



The Assam Rising

Projecting the best of Northeast India everyday

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Missing teacher Assam Rising

Guwahati, September 18 :

The body of the missing teacher of Raha in Nagaon district of Assam has been traced. The missing teacher Tapas Jyoti Medhi's body was recovered from his car near the Lumding Railway Station on Sunday afternoon. According to reports, the police and family members of the deceased has rushed to the spot. According to the complaint lodged by Medhi's wife at the Raha Police Station, Medhi had been missing after he left his residence on Saturday evening. He was on his way from his residence at Phulguri towards Nagaon in his vehicle. The police had also launched search operation to trace Medhi.

Road accident Assam Rising

Guwahati, September 18 :

One person lost his life and two others were injured in a tragic road accident in Kaliabor in Nagaon district of Assam. The incident occurred at Misa-Roumari after a collision between a dumper and Bolero pickup van. According to reports, the driver of the Bolero van died on the spot as he was trapped inside the vehicle after the collision. The Bolero bears registration number AS-02CC 7331. The deceased has been identified as Bitu Ahmed, a resident of Dalgao. Meanwhile, the other two passengers of the Bolero have been severely injured. They were shifted to the Jakkhalabandha hospital and are currently undergoing treatment.

Terrorist hideout

New Delhi, September 18 :

A terrorist hideout was busted by security forces on Sunday in a forest area in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district. According to reports, it led to the recovery of some arms and ammunition. A joint operation was carried out by the police and Army in the Tetharka forest area of Sangaldan in Gool sub-division when the hideout was busted. They seized an Under-Barrel Grenade Launcher, a Chinese pistol with a magazine and 36 cartridges, a knife, four AK-47 rifle magazines with 198 bullets, 69 nine mm pistol rounds, a binocular, a camera and a wireless from their possession.

Powerful typhoon 'Nanmadol' hits Japan; thousands evacuated to safety

Tokyo, September 18 :

A powerful typhoon approaching southern Japan pounded the region with strong winds and heavy rain on Sunday, causing blackouts, paralysed ground and air transportation and the evacuation of thousands of people. The Japan Meteorological

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Bangladeshi nationals used tourist visas for religious preaching

Assam Rising Guwahati, September 18 :

Assam DGP Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta on Sunday said the 17 Bangladeshi nationals who were arrested from Assam's Biswanath district on Saturday for violating Indian visa rules came to the state as tourists but were indulged in religious preaching. Mahanta on Sunday said he had already cautioned the representatives of Muslim groups early this month about instances of



misusing the tourist visas for religious preaching. "The purpose of tourism is

to visit places. They should go to Rang Ghar, Kareng Ghar, Kaziranga National

Park or other wildlife sanctuaries. Instead, some anti-India forces have been misusing the tourist visas," he said. He said even Indian visas availed on medical purpose were being used for religious works. Mahanta said the 17 people came on tourist visas to Baghmari, a place that resembles the features of a char (sand bar) or riverine area, which he informed was already on police radar for reported presence

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Assam Police Recruitment: Results of SI, AB & UB Constables Declared

Assam Rising Guwahati, September 18 :

Results for 2,442 posts of the State Level Police Recruitment Board (SLPRB) of Assam have been announced on Sunday. The results for Sub-Inspector (SI), AB and UB Constables have been uploaded on the website

www.slprbassam.in. The examination was conducted for 5,262 additional posts. The written exams were held in 15 districts of Assam where over 7,07,328 candidates had appeared. 306 posts of UB have been filled, while 278 AB posts have been filled

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'Opposition unity impossible without Congress'

Jairam Ramesh lashed out at opposition parties

Kolkata, September 18 :

Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh on Sunday asserted that non-BJP parties that believe opposition unity without the grand old party as the fulcrum is possible are living in a "fool's paradise". Without naming any outfit, he said many regional parties have backstabbed the grand old party in the past to serve their own self-interests, and that such parties should stop using Congress as a punching bag. "There cannot be any opposition unity without the Congress as its fulcrum. That is fundamental. If any non-BJP outfit thinks any alliance sans the Congress can provide a stable government for five years, it is living in a fool's paradise.



There can never be any opposition unity minus the Congress," Ramesh said in an interview with PTI in Kolkata, where he had come to attend a party programme. Although he dubbed the

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

New Delhi, September 18 :

As the election for Indian National Congress (INC) party's president draws close, the Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee has passed a resolution on Sunday, 18 September, to make party leader Rahul Gandhi the party's national president. However, state Congress chief Mohan Markam on Sunday said that the party's national president Sonia Gandhi has all the right to take a call on appointing the new president for the state and said



that the party workers here will go as per their directions. The resolution by the Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee (CPCC) was passed in a meeting of 310 Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) delegates (who will vote in

party's presidential election) from Chhattisgarh chaired by Hussain Dalwai, state Congress communication wing head Sushil Anand Shukla said. This is the second time in 2022, that the CPCC passed a resolution to make Rahul Gandhi the na-

Massive protest in private varsity over 'leaked objectionable videos' of women students

Mohali, September 18 :

Hundreds of students of the private Chandigarh University on the Ludhiana-Chandigarh highway held a protest late Saturday after a woman student allegedly leaked objectionable videos of other students, which are being widely shared on the internet. The woman student has been taken into police custody, said officials. The police said they are verifying claims that the woman who was accused of leaking the videos was being blackmailed by a man. They added that a case under section 354C pertaining to voyeurism under the Indian Penal Code and Section 66E of the Information Technology



Act (punishment for violation of privacy) has been registered against the woman at Kharar (Sadar) police station. Mohali DC Amit Talwar at a press conference stated that there was "no reality" in claims over attempted suicides. He added that some of the girls fainted, and were provided the medical assistance.

