



# The Assam Rising

Projecting the best of Northeast India everyday

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Yaba Tablets

Assam Rising

Guwahati, September 12 :

Police in Assam's Silchar arrested three people and seized huge quantities of Yaba tablets from them in a raid. According to reports, the raid was carried out at a hotel at Rangirkhari on Sonai road today. Officials informed that they arrested three people in possession of 5,000 Yaba tablets. Their entire seizure is believed to be worth around Rs 1 crore. Meanwhile, the arrested individuals are reportedly residents of Mizoram. They were identified as Lalduhawa, Chaoliana and Sangita. Police said that the three smugglers were waiting for buyers at the hotel when the police raided and held them.

### Woman killed

Assam Rising

Guwahati, September 12 :

A man from Assam's Udalguri district was held for killing a woman and copulating with the corpse. The incident took place on August 25 and her body was exhumed for autopsy on September 6. According to reports, the accused in the case surrendered to the Udalguri Sadar police station on Friday after which the abominable crime came to the fore. Officials said that he confessed to committing the crime stating that the woman, aged 42 years old, had gone for a bath in a nearby stream when he went after her. Meanwhile, police framed charges of rape and murder against the assailant, a daily wage worker after he surrendered. He was then sent to 14 days of judicial custody on Saturday by a local court. Locals from the village told that the husband of the victim was at first not convinced that someone from the village could be behind the heinous act. A resident of the area was quoted by TOI as saying, "We got information that when the woman was having a bath, the accused went from behind and hacked her to death. Later, he raped her. But initially, the picture was hazy and that's why her husband was not ready for a serious legal battle since the villagers could not identify any accused."

### Dowry case

Assam Rising

Guwahati, September 12 :

A woman committed suicide for dowry-related issue inside her husband's home in Assam Tinsukia district. According to sources, the deceased has been identified as Pompi and her in-laws pressurised her for a bed as dowry. Pompi's husband informed the police that she committed suicide by hanging inside his home in Doomdooma. However, Shyam or his family did not inform Pompi's family about the incident and instead ran away by locking the door of their home. Meanwhile, the locals and family alleged that it was not a suicide but a planned murder.

## Assam to withdraw 3 lakh petty crime cases

Assam Rising  
Guwahati, September 12 :

The Assam government on Sunday decided to withdraw around three lakh petty crime cases to reduce the load on the judiciary, a minister said. Addressing a press conference after a Cabinet meeting here, Tourism Minister Jayanta Malla Baruah said lakhs of petty cases are pending across the state. "Of the 4.19 lakh petty crime cases, we have decided to withdraw around three lakh cases invoking Section 321 of the CrPC. This will reduce the backlog of cases and decongest jails," he said. The government will soon issue instructions and detailed SOPs to the public prosecutor for filing appropriate petitions on



the next dates of the respective cases, a Cabinet communiqué said. The Cabinet also approved the Assam State Policy for Transfer of Development Rights for streamlining the process of land acquisition for the redevelopment of inner-city zones. The Assam State Transit Oriented Development Policy was approved by the gov-

ernment to develop planned sustainable urban growth centres in the state. It also accorded administrative approval of Rs 366 crore for upgrading 34 polytechnics and 43 government Industrial Training Institutes (ITI) into Centres of Excellence in association with Tata Technologies. The overall project cost is Rs 2,390 crore. The project will pro-

vide opportunities to 15,000-20,000 students every year to learn new technologies related to the industry," the Cabinet note said. The Cabinet approved the Assam Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Roadmap, 2030 as a vision document to reduce losses and damages as well as strengthen

the resilience of communities and systems for various disasters and climate change risks. The government also approved the setting up of two new private universities -- Girijananda Chowdhury University, Assam and Pragjyotishpur University. The Cabinet also approved leasing out land to a joint venture company formed by the Assam government and National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) to execute the Assam Dairy Development Plan. Accordingly, the government will execute the lease agreements for two land parcels at Jorhat and Dibrugarh to set up milk processing plants.

## Won't mislead on 370... party in 10 days: Ghulam Nabi Azad



New Delhi, September 12 :

Ghulam Nabi Azad said he would not "mislead" people on the issue of Ar-

seats in my lifetime," he said. For the most part of his 40-minute speech in Baramulla, Azad sought to address the allegations against him -- from his alleged proximity with the BJP leadership to his silence on Article 370. Saying there were "efforts to call me a BJP man", Azad said he would launch his party "in 10 days" and it would be "azad" (free) and would not "join or merge with any other party". While targeting the Congress, Azad

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## Assam Congress General Secretary Kamrul Islam Choudhury quits party

**Blames 'directionless, confused leadership of APCC'**

Assam Rising  
Guwahati, September 12 :

In a blow to the Congress party, Kamrul Islam Choudhury, General Secretary of Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) resigned from the

primary membership of the party on Sunday. In a letter to Congress Interim President Sonia Gandhi, shared on social media, Choudhury said that he resigned due to the "directionless and confused leadership of APCC



during the last few months." "Heartfelt thanks to you and INC leadership for giving me the chance to represent INC at different positions i.e., Na-

tional General Secretary of NSUI, President APYC and General Secretary APCC. But the present instability of Congress party in Assam due to the directionless and confused leadership of APCC during the last few months has left no reason for me to continue as a member of INC," Choudhury stated in his letter. The political leader further claimed that no action was taken against the party MLA, who

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## Tamil Nadu inoculates 12.62 lakh people against Covid-19 in mass vaccination drive



Chennai, September 12 :

Tamil Nadu on Sunday inoculated 12,62,089 people against Covid-19 in the 36th mega vaccination held across the State, the Health Department has said. A total of 61,202 people received the first dose, 2,98,634 the second dose, while 9,02,253 people received the pre-

cautionary booster dose, a press release said here. The total number of people who were vaccinated (above the age of 18 years) with the first dose comprises 96.49 per cent and the second 91.09 per cent. According to the press release, 19,82,269 people (93.46 per cent) in

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## Supreme Court to take up CAA challenge: where does the case stand?



New Delhi, September 12 :

A three-judge Bench of the Supreme Court led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) U U Lalit will hear the challenge to the contentious Citizenship (Amendment) Act on Monday. The Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 seeks to grant citizenship to a class of migrants belonging to Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi or Christian communities from Afghanistan, Bangladesh or

Pakistan. The Act was passed on December 12, 2019 and was notified on January 10, 2020. While the government claimed the amendment was sympathetic and inclusionary, critics said it was unconstitutional and anti-Muslim. The law provoked widespread protests in the country. The law, an amendment to the Citizenship Act, 1955, was challenged before the Supreme

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## Minister Keshab Mahanta inaugurated ART Dispensation Centres in Central Jails



Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 12: Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART) Dispensation Centres at 6

Central Jails across Assam were centrally inaugurated at Central Jail, Guwahati today by Minister for Health & FW, Govt of Assam, Keshab Mahanta. The 6 Central Jails include the Central Jails of Guwahati, Silchar, Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Tezpur and Nagaon. During her

welcome speech, Inspector General, Prisons, Assam Barnali Sharma, ACS, thanked the Assam State AIDS Control Society (ASACS) for taking such an initiative for providing ART medicines in jails which will be very helpful for the prison inmates who are infected by HIV. Minister for

Health & FW, Govt of Assam Keshab Mahanta while presiding the inauguration ceremony as chief guest said, "Prisons were considered as punishment homes during the British era but now-a-days prisons are temples of reformation where a prison inmate gets an opportunity to get himself reformed. Besides, health facilities, facilities like library for the inmates are already there and now we are going a step further by establishing ART Dispensation Centres and OST services so that prison inmates can avail the treatment in jails itself." He further appreciated the efforts undertaken by PD ASACS Pomi Baruah and IG Prisons, Barnali Sharma

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## Tejashwi Yadav: Congress still largest Opposition party; Nitish, Lalu to meet Sonia

New Delhi, September 12 :

Many regional parties which have been pointing at the Congress's retreating footprint across states, RJD leader and Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav said on Sunday that it is still the "largest party" in the Opposition bloc, and others must think "practically" on its relevance. In



an interview to The Indian Express, Yadav said Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar

and RJD chief Lalu Prasad would meet Congress president Sonia Gandhi after she returns from abroad, as part of the ongoing efforts to stitch unity among the Opposition parties to take on the BJP in the 2024 general elections. Defeating the BJP should be the sole "personal ambition" for Opposition leaders, he said. "A

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## White Revolution : Jorhat and Dibrugarh to set up milk processing plants

Assam Rising  
Guwahati, September 12 :

With a view to bring about White Revolution in Assam, the cabinet decided on leasing land at Jorhat and Dibrugarh to set up milk processing plants. This was part of several important decisions taken during the weekly cabinet meeting held today. Addressing the media following the meeting, cabinet minister Jayanta Mallabarua said that land will be leased out

to joint venture company formed by the state government and the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). Taking to Twitter, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said, "In today's Assam Cabinet, we took a host of decisions with regard to clearing backlog of cases in courts, establishment of new universities, roadmap on disaster risk reduction, upgrading polytechnics & ITIs, streamlining land acquisition, filling up posts of Bodo teachers, etc." The key points from

today's meeting: Clearing Backlog of Cases Petty criminal cases pending in subordinate courts throughout Assam to be withdrawn within 6 months by invoking Section 321 of Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973. Instruction for withdrawal of cases and authorisation to Public Prosecutor and Addl/Asstt Public Prosecutor for filing appropriate petition on the next date fixed for respective cases along with detailed SOP to be



issued immediately. Benefits Reduction in backlog

of cases, allowing the

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Palestinian young men dressed as clowns perform during an event to entertain children at Jabalia refugee camp in northern Gaza Strip

