at helping urban labourers was contemplated. Without a doubt,



the way of industrial management system. Even though we can currently do things much more efficiently than before, but the cost of this efficiency may seem inexpensive in many ways, however we do not realize that the cost of these new technologies do not just include money, time and labour, but it also costs us our wellbeing as well as earth. This is also a fact that rapid industrial growth has made water, air and hazardous waste pressing environmental problem in many areas of the developing world. Industrial emissions combine with vehicle exhausts caused extensive air pollution, while concentrations of heavy metals and ammonia loads are often high enough to cause major threat to life down-river from industrial areas. The lack of hazardous waste facilities compounds the problem, with industrial wastes often discarded on fallow or public lands, in rivers, or in sewers designed to carry only municipal wastes. To have a look on the relationships

between industrial expansion, environmental hazards caused and policies to deal with both in Pakistan, it is clear that there is an urgent need for revision of governance structures to deal with such cases. Although data is scarce, it is clear that industrial pollution is increasing rapidly and connected health and productivity impacts are significantly wors-

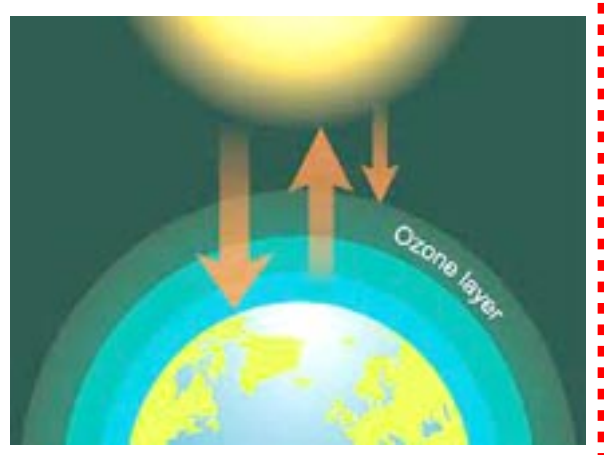
or abating pollution are two of the fourteen core program areas of the National Conservation Strategy (NCS) of Pakistan, approved in 1992. Pakistan Environmental Protection Act 1997 provides for the protection of the environment, pollution control and the promotion of sustainable development. Section 11 of this Act pro-

well aware of their social and legal responsibilities will respond adequately to this new system which does not involve any role for environmental (protection/control), inspectors. The self-monitoring and reporting system takes into account the interests and resources of both the EPAs and industry, which may save considerable time, efforts and money, of the EPAs, which further involves industry in evaluating environmental performance, leading to pollution controls measures. Under the new system, industries have been classified into categories A, B, and C: each corresponding to a specified reporting frequency. For liquid effluents, the recommended reporting frequency is monthly for category A; quarterly for category B and biannually for category C. For gaseous emissions, the recommended reporting frequency for categories A and B are monthly and quarterly, respectively. For most of the industries only 4 to 6 priority parameters have been proposed under normal plant operating conditions. To facilitate the self-monitoring and reporting program, the SMART tool has also been developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Pakistan with technical assistance from the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), which can be used by industrial units to generate reports of the emissions levels (environmental data) and send the same to EPAs for compilation and further analysis. A pilot-phase program for SMART demonstration and testing was successfully completed which was jointly organized and conducted by EPA and SDPI in collaboration with federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI).

Ozone Layer Depletion

Ozone is a colorless or slightly bluish triatomic molecule of three atomic oxygen with molecular formula O₃. Ozone is much less common than normal oxygen. Out of each 10 million-air molecules, about 2 million are normal oxygen, but only 3 are ozone. If the ozone in a column of the atmosphere is compressed at normal temperature and pressure (NTP), it would occupy a column of about 3 mm thick where as total air would occupy a column of 8 km thick. However, even the small amount of ozone plays a key role in the atmosphere. The ozone molecules in the lower atmosphere and the upper atmosphere are chemically identical. However, they have very different roles in the atmosphere and very different effects on humans and other living creatures on the Earth. In spite of being in such a small proportion, the ozone plays a major role in climatology and biology of the earth. Thus ozone is intimately connected with the life sustaining process. Any depletion of ozone would, therefore, will have catastrophic effects on life system of earth. Ozone in the troposphere is increasing due to manmade pollutants. The increase in tropospheric ozone is not only a matter of concern

from global warming point of view, but it is also harmful for human health and for vegetation. This paradoxical dual role of ozone in the atmosphere has an occasion, led to the doubling of the stratospheric ozone as "good" ozone and tropospheric ozone as "bad" ozone. Most of the earth's atmospheric ozone about 90% is found to be in the stratosphere, a region of atmosphere between 10 and 50 km altitude and about 10% of total ozone is found to be in troposphere, a region from surface to about 10 km height. The peak ozone concentration occurs in the region of 20 to 30 km, referred to as stratospheric ozone layer or ozonosphere. The ozonosphere absorbs all harmful solar ultraviolet (UV) radiations (~240nm-300nm) coming from the sun and it provides a benevolent environment for living organisms to survive on the earth and hence acts as a protective umbrella. If there were no ozonosphere in the atmosphere, all harmful UV radiations and highly energetic particles coming from the space would enter into the Earth's surface and cause damage to the living organisms. Living organisms are sensitive specifically to radiation at wavelengths less than 400 nm. Since wavelengths shorter than 280 nm are almost completely absorbed by the atmosphere, the radiation relevant to environmental biology is restricted to the UV-B (280-325 nm) and UV-A (315-400 nm) ranges. The sunlight that reaches us contains only 0.5% UV-B radiation in terms



of radiant energy. This small fraction of radiation is responsible for most of the effects of sunlight on the living organisms. It is estimated that ~1% decrease in stratospheric ozone leads to a ~2% increase in UVB. Hence, a reduction in stratospheric ozone leads to increase levels of UVB at the earth's surface. Studies have shown that in the Antarctica, the amounts of UVB measured at the surface can double during the annual ozone hole. While more than 30% of the world's animal protein for human consumption comes from the sea alone, it is wondered that increased levels of UV exposure can have adverse impacts on the productivity of marine systems. High levels of exposure in tropics and subtropics may affect the distribution of phytoplanktons, which form the foundation of aquatic food webs. Reportedly a recent study has indicated 6-12% reduction in phytoplankton production in the marginal ice zone due to increase in

UV-B. UV-B can also cause damage to early developmental stages of fish, shrimp, crab, amphibians and other animals. Consequently, the most severe effects are being decreased reproductive capacity and impaired larval development. Global warming: The main factors of ozone layer depletion are CFC's and oxides of nitrogen. These gases in the troposphere are also greenhouse gases. Due to over greenhouse effect, the temperature of the earth increases and it causes global warming. It is believed that if the temperature of the earth continues to increase in the present proportion, the day is not so far, when the oceans will overcome number of islands. Also this global warming has a great impact on Earth's magnetism, gravitation, melting of ice, sea overflow, change of weather, disease affecting bacteria virus explosion etc. In addition, the increase in UV radiation also harms plastic and other materials.