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SERVO gets a new friend in John Abraham

IndianOil gets the popular actor on board to promote the newly launched SERVO 4T XTRA

Mumbai, September 18 :

Continuing the golden jubilee celebrations of SERVO, popular Indian actor John Abraham introduced the specially engineered lubricant for motorcycles, SERVO 4T XTRA, at a glittering ceremony held recently in Mumbai. "I am excited to collaborate with IndianOil and SERVO, brands synonymous with energizing a better tomorrow for our Nation. I am sure, together we will be able to make SERVO integral to every

bike user in the country, said Mr. John Abraham. With advanced 3P (Performance, Power, Protection) Tech formula at its core, superior fuel economy, and longer drain interval of up to 6000 kms, the newly launched SERVO 4T XTRA is truly Innovation in Motion. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. SM Vaidya, Chairman, IndianOil, "SERVO has special place in the hearts of millions of Indians and so, John Abraham was a natural choice for us to represent this home-grown brand. I am happy to share that as a true market leader, SERVO



has kept pace with changing market dynamics with greener and sustainable lu-

bricating oil, helping India move towards a greener future." In line with the Net

Zero emission target of

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President Droupadi Murmu reaches London to attend Queen Elizabeth II's funeral

London, September 18 :

President Droupadi Murmu arrived in London late Saturday evening to attend the state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II and offer condolences on behalf of the Indian government. Queen Elizabeth II passed away on September 8 at the age of 96 at the Balmoral Castle in Scotland. Her funeral will take place on September 19 at Westminster Abbey in London. Murmu is on a three-day visit to the UK, from September 17 to Sep-



tember 19, during which she will attend the Queen's funeral service. President Murmu has also been invited to a reception for world leaders hosted at Buckingham Palace by

King Charles III on Sunday evening. Earlier, the official handle of Rashtrapati Bhavan tweeted, "President

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'UP government can survey unrecognised madrassas' Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind chief Arshad Madani

Saharanpur, September 18 : Soon after the convention of madrassas of Uttar Pradesh is underway in Darul Uloom, Deoband, Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind president Maulana Arshad Madani on Sunday said there is no objection from the madrassas on the issue of the survey of unrecognized madrassas by the state government. "There is no opposition among us regarding the survey. We have instructed the Ulemas to give correct answers to whatever questions are asked to them and people should cooperate fully in the survey," Madani said. He said the madrassas are instructed to keep their rules and accounts correct and conduct audits from time to time. Madani said that the madrassas will not take help from the government for day-to-day religious affairs adding that the government can help in building schools and colleges. "There is no anger in the Muslim society about the survey. We run madrassas with the donations of Muslims. The account is open. Anyone



can check if there are atrocities against children in any madrassa. If something is found then, shut it down," Madani said. Madani said if a madrassa is on the land of the government, then the government has the right to demolish it, but "if the madrassa is on its own land, then we are against it." He said the convention appealed to all Islamic madrassas to cooperate with the survey team. "Thus, madrassas are advised to provide accurate information to the survey team so that there are no adverse events. If there are regulatory lapses, the same should be addressed on an urgent basis. Secondly, maintain financial transparency,

representatives. Earlier this month, the Uttar Pradesh government started the process of conducting a survey of the Islamic education institutions. According to the government order, the survey will be on the basis of 12 aspects. The teams of officials for the Madrassas survey have been constituted by District Magistrate (DM) as per government order. Earlier, the UP government declared to conduct a survey in unrecognized madrassas to ascertain information on the number of students, teachers, curriculum and its affiliation with any non-government organisation. The survey of unrecognized Madrassas is conducted to ensure the basic facilities of the students of Madrassas. Danish Azad Ansari Minister of State for Minority Welfare, Muslim Waqf and Waqf Department has informed that the order also holds to give maternity leave and child care leave to women employees working in madrassas in the light of the rules applicable in the Department of Secondary Education and Basic Education. All the District Magistrates

(DMs) in Uttar Pradesh have been issued instructions regarding the survey. The government has also ordered holding a survey of unrecognized madrassas by October 5. The teams will constitute officials of the Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Basic Shiksha Adhikari (BSA) and District Minority Officers. Once the survey is conducted it has also been instructed to hand over the report to the Additional District Magistrate (ADM) after which ADM will present the consolidated statements to the District Magistrates (DMs). Moreover, it has been ordered that in case of a disputed management committee or in case of the death of any employee in an aided Madrassas, a post-facto approval for appointment by the principal Madrassas and District Minority Welfare Officer in the dependent quota of the deceased and the existence of a valid management committee has to be sought.



Dragon dancers perform during the Fire Dragon Festival at Chinatown in Vancouver, Canada

South Korean founder of failed cryptocurrency Terra denies he is 'on the run'

Deoul, September 18 : Do Kwon, the South Korean founder of the failed cryptocurrency Terra wanted by police, has denied he was on the run after Singapore investigators said he was not in the city-state as had been believed. Kwon's whereabouts have been thrown into question after a statement from Singapore police late on Saturday, and his tweets did not reveal where he was. The collapse of Terraform Labs earlier this year wiped out about \$40bn of investors' money. Kwon has been accused of fraud by five investors based in South Korea; he is being investigated by a financial crimes unit and in the US by the Securities and Exchange Commission. A South Korean court on Wednesday issued an arrest warrant for Kwon. Early Sunday he said on Twitter: "I am 'not on the run' or anything similar", but did not reveal where he was. "For any agency that has shown interest to communicate, we are in full cooperation and we don't have anything to hide," he added. "We are in the process of defending ourselves in multiple jurisdictions... and look forward to clarifying the truth over the next few months." The 31-year-old was earlier

believed to be in Singapore, where last month he gave his first media interview since the crypto operator folded in May. Late on Saturday, the Singapore police force said in an email response that "Do Kwon is currently not in Singapore". "SPF will assist the Korean National Police Agency

Korean prosecutors have also issued arrest warrants for five other people - who were not named - linked to stablecoin TerraUSD and its sister token Luna. Kwon's Terra/Luna system disintegrated in May, with the price of both tokens plummeting to near zero, and the fallout hitting the wider crypto market. Its collapse sparked more than \$500 bn in losses.



(KNPA) within the ambit of our domestic legislation and international obligations," said the brief statement, which gave no further details. Singapore's Straits Times newspaper has reported that Kwon's work permit in the city-state was due to expire on 7 December, but his application for a renewal could be at risk now. South

Stablecoins are designed to have a relatively stable price and are usually pegged to a real-world commodity or currency. TerraUSD, however, was algorithmic, using code to maintain its price at around one US dollar. Many investors lost their life savings when Luna and Terra entered a death spiral, and South Korean authorities have opened multiple criminal probes into the crash.

Serbian police arrest dozens as Belgrade EuroPride marchers defy ban

London, September 18 : Serbian police arrested more than 64 people as thousands of LGBTIQ+ activists turned out for Belgrade's EuroPride march on Saturday, despite a government ban. The event had been intended as the cornerstone event of the EuroPride gathering. But the interior ministry banned the march earlier this week, citing

country," said Luka, a Serbian taking part in Saturday's event. The interior ministry had also barred any counter-protests, but some far-right groups vowed to rally in front of churches. Serbia's interior minister, Aleksandar Vulin, had warned in a statement that "we will not tolerate any violence in Belgrade streets, any more than illegal marches". Despite

demonstrators waving crosses and religious insignia. The authorities gave no details on those detained, but AFP journalists saw several counter-demonstrators being taken away. According to N1 television, there were scuffles between police and the counter-demonstrators, some of whom threw smoke bombs at the officers and damaged several vehicles. The US embassy had urged its citizens to avoid the event "because of the potential for unruly crowds, violence, as well as possible fines". Human rights groups and the EU had called on the Serbian government to rescind the ban. "The Serbian government's decision to cancel EuroPride is a shameful surrender to, and implicit sanctioning of, bigotry and threats of unlawful violence," said Graeme Reid, director of the LGBT rights programme at Human Rights Watch. At least 15 members of the European parliament announced that they would join the Pride march in a show of solidarity. Belgrade Pride marches in 2001 and again in 2010 were marred by violence and rioting after far-right groups targeted the event. Since 2014, the parade has been organised regularly without any notable unrest, but with a large law enforcement presence. This year's ban came just days after thousands took part in an anti-Pride demonstration in Belgrade, with biker gangs, Orthodox priests and far-right nationalists demanding that the EuroPride rally be scrapped.