## PM will explore energy market reform to cut bills

**London, September 12:** The government plans to move nuclear and renewable electricity generators to lower price contracts to cut bills, Prime Minister Liz Truss has said. "Renewable and nuclear generators will move on to contracts for difference, to end the situation where electricity prices are set by the marginal price of gas," Truss told Parliament. Moving nuclear and renewable generators onto lower-priced contracts "will mean that generators are receiving a fair price reflecting their cost of production, further bringing down the cost of this intervention," Truss said. The government will ask renewable and nuclear generators to take up new 10 or 15-year contracts at fixed prices well below the current rates, sources familiar with the discussions say. Liz Truss says she won't introduce a windfall tax on energy companies, but she will need to address the issue of their huge profits. The energy market consultancy Cornwall Insight estimates

energy prices are likely to be more than £40bn higher because of the fact that some electricity generators are being paid based on the hugely inflated gas price. That is a particularly pressing issue when the government is planning to spend tens of billions of pounds of taxpayers' money subsidising the nation's energy bills. Paying renewable energy companies less than the market price for gas would mean a very significant reduction in revenues for them, at least in the medium term. Yet RenewableUK, the industry body which represents most of the windpower companies in this group, has accepted this approach in principle. "We're keen to work collaboratively with the government" on the issue, RenewableUK's CEO Dan McGrail said. "It makes no sense to allow the exorbitantly expensive cost of gas to set the price for the

whole of the electricity market", he said. RenewableUK represents most of the biggest renewable businesses in the UK including Orsted, Scottish Power, SSE, RWE and EDF. It confirms its



members have had a "series of discussions" with the government on the issue and says it is waiting for the government to "take a position". So, why might they accept this huge potential hit to profits? RenewableUK says it is because the companies recognise it isn't fair for consumers to face such high prices at a time of national crisis. Those close to the discussions say they are probably also being offered a generous long-term price to reflect the short-term loss of

profits. Shadow climate change secretary Ed Miliband told BBC Radio 4's Today programme on Thursday that such long-term fixed-price contracts would have the effect of ensuring huge profits for electricity companies for years to come. "This is a proposal from (energy industry trade association) Energy UK, and let's be clear about this proposal: This would lock in massive windfall profits for these electricity generators. Let me explain why: what Energy UK have said is we'll accept slightly lower prices now, so we can have much higher prices over the following 15 years." This would be a terrible deal for the British people, a terrible deal for billpayers. "It is much better - if there are these unexpected windfalls, and there are - the right thing to do, the fair thing to do, is not to do some dodgy deal with these companies, but to do a windfall tax. Liz Truss may be ideologically opposed to windfall taxes but paying private companies billions of pounds in excess profits from the public purse is also a political liability.

## Ukraine war: UN says blackout threatens Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant



### Name Change

My previous name was Param Padmaja Punam Rao Borah. Now I have changed my name as Punam Rao Borah. Henceforth my new name Punam Rao Borah will be used instead of my old name Param Padmaja Punam Rao Borah. Nagaon Assam

### Affidavit



I declared by an affidavit in presence of Notary, Nagaon dt. 1-9-2022 that my actual and correct name is Kavyashree Saikia but my name has been wrongly recorded in my father's Discharge Book, vide Disch Book Serno. 14822440-L/JUN/2021 and PPO, vide PPO No. 240202101984 as Kavyashree. Actually both names are one and same person.

Kavyashree Saikia  
D/O Jayanta Saikia  
Halowagoon, Nagaon

**London, September 12:** The head of the UN nuclear agency has warned that the situation at the Russian-held Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant in Ukraine is increasingly precarious. Rafael Grossi said shelling had knocked out power in the nearby city of Enerhodar which fed the plant, and it was unlikely to be restored. The operator was considering switching off the last reactor, Mr Grossi said. This would make the

plant totally reliant on emergency diesel generators to prevent a nuclear accident. "This is an unsustainable situation and is becoming increasingly precarious..." he said in a statement. "This is completely unacceptable. It cannot stand." Mr Grossi did not say whether Russia or Ukraine was responsible for the shelling, but said that it must stop immediately. Both countries have blamed each other for fighting in the vicinity of the plant, which is close to the front line and has been occupied, along with Enerhodar, by the Russians since early in the invasion. Mr Grossi, who visited the plant himself earlier this month, said he had learnt on Friday from

his staff who are still there that a "serious situation" had developed overnight. He said that power to the city of Enerhodar, home to most of the plant operators and their families, had been "destroyed by shelling".

## North Korea declares itself a nuclear weapons state

**Seoul, September 12:** North Korea has passed a law declaring itself to be a nuclear weapons state, according to state news agency KCNA. The country's leader Kim Jong-un called the decision "irreversible" and ruled out the possibility of any talks on denuclearisation, it said. The law also enshrines the country's right to use a pre-emptive nuclear strike to protect itself. Despite crippling sanctions, Pyongyang has conducted six nuclear tests between 2006 and 2017. It has continued to advance its military capability - in breach of United Nations Security Council resolutions - to threaten its neighbours and potentially even bring the US mainland within

striking range. Mr Kim carried out long-range launches and nuclear tests in 2019 following two headline-grabbing but inconclusive summits with then US president Donald Trump. But talks between the countries have since stalled. Although the Biden administration has indicated it's willing to talk to Pyongyang, it hasn't said whether President Joe Biden would meet Mr Kim. The White House also said its attempts to contact Pyongyang and overtures of help over its Covid outbreak had gone unanswered so far. The US reviewed its North Korea policy last year and reiterated that "complete denuclearisation" of the Korean peninsula was the goal. Mr Biden said he would pursue it with a mix of diplomacy and "stern deterrence". Mr Kim responded by saying his country must prepare for both "dialogue and confrontation". Meanwhile, tensions on the Korean peninsula have spiked this year with Pyongyang firing a record number of ballistic missiles. South Korea and the US have responded with a volley of missiles and the largest joint military exercises on the peninsula in years.



Palestinian young men dressed as clowns perform during an event to entertain children at Jabalia refugee camp in northern Gaza Strip

## Sweden election: Gang shootings cast shadow over vote

**Malmö, September 12:** A sharp rise in gun violence and gang crime has become a leading issue in what Sweden's media have described as one of the ugliest election campaigns in history. "Right at this spot here we had a shooting about this time last year," says Martin Gunér, a police officer in the suburb of Gottunda, just a 15-minute drive from the medieval spires of the university city of Uppsala. Gottunda is notorious for drugs and gun battles, and classified by police as one of

the 10 most vulnerable areas in Sweden. But despite Sweden's right-wing media labelling it a "no-go zone", parents here cycle toddlers home from preschool while middle-class families at the local shopping centre pile groceries into electric cars and bicycle baskets. Some high-profile arrests in the area have helped calm the violence in recent months. But, according to a 2021 report by the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention, gun crime across Sweden is increasing at a faster rate than anywhere else in Europe. So far this year, 47 people have died from shootings in the country - more than for the whole of 2021. "At first they'd shoot just to injure and make people afraid, but now they're shooting to kill," Mr Gunér says. The violence is now spilling

out of troubled suburbs and into other urban areas: last month, a mother and her five-year-old child were injured by gunfire at a playground in the central city of Eskilstuna, and two people were hurt in a shooting at one of Scandinavia's largest shopping malls in Malmö. As Swedes prepare to take part in Sunday's general election, polls show that crime is among the top issues for voters. "[Crime] beats questions relating to the environment and inflation, the economy and the pandemic," says Sten Widmalm, a professor at Uppsala University. "It's affecting ordinary people as well, because some of these shootings have led to innocent bystanders being killed." It's not a surprise then that the campaign has been dominated by the debate over the cause of this spike



in gang violence and ways to tackle it. Nikoi Djane grew up around gangs in southern Sweden and he is now a criminologist. He points the finger to a growing drugs market and the lack of job opportunities for those living in less affluent neighbourhoods. "It's very different from back when I was young," he says. "A life isn't valued the way it was before. Today people are being killed just for stuff like honour and pride and petty things." He recently launched an organisation to help prevent young people from joining gangs. And he

says more long-term support is needed also for migrants and refugees who have fled the war and "have seen their whole life being blown to pieces". "We put the expectation that they should raise perfect children. And these individuals are most likely suffering from PTSD, depression, you name it," he adds. Sweden took in record numbers of refugees in 2015 and the fact that much of the latest violence takes place in areas with high immigrant populations, has added fuel to the debate over the country's integration policies.

## New York declares state of emergency over polio



**New York, September 12:** The governor of New York has declared a state of emergency over polio as evidence emerges that the virus is spreading across the state. Health officials say wastewater samples in New York City and four adjacent

counties have tested positive for a poliovirus that can cause paralysis. Although only one case has so far been confirmed, it was the first in the country in nearly a decade. Polio was largely eradicated from the US by vaccinations that began in

1955. By 1979, the US was declared polio-free. But according to New York officials, vaccination rates are too low in parts of the state. Friday's emergency declaration is aimed at boosting flagging immunisation rates. There is no cure for polio, but it can be prevented by the vaccine. Mostly affecting children, the virus typically causes muscle weakness and paralysis, and in the most serious cases permanent disability and death. New York's state health department said it aims to boost vaccination rates from the current state-wide average of about 79% to above 90%. "On polio, we simply cannot roll the dice," Health Commissioner Dr Mary Bassett said in a statement. "If you or your child are unvaccinated or not up to date with vaccinations, the risk of paralytic disease is real." She added that "for every one case of paralytic polio observed, there may be hundreds of other people infected". An inactivated polio vaccine is used in both the US and the UK as part of the routine childhood programme. In the US, about

93% of toddlers have received at least three doses of the polio jab, according to vaccination data from the CDC. Officials began monitoring wastewater in the state for poliovirus after an unvaccinated man in Rockland County, just north of New York City, contracted the virus in July - the first recorded case since 2013 - and suffered paralysis. The case was later genetically linked to paralytic polio found in a wastewater sample collected from nearby Nassau County in August. Wastewater samples in Orange County, Sullivan County and the five boroughs of New York City have also tested positive for paralytic polio. The emergency order issued on Friday by Governor Kathy Hochul is the state's third this year, in addition to similar orders issued in response to the coronavirus pandemic and monkeypox. It empowers emergency medical workers, midwives and pharmacists to join the network of providers who can roll out the polio vaccine.

Memo No : 445/DH Sonapur/2022-23

### Notice Inviting Quotation

Sealed quotation affixing non refundable court Fee stamp of Rs.8.25(Rupees eight and paise twenty five) only are invited from the reputed Registered firm for **Tendering of Laboratory Reagents of District Hospital Sonapur, Kamrup (M)**. The list of Reagents along with the terms & conditions may be collected from the Office of the Superintendent District Hospital, Sonapur, Kamrup (M) and deposited / Received upto 1 PM of 15th September 2022. The quotations will be opened on the same day at the same place at 1 PM in presence of quotationers or their authorized agents. If the date of receiving of the Quotation happens to be unforeseen bandh/holiday then it will be received/ opened on the next working day at the same time and place.

Superintendent  
District Hospital Sonapur  
Kamrup Metro

Janasanyog/C/9907/22

No.PHEE/SIV/JJM-190/2022-23/6064

### NOTICE

This is for information to all the candidate who were submitted their application for the post of District Coordinator (IEC), that the date of Interview for the post will be on 20<sup>th</sup> Sept' 2022 at 10-30 AM onwards.

