



The Assam Rising

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NEWS IN BRIEF

1,108 Kg Of Cannabis

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 10 :

Continuing its crack-down on drug trafficking, Assam's Karimganj district police seized 1108 kg of Cannabis hidden under sheets in a truck coming from a neighbouring state on Saturday. Taking to Twitter Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma hailed the police for this mega drug bust in the Karimganj district of the Indian state of Assam. Praising the district police for its 'commendable' job, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said, "In another major recovery, Karimganj Police has seized 1108 kg Ganja hidden inside a truck coming from a neighbouring state. The accused driver has been apprehended in the process."

Youth killed

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 10 :

A 20-year-old youth of southern Assam's Karimganj district died in a road accident in Bengaluru late on Thursday night. The deceased identified as Suhel Ahmed, son of Kabir Hussain, was a resident of Katanpur under Jherjheri GP under Patharkandi assembly constituency in Karimganj district and he worked with a private company as a delivery boy in that state. As per available information, Suhel met with the accident on Thursday night when he was returning to the place (where he stayed) on a bike after his duty. On his way home, he lost control in the Bommanahalli area of Bengaluru city following which he fell on the road and got critically injured. An auto-rickshaw driver and police thereafter took Suhel, who was bleeding profusely at that time, to a hospital where he was declared brought dead.

Woman died

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 10 :

A woman was electrocuted to death in Jamugurihat in Sonitpur district of Assam on Saturday. The deceased has been identified as Semanti Devi, a resident of Bogabeel. The incident took place due to a technical glitch in the water pump. Semanti Devi lost her life on the spot when she came in contact with electric wires of the electric pump. Meanwhile, the body of the deceased has been sent to a nearby hospital for post-mortem report. On Friday, a labourer died while two others were injured after getting electrocuted by a live wire in Nalbari district. The incident was reported from Bardhanali area of the district.

India's Global Innovation Index ranking improved from 81 in 2015 to 46 at present : PM Modi

New Delhi, September 10 :

Highlighting the Centre's science and technology-based development model, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said that India's Global Innovation Index ranking improved from 81 in 2015 to 46 at present due to the central government's efforts. The Prime Minister on Saturday inaugurated the Centre-State Science Conclave via video conferencing. Addressing the event, PM Modi said, "We have to make India a global centre of research and innovation in this Amrit Kaal. States should adopt best practices from other states. This will be a step towards ensuring timely and effective implementation of science-led development programs in the country." He said for the development of 21st-



century New India, science will play an important role in accelerating the growth of all areas and sectors. He also said the central government is working with the vision of science-based development. Since 2014, PM Modi said there has been a substantial increase in investment in the field of science and technology. "Due

to the efforts of the government, today India is ranked 46th in the Global Innovation Index, while in 2015 India was at number 81. Today, when India is moving towards leading the fourth industrial revolution, the role of India's science and people associated with this field is very important. "Noting science as the basis of solutions,

evolution and innovation, Prime Minister said New India is marching ahead with the mantra of "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, Jai Vigyan and Jai Anusandhan". PM said scientists in the West like Einstein, Fermi, Max Planck, Niels Bohr, Tesla were surprised the world with their experiments. At the same time many scientists including CV Raman, Jagdish Chandra Bose, Satyendranath Bose, Meghnad Saha, S Chandrasekhar were bringing their new discoveries to the fore. "If we remember the early decades of the last century, we find that the world was going through a period of devastation and tragedy. But even in that era, whether it was East or West, scientists everywhere were engaged in their great discovery," he stated. The Prime Minister urged citi-

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Congress, BJP spar over video clip of Rahul Gandhi's interaction with Christian priest



New Delhi, September 10 :

The Congress on Saturday hit out at the Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) for its 'mischievous' post on a Christian pastor's conver-

sation with former party president Rahul Gandhi, who is on his 3,570-km Bharat Jodo Yatra. Jairam Ramesh, Congress' General

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Royal Family Controversy

King Charles told Harry 'Meghan won't be welcome' to see dying Queen at Balmoral castle

London, September 10 :

According to reports in the British media Prince Charles (now King Charles III) had told his younger son Harry not to bring his wife Meghan Markle to see Queen Elizabeth before her death. Harry was the last to arrive at Balmoral Castle on Thursday (September 8, 2022), as the queen's closest relatives rushed to be with her in her final hours. Harry

was also the first to depart on Friday, reflecting the fact that he is no longer part of the family's inner circle. "Charles told Harry that it wasn't right or appropriate for Meghan to be in Balmoral at such a deeply sad time," a source told The Sun. SKY News reported. "It was pointed out to him that Kate was not going and that the numbers really should be limited to the very closest family. Charles made it very, very clear Meghan

would not be welcome. "In happier times, Harry and his grandmother enjoyed a close, playful rapport, glimpsed by the wider public in 2016 when they appeared together in a comic video, reacting to a mic roared from Barack and Michelle Obama ahead of the Invictus Games, a competition for disabled veterans which Harry has promoted. According to the

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Governor attends 11th Convocation of Assam Don Bosco University

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 10 :

Assam Governor Prof. Jagdish Mukhi and visitor of Assam Don Bosco University attending the convocation of the university and speaking to the students said, "Be humble enough to take up any job,



remembering always that no job is below the dignity of a human being. Beyond finding a job and working for existing companies and organizations, be bold and take steps to give wings to the innovative ideas inside you and become job creators." Delivering his presidential address at the 11th Convocation of Assam Don Bosco University at Tapesia campus in Sonapur here today, Governor Prof. Mukhi said, "As our gov-

ernment recognizing as many as 80 start-ups on a single day, India is having the highest rate of start-ups per day in the world. This is a very promising scenario for the start-up ecosystem and our developing economy". He also said, "As we celebrated the 75th year of Independence this year, the number of start-ups in India stands at 75,000, providing a whopping

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Need to expedite the justice delivery mechanism: CM Dr. Sarma

CM Attends Bar Council Diamond Jubilee as Guest of Honour

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 10 :

Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma on Saturday attended as a Guest of Honour the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the Bar Council of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim at ITA Cultural Complex, Machkhowa. Correlating with the celebration, a national seminar on the subject "Role of Technology and in Facilitating Speedy Justice" was also held. Addressing those present, which included the Union Minister of Law & Justice Kiren Rijiju, Judges of the Supreme Court Surya Kant, Hrishikesh Roy, Sudhanshu Dhulia, the Chief Justice of Guwahati High Court RM Chhaya, the Chief Minister congratulated the Bar Council for having successfully com-



pleted 60 years of glorious existence. The Chief Minister also lauded the Bar Council for its performance of regulatory functions, raising the standard of practice in the profession of legal service. The Chief Minister, speaking on the

long and illustrious history of the country's judicial system, lauded it for providing a robust foundation to the country's democracy. Dr. Sarma also stated that the judiciary has always played a key role in upholding the

rule of law and maintaining the fine balance of power among the four pillars of our democracy. This has ensured the fundamental rights and freedoms of the

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EC sends opinion to Governor on disqualification plea against Jharkhand CM's brother Basant Soren

New Delhi, September 10 :

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has sent its opinion on the disqualification matter pertaining to Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) MLA Basant Soren, state Chief Minister Hemant Soren's brother, to Jharkhand Governor Ramesh Bais, The Indian Express has learned. The EC had concluded its hearings



on August 29 in the reference received from Bais.

Sources said Bais received

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BJP comes to Chhattisgarh to learn development model of Congress govt in state: CM Bhupesh Baghel



Assam Rising
Raipur, September 10 :

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Friday slammed the Bhartiya Janata Party and said that the BJP chief JP Nadda was visiting Chhattisgarh to study the development model of the Congress government in the state. "BJP comes here to learn our state model. Our schemes have been adopted by the Center. BJP

doesn't fight alone, uses Central agencies like ED, IT and CBI," Baghel told media persons. His remarks came after BJP chief J P Nadda on Friday called the Congress the party of a "brother and sister" and emphasised that his own party was against dynastic culture. The state chief also sneered at the new secretariat building in the national capital and said, "

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Pijush Hazarika Holds Meet on Organizing Lachit Borphukan's Birth Anniv in Delhi

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 10 :

The Government of Assam is planning to organize the concluding function of the 400th birth anniversary of Ahom General Lachit Borphukan in New Delhi in a grand manner. Minister for Information and Public Relations, Pijush Hazarika arrived in the national capital to hold preliminary discussions with organisations and groups

of Delhi and NCR and media persons of Assam, based in Delhi, for conducting the grand function. The meeting, held at the conference hall of Assam House, elicited opinions and suggestions from organisations and media persons as to how to go about in showcasing the heroic deeds, valour and patriotism of Lachit Borphukan to the rest of the country and. A two-day

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Mar-a-Lago search: Trump team and Justice Department suggest rival 'special master' candidates



Washington, September 10 : The US justice department and lawyers for Donald Trump were unable to agree Friday night on who to have as the so-called special master to review for potential privilege protections the materials that the FBI seized from the former president's Mar-a-Lago resort earlier this month. The justice department and Trump met a deadline to submit a joint filing but failed to reach consensus on most of the key issues at stake: not only the identity of the special master but also the scope of the work, and who should pay for the added expense. With both sides unable to agree on who should serve as the special master, the justice department and Trump's lawyers each proposed two candidates, saying they would inform the judge overseeing the case, Aileen Cannon, on their positions after the weekend. The justice department proposed two retired federal judges: former US district court judge Barbara Jones, who has previously served as a special master, and Thomas Griffith, a former US appeals court judge for the DC Circuit and a lecturer at Harvard Law

School. Trump at Mar-a-Lago in November 2018. I'm sure Mar-a-Lago was being targeted by Russian intelligence over the course of the last 18 or 20 months,' John Brennan said. Trump's lawyers proposed a federal judge and an attorney in Florida: former US district court chief judge Raymond Dearie, one of four judges who authorized a wiretap on former Trump 2016 campaign aide Carter Page, and former Florida deputy attorney general Paul Huck. The disagreements between the two parties on the already contentious special master issue - the government earlier filed a notice of appeal against the order appointing the arbiter - were more numerous than the areas of consensus. On what materials should be examined, the justice department said the special master should not review documents with classified markings or potentially subject to executive privilege, while Trump's team said all documents should be reviewed. "The special master should not review documents with classification markings; should not adjudicate claims of executive privilege (but should submit to [the National Archives] any

documents over which such claims are made)," the justice department said. On what access each side should get to the documents, the justice department said it wanted to review proposed protection designations before they went to the special master, while Trump said they should remain protected to protect the process. The justice department then said it wanted to see Trump's lawyers' categorizations before documents were sent to the special master - to save time if they agreed - but Trump's lawyers said the special master should simply review all the seized materials. Additionally, while Trump suggested the costs of the special master should be split evenly, the justice department contended that "as the party requesting the special master, plaintiff should bear the additional expense of the special master's work". In the end,

the final appointment of the independent arbiter rests with Cannon, the judge overseeing the case who ordered both parties to produce a list of qualified candidates by midnight on Friday. Cannon will also set the scope of the review. The government, seeking a swift resolution to the review that has delayed its investigation into Trump's unauthorised retention of government secrets, proposed a 17 October deadline to complete the review. Trump proposed a 90-day window. The dispute about the extent of the special master's duties has become a simmering point of tension, with the justice department adamant that documents with classified markings belong to the government and cannot even be subject to executive privilege. That argument was reflected in a motion for a stay submitted by the government that asked Cannon to reverse an order that barred investigators from looking at the seized materials - and indicated it would appeal to a higher court if the motion was not granted.