Contd. From Page 1

Japanese Encephalitis : 52 people

people go home from relief centres, the risk of mosquito and water-borne diseases is high.Since the outbreak of the disease, 52 people have died so far, according to the National Health Mission in Assam. Four died on August 2 itself in Nagaon district, which is one of the worst affected districts of Assam. While a total of 305 people were detected with the mosquito-borne disease in one month, three among them were infected on August 2. Nagaon district has recorded 44 cases - the highest so far - followed by 39 cases in Jorhat and 34 cases in Golaghat.According to state health officials, besides Japanese Encephalitis, acute encephalitis syndrome has killed 16 people this year and there are 143 cases so far. The state health department has taken steps to create awareness and has undertaken various preventive measures.Meanwhile, Japanese Encephalitis tests have been made free in all district hospitals and government-run medical colleges. Besides, the state government has kept all the nine medical colleges and 10 district hospitals on alert, readying up ICU and laboratory test facilities. Medicines for acute encephalitis syndrome and Japanese Encephalitis are available at all designated hospitals.Fogging with Malathion is being done regularly and 6.8 lakh insecticide-treated mosquito nets have been distributed in the affected areas, according to the National Health Mission.

National Herald case

has been taken to "preserve the evidence" which could not be collected as authorised representatives were not present during the raids on Tuesday. The rest of the National Herald office remains open, sources told the news agency. As per the officials, the ED sleuths had emailed the principal officer/incharge of the Young Indian office to open the premises for the central agency to conduct the searches, however, a response was awaited.

CM Himanta Biswa assures strict

Biswa Sarma stated that a few more madrasas will be investigated by the police. According to a report by The Sentinel, Himanta Biswa Sarma said, "We have already sealed two madrasas for their jihadi link. The government has the policy to seal madrasas if it gets any concrete complaints regarding their jihadi link. The authorities will admit the students of the sealed madrasas in nearby general schools."He added, "We have no government madrasas in the state. We have already closed down 750 government madrasas. Only privately run madrasas are operational. However, if we get any concrete information on their link with fundamentalists, we will not have any second thought to take action against them."The report by India Today Northeast revealed that the All Assam Tanzim Madaris Qawmiya, with its headquarters in Nilbagan in the Hajoai district, governs all private madrasas in the state of Assam. It is a private board that controls madrasas in adjacent states Nagaland and Meghalaya as well. These madrasas in Assam have enrollments of close to 100,000 students. Most of these madrasas are located in the districts of Nagaon, Hojai, Dhubri, and Goalpara, where enrollment rates are also significantly greater.It further states that the madrasa where Mustafa taught, Saruchala Al-Jamiatus Salihat Madrasatul Banat, is also affiliated with All Assam Tanzim Madaris Qawmiya. According to Morigaon SP Aparna Natarajan, Mustafa was also heading another private madrasa from which he was detained. However, according to government officials, Mustafa's arrest does not necessarily imply that all madrasas, or the students and instructors connected to them, have any links to terrorism.The All Assam Tanzim Madaris Qawmiya, formerly known as Madaris-E Quawmiya, was founded in 1955 with the aim of not only establishing madrasas but also optimizing their administrative and educational processes. It was given its present name in 1982. Initially limiting its operations to the southern portions of the Nagaon district, the board steadily broadened its reach. Badaruddin Ajmal, leader of the AIUDF (All India United Democratic Front) and a wealthy perfumes businessman, serves as the board's president.According to the board's preamble, it was established to protect and propagate Islam's philosophy as well as "Islamic science" and knowledge around the globe in order to create individuals who could counteract the so-called falsehoods and misrepresentations allegedly being promoted about Islam and madrasas as well as dismantle the anti-Muslim influences. According to Moulana Abdul Qadir Quasimi, general secretary of All Assam Tanzim Madaris Qawmiya, the board does not provide donations to madrasas, yet, under the promise of secrecy, the chiefs of several madrasas acknowledged to India Today that they do get regular funding from the board.Remarkably, one of the three types of madrasas in the state is a Banat madrasa (intended solely for girl students); the other two were Arabia (a quami madrasa controlled by the community) and Hafizia (where Quran is memorized). The number of Banat madrasas in Assam grew from 140 to 219 between 2016 and 2021, reflecting the biggest increase of the three.

CM Dr. Sarma holds meeting

lined up for the Independence Day celebrations should help the young generation to connect with the rich heritage of the country and the unparalleled sacrifice made by freedom fighters. He also said that the security forces on the occasion should also put up their show in such a manner to elicit people's participation and love for the country. Government buildings would be illuminated aesthetically and patriotic songs will be played across the state in the run up to Independence Day. He also asked Chief Secretary Jishnu Baruah to hold a meeting with all the Deputy Commissioners to plan the celebrations of the Independence Day in a grand manner in their respective districts. The Chief Minister also asked the security forces to take adequate security measures to foil any purported bid from any anti-social element to disrupt celebrations.

Haven't levelled charges against

Quattrocchi figuring as a 'middleman' in the deal.Hazarika tweeted: "5 days before filing the fabricated FIR, Hon'ble CM Dr.@himantabiswa sir took him to the Residence of the Hon'ble Union Coal Minister Shri @JoshiPralhad ji at 9 am of 26th July, 2022 in order to help him in his trade union related matter."Demanding action against Jaimangal, the Assam minister added, "Mr. @KumarJaimangal has been regularly meeting HCM Dr.@himantabiswa sir. He should face the law for making a fraudulent allegation against Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam and against those tribal MLAs."Soon after the FIR was lodged, Sarma had told reporters that Congress leaders stay in touch with him as friends owing to his over-two-decade-long association with the party.Sarma had joined the BJP in 2015 and had assumed the post of chief minister of Assam in May 2021.Meanwhile, one Deepak Rao Singh on Tuesday lodged a complaint against Jaimangal with Argora Police Station alleging that he "hatched a conspiracy against the MLAs and falsely implicated them despite having cordial relations with the Assam CM."

Gold Medalist Nayanmoni Saikia

her life, but she never sacrificed the game," says Nayanmoni's husband Bhaskar Jyoti Gohain to The Bridge.Nayanmoni was born into a middle-class family in Golaghat, Assam. She was always passionate about sports and she started her career in sports through weightlifting. However, due to leg injury and deteriorating performance she chose Lawn Bowls because this sport was a game without injuries.After she took the sport, she represented Assam and India many times. She won gold medals in National Games in individual and team events held in 2011 and 2015.Additionally, she also bagged gold medal in the Asian Lawn Bowls Championship in 2012 in the girls' under-25 section.She also represented the country in Commonwealth games held in the year 2014 and 2018.he Indian Women team of leader Lovely Choubey, followed by Pinki, Nayanmoni Saikia (third) and Rupa Rani Tirkey (fourth) on Tuesday scripted history by bagging Gold medal in Lawn Bowl at the Commonwealth Games, 2022 held in Birmingham.