They are requested to attend the interview with their all original documents on the date of interview at office of the Executive Engineer, Public Health Engineering, Sivasagar Division, M.I. Borah Road, Near S.P. Office, Sivasagar without fail.

Executive Engineer (PHE)  
Sivasagar Division  
Sivasagar

Janasanyog/D/12205/22



# Raj Bhavan organizes a Seminar on Climate Change



**Assam Rising**  
**Guwahati, September 12:** Assam Governor Prof. Jagdish Mukhi said that climate change is one of the greatest threats to global security which knows no borders and presents an existential challenge to the environment and human kind. Speaking at a seminar on climate change organized by Raj Bhavan, Assam here today, Governor Prof. Mukhi said that climate change can also cause droughts which can be more frequent and severe. Climate change is making the weather system more unpredictable and severe. Prof. Mukhi said that a part of the climate change problem is man-made. Since human beings use a lot of fossil fuels like petrol or coal, they release a lot of Carbon Dioxide which is primarily a greenhouse gas. The increase in Carbon Dioxide level in the atmosphere is the leading cause of global warming. As the earth warms, the glaciers in the poles start melting, rising the sea level. The rise in water

leading to more evaporation. Warmer air can hold more moisture, making monsoon rainfall more intense. The recent flood ravaged picture in Haflong and Silchar meant that Assam also started receiving the brunt of climate change. He also said that climate change can also cause droughts which can be more frequent and severe. Climate change is making the weather system more unpredictable and severe. Prof. Mukhi said that a part of the climate change problem is man-made. Since human beings use a lot of fossil fuels like petrol or coal, they release a lot of Carbon Dioxide which is primarily a greenhouse gas. The increase in Carbon Dioxide level in the atmosphere is the leading cause of global warming. As the earth warms, the glaciers in the poles start melting, rising the sea level. The rise in water

threatens to change the geography of the earth. Many coastal cities are expected to be underwater in the next century, the Governor added. The Governor also said that since the very beginning, India has been a supporter of science based understanding of climate change and rational approaches to resolve it. This country is supporting and contributing to the Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change (IPCC). Recently, India for the first time came out of its own climate change assessment. The country's approach to combat climate change has been through adaptation and mitigation. Policies like National Solar Mission are aimed to reduce dependence on coal powered plants and thus reduce carbon footprint. In fact, India is one of the few countries on track with the Paris Agreement to reduce

**Climate change is one of the greatest threats of global security: Governor**

carbon footprint by 33-35% by 2030. In fact, the country under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is advocating a policy called Panchamrit that is five key commitments to deal with the challenge of climate change. Right from reducing the country's carbon emissions to increasing India's reliance on renewable energy, India has been working to deal with the threats precipitating from climate change. The Governor also said that of late the State government's policy on solar power and its investment on solar projects are the testimonies of the State government's seriousness of beating the climate change and global warming. The resource persons of the seminar were Additional Chief Secretary Environment and Forest Dept. Govt. of Assam, Ravi Shankar Prasad, former Head of Civil Engineering Department, IIT Guwahati Prof. Arup Kumar Sarma, Distinguished Fellow in the Centre for Global Environmental Research in TERI R.R. Rashmi, Professor of Ecological Economics from Department of Humanities and Social Sci-

ences, IIT Guwahati Dr. Anamika Barua who extensively deliberated on the ways and means and also a broad strategy to empower Assam to contribute to India's efforts to deal with climate change. The seminar was attended by higher officials of Raj Bhavan and various departments, faculty members, research scholars, post graduate students from universities and media personnel.

# NFR introduced Fire Detection System in trains and stations

**Assam Rising**  
**Guwahati, September 12:** Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has taken many safety initiatives to further enhance the safety of passengers in trains and stations. There were incidents when the fire broke out from either pantry cars or generator cars of passenger trains causing damages. Such fire has the potential of causing loss of human life and property if not noticed and extinguished timely. In its endeavour to prevent fire mishaps on trains and stations, NFR has equipped Automatic Fire Detection and Alarm Systems on



coaches and stations. As power cars and pantry cars are more vulnerable to fire 98 power cars and 38 pantry cars were equipped with the fire detection system in addition to 230 Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) AC coaches. State of art fire detection system & auto

stoppage system has been installed in 20 LHB AC coaches this year. This system stops the train in case of fire detection. Moreover, 1695 non-AC coaches over NFR have also been provided with fire extinguisher systems with anti-theft arrangement. 395 numbers of non-AC coaches were installed with the system this year itself. Railway stations are also very vulnerable to incidents of fire. Modern technology like automatic fire detection and alarm systems in buildings have been installed at stations. This year 06 stations viz Chongajan, Pancharatna, Dudhnai, Krishnai, Goalpara Town and Aujuri stations were equipped with the fire detection and alarm system. Enhancing safety in train operations and in stations, N. F. Railways will go ahead to equip all air-conditioned coaches used for overnight journey and stations with the early warning fire detection system.

# Vice-Chairman Ramen Deka reviews on-going projects of SITA



**Assam Rising**  
**Guwahati, September 12:** Vice-Chairman Ramen Deka reviews ongoing projects of State Innovation of Transformation

Aayog (SITA) today at his office chamber at Janata Bhawan which was attended by Co-Vice Chairman Dhruba Prasad Baishya, Chief Executive Officer M.S

Manivannan, IAS, Advisor (F & S) GG Das, Assistant Research Officer D.S Hazari amongst others. A detailed discussion was held of all the ongoing projects wherein the Vice-Chairman Ramen Deka requested the concerned officials to contact the Implementing agencies to step up the work and to instruct them to complete the projects at the earliest possible time.

# Fake doctor identified at Biswanath

**Assam Rising**  
**Biswanath Chariali, September 12:** Sensation prevailed in Sootea, Kusumtola and Jamugurihat area when the medical degree of one practicing MD doctor proved to be fake by a board of medical investigation, Biswanath today. According to information, one Laksheswar Das who introduced himself as an MD and continued his medical practices at Jubi Medicos,

Kusumtola, Dipankar Medicos, Sootea and in many other remote places of Sootea, Jamugurihat and Kusumtola since last 18 years. On the basis of doubt, Sootea Press Club had written an application to the deputy commissioner of Biswanath demanding a neutral inquiry about the medical degree of the practicing doctor Laksheswar Das on September 3. On getting the application, Biswanath DC Munindra Nath Nagatey immediately constituted a medical investigation board comprising of Dr. Narayan Mahanta, Joint Director of health services, Biswanath, Dr. Eliza Deka, SDMO, Biswanath and Dr. Ranjit Das, secretary AMSA Biswanath to



Ashram, Guwahati. When the medical board asked him to produce his original HSLC and HS passed marksheet and certificates, he failed to produce them before the board. Das also gave a written note to the medical investigation board that he had no valid medical degree. The medical board termed his medical certificates as fake and submitted the report to the deputy commissioner. Addressing a media gathering today, Biswanath DC Munindra Nath Nagatey said that strict legal action against the fake medical doctor will be taken immediately. Laksheswar Das has lived in a rented house at Karatipar, Jamugurihat since 2003. When a team of media persons visited his rented house he was not available there.

enquire the matter. Similarly, the medical investigation board asked Laksheswar Das to appear before the board on September 9 along with all his supporting documents at Biswanath. During the time of investigation, Das had produced a fake medical certificate from Maharashtra Medical Council and a medical certificate from a Seva

## Guest House

A/C Non A/C Rooms with Car Parking At POGI Brahmaputra, Chandmari, Guwahati-21 Ph. WA: 9678009493/9707183470

**NEMCARE Group of Institutions**  
Approved By: HFW Govt. of Assam, AICTE, PCI and INC Govt. of India, and IMA Affiliated to: SSUHS, Govt. of Assam, ASTU Govt. of Assam, ANC Govt. of Assam

**ADMISSION OPEN FOR 2022-23**

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# Free medical camp held in Margherita

**Assam Rising**  
**Margherita, September 12:** A free medical camp was held at Ulup under Margherita subdivision on Sunday at the initiative of Yoga Vidya Peetham. The free medical camp was organized with the aim of providing medical care to the people of rural areas under the initiative of Yoga Vidya Peetham NGO of Margherita. Hundreds of patients from the area get themselves checked at the medical camp to be held at Ulup Primary School. Apart from health check-ups, medicines are also



provided free of cost on behalf of The Yoga Vidya Peetham. Dr. Manbrata Gogoi, Director of Yoga Vidya Peetham and a doctor at Coal India Hospital in Margherita, and Dr. Mousumi Gogoi, a doctor at Lekhapani Primary Health Centre, provided medical services at the medical camp. Deep Acharya, General Secretary of Yoga Vidya Peetham, graced the performance of various yoga arts at the beginning of the programme by the members of The Yoga Vidya Peetham. The people of the rural areas will be greatly benefited by the free medical camp.

# Two arrested with large quantity of drugs in Mikirbhetta

**Assam Rising**  
**Bhuraogaon, September 12:** Two drug dealers were arrested in Morigaon district last night. The two drug dealers were identified as Mainul Haque (36) of Muirads village under Dhing police station and Tafazzul Islam (26) of Balijan village under Mikirbhetta police station respectively. The arrested drug dealers were seized with eight boxes of



soap containing suspected drugs and a motorcycle AS02, W3685 used by them. The drugs weighed 337 grams with the box and another 100 grams in a plastic carry bag.

## GOVT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE GOALPARA MUNICIPAL BOARD: GOALPARA

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL & QUOTATIONS

Proposals are hereby invited from reputed supplier/manufacturer/company/firm for supply and installation of the following items. Proposals should include an overview of the project.

"Mobile Legacy Waste Treatment Plant (Bio Mining with Trommel System)."

#### Specifications:

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- Feed Hopper with Flat Belt Conveyor
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- Baling Machine- 500 kg/Hr
- Grinder Machine- 300 Kg/Hr
- Plastic Cleaner Machine- 1TPH

Proposals & Quotations should contain an abstract of cost mentioning the total amount inclusive of all charges. The proposals & quotations will be received in the office of the undersigned within office hours from 7/09/2022. The last date of accepting proposals & quotations is up to 2 PM on 16/09/2022 and will be opened in the same date at 3:00 PM in presence of the parties or their authorized representatives. The undersigned reserved the right to accept/reject any or all the proposal without assigning reason thereof.