Zhang Lin (R, front) instructs a visually impaired student on massage techniques at Beijing Union University in Beijing, capital of China

UN chief appeals for 'massive' help as flood-hit Pakistan puts losses at \$30bn

Islamabad, September 10 : The UN secretary-general, António Guterres, has said the world owes impoverished Pakistan "massive" help in recovering from the summer's devastating

floods because the country bears less blame than many others for the climate crisis. Months of heavy monsoon rains and flooding have killed 1,391 people and affected 33 million while half a million people have

become homeless. Planeloads of aid from the United States, the United Arab Emirates and other countries have begun arriving, but



Guterres said there is more to be done to help a country which contributes less than 1% of global emissions. "We are heading into a disaster," Guterres said. "We have waged war on nature and nature is tracking back and striking back in a devastating way. Today in Pakistan, tomorrow in any of your countries." The UN chief's trip comes less than two weeks after he appealed for \$160m in emergency funding to help those affected by the deluge. "I appeal for massive support from the international community as Pakistan responds to this climate catastrophe," he said shortly after landing in the country. He said other countries contributing to the climate crisis obligated to reduce emissions and help Pakistan. "Pakistan has not contributed in a meaningful way to climate change, the level of emissions in this country is relatively low," he said. "But Pakistan is one of the most dramatically impacted countries by climate change." "Even today, emissions are rising as people die in floods and famines. This is insanity. This is collective suicide," he said. "From Pakistan, I am

issuing a global appeal: Stop the madness; end the war with nature; invest in renewable energy now." So far, UN agencies and several countries have sent nearly 60 planeloads of aid, and authorities say the UAE has been one of the most generous contributors and sent so far 26 flights carrying aid for flood victims. The first planeload arrived from the US on Friday, which Washington says is part of an upcoming \$30m in assistance. More US military planes are expected to arrive in the coming days as part of a humanitarian bridge set up by Washington to deliver much-needed aid across the country. USAID announced an additional \$20m on Friday in humanitarian assistance for Pakistan. Archie Bland and Nimo Omer take you through the top stories and what they mean, free every weekday morning. Privacy Notice: Newsletters may contain info about charities, online ads, and content funded by outside parties. For more information see our Privacy Policy. We use Google reCaptcha to protect our website and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply.

More than 1.1m sea turtles illegally killed over past 30 years, study finds

London, September 10 : More than 1.1 million sea turtles have been illegally killed in the past 30 years, according to new data. Despite laws to protect them, scientists at Arizona State University estimate that about 44,000 turtles across 65 countries were illegally killed and exploited every year over the past decade. Jesse Senko, an assistant research professor at Arizona State University and one of the lead authors of the study, said: "The numbers are really high and almost certainly underrepresented by several orders of magnitude because it's just very hard to assess any type of illegal activity." Sea turtles are hunted for food, for use in traditional medicine and to be sold as artefacts, decor or jewellery. Turtle hunting and trafficking is part of a global illegal wildlife market worth as much as \$23bn (£20bn) a year, according to the UN. To establish the magnitude of illegal turtle hunting, researchers examined more than 209 different peer-reviewed journal articles, archived media reports, questionnaires and conservation organisation reports. They looked at all whole turtles or turtle byproducts - heads, tails, shells - that were illegally killed, including those that had then been trafficked or attempted to be trafficked across borders. The study identified nearly 43,000 turtles as being trafficked between 1990 and 2010,



but this is probably a huge underestimate, Senko said. South-east Asia and Madagascar are hotspots for sea turtle hunting, according to the report, published in the journal Global Change Biology. Vietnam is where most illegal sea turtle trafficking starts, and China and Japan are the most popular markets for illegal turtle products, it found. Developing countries would continue to supply the illegal turtles as long as higher-income countries continued to demand them as luxury goods, Senko said. "In several cultures, having a stuffed turtle in your house can be a status symbol," he said. About

95% of the poached turtles come from two main species: green sea turtles and hawksbill turtles. "The green turtle is considered the most delicious - it's the one that has the meat, that pulp, people most like to eat," said Roderic Mast, president of the Oceanic Society, who was not involved in the study. The hawksbill is prized for its beautiful shell, he said. These species are listed as endangered and critically endangered respectively, but, in the areas they are being targeted, said Senko,

there were relatively large and stable populations. This means the effect of illegal trafficking is somewhat contained. Another more positive finding of the report is its calculation that illegal exploitation of sea turtles has declined by 28% over the past 10 years. The study's researchers believe the decline is due to increased legal protection. "I'm happy to see that it has diminished. But I don't expect the harvest of turtles to ever entirely go away," said Mast. This new data on which turtles are being targeted and where could help pave the way for determining how conservationists and legislators should act to protect sea turtle populations in the future, according to Senko. "We really need to look at those socioeconomic and cultural drivers behind the illegal take," he said. "Because as long as there's demand from wealthier countries, poorer countries are going to fill that with the supply of turtles."

Poland's ruling party counts on anti-EU stance to boost election chances

Karpacz, September 10 : Leaders of Poland's ruling Law and Justice party appear intent on stoking an anti-EU and anti-German climate as it faces a battle in next year's parliamentary elections. Speaking at an economic forum in Karpacz this week, Jarosław Kaczyński, the chair of Law and Justice (PiS) and the country's de facto leader, went further than before in denouncing the EU as a culturally alien project led by a neo-imperialist Germany. He said it was "the sacred duty" of Polish politicians to oppose it. He said Poland had joined the EU out of necessity, but left the impression



that the case for remaining inside the bloc lay in the balance. "We had to join the EU just to exist and develop," Kaczyński said. "There was no other way back then." The essence of the EU project had been revealed, he said. "In the EU there is a rule: who is stronger is better. And because Germany is strongest, the old German concept - a concept that can be called neo-imperial - holds sway. The German chancellor, Olaf Scholz, wants to build a superstate of world importance under German leadership." Kaczyński does not hold a government role but is seen as a driving force behind the conservative-national governing party, which has launched a crackdown on judicial independence that has drawn Poland into a row with Brussels. Speaking to a packed room and surrounded by his closest intellectual advisers, Kaczyński continually described the EU as a culturally alien project without specifying in what way. The ferocity of the alienation from the EU project - synonymous with Germany - was on daily display at the economic forum, described as the Davos of central and eastern Europe.

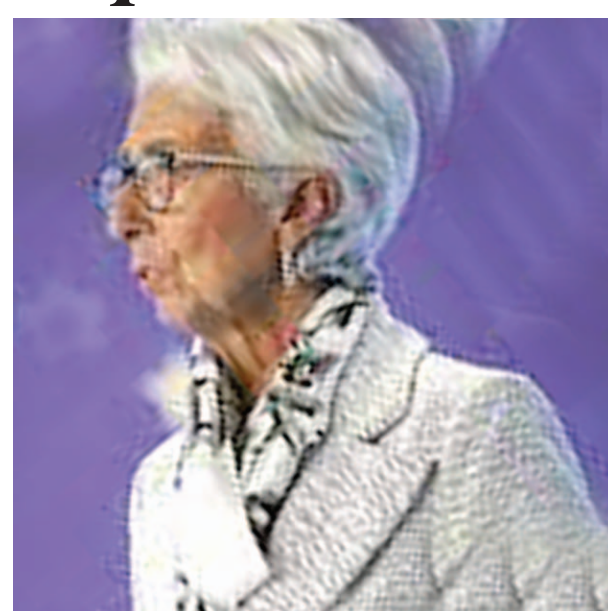


shows the autumn scenery along a section of the Yellow River in Togtoh County, north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region

Eurozone interest rates must continue to rise, says European Central Bank

London, September 10 : Interest rates across the eurozone must continue to ratchet upwards to tackle rapidly rising inflation, European Central Bank policymakers said. The ECB's call to prioritise the fight against inflation with further increases in the cost of borrowing came after it raised rates by an unprecedented 0.75 percentage points on Thursday to 1.25%. It warned that eurozone inflation was at its highest rate in almost half a century in July, at 9.1%, up from 8.9% in July, and at risk of becoming entrenched. "Inflation remains unacceptably high," said Peter Kačimir, Slovakia's central bank chief, who sits on the ECB's governing body. "The priority now is to continue vigorously the normalisation of monetary policy." Kačimir's remarks were widely interpreted as a call for further significant increases in borrowing costs despite the likelihood it will significantly slow the 19-member currency bloc's economic recovery. Echoing his words, the Dutch central bank president, Klaas Knot, said slowing growth was a necessary side-effect of the fight against inflation. "We expect inflation to keep rising in the

coming months, so that means we only have one problem on our plate: inflation," Knot said, adding: "That will mean we will have to slow economic growth at least a bit to reduce inflation." Bank of England officials are expected to repeat August's 0.5 percentage point rise when they next meet, taking the bank's base rate to 2.25%. They had been due to meet on 15 September but as a mark of respect after the death of the Queen, the meeting has been postponed for a week, so will take place on 22 September. Sanjay Raja, a senior economist at Deutsche Bank Research, said the monetary policy committee's nine members were likely to adopt a middle course after a three-way split, with two members backing a weaker 0.25 percentage point increase and two supporting a more aggressive 0.75 percentage point rise. Raja said the government's pledge to inject £150bn into the



economy to bring down household and business energy bills would be considered inflationary by the Bank, leading to further increases in rates next year to a peak of 4%. Speaking in parliament earlier this week, the Bank's chief economist, Huw Pill, said: "In response to the question, will fiscal policies generate inflation - we are here to ensure that they don't generate inflation? ...