Mamata Banerjee expands cabinet

year. He is presently a TMC MLA from the Ballygunge assembly constituency in Kolkata.Snehasis Chakraborty and Partha Bhowmik are considered close to TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee in the party circles. They were on Monday relieved of their organizational responsibilities in North 24 Parganas and Hooghly districts respectively.Udayan Guha is a former Forward Bloc leader who joined TMC after the 2016 assembly polls. He was one of the frontrunners for induction into the cabinet from north Bengal. Son of former Left Front minister Kamal Guha, Udayan is currently one of the tallest TMC leaders in the Cooch Behar district.

Nancy Pelosi departs Taiwan after hailing its democracy, caps visit that irked China

TAIPEI, August 03 : U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi left Taiwan on Wednesday after pledging solidarity and hailing its democracy, leaving a trail of Chinese anger over her brief visit to the self-ruled island that Beijing claims as its own. China demonstrated its outrage over the highest-level U.S. visit to the island in 25 years with a burst of military activity in surrounding waters, summoning the U.S. ambassador in Beijing and halting several agricultural imports from Taiwan.Some of China's planned military exercises were to take place within Taiwan's 12 nautical mile sea and air territory, according to Taiwan's defence ministry, an unprecedented move a senior defence official described to reporters as "amounting to a sea and air blockade of Taiwan".Pelosi arrived with a congressional delegation on her unannounced but closely watched visit late on Tuesday, defying China's repeated warnings, in what she said shows unwavering U.S. commitment to Taiwan's democracy."Our delegation came to Taiwan to make unequivocally clear that we will not abandon Taiwan," Pelosi told Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen, who Beijing suspects of pushing for formal independence - a red line for China."Now, more than ever, America's solidarity with Taiwan is crucial, and that's the message we are bringing here, today," she said during her roughly 19-hour visit.A long-time China critic, especially on human rights, Pelosi met with a former Tiananmen activist, a Hong Kong bookseller who had been detained by China, and a Taiwanese activist recently released by China.Fury on the mainland over the 82-year-old Democrat's defiance of Beijing was evident all over Chinese social media, with one blogger railing: "this old she-devil, she actually dares to come!"The last U.S. house speaker to go to Taiwan was Newt Gingrich, in 1997. But Pelosi's visit comes amid sharply deteriorating Sino-U.S. relations, and during the past quarter century China has emerged as a far more powerful economic, military and geopolitical force.China considers Taiwan part of its territory and has never renounced using force to bring it under its control. The United States warned China against using the visit as a pretext for military action against Taiwan.In retaliation, China's customs department announced a suspension of imports of citrus fruits, chilled white striped hairtail and frozen horse mackerel from Taiwan, while its commerce ministry banned export of natural sand to Taiwan.While there was little sign of protest against U.S. targets or consumer goods, there was a significant police presence outside the U.S. consulate in Shanghai and what appeared to be more security than usual outside the embassy in Beijing.Shortly after Pelosi's arrival, China's military announced joint air and sea drills near Taiwan and test launches of conventional missiles in the sea east of the island, with Chinese state news agency Xinhua describing live-fire drills and other exercises around Taiwan from Thursday to Sunday.China's foreign ministry said Pelosi's visit seriously damages peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait, "has a severe impact on the political foundation of China-U.S. relations, and seriously infringes upon China's sovereignty and territorial integrity."Before Pelosi's arrival, Chinese warplanes buzzed the line dividing the Taiwan Strait. The Chinese military said it was on high alert and would launch "targeted military operations" in response to Pelosi's visit.White House national security spokesperson John Kirby said after Pelosi's arrival in Taiwan that the United States "is not going to be intimidated" by China's threats or bellicose rhetoric and that there is no reason her visit should precipitate a crisis or conflict.Kirby said China might engage in "economic coercion" toward Taiwan, adding that the impact on U.S.-China relations will depend on Beijing's actions in coming days and weeks.U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken discussed the potential for Pelosi's visit with counterpart Wang Yi during a G20 meeting in Bali last month, and said any such trip would be entirely Pelosi's decision and independent of the U.S. government, a senior U.S. official said on Wednesday.The United States has no official diplomatic relations with Taiwan but is bound by American law to provide it with the means to defend itself. China views visits by U.S. officials to Taiwan as sending an encouraging signal to the pro-independence camp on the island. Taiwan rejects China's sovereignty claims, saying only the Taiwanese people can decide the island's future.Taiwan's military increased its alertness level. Its defence ministry said 21 Chinese aircraft entered its air defence identification zone on Tuesday, and that China was attempting to threaten key ports and cities with drills in the surrounding waters."The so-called drill areas are falling within the busiest international channels in the Indo-Pacific region," a senior Taiwan official familiar with its security planning told Reuters on Wednesday."We can see China's ambition: to make the Taiwan Strait non-international waters, as well as making the entire area west of the first island chain in the western pacific its sphere of influence," the person said.China's foreign ministry said it has not seen its military drills around Taiwan causing any freedom of navigation issues.

SC upholding PMLA amendments will 'strengthen' hands of govt: Opposition seeks review

New Delhi, August 03 : Days after the Supreme Court backed the Enforcement Directorate's powers under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), several Opposition parties on Tuesday (August 2, 2022) issued a joint statement and expressed apprehensions about the long-term implications of the top court's verdict. In a joint statement, leaders of as many as 17 parties said that the judgment will "strengthen" the hands of a government that "indulges in political vendetta" to target its opponents. They expressed hope that this "dangerous verdict will be short-lived" and called for a review."We place on record our deep apprehension on the long-term implications of the recent Supreme Court judgment upholding, in entirety, the amendments to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, without examining whether some of these amendments could have been enacted by way of Finance Act," they said in the statement.The parties added that they hold and will always hold the Supreme Court in the highest respect."Yet, we are compelled to point out that the judgment should have awaited the verdict of a larger Bench for examining the constitutionality of the Finance Act route to carry out amendments."These far-reaching amendments strengthened the hands of a government, indulging in the political vendetta of the worst kind, by using these very amended laws relating to money laundering and investigation agencies, to target its political opponents in a mischievous and malicious manner," the opposition parties alleged."We are also very disappointed that the highest judicial authority, invited to give an independent verdict on the lack of checks and balances in the Act, has virtually reproduced arguments given by the executive in support of draconian amendments. We hope that the dangerous verdict will be short-lived and constitutional provisions will prevail soon," the opposition leaders said in their joint statement.Congress, Mamata Banerjee's Trinamool Congress, DMK, AAP, NCP, Shiv Sena, CPI-M, CPI, IUML, RSP, MDMK, RJD, and RLD were among the parties that signed the joint statement.Earlier on July 27, the apex court had backed the ED's powers under PMLA and had said that Section 19, which deals with the power to arrest, does not suffer from the "vice of arbitrariness". Upholding the validity of some provisions of the PMLA, a bench headed by Justice AM Khanwilkar had also said that Section 5 of the Act relating to the attachment of property of those involved in money laundering is constitutionally valid. The Supreme Court said the supply of Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) in every case to the person concerned is not mandatory. The ECIR is the ED's equivalent of a police FIR.