#### Terms & Conditions:

- The proposal & quotations should be complete in all aspects along with documents such as Trade License, ISO Certificate, MSME, PAN Card, GST Registration, Previous Work Experience etc.
  - The rates quoted in the documents should be inclusive of GST and all other Govt. Taxes.
  - The bidders shall furnish at least 4 similar work (biomining) orders in different Municipal Boards in Assam, and shall provide proof of at least 1 running plant in Assam.
  - The bidders should be also well experienced in Solid Waste Management Projects (i.e. they should have executed SWM projects in at least 5 Municipal Boards earlier).
  - The authority is not bound to accept the lowest bidding rate and may reject any proposal without assigning any reason thereof.
  - The Proposers must have their own Manufacturing Unit (Factory) and should be a local organization/company/firm from the state of Assam having experience in waste management project.
  - The supplier will provide 2 years free maintenance on quoted items.
  - The supplier will provide supervisor for 14 days to train our employees for running the plant.
  - The supplier will provide supervisor for 14 days to train our employees for running the plant.
- Criteria for selection will strictly depend on the conditions mentioned above.

Sd/-  
Executive Officer  
Goalpara Municipal Board Goalpara

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The Executive Engineer, PWD (B&NH) Udalguri & Baksa District Territorial Building Division, Udalguri on behalf of Governor of Assam invites bids from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Public Works Department (Buildings), Assam/Contractors registered with Bodoland Territorial Council in the category of Class-I (A, B & C) & Class-II for 1 (one) no. of works for bids amounting to Rs. 37,58,000.00 (approx) (Rupees thirty seven lakh fifty eight thousand) only.

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## THE ASSAM RISING

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## Presence of microplastics in food

presence of microplastics and nanoplastics in food, with particular focus on seafood. Primary microplastics are plastics originally manufactured to be that size, while secondary microplastics originate from fragmentation. Nanoplastics can originate from engineered material or can be produced during fragmentation of microplastic debris. Microplastics range from 0.1 to 5,000 µm and nanoplastics from approximately 1 to 100 nm (0.001-0.1 µm). There is no legislation for microplastics and nanoplastics as contaminants in food. Methods are available for identification and quantification of microplastics in food, including seafood. Occurrence data are limited. In contrast to microplastics no methods or occurrence data in food are available for nanoplastics. Microplastics can contain on average 4% of additives and the plastics can adsorb contaminants. Both additives and contaminants can be of organic as well of inorganic nature. Based on a conservative estimate the presence of microplastics in seafood would have a small effect on the overall exposure to additives or contaminants. Toxicity and toxicokinetic data are lacking for both microplastics and nanoplastics for a human risk assessment. It is recommended that analytical methods should be further developed for microplastics and developed for nanoplastics and standardised, in order to assess their presence, identity and to quantify their amount in food. Furthermore, quality assurance should be in place and demonstrated. For microplastics and nanoplastics, occurrence data in food, including effects of food processing, in particular, for the smaller sized particles (< 150 µm) should be generated. Research on the toxicokinetics and toxicity, including studies on local effects in the gastrointestinal (GI) tract, are needed as is research on the degradation of microplastics and potential formation of nanoplastics in the human GI tract. Following a request from the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR), the EFSA Panel for Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM Panel) was asked to deliver a statement on the presence of microplastics and nanoplastics in food, with particular focus on seafood. With regard to additives and chemical contaminants, this statement includes information up to the possible transfer of these substances into edible tissues and an estimation of the human exposure. Although there is no legislation for microplastics and nanoplastics as contaminants in food, there are a broad range of European Union (EU) policies and legislation with regard to marine litter, covering sources and impacts and a number of EU initiatives, relevant to marine litter, including microplastics.

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## Letter to The Editor

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

**Editor,**  
**The Assam Rising**  
Guwahati, Assam

# A stalking case is reported every 55 minutes in India. But it's not seen as criminal enough



The Jharkhand stalking case, where a 16-year-old girl was set on fire because she refused a man's advances, has shaken India. The accused, who had been stalking her for days, could have been stopped. In Lucknow, a 14-year-old was stalked and held hostage. Her father said, "We initially ignored his acts because we did not want to invite trouble." While some make headlines, thousands of stalking cases go unreported in India, unless they turn into far more heinous crimes like kidnapping, rape, or murder. Stalking is not considered a

'serious' crime, which leads to hesitation about reporting it, and even when the victim confides in the police, the law allows the accused to get

bail till the trial. One case of stalking was reported every 55 minutes in India, according to a 2018 NCRB report. And there seems to be little change four years on. The most recent NCRB report reveals that in 2021, there was only a small decrease in the number of stalking cases - from 9,438 in 2018 to 9,285. But these are just the reported numbers. A 2015 study showed that only one in 13 cases of sexual harassment in Delhi and one in nine in Mumbai were reported to the police. This is often the result of societal stigma around reporting such forms of sexual harassment, and standing up against them is seen as

"creating unnecessary trouble". At the Centre for Catalyzing Change (C3), we want to change that. We take girls and women to health care centres, police stations and teach self-defence. And the boys are not left behind either. Stalking can have a negative impact on the mental health of the victim, besides curtailing her mobility and confidence. The onus to

**Rakhi Miglani**

prevent stalking ironically seems to fall on women, their clothing, timing, interaction with other men, and so on. A 14-year-old girl from Jharkhand did not confide in her parents about the boy stalking her for months because she feared her parents would force her to drop out of school. For her, safety came at the cost of education. This victim-blaming and urge to limit women's mobility, freedom and agency take away their safe spaces and discourage them

from opening up. It also does not help that stalking is often romanticised by Indian pop culture. Movies like Toilet: Ek Prem Katha (2017), Phata Poster Nikla Hero (2013), Raanjhanaa (2013), Badrinath ki Dulhania (2017), and so on, put the jilted lover on the pedestal of a hero, sympathising with him and celebrating him as he finally wins over the woman he 'loves' because of his persistent, creepy efforts. This, despite clear rejection, anger, and protests from the woman. Ranjana Kumari, director at the Centre for Social Research, said: "There are certain perceptions about stalking cases - they are not taken seriously by the society or by the police. These perceptions are reinforced further in popular culture, especially movies where romantic relationships often begin with stalking." We need to create an ecosystem of support where girls and women can voice their concerns, report and fight back without their agency and mobility being curtailed. Young girls need to

be exposed to places like police stations to remove the stigma and fear around accessing public support services like filing FIRs. At Centre for Catalyzing Change (C3), we have been working with thousands of adolescent girls in states like Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, and Odisha to build their agency so that they are informed, enabled, and equipped to take the right decisions. We provide young girls, from ages 11 to 19 years, in and out of school, with crucial life skills like problem-solving, critical thinking, and confidence building. Under this initiative, one of the key aspects is exposure visits to banks, post offices, health facilities, and most importantly, police stations, to make these spaces more accessible.

# Why Modi govt needs to reconsider spending on physical rather than social infrastructure



that the slide in index values is par **TN Ninan** be six for the course. Many countries have withstood Covid better, others have not. Two other points are of note. First, countries like Bangladesh rank better on the non-income indicators, unlike India which does the opposite. So while Bangladesh has lower income, it has a better over-all index score. Bangladesh is also notable for not having suffered any setback in its human development indicators during the Covid years. In comparison, if India were ranked purely on health and education, leaving out income, its rank would

moved into the "Very High" attainment category. If India were to improve its indicators at the pre-Covid rate, it would probably take till 2030 to move from "Medium" to "High". Looked at another way, India's index is roughly where China's was at the turn of the century, i.e. a lag of about two decades. The distance that separates India from its primary strategic rival is now so large on so many fronts that the two countries are effectively in different orbits. Still, it might make sense to focus on closing the gap with regard to health and education, relative to income - and, thereby, to broaden the primary objectives to take in more than just economic growth. For, while India is now the fastest-growing large economy, its indicators on health and education do not show the greatest improvement from one year to the next. In this context, Amartya Sen's description of development as the building of capabilities is one that is worth keeping in mind. Debate on the subject has long pointed to the lack of public spending on both health and education. India is an

outlier on both, in that private spending significantly outdoes public expenditure - something that works to the disadvantage of the less well-off. The other point to note is the regional dimension - what are known as the Bimaru states continue to languish and pull down the national average. Infant mortality in Bihar, for instance, is two-and-a-half times what it is in Tamil Nadu. Recent initiatives like the introduction of health insurance for all those who cannot afford it, should make a difference, but are not enough. So the Narendra Modi government's preference when it comes to public spending, to focus on the physical rather than social infrastructure, needs a re-look. Investment in the physical infrastructure has gone up by as much as 1 per cent of gross domestic product in recent years. That is great, but not matched by investment in the social infrastructure. While India needs to improve its physical infrastructure, that is no less true of social infrastructure. Capability-building has to be understood and addressed in its full meaning.

# iPhone 14 is so underwhelming it could trigger a new Samsung-Apple rivalry in India

This is the best iPhone ever - what an Apple executive always quips while announcing a new generation of the world's most successful gadget. There are no comparisons. In Apple's universe, there is only Apple, nothing else. And going by its success in a price-sensitive market like India where, for the last few years, it has dominated the premium segment (upwards of Rs 30,000) and accounted for most of the profit share of the industry despite commanding less than 10 per cent of the entire market, such an attitude is understandable. And no doubt, Apple's latest updates that were announced last night at its 'Far Out' event in California will help it cement its position, if not defend it. Apple's dominance in the last few years has become unscrupulous, thanks to a series of rock-solid updates and some stumbles by its rivals, primarily Samsung. But the new updates are underwhelming. In contrast, last week, Samsung announced that it was sitting pretty on 1,00,000 pre-orders in India for its latest foldable smartphones - the Galaxy Z Flip4 and the Galaxy Z Fold4, which start at Rs 89,999 and Rs 1,54,999, respectively. This means that Apple has stiff competition this year, which could renew its old rivalry with

Samsung. Remember that in 2018, Apple was struggling to scale up its presence in the Indian market - the iPhone XS and XR came in 2017 and 2018. While Samsung and OnePlus had the premium segment to themselves, the iPhone 11 series came in 2019 and did an excellent job of catching up. Samsung lent a helping hand to Apple too after it bungled its first foldable phone, the Galaxy Z Fold, and the Galaxy S20 series. Then in 2020, the iPhone 12 represented the first major redesign of the iPhone in nine years - it was a return to the classic squared body of the iPhone 5S launched in 2013. In 2021, Apple brought robust updates to the iPhone 13 line while Samsung's offerings still weren't super attractive. But this year, Apple's new updates are just iterative while Samsung has upped its game. Samsung's latest foldables are unique and don't come with the compromises that have held foldable smartphones back. In the early 2010s, the rivalry between the two tech giants was bitter - Apple even sued Samsung for copying its designs. When the first Galaxy S smartphone came along, it was the chief Android rival for the iPhone, and, bit by bit, in the early 2010s, Samsung overtook Apple's market share globally. It was only during the latter half of the decade that Apple started responding.