? Our remit is to get inflation back to target ... We do have work to do." Next week there will be a flurry of UK economic data, including GDP growth figures for July, which is expected to bounce back modestly after a fall in June, although it remains on a downward track towards a long recession next year. James Knightley, the chief international economist at ING, said the energy price

guarantee was "a double-edged sword for the Bank" that reduced the peak in headline inflation from about 16% in January to about 11% in October, but came too late for City traders to adjust their expectations of a minimum 0.5 percentage point rise. Privacy Notice: Newsletters may contain info about charities, online ads, and content funded by outside parties. For more information see our Privacy Policy. We use Google reCaptcha to protect our website and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply. "As we saw with the ECB on Thursday, the decision to go with a 0.75 percentage point hike saw markets price that as the default move at the next meeting," he said. While the ECB projected stagnating growth over the winter months, the central bank's president, Christine Lagarde, said the current outlook showed the eurozone would avoid a recession, although she acknowledged the loss of access to Russian gas meant a contraction was still possible.

Protest to resolve issues of Kakopather daily market



Assam Rising, Kakopather, September 10: Kakopather Daily Market which has a yearly auction of twelve to fourteen lakhs and that falls under the management of Tinsukia Zila Parishad and Kakopather Anchalik Panchayat is seen lacking work on development and sanitary for which it has transformed to look like a municipal garbage dump yard rather than a daily market. Therefore a team of officials of Kakopather Press Club and Kakopather Regional Student Union had submitted memorandums to the Deputy Commis-

sioner of Tinsukia District and to the Chief Executive Officer of Tinsukia Zila Parishad twice i.e. on July 26 & 13 last respectively, but no action is seen taken till now. The memorandum contained a few demands by the club and the union to take strict action against the ill issues of the market. Their main demand is to make the daily market of Kakopather clean as soon as possible which has already transformed to a garbage dump yard, including the area where the bazar committee tolls taxes from the vendors and hawkers. They have also urge the ad-

ministration to set a strict law towards the market to keep it clean, healthy and hygiene permanently as Kakopather Higher Secondary School is beside the daily market and the dirt and smell of the garbage has created a question towards the health of the students including the

public of Kakopather shopping and marketing in the daily market. The other demand is to evict the illegally established public houses under the area of the market allotment and many more. But no action by the District Administration and Market committee was taken for which Kakopather Press Club along with other union bodies observed a two hour sit-in at Kakopather Daily Bazar demanding to resolve various issues pertaining to Kakopather Daily Market and Weekly Market. Officials of The Kakopather Press Club and other union bodies clearly mention the ill management of the district administration as their ignorance regarding the memorandums has compelled them to stage sit in protest. They have also

submitted another memorandum to the deputy commissioner through the circle officer of Doom Dooma Revenue Circle demanding disposals of the garbage and proper drainage, opening of multipurpose market complex, storehouse and toilet, eviction of illegally constructed houses in the market, and proper infrastructural development of the market so as to create a way to the unemployed youths after construction of the market. Moreover Kakopather Press Club clearly mentioned that if no action is taken within half a month, a grievous protest will be carried out along with all the union bodies of Kakopather.

World Suicide Prevention Day observed in Lakhimpur

Assam Rising, North Lakhimpur, September 10: For the first time in North Lakhimpur, the World Suicide Prevention Day was observed in North Lakhimpur on Friday, a day before the actual date, e.g. September 10, as it is a holiday for the school due to second Saturday. The Day was observed at the Central School, Lilabari, North Lakhimpur under the complete aegis of the school's councillor Dr. Dhruvata Sarma, who in her lecture, elaborately explained about the natural causes of the tendency of suicide. She further said, "Guardians should never give mental stress upon their children. Every child has own talent and the guardians should given chance to grow that talent by



identifying that." Moreover, she said, "The guardians should never conceal the mental problems of their children. If their child faces any mental problem, they must consult with the doctors at the proper time. Besides, counseling must be." Dr. Sarma also urged the guardians to keep an eye on the proper use of mobile phones by their wards. Eminent guest of the Day, the Principal of Gogamukh College, Dhema, Dr. Dilip Kumar Jha commented that suicide is not the ultimate way to solve any

problem. Students of Central College, North Lakhimpur performed several dramas and music related to the significance of the Day. Earlier, the Chief Guest of the Day, Lakhimpur DC Sumit Sattawan started the Day's programme by lighting the lamp and the objective of the observation of the Day was explained by the Principal of the school Vivek Kumar Choudhary. Dr. Paramananda Mishra anchored the whole event of the Day.

Jengraimukh Model Hospital's maternity room crack

Assam Rising Majuli, September 10: Jengraimukh Adarsh Hospital's maternity room has a big crack. All the patients and doctors who are worried about their fate at any moment. During the celebration of the seventh Majuli District Day, the patients of Majuli are alarmed by the incident of a large explosion at one of the largest hospitals in Majuli, the only reliable hospital for the treatment of Ujani Majuli, Jengraimukh Model Hospital. It is to be noted that for the purpose of providing mobility to the health sector of poor conditions, Jengraimukh Adarsha Hospital was constructed at a cost of four crore ninety lakh Rupees at Jengraimukh of Ujani Majuli in the state health department. The hospital was officially inaugurated by former Majuli

MLA and Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on November 12, 2019. Shockingly, after only three years the entire wall of the maternity ward is full of faeces. There are large cracks in the walls of the rooms. There is a possibility of hair loss at any moment. Therefore, doctors, nurses, medical staff and maternity hospitals are afraid to enter that room. It has been proved in this field that the construction company is the ultimate failure and negligence in constructing Jengraimukh Model Hospital which brought the hospital to the condition after only 3 years. Missing National Organization TMPK, Jengraimukh and Cherpai Regional Associations showed a constructive situation and continued

the mainstream movement against the irregularities even though the concerned departments and the Majuli administration played a passive role and it was the common people who suffered. Notably, Bhuvan Gam, the local MLA of Majuli, had made a presentation regarding the shortage of doctors in Jengraimukh Model Hospital at 10.30 am but he left without inspecting the cracked scene in the maternity ward. Therefore, the people of Jengraimukh are naturally diverted by trying to assess the problems of the residents as representatives of the residents.

Rhonda Vetere to represent USTM as Global Ambassador

Assam Rising Guwahati, September 10:

In order to materialize its Mission Global, the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (USTM) has selected Ms Rhonda Vetere, one of the top 50 Most Powerful Women in Technology, author and a global leader from New York to work worldwide for the University. She will be joining USTM as its Global Ambassador on the 3rd of October this year on the occasion of the foundation laying ceremony of the PA Sangma International Medical College and Hospital at USTM campus. Her joining will be followed by a series of meetings with the stakeholders, faculty members and students. She will be accompanied by Dr Abdul Wase, Professor of Medicine, Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, USA and Faisal Masood, Managing Partner, ElementOne Digital Technology & Operations Leader. In this context, Shri Mahabul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM stated that the global technology veteran Ms Rhonda Vetere will play a catalytic role in making USTM a global university in various fronts including academic, research and development, outreach and humanitarian activities for social transformation. She will contribute towards developing an overall integrated communication strategy through international liaison to promote and enhance visibility of the university and its mission globally, felicitate collaboration with world class institutions as well as provide consultation on



organizational structure, governance and administration. She will also mobilize visits of reputed world-renowned personalities including Nobel Laureates, apart from facilitating students and faculty exchange including placement. Recognized as one of Most Powerful Women in Technology by the National Diversity Council in 2019 and 2020, and Stevie Award for Excellence in Transforming Business (competing with over 1500 CIOs and CTOs) in 2017. In 2021, she was one of The Most Admired Women Leaders in Business, Top 20 Business Women Leading the Charge, 2021 Most Influential Businesswoman in Technology by Corporate Vision Magazine, 2021 Top CIO/CTO by the Tech Inclusion Conference, and Top 100 DEI Leaders in 2021 by Mogul. She has been featured in renowned publications, including Forbes, Huffington Post, Thrive, Moneyish, CNBC, Women of Influence, Financial Post, Triathlete Magazine, SWAAY Magazine, and more.

ment for Dummies. Rhonda has been recognized with several awards for her leadership and influence, notably as one of the Top 50 Most Powerful Women in Technology by the National Diversity Council in 2019 and 2020, and Stevie Award for Excellence in Transforming Business (competing with over 1500 CIOs and CTOs) in 2017. In 2021, she was one of The Most Admired Women Leaders in Business, Top 20 Business Women Leading the Charge, 2021 Most Influential Businesswoman in Technology by Corporate Vision Magazine, 2021 Top CIO/CTO by the Tech Inclusion Conference, and Top 100 DEI Leaders in 2021 by Mogul. She has been featured in renowned publications, including Forbes, Huffington Post, Thrive, Moneyish, CNBC, Women of Influence, Financial Post, Triathlete Magazine, SWAAY Magazine, and more.

CM Attends Guwahati High Court Museum Inauguration



Assam Rising Guwahati, September 10:

Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma on Saturday attended the inaugural ceremony of the Guwahati High Court Museum, built

at the old block of the Guwahati High Court premises. Attending the ceremony as one of the chief guests, along with Supreme Court Judge Surya Kant, Union Minister of Law &

Justice Kiren Rijiju, the Chief Minister seemed impressed with the various items, such as a handwritten copy of the Constitution of India, robes, wigs of retired and past judges, litho machine, etc, at display in the museum. Senior Judges of the Supreme Court Hrishikesh Roy and Sudhanshu Dhulia were also present as guests of honour at the event. Chief Justice of the Guwahati High Court RM Chhaya played host to the invited dignitaries.

LCC observes no vehicle day

Assam Rising, North Lakhimpur, September 10: The premises otherwise filled with hundreds of two-wheelers and four-wheelers every day are free from engine roar, honking and carbon emissions today. The unusual scene inside the campus of Lakhimpur Commerce College today is because a No Vehicle Day was enforced. The ban comes into force on the second Saturday of every month and all students and teachers and staff of the college refrain

from bringing any motorized vehicles. The college's principal, Dr. Lohit Hazarika, said the day was organized to raise awareness on global warming and climate change as a small effort to combat the daily carbon emissions in the atmosphere. The program was organized by the Transport Cell of the college and the coordinator of the cell, Prof. Achyut Gogoi, thanked everyone for the successful implementation of the programme.

Assam Chief Secretary held a review meeting in Morigaon

Assam Rising Bhuragaon, September 10: Chief Secretary of Assam Pawan Kumar Barthakur (VOC) held a review meeting with the heads of various departments at the Morigaon District Commissioner's office today to receive progress reports. The Chief Secretary will take stock of the progress of Jal Jeevan Mission scheme, proposed Morigaon Medical College, complete eradication of maternal and child mortality, procurement of paddy, One Country One Ration Card, crop insurance, agricultural water supply, increase in

fish production. He also evaluated the progress of major schemes in almost all departments like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Amrit Sarovar etc. and directed to rectify the shortcomings. The meeting was attended by District Commissioner Devashish Sharma, Superintendent of Police Aparna Natarajan, Chief Executive Officer of Zila Parishad Kshitish Pegu, Additional Commissioner Gargmohan Das, Arundhati Narah



Mipun, Aditya Gogoi, Election Officers, Assis-

stant Commissioners, Zonal Development Offic-

ers and heads of various departments.