Lokra Bn. conduct Pipe Band display at Tezpur

Assam Rising, Biswanath Chariali, August 3 : Lokra Battalion of Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ 21 Sector Assam Rifles and Inspector General Assam Rifles (East) organised a Pipe Band Display on the occasion of Sonitpur District Day at Nehru Maidan in Tezpur, District Sonitpur, Assam on August 3. Various other activities like tree plantation, cycle rally and cultural events were also organised to mark the celebration. The event was attended by dignitaries like MP Tezpur and MLAs of Tezpur, Barchalla and Jagiroad. The spectators and the locals of Tezpur town were amazed and delighted after having seen the mesmerizing performance of the Lokra Battalion Pipe Band.

PGSU Condemns Police Atrocities On Protestors

Guwahati, August 03 : Post-Graduate Students' Union (PGSU) of Gauhati University condemned the police brutality on the students during the protest and alleged that ACP Bhargav Goswami has done atrocities on the students.The GU students on Tuesday staged protest due to the anomalies in the fifth semester results declared by the university on July 29.During the protest, police intervened and showed brutality against the protesters.GU fifth semester results were declared on July 29 and the students alleged there are various anomalies in the results and hence staged peaceful protest against the issue.PGSU was trying to find a solution to the issue however, they alleged the protest turned violent when police intervened and tried to stop the protest by forcefully pushing them into a bus and trying to take them to the police station.The students' union blamed GU authorities, police and government for the entire situation.They demanded police to answer about the atrocities done by them yesterday during the protest in GU campus or they will stage another massive protest.They said irregularities on the part of Integrated University Management System (IUMS) led to the anomalies of the fifth semester results. They further accused that the incident happened as black-listed IT companies of Delhi were given online access for declaring the results.They demanded within 2-3days the online access given to them should be withdrawn.Many students from different colleges under GU came together and protested.During the police intervention and brutality, protesting students including PGSU President Hemen Kalita of the university was detained by the police.Many students including the general secretary and the president of the students' union were injured in the incident.A girl student was also shifted to the hospital for treatment due to injuries.The General Secretary of GU, Biki Sarma said, "The Jalukbari Police and the authorities of the university tried to break down a peaceful protest that was organised by over 500 students against the alleged anomalies of the fifth semester results. We condemn the grievous action by the police on the students. We want justice and we will protest until our demands are heard."

Heatwaves increasing in India, likely to be more frequent in future, warns Centre

NEW DELHI, August 03 : Temperatures during India's monsoon season have risen this century and the country could see more frequent heatwaves in the future, the government said on Wednesday, but it added that heat-related deaths have fallen in recent years. India suffered its hottest March in more than a century this year and temperatures were unusually high in April and May too, mainly blamed on climate change. The government says heatwaves are common mainly between April and June."The average temperature during the monsoon season is found to be rising in the last two decades," India's science and technology and earth sciences minister, Jitendra Singh, told parliament."The warming of the tropical Indian Ocean and more frequent El Nino events in the future may lead to more frequent and long-lasting heatwaves over India."El Nino is characterised by a warming of sea-surface temperatures in the Pacific. It causes heavy rains and floods in South America and scorching weather in Asia and even east Africa.Singh said India's mean temperature during the June-September monsoon season rose to nearly 28.4 degrees Celsius (83.1°F) last year from less than 28 degrees Celsius in 2001.Heatwave deaths, however, have come down in recent years, according to data provided by Singh to lawmakers that cited newspaper reports.For this year through July, India recorded 24 such fatalities, versus none for the whole of last year, and 25 in 2020. That compares with a multi-year high of 505 deaths in 2019.The minister did not say why there have been fewer fatalities in recent years, but a government official earlier told Reuters that most Indian states now have plans ready to alter office and school timings as well as working hours for labourers to avoid the hottest time of day, in a bid to reduce exposure.The World Health Organization says that from 1998-2017, more than 166,000 people died due to heatwaves globally. It says that between 2030 and 2050, climate change is expected to cause about 250,000 additional deaths per year from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhea and heat stress.

US deploys four warships east of Taiwan as Nancy Pelosi heads to Taipei amid warnings from China

HONG KONG, August 03 : As U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi headed to Taipei on Tuesday amid intensifying warnings from China, four U.S. warships, including an aircraft carrier, were positioned in waters east of the island on "routine" deployments. The carrier USS Ronald Reagan had transited the South China Sea and was currently in the Philippines Sea, east of Taiwan and the Philippines and south of Japan, a U.S. Navy official confirmed to Reuters on Tuesday.The Japanese-based Reagan is operating with a guided missile cruiser, USS Antietam, and a destroyer, USS Higgins."While they are able to respond to any eventuality, these are normal, routine deployments," the official said, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. The official added that they were unable to comment on precise locations.The U.S. Navy official said the amphibious assault ship USS Tripoli was also in the area as part of a deployment to the region that started in early May from its home port of San Diego.Pelosi, a long-time China critic, was expected to arrive in Taipei later on Tuesday, people briefed on the matter said, as the United States said it would not be intimidated by Chinese "saber rattling" over the visit.Confirmation of the deployments comes as signs emerge of military activity on both sides of the Taiwan strait ahead of Pelosi's visit.In addition to Chinese planes flying close to the median line dividing the sensitive waterway on Tuesday morning, several Chinese warships had remained close to the unofficial dividing line since Monday, a source briefed on the matter told .China's defense and foreign ministries did not immediately respond to requests for comment.The source said both Chinese warships and aircraft "squeezed" the median line on Tuesday morning, an unusual move the person described as "very provocative."The person said the Chinese aircraft repeatedly conducted tactical moves of briefly "touching" the median line and circling back to the other side of the strait on Tuesday morning, while Taiwanese aircraft were on standby nearby.Taiwan's Defense Ministry said on Tuesday they have a full grasp of military activities near Taiwan and will appropriately dispatch forces in reaction to "enemy threats" as tensions rise with China.

