



# The Assam Rising

Projecting the best of Northeast India everyday

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Fake police

**Assam Rising**  
Guwahati, August 08:

A fake police was nabbed on Monday from a Scorpio in Bokakhat, Assam. The accused has been identified as Pinku Das and a resident of Kaboru in Golaghat district. Upon investigation, according to the sources, it was found that he is engaged with illegal cattle heads smuggling. Other than that, many cases were also registered against him. Police recovered five mobile phones, knives and other arms. Earlier, on Saturday, a fake traffic police was apprehended in Sonitpur district of Assam.

### FIR filed

**Assam Rising**  
Guwahati, August 08:

The Assam Pradesh Mahila Congress on Sunday lodged an FIR against Ritu Bora, the co-convenor of the Assam BJP for defaming Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. According to the FIR lodged by the Mahila Congress, on August 5, Priyanka Gandhi had participated in a protest organised by the All India Congress Committee (AICC) against the price rise of essential commodities, illegal imposition of GST on food grains, non-recruitment of unemployed among other issues.

### Woman killed

**Assam Rising**  
Guwahati, August 08:

One person has been trampled to death by an elephant at Shantipur in Tamulpur district of Assam. The deceased is a woman identified as Alka Biswas (42). A herd of elephants had entered into the Angarkata village of Shantipur in search of food last night. Inflicting terror on the villagers, the elephants also broke into the farms and caused a huge loss to the agricultural produce.

## Govt To Allow 5% Of Tea Estate Lands To Be Used For Other Purposes



**Assam Rising**  
Guwahati, August 08:

The government in Assam has decided allow up to five per cent of tea estate land to be used for other purposes. In an amendment to the Assam Fixation of Ceiling on Land Holding Act, 1956, the state government has decided that five per cent of the land at tea estates can be used for activities like

**Assam Rising**  
Guwahati, August 08:

A Guwahati-based businessman will be questioned today in connection with a case where three Jharkhand Congress MLAs with ? 48 lakh in cash were arrested in Bengal's Howrah. The Crime Investigation Department of the West Bengal Police issued a notice to businessman Ashok Dhanuka under section 41A of the Code of Criminal Procedure for collecting evidence in the case. Ashok Dhanuka's questioning will take place today, sources said, in Bhavani Bhavan at 10 am. Sources said that Ashok Dhanuka and his son Ghanshyam Dhanuka are said to be very well connected politically. They added that when the CID team in Guwahati had gone to Ashok Dhanuka's house to serve the notice, his



house was guarded by the Assam Police. Last week, a four-member team of the Crime Investigation Department of the West Bengal Police was in Guwahati to probe the case where three Jharkhand Congress MLAs were arrested in Bengal's Howrah. Local police denied reports that the Bengal team was "detained". The arrests have provoked political re-

actions across three states and multiple parties. The Congress has alleged that the BJP - specifically, Assam Chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma - is behind the money "paid to the MLAs to topple the Jharkhand government". The Congress has also suspended the MLAs from the party. On the other hand, the BJP has denied these allegations,

while the MLAs have said that the money was meant for buying sarees in to distribute in their constituencies for the forthcoming World Tribal Day. Arrested on July 30 along with two associates, the three leaders are in custody of the police in Bengal, a state ruled by the Trinamool Congress that has echoed the "horse-trading" allegations against the BJP. A team of West Bengal police who arrived in Guwahati to meet and question a businessman suspected of supplying the money seized from three Jharkhand Congress legislators, were unable to meet him. The people inside the house of businessman, which was guarded by armed Assam Police personnel refused to open the door. "A team

went to the residence of Ashok Dhanuka in Guwahati, but people inside the house refused to open the door. The house was guarded by Assam police personnel armed with automatic rifles," a criminal investigation department officer said as reported by Hindustan Times. "Before leaving, the team pasted a notice on the door, asking Dhanuka to report at the CID headquarters in Kolkata at 10 am on Monday," the officer said on condition of anonymity. Officials of the Assam police did not respond to requests for a comment on the matter. The HT report however, stated that this is the third time the CID faced trouble carrying out the

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## 'Don't know who is real CM':

### Aaditya Thackeray mocks Shinde-Fadnavis



**Mumbai, August 08:**

Shiv Sena leader Aaditya Thackeray on Monday (August 8, 2022) hit out at the Eknath Shinde-

Devendra Fadnavis government in Maharashtra and said it was difficult to understand who is the real chief minister in the dispensation. Addressing

party workers at Matoshree, Thackeray said the verdict in Sena's battle in the Supreme Court against the rebel MLAs will have an impact not just on the party but on the entire nation. "A question that is asked is whether an elected government exists (in the state) or not. In the jumbo cabinet of two people, it cannot be understood who the real chief minister is," Thackeray said. Incidentally, an expansion of the Maharashtra cabinet is set to take place on Tuesday, over a month

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## Bodoland: Bodo Students Stage Protest at Jantar Mantar

**Assam Rising**  
Guwahati, August 08:

The Bodo National Students' Union (BoNSU)

staged protest on Monday in Jantar Mantar, New Delhi demanding separate state of Bodoland. The protesters raise slogans of "Divide Assam 50/50". Later, Delhi Police intervened and detained some of the protestors. Earlier, in the month of April, they led a movement in Kokrajhar demanding separate state for Bodoland. A memorandum was also submitted to the Prime Minister through the Deputy



Commissioner. According to BoNSU president Bonjit

Manjil Basumatary, if there

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## Coming soon: Rs 467 crore residence complex for PM with underground tunnel to PMO, Parliament

**New Delhi, August 08:**

The Union government has set the ball rolling for the construction of the Prime Minister's Residence Complex - one of the most important and high-profile components of the Central Vista redevelopment project - in Blocks A and B on Dara Shikoh Road near South Block in Delhi, ThePrint has learnt. The complex will come up in a total built-up area of 2,26,203

square feet and is estimated to cost Rs 467 crore. Of the total built-up area, the PM's residence will be spread out over an area of 36,328 square feet. Besides the prime minister's main residence on the ground and first floors, the complex located south of South Block will also contain the PM's home office, an indoor sports facility, support staff quarters, a Special Protection Group (SPG) office, and a Seva Sadan among other structures for utility, as well

as a security office, ThePrint has learnt. An important component of the complex will be a subterranean VIP tunnel that can be accessed from the PM's home office. It will directly connect the PM's residence to the Executive Enclave, which will house the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), the new Parliament and the Vice-President's residence. According to highly-placed government

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## "Fake Video" : Pijush Hazarika dismissed the allegation on Anoorlata Deka's Derogatory Remarks

**Assam Rising**  
Guwahati, August 08:

Assam cabinet minister Pijush Hazarika on Sunday said that Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) Mahila Morcha state president Anoorlata Deka did not make any derogatory remarks towards any indigenous community. Clarifying on the incident involving Deka where some derogatory comments were made



against the Ahom community during one of her rallies,

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## With Taiwan drills, Chinese President Xi Jinping tries to salvage Nancy Pelosi crisis

**New Delhi, August 08:**

BEIJING: Chinese President Xi Jinping may not have been able to stop Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan, but he ordered his country's military to rehearse a much more aggressive step: a blockade crucial to taking the island by force, security experts say. China's military planners have long discussed a blockade of Taiwan, but until now most likely saw practising such a move as too provocative, security experts say. But after U.S. House Speaker Pelosi's visit, China's military for the first time fired missiles over Taipei, flew waves of drones over Taiwan's offshore islands, sailed warships across the median



line of the Taiwan Strait and surrounded the self-ruled island in what Taiwan's military said amounted to a

practice "blockade." "These first actions in effect changed the status quo of Taiwan's security," said

Li Mingjiang, an associate professor at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore. "This gives China's military a new basis from which to push more boundaries in future exercises," he said. The show of capability and resolve comes from a People's Liberation Army (PLA) that is far more formidable than it was during the "Third Taiwan Strait Crisis" in 1996, the last time it fired missiles near Taiwan. The ability to enforce a blockade would give Beijing leverage to bring Taiwan to the negotiating

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## Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

### Taj Mahal will not be decorated with tricolor lights on Independence Day

**New Delhi, August 08:**

The Government of India is celebrating 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' on the Diamond Jubilee of Independence. The central government has decided to decorate the historic buildings of the country with tricolor lights on this special occasion. But that rule will not apply in case of Taj Mahal. Due to a special directive of the Supreme Court, no lighting can be done in the Taj Mahal at night. Incidentally, the Taj Mahal was the first



monument in India to be illuminated at night for a celebration. Vishal Sharma, editor of Agra's Tourist Welfare Chamber, said, "When the Allied forces won the Second World War about 77 years ago, the Taj Mahal was lit up in various

lights." Not only that, special events were organized inside the monument. According to social activist Vijay Upadhyay, the last time the Taj Mahal was illuminated at night was on 20 March 1997 during a concert by renowned pianist Yanni. The next morning, the Taj Mahal was found to be full of dead insects. After which the Chemical Wing of the Archaeological Survey of India recommended that the Taj Mahal should not be

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Tourists visit Xiaoqikong scenic spot in Libo County, southwest China's Guizhou Province,

## Aarogya Setu app becomes 'dead'! Is your information secure? Check 'big plan' of Modi Government in coming days

**New Delhi, August 08 :** A total of five lakh people downloaded this app in April and June this year. Last March, 11 lakh people joined the Aarogya Setu app. More than 10 crore people have downloaded this app. The app that had to be kept in the crowd of thousands of apps in the phone during the Corona period is called 'Aarogya Setu App'. This app was essential to travel by train or plane in Corona season. Even just by showing this app, one gets a permit to go to the respective destination, be it office or any other institution. But the app itself became 'DOWN' after the epidemic calmed down a bit. According to news agencies, the Central Government has stopped the 'Data Access and Sharing Protocol' of Aarogya Setu. This means, from now on, no information can be exchanged through this app. Various

information related to corona infection was available in this app. Apart from this, the center claimed that it will be known whether there is any corona infected person or not through this app. An app user had to register in this app whether there are symptoms of corona or not, whether you are infected with corona or not. The shutdown of Aarogya Setu's 'Data Access and Sharing Protocol' has raised questions about the future of app users' personal data. Since April 2020, many have expressed concern about the security of the data collected from the app's users. Where did this amount of data go? What is protected at all? The Internet Freedom Foundation (IFF) sought information from the government through an RTI (Right to Information Act) on the Aarogya Setu app. In that context, the Center has informed that the 'Data Access and Sharing

Protocol' of Arogya Setu has been stopped from May 10, 2022. A spokesman for the National Informatics Center (NIC), the maker of Aarogya Setu, said the 'sharing protocol' has been discontinued as it has lost its relevance. The National Informatics Center



spokesperson also said that Arogya Setu was a 'contact tracing app'. That is, whether there is an infected person near you or not, it would be known through this app. But as it has no more relevance now, it will be made the National Health App in coming days. In fact, the Modi government made

this app mandatory in all cases after the lockdown during the Corona epidemic. Opposition leaders, including Rahul Gandhi, alleged that the government was trying to monitor the people. CERT-IN (Computer Emergency Response Team), the



Centre's cyber-attack prevention agency, had also warned about the threat of

data theft through the app. After that, the Home Ministry started relaxing the conditions for making the Aarogya Setu app mandatory in all cases. Even after the epidemic subsided, many people downloaded this app. A total of five lakh people downloaded this app in April and June this year. Last March, 11 lakh people joined the Aarogya Setu app. More than 10 crore people have downloaded this app. Co-win portal was integrated with Aarogya Setu app. So many people used this app to download vaccination certificate. The question is, will the information already provided through this app be protected?