Jacob Rees-Mogg's imperial measurements consultation 'biased' after no option given to say no

London, September 18 : It was meant to be one of the sure-fire wins for Brexit, but plans to bring back imperial measurements face criticism over claims of a biased government review. Ministers were keen to launch a review to revive imperial measurements - such as pounds and ounces - and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), now overseen by Jacob Rees-Mogg, conducted a government consultation over the summer. However, the questions appeared to have something missing. The survey asked consumers: "If you had a choice, would you want to purchase items: i) in imperial units ii) in imperial units alongside a metric equivalent." Officials said

they're actually trying to sculpt or lead the responses towards what they want, because they want people to go back to imperial. "France adopted a metric system in the late 18th century, and a Decimalisation Association was founded in Britain in 1841 to lobby for a new system for currency and measurements. A report by a standards commission in the 1860s recommended metrication for Britain, but it was another 100 years before a government board was set up in 1969 to promote and coordinate metrication. Once Britain joined the European Economic Community in 1973, the government committed to adopting the metric system. Regulations introduced in 1995 required goods to be sold in metric units in the UK. In a high profile case in



respondents who wanted to keep the current metric system could send in an email to the department or give their views in one of the text boxes in the survey. The BBC Radio 4 programme More or Less last week highlighted concerns about the survey and criticism of it on social media. One Twitter user commented: "This survey is being pointed out by BEIS. It is so slanted that the words nearly slide off the page." Dr Pamela Campanelli, a consultant on survey methods who has advised local government, told More or Less: "This is missing the category that you would prefer metric only. We're going to get a biased answer, because people have to choose something that doesn't apply to them." It seems like

2002, five market traders - known as the "metric martyrs" - lost their court battle for a right to trade in pounds and ounces. The battle was supported by celebrities including the comedian John Cleese and politicians including Boris Johnson. Rees-Mogg, who had a cabinet role to identify Brexit opportunities, has been a long-term supporter of using imperial measurements. The proposed change is however unlikely to be hailed as a significant Brexit dividend. "Not one constituent, ever, has asked for this," Conservative MP Alicia Kearns tweeted earlier this year.

Australia won't ban Russian tourists but is considering reopening embassy in Kyiv

Kyiv, September 18 : Australia won't ban Russian tourists from entering the country as requested by Ukraine's ambassador but is "assessing" whether to reopen the Australian embassy in Kyiv. The acting prime minister, Richard Marles, also said on Sunday that Australia was considering sending further

for the Russians but continue issuing refugee visas for those who are fleeing from the brutal autocracy," the ambassador tweeted alongside a Nine newspapers article in which he said: "Russian people are accountable for this war ... so they



military aid to Ukraine to bolster existing commitments. "We do need to be preparing ourselves for protracted conflict and on that basis, we get that we are going to need to provide support for Ukraine over the long term," Marles told the ABC's Insiders program. Ukraine's ambassador to Australia, Vasyly Myroshnychenko, has called on Australia to stop issuing tourist visas to Russian travellers - in what would be an escalation of sanctions. "I call on the Australian government to ban the issuance of the tourist visas

have to bear the responsibility." "Over 80% of Russians support this genocidal war in [Ukraine], therefore all Russians must be held accountable for the crimes against humanity perpetrated in [Ukraine] just like the Germans were held responsible for the Nazi crimes," Myroshnychenko said on Twitter. 3/ Majority of Russians hate democracy, human rights and freedom of press just as any Western nation. Watch Russian

TV for a week and you'll understand where Australia is in its public discourse: "a puppet of Washington influenced by Gay Europe, totally decadent..." "We have a range of sanctions in place and the focus of our sanctions is on the Russian government, those who are perpetrating what has happened in relation to Ukraine, not focused on the Russian people themselves," he said. "This is not something we are considering at the moment but we are very much a part of the global base of sanctions against the Russian regime." Coalition MP Dan Tehan - the shadow minister for immigration and a former Coalition minister - tweeted on Sunday: "We should be doing all we can to support Ukraine in its hour of need." Australia's embassy in Kyiv remains closed despite dozens of other nations returning to the Ukrainian capital to resume diplomatic operations. Marles wouldn't put a timeframe on reopening Australia's embassy but said it was under consideration. "There is a whole lot of logistics and support which is required in relation to that, given the security situation, but this is something that will be under continued assessment," he said on Sunday. "It was a relatively small embassy ... we need to assess and make sure we can provide security so it could function in the way that it should."



security concerns after rightwing groups threatened to hold protests. Although the march took place without serious incident, local media said clashes broke out between counter-demonstrators and police. The Balkan country's prime minister, Ana Brnabić - who is openly gay - said 64 people were arrested and 10 police officers injured on Saturday, but underlined that she was "proud" that the day ended with "no major incidents". British model and activist Yasmin Benoit said she had been to many gay pride parades, "but this one is slightly more stressful". "I'm from the UK, where everyone is more supportive and it's more commercial," she told AFP. "But here, this is really what Pride should be," she added, referring to the societal struggle at the origins of the movement. "We are fighting for the future of this

the official ban, demonstrators were able to march in the rain a few hundred metres between the constitutional court to a nearby park, AFP reported, a much shorter route than organisers had originally planned. Vulin insisted on Saturday that the ban had been enforced, and that people had merely been "escorted to a concert". Gay marriage is not legally recognised in Serbia, where homophobia remains deep-seated despite some progress over the years in reducing discrimination. The Balkan country, a candidate for EU membership, had been under intense international pressure to allow the march. More than 20 embassies - including the US, France and Britain - had issued a joint statement urging the authorities to lift the ban. There was a heavy police presence around the Pride rally, with officers pushing back small groups of counter-

demonstrators waving crosses and religious insignia. The authorities gave no details on those detained, but AFP journalists saw several counter-demonstrators being taken away. According to N1 television, there were scuffles between police and the counter-demonstrators, some of whom threw smoke bombs at the officers and damaged several vehicles. The US embassy had urged its citizens to avoid the event "because of the potential for unruly crowds, violence, as well as possible fines". Human rights groups and the EU had called on the Serbian government to rescind the ban. "The Serbian government's decision to cancel EuroPride is a shameful surrender to, and implicit sanctioning of, bigotry and threats of unlawful violence," said Graeme Reid, director of the LGBT rights programme at Human Rights Watch. At least 15 members of the European parliament announced that they would join the Pride march in a show of solidarity. Belgrade Pride marches in 2001 and again in 2010 were marred by violence and rioting after far-right groups targeted the event. Since 2014, the parade has been organised regularly without any notable unrest, but with a large law enforcement presence. This year's ban came just days after thousands took part in an anti-Pride demonstration in Belgrade, with biker gangs, Orthodox priests and far-right nationalists demanding that the EuroPride rally be scrapped.