Alice Capsey's bat inspires England to victory over South Africa



London, August 03 : England's women, having trounced South Africa through bilateral matches this summer, delivered them one last defeat that all but qualified them for a Commonwealth Games semi-final in T20 cricket. The teenage sensation Alice Capsey was again the key for England's batting, with an even 50 out of 167 for five. South Africa never looked like meeting that pace in the chase, finishing on 141 for four. With England's regular captain, Heather Knight, still on crutches with a hip injury, Capsey has made the most of her absence. Her innings of 44 on Commonwealth Games debut steadied a wobbling run chase against Sri Lanka last Sunday, then she backed it up with her

first half-century for England in this match. Capsey is still nine days short of her 18th birthday but is aiming to start the party early after the gold medal match this Sunday night. South Africa's speedster Shabnim Ismail started her team on the right note, firing off a swinging yorker with her first ball that went straight through Sophia Dunkley and flattened leg stump. But that brought Capsey to the crease and she smashed three balls over the off-side field in one Nadine de Klerk over after Danni Wyatt had scored boundaries of her own from the first two balls. Ismail returned to take Wyatt's edge for a catch behind for 27 but Capsey carried on, flaying Ismail for four and a couple more from De Klerk, who was put on

ice for the day having conceded 34 from two overs. Still, from 79 for two at the halfway mark, England did manage to stammer. Stand-in captain Natalie Sciver nicked a ball behind from Anneke Bosch, Capsey charged the spinner Nonkululeko Mlaba and chipped a return catch after raising her milestone, then Maia Bouchier was run out next ball trying to return for a second run. But South Africa could not press home the advantage at 94 for five, with the wicketkeeper, Amy Jones, and pace leader Katherine Brunt looting 73 runs from the final six overs. Jones rifled shots through the off side, while Brunt went huge over the midwicket rope off Bosch, before pulling out a perfect ramp shot for four from the

returning Ismail. When Jones iced the cake with a last-ball six over midwicket from Ayabonga Khaka, there was no doubt that England had all the momentum. South Africa's in reply made exactly the same mistakes that they had made in their first match of the tournament against New Zealand. Openers, Bosch and Tazmin Brits, have historically struggled to score at a high enough rate with the fielding restrictions in place and while they bashed the occasional boundary, there were far too many dot balls in between. The partnership lasted into the 10th over but did not get far above a run a ball, when South Africa had needed more than eight runs per over from the start. It took a beauty of a delivery from left-arm spinner Sophie Ecclestone to break through, bowling Bosch through the gate from around the wicket for 32. Brits followed her in the 13th over, stumped while dragging her foot out her ground while missing a re-

verse ramp attempt off Freya Kemp. As in the New Zealand game, that left South Africa's best batters far too much to do, needing nearly 12 runs an over to win. Laura Wolvaardt and Chloe Tryon did their best, sacking 15 runs from a Sarah Glenn over to keep the pulse beating, but Ecclestone was typically parsimonious and Brunt returned to take the key wicket, foxing Tryon with a slower ball that she could only hit down to long-on, rather than over the top for six. Tryon fell for 16, Mignon du Preez a few balls later for a single run and, while Wolvaardt batted through with Sune Luus to make 41 from 33 balls, she had to attack the target from too far back. South Africa may be missing the injured Dane van Niekerk, the absent Marizanne Kapp, and the retired Lizelle Lee, but it is a sharp fall for the team that swept all before them to the semi-finals of the 50-over World Cup only a couple of months ago. The next tier of players have not delivered.

Hesson's last-gasp shot edges England past Australia in 3x3 basketball final

London, August 03 : The first edition of the frenetic, hyper-active game of 3x3 basketball at the Commonwealth Games came to an end on Tuesday evening as England defeated Australia 17-16 in the most dramatic circumstances. England triumphed with a game-winning two pointer in overtime to secure the first men's gold medal of the Games. In the women's gold medal match, Canada narrowly edged out England after another dramatic ending, winning 14-13 with a buzzer-beater from Canada's Sarah Te-Biasu to take the gold medal. Even though no participating country was able to qualify for the Olympics, 3x3 basketball has clearly made a positive impact on the Games, with handsome crowds since the early rounds at the Smithfield building site, a venue adjacent to the beach volleyball stadium. The men's and women's wheelchair finals immediately preceded the non-disabled athletes, with full crowds present as Australia's men edged past Canada 11-9, then Canada's women beat Australia 14-5. By

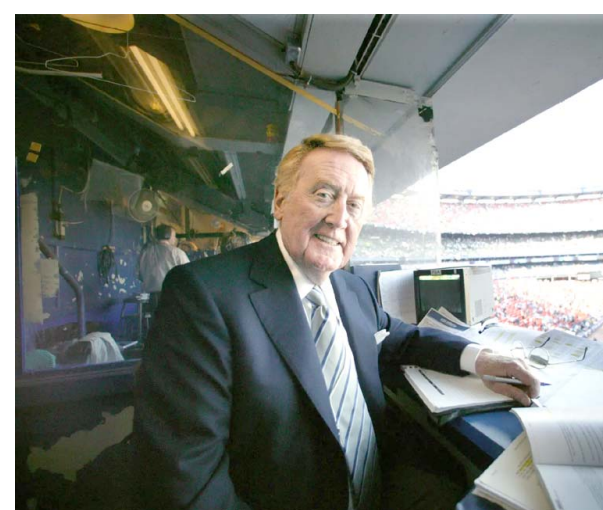


the time the England men's team entered the court, the atmosphere was searing. The players continually called for the crowd, which responded in turn, cheering for its team, booing Australia during their free throw attempts and making their presence known with an intensity not normally associated with Commonwealth Games sports. The sport's defining quality is its speed. Seemingly every aspect of it is cut down in size compared to traditional basketball in order to create an even more rapid spectacle. It is played out on half a basketball court with only one hoop to attack between the

two teams of three, there are 12 seconds on the shot clock and matches won by the first team to reach 21 points, with the leading team winning if the game passes the 10 minute mark. The final that unfolded in Smithfield was physical and tough, with constant fouls and hustle alike. After six minutes the two teams had combined for 18 fouls, with Australia already over the 10 foul limit, meaning every subsequent foul led to two shots and possession for England. Between the furious, high-octane defence and the nerves that accompanied the occasion, both teams committed offensive errors and scoring was low. But then the game exploded. First Jaydon Kayne Henry-McCalla buried a clutch two-pointer to give England a 15-14 lead with 20 seconds to go but Daniel Johnson drew Australia level for 15-15 with 10 seconds remaining, ushering the game into overtime where the winner was required to win two points in a row.