## Caroline Kennedy meets children of Solomon Islanders who saved JFK's life

**London, August 08 :** Caroline Kennedy, the United States ambassador to Australia, meets with John Koloni and Nelma Ane at a ceremony marking the 80th anniversary of the battle of Guadalcanal. A visit to Solomon Islands by senior US diplomats included a touching personal moment, as Caroline Kennedy, the new US ambassador to Australia, met with the children of two men who saved the life of her father, John F. Kennedy, during the second world war. Caroline Kennedy was in Honiara to mark the 80th anniversary of the battle of Guadalcanal, a brutal seven-month land, sea and air fight between allied and Japanese forces that marked a turning point in the war. During the battle, John F. Kennedy - who went on to become the US president - narrowly escaped death when a Japanese destroyer ran over his patrol boat PT-109. Kennedy and his shipwrecked crew made it to a Japanese-controlled island, where they were found by two Solomon Islanders, Eroni Kumana and Biuku Gasa, who were working with the Coastwatchers - allied military operatives - behind enemy lines. At great personal risk, Kumana and Gasa took a coconut, on which Kennedy had written an account of the crew's plight, back to the Australia coast where they were working with. The patrol boat crew were then able to be rescued. Caroline Kennedy met John Koloni, the son of Kumana, and Nelma Ane, daughter of Gasa at a ceremony on Sunday in Guadalcanal and presented them with a replica of a coconut husk on which her father had written a distress message. The original is in the Kennedy Museum in Boston. "I am so grateful you came here today so I could

say thank you and one day I would like to bring my children to continue the relationship," said Kennedy as she presented the gift, according to INews. Caroline Kennedy, the US ambassador to Australia, hugs John Koloni, the son



of Eroni Kumana, who helped rescue her father, JFK, during the second world war. "I'm honoured and proud of my dad, and I'm happy to receive on behalf of him. I wish he was here to receive this medal," said Koloni. Stuff reported. Kumana and Gasa have largely been written out of the history of the event. Kennedy invited the men to his inauguration in January 1961, but officials of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate prevented them from going. Two white officials attended instead. The commemorative events in Solomon Islands were also attended by US deputy secretary of state Wendy Sherman, who warned Pacific Island countries of a new struggle against violent power-hungry regimes. Attending a dawn memorial service, Sherman said "some around the world" had forgotten the cost of war, or were ignoring the lessons of the past. She hit out at "leaders who believe that coercion, pressure, and violence are tools to be used with

impunity", but did not specify any names during her speech at the service. "We remember how bankrupt, how empty, such views were then, and remain today," she said of Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan in the 1930-40s. "Today we



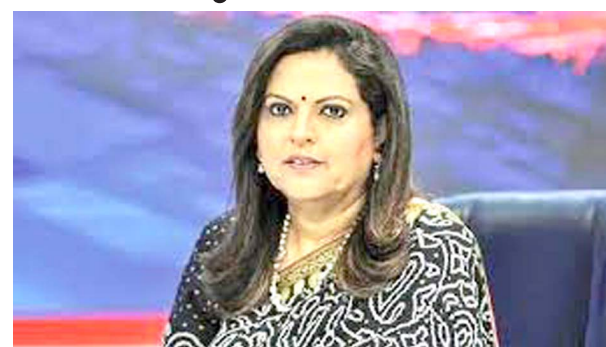
Tourists visit Xiaoqikong scenic spot in Libo County, southwest China's Guizhou Province,

## Nupur Sharma comment row

## No coercive action against journalist Navika Kumar, says SC

**New Delhi, August 08 :** In a relief to Times Now journalist Navika Kumar, the Supreme Court on Monday granted her interim protection from any coercive action in multiple FIRs already registered or future cases, in connection with remarks made by suspended BJP leader Nupur Sharma on Prophet Muhammad during a TV debate. Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, representing the senior journalist, submitted before a bench comprising Justices Krishna Murari and Hima Kohli that his client did not

say anything offensive during the debate on the Gyanvapi mosque, instead a participant said something, which was responded to by another participant. Rohatgi emphasized that his client doused the fire by saying we have to go by the Constitution. He further argued that the woman who made the statement is facing flak in multiple FIRs, and his client is also facing several FIRs. "She has five or six FIRs in Kolkata alone. First FIR came to be lodged in Delhi," said Rohatgi. Senior advocate Maneka Guruswamy, representing the West Bengal government, contended that FIRs annexed with the plea were not the right ones as those did not concern the particular speech. Rohatgi questioned the interest of the West Bengal government in the matter. After hearing arguments, the top court said as an interim measure, no coercive action should be taken against the petitioner



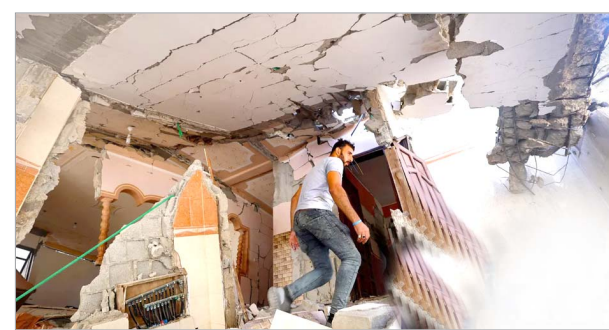
in the FIRs/complaints lodged or future cases, which may be lodged in connection with the programme on May 26. The top court also issued notice to West Bengal, Delhi, and police of other states, and sought their response within two weeks. The top court, on July 19, had ordered that no coercive action can be taken against Sharma in FIRs already registered and also future FIRs in connection with her remarks during the debate. A bench comprising Justices Surya Kant and J.B. Pardiwala said: "Meanwhile, as an interim measure it is directed that no coercive shall be taken

against Nupur Sharma pursuant to the impugned FIRs." Nupur Sharma had moved the Supreme Court seeking stay on her arrest in the nine FIRs against her for her remarks on Prophet Muhammad and also sought clubbing/quashing of the FIRs with the FIR registered at Delhi. On July 1, the top court had minced no words in slamming Sharma, whose remarks on Prophet Muhammad sparked a controversy. The top court said her loose tongue has set the entire country on fire and her irresponsible remarks shows that she is "obstinate and arrogant".

## Gaza: truce takes effect between Israel and Islamic Jihad after days of fighting

**Washington, August 08 :** A truce between Israel and the Palestinian militant group Islamic Jihad has taken effect in the Gaza Strip after three days of cross-border fighting triggered by surprise Israeli airstrikes. US president Joe Biden welcomed the agreement on Sunday, and called on all parties to "fully implement the ceasefire, and to ensure fuel and humanitarian supplies are flowing into Gaza as the fighting subsides". The

president also lamented the injury and death of civilians in Gaza, but did not specify who was responsible. "The reports of civilian casualties in Gaza are a tragedy, whether by Israeli strikes against



Islamic Jihad positions or the dozens of Islamic Jihad rockets that reportedly fell inside Gaza," Biden said. The US, he said, had worked with both sides and regional partners "to encourage a swift resolution to the conflict". Israeli strikes and militant rockets continued in the minutes leading up to the beginning of the truce, which Egyptian mediators said started at 11.30pm (9.30pm BST) on Sunday. Israel confirmed the ceasefire was set to take hold, but said it would respond if it was violated. Islamic Jihad also confirmed the agreement. "We appreciate the Egyptian efforts that had been exerted to end the Israeli aggression against our people," spokesperson Tareq Selmi said. The UN security council has scheduled an emergency meeting for Monday on the violence. UN Middle East peace envoy Tor Wennesland said in a statement: "We underscore our commitment to do all we can towards ending the ongoing escalation, ensuring the safety and security of the civilian population, and following up on the Palestinian prisoners

alleged planned rocket attacks by Palestinian Islamic Jihad. A total of 44 Palestinians, among them 15 children, as well as members of Islamic Jihad, have now been killed in the bombing campaign and more than 300 people have been injured, while 13 Israelis have been treated in hospital for minor injuries as hundreds of retaliatory rockets were fired across the Gaza frontier towards the south of the country. Israel said a stray rocket fired by Islamic Jihad had killed several children in Jabalia, northern Gaza, on Saturday. Islamic Jihad has not commented on the claim, while the aligned group Hamas, which rules the strip, blamed the attack on Israel. The flare-up is the worst outbreak of violence between Israeli and Palestinian militants since an 11-day war last May. The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) had signalled that the campaign was supposed to last about a week; Israel has inflicted significant losses on Islamic Jihad in the last three days, including the targeted killings of two senior commanders.

## Second world war bomb discovered in Italy's dried-up river Po

**Milan, August 08 :** Heatwaves sweeping Europe this summer have

### Guest House

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No. DWCD(ICDS)/E/94/2022/I

### NOTICE

The Directorate of Women & Child Development, Assam invites Tender/ Expression of Interest for empanelment of firms for holding of inauguration ceremony of model Anganwadi Center at Palashbari to be held on 14th August, 2022. Interested parties may collect relevant papers from the Directorate of Women & Child Development, Assam, Uzanbazar, Guwahati -01 up to 11th August/2022 till 3.00 P.M.

Sd/-

Director,

Janasanyog/C/7877/22 Women & Child Development, Assam

### ADVERTISEMENT

In pursuance of approval accorded by the Commissioner. North Assam, Division, Tezpur vide letter No CAN/PA. 17/2017/85 dated Tezpur. 22th July, 2022 applications are invited from intending candidates in the Standard Form of Application for filling up the post "HEAD ASSISTANT" (Biswanath Sadar Sub-Division, and Gohpur Civil Sub-Division) under the amalgamated establishment of the Deputy Commissioner, Biswanath in the Scale of Pay (PB-3 Rs. 22,000 - 97,000/- + Grade Pay Rs. 10,300/-) (revised) pm plus other allowances as admissible as per provision of R.O.P 2017 and under the Assam Ministerial District Establishment Service Rule, 1967 as amended.

The candidate should have served at least 15(fifteen) years of continuously service including 10 (Ten) years as Senior Assistant in any of the Deputy Commissioner's amalgamated establishment of the State of Assam. Preference will be given to the candidates having experience and working knowledge of different branches/offices (under D.C's Estt.) in General.

Application stating Age, Educational Qualification, Present and Permanent Address including Experience of Incumbency in different branches supported by attested copies of certificates, a copy of recent passport size photograph along with ACRs of last 3 (three) consecutive years should reach the undersigned within 30 (thirty) days from the publication of the advertisement.

Application should be submitted through proper channel with service particulars and candidates will have to appear before an interview board at their own expenses as and when called for. No TA/DA will be admissible for the journey.

Deputy Commissioner,  
Biswanath.

Janasanyog/D/10086/22



# WSAF organised stakeholder conference in Guwahati



**Assam Rising, Guwahati, August 8:** The Women's Safety Accelerator Fund (WSAF) with the support of Unilever, Tesco, Ethical Tea Partnership, Twinings and Taylors and managed by Netherlands based development organisation IDH-The Sustainable Trade

Initiative is addressing gender-based violence in the tea value chains in Assam & West Bengal (Darjeeling & Dooars). With this objective, Women's Safety Accelerator Fund (WSAF) has recently organised a stakeholder's conference recently at Hotel Palacio in

Guwahati and brought together representatives from UNICEF, Bharatiya Cha Parishad, North East

ern Tea Association (NETA), Directorate of Social Welfare Department- Govt of Assam, ABITA, Assam Company, MLD group, civil society organisations, women and men from tea gardens. Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) is highly prevalent in tea-producing districts in Assam compared to other regions in India. (According to National Crime Records Bureau data, 2021, Crime against women in Assam is 154.3 per 1,00,000 population which is thrice the national average of 56.5). The discus-

sions and deliberations of the conference were related to WSAF's core agenda of creating a safe and empowering workplace for women workers in the tea gardens. Highlighting some of the pertinent issues the representatives acknowledged the high prevalence of domestic violence, sexual violence, child sexual abuse, early marriage, trafficking reported from the tea gardens which is evidenced through data from NCRB, 2021, and the NFHS - 5 (19-20).

## Cycle rally at Tezpur

**Assam Rising, Biswanath Chariali, Aug 8:** As a part of a nationwide campaign for Har Ghar Tiranga under the umbrella scheme of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav a cycle rally was taken out by the 5 Assam Battalion NCC here at Tezpur today. Colonel OP Pandey, the commanding officer of 5 Assam Battalion NCC flagged off the cycle rally that was started from Darrang College. A total of 50 NCC cadets from Darrang and Tezpur College participated in the cycle rally. The rally marched through Darrang College, Mahabhoirab, Chowk Bazar, Padum Pukhuri,



Tribeni covering the Tezpur town and concluded at Darrang College. At the end of the rally colonel Pandey briefed about objectives of the har ghar Tiranga mission undertaken by the central

government. The rally was taken out to make people aware about the har ghar Tiranga mission. The rally was attended by Shukraj Singh, Satpal, Satya Singh, Prakash Lal and Anmol Patil.

## International Cupping therapy day celebrated at Laharighat



**Assam Rising, Bhuragaon, August 8:** International Cupping Therapy Day celebrated by Hijama Clinic at

Laharighat Bagalipara today, Hijama Clinic organized free treatment for patients with body pain at Bagalipara, Laharighat, Morigaon district today on the occasion of International Cupping Therapy Day. The clinic owner and cupping therapist Anwarul Islam said that men and women who have been suffering from chronic headaches, migraines, arthritis, back pain, knee pain and muscle pain for a long time are getting treatment through cupping therapy at AIIMS Hijama Clinic in

Baglipara. You can get relief from. These patients are treated with cupping therapy without injections and without medication. For advance contact, please call Anwarul Islam at 7002330141 or Therapist Anwarul Islam said there are facilities to treat other diseases besides the above.

## Heavy storm at Laharighat

**Assam Rising, Bhuragaon, August 8:** Heavy storm and rain in Laharighat, Morigaon district overnight. The strong winds caused trees to fall on the roofs of houses in the Tengaguri, Phalihamari areas of



Laharighat. The storm also blew away the house of the Jatiya vidyalaya in Tengaguri.