'My children saved my life': the terrifying toll of a political scandal in South Korea

London, September 18 : Senior political aide who was forced to resign during the 2021 South Korean presidential election after revelations about her private life has said that online tormentors drove her to attempt suicide. Speaking out in the hope that her story will help South Korean society address its damaging obsession with the private lives of public figures, Dongyoun Cho said the scandal had made her consider moving overseas, but added that she was determined to use her experience to help other women. Cho made headlines in late November when she was named co-chair

of the electoral committee for Lee Jae-myung, the Democratic party's presidential candidate. Then an assistant professor at Seokyeong University in Seoul, Cho was considered a surprise pick, given her lack of political experience, although she had built a reputation for her knowledge of defence and national security issues. Lee, who was hoping to follow his ally Moon Jae-in into the presidential Blue House, believed that having a young, working mother of two on his team would appeal to female voters in a campaign that would be dominated by a

poisonous debate on gender equality. But just three days into the job, Cho's political career was over, her dream shattered by a scandal that briefly overshadowed the race for the leadership of one of Asia's



biggest economies. Now, in an interview with the Guardian, Cho describes for the first time the toll the episode took on her mental health. During her 17 years in the army, where she rose to the rank of major, Cho had dreamed of putting

her military experience to use in politics. "One of my dreams after retiring from the army was to bridge the gap between the South Korean military and society," says Cho, who holds a master's degree in public administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and was a World Fellow at Yale University. "It was an honour to have the opportunity to help, so I took the job. I thought I could help Lee Jae-myung win the election ... but I had no idea what the repercussions my involvement would have."

Governor Mukhi attends 9th Convocation of ADTU

Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 18: Assam Governor Prof. Jagdish Mukhi said that education is the crucial driver of socio-economic development and creation of sustainable livelihood and happiness. Attending the 9th Convocation of Assam down town University at the university campus here Friday, the Governor said that the education system needs to continually address the diversification in the rapidly changing professional ecosystem while being an important tool for sustainable livelihood. He said that the National Education Policy which envisages to develop good human beings capable of rational thought and action, possessing compassion and empathy, scientific temper and creative imagination, with sound ethical moorings and values, should be assiduously implemented by educational institutions of the country. He expressed satisfaction



that Assam Down Town University's contribution to churning out intellectual minds and creating the much-needed quality in human resources in various fields. He told the students that acquiring their degrees was not the end of their journey, in fact, it is just the beginning. He further advised them that their contributions will be judged and their efforts will be appreciated

when they can serve society at large. "Words mean nothing unless followed by action," the Governor added. It may be mentioned that a total of 1300 students and scholars have graduated, of which 1063 are undergraduates, 299 are Post Graduates, and 12 PhD degrees have been awarded. The program also witnessed the conferment of gold medals to the best

graduate - Lunasmrita Saikia, and postgraduate - Shiny Ahmed. The appreciation award for the best placement recipient went to Shatakshi Chakraborty, and the Assam Down Town University Alumni Award for Inspiring Achievement was received by Farzana Afreen. D. Litt (Honoris Causa) was presented to Chiranjit Chaliha, Prominent Industrialist, Dinesh Shahra, Eminent Entrepreneur & Industrialist, and Prof. CA (Dr) M.S. Jadav, Noted Chartered Accountant. Education Minister Dr. Ranaj Pegu was also present on the occasion and also presented accolades to the graduates. Dr. Shekhar C. Mande, Former Director General CSIR, New Delhi, graced the occasion along with the Chancellor of Assam Down Town University, Dr. N. N. Dutta, Vice-Chancellor, Dr. N.C. Talukdar, along with dignitaries of the university, faculty members, students and their parents.

Officers of Bangladesh Foreign Service Academy calls on Governor Prof. Mukhi presents Assam and its potentials for strengthening Assam's relations with Bangladesh

Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 18: A delegation of 17 trainee officers of Bangladesh Foreign Service Academy, Dhaka along with the Assistant High Commissioner of Bangladesh Dr. Shah Mohammad Tanvir Monsur met Assam Governor Prof. Jagdish Mukhi in Raj Bhavan today. While interacting with the trainee officers, Prof. Mukhi said that India's relation with Bangladesh is deep rooted, person to person, more of family relationship and expressed hope that Assam will play a more important role in strengthening this tie in the days to come. He said that both Assam and Bangladesh are working for mutual interest by strengthening trade, water resources and connectivity. Hailing Bangladesh in its progress in garment industries, the Governor pointed out that both Assam and Bangladesh can share their expertise in exchanging their respective prosperities. The Governor

also said that Assam has always been very close to Bangladesh. Disruption of connectivity was caused because of the division of the country. After the division, total restriction was imposed and therefore the areas particularly contiguous to border of the both India and

Mukhi said that the medical colleges, cancer care centres, universities, IIT, IIIT, IIM and other centres for excellence in North East can contribute in expanding bilateral ties with Bangladesh. The Governor further said that greater emphasis should be put on student



Bangladesh could not develop. Trade and commerce did not develop because of the restrictions. However, things have changed and for almost a decade North East has been given top priority by the Govt. of India to enhance trade relationship of India with Bangladesh through this region. Prof.

exchange facilitation programme and cultural exchanges between Assam and Bangladesh. The Assistant High Commissioner of Bangladesh Dr. Shah Mohammad Tanvir Monsur also acknowledged the gesture and thanked the Governor for the interaction programme.

Health Minister Keshav Mahanta inaugurates 'Amrit Sarovar' scheme in Kaliabor



Assam Rising, Kaliabor, September 18: Health Minister Keshav Mahanta starts the scheme of Amrit Sarovar in Shaktimitha Model village of Kaliabor. On the day of Vishwakarma Puja, stat's health minister Keshav Mahanta formally launched

the Amrit Sarovar scheme at Shaktimitha Model village under West Kaliabor development block of Nagaon district in parallel with different parts of the state. Minister Keshav Mahanta also interacted with the tea workers of Shahmotea Tea Estate for some time while inaugurating the scheme. On the other hand, the 'Amrit Sarovar' scheme was also launched in the Kuthri village panchayat area under The Development Block of Kaliabor.