Now the tide could be turning again. If not globally, then at least in India. Apple has mostly focused on improving the cameras of the

**Sahil Mohan Gupta**

iPhone 14 and iPhone 14 Pro models. But these are not dramatic hardware-oriented updates but more software-oriented and iterative in terms of hardware. The iPhone 14's primary camera system is slightly better in low light and has a faster lens. The bigger update comes to the ultra-wide camera system, which, again, takes better photos in the dark. The biggest update has been left for the selfie camera system. Apple's iPhone 13 camera system was already extremely competitive with Samsung's flagship Galaxy S22 line. Even though the

Galaxy Fold and Flip get the absolute best of Samsung's camera prowess, the iPhone 14 models may eclipse them too. But the fact is, these cameras will not be dramatically better than those of the iPhone 12, leave alone the iPhone 13. The iPhone 14 looks the same, it is powered by the same processor as the iPhone 13, and will likely have similar battery life. Its satellite phone feature is also not coming to India. The pricier iPhone 14 Pro models promised more. Did we get more? Yes and no. Apple finally miniaturised the Face ID scanner module in a cut-out it calls the 'Dynamic Island', which does some software trickery to help with background tasks and alerts. Apple has ingeniously packaged this cut-out and turned it into a feature. Its new chip is also faster and more efficient, built on TSMC's latest 4nm fabrication - enabling the iPhone 14 Pro's 48-megapixel primary camera that has a sensor that's 65 per cent larger than its predecessor, which means it will gather more light. The ultra-wide mode, macro photography, the telephoto lens, stabilisation, and video - all have moved up a notch. Everything is better! Right? Yes, but where is the periscope lens camera that can do 5x optical zoom, Apple? Every Tom, Dick, and Harry has it! There is no dedicated astrophotography mode either. Apple is conservative toward adding new features, but it has been a while now. I am sure this will be an exceptional camera, but the iPhone 13 Pro is already excellent - why should one upgrade to the iPhone 14 Pro if they aren't getting all these new modes that have existed on Android smartphones for years? Apple talks about its photonic engine that transforms its low-light capabilities, a new action mode that will rid creators of needing a gimbal, and the ability to use 48-megapixel photos in ProRaw, which means more detail can be extracted from the images and one can crop photos to zoom in. Creators and professionals will appreciate these features, but they mean

squat for the average Joe. Truth be told, Apple's strength has been the iPhone becoming an object of desire beyond its functional allure. But considering Samsung's foldable phones and iterative updates, the allure will now be tested. The one thing that remains undeniable is the reliability of the iPhone. And the iPhone 14 Pro models will add to its worker-like consistency. With the removal of the iPhone Mini, apart from the iPhone SE, all these new iPhones will deliver good to exceptional battery life. Apple claimed that the iPhone 14 Plus will have the best battery life ever experienced on an iPhone. The 14 Pro Max will not be far behind, I'd bet. This will be an area where these phones will be significantly better than Samsung's Galaxy S22 models, and even better than its foldables. Then there is the issue of the longevity of the foldables. There are so many stories of how a foldable phone screen got ruined when specks of dust entered the gap in the hinge and cut the screen off. Samsung says that this has been addressed, but its foldables still don't have dust resistance, and this is something that can't be tested in a month or two. Apple's Pro models have a stainless steel body, and their durability is legendary when coupled with their ceramic shield. Apple's new purple iPhone 14 Pro model will also bewitch many people. The tech giant has a way with colours unlike any other company on the planet, and now, it has nailed it. At the end of the day, consumers are winners. Even though Apple's new updates aren't hair-raising, the new iPhones will retain their reliability - something that I can't confidently say about Samsung's foldables even after testing them for a couple of weeks. In fact, 'conservatism' was the theme throughout Far Out. The update to AirPods Pro was also safe and iterative, and similarly, the new Apple Watch Series 8 is only a slight spec bump - the real star was the Apple Watch Ultra, which will be a very niche product for athletes and enthusiasts of outdoor activities. Even that has a Samsung rival in the Galaxy Watch Pro. We're expecting a renewed 'clash of the Titans' in India - and competition is good because next year, you'll probably see Apple and Samsung both prime the pump. The good news is that Apple hasn't raised the prices in India, and the iPhone 13 models are likely to see a surge in popularity as their price drops. Samsung's older models don't hold such brand cache, and it will play into Apple's hands.



First Naga Mircha festival held in Kohima district

Arunachal govt defends CM, says corruption charges politically motivated

**Seiyhama, September 12 :** About 40 KM from Kohima town, locals celebrated the first Naga Mircha (King chilly) festival, held at Seiyhama village Council hall, Chiephobozou Tehsil in Kohima District on Saturday. The first-of-its-kind festival was hosted and organised by Seiyhama village Council and Seiyhama Naga Mircha Growers and sponsored by the Department of Horticulture. The worlds hottest chilly was celebrated with much fervour as the President of the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) 11th Northern Angami (NA)-II Assembly Constituency, VibelietuoKets inaugurated the one-day festival. The Naga Mircha, also known as BhutJolokia, is considered the world's hottest based on the Scoville Heat Units (SHUs). The pungency of the Naga Mircha was certain as the chillies put out on sale and as decorative pieces filled the air at the festival arena, with the conglomeration of people, irrespective of age and background. The chairman of Seiyhama village council, LhoulalieZumu, informed that about 70% of land in the village belongs to the community and 30% comprise private land. He said that farmers have the liberty of cultivating the Raja Mircha at the commu-



nity lands for livelihood, and this in turn has led to mass production of the king chilly in the village. Despite the drought-like situation last year which decreased the harvest of the Naga Mircha, he said that about Rs 27 lakh was generated by the farmers. This year, the locals are expecting a revenue outcome of Rs 1 crore. "Our harvest is continuing and we are uncertain but that is our expectation. In every household, at least an income of about Rs 60,000 to Rs 70,000 is expected through Raja Mircha cultivation. For those who have a bigger harvest, their income may be around Rs 4-5 lakh, according to their fields," he added. Presenting a week's harvest at the one-day festival, Zumu said "Although

we cannot calculate the total harvest, there are about 400-500 tins of chillies". Locals sell king chillies in terms of one tin which equals about three and a half kilograms. Speaking about the process of cultivation, he said that the search for a fertile field, especially a bamboo groove, is done around July-October which is followed by the clearing of land around November and December. Then, the burning of the cleared land happens from January to March. It is around this time that the seeds of the king chillies are made. After the chilly plants are fit for growth, it is then transplanted to fresh soil. He informed that by August, the king chilly fruiting takes place and the earliest harvest happens

around July. However, the bigger part of the harvest is around August and September. With mass cultivation of the king chilly in the village, he said that a large number of educated unemployed youth have also returned to the village and are now engaging in the cultivation and production of the Naga Mircha. The village chair-

man also thanked the state government and the Union Government for assisting the farmers in the cultivation. He further said that if agri link roads are constructed with the support of the government, the production can be enhanced at a larger scale even to the national and international market. The festival's special guest VibelietuoKets expressed delight in the cultivation of the famed Naga King chilly by people across the State, realising its significance and the booming market value. He lauded Seiyhama village for taking up mass cultivation of the king chilly, even introducing a variety of species. Kets appealed to the Horticulture Department to impart knowledge and necessary technical support to the villagers to scale the production. He also urged the villagers to find ways of making their products available in the market throughout the year.

**Itanagar, September 12 :** The Arunachal Pradesh government on Saturday dismissed allegations of corruption made against Chief Minister PemaKhandu, asserting that they were made with ulterior political motives. Arunachal Against Corruption (AAC), an anti-graft body of the state, and another organisation have levelled the charges against Khandu. AAC has also launched a march last month from the state capital Itanagar to New Delhi to protest against this. It is felt that they are hell-bent to defame the popular government with such cheap gimmicks to gain popularity. These allegations are politically motivated, government spokesperson NyatoDukam told reporters. Referring to the charge that Khandu's assets were



increased to the tune of Rs 163 crore as declared in his 2019 election affidavit, Dukam said that the CM has family businesses, bank deposits and immovable properties. Regular income is generated through business firms and rent, while there is additional income from various assets, returns from investments and bank interest accrued on deposits, he said. Besides, cost escalation of assets declared in 2014 has also led to a substantial increase in the value of the same assets in 2019, the spokesperson pointed out. Ever since the BJP took the reins of the state with Khandu as the chief minister, the government has adopted a Pan Arunachal view in its developmental

agenda by ensuring an inclusive and participatory approach in all decision-making processes, Dukam said. He said that annual budgets are now prepared not behind closed doors but after consultation with all strata of people. The government has been maintaining utmost transparency and accountability with a heavy hand on corruption, Dukam said. On another allegation in the 'Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana' scheme, the spokesperson said the matter is now pending in the Supreme Court and it would not be proper to comment on the matter. He also dismissed a few other allegations claiming that they are nothing but figments of imagination.