## Pre-celebration of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' at Basugaon Municipality

**Assam Rising, Chirang, August 8:** On the eve of India's 75th Independence Day celebrations, the Basugaon Municipality of Chirang district,

along with different parts of the country, which has collaborated with the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, also started the pre celebrations through various competitive programs. Hundreds of participants participated in Drawing competition, essay writing competition, music and dance competitions in two categories. It may be recalled that the programme was inaugurated by Sadhan Mandal, President, Basugaon Municipality and Mwikhong Basumatary, Vice President, Basugaon Municipal Board. Ward Commissioners of the four wards of Basugaon as well as the officials of the municipal Board co-operated fully in the event. Bhaskar Mandal and Rintu Sarkar were the judges of the Drawing competition, Bishal Paul as



judge of the essay writing competition, eminent singer Ajit Kumar Nandi and Tushar Kanti Saha as the judge of the music competition and Nabanita Dey and Dhimanjyoti Roy as judges of the dance competition. It is to be noted that a total of four-day programs were held by The Basugaon Municipality through various competitions on August 8,

## 48th Death anniversary of Nabin Sarma observed

**Assam Rising, Guwahati, August 8:**

To commemorate the 48th death anniversary of Sishupran Nabin Sarma, the Nabin Sarma Smriti Chora organised an art competition for the students from class one to class eight and a memorial meeting on August 7 at JB Law College here. The art competition which was held where altogether 150 participants took part in it. Sarat Barua and Dr. Pradip Sarma were the judges of the competition. In the memorial meeting which was held from 5.00 PM, eminent educationist, reciter and literature Anuradha Das and noted sportsman and sports organiser Kalyan Kumar Das attended the meeting as the appointed speaker and chief guest respectively. Both the distinguished guests in their speech highlighted the immense contributions of Nabin Sarma towards the



society and upliftment of children through sporting activities. They also emphasised on the installation of a bust of Sishupran Nabin Sarma in a suitable place in Guwahati as a respect towards him. Earlier, Jagadish Sarma paid homage to this legendary figure by lighting the traditional lamp and floral tribute. While Bhaskar Sarma, Secretary of the Nabin Sarma Smriti Chora welcomed the gathering. Dr. Chayanika Sarma, President of the Chora in her speech expressed her gratitude to the Sishupran for his lifelong dedication towards the overall development of children. She

also elaborated the activities of the Nabin Sarma Smriti Chora from 1982 till date. The attraction of the meeting included the song performances by Namita Bhattacharyya, Atlanta Bhardwaj and poem recitation of Krishanu Kaushik. All the distinguished guests distributed prizes to the winners of the art competition. Jiten Choudhury, Organising Secretary offered the vote of thanks. Results of the art competition- (Group A)- 1. Prasmit Priyam Barua, 2. Biki Raj Kashyap, 3. Jisha Deka (Group B) - 1. Anie Kashyap, 2. Kapil Karmakar and 3. Pritha Nanda Das.

## Citizens meet held in Gossaigaon

**Assam Rising, Gossaigaon, August 8:**

Under the aegis of Simanta Chetona Mancha Purbattor, Gossaigaon Nogar Samiti a general meet was organised here at the Conference Hall of Sankardev Vidya Niketan EM School in Kokrajhar District. On the occasion of 75th anniversary of independence, the program of the citizen's meet was organized to coincide with the celebration as Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav was inaugurated by Krishna Brahma, District President of Kokrajhar District of Seemanta Chetna Manch Purbattor by lighting a lamp on the image of Bharat Mata with the sound of the Bharat man-



tra. Gautam Bhagwati, a subject matter expert from Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kokrajhar, as an invited guest in the civic meet, delivered his valuable speech in memory of the brave martyrs who laid down their lives in the freedom struggle. The meeting was attended by Gossaigaon Senior Citizens' Association Secretary Khanindra Nath Das, Pradeep Kumar Das, professor, Gossaigaon Col-

lege Assistant Professor Gopal Barman, Prof. Manoj Prasad, Teacher Shankar Das and others. The programme was chaired by Nand G Prasad, General Secretary, Gossaigaon Nagar Samiti, Simanta Chetona Mancha Purbattor while Principal, Acharya Prafulla Bharali of Sankardev Vidya Niketan, Gossaigaon presented the valedictory speech of the meeting.

## Storm causes heavy damage in Dhakuakhana

**Assam Rising, Dhakuakhana, August 8:**

Dhakuakhana was hit by a devastating storm early Sunday night, causing heavy damage in various parts of the city. The storm hit Deulia, Govindpur Lat Pani gaon village, Govindpur, Goal gaon village and other areas. The storm caused extensive damage to houses, barns, shops and farms of some people. The storm was so strong that the residence of



Naba Kumar Baruah of Deulia village was com-

pletely destroyed and 10-20 coconut trees were destroyed. Meanwhile, 20-25 huge trees of the Pani Gaon Government Silk Farm were uprooted and fell on the road. Therefore, traffic was disrupted on the road for a long time. The victims of the storm have demanded compensation from the government and the Dhakuakhana sub-divisional administration to conduct a survey of the storm-affected families and provide one-time financial assistance.

## Massive fire broke out at Palasbari

**Assam Rising, Palasbari, August 8:**

A major fire broke out on Sunday night at Control Print, an ink manufacturing factory under Palasbari LAC in Kamrup district. As many as four fire tenders were rushed to the spot and after a long battle, they were able to bring the flames under control. The source of the fire has been identified as a chemical container. Flames erupted from the container and quickly spread to nearby areas," a police officer said. Moreover, nearby residents had evacuated to safer distances amid fears of the fire spreading. No fatalities or injuries have been reported from the incident so far.



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## THE ASSAM RISING

VOL. NO. VII, ISSUE NO. 173 TUESDAY, AUGUST 09, 2022

## The civil and military players

Al-Qaeda supremo Ayman al-Zawahiri's recent killing in Kabul seems to have changed the scene in the region from how it seemed in August 2021, when Washington completely withdrew its forces. Then, there was a sense that the US would lose all its capacity to engage with Afghanistan, which in turn would add to the value of the Taliban. Not that the anxiety caused by the US' withdrawal doesn't remain among segments of the Afghan civil society. However, the recent attack on Zawahiri indicates that the US can still challenge the Taliban and remain a player in the Af-Pak security discourse. Of course, we are reminded of the new pattern of American security planning for the region and, to a large extent, the rest of the world - Washington will not deploy its forces on the ground. It expects countries - and people - to fight their own battles. Of course, resources will be provided depending on which territory is more relevant for American security. Afghanistan no longer falls in that category. However, this does not mean that Washington will not invest in operations related to its own security interests. Af-Pak is not a priority for the US but the region still being a hub of terror will make Washington keep watching over it. It explains why the US never gave up observing Af-Pak after Osama bin Laden was eliminated in a highly covert operation in Pakistan's Abbottabad in 2011. I am reminded of the echo at that time, when Zawahiri was still missing, that he would not be too far away from OBL. This means that a search for the al-Qaeda number two was going on for all these years until he was found and killed on 31 July. Surely, Pakistan handing over Zawahiri's wife and children, who were in its custody in 2019, must have been watched. This raises the other important point regarding rumours of complicity of regional State and non-State players in the operation. Fingers are pointed at both Pakistan and the Taliban despite reports claiming that it was entirely an American operation or that the drone took off from a base in Kyrgyzstan. Despite Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs categorically denying its country's involvement or use of air space, this conjecturing has not been put to rest. But, of course, the doubt will remain until some definitive and reliable information comes out from Washington, which may not be very soon. The Zawahiri operation reminds one of similar finger-pointing during the OBL operation. American journalist Seymour Hersh had published a story then, suggesting the involvement of top Pakistani army sources. Many like India's Lt. General (retired) Ata Hasnain or prominent Pakistani-American journalist Wajid Ali Syed do not buy into the complicity argument. While Hasnain says that the US could not afford to trust Pakistan, Syed seems to go by the American claim of having developed across-the-horizon (ATH) capability, making Pakistan dispensable. But the story of Pakistan's involvement is not going to go away mainly because it is essential for both civil and military players in the country.

## Be a Citizen Journalist

Are you against of violence or corruption? Do you really want revolution in the social, educational, political or economical system? Do you have any questions for the Government, political or non political parties? Don't worry, be a part of The Assam Rising family, Be a citizen journalist and write to us about your problem and we will take the responsibility to publish your voice. We will give you a platform to raise your voice, because your simple voice can change society.

Editor,

The Assam Rising

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## Letter to The Editor

You can send us your self-composed article, story, poem, letter to the editor or any other creative work done by you. We are responsible for publishing it in The Assam Rising. We will also find out one best contributor/writer every week and an attractive prize will be given to encourage him/her. So, without any further delay mail us your own work with full name and address to [assamrising@gmail.com](mailto:assamrising@gmail.com).

Editor,  
The Assam Rising  
Guwahati, Assam

## Nuclear apocalypse was postponed in 1968. Now it's back on the agenda

A crucial event for the future of international peace and security - and global sanity - got under way at UN headquarters in New York last week, though, given the lack of political and media attention, you might be forgiven for not noticing. The review conference of the landmark 1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation treaty (NPT) involves 191 state party signatories. Few international agreements enjoy such near universal support. Nuclear-armed Israel, India, Pakistan and North Korea are shameful hold-outs. Simply put, the NPT is about preventing nuclear war by encouraging disarmament, halting proliferation and promoting peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology. Up to now, at least, it's helped stop another nuclear catastrophe. "Another" is the operative word. The 77th anniversary of the first such catastrophe was commemorated on 6 August at Hiroshima, where an

estimated 140,000 civilians died, or were condemned to an agonising death, on one day in 1945. To put that in perspective, roughly 10,000 civilians have died in Ukraine in just under six months. Western public opinion, lulled by the end of the cold war, seems to have lost sight of the immeasurable horror of atomic warfare. There are no Greenham Commons nowadays, even

 **Simon Tisdall**

though new missile deployments proliferate. If recent events puncture that complacency, it won't be wholly bad. UN secretary-general António Guterres raised the alarm last week when opening the NPT conference. "Today, humanity is just one misunderstanding, one miscalculation away from nuclear annihilation," he warned. "We have been extraordinarily lucky so far. But luck is not a strategy. Nor is it a shield from geopolitical tensions boiling over

As this column is on the Congress party, I offer first and foremost a trigger warning: it is not going to be about what ails it and the usual litany of complaints against it or its leadership. You can save the next five minutes of your life if that's what you are expecting and stop reading right here. The Congress party has had a rather good week of mobilised action combined with combative words and images, which indicates that it is gearing up for a fight. Is this a new Congress in the making? Before I hazard a guess, I am going to offer two main provocations as to why many Indians love to hate the Congress and even obsessively so sometimes. I have in mind especially those vociferous haters of the Congress party who belong to the once old but ever-expanding establishment of the educated, English-speaking, metropolitan or city dwelling elite. They may or may not have become full-fledged devotees of Hindutva. Some of them are now captivated by Arvind Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). As a once-dominant party, the Congress has always had its critics and opponents but this 'love to hate the Congress' routine is only a decade-old trend. At that very moment, I started to observe the Congress party seriously and really for the first time. My interest remains on political ideas, both old and new, and the promise and perils they offer. There is a lot that can be said about ideological wars currently raging in India and across the globe. But I want to capture today, however crassly, some prevailing sentiments and the psychic life of politics they are fuelling. In his remarkable book *Age of Anger*: A History of the Present, essayist and novelist Pankaj Mishra singles out the power of political sentiments. The ace sentiment underlying the anger of our age is resentment. You

The surreal, often absurd Conservative leadership election meanders on. Both candidates frantically float ideas for disrupting everything from university term dates to doctors' pensions, while the Sunday Telegraph endorses Liz Truss as "the first truly philosophy-driven leader since Margaret Thatcher", and Rishi Sunak stoically insists that he loves dancing. But we all know the gravity of the crisis that is now enveloping us, and it makes the vanities of their battle seem like some strange hallucina-

tion related to the summer's stifling heat. By the autumn, the victor - Truss, in all likelihood - may well be still trying to convince us that they are leading a national sprint towards sunlit uplands that only they can see. But the game is already up: the immediate future will be defined by skyrocketing energy prices, economic woe and a profound social eergency - and power will be a grinding matter of crisis management. Everything will become clear on 26 August, when the energy regulator Ofgem will announce the new price cap due to come into force on 1 October. Back in April, it increased by 54%, pushing up the typical annual household fuel bill to £1,971. Now, as Russia continues to choke off the supply of natural gas to western Europe, recent projections have suggested an increase of about 70%, to £3,359 a year - and in January, prices will go up again by an estimated 8%. Late last week, one group of analysts said that Ofgem's decision to alter the price cap every three months meant that annual bills could exceed £4,200. Self-evidently, these hikes - which look as if they will endure into 2024 - will also have big consequences for general inflation. Some people, meanwhile, are having a whale of a time: last week, the oil and gas giant BP announced quarterly profits of £6.9bn, its highest figure for 14 years. What awaits us when temperatures drop, and lives become unlivable? We may well be about to enter the era of the "warm bank". In Bristol, the city council is readying "welcoming places", where people who need warmth will be able to go if their homes get too cold. Dundee is planning an array of "cosy spaces"; in Aberdeen, a city council spokesperson recently said they would be offering libraries and other public



don't have to know your Nietzsche-who first wrote about it-to recognise resentment. It is a toxic, if potent, combination of both desiring and despising that you wish to emulate or even become. Politically and socially, it has been associated as a syndrome of a rising elite. Often this is amped up as a struggle against the old, fake, decadent and the tired by the new, young, brave and above all, real. Or westernism against nativism. Or the metropolitan against the provincial. And so on. This has indeed been the storyline in India for the last ten years. The clash between the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Indian National Congress (INC) was initially staged as a clash between the old and the new. Critically, it was not staged as a contest between Hindutva and liberal-socialism, in the years leading up to 2014. Resentment effectively erases and replaces underlying clashes of political ideas with an emotional vocabulary of competitive envy. Corruption thus unsurprisingly became the clarion call of the so-called new era, because it captured both old-world decadence and up-to-date financial scamming. As widely noted, corruption is the classic anti-political cause because no individual let alone party will argue for it. In the end, it didn't matter whether the centrepiece of that campaign or the notorious 2G 'scam' figure was real. It was as real a metaphor as they get. Corruption crucially captured resentment as both disgust and