Guest House

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

Social worker of Chhaygaon Parshuram Das passes away

Assam Rising, Palasbari, September 18: Parshuram Das, a retired school teacher and leading social worker of Blasiddhi under Chhaygaon LAC in kamrup district, breathed his last on Saturday at his residence due to cancer. He had been suffering



from cancer for the last three months. He was 65. It may be mentioned here that he is also the president of Chhaygaon Champaknagar Rash Mohtsav committee. He leaves behind his wife, three sons, a host of relatives at the time of death. His death was widely mourned in Chhaygaon.

Jadab of Palasbari needs financial help for kidney failure treatment

Assam Rising, Palasbari, September 18: Jadab Kalita, a resident of Palasbari town (ward no 7) in Kamrup district, has been suffering from kidney disease for the past six months. He was admitted

to Guwahati Medical College Hospital after suffering from kidney failure. He is currently undergoing treatment at Hayat Hospital Jadab, a father of two daughters, graduated in science but could not find a job and supported his family by driving an e-rickshaw. He cannot afford better medical care due to financial poverty, finds it difficult to provide two handfuls of rice for his family. One of the two daughters, Darshita Kalita (8), is studying in class four while the eldest daughter, Ankita Kalita (15) has not been able to admission in the college due to financial difficulties. It may be mentioned here that, Kalita's wife Manju Kalita had built



a small shop along the paved road from Palasbari to Dakhal on the banks of the Brahmaputra near her house but was forced to demolish the shop on the orders of the local adminis-

tration. The victim's family has appealed to various people including the Palasbari MLA for better treatment but has not received any financial assistance so far. The poor family needs a large amount for Kalita's better treatment. He urged the Chief Minister, Health Minister and Palasbari MLA to help him in providing medical treatment. He also requested the people to help him by financial assistance in Jadab Kalita's account no-0007010181464, IFSC Code: PUNB0000720 at Palasbari branch.

Vishwa Karma Puja celebrated at Laharighat Electricity Sub-Division Office

Assam Rising, Bhuragaon, September 18: Vishwa Karma, the Hindu god of architecture and art, is the creator of all. According to Jhriveda, he holds the whole world by his creative power. He is regarded as the divine architect, engineer and creator of the world. The country's largest city, Assam,

celebrated Vishwa Karma Puja yesterday. The country's largest city, Assam, celebrated Vishwa Karma Puja yesterday.



day. The main puja was held at 12 noon in the presence of the employees of four fitters under the electricity sub-division. The main program of Vishwa Karma Puja was conducted by retired line man and priest Niren Chandra Nath. Afterwards, Sub-Division Electricity Officer, Debashish Thauchan, staff officers and employees paid homage to the Lord Vishwa Karma and received blessings from the priest. There are many different types of characters in the film. However, the electricity sub-division distributed prasad and khichdi to all those present at the puja.

Cancellation of NG trains in Darjeeling Himalayan Railway section

Service extension of Rani Kamalapati – Agartala Express Special Train

Assam Rising, Maligaon, September 18: Due to damage of track owing to landslide at Km 18/04-05 between Rongtong and Tindharia section of Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR), services of train no. 52540/52541 (Darjeeling – Kurseong – New Jalpaiguri & New Jalpaiguri – Kurseong - Darjeeling) passenger will remain cancelled up to 25th September, 2022. Further it has been decided to extend the service of train no. 01665/01666 (Rani Kamalapati – Agartala - Rani Kamalapati) Express Special for another 26 trips with revised timings at Patliputra station as per existing days, stoppages and composition to clear the extra rush of passengers. Train No. 01665 (Rani Kamalapati – Agartala) special will depart from Rani Kamalapati at 15:30 hours on all Thursdays from 06th October, 2022 till 30th of March, 2023 arriving Patliputra at 10:00 hours and departing at

10:10 hours on the next day to reach its final destination Agartala at 19:55 hours on every Saturdays. Train No. 01666 (Agartala – Rani Kamalapati) special will depart from Agartala at 15:00 hours on all Sundays from 09th October, 2022 till 02nd of April, 2023 arriving Patliputra at 22:35 hours and departing at 22:45 hours on the next day to reach its final destination Rani Kamalapati at 16:35 hours on every Tuesdays. During its both way journey the special train will run via Jabalpur, Barauni, Katihar, New Jalpaiguri, Guwahati, New Jalong and Dhamanagar stations. The details of stoppages and timings of this train are available at IRCTC website and through NTES and are also being notified in various newspapers and social media platforms of N.F. Railway. Passengers are requested to verify the details before undertaking their journey.

No. KAK(M)/2018/PL/II-A/

NOTICE

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO CARRY OUT AADHAAR ENROLMENT OPERATION IN KAMRUP METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

Observing the urgent need for restarting of Aadhaar enrolment process in Kamrup Metropolitan District, the expression of interest for carrying out Aadhaar Enrolment operation is hereby invited from interested Firms/Agencies having previous experience of Aadhaar enrolment. The interested Firms/Agencies must submit the following documents in sealed cover along with the EOI addressed to the Addl. Deputy Commissioner cum Nodal officer, Aadhaar Enrolment, in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup Metropolitan District during office hours on or before 2.00 pm of 27/09/2022.

- 1) Registration details of the firm along with the documents of previous experience of Aadhaar enrolment process.
- 2) Declaration whether the intending firm has been imposed any penalty by the UIDAI for any violation of Aadhaar enrolment process.
- 3) Details of operators including the Address and the ID proof. Also declaration whether any operator faced any penalty from UIDAI for any kind of violation of the rules of Aadhaar enrolment process.
- 4) All the above details are to be submitted in the form of notarized affidavit.