## Snow leopard statue unveiled in Sikkim



**Gangtok, September 12 :** Thangu, the last habitable village in North Sikkim, now boasts an imposing statue of a snow leopard or saagey, as it is known locally. The statue was unveiled on the occasion of Pang Lhabsol, as part of an initiative to spread awareness of the endangered species commonly found in North Sikkim and the Tibetan highlands. The statue is aimed at sensitising tourists towards the importance of the rare animal, which is the focal species for the Secure Himalaya project, and also towards the significance of Thangu and Gurudongmar areas as snow leopard habitats. The snow leopard is classified as a vulnerable animal by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The project was under Global Environment Facility - Government of India under United Nations Development Project's Secure Himalaya initiative. The statue was constructed in collaboration with the Lachen Tourism Development Committee (LTDC), and the Lachen Dzumsa. The statue is aimed at sensitising tourists towards the importance of the rare animal, which is the focal species for the Secure Himalaya project, and also towards significance of Thangu and Gurudongmar areas as snow leopard habitats. The snow leopard is classified as a vulnerable animal by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The project was under Global Environment Facility - Government of India under United Nations Development Project's Secure

Himalaya initiative. The statue was constructed in collaboration with the Lachen Tourism Development Committee (LTDC), and the Lachen Dzumsa. The statue of the snow leopard was unveiled during the Pang Lhabsol festival, in the presence of Lachen Pipons (village headmen) along with field officials of Kanchenjunga National Park, and Forest officials under Mangan territorial divisions. Rituals were performed while unveiling the statue by monks from the Thangu monastery. On the

occasion, 20 Dokpas (yak herders) were also given jackets, high-quality boots, and solar lights with mobile-charging capability by the Lachen Pipons and members of the Lachen Dzumsa. The statue of the snow leopard was unveiled during the Pang Lhabsol festival, in the presence of Lachen Pipons (village headmen) along with field officials of Kanchenjunga National Park, and Forest officials under Mangan territorial divisions. Rituals were performed while unveiling the statue by monks from the Thangu monastery. On the

## Survey reveals low awareness about cancer screening

**Itanagar, September 12 :** The ICMR- NCDIR monitoring survey of cancer risk factors and health system response in the northeast region found that only 5.6 per cent of people in Arunachal Pradesh surveyed were aware of cancer screening. Among those, 5 per cent of men were aware of it while 6.2 per cent of women knew about cancer. Even fewer people had undergone any screening themselves. The survey found that only 0.6 per cent of people in urban areas had ever undergone oral cavity examination for cancer, while in rural populations it was 0.2 per cent. It also found that only 1.4 per cent of women in urban areas had undergone breast cancer screening, while it was only 0.2 per cent in rural areas. The figures were even lower for women who had undergone cervical cancer screening - 0.3 and 0.1 per cent in urban and rural areas respectively. Among those surveyed, 36.1 per cent said that they use some form of tobacco (across all categories) and 28.7 per cent consumed tobacco daily. Amongst those who consumed tobacco, 22.7 per cent had attempted to quit. It also found that 45.2 per cent of people surveyed were subject to second-hand smoke



at both home and workplace. Around 56.1 per cent of the surveyed population said that they had never consumed alcohol while 36.7 per cent said that they had consumed alcohol in the past 12 months. Additionally, 11.5 per cent said that they had been engaged in "heavy episodic drinking". The survey defined heavy episodic drinking as those who drink around "six standard drinks (equivalent to 60 grams of pure alcohol or ethanol) in a single drinking occasion in the last 30 days". The survey also found the early onset of cancer among men in urban areas. The mean age of cancer patients at diagnosis was found to be 30.1 among men and 43.2 years among women. It also noted that "high intake of preserved, salted, fermented, smoked foods; high use of chewing tobacco; high exposure to second-hand smoke at home and workplace" were some of

the causes of cancer risk in the state. The study also said that there is "poor health system response and preparedness" with a low screening of diabetes, hypertension and common cancers. It also said that there is poor health treatment-seeking behaviour and that the majority of cancer patients sought treatment outside the state. The cancer data was collected through the Population Based Cancer Registry (PBCR) situated at the TomoRiba Institute of Health & Medical Sciences Hospital, near here, and the BakinPerten General Hospital at Pasighat in the East Siang district. The survey was undertaken as a part of cancer research in the North East Region (CaRes NER), a multi-disciplinary programme run by the ICMR-NCDIR Bengaluru to prevent and control cancer in the northeastern states.

## NIA probes smuggling of arms to Myanmar outfit

**Mizoram, September 12 :** The National Investigation Agency (NIA) will probe the alleged smuggling of arms and explosives to the People's Defense Force (PDF), an arm of Myanmar's exiled National Unity Government (NUG), said a report in The Hindustan Times. The probe agency is "looking at cross-border linkages" while also probing the role of northeast-based Indian insurgents in facilitating such smuggling, they added. This investigation follows months after a team of Assam Rifles recovered around 120 boxes of gelatin sticks, four boxes of safety fuses having range of 2,000 metres, four boxes each of 25kg of gunpowder, eight unlicensed non-prohibited bore (NPB) arms, three 12-gauge Stallion shot-



guns, and 20 boxes of Czech-made .177 pellets after intercepting two mini-trucks in Kulikawn police station area in Aizawl. Four persons, Lalbiaktluanga, Zoremsanga, Laldinpuia and Lalruattluanga, all residents of Aizawl, were detained for questioning. An investigation by local police in July revealed that the consignment was meant for the PDF. The Union home ministry directed the NIA to take over the probe to ascertain "cross border links" and its repercussions on "national security", one of the officials on condition of anonymity told The Hindustan Times. Another officer, also on condition of anonymity, said "pilferage from gelatin sticks' stocks meant for government infrastructure projects is thoroughly being checked". Its purported sale by northeast-based insurgent groups is also under the scanner. The NIA had raided locations in Aizawl, Champa and Kolasib districts of Mizoram in June, in connection with another case of recovery of 2,421.12 kg of explosives, including 1,000 detonators, 4,500 metres of detonating fuse and Indian and Myanmar currency from a vehicle in Zawngling area under Tipa Police Station. "This consignment was meant for Myanmar-based outfit Chin National Front (CNF), who are in the process of accumulating arms and ammunition for resisting the Government of Myanmar," the NIA said in a statement on June 24. Myanmar's military took power in a coup on February 1 last year after complaining of fraud in a November 2020 general election won by democracy champion Aung San Suu Kyi's party. Mizoram shares the border with Myanmar at Chin state, and people of common ethnicities live on both sides of the border. Since March 2021, thousands of refugees from the Chin state have crossed over the border into Mizoram.

## AIFF member Sekhose's advice for Naga sportspersons



**Kohima, September 12 :** Newly-elected All India Football Federation (AIFF) Executive Committee Mem-

ber K Neibou Sekhose has called on Naga sportspersons to learn basics and build a firm foundation in

order to build a strong sporting generation. During a felicitation programme for Sekhose organised by the

Kohima District Football Association (KDFA), he advised upcoming sportspersons to pay equal emphasis on education while also maintaining physical fitness. In modern times, he said that sportspersons can no longer merely rely on physical abilities to compete with their peer players from other parts of the world, as it is important to learn and understand the mentality of sportspersons from other parts of the world. While observing that games and sporting events were the biggest avenues these days, Sekhose said it was important for the athletes to update themselves. Sekhose also recalled how he started off community services from his clan level and went on to secure a position at the country's prestigious football body. Encouraging sportspersons to face criti-

cisms constructively, he said that to excel, one must sincerely work hard and prove themselves, and further win the trust and confidence of the people. Sekhose began his football career as a player in the U-14 team and went on to represent the State in the school games at Kashmir in 1976 and later to New Delhi in 1978. He also represented the Northeast Hills University (NEHU) in the year 1980-84. He hoped that Sekhose, as an advocate for sports would take sports in the state to new heights, with his leadership, creativity, and innovative thinking. The programme began with an invocation by Immanuel Baptist Church, Kohima, pastor, Zakiebeituo Metha. A short speech was also delivered by KDFA president Mhasimhalie Matthew Yhome.



## Ons Jabeur storms into second successive Grand Slam final, beats Caroline Garcia in semis

Washington, September 12 : Ons Jabeur reached a second consecutive Grand Slam title match without needing to produce her best tennis Thursday night, taking full advantage of a shaky showing by Caroline Garcia to win their US Open 2022 semifinal 6-1, 6-3. The No. 5-seeded Jabeur, a 28-year-old from Tunisia, was the runner-up at Wimbledon in July and now will be the first African woman to participate in a final at the US Open in the professional era, which dates to 1968. "After Wimbledon, (there was) a lot of pressure on me," Jabeur said following a win that took barely more than an hour, "and I'm really relieved that I can back up my results." Jabeur will try to collect her first major championship on Saturday when she meets the winner of the semifinal between No. 1 Iga Swiatek of Poland and No. 6 Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus. None of the last four players in the women's bracket has ever made it to the final in New York. The same goes for the men's semifinalists who will play Friday: No. 3 Carlos Alcaraz of Spain vs. No. 22 Frances Tiafoe of the United States, and No. 5 Casper Ruud of Norway vs. No. 27 Karen Khachanov of Russia. With



four-time major champion Arantxa Sánchez Vicario in her guest box - they traded thumbs-up signals at match's end - Jabeur improved to 6-0 in semifinals this season and earned her tour-leading 92nd victory in all since the start of 2021. No. 91 came in the quarterfinals this week, when she defeated Ajla Tomljanovic, who eliminated Serena Williams in the third round. Two months ago, Jabeur became the first African woman and Arab woman to get to Wimbledon's final, and ended up losing to Elena Rybakina. Now Jabeur, who dropped to her knees and let out a yell when the semifinal against Garcia ended and followed that up by laying on her back in the middle of the court,

it might as well have been. After a moment of silence to commemorate the death of Queen Elizabeth II, Garcia won the coin toss and chose to serve, which made sense when you consider that she leads the tour in aces in 2022 (although hit just two on Thursday). But the 28-year-old player from France got broken right away, thanks to four mistakes of various sorts - a netted forehand, a wide forehand, a long backhand and, most concerning and perhaps most reflective of nerves, what should have been an easy put-away volley she barely managed to make contact with and dumped into the bottom of the net. It was a rather inauspicious and jittery start for No. 17 Garcia, who came in on a 13-match winning streak, the longest of her career, and hadn't lost a set at Flushing Meadows on the way to her debut in a Slam semifinal. That included a victory over 18-year-old American Coco Gauff on

Tuesday night. But there were no signs of the confident, crisp, attacking play that Garcia displayed against Gauff - and since the start of June on the way to 31 match wins and three titles in that span. Instead, Thursday's semifinal was an extension of the lopsided series between two players who first began playing each other as juniors more than a decade ago. Including those encounters as teens, Jabeur is now 7-0 head-to-head against Garcia. Jabeur's style of mixing spins and speeds, of throwing in drop shots to keep foes off-balance, was not even entirely on display. At moments, especially early, Jabeur seemed content to keep balls in play, sending sliced backhands deep to the middle of the court and waiting for Garcia to err. Of Jabeur's initial 18 points, 12 came via unforced errors off Garcia's racket, a pattern that would continue. "Mentally," Jabeur said, "I was so ready."