 **Shrutika Kapila**

envy, and that made people's minds all too quickly against the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government. I am not saying that there were no financial irregularities. Rather, the charge of corruption ensured that Hindutva was disguised as populism. It certainly disallowed the Congress party to lay any claims to its record on governance, especially the economy, communal amity, or fundamental rights that it had all enhanced. Inciting rage, the issue of corruption gave the softest landing to the newly formed AAP, mainly due to the unconditional love it got from a then all-powerful and entirely uncritical media. [In full disclosure I wrote my first op-ed in 2013 and was one of its few if any critics then.] The near-obsessive focus on the Congress' leadership in this 'love to hate the Congress' syndrome is because it fulfils a major psychic need. The beating of the dynasty drum allows for the displacement and purging of guilt. This especially holds true for the 'middle classes': most widely and broadly defined from the lower-end salariat to middle and high income and the plain ugly rich in India. Historically opposed to any form of land

or income distribution, and largely 'upper' caste and hostile to affirmative action or reservation, this stratum has loudly ached the dumping of its own responsibility in this convenient manner. The aggressive hostility noticed in regular rants and taunts against the Congress, and especially Rahul Gandhi, testifies this all too visibly. India's social fabric, to say nothing of caste, is equal to family. Look no farther than your local grocery store, or to any lawyer's or even dentist's chambers, small or posh, or film, media, academia: name any profession or business, the Indian family rules. Strict lines of descent define both direct and indirect lines of patronage and the lateral flow of prestige, money, and social network. Social mobility in these consortia of families is marked by routines of sucking up and pushing down, and social cohesion is equally policed by strict codes of insiders and outsiders. But in singling out and making Rahul Gandhi a punching bag allows you to forget, if not atone, your complicity and at the same time enables you to virtue-signal and espouse 'merit' and competition. Perhaps no one is more guilty of this displacement than the media. Simply put, the mainstream as well as most regional media goes after Rahul Gandhi now, aggressively and frontally with the same-old tired

tropes, mainly because it must deploy its considerable powers of criticism somewhere. Benched by the ruling dispensation, the Indian media vents in this manner simply because it can do to the Congress what it can't do elsewhere. If populism cloaked Hindutva, then the drum of dynasty hides the true work of authority now. Since it is a political party and not a social media influencer, the under-attack Congress cannot take any solace in the influencer's mantra of 'haters gonna hate' or keep calm and just carry on! Last week's public protest by the Congress party looks like it is not labouring under the old attitude of noblesse oblige to simply carry on. Sharp words and strategic action are now staging its new political rhetoric. To be sure, it ain't the agitprop antics of the AAP. In squaring up the harsh reality of the economy against the passions of identity, Rahul Gandhi seeks new forms of political identification. In being fearless against the divisive, if powerful, politics of hate while aligning with the weak and vulnerable in an unforgiving economy, the Congress seems to return to its founding political principles. The party will need to charge its first political principles and virtues with the power of new sentiments of attachment. The two fake storylines of corruption and dynasty, which speak entirely as self-descriptions of those who deploy them, can now no longer be cloaked in the cruel realities of staggering inequality and charged communal relations. Cosplays and violent spectacles of identity hatred that increasingly resemble bad B-grade Hindi films from the last century will be no match for the hunger games of the new global economy. By embracing his lineage, nay dynasty and as a family of sacrifice, Rahul Gandhi has called out and named our current moment after its true ideological nature. The gloves are off! The psychodramas of guilt and resentment are finally meeting their long-awaited match in politics.

## Britain is entering a profound social emergency. Why is nobody acting like it?

The surreal, often absurd Conservative leadership election meanders on. Both candidates frantically float ideas for disrupting everything from university term dates to doctors' pensions, while the Sunday Telegraph endorses Liz Truss as "the first truly philosophy-driven leader since Margaret Thatcher", and Rishi Sunak stoically insists that he loves dancing. But we all know the gravity of the crisis that is now enveloping us, and it makes the vanities of their battle seem like some strange hallucina-

buildings to "give people the opportunity to stay warm where required". Much the same applies to the one-off payments the government has introduced to parry the effects of energy price rises: £400 to all households (to be paid in instalments between October and next March), and another £300 for pensioners, and an extra "one-off cost of living payment" to 8m households on means-tested benefits, both of which will have been issued by the end of this year. This help is significant, but it is not set to be repeated. Crude lump sums, moreover, take no account of people's particular circumstances; much of the money, poverty experts say, will be swallowed up by already existing debt. Ministers would doubtless rebuff such points by also highlighting their pledge to increase benefits next April by this September's rate of inflation - but again, nothing is what it seems. By the spring of 2023, prices look set to be rising even faster. Any increase in benefits will have to be set against Sunak's cruel decision to withdraw the £20 a week "ulift" in universal credit introduced during the pandemic. And besides, nothing on the table will fill the gaps left by benefit freezes, caps, "sanctions" and restrictions. There is an even bigger point, which is still overlooked: millions who are not entitled to targeted

 **John Harris**

help will still really suffer due to rising energy prices. Put another way, this is a genuinely national crisis. Fuel poverty has traditionally been defined as when energy costs exceed 10% of a household's net income. In the financial year 2019-20, just under 20% of UK households were in that category, according to recent research by the University of York's Jonathan Bradshaw and Antonia Keung, and published by the Child Poverty Action Group. But their projection suggests that, without further measures - and even factoring in the universal £400 rebate - this figure is set to jump to well over 50% by the start of next year. In Northern Ireland, they reckon, 70% of households will be in fuel poverty; in Scotland, Wales and the north-west of England it will be about 60%. Fuel poverty, the research projects, will soon affect nearly 90% of single parents with two or more chil-

dren. This kind of research, Prof Bradshaw told me, is complicated, and bound by the limits of official statistics: the basic point, he said, is to "show that this is going to be very bad unless something else happens". Two things now define Britain's political condition. One is a post-Brexit Conservatism that frequently seems to have only the most tenuous connection to reality, practised by people who tend to get very cross whenever they are reminded of what we actually face. The other is a rising sense of crises that ought to invite convincing answers - not least from the Labour party - but that only highlight the hollowness of Westminster's discourse. The result is a political vacuum that will be filled, one way or another - and I am not sure that talk of a "poll tax moment" adequately describes what is about to happen. Quite understandably, there will soon be more industrial disputes and strikes.

## Letter to the Editor

### Banks need not link accounts with Aadhar Card

Dear editor,

In Spite of the supreme court verdict that Banks need not link accounts with Adhar card, i fail to understand why Banks still insist on linking accounts with Adhar card. There have been many cases where fraudsters use Adhar Card information in drawing money from others accounts. In the interest of the public, I earnestly suggest that the Government instruct Banks to unlink from Adhar card and introduce new means for payment.

 **KLRao**

Amanora Future Towers Pune



# Manipur Assembly adopts resolutions on NRC

**Imphal, August 08** : The Manipur Assembly has unanimously adopted two private member resolutions to set up a state population commission and implement the National Register of Citizens (NRC). The resolutions were moved by JD(U) legislator KhJoykishan on Friday, the last day of the budget session of the state assembly. He claimed that the hill areas of the state saw a population growth of 153.3 per cent between 1971 and 2001, and it mounted to 250.9 per cent during the 2001-2011 period. The valley areas also recorded a population growth of 94.8 per cent from 1971 to 2001 and around 125 per cent from 2001 to 2011. Joykishan stated. The JD(U) MLA raised his concern over the alleged infiltration of outsiders into Manipur. He claimed that there are restrictions on people from the valley districts for settling in the hills, and the whopping population growth, particularly in the hills, could be attributed to the alleged influx of people from outside. Manipur shares an international border with Myanmar. Chief Minister N Biren Singh participated in the discussion on the resolutions and said such motions to establish a population commission and implement the NRC in the state



would serve the collective interests of all the members of the House. Meanwhile, several civic bodies demanded an updated NRC with a fixed cut-off base year to identify illegal immigrants in the northeastern state. The 2nd session of the 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly from July 25 to August 5, 2022, was adjourned sine die on Friday. The 11-day long 2nd session of the 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly witnessed 11 sittings, obituary references held, 110 starred questions, four starred questions withdrawn, 36 unstarred questions, one unstarred question withdrawn, 12 papers laid, six calling attention, one presentation of Committee Report and adopted, 16 Government Bills introduced

and 14 Government Bills passed, billed referred to Select Committee 1, billed referred to Hill Area Committee 1, Election of 3 Financial Committee held Private Member Resolution 2 and discussion on a matter of Public Interest 1. The House passed the "The Manipur Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 2022 (Bill No.12 of 2022)" and "The Manipur (Hill Areas) District Councils (Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2022 (Bill No. 15 of 2022)". Letpao Haokip, minister (in-charge

of Tribal Affairs and Hills Department) stated that the bill "The Manipur (Hill Areas) District Councils (Seventh Amendment) Bill, 2022 (Bill No. 16 of 2022)" has some technical error and requires further examination and since it is related to Hill Areas under section 20 of the original bill, the bill be referred back to the Hill Area Committee for further discussion. Chief minister N Biren Singh said that the resolutions moved by the members MLA KhJoykishan

Singh and MLA Khlbomcha Singh is in the interest of the members of the House and will urged to the concerned authorities. MLA K Meghachandra supported the resolution moved by MLA Khlbomcha Singh and said that it is the need of the hour in the interest of those people following Sanamahi religion. Putting a separate religion code in the census operation will improve the status and development of the people, he added. The House unanimously adopted the two Private Member Resolutions - "therefore the House has resolved to establish the Population Commission of the State and also to introduce and enforce NRC (National Register of Citizens) and "this House Unanimously resolves to reaffirm the Resolution No.86 passed by the House on 1st August, 2003 urging the Government of India to record 'Sanamahi Religion' in the census report and also allot separate code number of the religion in the Census operation".

## Cancer costs push 300 families below poverty line each year

**Agartala, August 08** : Medical Superintendent of AtalBihari Vajpayee Regional Cancer Center, DrGautamMajumder said a recent survey conducted by the hospital found that the financial status of over 300 families in the state is slipping down to below the poverty line owing to expenses incurred for cancer treatment. DrMajumder attributed this to the propensity of the patients to avail treatment outside the state. "The detection of cancer cases increased over the years. Twenty years ago, the total number of cases detected annually was below five hundred but has today crossed the 3,000-mark. In 2021, 3,050 new cases were detected. It does not mean that the number of cancer patients has increased sixfold. The fact is, the detection mechanism of cancer has been strengthened across the state," DrManjunder said. On the financial issue, he said, a good number of patients tend to go outside the state for treatment. "Every year, we receive six to seven hundred cases who return to the state after spending lakhs of rupees in private hospitals out of the



state. Among these six hundred, around three hundred families have been pushed below poverty line (BPL). This is an early phenomenon," DrMajumder said. According to the survey conducted, as many as 20% of cancer patients sought health care outside the state, whereas 75% were being treated in the state. As many as 5% of cancer patients never receive any treatment, according to the survey. Explaining the survey titled, "Monitoring Survey of Cancer Risk Factor and Health System Response in Tripura", DrMajumder said, "As per the findings of the survey, at any point of time, there are 12,000 active cancer cases in the state and last year, a total of 1,450 patients died. To control the incidences of cancer and mortality, a collective effort from all the stakeholders is

required". One of the key reasons for cancer, Dr Majumder said, was smoking. "In Tripura, around 60 per cent of the males smoke and so far, the records of the hospital also tell that lung cancer is most prevalent among the male patients. Apart from that, cancer in the oesophagus is also found in decent numbers. Consumption of dry fish is a dominant reason behind this," he said. The survey says that 45 per cent of the women use tobacco but not through smoking. "The women necessarily use tobacco for chewing with betel leaves. In some areas, women also smoke but these are very negligible when compared to the overall picture. The most prevalent types of cancer in women are cervix, breast, ovary and gallbladder," DrMajumder said.