Addl. Deputy Commissioner

&
Nodal Officer, AADHAAR Enrolment
Kamrup Metropolitan District
Cuwahati

Janasanyog /C/10278/22

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THE ASSAM RISING

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The polio outbreak

This year's closely related polio outbreaks in New York state, London, and greater Jerusalem might have started. A child in Afghanistan or Pakistan received two drops of Albert Sabin's oral polio vaccine (OPV), which contains a weakened, live virus, in December 2021 or so. Soon after, when the child was still shedding some virus in their stool, their family traveled to the United Kingdom, where the vaccine virus found fertile ground in an undervaccinated Orthodox Jewish community in London and began to circulate person to person. Somewhere along the way, it also began to change, picking up mutations that can turn the vaccine virus into one that, in rare instances, can paralyze. That virus then jumped to Israel and to an Orthodox Jewish community in Rockland County, northwest of New York City, says Nicholas Grassly, an epidemiologist at Imperial College London and member of the U.K. National Authority for the Containment of Poliovirus. He reconstructed the "plausible" scenario based on the epidemiological timeline and viral sequences detected in sewage. In Rockland County, an unvaccinated young man in the Orthodox community sought care for weakness in his legs in June—the first U.S. polio case in a decade. The outbreak, which is continuing, underscores the risks facing unvaccinated and undervaccinated people even in wealthy economies. All three countries have ramped up vaccinations, and on 9 September, New York Governor Kathy Hochul declared a state of emergency in an attempt to curb the outbreak. But Grassly and other polio experts stress that big outbreaks of paralytic polio cases remain highly unlikely in rich countries, thanks to high vaccination coverage and good sanitation. "There is a risk we will end up reporting one or two cases in London," Grassly says. Mark Pallansch, a polio virologist who recently retired from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), thinks the same is true for New York state. Both are far more concerned about similar outbreaks in low-income countries—which get far less press coverage but have already paralyzed almost 300 children this year, mostly in Yemen and Africa—and about a resurgence of the wild poliovirus in Africa. OPV remains the workhorse of the global eradication program because it's cheap, easy to use, and confers robust gut immunity that helps stop polio transmission. But where immunization rates are low, the vaccine virus can continue to spread from person to person and over time acquire enough mutations to regain its ability to paralyze, just like the wild virus. As few as six nucleotide changes in the region encoding a viral capsid protein named VP1 are enough to transform a harmless Sabin virus into what is known as a vaccine-derived poliovirus (VDPV). That's why wealthy countries instead use Jonas Salk's inactivated polio vaccine (IPV), which must be injected. That vaccine cannot revert.

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Letter to The Editor

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Editor,
The Assam Rising
Guwahati, Assam

The web has expanded the reach of art but nothing beats standing in front of a Picasso

It is more than 30 years since I saw Pablo Picasso's Guernica face to face, as it were, in Madrid's Prado Museum, shortly before it was moved into the Museo Reina Sofia, where it still hangs. Painted in 1937 in furious protest at Germany's bombing of the Basque town of Guernica at the behest of Franco's nationalist forces during the Spanish civil war, Picasso had refused permission for it to be housed in Spain until the return of democracy. I had seen dozens of images of the painting. But nothing could prepare me for standing in front of it. There was, first, its overwhelming size, something no image can portray. Guernica stands more than 3.49m x 7.76m. You don't so much view the painting as the painting wraps itself around you and you are drawn into its emotions and intensity. The compression of space, the ambiguity of perspective, the splintering of the bodies, all seem far more pronounced when you view the work in real life. Painted in black and white and muted greys, the absence of colour, again, seems so much more visible in the gallery than it does in any reproduction. I saw details that had otherwise eluded me: the bull's third eye looking directly out of the canvas; the tension in the arm of the dismembered man clutching a broken sword; the barely visible, half-rubbed-out dove. Standing in front of Picasso's masterpiece, I was overwhelmed by a sense of dislocation and horror that no reproduction could convey. Thirty years on, the visceral power of Guernica still lives with

me. I saw Guernica around the time that a new way of viewing art was coming into being—the internet. Over the past 30 years, museums and galleries from the Metropolitan Museum in New York to the Museum of Islamic Art in Qatar, from the National Museum in New Delhi to the tiny Lynn Museum in Norfolk, have put much of their collection online, making them available to millions, cultural treasure that would otherwise be denied them. However, the growth of online collections has also generated a fierce debate about the virtues of the physical v the virtual museum, of how the digital should relate to actual. Last week, that debate received a new twist when New York's Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) announced that it was auctioning off 29 of its physical paintings, including masterpieces by Picasso, Monet and Bacon, to help "establish an endowment



for digital media and technology." What that means in practice is unclear. What MoMA's move has done, though, is revive the debate over the merits of the actual and the virtual. The

idea of a virtual museum is not new. Fifty years ago, long before the world wide web came into being, the French novelist, critic and one-time culture minister, André Malraux, wrote of a "museum without walls", which collated every person's ideal collection of art. Writing decades before the internet, the

Kenan Malik

technology that Malraux imagined might make this possible was primitive. The ability that the internet provides museums and galleries to put their collections online brings us closer to a museum without walls; a museum not confined by physical space or by opening and closing times but allowing any number of people access to the collection they want at any time. Online collections also allow us to access information about the object or painting, place it in historical and social context, and link to stories about it, in a way that no physical museum can. And, yet, just as no number of images of Picasso's Guernica could prepare me for the experience of the actual painting, so no degree of sophistication of a digital experience can reproduce the actuality of seeing a work of art in front of you. Partly, it arises from physical differences, from the importance of texture and size, qualities inherent in a physical object but not in an image on a screen. More importantly, perhaps, there is what the American curator Ann Mintz calls a "metaphysical" quality in viewing an actual

Middle-class Indians want dog-mukt smart cities. But it isn't possible without mass killings

Growing up in India, we were almost always made aware of the supposed primitiveness of our cities. The sight of stray dogs, cows and monkeys blocking traffic on roads as they jostled against big cars, trucks and buses was believed to be the ultimate evidence of it. Relatives visiting from the West would especially point out the apparent unacceptability of animals sharing our spaces. "Jab gaayin hatengi toh gadiyan aa sakti hain na sadak par (there would be space for cars on the road only when cows aren't there)," I remember one of my more obnoxious NRI relatives once telling us less-fortunate ones who still lived in India. Never mind that they now support the banning of slaughterhouses in several parts of India, which has led to a massive cattle population crisis. Images of development and urbanisation fed to the upper and middle-class have no space for animals who are, by definition, intruders that need to be controlled. But every now and then, when the state fails to deliver on its promise of building animal-free cities of our dreams, the media and social media-savvy citizens take charge, forcing the state to "act". Take the ongoing volley of hate being directed at stray dogs in Kerala. WhatsApp groups and other social media platforms are inundated with posts and stories about "dog menace" and "dog terror" in the state. The situation is so bad that, under pressure from the media and citizenry, the Kerala government has asked the Supreme Court for permission to launch a month-long drive to kill "violent" dogs. How the government plans to ascertain the violence level of strays before it kills them is evident in the photographs of heaps of dead bodies of dogs and torrents of blood on the streets of Kerala. Social media campaigns against stray dogs and the subsequent call to unleash state violence on them is a