Vin Scully, Los Angeles Dodgers broadcaster for 67 years, dies aged 94

London, August 03 : Hall of Fame broadcaster Vin Scully, whose dulcet tones provided the soundtrack of summer while entertaining and informing Dodgers fans in Brooklyn and Los Angeles for 67 years, died Tuesday night, the team said. He was 94. Scully died at his home in the Hidden Hills section of Los Angeles, according to the team, which spoke to family members. As the longest tenured broadcaster with a single team in pro sports history, Scully saw it all and called it all. He began in the 1950s era of Pee Wee Reese and Jackie Robinson, on to the 1960s with Don Drysdale and Sandy Koufax, into the



1970s with Steve Garvey and Don Sutton, and through the 1980s with Orel Hershiser and Fernando Valenzuela. In the 1990s, it

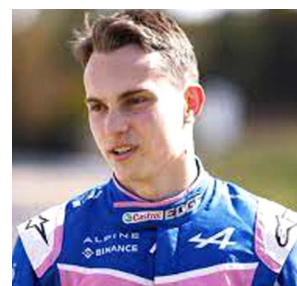
was Mike Piazza and Hideo Nomo, followed by Clayton Kershaw, Manny Ramirez and Yasiel Puig in the 21st century. The Dodgers

changed players, managers, executives, owners and even coasts but Scully and his soothing, insightful style remained a constant for the fans. He opened broadcasts with the familiar greeting, "Hi, everybody, and a very pleasant good evening to you wherever you may be." Ever gracious both in person and on the air, Scully considered himself merely a conduit between the game and the fans. Although he was paid by the Dodgers, Scully was unafraid to criticize a bad play or a manager's decision, or praise an opponent while spinning stories against a backdrop of routine plays and noteworthy achievements. He always said he wanted to see things with his eyes, not his heart. Vincent Edward Scully was born 29 November 1927, in the Bronx. He was the son of a silk salesman who died of pneumonia when Scully was 7. His mother moved the family to Brooklyn, where the red-haired, blue-eyed Scully grew up playing stickball in the streets. As a child, Scully would grab a pillow, put it under the family's four-legged radio and lay his head directly under the speaker to hear whatever college football game was on the air. With a snack of saltine crackers and a glass of milk nearby, the boy was

transfixed by the crowd's roar that raised goosebumps. He thought he'd like to call the action himself. Scully, who played outfield for two years on the Fordham University baseball team, began his career by working baseball, football and basketball games for the university's radio station. He soon joined Hall of Famer Red Barber and Connie Desmond in the Brooklyn Dodgers' radio and television booths. In 1953, at age 25, Scully became the youngest person to broadcast a World Series game, a mark that still stands. He moved west with the Dodgers in 1958. Scully called three perfect games Don Larsen in the 1956 World Series, Sandy Koufax in 1965 and Dennis Martinez in 1991 and 18 no-hitters. He also was on the air when Don Drysdale set his scoreless innings streak of 58 2/3 innings in 1968 and again when Hershiser broke the record with 59 consecutive scoreless innings 20 years later. When Hank Aaron hit his 715th home run to break Babe Ruth's record in 1974, it was against the Dodgers and, of course, Scully called it. "A Black man is getting a standing ovation in the Deep South for breaking a record of an all-time baseball idol," Scully told listeners. "What a marvelous moment for baseball."

Alpine F1 team in disarray as Oscar Piastri denies he will drive for them

London, August 03 : The Alpine Formula One team have entered a very public dispute with Oscar Piastri, their prospective replacement for Fernando Alonso next season. The team announced on Tuesday afternoon that Piastri would replace Alonso, only for the Australian driver to then issue his own statement denying he would be driving for Alpine as the row now heads into the hands of the lawyers. The two-time world champion Alonso caught Alpine entirely unawares when he made an unexpected announcement on Monday saying he was leaving to join Aston Martin, which the French team admitted had taken them completely by surprise. Right up until the Sunday of the Hungarian Grand Prix Alonso had assured them he was close to agreeing a new deal. After the Spaniard made his decision to join Aston Martin clear, Alpine acted swiftly to assert that they



would exercise their contract with the 21-year-old Piastri who is a reserve driver for the team. On Tuesday they said he would join them in 2023. The statement, however, notably did not include any comment from the Australian who is understood to have been in discussions to join McLaren. Piastri then responded several hours later and denied any intent to race for Alpine, posting on twitter: "I understand that, without my agreement, Alpine F1 have put out a press release late this afternoon that I am driving for them next year. This is wrong and I have not signed a contract with Alpine for 2023.

I will not be driving for Alpine next year." Alpine's principal, Otmar Szafnauer, insisted Piastri had a commitment to his team. "I do know he does have contractual obligations to us and we do to him. We have been honouring those obligations all year," he said. However he conceded that communication between the team and Piastri had already broken down. "Oscar and his camp are 'considering their options', whatever that means," he added. With Alonso having been expected to remain at Alpine next year it is understood Piastri and his manager, the former driver Mark Webber, had been working on a deal for him to replace Daniel Ricciardo at McLaren next year. Piastri is an enormous talent and has been part of the Alpine driver academy since 2020. He won the F3 and F2 titles in 2020 and 2021 and this year has been reserve driver for both Alpine and McLaren.

After the pain of the Sonics' exit, when will Seattle be an NBA city again?

London, August 03 : As rumors swirl about possible NBA expansion in the Emerald City, it's worth remembering that the region is a hotbed for hoops. It was bedlam. Unlike any moment the city had seen in more than a decade. When Kevin Durant, then playing for the reigning champion Golden State Warriors, came out onto the hardwood at KeyArena in the Queen Anne neighborhood of Seattle on 5 October 2018, you couldn't hear yourself shout in ecstasy. You could only hear the roar of the

whole crowd, which included many Seattle luminaries, from Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson to the rapper Macklemore, deafening and raucous all at once. Why? Because Durant came out ahead of that pre-season NBA game wearing a forest-green Shawn Kemp jersey, No 40. It was a reminder that the city has not had an NBA team since the SuperSonics left town for Oklahoma City (where they became the Thunder) in 2008. "It was just a great moment," northwest-native and longtime

ESPN SportsCenter host Kenny Mayne, who was in attendance that night, tells the Guardian. "To give recognition to Seattle basketball, and the fact that so many of us had missed it." To date, the city of Seattle has not hosted an NBA game in 14 years - save the Durant/Shawn Kemp jersey night in 2018. That game pitted the Warriors and Durant, who was also the last Sonics' first-round draft pick to ever play in the city, against the Sacramento Kings.