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THE ASSAM RISING

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The display of emotions is frequently regarded as a defeat

Queen Elizabeth II famously heard of her father's death and her accession to the throne on a royal visit to Kenya. Preparing to return to London - "only a child", Winston Churchill was privately fretting of the new monarch - her spoken thoughts were for the retinue who had accompanied her to Kenya. She told one lady-in-waiting: "I've ruined everybody's trip." As far as her father's death and its vast consequences for the rest of her natural life were concerned, her husband's private secretary thought "her feelings were deep, deep inside her". And there they, and almost all her other feelings, would stay for the next seven decades. The British people's feelings are another matter. The country has a complex relationship with its emotions. I always think politicians and many of our institutions are most frightened of the public having emotions. Perhaps they have a vested interest in portraying emotions as a kind of weakness, lying as they do in some uncharted realm beyond their control. The display of emotions is frequently regarded as a defeat. They are something to which we "give in". It suits many people for us not to do so. And yet, why? Is this in our interests or theirs? Maybe we already know the answer. The emotional moment of the Queen's death is only just beginning but will be far-reaching; its short-, medium- and long-term implications are fascinatingly - and for some, frighteningly - unpredictable. Not for everyone, of course - and there are many different emotions bubbling up. But the Queen's long and constant chapter has closed at a moment of great uncertainty and gathering struggle for the country she reigned over for 70 years. It feels noteworthy that of her 15 prime ministers, four of them have turned up for audiences with her in the past six years alone. She was widely held to have embodied virtues whose absence in public life is increasingly evident. For some time, there has been a growing sense that the wheels are coming off all sorts of different machines - a feeling that we may not be watching the end of a season but the end of the whole series. Will the emotion remain, in that telling phrase, "in its place"? The outpouring of emotion that followed the death of Diana was a landmark moment. In her lifetime, Diana had been regarded as a dangerous subversive for saying things like "I lead from the heart, not the head." After her death, politicians and institutions looked at the display of emotion and appeared anxious to channel it appropriately, whatever that means. And, ultimately, to put a lid on it as soon as possible. There is a very interesting Mass Observation paper that seeks to explore and caveat the idea that the nation in the wake of Diana's death was "united in grief", as the newspapers took daily pains to assure it. In those heady days, though people may now choose to forget it, the supposedly unemotional Queen and her family were cast as the villains. "SHOW US YOU CARE" was the Daily Express's front-page order to the sovereign to leave off from comforting her bereaved grandsons at Balmoral and respond to public emotion. "A private crisis had become a public one," wrote the historian Ben Pimlott, "even though nobody knew what it was about." The Queen's eventual return to London and public address to the nation was hailed as a victory for people power. As the Mirror had it: "YOU SPOKE, THEY LISTENED". Or to put it in the parlance of our time: she sees you.

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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.

Editor,
The Assam Rising
Guwahati, Assam

Who'll keep the royal soap opera high in the ratings? Not Andrew or Edward, for sure

Suddenly, one of the great plot lines of our island story peters out. What will replace it? For the best part of 20 years the media, not just in Britain but across the world, have been preparing discreetly for the death of the Queen, yet she still contrived to take us royal watchers by surprise. There she was, on Tuesday, smiling and extending a hand to Liz Truss, her 15th prime minister, and dutifully enduring separate 40-minute conversations with both Truss and her predecessor, Boris Johnson, in her living room at Balmoral. She was looking perhaps a little frailer than we

were used to and there were marks of a cannula, but otherwise no indication of how close to death she was. Duty still prevailed until Wednesday's cancellation of a privy council meeting. Working to the end. Other monarchs have died suddenly, falling off their horses (William the Conqueror, William III), sitting on the toilet (George II), murdered (Edward II), catching dysentery (Henry V) or even a quick dose of morphia to hasten the passing in the morning papers (George V), but this is a modern media age where we don't expect to be taken by

surprise. So the central figure in the royal soap opera starred in this week's episode but can only be a reference in future scripts. On The Archers or EastEnders they know how to cope with actual or scripted death and media editors know they have tributes

Stephen Bates

and retrospectives aplenty to bulk out the plot. When Diana, Princess of Wales died 25 years ago, the tabloids feared that would be an end to filling their front pages with photographs of her, but somehow it didn't make any difference: people still

bought papers with her face on the front and the plot line still had strands to endure for the best part of a decade. What now, then? Refinement, of course, but not a full rewrite: all the characters are well known. No convulsions: the monarchy doesn't like surprises, even if the media do, and there is no Camelot fairytale in the offing, not at least until young Prince George, now second in line to the throne, comes of age. King Charles is rapidly approaching his mid-70s, but his mournful, equine face has been familiar for 60 years. Prince William, happily married this past decade, father of three and now heir, is 40, staid, reliable, unglamorous. "It's all

very well," one royal photographer once said to me, "but at the end of the day, he's just another bald, middle-aged bloke in a suit." Now two of the princes who were supposed to help share the burden of the plot have gone AWOL. Prince Andrew has self-destructed, left to spend more time with his golf clubs. Despite his pleas to be rehabilitated, that won't and can't happen if the family firm know what's good for it. He is a dead-end plot line: the creepy younger brother written out of the script. Then there's a trouble with Harry.

What gives Indian democracy its long life? The choices elites make



With the rise of Narendra Modi to power, the world's biggest democracy has entered a manifestly shaky period. But how should we conceptually map the shakiness? India after 2014 is not a case of democratic collapse but one of democratic erosion or democratic backsliding. For most democratic theorists, competitive elections are a necessary condition for the functioning of a democracy. "No elections, no democracy" is a theoretical dictum of widespread acceptability.

Since independence in 1947, India has held 17 national and 389 state elections. Other than a twenty-one-month period of nationwide authoritarianism (June 1975-March 1977) and a few electoral suspensions in areas of unrest and insurgency, elections have decided who will rule India and its states and, after 1992-93, its local governments as well. This has been true even in the period of democratic backsliding since 2014. It is hard to predict whether the electoral core of democracy will remain unimpaired in the coming years, but as of now, despite the ongoing democratic erosion, the electoral principle remains intact. Modi may not have lost nationally since 2014, but he has lost a number of state elections. A Donald Trump-like campaign, questioning election integrity in the face of defeat, has not been launched. The V-Dem Institute's dataset (Coppedge et al. 2021) has five democratic indices: electoral, liberal, participatory, deliberative, and egalitarian. Of these, following standard democratic theory, I stick to the first two: the electoral (for V-Dem, that means free and fair elections, freedom of expression, and freedom of association), and the liberal (which covers, in addition to electoral democracy, individual and minority rights, and constraints on the executive, both legislative and judicial). Figure 2.1 presents

India's electoral and liberal indices since 1950. The electoral index hovers around 0.7 for most of the period since then, with the exception of the 1975-77 Emergency and the recent decline. The liberal index is

consistently below the electoral index, mostly staying between 0.5 and 0.6, with a lowering in the two periods noted above: 1975-77 and in recent years. There are some typical patterns that have repeatedly emerged in post-British India. Political parties are remarkably free at the time of elections. They are, of course, prohibited from inciting violence. Short of that, they can make virtually any argument in election campaigns. The election-time freedoms, however, coexist with their curtailments between elections. Once the winning party or coalition forms the government, restrictions are often placed on civil liberties, especially on freedom of expression. Governments generally make two kinds of arguments against free speech: that it offends the sentiments and honour of certain groups, or it hurts national interest. On these two grounds, writers, artists, students, and nongovernmental organisations have often been legally or administratively harassed, even jailed. These problems are common to all kinds of governments and parties. But there is no doubt that the gulf between the electoral and liberal aspects of Indian democracy becomes especially wide when Hindu nationalists are in power. This was true between 1998 and 2004 and has been especially glaring

since 2014. The explanations for India's democratic persistence can be divided up into two blocs: structural and elite-centered. A very large

Ashutosh Varshney

body of democratic theory has primarily pointed to structural factors that make it easier, or harder, for countries to institutionalise democracy: level of income, level of inequality, class structure, and degree of ethnic diversity. Some other scholars locate the explanation in the properties of political or societal culture. There is no doubt that, generally speaking, the structural factors have some validity. The correlation, for example, between high incomes and democratic survival is considerable.

Adam Przeworski et al argue that income correctly predicted the type of regime in 77.5 percent of the cases. But it also means that in 22.5 percent of the cases, the relationship did not hold. India clearly belongs to this latter, smaller category. It had been a low-income country until roughly 2007, graduating to a middle-income category after that, but a low per capita income did not undermine its democracy. Similarly, Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson may well be correct in stating that "democracy has the best chance to emerge in societies with middle levels of

inequality". In Britain or Latin America, class realities might have made universal franchise a means of obtaining the "right to a good coat... a good hat... a good roof... [and] a good dinner", but in India, securing dignity from the daily insults of the caste system might well have been a larger impulse, as some have argued. In conditions like this, lasting for centuries, the struggle of lower castes in India has been, first, for dignity and for being treated as human beings, and only later for higher income equality (Chakrabarti 2019). Indeed, lower castes, given their large numbers, have used India's democracy to

press somewhat successfully for conditions of dignity; their success at income improvements have not been as great (Chauchard 2017; Jensenius 2017; Varshney 2000). If structural accounts are not fully adequate, we go next to agent-centric explanations. The agents that carry democratic politics include elites and political organisations, especially political parties, and those related to movements. These are also often-and-rightly-labeled as political, as opposed to structural, factors. Mainwaring and Pérez-Liñán (2013) write: Political actors, not structures or cultures, determine outcomes, even though structures and cultures affect the formation and preferences of actors. Ziblatt (2017) also points to the importance of elites and favours the elite-centric account of O'Donnell and Schmitter (1986): If elites can be made secure with regard to their future wealth, status, and power as democratisation unfolds, ... critical portions of the elite will become reluctant but essential democrats. On the other hand, if elites remain insecure, politically fragmented, and fearful of major losses in their future, then they will support and even lead counterrevolution, creating a historic record of unsettled democratisation. (Ziblatt 2017, 16) Central to this argument is the

idea of a clash between incumbent elites and emerging elites, and a compromise between the two as the foundation of democratic stability. After independence, when the Congress enacted a land reform programme, aimed at crushing landlord power, the landlords began to operate at a regional, vernacular level. As Weiner (1967) showed, the landlords penetrated the district and provincial levels of the Congress Party as party members, and managed to block land reforms with varying degrees of success in different states. In an India which was 83 percent rural at the time of independence, the Congress Party needed the landlords to expand its organisational presence in the countryside. Basically, there emerged a contradiction between the political imperatives of party building and the economic policy goals of land redistribution and tenancy reforms (Varshney 1995). And once the landlords were inside the party, they could begin to impede the implementation of land reforms. Thus, conservative parties representing landlord interests might not have risen in a big way, as in Western Europe, but a functionally equivalent political form-penetration of the ruling party at lower levels-emerged to protect landlord interests. But these messy equations emerged later, not at the time of India's democratic commencement. Moreover, they affected the lower political levels. The decision to democratise was taken at the summit of the polity, which was firmly in the hands of the emerging, not incumbent, elites. It is the emerging elites who devised India's democratic constitution. And in the vigorous debates of the Constituent Assembly (CA), lasting nearly three years, one sees enough evidence of arguments based on values, not any recognisable display of interests. Interests attached to democracy did emerge later at higher levels of polity. But at its inception, the tenor of debates about democracy do not provide evidence of interests.