template we have seen before. Even though sporadic mass culling of dogs has no proven record of actually resolving dog-human conflict, it does serve a purpose. On the face of it, mass killings are seen as the government taking some 'action', at least by those few who lose their children to dog bites or attacks. Also, social media warriors who declare a war on street dogs can claim victory. They can also go about blackmailing dog feeders with greater force, and beat them up once in a while. As for those of us disturbed by the violence unleashed on dogs, we can see through our complicity in creating a world that leads to such bloodshed. I am referring to the section of privileged, English-speaking, "dog-lovers" like me, who buy pedigree dogs from breeders producing puppies like packets of chips at mills. We love buying pitbulls, who were originally bred for fighting, racing and bull-baiting, and then plead ignorance when they attack children and old people. We also love buying blue-eyed Siberian huskies and Saint Bernards in Delhi and Mumbai,

even though these breeds are meant to live in the Swiss Alps. We live in high-rise gated apartments, rightly referred to as "colonies", with separate elevators for residents on the one hand, and dogs and domestic staff on the other. The dogs or cows from the street cannot enter our colonies-in fact, it is one of the key responsibilities of the security guards to ward off strays from entering these buildings. And so, we do not feed our vegetable and meat waste to strays—something that is a common practice in villages, smaller towns and residential complexes where waste management is something people just naturally do, and not study it as a public policy course after spending lakhs of rupees. Instead, we have elaborate, expensive machines that turn tons of the waste we produce to compost. We also consume Instagram posts of stuff-toy looking dogs and cats doing foolish, cutesy things all day. Every now and then, when we see gory images of stray animals being culled by people who do it because they are poor, marginalised, and don't have

any other means to earn a livelihood, we outrage on social media—almost as a protest against the vitiation of our Instagram aesthetic. A few years ago, I read of a "personhood for animals" movement in the United States. The "dog lover" in me was truly moved. Unlike our cruel Indian cities, where dogs get crushed under speeding cars all the time, and boney, emaciated horses still carry vegetables and fruits on wooden carts, the US had a movement demanding civil rights for animals. The movement seeks to fundamentally change the status of animals from property to person. It raises fundamental questions about our anthropocentrism, the tendency among human beings to look at the world solely from a human perspective, while making decisions that wreak havoc in the lives of all species. A few months of living in the US, I can see why American "dog lovers" would lead such a movement. There are no animals on the streets here. They are allowed to live only in areas specifically demarcated by humans as their habitat; they rot in misery in industrial factory farms, or are simply culled if they intrude into human spaces—unless, of course, they are fortunate enough to be pets. Therefore, in order to save themselves from the guilt of the unfathomable levels of violence that human being inflict on animals, a small section of people think they can undo it by giving animals the legal status of a person—totally missing the anthropocentric irony of this endeavour! As I read about the massive hate campaign and violence being unleashed on strays in Indian cities, it seems to me that a personhood for animals' movement might soon catch up in India too. Because as systems of organic harmony between animals and humans increasingly break down in our pursuit of building smarter cities, we need laws, movements and policy makers to teach us how to co-exist again.

Rock'n'roll or Thatcherism: which will the new Elizabethan era be remembered for?

When Elizabeth II came to the throne, in 1952, charming country houses that would now be worth several million could be picked up for under £10,000. Sweets, tea, butter, margarine and meat were among the foods still rationed. Only a small minority had fridges, washing machines or telephones.

Matthew Engel Outside toilets were a common, cars aspirational, televisions a novelty item, central heating barely a rumour. Outside, the cities were smoky from the ubiquitous coal fires. Inside, houses were smoky because most adults' lips held cigarettes. Children began playing unsupervised shortly after they could walk. Crime rates were low, and front doors often unlocked. Hangings were common enough to be hardly worth reporting except

in the most sensational cases. National service for young men was hard to avoid, and some conscripts were sent to fight and die in Korea. Women mostly stayed at home and, the monarch excepted, almost never held prominent positions. Gay people were persecuted, more so in the early 1950s than before. Many Britons would never have seen a non-white face. The country was still largely industrial. And it still had an empire, though not the resources to support it. Every one of those facts, except the last seven words, changed in the course of Elizabeth II's reign. Never had Britain altered so much under the rule of a single monarch. Perhaps no other country has either. The swirl and churn around her (not least in her own family) made the Queen's



constancy all the more remarkable. "Good old Watson! You are the one fixed point in a changing age," said

Sherlock Holmes in His Last Bow. Elizabeth II played that role in our own times. And yet, she did not manage to stamp her personality on the era. The word "Elizabethan" in 2022 still conjures up images of Sir Francis Drake playing bowls as the Armada came in, Sir Walter Raleigh laying his cloak down in a puddle and Miranda Richardson prancing around in Blackadder. Churchill, in a majestic prime ministerial radio address the day after Elizabeth II became queen, invoked "the grandeur and genius of the Elizabethan age", and the concept of "new Elizabethans" did take hold for a while. A plane and a new fast train (less than seven hours from King's Cross to Edinburgh) were both named the Elizabethan. And public figures took to hectoring people on the need to work harder and reproduce the spirit of Good Queen Bess's time. The historian Sir Michael Howard later reflected that it was a good analogy: "Once again we were, as we had been then, a power of the second rank, teetering on the verge of bankruptcy." But it did not stick. The last eponymous age was Queen Victoria's reign. "Victorian" instantly evokes the image of her times, or at least their perception as "prudish, strict; old-fashioned, outdated", (Oxford English Dictionary). It is even used in the US, particularly to describe houses. Victoria spent 63 years on the throne, and change in that period was vast. When she became queen, most travel involved horses,

and only a couple of railways had been built. By the time of her death, the first motor cars were on the roads and the Wright brothers were well on their way to inventing the aeroplane. But societal attitudes and the lives of the people were far more static than they would become under her great-great granddaughter. Perhaps it is because the second Elizabethan age has seen such an extraordinary pace of change that trying to encompass it with a single adjective is futile. It is more convenient to split it into decades, with images that are evocative (even if not necessarily accurate). The 50s are dull and conformist, the 60s an age of sex and drugs and rock'n'roll, the 70s riddled with contentiousness and the 80s as Thatcherism, for better or worse (delete to taste), and so on. Whereas Victoria could be perceived as embodying her own era, certainly in her sad and sullen widowhood, Elizabeth II stood in apposition (but not opposition) to hers. And maybe that is the key to her success as a monarch. In a country whose politics became increasingly fractious and bitter, and a nation often delusional about its place in the world, she remained solid and unchanging, a lighthouse on a rocky shore sending out a platitudinous message of decency, kindness and a little bit of God. And if she ever had been faced with a genuine political crisis that would have required her intervention as the referee of last resort, her instinct for fairness would have almost certainly led her to the right answer. Imagine if Margaret, her thoroughly modern flibbertigibbet of a sister, had ascended the throne, and think of how different things may have been. Part of her impartiality, I am inclined to think, owed not only to her early accession at the age of 25, but to the rather meagre education she had received before then. Unlike King Charles III, she had no time to acquire the kind of ideas that might feed controversy. Charles now has to unlearn much of what he knows. It is far better, perhaps, not to acquire views in the first place.