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Demand for Lionesses-USA tickets at Wembley sends FA website crashing

Birmingham, August 03 :An unprecedented demand for tickets to watch England play USA at Wembley in October led to the Football Association's website crashing on Tuesday and fans being held in queues online of more than 45,000 people. The FA announced at 2pm that England, the newly crowned European champions, were in line to host the USA, the World Cup holders, on 7 October. It prompted a surge to buy tickets and supporters able to access the website were given an estimated wait time of more than an hour. The crashes appeared to occur only early in the rush but the long waits continued for hours. It is the latest signal that England's win against Germany in front of more than 87,000 fans at Wembley in the Euro 2022 final on Sunday - watched by a peak TV audience of 17.4 million on the BBC - has generated greater interest than ever in the team. England and USA last met in the SheBelieves Cup in 2020 in Orlando with goals from Christen Press and Carli Lloyd earning the home team a 2-0 victory. Before that they met in the semi-final of the 2019 World Cup in France, with USA winning 2-1 and going on to lift the trophy. The Wembley friendly is subject to England qualifying



next month for the 2023 World Cup which is being held in Australia and New Zealand. They are five points clear of Austria in Group D and need a point away to Austria on 3 September or a win against Luxembourg at Stoke three days later. The FA has sold more than 20,000 tickets for that first game on home soil since the win against Germany on Sunday, with more tickets to be released. Sarina Wiegman, the England manager, said: "It is really exciting to have the chance to play the US at Wembley if we can make sure of qualification for the World Cup. It would be the perfect game for our squad to meet another strong team after so many tough games in the Euros." It is good we enjoy the moment we are in after this wonder-

ful summer but we know we still have work to do to take the next step forward... It will be great to welcome as many fans as possible so that we can say thanks again for their incredible support." The USA head coach, Vlatko Andonovski, said: "This is exactly the kind of match we need at exactly the right time in our World Cup preparations so we can test ourselves against a very talented England team. I saw England play live at the Euros and I'm looking forward to an amazing atmosphere at Wembley and another big event for women's soccer." USA last played at Wembley in the gold medal match of the London 2012 Olympic Games, when they defeated Japan 2-1. With Euro 2022 fever not calmed down, the FA's chief execu-

tive, Mark Bullingham, quelled hopes of a bid to host a women's World Cup in the near future, with the bid for the men's European Championship in 2028 the focus. "We'd love to have it in the long term," Bullingham said. "But if you think that we just had a number of games for the men's Euros, we're bidding for 2028 men's Euros - that's where we're

at." Bullingham said the success of the Women's European Championship had strengthened FA's relationship with Uefa. "All the feedback we've had has been fantastic. The tournament's been run really well, we've got a phenomenal tournament, they've done everything brilliantly and we've smashed every target. So you would hope that would put us in good stead for hosting anything else. We have a lot of goodwill in the bank anyway. But the reality is the whole tournament has gone brilliantly so it just drives that relationship even closer." The impact elsewhere in the UK is apparent with Wales experiencing a surge of interest for their women's World Cup qualifier at home against Slovenia on 6 September. Ticket sales have surpassed the record 5,455 crowd set against Estonia last October and the Football Association of Wales is targeting a 10,000 attendance.

England overcome Uganda to maintain winning start at Commonwealth Games

Birmingham, August 03 :

The England Roses made it four wins from four at the Commonwealth Games with victory against a feisty Uganda. In front of a frenetic sold-out crowd, shrieks of the umpires' whistle were a common occurrence as England ground out the win to continue the defence of their Commonwealth crown. Geva Mentor, making her sixth appearance at the Games, proved menacing in the goalkeeper bib for the Roses as they took the early lead in quarter one. The 37-year-old neutralised both of Uganda's greatest weapons, the towering shooters Proscovia Peace and Mary Cholhok forcing England's opponents to make several changes in the attacking end. In all, Mentor picked up five gains, five pickups and two intercepts, as she capitalised on through-court pressure being diligently applied by her teammates, meaning at half-time, the Roses were 25-15 in front. Having had a player sent off when the nations met at the 2019 World Cup, England were under no illusion that Uganda would throw their strength around. Still, the home team found themselves being pushed around with bodies hitting the floor as the Roses pressed ahead. The match, in many ways, provided the perfect entrée for England's meeting with the world champions, New Zealand on Thursday. Gritty, physical and demanding the need to adapt, Mentor, speaking after the game, welcomed the preparation the game provided for what lies ahead. "It was really physical, but it was exactly what we needed. I think just being challenged a bit more on the scoreboard, that physicality, having to make us work more in terms of making the ball do the work and taking those hits, those are the challenges we are going to get coming up against the Kiwis and then Aussies and the Jamaicans.



Jake Jarman 'delighted' to claim four golds in Commonwealth Games first



Birmingham, August 03 : Before Jake Jarman's glorious five days at the Commonwealth Games the England gymnast had never landed his hardest vault in any competition. It is one of the most difficult vaults in the world, the Yonekura, a whirlwind of three and a half twists. Few can even dream of mastering it. Yet it is the skill that has most defined his breakthrough. It immediately spotlighted his talents when he easily executed it in the team final, then it was the decisive apparatus in the men's all around final, separating him from the field. Finally it won him a gold medal outright in the vault final as Jarman concluded his breakout Games by becoming the first men's gymnast to win four gold medals. He is now the all around, team, floor and vault Commonwealth champion. "It's always very challenging no matter how well you might do. You are under just as much pressure at big and small competitions. To be able to come and enjoy everything and produce an amazing result I'm absolutely delighted," said Jarman. Moments later Joe Fraser won his third gold medal, concluding his own remarkable competition so soon after rupturing his appendix and fracturing a

foot. Although he also won the pommel horse title, the parallel bars are Fraser's signature event, where he became world champion in 2019. He pulled away from the competition with a smooth, clean routine, scoring 15.000. On his 24th birthday, England's Giamni Regini-Moran finished with silver medals on both the vault and parallel bars. Jarman's vault final began with the iconic Dragulescu move, a double front somersault with a half turn and a value of 5.6, which he landed with just a small step back. The Dragulescu is normally a gymnast's most difficult vault, but Jarman returned for the Yonekura, valued as the joint hardest vault in the code of points at 6.0. He took just a slight sideways step out of bounds. It was

gymnastics of the highest standard. In the men's Olympic vault final only two gymnasts produced vaults with equal difficulty. Shin Jea-hwan, the eventual champion, barely managed to complete the 3.5 twists yet it was enough for him to win with an average score of 14.783. On Tuesday, Jarman scored 14.916. Later Alice Kinsella earned some redemption after a turbulent meet, winning gold on the floor exercise with a score of 13.366. After leading England to gold in the team final she crumbled in the all around final, leaving the arena in tears after falling on the balance beam and floor. She made two unhelpful errors in the balance beam final but she seized her last opportunity with an excellent floor routine. Ondine Achampong finished with silver, her fourth medal. As the gymnastics competitions concluded there was the promise that this is only the beginning. A new star has been born in Jarman while Fraser has positioned himself well to chase after more global success and Achampong carries a great deal of promise. They will immediately head off to the European championships in Munich next week, with world championships in Liverpool on the horizon.