2 yatras, 2 parties, 1 failure - Congress, AAP plans show why there is no opposition unity

The two yatras by two political leaders, Rahul Gandhi of the Congress and Arvind Kejriwal of the Aam Aadmi Party, seem ill-timed and totally unplanned. Congress party's yatra appears more as a knee-jerk response to the spate of resignations and simmering discontent within the party. Rahul Gandhi's leadership, his series of poll debacles and complete disinterest in the future of the party have come under strong criticism. There are even comments, albeit sarcastically, that he is the best poll campaigner for the Bharatiya Janata Party. The recent missive by Ghulam Nabi Azad, who quit the party, has probably come as the last straw on the camel's back. Rahul Gandhi's yatra has begun from Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu, a state where Congress has not been in power since 1967. Incidentally, the last Congress chief minister M.

Bhaktavatsalam had won the election from the Sriperambudur seat. It would have made sense for Rahul Gandhi to begin his yatra from there. While the Congress' workforce depleted very fast, the BJP had no state-level leader acceptable as an alternative to the stalwarts of the Dravidian parties. Yet, Kanyakumari was among the few seats that the BJP managed to win. The only reason for Rahul's yatra from Kanyakumari is the phrase "Kanyakumari to Kashmir", which resonates with the message of national unity and integrity. Reinforcing the idea of 'one united India' is being touted as the theme of Rahul's yatra. The 3,570-km-long 'Bharat Jodo (unite India)' yatra spanning over 150 days appears to be aimed at keeping the Gandhi scion in news so as to quell criticism that the Congress cannot be run by a person who is perceived as being disinterested in politics but is at its apex only by virtue of entitlement. It will surely be a great



feat and a learning experience

Seshadri Chari

if the Congress leader is able to successfully complete the yatra. How far this yatra will help the Congress in winning a decent number of seats in 2024 is difficult to predict. The yatra will no doubt draw crowds at least in some places, if not at all the stops. But public memory is too short. Besides, the Congress has no leader or cadre that will be able to convert the crowds into votes.

The party could have spent a little longer in the election war room and strategised every aspect of the yatra. It clearly didn't. What the Congress urgently needs is a non-Gandhi leader at the top who can start with a clean slate and not suffer the ignominy of serial defeat in elections since 2014. Multiple yatras by a few leaders with one common theme would have probably attracted more interest and highlighted the spirit of collective leadership. But the 'first family' is clearly not willing to loosen the tight grip over the party

and its coffers. As a result, after 150 days, presuming that the yatra continues uninterrupted, the party will be back to where it was, or even be poorer by a few leaders. AAP Chief Arvind Kejriwal has also embarked on a 'Make India No. 1' yatra, starting from his birthplace in Hissar, Haryana. But his yatra seems to be different in the sense that it is expected to be undertaken with short breaks in between. Its final destination is not yet known but, in all likelihood, could be either Himachal Pradesh or Gujarat, or both, where elections are to be held this year. So, the purpose of the yatra is far from what is being announced, "Make India No. 1". The consecutive wins in Delhi and a lucky victory in Punjab seem to be the prime reasons for Kejriwal's yatra. Bihar CM Nitish Kumar, who ended his association with the BJP recently, was there to flag off Kejriwal's yatra.

Letter to the Editor

The Old Order changeth yielding place to New

Dear Editor,

Queen Elizabeth the II passed away at her Summer Palace in Scotland after 7 decades of Reign, handling the issues stubbornly since World War II. The impact of her loss is unpredictable, for the Nation as well as the Monarchy. Now Prince Charles automatically becomes the king. The Coronation takes time. The old order changeth yielding place to New. He may call himself King Charles the III or otherwise. He too is well groomed in the Royal Family and the transition takes place hassle free. He too will deal with the situation effectively.

Lakshman Rao Kantamsetti
(International Member Amnesty International, London)
Amanora Future Towers Hadapsar, Pune

Contd. From Page 1

Need to expedite the justice delivery

citizens of this country remained intact, the Chief Minister added. The Chief Minister lauded the Indian judiciary for strengthening the country's legal and constitutional framework, which he said emanated from the numerous landmark judgments passed by it. It has earned a global distinction as Judiciary with a difference that seeks to build a progressive jurisprudence, he added. The Chief Minister exuded confidence the judicial institutions would always remain a sentinel of justice and a guiding force of the world's largest functional democracy. Chief Minister Dr. Sarma also referred to the judiciary as the saviour of Indian democracy, stating that its landmark judgments on subjects such as "basic structure", among others, saved the Constitution from losing its spirit. Dr. Sarma also heaped praises on the judiciary for protecting rights of Indian women, while at the same time upholding their dignity through landmark judgments on subjects like triple talaq, daughter's right to property, etc. The Chief Minister also spoke upon need to expedite the justice delivery mechanism. He said many people, despite being victim of circumstances, hesitate to seek legal help, as chasing justice often becomes an expensive affair, owing to the long process involved with it. "I call upon the office bearers of the Bar Council to find out as to how it can play its role to help the weak and under privileged," he appealed. Speaking on the steps the government of Assam has taken in this direction, the Chief Minister stated that around 100 new positions would be created in lower judiciary. This, he said, would be a step towards faster dispensing of justice in the state. The Chief Minister also added that of the 79,000 crore approved by the Central government for improvement of judicial infrastructure, the judiciary in Assam would receive around 7300 crore as its share. In addition to that, the government of Assam would provide another 7300 crore in this regard. He also stated that the state government is contemplating various welfare schemes for those who retire from active practicing. Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court R M Chhaya, Chief Justice of the High Court of Chhattisgarh Arup Kumar Goswami, Chief Justice of the High Court of Telangana Ujjal Kumar Bhuyan, Judges and Former Judges of High Court, Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta, Chairman of the Bar Council of India Senior Advocate Manan Kumar Mishra, Chairman of the Bar Council of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim Senior Advocate Gajananand Sahewalla, Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council of India Senior Advocate S Prabhakaran, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Bar Council of India Senior Advocate Apurba Kumar Sharma were among the dignitaries present in today's event.

Congress, BJP spar over video clip

Secretary in-charge of communications, tweeted, "An atrocious tweet from the BJP hate factory is doing the rounds. It bears no relation whatsoever to what is recorded in the audio. This is typical BJP mischief that has become more desperate after the successful launch of #BharatJodoYatra which is evoking such a huge response. (sic)". This came after BJP's national spokesperson, Shehzad Poonawalla, shared a clip of Rahul's interaction with a Christian priest, whom he identified as George Ponnaiah, saying "Bharat Jodo with Bharat Todo icons?". Poonawalla claimed that Ponnaiah was earlier arrested for "Hindu hatred". In the video, Rahul while addressing a group asks, "So, Jesus Christ is a form of God. Is that correct?" To which, the priest responds, "He's a real God... God reveals him as a man, a human person, not like Shakti or this power." George Ponnaiah who met Rahul Gandhi says "Jesus is the only God unlike Shakti (& other Gods)" "Hitting back at BJP, Ramesh tweeted, "People who were responsible for the killing of Mahatma Gandhi and the murders of people like Narendra Dabholkar, Govind Pansare, MM Kalburgi and Gauri Lankesh are raising questions! What a morbid joke!" He added that "attempts to damage the spirit of the Bharat Jodo Yatra" will fail.

India's Global Innovation Index

states, there are many national-level scientific institutes, national laboratories are also there. The states should take full advantage of their capability and their expertise. We also have to take our science-related institutions out of the state of silos," the Prime Minister said. He said the number of innovation labs should also be increased in higher education institutions in the States. According to Prime Minister's Office (PMO), the first of its kind Conclave will strengthen Centre-State coordination and collaboration mechanisms - in the spirit of cooperative federalism - to build a robust science, technology and innovation (STI) ecosystem across the country. The two-day Conclave is being organised at Science City, Ahmedabad on September 10-11. It will include sessions on different thematic areas including STI Vision 2047; Future Growth Pathways and Vision for STI in States; Health - Digital Health Care for All; Doubling Private Sector investment in R&D by 2030; Agriculture - Technological interventions for improving farmers' income; Water - Innovation for producing potable drinking water; Energy- Clean Energy for All including S&T role in Hydrogen mission; Deep Ocean Mission and its relevance for Coastal States/UTs as well as country's future economy. During the inauguration of the conclave, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and Union Minister of State for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh were present. The first-of-its-kind Conclave will witness the participation of Science and Technology Ministers and Secretaries of States and Union Territories, industry leaders, entrepreneurs, NGOs, young scientists and students, said the PMO.

King Charles told Harry

Reuters report, it was pure coincidence that Harry was in Britain when Elizabeth died. Prior to her demise, there were reportedly no plans announced for him to see his family during his visit from the United States, where he lives with his American wife Meghan. In March 2021, the couple gave an explosive interview to Oprah Winfrey where Meghan had accused the royalty - though no names were taken - of racism. She even confessed in the interview that her unhappiness during her time as a working royal had pushed her to the brink of suicide. She also said there had been "concerns and conversations" within the family when she was pregnant with Archie about what colour the baby's skin would be. Meghan's mother is Black and her father is white. While the interview, aired on CBS, caused uproar globally, the Buckingham Palace reverted with an icy and terse statement which said that "some recollections may vary" though the issues raised were "concerning". While the relations have remained sour since then, new King Charles - during his first speech as sovereign on Friday (September 9) - seemed to have extended an olive branch when he said, "I want also to express my love for Harry and Meghan as they continue to build their lives overseas." The death of the 96-year-old family matriarch, Queen Elizabeth II, after 70 long years of reign, is likely to be followed by several changing equations within the family. The Royalty's family drama has been the source of curiosity for people worldwide and it's unlikely to change in times to come.