## Hindi teacher held for sexually assaulting 4 minors

**Kohima, August 08** : A Hindi teacher from the Chipur village in Nagaland's Noklak district was arrested on the charges of sexually assaulting four minors, all below the age of 15. The government school teacher has also been placed under suspension by the Directorate of School Education (DoSE). President of Chipur Village Students' Union, P Khuming, told that a First Information Report (FIR) was lodged by the students' body at the Thonoknyu police station (PS) on August 1 after they received information of an alleged sexual assault on school children. "A cousin of one of the victims got to know that the teacher had chased the child to the field, and they informed us. As a leader, it is my duty to listen to the grievance, and this is a big issue. So along with the other executives, we started our investigation and found out that he was a habitual



offender," the student leader said. During the process, he said it was learnt that the children were allegedly "molested" several times, but only the recent incidents were reported, as children remained silent, ashamed to raise their voices against a teacher. The most recent

cases of alleged sexual assault by the teacher on minors were reported in the last week of July. Khuming said that the accused, who hails from Agartala in Tripura, has been teaching at a government school in the village, on a contract basis, for over a decade. Acting swiftly, the

student body lodged the FIR at Thonoknyu PS, around 20 km from the village. "We started to collect pieces of evidence against the teacher who was away from the village at the time. He somehow received information and took medical leave from the school.

## RGU's ex-VC TamoMibang passes away

**Itanagar, August 08** : Former Vice-Chancellor of Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU), TamoMibang breathed his last at around 2 pm on Saturday in his Mirbuk (Pasighat) residence after a prolonged illness. He was 67 years old and is survived by his wife RongiliMibang, retired joint director of school education, two sons and grandchildren. Born on July 1, 1955, at Jomovillage, Prof Mibang was the first Arunachalee to become vice-chancellor of a central university. He was positioned as pro-VC, vice-chancellor and vice-chancellor of RGU. His contribution and achievements in the field of academia and academic administration are unparalleled and would be inscribed in golden letters in history. The initiation of his academic voyage was set to sail when he joined as a lecturer under the state government at Jawaharlal Nehru College, Pasighat. He worked there from 1978-1988. His next assignment was as a Reader in the Department of History at the erstwhile Arunachal University (RGU) from 1988-1995. Before joining as the vice-chancellor of the university, he served as a professor in the Arunachal Institute of Tribal Studies (AITS) under RGU from 1995-2012. After completion of his stint as the vice-chancellor of the university, he re-joined the AITS on August 2, 2018. As a researcher of unwonted eminence and authority, he had to his credit 16 books, reviews of four books, 46 research papers published in reputed international and national journals apart from 32 radio talks and several unpublished lectures and talks delivered on various occasions both at academic and administrative forums. Recognising his



excellence and contribution in the field of his expertise, the Asiatic Society, Kolkata awarded him the Bimala Churn Law Gold Medal in 2017 for outstanding contribution to the field of ethnology and folklore. A group of RGU faculty members would be joining his last journey at Mirbuk on Sunday, RGU officials said. State Governor, Brig. (Retd) BDMishra condoled the sudden demise of Prof. Mibang. "In his passing away, the state has lost a brilliant educationist and academician, who made a lasting contribution to higher education in Arunachal Pradesh," he said. The Governor said Prof. Mibang's path-breaking academic career and achievements in academic administration will always be remembered. Joining the people of Arunachal Pradesh in the hour of grief, he offered prayers to Donyi Polo to give fortitude to the members of the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss and eternal peace for the departed soul. Chief Minister PemaKhandu also expressed profound grief and condoled the demise of Prof Mibang. In a condolence message this evening, Khandu said that Prof Mibang will be always remembered as the doyen of tribal studies, who remained committed to aca-

demics by contributing immensely to the state and nation till his last breath. Khandu said Prof Mibang was a first-generation academician of the state, who rose from the post of lecturer to the highest post of a university and will have the distinction of being the first Arunachalee Vice Chancellor of a university. "His love and commitment for documentation and research on the rich tribal cultural heritage of the state laid the foundation of the Arunachal Institute of Tribal Studies (AITS), where he served as Professor before donning the mantle of the University's Vice Chancellor," Khandu observed. He further said that Prof Mibang's love and attachment with the AITS could be vouched from the fact that after his stint as the Vice Chancellor he returned to AITS and guided young scholars as a professor till retirement. "The Arunachalee society will be forever indebted to Prof Mibang, who not only had an impeccable career as an academician but also won one and all through his simplicity and sheer determination to preserve the indigenous tribal culture of the state. May Lord Buddha bless the departed soul eternal peace," the chief minister added.

## Two arrested in BRO workers missing case

**Itanagar, August 08** : The Arunachal Pradesh police in KurungKumey district on Sunday said that they have arrested two persons, Roham Ali a subcontractor, and BengiaTani, a labour supervisor, for their alleged role in bringing the 19 labourers from Assam to the hill state, and subsequent death of six of them, while three others remain missing. While personnel from the KurungKumey district's Koloriang police sta-



tion arrested Ali from Pasighat, the headquarters of East Siang district on July 29, Tani was arrested on August 1 from Koloriang, the district headquarters of KurungKumey. A case 10/22 has been registered at the Koloriang police station against both the accused. While Ali has been booked under sections 406 (Criminal breach of trust) and 420 (Cheating and dishonesty) of the IPC, Tani has been booked under sections 341 (Wrongful restraint) and 506 (Criminal intimidation) of the IPC r.w section 27 Arms Act. While Ali, hailing from Jonai in Assam's Dhemaji district, is in police custody, Tani is out on bail as he has tested COVID-19 positive. The police are now on the lookout for the main accused RejaulKarim, who reportedly brought the 19 workers from Assam and allegedly sold them to the contractors for Rs 20 lakh. Karim is also a resident of lower Assam. Speaking with EastMojo, GejumBasar, officer-in-charge of the Koloriang police station said, "Though we have suspended the search and rescue operations to trace the remaining three workers, we have taken up the matter very seriously and are investigat-

ing it thoroughly. We are on the lookout for the main accused RejaulKarim who allegedly sold the workers here and we are confident of apprehending him very soon." The 19 workers from Assam were engaged in road construction for a project under the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) in the remote Huri area under the Damin subdivision. They left the camp for their homes on July 5 without informing their contractors, who had allegedly denied them leave for Eid-al-Adha celebrations. Extensive search operations were soon launched by the Arunachal Pradesh police with the help of locals to track them. The State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and Indian Air Force (IAF), later joined the search and rescue operations. However, of the 19, 10 have been rescued; six of them have reportedly died, while three others are still missing. On July 27, two of the 19 workers, Majidul Ali and Manowar Hossen, after being rescued from Arunachal Pradesh's KurungKumey district, narrated a harrowing tale of oppression, including being sold off by the broker RejaulKarim for Rs20 lakh.



## ShiRock 2022 winner yet to receive prize money

**Imphal, August 08** : Mizoram band The Prophets, who won the 2022 ShiRock Music Festival in May, have not received the Rs 10 lakh prize money from the Manipur tourism department even two months after the festival was concluded. A progressive Christian metal band based in Aizawl, The Prophets also bagged the best keyboardist award at the ShiRock 2022. Organised by the Manipur tourism department, ShiRock 2022, one of the state's largest annual rock music competition, was held as part of the state-level Shirui Lily festival in Ukhrul district from May 25 to 28. The organisers of ShiRock 2022 reportedly told the winner that the prize money would be transferred within a week after the contest. But now, it has been over two months since the competition concluded. Speaking to amedia on Friday, Ukhrul AC MLA Ram Muivah said the funds were released by the state finance department about three weeks ago after his intervention. "But unfortunately, the tourism director was under COVID-19 quarantine for two weeks. After he joined work, he took his own time and later the money was transferred to Ukhrul district deputy commissioner's account. But, instead of releasing the money directly to the event managers, he entrusted it to the ADM. However, the ADM was unwell and out of station then," said Muivah. It was only after Muivah's intervention, that money has been transferred to the event managers. "I have given my advice to the event managers that the money must be paid to all by today by all means, including the winner, The Prophets," he said. He added that the tourism department has released only 50% of the total amount so far. "I don't know how much amount the finance department has released, but the tourism director has released only 50% of the amount. And I have been keeping in touch with the commissioner of tourism department and have requested him to pay the final amount to all," added the MLA. The annual rock musical carnival ShiRock 2022 was held at the Bakshi ground in Ukhrul and featured 16 of the finest rock music bands from across northeast India for the competition. The competition carries a cash prize of Rs 10 lakh for the winner, Rs 5 lakh as the second prize and Rs 2.5 lakh as the third prize with six individual prizes of Rs 25,000 each.



Contd. From Page 1

"Fake Video" : Pijush Hazarika

Hazarika addressed the media today. He dismissed the notion claiming that a video of the incident which has been circulating is completely an edited version to make her look bad. The state minister said that no BJP leader will ever disrespect a community known to have ruled Assam for 600 years and who fought off foreign invaders including the Mughals. Moreover, Hazarika urged the organizations protesting against the remarks made by the party's state Mahila Morcha president to once view the original version of the video and call off their protests. In addition, he mentioned that the police will take strong action against the perpetrators involved in creating a fake, edited version of the video to create public disharmony.

Assam Businessman To Be

investigation since the arrest of Jamtara legislator Irfan Ansari, Khijri MLA Rajesh Kachhap and Kolebira MLA Naman Bixal in West Bengal's Howrah district. They were detained on July 30 and questioned overnight before being taken into custody. The report further stated that a sum of ₹49 lakh in cash was found inside Ansari's car in which the MLAs were travelling. Although the lawmakers claimed they brought the money from Jharkhand to buy sarees from a wholesale market in Kolkata for distribution at a tribal festival, CID officers said they found discrepancies in their statements. The CID probe revealed that the trio flew to Guwahati on July 29 and returned to Kolkata on July 30, when the money was allegedly delivered to them in a hotel. However, it turned a new turn on August 3 when two CID teams were allegedly stopped by Delhi and Assam Police. The CID team in Delhi was armed with a search warrant issued by the chief judicial magistrate of Howrah district to raid the residence of Sidharth Majumder, a businessman, at Moti Bagh South in Chanakypuri. The CID suspects that Majumdar fixed appointments between Ansari, Kachhap and Bixal and "an important person in Assam." Local police cited technical grounds while stopping him from searching Majumder's residence, said Arijit Bhattacharya, additional officer-in-charge, CID, who was leading the team in Delhi. In a similar development, a second CID team was allegedly detained by Assam police soon after it landed at Guwahati airport to collect security camera footage showing the three MLAs reaching the state capital on July 29 and leaving on July 30. It is alleged that Assam government cars were sent to the airport. Ansari claimed during interrogation that he went to Guwahati to talk to a school administration for his son's admission, but the other legislators could not provide any plausible explanation, CID officials said. Suspended by the Congress on July 31 and accused of accepting money from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to help it topple the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-led coalition government, the MLAs earlier appealed for a stay on the CID investigation and transfer of the case to the CBI or any other central probe agency. The Calcutta high court turned down both appeals on August 4, saying accused persons cannot choose the investigating agencies. The court also observed that the CID has full authority to conduct the probe since the cash was seized from the vehicle in which the MLAs were travelling in West Bengal. The CID has interrogated Kolkata-based stockbroker Mahendra Agarwal, who is suspected to have handed over the money to a messenger sent by the MLAs on July 30 while they were sitting in a restaurant at Kolkata's Sudder Street. They briefly used a room at the hotel located inside the same campus, but their names were not entered in the hotel's register. Agarwal claimed during interrogation that someone had given him a bag, saying it was to be given to the MLAs. He also claimed that he did not know what the bag contained. "He said the bag was kept in his office at Bikaner Building at Lalbazar in central Kolkata. He said he received a call from Guwahati," said a CID officer who did not want to be identified.

With Taiwan drills, Chinese

table during a conflict. If Taiwan, unwilling to suffer large-scale death and destruction, accepted unification bloodlessly, Xi would secure the biggest prize in his long-term goal of "rejuvenation of the Chinese people". Although Taiwan's public, jaded by decades of Beijing's threats, appeared unfazed, some observers said its military leaders might be worried. Michael Chang, who managed the 1996 Taiwan missile crisis when he was Secretary General of Taiwan's National Security Council, told local media the drills could be a preview of a Chinese invasion scenario. The United States and its allies such as Japan condemned the drills. Because they did not want to escalate the situation, they did not directly intervene to halt the blockade rehearsal. A former Chinese defence official told Reuters that their reaction would be cold comfort to Taiwanese politicians and military leaders. "Seeing how the U.S. and its allies responded to the drills, how confident can Taiwan leaders be in counting on them to come to the rescue should the PLA attack?" he said. The exercises were scheduled to end on Sunday. The episode comes at a sensitive time for Xi, China's most powerful leader since Mao Zedong. Mao founded the People's Republic of China by winning a civil war in 1949, sending the nationalist Kuomintang government to retreat to Taiwan, which has been self-ruled ever since. Bringing Taiwan into Beijing's embrace is the key piece of unfinished business that would cement Xi's stature alongside Mao's and justify his move in 2018 to abandon term limits. Despite widespread frustration over a zero-COVID policy that has put the country into the third year of self-imposed isolation and battered the world's second-largest economy, Xi is expected to secure a precedent-breaking third five-year leadership term at a key Communist Party congress this year. Domestically, Beijing must balance the outrage it whipped up over Pelosi's visit with the embarrassment of not preventing it, observers said. State media played up the drills with videos and commentary extolling China's advanced military capabilities. Former Singaporean diplomat Bilahari Kausikan said the hype is partly a face-saving effort for Xi, who cannot afford to look weak before the party congress. "The hard and incontrovertible fact is that for all the bluster, China failed to deter the Pelosi visit. So the CCP has to put up a show in its response," he said. Although China may have edged a step closer to using force on Taiwan, most experts don't believe a war is imminent. "Invasion within this decade is far from certain to succeed. Failure would spell the end of Xi Jinping, his dream and possibly the CCP," said Charles Parton, a retired British diplomat. Xi, who has not spoken publicly about Pelosi's visit but as chairman of the Central Military Commission is effectively the PLA's commander-in-chief, would be well aware of the risks of action, experts say. "China would've hoped that these drills could somehow stop the worrying trend of the U.S., Europe and many other countries becoming more sympathetic to Taiwan," said Li, the security analyst. "So far, that effect remains to be seen."