## World No. 1 Iga Swiatek books FINAL date with Ons Jabeur after battling win over Aryna Sabalenka



Washington, September 12 : Getting to a Grand Slam final is no longer new to Ons Jabeur. She figures it's time to add a major trophy to her list of groundbreaking accomplishments. And she's sure she is more ready to do it at the U.S. Open than she was at Wimbledon two months ago. Jabeur reached a second consecutive Slam title match without needing to produce her best tennis Thursday night, taking full advantage of a shaky showing by Caroline Garcia to win their semifinal at Flushing Meadows 6-1, 6-3. "Feels more real, to be honest with you, just to be in the final again. At Wimbledon, I was kind of just living the dream, and I couldn't believe it," Jabeur said after ending No. 17 Garcia's 13-match winning streak, which included a victory over Coco Gauff. "Now maybe I know what to do." On Saturday, with a championship on the line, Jabeur will go up against No. 1-ranked Iga Swiatek,

who grabbed the last four games, and 16 of the last 20 points, to come back and beat No. 6 Aryna Sabalenka 3-6, 6-1, 6-4. The first step for Swiatek to turn things around came when she headed to the locker room after the first set - to use the bathroom and think about what to adjust on court. "I needed to get it together," said Swiatek, a 21-year-old from Poland who already owns two trophies from the French Open's red clay, including one this June, but never had been past the fourth round on New York's hard courts. Sabalenka, meanwhile, dropped to 0-3 in Slam semifinals for her career and 12-11 in three-setters this year. She broke for a 4-2 lead in the third set - and 17 minutes later, it was over, as Swiatek surged to the finish. "She was just going for it," said Sabalenka, who wore large blue mirrored sunglasses and a black cap pulled low to her news conference. "She was hitting every ball and putting me under

## "Will Be Five Kilos Less"

## On Virat Kohli's Ton, Ex-India Coach Ravi Shastri's Out Of The Box

New Delhi, September 12 :

For Virat Kohli, his ton against Afghanistan in an Asia Cup Super 4 match was relieving to say the least. After over 1000 days, Kohli scored a ton in international cricket. His 122\* off 61 balls against Afghanistan was also the highest-ever individual score in T201 cricket by an Indian. With the T20 World Cup starting in less than two months' time, the timing could not have been better for Kohli to roar back to form. After the ton on Thursday, former India coach Ravi Shastri was asked about Kohli reaching the triple-figure mark after 1020 days, and he gave his insight on it. "You mentioned 1020 days, I can say 700 days I was in that dressing room when that happened. It's a long time. The monkey is off his back now. When you had astounding success like he has, when 70 hundreds come like this, then you go



through a patch of one, two years, two-and-half years, two-and-three quarter years, and then everyday people start reminding - 'It's been that long'. He is human. It would have been eating him up. He would be getting up every morning, whether thinking of it or not, subconsciously being reminded," Ravi Shastri said on Star Sports. "Today, I think he will be five kilos less. Don't ask me where the weight has gone from, five kilos less at least from the head. You could see from the last 40 runs of his innings. It was Virat Kohli. His trade mark shots, the confidence, the poise, the utter disdain for bowling is back. It took a long time coming." On Thursday, the night belonged to Kohli who warmed a billion hearts with a special innings. His unbeaten effort off 61 balls got him

his first hundred since November 2019 and 71st overall, equalling Ricky Ponting's tally of international centuries. He is now only behind Sachin Tendulkar in the all-time list. It was also Kohli's maiden ton in the shortest format. With Rohit Sharma being rested for India's final game of the tournament, stand-in skipper K L Rahul (62 off 41) and Kohli shared an entertaining 119 off 76 balls for the opening wicket. Kohli started toying with the field and bowlers towards the end of the innings, enough indication that he was back to his best. The knock from Rahul was his most confident one ever since he came back from injury. The openers played brilliantly against the spinners, including Rashid Khan (0-33), an area they needed to address heading into the T20 World Cup.

## "King Is Back, They're Saying. But...": Chennai Super Kings' Tweet On Virat Kohli's Ton Goes Viral



Chennai, September 12 : Virat Kohli, and million of Indian cricket fans, must be relieved now. For, after over 1000 days, the former Indian cricket team captain has finally reached the triple figure mark. Kohli's 71st international ton came against Afghanistan in India's last Super 4 game at the Asia Cup. While the century came after India were already out of the final contention, it still augurs well for the team looking

ahead at the T20 World Cup. Indian Premier league franchise Chennai Super Kings also paid a special tribute to Kohli after his 122\* off 61 balls against Afghanistan with a twitter thread. "The King is back, they're saying. But he never left, did he? He charged head-first into battles, over and over again! He braved wars and scars fearlessly, turning away not once! Hurdles can't hold back a relentless warrior! Cricket

hai abhi baaki! #WhistlePodu," Chennai Super Kings social media handle posted in a series of tweets. On Thursday, the night belonged to Kohli who warmed a billion hearts with a special innings. His unbeaten effort off 61 balls got him his first hundred since November 2019 and 71st overall, equalling Ricky Ponting's tally of international centuries. He is now only behind Sachin Tendulkar in the all-time list. It was also Kohli's maiden ton in the shortest format. With Rohit Sharma being rested for India's final game of the tournament, stand-in skipper K L Rahul (62 off 41) and Kohli shared an entertaining 119 off 76 balls for the opening wicket. Kohli started toying with the field and bowlers towards the end of the innings, enough indication that he was back to his best. The knock from Rahul was his most confident one ever since he came back from injury. The openers played brilliantly against the spinners, including Rashid Khan (0-33), an area they needed to address heading into the T20 World Cup.

## Neeraj Chopra: 'I know my English isn't too perfect'

New Delhi, September 12 :

Neeraj Chopra, who clinched the Diamond League trophy on Thursday, says that he is trying his best to speak in English as his sport demands the knowledge of the language. The 24-year-old javelin star from India says that he has improved a lot in spoken English in the last couple of years, mostly thanks to his coach, with whom he has to speak in the same language. "I know my English is not perfect but I try my best. It has improved a lot with talking to my coach. I know that athletics is a global sport and I want to reach everyone. I know that I can't find a translator everywhere so I try my best," said Neeraj over a Zoom call. Commercial obligations and social commitments took a toll on Neeraj Chopra following his historic Olympic gold. Having "learned" from experience, he plans to do things differently heading into next season. Olympic gold medalist javelin thrower Chopra on Thursday achieved yet another historic feat as he became the first Indian to win the prestigious Diamond League Finals title in Zurich. Hours after his latest feat in the Swiss city, the 24-year-old woke up to a posse of Indian scribes waiting to get a quote or two from the country's track & field elite during a virtual interaction. One of the questions was on his off-season planning in the future. "Last year was a very new experience for me, balancing was difficult, but I learned from last season," Chopra said. He vouched he will avoid everything he did in the last off-season, in order to peak at the right time and maintain his fitness.







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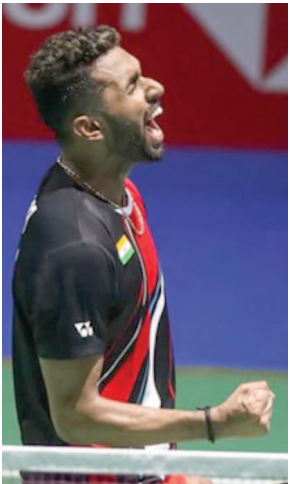
## SAFF U-17 Championship: India Lose 1-3 To Nepal

**Kathmandu, September 12 :** The India U-17 national team were handed a 1-3 defeat by Nepal in their second match of the SAFF U-17 Championship at the Racecourse International Stadium on Friday. Danny Meitei put India in the lead in the 25th minute. But Nepal crawled back into the game with Saroj Darlami equalising before half-time. Second half goals by Unesh Budathoki (49th) and Subash Bam (68th) sealed the issue for Nepal in the second-half. In what looked like a

slow start to the game, Bobby Singh and Niraj Karki got a chance each in the early exchanges for India and Nepal respectively, but both failed to convert. Minutes later, Danny Meitei made the best of an opportunity, as he latched on to a stray ball inside the Nepal penalty box and slotted it home to give India the lead. India grew in confidence after taking the lead, making more forays into the opposition area. However, seconds before the half-time whistle, Saroj Darlami scored an absolute

scorcher from long range to put things back on level terms. Changing over, Nepal came out with a lot of impetus in the second-half. A fortunate rebound fell at the feet of Budathoki, who duly slotted it into the net to hand Nepal the lead in the 49th minute. Winger Subash Bam struck the final nail when he was played through behind the Indian defence via an aerial through ball, which he duly brought down, and chipped past an onrushing Sahil under the Indian bar.

## HS Prannoy Becomes World No. 1 In BWF World Tour Rankings



**New Delhi, September 12 :** Ace Indian shuttler HS Prannoy is now the World's Number one player in the men's singles category in the BWF World Tour Rankings. In the rankings updated on September 6, Prannoy emerged as the number one shuttler in tour rankings. "This is just a trailer, picture abhi baaki hai Well deserved @PRANNOYHSPRI, keep

going! @himantabiswa @sanjay091968 BWF World Tour India on the Rise Badminton," tweeted BAI Media. The 2022 BWF World Tour started on January 11 and will end on December 18. It is the fifth season of the BWF Badminton World Tour. The tour consists of 22 tournaments which will lead to the final of the tour in December. These 22 tournaments are divided into five levels, Level 1 is the World Tour Finals, followed by Level 2 called Super 1000, Level 3 called Super 750, Level 4 called Super 500, and Level 5 called Super 300. Different prize money and ranking points are offered at each of these tournaments. Prannoy started 2022 with a quarterfinal finish in the India Open in January. Then in the same month, he earned another quarterfinal in the Syed Modi International 2022. In March 2022, Prannoy earned

a quarterfinal finish in the German Open 2022. In the same month at the 2022 All England Open, he could not progress beyond the first round. In the Swiss Open 2022 held the same month, he was the runner-up, losing to Leonardus Jonatan Christie of Indonesia in the final. During the Korea Open 2022 in early-April, he was eliminated in the first round. In the 2022 Thailand Open held in May, he could not perform well and lost in the first round itself. In June in the 2022 Indonesia Open, Prannoy earned a semifinal finish. In the same month, he lost in the quarterfinals at the 2022 Malaysia Open. In July in the Malaysia Masters 2022, the shuttler finished the tournament after losing in the semifinal. In the same month during Singapore Open, Prannoy earned a quarterfinal finish. In August during the 2022 Japan Open, he lost in the quarterfinals.