BJP comes to Chhattisgarh to learn

They (BJP) spent 1000s of crores and made a secretariat similar to a matchbox whose windows rattle each time a breeze flows. "Speaking at a meeting in Raipur, Nadda said, "Congress is a party of brother and sister. These days, Chief Minister Bhagel is going to 'Bharat Jodo' rallies, they need to first align their own party. Our fight is against family politics." Prime Minister Narendra Modi has changed traditional politics. People like Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel are against development and only want to fill the treasures of Congress. Our tribal brothers were killed here and CM Baghel was with Rahul Gandhi in Kerala," he added. Nadda arrived in Raipur on Friday morning. He was welcomed by BJP leaders and workers at the airport. Further, he held a roadshow with party leaders and workers. Nadda's visit also comes at a time when political activity across the country is increasing. The Congress on Friday continued its 'Bharat Jodo Yatra', led by party MP Rahul Gandhi in Nagercoil city of Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu. The third day of Yatra began from Scott Christian College in Nagercoil to Azhagiya mandapam Junction in Tamil Nadu. A 3,500-km march from Kanyakumari to Kashmir will be undertaken by Rahul Gandhi which will be completed in 150 days and cover as many as 12 states. After reaching Kerala on September 11, the Yatra will traverse through the state for the next 18 days, reaching Karnataka on September 30. It will be in Karnataka for 21 days before moving north.

Pijush Hazarika Holds Meet

event will be held at the Vigyan Bhawan on November 23 and 24 to showcase the exploits of one of the great warriors of Eastern India who defeated the formidable Mughals in the great Battle of Saraighat. The Assam Government aims to bring to the national limelight the great warrior who is hitherto not known in other parts of the country. To make the programme a resounding success, a series of events have been lined up to project the great Ahom General in proper perspectives. Pijush Hazarika thanked the associations/groups and media persons of Assam based in Delhi for their invaluable suggestions and said that they would be taken note of. The minister said that a committee headed by the Chief Minister will be formed shortly for organising the event in a smooth manner. He disclosed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah will attend the two-day event. Hazarika said, "The chief minister is taking special interest in glorifying the illustrious life of Veer Lachit Borphukan on the international stage and to give the great warrior the right place in the annals of history." The minister suggested that a core committee comprising organisations of Assam based in Delhi may be formed to reach out to people of Assam living in nook and corner of Delhi and NCR. The meeting was attended by MLA Jitu Goswami, Commissioner and Secretary, I&PRD, Diganta Barah, Director, I&PR, Bishnu Kamal Borah, Deputy Resident Commissioner, Ranadip Dam and other officials. Earlier, the minister accompanied by MLA, Goswami, Principal Resident Commissioner, the Commissioner and Secretary, I&PRD and the Director, I&PR visited Vigyan Bhawan, the venue of the event, to inspect the rooms where the inaugural session will be held along with exhibition and other events. Hazarika discussed a gamut of issues pertaining to the upcoming event with an event management agency and asked them to submit a comprehensive plan, including branding of the event, to attract the attention of the entire country. It may be mentioned that former President of India, Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the year-long celebrations of Lachit Borphukan at Srimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra in Guwahati on February 25.

Governor attends 11th Convocation

7.46 lakh jobs – a testament that Indian youths are no strangers to entrepreneurial and innovative spirits. Knowing that anything worthwhile requires a certain amount of risks, be courageous to take risks. You are at the right age to fight for the person that you want to be. Be a risk-taker." Prof. Mukhi further said that India has become the sixth largest economy of the world and it is expected that it would become the 3rd largest economy in the world within the next decade. He also said that the country is rising not only in economic strength but also in various international arenas, holding strategically important positions in world politics and international relations. The Governor calling upon the graduating students said that with the fast-changing scenario in the field of education where almost everything is influenced by technological developments, there are a lot of revolutionary changes in the teaching-learning processes in higher educational institutions in India. In this backdrop, the higher educational institutions need to reflect, reinvent, and adapt swiftly to these new and innovative trends in teaching methodologies so as to be at par with the best universities and colleges in the world. And, for this to happen an open mind to unlearn, relearn and willing to change one's outlook for the better is needed. The Governor also congratulated Assam Don Bosco University on being the first and only University in the private sector in the State of Assam to be graded 'A' by National Assessment and Accreditation Council and to have the 12B status from the University Grants Commission. It may be noted that, degrees were conferred on 984 students of which 472 students have received bachelor's degree in Engineering & Technology, Arts and basic sciences and 494 students have received Master's degree in various branches of Engineering, Science and Management. Doctoral degrees were conferred on to 18 scholars. In the Don Bosco University (DBU) Global Online and Distance Education courses 122 students have received degrees and 14 students have received diplomas under various programs. A total of eight students have attended the convocation from various parts of the World. Gold Medals under various categories were awarded to 36 outstanding graduates with the highest Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) in each program. The convocation was attended by the Vice Chancellor Fr. (Dr) Stephen Mavely, Pro Vice Chancellors Fr. (Dr) Jose Palley and Fr. Joseph Nellnatt, Directors of Schools, Heads of Departments, faculty members, students and eminent dignitaries from all over the country.

EC sends opinion to Governor

the EC opinion on the matter on Friday evening. The governor had sought the commission's view on a complaint filed by state BJP members seeking Basant Soren's disqualification from the state Assembly under Section 9A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, for co-owning a mining firm and not disclosing it in his election affidavit. Section 9A prohibits elected representatives from entering into any contract with the government for "supply of goods" or "execution of any works undertaken" by it. The development comes two weeks after the EC had recommended the Jharkhand chief minister's disqualification under the same section (Section 9A) for allegedly misusing his position to allot a stone mining lease to himself last year. The state has been in the throes of political turmoil as Bais, to date, has not officially apprised the state government of the EC's view on the eligibility of CM Hemant Soren to continue as MLA. The JMM has since alleged attempts by the BJP to poach the ruling alliance's MLAs, and taken 32 of them from Ranchi to Raipur in Congress-ruled Chhattisgarh. The JMM memorandum to the governor stated that "purported selective leaks from your (the Governor's) office" on the issue have led to a "state of chaos, confusion and uncertainty, which vitiates the administration and the governance of the state". "This also encourages political brinkmanship to destabilise the democratically elected government headed by CM Soren by illegal means. Although Your Excellency is yet to declare the EC opinion, which is given in confidence to you... BJP has made public the opinion and demanded resignation of the CM, mid-term polls. As you are undoubtedly aware, disqualification, if any, of the CM will not have any effect on the government as the JMM-INC-RJD-Independents coalition will still enjoy an overwhelming majority," the memorandum stated.

From being denied Assembly ticket in 2019 to being named Bihar in-charge, Vinod Tawde's patience pays off

Mumbai, Sep 10 : With the 2024 Lok Sabha elections in mind, the BJP's move to entrust its general secretary Vinod Tawde with the charge of Bihar, a state where the party recently lost power after key ally Nitish Kumar left the NDA and joined hands with the RJD, shows the central leadership has recognised his capabilities to deliver results and tackle complex political challenges. The Maharashtra veteran leader, who was elevated as general secretary last November, was in charge of Haryana. The central leadership had also assigned him an important role in the recently held presidential polls where Tawde was the chief coordinator and extensively toured the country to elicit support for President Droupadi Murmu, the NDA candidate. "I am grateful to party president J P Nadda ji. Under the leadership and guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, we all work as a team," Tawde said after the BJP on Friday revamped its structure, giving key states to experienced hands. In 2019, Tawde was denied an Assembly ticket from his constituency in Mumbai's Borivali at the eleventh hour and the party, instead, gave the ticket to Sunil Rane. The decision came as a rude shock to Tawde, who was then the sitting MLA representing Borivali. However, swallowing the insult and humiliation, Tawde stayed quiet and chose to keep a low profile. His patience paid off when he was made national secretary in 2020 and entrusted the charge of Haryana. A year later, in 2021, Nadda elevated Tawde to general secretary. "As national secretary, Tawde had yielded good results in Chandigarh Municipal Corporation against all odds. He also handled Haryana state very well. So, we are confident he will bring results in Bihar. He will be adequately backed by the top leadership and a robust team," a senior BJP leader in Maharashtra said. However, as Bihar in-charge for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Tawde has a daunting task ahead of him. The central leadership has set a highly ambitious target of 400-plus seats out of 545 seats. The total Lok Sabha seats in Bihar are 40. In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, BJP won 17 seats, Janata Dal (United) 16, Lok Janshakti Party 6 and Congress 1. Last month, Bihar Chief Minister and JD(U) president Nitish Kumar broke his alliance with BJP. The altered permutations and combinations in the state's political landscape could pose a big challenge to the BJP and Tawde will have to strategise to see how the party can retain its electoral base and enhance it further.



Teachers felicitated at Nagaon

Assam Rising, Nagaon, September 10: On occasion of the 61th Teachers' day, district unit of 'Sadou Asom Chorkari Schools Sewa Sangtha' organized a felicitation programme at Nagaon Govt Urban High School on Friday last. During the programme, assistant teachers duo of Nagaon Govt Boys' HS School respectively Banti Bora, Prabin Kr Bora and retired principal of Nagaon Govt Urban High School - Ruhini Kr Bora. Rita Kakoti, district president of the organization chaired the programme while Dr Munmun Bora, district secretary of the organization, delivered the welcome address. Dipika Laskar, principal of Nagaon Govt Boys' HS School graced the occasion as chief guest. Over hundred of teachers participated in the felicitation programme, a release added.

Orientation program concludes at GU

Assam Rising, Guwahati, September, 10: Gauhati University NSS Cell organized successfully the Orientation Programme for NSS Programme Officers from September 8-10 at university Campus. During the inaugural ceremony Nabaneet Mahanta, APS, Deputy Commissioner of Police, West Guwahati Police District attended the programme as Chief Guest and enlightened different aspects of drug abuse prevention and cyber crime. Mahanta highlighted the role of NSS volunteers for prevention and control of drug abuse in the society. Sri Dipak Kumar, Regional Director, NSS, NER, Guwahati attended the programme as a guest of honour and focused on different aspects of NSS including the role of NSS Programme Officers to be carried out in their respective institutions. Dr. Ranjan Kr. Kakati, Director, Students' Welfare, GU & Programme Coordinator, GU NSS Cell coordinated the programme and appealed to all the NSS Programme Officers to carry out community and social service with a full spirit and dedication. Dr. Hemanta Rabha, Training & Capacity Building Specialist, ARIAS Society (under Govt. of Assam), Raina Bhattacharjee, Clinical Physiologist, Sanjeev Sinha, Asstt. Commandant, NDRF, Pranab Kr. Sarmah, Retired Faculty IIE Guwahati attended as Resource Persons. NSS Programme Officers from different colleges under GU NSS Cell attended the programme. Certificates were distributed to all the participants.