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

lit at night. Because insects damage the marble of the monument. The ban on lighting at Taj Mahal has not been lifted since then. Although there are many better lighting options available these days. As part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrita Mohotsav' celebrations, around 3,500 monuments in the country preserved by the Archaeological Survey of India will be visited free of charge between August 5 and 15. This rule will also apply to the Taj Mahal, said Union Culture Minister Gangapuram Kishan Reddy. Incidentally, as the country is entering its 75th year of independence, the center has planned to celebrate the entire year. 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' is being celebrated on the Diamond Jubilee year of Independence. Celebrations have started as soon as the month of independence falls in August. The Prime Minister himself requested that as part of the Independence Day celebrations, the people of the country should post the tricolor in their social media pictures. In response to his request, the profile pictures of the leaders and ministers of the Center have already been changed. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting also has a pic of tricolor on its social media.

'Don't know who is real CM'

after Shinde and Fadnavis were sworn in as CM and Deputy CM on June 30. The Maha Vikas Aghadi government under Uddhav Thackeray has fallen on June 29 after a rebellion by Shinde and 39 Sena MLAs.

Bodoland: Bodo Students Stage

is no separate state of Bodo people then the identity, land, economy, culture, and language might be in danger. The Bodo Peace Accord was signed on January, 2020 by the representatives of Central Government, the then-Assam Government led by Sarbananda Sonowal and Bodo groups including dreaded insurgent groups of Assam -- the National Democratic Front of Boroland (NDFB). The Bodo Peace Accord was signed to seek to increase the scope and power of Bodoland Territorial Council and to streamline its functioning; resolve issues related to Bodo people residing outside Bodoland Territorial Area Districts (BTAD), promote and protect Bodo's social, cultural, linguistic and ethnic identities; provide legislative protection for the land rights of tribals; ensure quick development of tribal areas and rehabilitate members of NDFB factions. The accord also provides for establishing a Bodo-Kachari Welfare Council as per existing procedure, notifying Bodo language as an associate official language in the State and to set up a separate directorate for Bodo medium schools. The Bodoland Territorial Area Districts (BTAD) was renamed to Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR). Notably, this was the third accord to be signed since the violent movement for a separate Bodoland state began.

Govt To Allow 5% Of Tea Estate

and hereditaments or any part thereof may be used for the following purposes, promotion of eco-friendly tea tourism; cultivation of agricultural crops which include cash crops, horticultural crops, floriculture, medicinal plants, agar wood, sandal wood and bamboo; animal husbandry and fisheries; green power and non-conventional energy resources; social infrastructure and services which include wellness centres, schools, colleges, universities, medical, nursing, paramedical institutions, cultural and recreational exhibition centres and government offices that could be set up by Tea Garden Authority or a government entity, food processing, blending and packaging units. "Provided further that lands meant for the aforementioned purposes shall not exceed 5% of the total garden area," the ordinance added. Meanwhile, advisor to North-Eastern Tea Association (NETA), Bidyananda Barkakoty said, "It was our long pending appeal. We welcome this move by the State Government. It will help in the better economic viability of tea gardens."

Coming soon: Rs 467 crore residence

sources, the proposal to have a subterranean tunnel was made to help ease frequent traffic bottlenecks in the Central Vista area because of restrictions and barricading during the movement of the PM and his entourage. The Union housing and urban affairs ministry, which is piloting the Central Vista Redevelopment project, has set a September 2024 deadline to complete and hand over the PM's Residence Complex. Government sources told ThePrint that the proposal is likely to come up soon before the finance ministry's Expenditure and Finance Committee (EFC) for approval. All publicly funded schemes and projects must be appraised and approved by the EFC. The expenditure for constructing the complex will be met from the Union housing ministry's Budget grant. In the 2022-23 Budget, Rs 70 crore was allocated for the project. The housing ministry has already got environmental clearance for the project, and other clearances are in the process. The tender for the construction of the complex is likely to be completed by December, the government sources said. The sources added that the location of the new PM's Residence Complex was selected with an eye not only to bringing it closer to the PMO, the Cabinet Secretariat and the National Security Council Secretariat, but also to providing better segregation of high-security routes from general public movement. The sources further said that the PM's present residence at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg is located some 3 km from the PMO. "Any commute by the PM and his security entourage results in major disruptions to city traffic in the Central Vista area, and inconveniences the public. The new location will segregate the PM's route and help avoid traffic disruptions," one of the sources said. The Central Vista revamp plan is one of the Narendra Modi government's most ambitious projects, aimed at giving Delhi's power corridor a complete makeover. The project includes constructing a new Parliament building, a Common Central Secretariat housing all the central government ministries and departments, as well as the Central Vista Avenue and the Executive Enclave. Work is already underway to build a new triangle-shaped Parliament, which is expected to be ready by November, in time for the Winter Session. Besides this, work has also started on the Common Secretariat, which will have 10 new building blocks to accommodate government offices, including those of Shastri, Nirman, Udyog, Krishi and Vayu Bhawans. The PMO will be located in the Executive Enclave near the South Block, and it's estimated that it will cost approximately Rs 1,200 crore. The National Security Council Secretariat and the Cabinet Secretariat will also be housed in the Executive Enclave. The existing PMO in South Block will eventually be converted into a museum.

Over 6,00,000 Chinese nationals request asylum; Xi Jinping's 'repressive policies' to blame?

**Beijing, August 08** : More than 6,00,000 Chinese nationals have requested asylum from China due to Xi Jinping's repressive policies that have impelled the 'great exodus', according to a UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Since Xi took over, China has implemented several crackdowns in the country. According to The Hong Kong Post, no citizen is spared when it comes to the crackdown. Technology giants including Alibaba, Tencent, and Didi are also facing a series of investigations over a range of issues categorised in "regulatory" norms. The norms include limiting the number of hours allowed for children to play video games, cracking down on celebrity fan culture and limits of Artificial Intelligence Algorithms used by tech giants. These regulations are being introduced to put an anchor on tech giants since their growth and influence in the past 15 years have been dramatic, the Hong Kong Post reported. A recently leaked report cited by the media outlet stated that Yang Huiyan, who is also known as China's richest lady in the present day, has acquired a "golden passport" in Cyprus by applying to the European Union Citizenship. It is to be noted that human rights activists or anyone who supports and echoes democracy has been constantly targeted by the Chinese government. Moreover, the suppression of ethnic minorities has become the new normal in China. Journalists from foreign countries have also been facing problems with regard to visas, and there have been instances of them being subjected to detention and expulsion as well. In Hong Kong, more than 93,000 residents left the city in 2020 alone, whereas the number in 2021 was 23,000. Apart from the Chinese nationals, foreign citizens have also been leaving China due to the strict government policies in the wake of COVID-19 and the resultant harsh lockdowns. Overall, it is very evident that since Xi Jinping took over as the President, several alterations have taken place not just externally but domestically too. The increasing anxiety amongst the citizens due to his aggressive policies, high pollution levels, a massive crackdown on civil rights activists and journalists along with suspicions hovering around the wealthy are leading to a mass exodus kind of situation in the present context. Considering and comparing the numbers in the past decade, the scenario is likely to worsen as stringent COVID-19 restrictions have also left no stone unturned.

16 DNLA Cadres Flee from Designated Camp in Karbi Anglong

**Guwahati, August 08** : 16 cadres of the Dimasa National Liberation Army (DNLA) fled from the designated camp situated at Dhansiri in Karbi Anglong district of Assam. However, the names of the cadres who have escaped and the reasons for the act have not come into light as of now. According to sources, the cadres fled from the camp as they were facing difficulty in staying at the camp. The DNLA was formed back in 2019 with an objective to establish a sovereign nation for the people belonging to the Dimasa tribe. In December last year, 113 DNLA cadres had laid down their arms. Thereafter, a designated camp was set up for the cadres at Dhansiri. The Dimasa National Liberation Army (DNLA) group announced its formation through a press release on April 15, 2019. The group claimed that it is "committed to revamp the national struggle and fight for the liberation of a sovereign, Independent Dimasa Nation". It also stated that "the organization is for and to develop a sense of brotherhood among the Dimasa and also to rebuild the trust and faith among the Dimasa society for regaining the Dimasa Kingdom". The 'chairman' of DNLA is Naisodao Dimasa and Khamindao Dimasa is 'home secretary'. Ringsmai Dimasa is the 'information and publicity secretary' of the group. The group has also established a 'government-in-exile' called 'Dimasa Peoples' Supreme Council.'



DC inspected PMGSY Road

**Assam Rising, Mechuka, August 8:** Mito Dirchi Deputy Commissioner of Shi Yomi District and DPO along with ZPM Monigong, Officers of RWD and the Contractors inspected PMGSY road at various locations (BRTF road to Tasum, BRTF Road to Hemi, Monigong HQ to Remang village, BRTF road to Ruku village, BRTF road to Simugong and BRTF road to Lobikor) under Monigong circle on August 5 last.

Laharighat Ancholik AAMSU general meeting held

**Assam Rising, Bhuragaon, August 8:** The general meeting of the All Assam Minority Students Union (AMSU) Morigaon district Laharighat Ancholik Commiteeties general meeting was held at Laharighat Golden Senior Secondary School yesterday under the Chairmanship of Advocate Harun Al Rashid. Afterwards, a minute of silence was observed for the souls of the martyrs. The meeting was attended by Morigaon District AMSU Vice Presidents Saddam Hussain and Mazharul Islam as observers, Morigaon District AMSU President Ashadul Islam, Central AMSU Executive Member Ikramul Islam and many former AMSU cadres also attend. There are about 100 AMSU workers. The jury elected Jahirul Islam as President, Ratul Islam as Executive President, Anarul Islam and Alim Uddin as Vice Presidents and Ashrafur Rahman Alamin as General Secretary. Executive Committee for next 02 year's. It remains to be seen what steps the new committee will take for the various problems of the people in the flood-hit areas, as well as what awareness it will create against drug addiction, arrow gambling and various anti-social activities among the younger generation.

Nagaon DTO initiates strict action against school buses

**Assam Rising, Nagaon, August 8:** District Transport Officer, Nagaon - (DTO) Sunit Bora urged all the heads of educational institutions including government as well as other private run schools of the district to follow the strict instructions of Supreme Court especially in school buses and other vehicles being used in carrying students to the institutions. The concerned department initiated a slew of strict measures in the district to make the schools authorities bound to follow the instructions of the Supreme Court, especially installation of CCTV cameras, nets on windows and other compulsory precautionary measures as well as facilities in their respective school buses or vehicles. Besides, the department concerned also seized several school vehicles for flouting the instructions and guidelines of the court and also imposed penalties in this regard. While talking to this correspondent here DTO Sunit Bora said that even some leading educational institutions of the town were violating the guidelines and instructions of the court for which the department concerned had to initiate strict action against those violators. We have engaged special enforcement teams in operation on roads against the school buses or other vehicles that are being used for carrying students to school and the operation against those vehicles will continue for as long as our prime concern is with the safety of the students, DTO Bora added further.

'BJP waived off debt worth Rs 10 lakh crore of some people': Arvind Kejriwal on 'freebie' debate

**New Delhi, August 08** : AAP chief and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, on Monday, slammed the Centre for its sharp comment on 'freebies' in states. He expressed that an atmosphere has been created where giving free education, free electricity and free water is a crime. Launching an attack at the BJP, he claimed that the ruling party has waived off corporate debts in the past but throw criticism at 'free electricity' and 'free education'. He said that there are rumours that some of them are their friends. The AAP chief said, "An atmosphere is being created that giving free education, free electricity and free water is a crime. They (BJP) waived off debt worth Rs 10 lakh crore of some people. It is being said that some of them are their friends. No one is talking about it." Prime Minister Narendra Modi had earlier made a comment denouncing politicians who collected votes by distributing 'freebies' at the inauguration of the four-lane Bundelkhand Expressway in Uttar Pradesh's Jalaun. Delhi CM Kejriwal had retorted to PM Modi's comment and said, "I've been accused of handing out freebies. But is it wrong to provide quality education to underprivileged students for free? Over 18 lakh children study in our government schools. Around 4 lakh students ditched private schools for public schools over the past few years."