## AIFF President, Secretary General Meet FIFA chief, Hold 'Constructive' Discussion

**New Delhi, September 12 :** The All India Football Federation's (AIFF) top two officials, including newly appointed president Kalyan Chaubey, held an "encouraging and constructive" discussion on Indian football with FIFA chief Gianni Infantino in Doha on Friday. Chaubey, a former goalkeeper who has represented both Mohun Bagan and East Bengal in his playing days, was accompa-

nied by the national federation's new secretary general Shaji Prabhakaran. "AIFF President Mr. Kalyan Chaubey and Secretary General Dr. Shaji Prabhakaran called upon FIFA President Mr. Gianni Infantino at the FIFA Office in Doha, Qatar on Friday, Sept 9, 2022." They had an encouraging and constructive meeting with the FIFA President on the future development of Indian Football," the AIFF

said in a statement. "Discussions were held on key aspects of development of Indian football, and areas that require priority focus." Infantino confirmed he will visit India in the near future, it said. "All the possible high-impact projects and programmes concerning Indian football will be finalised before the FIFA President's visit to India," the national federation said in the statement.

# Chelsea Appoint Graham Potter As Head Coach On A Five Year Contract

**London, September 12 :** Graham Potter was appointed as Chelsea's new manager on a five-year contract on Thursday following the shock sacking of Thomas Tuchel. The Englishman has left fellow Premier League club Brighton to move to Stamford Bridge, with Chelsea praising his "progressive football and innovative coaching". The 47-year-old earned widespread admiration for his work at Brighton. He led the Seagulls to a ninth-place finish last season and took them up to fourth in the table this term while demanding entertaining and tactically astute performances from his players. Potter's first game as Chelsea boss will be a derby at west London neighbours Fulham on Saturday. "I am incredibly

proud and excited to represent Chelsea FC, this fantastic football club," he said. "I am very excited to partner with Chelsea's new ownership group and look forward to meeting and working with the exciting group of players and to develop a team and culture that our amazing fans can be proud of." Chelsea chairman Todd Boehly, who axed Tuchel on Wednesday, just seven games into the new season, believes Potter will fit perfectly with his vision for the future at Stamford Bridge. "We are thrilled to bring Graham to Chelsea. He is a proven coach and an innovator in the Premier League who fits our vision for the club," Boehly said. "Not only is he extremely talented on the pitch, he has skills and

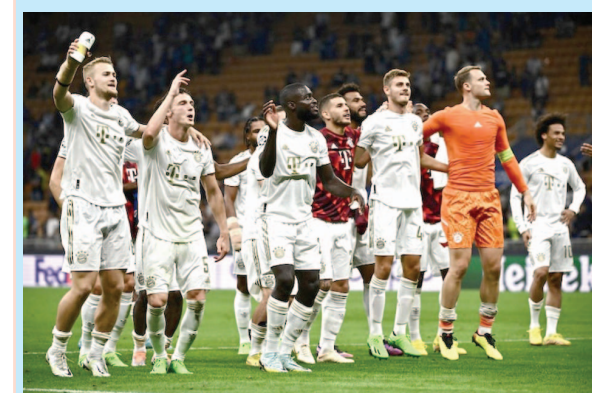
capabilities that extend beyond the pitch which will make Chelsea a more successful club." Potter was mooted as a candidate for the Manchester United job eventually filled by Erik ten Hag after masterminding Brighton's highest-ever league finish last season despite operating on a limited budget. But when Chelsea came calling, Brighton was unable to stand in the Englishman's way as he had a buy-out clause in his contract. Potter's impressive work in three years with Brighton, and during his previous spells at Swansea and Swedish club Ostersunds FK, marked him out as a rising managerial star. His success in the dug-out has come after a modest playing career that included eight Premier League appearances at Southampton, but was mostly spent in the lower leagues. "I am very disappointed that Graham will be leaving us. He has done exceptionally well over the past three-and-a-bit seasons -- he is an exceptional head coach and an exceptional person," said Brighton chairman Tony Bloom said. Despite all the plaudits, Chelsea will give Potter his first taste of dealing with the egos of superstar players, while



copied with ultra-demanding new owners. Already tipped as a future England boss, Potter will face the sternest test of his career as he assesses a volatile situation at Stamford Bridge. Tuchel's relationships with his players had reportedly deteriorated and there were tensions with the Stamford Bridge owners. Chelsea's statement tellingly highlighted Potter's "collaborative, forward-thinking approach". Tuchel was axed on Wednesday, hours after an embarrassing 1-0 defeat in Chelsea's Champions League opener against Dinamo Zagreb. The German, in charge for less than 20 months, departed with the

club sitting a disappointing sixth in the Premier League after winning only three of their first six matches. Boehly's consortium paid a world-record fee of 4.25 billion pounds (\$4.9 billion) for a sports franchise to buy Chelsea from Roman Abramovich in late May. They spent heavily in the summer transfer window, signing a clutch of stars including forward Raheem Sterling from Manchester City and Napoli defender Kalidou Koulibaly. But so far outlay has not paid dividends, with damaging defeats against Leeds and Southampton before the nightmare start to their Champions League campaign in Croatia.

## Leroy Sane Helps Bayern Munich Ease To Comfortable Win At Inter Milan



**London, September 12 :** A superb performance from Leroy Sane propelled Bayern Munich to a 2-0 Champions League win at Inter Milan in their first group game on Wednesday. Sane scored a first-half opener and the German's attempted pass was turned into his own net by Inter defender Danilo D'Ambrosio in the second period. Bayern coach Julian Nagelsmann, who criticised his side's intensity after their 1-1 draw at Union Berlin last weekend, said his team "showed their desire" to compete. "We scored too few goals, but we deserved to win. We played quite maturely, but (the game) could have been decided earlier." Bayern started furiously, with Thomas Mueller -- the only survivor from Inter's 2-0 win over Bayern in the 2010 Champions League final in Madrid -- forcing a fingertip save from home goalkeeper Andre Onana. Sane broke the deadlock in the 25th minute when he controlled a long pass from Joshua Kimmich, before rounding Onana and rolling the ball into the net. "I saw the space and knew they were high and had gaps. Jo (Kimmich) saw me super well, that was a super ball from him," Sane said. "Ultimately, I just wanted to play a good game, have a good feeling and leave the field happy." Inter's German wing-back Robin Gosens lamented Sane's goal, saying: "We conceded from a long ball -- that's exactly what we talked about before (the game)." Inter started the second half the better of the two teams and almost equalised through D'Ambrosio, but the Italian blazed a rushed shot over Manuel Neuer's crossbar. Bayern began to turn the screw as the second half continued, with Sane and French forward Kingsley Coman combining in the penalty area. Sane tried to square a pass to Sadio Mane, but D'Ambrosio intervened, bundling the ball over the line. Inter went close late on when Argentinian forward Joaquin Correa seized on an errant back-pass by Bayern centre-back Lucas Hernandez, but slid his shot just wide. "We were up against a very intense, extraordinary side, one of the best in Europe right now," Inter coach Simone Inzaghi told Sky Sport Italia. "(We) had opportunities to get back into it, but you need a perfect performance against a side on this level and we didn't do that." Bayern defender Matthijs de Ligt, who moved from Serie A side Juventus to Munich in the summer, said training is more intense in Germany.

## FIFA World Cup Final Stadium Tested With First Sellout

**London, September 12 :** The USD 675 million stadium that Qatar will use for this year's World Cup final was put through its first sellout test Friday with a match between the Egyptian and Saudi champions. Seventy-two days from the start of the tournament, organisers said the 80,000 capacity Lusail Iconic Stadium was full for the pre-match concert by Egyptian superstar Amr Diab and the game in which Al Hilal beat Egyptians Zamalek on penalties after a 1-1 draw. Lusail was the last stadium to be officially inaugurated and Hassan Al-Thawadi, head of the Qatari organising committee, said it was "an emotional moment". "It is the culmination of a 13-year journey," he told beIN Sports. The stadium, shaped like a traditional Arabic bowl, is at the heart of a new city being built north of the tiny Gulf state's capital. It will host 10 World Cup matches, including the December 18 final. No more games are planned before the tournament starts on November 20 however. The game was a test run for



security, the border immigration system and the multi-billion dollar driverless train metro that will take the strain, ferrying more than one million fans around Doha during the World Cup. To take pressure off the main international airport, Qatar this week reopened an old airport that had been kept for use by the ruling family and other VIPs. Hundreds of Saudi and Egyptian fans crossed the Abu Samra frontier in buses, after leaving their cars on the Saudi side. All had to apply for a special fan ID, the Hayya card, that all supporters will need to enter Qatar during the World Cup. The

processing system in a tent at Abu Samra was being used for the first time. Qatari authorities are expecting thousands of Saudis to support their national team during the tournament. "We entered with just our passport and the Hayya card," said Muhammad Mujahid, an Egyptian living in Saudi Arabia. "It was simple and well-organised." "We hope that this is a promising start for a good World Cup for all the Arab world," said another Zamalek supporter Ahmed Mohi El-Din Othman. FIFA's decision in 2010 to award the World Cup to Qatar has been criticised because of the mega-rich nation's treatment of foreign workers and the LGBTQ community. But FIFA president Gianni Infantino has said it will be the "best-ever" World Cup and that foreign fans will have an experience like a "child going to Disneyland for the first time and seeing the attractions and the toys". FIFA says that 2.45 million of the three million tickets have been sold and that a final round of online sales will be held later this month.

## Anirban Lahiri Becomes First Indian To Sign Up With Rebel Liv Golf Tour

**New Delhi, September 12 :** Anirban Lahiri has become the first Indian to join the LIV Golf Tour and is set to make his debut on the rebel tour with the event in Boston this week. Lahiri could not be contacted on his big switch to Liv from PGA Tour but is said to be in the field of 48 players to be announced late



on Tuesday evening in Boston. Lahiri becomes the first Indian and the first Asian to sign up with Liv Golf. Viraj Madappa played in the opening event after qualifying through an International Series event in Asia. The latest list of joiners on Liv Tour include The Open champion Cameron Smith of Australia, Chile's Joaquin Niemann

and Americans Harold Varner and Cameron Tringale. The financial details of Lahiri's Liv contract are not known yet. However, the figure being floated around in Smith's case is around USD 140m. Almost all the 48 players are expected to tee up at this week's LIV Golf event here. The PGA Tour is expected to take action

against them, which would bar them from playing its events. Lahiri has been playing on the PGA Tour since 2015-16. He has however not won on the PGA Tour, but finished second at the Players Championships behind Smith. Though Smith is the biggest catch for Liv, the signing up of Lahiri according to sources in Boston,

seems to have been done with eye on the growing Asian golf market. Liv is also backing Asian Tour, which is where Lahiri came from and is a former Asian Tour No. 1. World number two Smith has been the most talked about inductee into the Liv Golf. He won the Open in July and also played the PGA FedEx Cup playoffs.