SC gives bail to Kappan

New Delhi, Sep.

10 : Almost two years after he was arrested and booked under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act by Uttar Pradesh Police which claimed he was linked to the radical Popular Front of India (PFI), Kerala journalist Siddique Kappan was granted bail Friday by the Supreme Court. The court wanted to know what exactly had been found against him, and also noted "the length of custody undergone". Questioning the police claim that literature meant to incite riots had been seized from the vehicle in which he was travelling - Kappan and three others were held in Mathura on October 5, 2020 while heading to the Hathras home of a young Dalit woman who died after an alleged gangrape - Chief Justice of India U U Lalit said, "Every person has a right to free expression. He is trying to show that the (Hathras) victim needs justice, and raises a common voice. Will this be a crime in the eyes of law?". The CJJ, heading a bench that included Justices S Ravindra Bhat and P S Narasimha, made these remarks after Senior Advocate Mahesh Jethmalani, who appeared for the State, said that Kappan and others were going to Hathras with a "toolkit" to create riots. Justice Bhat pointed out that protests had occurred near India Gate following the December 2012 Delhi gangrape case. "You know, after that there was a change in the laws," he told Jethmalani. In its order, the bench said "at this stage, we refrain from dealing with and commenting on the progress of investigation and the materials gathered by prosecution in support of its case as the matter is set to be taken up at the stage of framing of charge". The bench said it was granting bail to Kappan "considering the length of custody undergone by the appellant and the peculiar facts and circumstances of the case". It directed that he be produced before the trial court concerned within three days and the trial court shall release him on bail on conditions it deems fit to ensure his presence and participation in the matter pending before it. The bench asked Kappan to deposit his passport with the investigating agencies before his actual release and said he "shall not misuse his liberty in any manner nor shall he get in touch with any of the persons associated or connected with the controversy in question". Kappan will have to stay in Delhi for the first six weeks after his release on bail and sign a report at the local police station every Monday. Thereafter, he will be at liberty to go to Kerala where he will report to the local police station every Monday. Following the Supreme Court order, Kappan's wife Raihana Siddique told The Indian Express: "Despite the struggles, I was able to run behind this, and I was able to do it because I had truth on my side. I know Kappan is innocent." "I am happy he has got bail. We have been running behind this for two years. It is not a small matter that the government and the Uttar Pradesh police kept him behind bars for two years... Our life, Kappan's difficulties... This is not something that we can forget quickly... I am happy that the Supreme Court has granted bail in the UAPA case," she said. "We have not got the order so far; we are waiting for one. In the ED (Enforcement Directorate) money laundering case, we have applied for bail. That's in the Lucknow court. We are hoping he will be free soon," she said. In the Supreme Court, Kappan had challenged the August 2, 2022 Allahabad High Court order dismissing his bail application. The UP Police had said it seized three sets of a 17-page pamphlet from the vehicle carrying Kappan and others and that "a perusal of the pamphlet would demonstrate that it is nothing more than a 'Rioting 101' for rioters", teaching them how to conceal themselves from police, which riots to participate in, and to "recognise the place you are rioting in".

Worcester players reject 'victims' tag as kick-off is clouded by uncertainty

London, September 10 : In times of crisis, gallows humour can provide some light relief and at Worcester Warriors of late there has been a sizeable dose of what is often prescribed as the best medicine. "If you don't laugh, you will cry," says back-rower Matt Kvesic, who admits players having to live on beans on toast is a running joke at the financially stricken club. Steve Diamond, the club's director of rugby, concedes there is an inevitable anxiety among the squad, who have been paid last month's wages but, as they prepare for Saturday's season-opening match at London Irish, have no idea if they will receive September's pay packet. Diamond insists that none of his players have required convincing to play on Saturday - "it's a bit like getting a horse in the stalls. If you have to put a bag over its head, turn it round and send it in, you don't want it racing, do you?" - and so far Kyle Hatherell is the only member of the squad who has expressed a desire to leave. They would all be forgiven for having second thoughts. The risk of injury affecting future employment should Worcester be wound up in the coming weeks is clear and there is an acute sense that while the Warriors are determined to begin the season, getting anywhere near the end of it is an insurmountable hurdle unless fresh investment is forthcoming. That the hoarding at Sixways which advertises the Warriors' next match remains blank feels ominous - even if there have been positive noises about a potential buyer more recently. As ever, it is the players who bear the brunt



at a time when the authorities give the impression they are closing their eyes and hoping for the best. Among them there is significant distrust in the current owners given the delay in wages being paid and sympathy with club employees who have either been paid 65% of their August salaries or not at all. But equally, there is a determination that they will not be perceived as victims. Worcester will have to wear last season's kit on Saturday - delivered by a sponsor after the club's van was repossessed - but the players do not want any pity for their plight. It helps that in Diamond they have a leader who relishes rolling his sleeves up in times of hardship. Indeed, players and staff have been lining up to praise their director of rugby - "in Dimes we trust" says Cameron Neild who will be captain on his Worcester debut on Saturday - and Diamond's straight-talking pragmatism has been a shining light throughout. He has been honest enough to encourage his players to put themselves in the "shop window" on Saturday and

impress any potential future employers should they have to leave, but predicts most will want to vent frustrations after the opening whistle blows against London Irish. "I think [the referee] Wayne Barnes is going to have a job on his hands and that's why they have given us him, I think. In a similar vein, Neild will not want for a subject matter when it comes to his pre-match team talk and after being reunited with Diamond this summer, having played under him at Sale, he has no regrets. "None at all. It doesn't bother me too much what is going on" he says. "Obviously, you've got to reach out to the younger players who are struggling financially and make sure that they're able to get through for the time being. People have done that and even housed other players for periods of time and still are. I couldn't believe it when I first joined how close knit the group was." Kvesic, on the other hand, is a club stalwart. He is in his second spell at Worcester, having in 2009 become the youngest player to represent them in

the professional era. "It has been pretty stressful. I am not going to pretend otherwise," he says. "There is nothing I can do that will directly impact what is going on above me. I just have to do my job. If that is turning up at training and supporting the boys who need it, that is all I can do. At home it is not ideal. I have got a little lad and there is worry about the future. But you have to stay in the present. I love playing rugby but I'm not going to do it for free because I understand that running into brick walls every week is not good for you. At the same time, if I didn't feel it was right for me, I wouldn't still be here." He hopes that in two or three weeks or

months or whatever it might be we look back on this and it's something that brought us closer together and it's given us a new perspective on rugby. We don't want to be victims of this. We don't want to be feeling sorry for ourselves and think 'poor us, we've had a bit of a torrid time over the last few weeks'. So what chance do Worcester have on Saturday? They had to cancel their only pre-season fixture against Glasgow, there have been times in recent weeks the players have chosen to take the sting out of training given the swirling uncertainty and fitness is likely to be an issue once the early adrenalin has worn off. Diamond has promised to stop the team bus at the first off licence on the way home should Worcester pull off an unlikely victory. "When you cross the white line, you aren't thinking about what's coming into your bank at the end of month," says Neild. "You're thinking about the guy that's coming head-first into you and how you can put him back on his arse. We are going there with the intention of winning the game. There is no point in taking the field if you don't believe you can do that."

Casper Ruud books place in US Open final by battling past Karen Khachanov

London, September 10 : Just over a year ago, after Casper Ruud navigated a tidy straight-sets win at a tournament in Toronto, he decided to have a little bit of fun. Handing a marker to sign the television camera, he opted to write a simple message: "hard courts". He signed it off with a smiley face. His point was clear. He had heard all of the criticisms of his abilities on the surface loud and clear, the way that people questioned and underestimated him, but he took them with a smile. He was still working hard, hopeful that he would continue to improve with time. As he continues to stride through the greatest season of his career the understated tenacity and work rate constantly exhibited by Ruud continues to yield great success. Despite the pressure of being the favourite in a grand slam semi-final Ruud remained steady through his early nerves and gradually ground down Karen Khachanov, the 27th seed, as he became the first Norwegian man to reach a US Open final, winning 7-6(5), 6-2, 5-7, 6-2. By reaching the final Ruud, the fifth



seed, has put himself on the verge of achieving the two ultimate achievements in the sport at once. Three months after being flattened by the unstoppable force of Rafael Nadal in the French Open final, he will once again play for his first grand slam title. Ruud will also become the new world No 1 next week unless Carlos Alcaraz, who faced Frances Tiafoe overnight in the second semi-final, wins the US Open. So much of the recent history of men's tennis has been written by three men, players who hoarded most of the grand slam titles, packed out the final rounds of events and, even when they did not win, absorbed so much of the attention. For the first time since the inaugural US Open in 1881 four male players had reached their first US Open semi-final at once. Three of those four had never before reached any grand slam semi-final. There was no hiding from the full force of grand slam pressure but the rewards were great for whoever was bold enough. The significance of the occasion for Ruud and the 26 year-old Khachanov was reflected in mutual nerves early on. Neither player was able to play freely as breaks were exchanged, momentum changed hands and both made errors. As the set wore on, Ruud increasingly looked like the steadier, more even-keeled player. Consistency won out as Ruud took the tiebreak 7-5 with the longest rally of the tournament, refusing to miss and scampering around the court in defence. On the 54th

stroke of by far the longest point of the tournament Ruud stepped in and drilled a sweet backhand down the line, which forced an error from Khachanov and won him the set. With a set under his belt Ruud played freely for a while but the third set brought some complications. Khachanov served well throughout the set and the pressure grew until Ruud's nerves finally betrayed him at 5-6 as he dumped a forehand into the net on set point. But Ruud demonstrated his mental fortitude by immediately bouncing back. He served extremely well in the fourth, landed returns and then took the decisive break with a spectacular running forehand down-the-line winner as he marched to victory. There are more spectacular players around the sport, characters who generate more attention and hype, but Ruud has continued at his own pace, looking to improve every time he steps into the court. The result is two grand slam finals in a single year, an achievement none of his more prominent contemporaries have yet pulled off. This time, with no 13-times French Open champion on the other side, a great opportunity awaits. Whether he can take it or not, the 23-year-old has made his intentions clear for the coming years. When Novak Djokovic and Nadal finally depart, the men's draws may continue to open up and more opportunities will be there. With hard work, humility and a cool head, Ruud will continue to be in the frame.