Truss-Sunak contest leaves Brussels pessimistic about relations with UK

**London, August 08** : European officials are pessimistic about a reset in post-Brexit relations with the UK, whoever becomes Britain's next prime minister in September. Whether it is Liz Truss or Rishi Sunak who is handed the keys to Downing Street on 5 September, officials in Brussels have little hope of a rapprochement with the new government. More than six years after Britain voted to leave the European Union, relations have hit a post-Brexit low, as the UK government pushes ahead with plans for a unilateral rewriting of the Northern Ireland protocol, a linchpin of the post-Brexit agreement. The EU has said the plans - led by Truss, the foreign secretary - would breach international law and has threatened to tear up the post-Brexit trade deal. One EU diplomat said there was nothing to suggest that Truss, the frontrunner, would abandon the approach she has pursued as foreign secretary. "If the UK government follows through with the plan already set out, I think it's fair to say relations will get worse," they said.



# After all the sparring, heavyweight Haaland delivers two crushing blows

**Manchester City, August 08 :** With 64 minutes gone at a chokingly hot London Stadium Erling Haaland killed this Premier League game with a goal that carried its own dreamy sense of déjà vu. It was a goal that already felt like a repeat, like something emerging out of traces in the air, a bend in the space-time continuum. How many times has this happened, that rangy, slanted figure, veering in from the right, the sense of a familiar reel of film playing out? Haaland's second goal of this game, the second of his Premier League debut, felt like confirmation of the old truism. Knowing what your opponent is about to do is one thing. Actually being able to stop it is something else. And Haaland was very good in this 2-0 defeat of West Ham, really very good indeed after the clumsiness of the Community Shield game. Even better, he was good in a way that was



entirely his own. Adaptation you say? Fine, yes, good. But how about we just score some goals first. It felt significant that West Ham had begun to commit players forward before that decisive moment, chasing the game at 1-0 down. Suddenly there was space. No, really. You don't want to leave space. Kevin De Bruyne picked up the ball 15 yards inside the City half with grass in front of him and

time to start measuring the distance, the physics, the moving objects in his arc. Haaland had begun to sprint - and not just to open up a gap or create a diversion, but running towards goal, radar fixed.

He collected the perfect pass through the perfect channel, veered just enough to his right, switched feet and slid the ball past Alphonse Areola. There was a clarity to this, an equation that will repeat: the pass, the run, the

precisely metered acceleration. For all the talk of changes of style, what City have already is a devastating counter punch. This was Haaland Mk 1, the man who devours space. Even City's yellow away shirt looks a little Dortmund-ish. And by the end it was a comfortable afternoon for the Premier League champions, victory achieved at arm's length for all West Ham's occasional waves of fury. At kick-off it had been 30 degrees in east London, the sun dipping below the roof of the stand, half of the London Stadium pitch in hard yellow high-summer sun. Understandably there was a sense at times of players taking a touch, keeping the ball, allowing themselves to breathe.

## Nick Kyrgios ends title drought with Citi Open victory in build-up to US Open

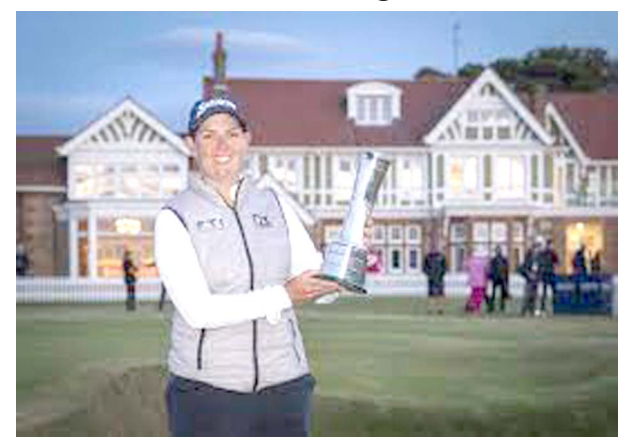
**Washington, August 08 :** An emotional Nick Kyrgios has spoken of his struggles to discover his best form after ending a three-year title drought with victory in the Citi Open final in Washington. The Australian took just 81 minutes to defeat Japanese giant-killer Yoshihito Nishioka 6-4, 6-3 in Sunday's final to claim his first ATP Tour title since winning at the same event in 2019. The 27-year-old then backed up his win by claiming the doubles title alongside American Jack Sock - his third doubles success of the year. Shortly after lifting the men's singles trophy, Kyrgios combined with Sock to defeat Ivan Dodig and Austin Krajicek 7-5, 6-4. The sensational week in the American capital continues a career-best year for Kyrgios after reaching his first career grand slam final at Wimbledon, where he lost

to Novak Djokovic. Despite not earning any rankings points at Wimbledon due to the ATP's objection to a ban on Russian and Belarusian players, Kyrgios's win in Washington lifts him to 37th on the world rankings. Ahead of big events in Montreal and Cincinnati, it means Kyrgios is closing in on an all-important seeding for the US Open starting on 29 August in New York. "To see where I was at last year to now, it's just an incredible transformation," Kyrgios said in a post-match interview. "I just came out with great energy. I knew that I had experience on my side today. I love this court, I've played so many good matches here, so I'm just really happy with myself." "I've been in some really dark places. Just to be able to turn it around... there are so many people who have helped me get there, but myself, I've shown some serious strength to just continue and persevere



and get through all those times and be able to still perform and win tournaments like this one." Kyrgios's serve was imperious throughout the tournament, getting through 64 matches in the tournament without being broken once. The 27-year-old fired down 12 aces in Sunday's final against Nishioka, also hitting 32 winners in a confident display to secure his

## Million-dollar Ashleigh Buhai wins playoff for Women's Open and first major



the epitome of male-only golf environments, toasted a female major champion at ten past nine at night. Buhai beat rapidly fading light - the consequence of preposterously late tee off times to accommodate television schedules - as well as Chun. Buhai led by five at the start of day four. Those below her on the scoreboard swung and missed all day until the 33-year-old reached the 15th tee, still with a three-stroke advantage. She drove into a bunker, from where she could only play out sideways. The trouble was, this attempted recovery flew into thick rough. Buhai advanced the ball 10 yards, with her fourth shot just short

of the green. In no time, she was standing over a 15ft putt for a double-bogey six, which she missed. She was now tied with Chun. Almost simultaneously, Chun came so close to finding the bottom of the hole at the 16th, from 50ft, for a birdie. A procession had turned into an engrossing duel. Buhai could have regained momentum but her birdie try at the penultimate hole stayed above ground. At the last, the eventual champion rattled her putt for a three past the hole. Par was crucially saved from there but Chun had the momentum entering the playoff courtesy of Buhai's 75 shots, four over par, in regulation play.

## Pete Rose dismisses questions over statutory rape claims in Phillies return

**London, August 08 :** Rose, though, had no trouble reminiscing about the 1980 World Series champion Philadelphia Phillies team that was honored before Sunday's game. After initially getting booed lightly, the 81-year-old Rose received a standing ovation from Phillies fans when he walked onto the Citizens Bank Park field for the first time since he received a lifetime ban from Major League Baseball in August 1989. "They made me feel real good today," Rose said of the cheers. "I don't want to say I expected it. I guess I did expect it from Philly fans. That's the way they are. They love their sports heroes." Rose's already stained reputation suffered another blow in 2017 when the Phillies called off a planned induction into the team's Wall of Fame because of the sexual misconduct accusations levied against him. Rose brusquely responded to the reporter's question before the game - and later apologized to her following Sunday's ceremony after initially saying, "will you forgive me if I sign 1,000 baseballs for you?" - and was just as combative on the topic after the pregame celebration.

## Erik ten Hag admits he has 'hell of a job' after Manchester United defeat

**London, August 08 :** Erik ten Hag admitted Manchester United lost belief in their 2-1 home defeat against Brighton on Sunday and described his challenge at Old Trafford as a "hell of a job". The visitors dominated throughout in Ten Hag's first Premier League match, winning after two goals from Pascal Gross in the space of nine first-half minutes, United pulling a goal back

[improvement] will not come overnight. At times we played better in pre-season. Today we had a really bad period in the first half and we have to learn from that. "He admitted he sensed in pre-season that the squad's confidence was fragile because of last term's dire campaign. "I think so. That is also normal. I didn't expect that we are already a team that has had a lot of time together," he said. "And I think that was the difference with our opponent: they have been a long time together with a certain plan and coach and we



through Alexis Mac Allister's second-half own goal. "It is a hell of a job [before us] - we have to work really hard, analyse and then move forward," he said. "Today was a good start and then after that we dropped down a level in belief and we made mistakes that the opponent punished. But it was a good opponent, we [tried to] work well together but when you make mistakes you get punished for that." After United had impressed in pre-season, the Dutchman was asked whether he was surprised that his players had lost belief in the first league game of the season. "I knew it could happen but I think we should have done better - that is clear," the manager said. "But I know also it

have not. But still it was unnecessary to lose this game." Ten Hag was asked why his team did not press as he would like. "Brighton is a team who normally wants to play from the back. They didn't today, they played long balls. Then it becomes about winning the second ball and in those situations we did not always do what we planned to before the game and we have to learn from those lessons." In Anthony Martial's absence Ten Hag deployed a false No 9 in Christian Eriksen, leaving Cristiano Ronaldo on the bench and cited a lack of match fitness as the reason why. "Ronaldo is now maybe 10 days in training and that is too short for 90 minutes so that is why we didn't start him," he said.

## Nervy St Helens overcome Castleford thanks to boot of Tommy Makinson

**London, August 08 :** The only thing that rises higher than the temperature when we get to this stage of the Super League season are the nerves, and how that was evident here. A fortnight ago, a narrow victory riddled with so many errors would have been unacceptable from a St Helens side in pursuit of an unprecedented fourth successive Super League title. But back to back below-par performances, including defeat to Salford last week, have led to their position at the top coming under

increasing threat from Wigan, and a third successive defeat here could have caused real panic among the reigning champions. This was very much a case of win by any means necessary and to that end, it was job done. But the fact only goal-kicking separated the Saints and a Castleford side, who themselves looked to be showcasing end-of-season nerves, underlines we are reaching the most important period of the year. Perhaps the one positive for Kristian Woolf's side here is that they

held off an impressive comeback from the visitors in the final quarter to re-establish a four-point lead over Wigan with five rounds of the regular season remaining. Leading 20-0 with 15 minutes remaining, the scratchy play from both sides suggested it was highly unlikely Castleford could cause the Saints any meaningful worries. But a hat-trick from Bureta Faraimo would have brought the contest firmly back into the balance had it not been for three missed conversions from Castleford. In contrast, all three of St



Helens' tries were converted by Tommy Makinson, coupled with a penalty from the boot of the winger. And that proved to be enough for the league leaders to hold on and calm any

fears among their supporters with the business end of the year approaching. While St Helens sit four points clear at the top and are practically assured of a top-two finish -

and a free week at the start of the playoffs - Castleford are in a far more precarious position. A fortnight ago, they were hunting down the top four but consecutive defeats have left them looking over their shoulders, with just a two-point buffer between themselves and the teams outside of the top six. There was no shortage of effort here, as their coach admitted afterwards, but a frustrating lack of quality prior to the quick burst of tries from Faraimo, which ultimately proved to be mere consolation.