Tennis star Ash Barty marries longtime partner Garry Kissick

London, July 3 : Retired tennis superstar Ash Barty has married her longtime partner Garry Kissick. The 26-year-old exchanged vows in a private ceremony in Queensland earlier this month. Barty reached the pinnacle of world tennis as No 1 during a decorated career on the WTA tour. Her



three grand slam victories included the 2020 French Open, Wimbledon in 2021 and a

London, August 03 : Former New Zealand Test player Heath Davis has become the country's first male international cricketer to publicly speak about being gay. Davis, 50, played five Tests and 11 one-day internationals for the Black Caps between 1994 and 1997 and was known as an intimidating, if inconsistent, pace bowler. Three decades after his Test debut, Davis publicly revealed his sexuality for the first time, in an episode

of the documentary series Scratched: Aotearoa's Lost Sporting Legends. The first international male cricketer to come out publicly was the former England wicketkeeper Steven Davies in 2011. It was during Davis's first tour to England in 1994 when he started to really discover himself, he told The Spinoff, though he had told his mother at an early age he was gay. "I went to a few bars and things privately, just to see what life was like. You're on the other side of the world, no one's going to know you," he said. But he left that part of his life there. "There was a lot of that, keeping your personal life separate." He guessed some of his teammates knew he was gay before he told a couple of them in 1997 but he was never questioned about it. "I certainly wasn't living a gay life, wasn't part of the scene, didn't have a partner. There was nothing to tie it to, if you know what I mean," Davis



said. Davis entered his first gay relationship when he was 27 years old, while playing for Wellington, but he was reluctant to appear in public as a couple. When an offer of a contract came from Auckland, Davis saw an opportunity to move away from the city he did not feel comfortable being out in. After the couple made the move to Auckland, Davis told his new team's manager he was gay, which was passed on to his team members and "didn't seem to be that big an

issue." Davis is now on a new journey - one that exists in tension with his sexuality. "I'm living single, part of a group of other men as a Christian group." An international study on homophobia in sport, released in May, revealed that New Zealand gay and bisexual men were the most likely to keep their sexuality secret in both youth and adult sports, with many saying they feared bullying from teammates and discrimination from coaches and officials. More than half of all participants believed team sport is more homophobic than the rest of

New Zealand society, while gay men were much more likely to believe this (69%) than anyone else. Former Wellington Firebirds player, Stephen Mather, said Davis told him about his sexuality in 1997, when there were no other outwardly gay men playing first class cricket at that time. "There were 80 or 90 men - so that doesn't make a huge amount of sense on a probability scale," Mather said in the video. "There was some pretty free thinking people in the cricket circles at that time but there were also some pretty old school attitudes as well." Homophobic attitudes in sport still very much exist, said Madeleine Chapman, The Spinoff's editor and producer of the documentary series. "But I do think that [Davis's story] could potentially be an opening for other athletes to share parts of themselves if they're comfortable with it," Chapman said.

'I'm a fighter': Peaty gives 'heart and soul' to win 50m breaststroke gold

Birmingham, August 03 :

He thumped his chest, punched the water and bellowed a roar so loud and primeval it could have been heard in the Serengeti. And then, as he started to revel in the sweetest of redemptions, Adam Peaty began to smile. On Sunday Peaty suffered his first 100m breaststroke defeat since 2014. On Monday he was accused of disrespecting the Commonwealth Game and was submerged in a funk of gloom. But on Tuesday, over an extraordinary 50 metres suffused in heart and grit, he rose again. And how. Peaty might have been a little slowly away but he had powered ahead by half-way. And while sharks still lurked around him, he fended them off smartly to come home in 26.76sec. Australia's Sam Williamson took silver, 0.21 back, while Scotland's Ross Murdoch claimed bronze. "After the 100m I was at the lowest of the low," Peaty said. "I had something which was almost guaranteed taken away from me. I took it for granted. I said to Ross that I didn't want to do the 50m and he said I'd regret it for the rest of my life. Today was the emotion and rawness - that's what you saw." Asked to describe the 50m final, Peaty was blunt. "I didn't know what I was doing," he said. "I just went down with my heart and soul.



It's been a very tough Games. But you know what? I'm a fighter. I thought: I'm not going to let anyone else come and take it. They are going to have to work hard for it. This victory was made all the sweeter by the fact it meant Peaty, who returned to training just four weeks' ago after fracturing a toe, completed the set of major titles. But no sooner had he received his medal that Peaty walked over to his coach and mentor, Mel Marshall, and put it around her neck. Peaty also apologised for suggesting he was more focused on the Paris 2024 Olympics than winning gold in Birmingham. "As an athlete in that moment I was at my lowest," he said. "And it was kind of my scapegoat." "I can be a mardy bastard," he added. "I was really bad yesterday, really bad because I had nothing to fight with. My spirit was low, my physical side was low, my mental side was low." But this does mean a lot to me. You can see that. But I want to say sorry to everyone who has worked hard to get to these Games. Peaty also admitted that he had lost his hunger in the past year -

and a part of himself, too. Now, though, England's lionheart could feel it rushing back. "I didn't have the hunger, no way," he said. "You can easily say in each interview, 'I'm ready, I'm confident'. But it's not until you get out on those blocks that you feel ready - and I didn't feel ready in the 100m. I felt lost. I didn't know where I was. But I've got that renewed hunger for Paris now. I've got something to prove - and that's when I'm dangerous." Earlier there was a surprise in the men's 200m backstroke as England's Brodie Williams pipped Bradley Woodward of Australia. But there was heartache for Luke Greenbank of England, who somehow came fifth despite leading for most of the race. There was more success for England in the women's 200m butterfly final as Laura Stephens won silver behind Australia's 18-year-old sensation, Elizabeth Dekkers. Another silver followed in the men's 100m butterfly as James Guy produced a storming second half to come home in 51.40, behind Canada's Joshua Liendo Edwards - while a bronze was secured in the 4x100 mixed medley.

Five Players from Guwahati Chess Academy Got Fide Rating

Guwahati, August 03 :

Five players, Jagajit Sinha, Shuvang Pran Kashyap, Suhan Pati, Antarip Baruah and Jayraj Barman of Guwahati Chess Academy are included in Fide Rating List published by World Chess Federation on 1st August, 2022. According to the August 1, 2022 Fide

Rating List Jagajit got 1309 rating points, Shuvang Pran got 1269 rating points, Suhan Pati got 1159 rating points, Antarip got 1113 rating points and Jayraj Got 1038 rating points. Players were awarded rating on the basis of their performances in "4th Ayodhana International Fide Rating Chess Tournament" held in Guwahati

from 3rd July to 8th July, 2022 at Guwahati. Jagajit, Shuvang, Suhan, Antarip and Jayraj are currently undergoing training at Guwahati Chess Academy under Fide Instructor Pranab Kumar Nath. Players are congratulated for their achievement by Pranab Kumar Nath, Chief Coach, Guwahati Chess Academy.

Heath Davis becomes first male New Zealand cricketer to come out as gay