England set to hire David Saker and David Hussey for T20 World Cup

London, September 10 : David Saker and David Hussey are set for coaching roles during England's T20 World Cup campaign in Australia this winter amid a broader move to split the international support staff by way of format. Brendon McCullum, the men's Test head coach, is looking to begin a new slimmed-down operation on his side of the equation for the tour of Pakistan in December, with Marcus Trescothick, Paul Collingwood and Jeetan Patel - all already on the books - becoming his three chosen

assistants. Matthew Mott, the men's white-ball head coach, will similarly have three permanent deputies, with an expectation that Richard Dawson, currently lead pathway coach, may make an internal move. However, the upcoming T20 tour of Pakistan that departs next week, and the T20 World Cup in Australia in October, are deemed to require two short-term hires, with Saker, England bowling coach from 2010 to 2015, and Hussey, the former Australia and Nottinghamshire all rounder, understood to be in the

frame. The former's top-level coaching CV is extensive, the 56-year-old having followed his England stint with senior positions in the Big Bash League, the Australian men's setup from 2016 to 2019 and then roles with the USA and Sri Lanka. Hussey, the younger brother of Mike Hussey, represented Australia in more than 100 limited overs internationals. The 45-year-old has been a coach at Kolkata Knight Riders - where he worked with McCullum - and Melbourne Stars since his retirement in 2017.

England v South Africa to start with historic rendition of national anthem



London, September 10 : Play at the third Test between England and South Africa will begin on Saturday morning, preceded by what may be the first full, official televised rendition of God Save the King at a sporting event. One of the many issues of protocol that the England and Wales Cricket Board had to consider on Friday was whether there would be any issue with the anthem being played in SE11

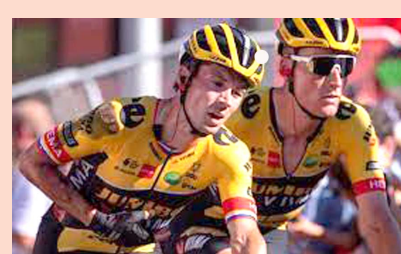
before the Accession Council formally proclaims Charles III as monarch at St James's Palace. With the Council's meeting scheduled to start just an hour before play gets under way at the Oval any problem could have led to another delay, but the cricket was eventually cleared to resume. The first official rendition of God Save the King will be sung at St Paul's Cathedral at the end of a memorial service for the Queen on Friday night. Organisers also had to decide whether they should hold a single minute's silence or two (protocol demanded

one), whether it would be appropriate to ring the bell before play (yes), whether a military band could be involved - the Band of the Household Cavalry would have performed the anthem on Thursday had rain not intervened (also yes) - and whether the traditional rendition of Jerusalem before the start of play should also go ahead (probably not). But the Test will have to be decided in just three days after attempts to extend the match, which had already lost its first day to bad weather before surrendering the second as a mark of respect to Queen Elizabeth II, were stymied by South Africa's hectic schedule.

Fred Wright hits back at 'unfair' Primoz Roglic accusations over Vuelta crash

London, September 10 : Fred Wright has hit back after Primoz Roglic said he holds the British rider responsible for the crash that ended his Vuelta a España race on stage 16. "The crash was not caused by a bad road or a lack of safety but by a rider's behaviour," the three-time Vuelta champion said in a statement on the

Jumbo-Visma website. "I don't have eyes on my back. Otherwise, I would have run wide. Wright came from behind and rode the handlebars out of my hands before I knew it." The incident occurred around 100m from the finish line of Tuesday's stage in Tomares. After finishing second to Mads Pedersen on Friday's stage, Wright



said he first became aware of the "unfair" statement when he returned to the Bahrain-Victorious team bus. "It was

really hard to read, and I'm pretty disappointed," Wright posted on Twitter. "I think it's unfair, the team and I have looked at the footage again tonight, and I honestly don't believe I did anything wrong - it was just a racing incident." Primoz is an amazing bike rider," the

23-year-old added. "He was so on the up and challenging for the red jersey in Madrid. It was a huge loss for the race and I totally understand he must be very disappointed. I'm sure he'll be smashing races again soon. He was so impressive three days ago, I'm gutted for him," Wright continued.





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Stephanie Gilmore finally completes journey to all-time surfing greatness



London, September 10: In October 2006, Australian surfing great Layne Beachley was on top of the world. She had won a record six world titles and was on track to add a seventh. Since winning her first crown in 1998, the Manly local had become a global sporting star and was using her platform to advance women's surfing, going so far as to organise the Havanas Beachley Classic - with a bumper prize purse - at her home beach in Sydney. Beachley cruised through to the final, where yet another competition win seemed inevitable. It was a fairy-tale finale as retirement loomed (she ultimately stopped competing two years later). The best female surfer in history was set to win her own WSL event, at the beach she grew up shredding. Only a teenage prodigy had not read the script. In the final Beachley came up against Stephanie Gilmore, a 19-year-old from northern New South Wales who had secured a wildcard after winning the trials. It was the present and future of Australian surfing battling it out on the same waves, a passing of the guard. Gilmore was not unknown - she had secured her maiden WSL event

win, also as a wildcard, the year prior. But her dominance in the final, against the greatest of all-time, made observers sit up. The future had arrived. It would take almost two decades, but on Thursday Gilmore finally surpassed Beachley by winning a record eighth WSL title, at the finals surf-off in California. After claiming the 2018 world title, Gilmore had spent four years level with her childhood idol on seven titles apiece. A string of middling results and the rise of a new generation hinted that the 34-year-old might never again be crowned world champion. But across a frenetic four match-ups at Lower Trestles, Gilmore showed emphatically that she remains one of the best on tour. The journey to all-time greatness that began all those years ago in Manly is now complete. Gilmore's eight world titles, spanning three separate decades (2007,

2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2018 and 2022), is eclipsed only by male surfer Kelly Slater, with eleven. She has also won the most WSL events of any women, with 33, and is the only surfer to win a world title in their debut season. Her victory on Thursday was unexpected. Formerly decided by a cumulative points ranking across the season, in recent years the WSL has opted to decide the world title through a finals format. After the regular season is over, the top five surfers compete in a one-day surf-off. Fifth faces fourth in a sudden-death heat, before the winner takes on third, and so on. Whichever surfer makes it through ultimately competes against the world No 1, in a best-of-three heat final. Gilmore entered finals day on Thursday ranked fifth, having missed the season opener with Covid-19 and won just one event during the year - in El Salvador. Australia's male surfers have spent the season in the spotlight after a fallow few years - it was them (Jack Robinson in second and Ethan Ewing in third), not Gilmore, who looked primed for a title charge. But while the men were knocked out in consecutive heats, Gilmore was left standing. She did not have it easy. Gilmore trailed for the majority of her opening heat, against world No 4, Brisa Hennessy.

London, September 10: This Saturday, 10 September, would have been Adam Stansfield's 44th birthday. Stansfield died of bowel cancer aged 31 while contracted to Exeter City but he never feels too far away. Exeter renamed a stand at St James Park in his honour and in a thoroughfare at the club's Cliff Hill training base there is something of a shrine to the former striker: a "Stansfield 9" red-and-white-striped home shirt on a bust above a pair of his boots, beside pictures, a programme, team sheets and shirts from his three professional clubs: Yeovil, Hereford and Exeter. Since his tragic passing, Exeter staff do not recall a game where supporters have not proudly sung Stansfield's name. These days they have another Stansfield to cheer and cherish. Stansfield's name and legacy lives on through the Adam Stansfield Foundation and in the game via his eldest son, Jay, also a striker, who last week rejoined his boyhood club on loan from Fulham whom he signed for as a 16-year-old. His new manager, Matt Taylor, played alongside Jay's dad for three years at Exeter, who saw fit to bring the No 9 shirt out of retirement for Jay to wear. The transfer announcement video went viral, attracting more than 3.2m views. Jay is still wading through messages of support from all over the world. "My phone kept ping," the 19-year-

old says. "It is polite to reply and say thank you." His debut last weekend inevitably stirred memories and afterwards a tearful Jay applauded fans looking on from the stand named after his father. His family were boardroom guests. "It was emotional," Jay says. "It hit me when I got out of my car with my two brothers. The next thing I hear is people singing as I'm walking into the ground. All they were singing was: 'Sing a song for Stanno.' To drive in and be able to hear them and see people waiting [for me], it set the tone for the day. It was crazy. I knew it was a big thing, coming back and taking the No 9 shirt but I really didn't think it would blow up as much as it has." He has moved home with his mother, Marie, stepdad, Oran, and his younger brothers, Taylor and Cody, both of whom play football, the former for Elmore, for whom Adam played, the latter for Twyford Spartans, Jay's first club for whom his dad also played. "I've got a funny story," Jay says, smiling. "There was a five-a-side tournament at Twyford, the last one with my mates, probably three weeks after I went on trial at Fulham. My whole family were telling me not to play in case I got injured but I told a little porkie and said that I was going down to watch and help manage. I ended up playing and we won the tournament. I didn't think of it but my uncle was down there



watching my cousin and my brothers. My grandad was there too. They walked over, saw me playing and rang my mum straight away. My mum went crazy at me. I wouldn't do it again." Jay made his Premier League debut at Wolves last month and his first top-flight start a week later in the victory against Brentford. "They say I got an assist... I hit the crossbar, it bounced down to Bobby [Decordova-Reid] and he scored but I'll take it," Jay smiles. But at 10.30pm on deadline day he was putting the finishing touches to a homecoming. "I was thinking: 'Do I take the No 9 shirt, do I not?' Do I want to live in his footsteps or create a story for myself?" But whatever number I took I knew I would be living in a shadow and the pressure would always be on me. Even if I've got 'Stansfield' and No 9 on my back, I'm

"People raising money in his name; his sister [Andrea] jumping out of an aeroplane, Roger, his dad, running his first half-marathon at, I think, 65 with Andrea... it is very special." Jay has another shirt to frame and add to his collection. He has his dad's shirts on the wall of his hallway alongside his own at home in London but stumbled on another treasure at home in Tiverton. "When it was lockdown I was out in the garden playing with my brothers and I found a pair of boots under the bed," Jay says. "They were old [Nike] Tiempo 90s. I asked Mum: 'Can I wear them?' I went out in the garden and wore them and in my head I was going to wear them in the next game. I thought it would be a nice touch but they didn't last, the bottom fell off. I've got a lot of his boots in glass boxes. It is nice to have things around. Mum gave me his watch to wear to prom when I finished school. I like looking at photos but obviously it makes me upset, and I don't always want to be upset. There are positives in life that I can take from it. I try to be as strong as possible and look like I'm OK when sometimes I'm not." Jay remembers watching his father play at Wembley in 2008, when Rob Edwards scored for Exeter to seal promotion to the Football League, and in years gone by he trawled YouTube for clips of his dad in action.



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