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# From 1966 to 2022: two finals a world apart, but Lionesses' win felt even sweeter



**London, August 08 :** It had to be. Surely? Fifty-six years and a day after being at Wembley to see Alf Ramsey's England beat West Germany to win the men's World Cup, I walked with my son towards the stadium in a state of nervous anticipation before last Sunday's Women's Euro final. As much as I cherish the memory of that historic day in 1966, standing behind the goal into which Geoff Hurst smashed his "they think it's all over" victory clincher and then roaring like three lions at the final whistle, I felt even more involved and invested this time round as the Lionesses prepared to meet Germany. Having reported on the national women's team for almost two decades until retiring four years ago, I was now a fan (wearing the autographed England shirt presented to me by the players on bowing out) with more intense pre-match nerves than I've ever suffered before games involving my club Wolves. England had been the best team in the tournament; but we were

facing our nemesis, against whom we had taken 21 matches over 31 years to record our first victory in 2015. Before that meeting, the World Cup bronze medal match in Edmonton, Canada, we had suffered some severe beatings by Germany, most notably the 6-2 hammering we took in the Euro 2009 final in Helsinki. By that time I had become accustomed to such defeats. The first against Germany I witnessed, a 3-0 reversal, had come in the group stage of the 2001 Euro finals. As someone relatively new to the women's game at the time that tournament was not just a great experience, it also blew away any reluctance I had previously felt about reporting on it. I admit to having not been particularly happy at being despatched to my first England Women's fixture, against France at Yeovil in September 1999. I knew

nothing about women's football and had no great desire to learn. But I quickly found myself enjoying it and, with much greater access to the team and management than is the case today, work became a pleasure and friendships were formed that are still standing today - it was a delight to have a beer with former captain Gill Coulter after last week's final. The sellout crowd at Wembley illustrated the recent surge in the popularity of women's football, this after years of stuttering progress. It seemed that the game was on the march when, at the 2005 Euro finals held in England (though only in stadiums in the north-west of the country), a crowd of 29,092 watched the Lionesses' opening group match against Finland at the City of Manchester (now Etihad) Stadium. The team's first home match following that tournament, however, attracted a meagre attendance of 9,616 against Iceland at Carrow Road. It was far worse after reaching the 2009 Euro final - for the next home game just 3,681 turned up at Bloomfield Road for a World Cup qualifier

against Malta. But the Football Association and in particular England's then-manager Hope Powell - perhaps the most influential person in English women's football in the last quarter of a century - continued to push for the game's wider attention and recognition. A handful of journalists, myself included, were doing likewise although persuading sports editors to take stories was more often than not a difficult task and the press boxes for those games could be lonely places. I covered 180 England matches in 32 different countries and rarely, outside major tournaments, saw anything like a full quota in attendance. The emptiest was at a Euro 2013 qualifier against Serbia in Belgrade: I was the only reporter there. How times have changed. A huge media pack provided massive coverage of England's Wembley triumph and of the hoped-for legacy it could inspire. While my former colleagues were reporting on the game I was watching it just as intently but also reminiscing, especially when Chloe Kelly produced her shirt-twirling celebration after stabbing in the winning goal. It didn't remind me so much of Brandi

Chastain's similar celebration after her winning penalty in the 1999 Women's World Cup final, and definitely not Hurst's exhausted trot across the six-yard line after his hat-trick goal had won the 1966 World Cup final. Instead, I thought back to Kelly Smith taking off and kissing her boot after scoring against Japan at the 2007 Women's World Cup finals in China. Not as outrageous as Chloe's dash to fame, but a fondly remembered cheeky moment from England's finest ever player and another old pal. Smith's hand is on that trophy, just like Powell's and so many others who have given their all towards this great moment for English football. A couple of days after the final my friend, Suzanne Wrack, wrote in the Guardian that it was impossible trying to fathom the feelings of myself and two other long-established women's football writers, Jen O'Neill and Cath Etoe, at the moment captain Leah Williamson lifted the European Championship trophy. Well Suzy, there were no lion roars from me this time. I just stood there with a catch in my throat, gazing through tear-filled eyes around the stadium, taking in the on-field celebrations but also staring in wonderment at the crowd: 87,192 - for an England women's match! I never thought I'd see the day. But it had to be.



## Six of the best of British from the Commonwealth Games

**Birmingham, August 08 :**

The sheer power the 20-year-old possesses has been well-known for years, but his breakthrough was delayed by few competitions during Covid and frustrating injuries. In Birmingham, he took his opportunity spectacularly. Not only did he become the first men's gymnast to win four gold medals: all-around, team, vault and floor, but he did so with some truly world-class gymnastics. His vaulting in particular is already some of the best in the world and his floor is not far behind. This is only the beginning, and it will be fascinating to see how far he can go. Day after day, the crowds packed out Birmingham's Smithfield venue not for athletics, swimming or any other core Commonwealth Games sport, but for beach volleyball, a minority sport among minority sports in Great Britain. Throughout this period, the athletic, dynamic style of the 22-year-old twins, Joaquin and Javier Bello, who were born in Madrid before moving to London as children, has been one of the most joyful sights of the Games. They topped off an incredible tournament by winning bronze while also moving closer to their goal of bringing beach volleyball to as many people as possible in Great Britain. It has been a good start. Orie has spoken in

depth about his admiration of Anthony Joshua, and as he has become the top super-heavyweight in the Team GB squad, the comparisons have naturally followed. On Sunday night he lived up to the hype, taking a stellar gold medal by outsmarting and overpowering Sagar Ahlawat of India in the super-heavyweight division. Orie was born in Moscow to a Nigerian father and Russian mother before moving to Birmingham in his youth, in part due to the racism he continually faced there. He has now triumphed in his hometown, but even greater stages, from the World Championships to the Olympics are surely next on his radar. Scotland's McColgan and Irene Cheptai of Kenya emerged for the final straight of the women's 10,000m final with their legs kicking, faces grimacing, pushing themselves to the limit. As the crowd roared her on, it was McColgan who found the extra gear to soar past her rival and carry on to win her first major title. Her success is even more meaningful for the efforts it has taken McColgan to get here. She has been a constant presence in the sport and in her four Commonwealth Games she has attempted four events: 1500m, 5,000m, 10,000m

and the steeplechase. She finally found the right distance and time to thrive. Four days later, she returned to win a silver medal in the 5,000m. Having dominated the preliminary round of the 10m platform competition and then led after the first nine dives of the final, she stepped up for the final dive of her first Commonwealth Games with all the pressure on her shoulders to confirm her superiority. No matter, she threw down an extremely complex dive, a back 2 1/2 somersaults dive with 1 1/2 twists in pike position, and she utterly nailed it. She received 9.0s across the board, winning gold at just 17. In 2020, Spendolini-Sirieux was named as a young sports personality of the year, and she had been on the way for some time. She has arrived. England dominated the artistic gymnastics competitions as expected, but as rhythmic gymnasts arrived to occupy the same arena, a new star emerged. Ekimova, 17, became the first English gymnast to ever win an all-around gold medal in the rhythmic gymnastics at the Commonwealth Games, winning with a score of 112.300. "It's amazing and a dream come true. It was a roaring crowd and everything a gymnast could ever have wished for," she said. She will now aim to fight among the very best by qualifying for the Paris Olympics.

## Laura Muir erases eight years of hurt but England's women disqualified in relay

**London, August 08 :** With one devastating and prolonged kick, Laura Muir erased eight years of lingering heartache and finally got her hands on a 1500m Commonwealth Games gold medal. The look on the 29-year-old's face told you the wait, and the pain, was all worthwhile. On a night when England's 4x400m women were controversially disqualified for stepping out of their lane after appearing to win gold by 0.01sec over Canada on the final event of track competition, it was Muir who stole the show with another run of sublime quality and class. "This means a lot," Muir said, as her mind slipped back to when she was the young poster girl of the Glasgow Games in 2014, only to be devastatingly tripped coming into the home straight when in contention and to fall away to 11th. "I would have told my younger self: 'You will learn from it and will come back stronger.' It sounds cheesy but it is true. I missed the Gold Coast as well. It has been eight years without the Commonwealth and it has been bugging me." Now the bug has been well and truly scratched, and stamped on. This was the Scottish athlete's second medal of these Games, to go with her 800m bronze, and she now has 11 major medals, indoor and outdoor, over her

career. Paula Radcliffe, who knows a thing or two about this sport, called her a "perfect athlete". Increasingly it is difficult to argue. This 1500m, though, was far weaker than Muir is used to facing. The first two laps were run in a dawdling 2min 15sec, allowing her to ease towards the front before striking for glory with 500m remaining. Only the Northern Ireland's Ciara Mageean went with her, but it was clear from a long way out that there would be only one winner. Muir took gold in 4:02.76, with Mageean just over a second further back in silver. Australia's Abbey Caldwell won bronze. "Oh my God, the 1500m-800m double - there ain't anything easy about that," said Muir, who is now targeting more medals at the European Championships next week. "One left, two down. One to go." There was more medal success for Scotland in the women's 5,000m as Eilish McColgan produced a performance of grit and substance to come second behind the world silver medalist Beatrice Chebet. McColgan, who won gold in the 10,000m on Wednesday, once again left her heart on



the track but she had no answer to the brutal sprint finish of Chebet, who toyed with her before applying the kill on the final lap. Not that McColgan, who ran 14:42.14 to finish four seconds behind Chebet, minded. "It's just been an absolute rollercoaster of emotions since Wednesday," she said. "Every time I went to the dining hall, I'm just crying because it's just amazing. I was so tired, mentally and physically but I'm so proud of myself." Elsewhere there was gold for the England men's 4x100m team of Jona Efoloko, Zharnel Hughes, Nathaniel

Mitchell-Blake and Ojie Edoeburun, whose time of 38.35sec saw off Trinidad & Tobago and Nigeria, despite a minor baton hiccup due to the noise from the 30,000 crowd. A few minutes later, England's Asha Philip, Imani-Lara Lansiquot, Bianca Williams and Daryll Neita won silver in a tougher contest, running 42.41 behind Nigeria, with Jamaica taking third. The result was special for Williams, who was joined on her lap of honour by her two-year-old son Zuri. "That is the first time he has been out on a big stage but there will be many more," she said. But there was 4x400m relay heartbreak for England's

team of Victoria Ohuruogu, Jodie Williams, Ama Pipi and Jessie Knight shortly after they had crossed the line first in 3:25.83. At one point Knight, who had held a 10m lead, looked beaten, but she flung her arm forward on the line to take gold. However, the judges ruled that Williams had stepped out of her lane when getting the baton from Ohuruogu. It meant Scotland won bronze, with Canada taking gold and Jamaica silver.

## Inspired England beat Australia to win Commonwealth Games hockey gold

**Birmingham, August 08 :**

After 24 years of trying, the England women's hockey team finally won gold at the Commonwealth Games. They had played Australia in three finals before now, and lost every one of them. But on a sunny Sunday afternoon at the University of Birmingham, they finally beat them, 2-1, through goals from Holly Hunt and Tess Howard. And if it wasn't exactly easy, it wasn't anything like as difficult as history suggested it would be, either. England were in control of the match throughout, and yes, by the end the fans up in the big grandstand were singing "hockey's coming home". The team had actually had some good luck messages from Leah Williamson and the rest of the Lionesses come through in the morning. "They told us how some of our previous teams had inspired them in the past, and that they hoped that now they'd returned the favour by helping inspire us to do this," the midfielder Flora Peel said. "And they definitely did." The victory went some way to making up for the defeats endured by the

England women's cricket and netball teams, who both lost bronze medal playoffs earlier in the day. "It feels like women's sport is really taking off this summer," Peel said, "and now it's about capitalising on all those opportunities." You

But she played brilliantly well, and had a hand in both goals. Both came in the second quarter. Hunt scored the first, off Peel's centre. Howard got the second after making an interception, which she passed back to Shona

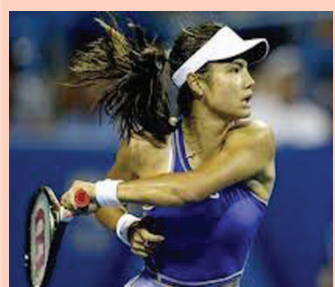
us to take the first swing and keep swinging, and we did, because if you sit off a team like Australia they will just keep coming at you." Australia tried to do that in the second half, but couldn't find a way past Maddie Hinch. There were only 19 seconds left to play when she was finally beaten by Rosie Malone off a penalty corner. The crowd had just started singing their version of Three Lions. "I laughed and thought 'I'm about to run on the pitch to celebrate here' when I heard that," Peel said. "And then the goal went in and I thought: 'Oh no they've jinxed it!'" England had been in this sort of situation before. In the 2014 final they were leading 1-0 when Australia equalised with 11 seconds to play, and then won the game in a shootout. The memory of that defeat still haunts England's captain, Hollie Pearce-Webb. She spoke before the match about how she was determined not to let a similar thing happen again.



see what the Lionesses' victory is going to do for them, and you hope this will do something similar for us, and the netball and cricket players too even though they didn't make their finals this time. The more women's sport as a whole can build on this momentum the better for all of us." They are not going to put one of her up next to it just yet, even if she is an alumni of the university.

McCallin. She whipped the ball on to Peel, whose shot was artfully deflected into the net by Howard. It meant Australia, who have won this title five times, had conceded more goals in those four minutes of play than they had in the rest of the tournament. "Australia are so good that we knew we had to come out fighting," said England's Lily Owsley. "Our coach told

## Emma Raducanu crashes out of Citi Open in quarter-finals to Samsonova



**Washington, August 08 :** Emma Raducanu's exciting Citi Open run has ended with a straight-sets quarter-final defeat against Ludmilla Samsonova in Washington. Despite a tight opening set, the second seed was ultimately

overpowered 7-6 (6), 6-1, as the Russian world No 60 saved four set points en route to clinching the first set, before cruising home in the second with nine aces and 33 winners to take the match. Raducanu proved to be her own worst enemy, mustering just eight winners and a single ace to go along with 24 unforced errors, as she struggled with Samsonova's power. The British teenager, who begins her defence of her US Open crown in just over three weeks, was crushed in

the second set as her serve misfired and her groundstroke radar went missing in action. After Raducanu's comeback win over Colombian Camila Osorio, the keenly awaited quarter-final had been due to start at 10pm BST. However, a three-hour rain delay, followed by an epic curtain-raiser between Britain's Dan Evans and eventual winner Yoshihito Nishioka that became a three-and-a-half-hour

thriller, meant the women didn't take to the court until just before 11pm local time. The delay clearly affected Raducanu as she faltered early on serve and found herself a break down from the get-go. However, a partisan crowd of 500 waving Union Jack flags and wearing England football shirts inspired the 19-year-old to rally and she soon found her rhythm, breaking Samsonova to love in the second game.