Nissan India registers wholesales of 8915 vehicles in August 2022

Delhi, September 18: Nissan Motor India announced cumulative wholesales of 8915 units, inclusive of domestic of 3283 units and export of 5632 units for the month of August 2022. The cumulative wholesale YTD growth stood at 29%. In line with its focus on the global market, Nissan India exported 5632 units in August 2022, 534% per cent month-on-month and 71% year to date increase. This strong export performance comes on the strength of Nissan products being modern and aspirational with Nissan achieving the key milestone of export of one million units in the month of July 22, on the philosophy of 'Make in India,



Make for the World'. Rakesh Srivastava, Managing Director, Nissan Motor India, commented, "The love for the Big, Bold, Beautiful Nissan Magnite continues to grow with strong performance in domestic and export markets. This festive season looks strong on strong fundamentals, preference for personal mobility and

normalcy of work-life balance. Anticipating the strong demand, Nissan has introduced the new Nissan Magnite Red Edition with enhanced value at very attractive introductory price supported with increased production for more deliveries to the customers in the festive season." Launched in December 2020, the Big,

Bold, Beautiful Nissan Magnite (currently at a starting ex-showroom price of 5.97 lakh), has been designed in Japan and made in India, underlining Nissan India's manufacturing philosophy of 'Make in India, Make for the World'. The Nissan Magnite has received a superlative market response, with over 1 lakh domestic bookings, with 25% of bookings being generated through Nissan's digital ecosystem. In July 2022, Nissan launched the Nissan Magnite - Red Edition with an attractive entry price of 7.86 lakh. The Big, Bold, Beautiful Nissan Magnite is exported to over 15 countries with its most recent launches held in Nepal, Bhutan, and

Bangladesh. Nissan India exports vehicles to 108 countries from its Renault-Nissan Automotive India Ltd. plant in Chennai since commencing exports in September 2010. Units are exported from Chennai's Kamarajar Port (formerly Ennore Port) to various regions including Middle Eastern countries; Europe; Latin America; New Zealand; Australia; South-East Asia; SAARC countries; and Sub Sahara and Africa. In recent years, Nissan India has transitioned its primary export market from Europe to the Middle East countries like Saudi Arabia; the United Arab Emirates; Oman; Qatar; Bahrain; and Kuwait.

Dalmia Bharat signs MoU with NIIT Foundation

Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 18: Dalmia Bharat Foundation (DBF), Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) arm of Dalmia Bharat Group is on an accelerated path to make India's 'Self-reliance' vision a reality. For this purpose, DBF has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

with NIIT Foundation's quality educational process so as to empower children and youth belonging to the disadvantaged sections of society. "Through our collaborative efforts and strengths, we believe that this partnership will become a key enabler for the greater good of our nation and will

Ms. Charu Kapoor, COO, NIIT Foundation. Major training and skill building that will commence through this shared collaboration will include certificate courses in Financial Literacy, Cyber Security Essentials and Professional Edge. In addition to Lanka in Assam, the DIKSHacentres where the courses will be developed and conducted also include Sitapur & Shahjahanpur in Uttar Pradesh; Kolhapur in Maharashtra; Khambalia in Gujarat; Satna in Madhya Pradesh; Dalmia puram & Trichy in Tamil Nadu; Belgaum & Yadawad in Karnataka; Medinipur in West Bengal; Rourkela, Jajpur, Rajgangpur, Sundargarh, Jharsuguda and Cuttack in Odisha; and Bokaro in Jharkhand where Dalmia Bharat Group has a local presence and works closely with the community. While NIIT Foundation will provide the necessary content, training of trainers, assessment and certification along with placement support, DBF has been entrusted with managing day to day activities of the center.



with a not-for-profit education society, NIIT Foundation to develop state-of-the-art, community-centric skill-building and educational training courses that will benefit 8000 underprivileged youth across 16 DIKSHA (Dalmia Institute of Knowledge and Skill Harnessing) centres in India including Lanka in Assam. The aim of the MoU is to usher in a New India that is progressive and self-dependent by harnessing the collaborative strengths of DBF's robust community engage-

ment and NIIT Foundation's quality educational process so as to empower children and youth belonging to the disadvantaged sections of society. "Through our collaborative efforts and strengths, we believe that this partnership will become a key enabler for the greater good of our nation and will

Kirloskar's intelligent Genseti Green 2.0 version launched

Delhi, September 18: Kirloskar Green Version 2.0 was unveiled as the new vari-

company's undertaking of being a complete back-up solutions provider. These

saving on space and enhances the aesthetics of the product. These products



ant for the power generation business of Kirloskar Oil Engines Ltd (KOEL), the leading manufacturer of diesel generating sets in India. The Gensets powered with the R550 series of engines offer compactness, fuel efficiency and high power quality. The new iGreen 2.0 version has a 30% volumetric reduction in terms of a smaller footprint and provides a renewed commitment to its customers as a reliable and efficient product, and also reinstates the company's commitment of providing innovative and state-of-the-art products to its customers. The launch of the Kirloskar iGreen 2.0 version further cements the

Gensets have an improved product life and are equipped with a bolt-less canopy, while the silencer inside the canopy ensures

come with in-built features like remote monitoring of the Diesel Generating set, where the Genset actually does a self-diagnosis and electroni-

LIC mulls starting own depository to make policies available in demat form

Mumbai, September 18: LIC's insurance depository could be a separate subsidiary. This would reduce demat expenses for LIC. They would also earn income via dematerialising insurance policies for other insurers," sources said. LIC is also planning to ask the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) to relax

dematerialisation of new and old insurance policies. The insurance regulator has mandated dematerialisation of new insurance policies by December 2022. The insurance regulator has also asked insurance companies to dematerialise existing old policies by December 2023. As far as the expense incurred on dematerialization of policies for LIC is concerned,



LIC has around 75 percent market share when it comes to total insurance policies in the industry. It issues nearly two crore policies each year. Also there are 22 crore

policies which are active and existing belonging to LIC in the industry today. So, if this was to be done through a different subsidiary, let's say a CAMS or National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL), Central Depository Services (CDSL), then LIC would have incurred around Rs 1,200 crore to Rs 1,400 crore on dematerialization of policies. But, now that money

Tata 1mg 'Grand Saving Days' starts Sept 16

Mumbai, September 18: Spreading festive cheer ahead of the festival season, Tata 1mg, India's largest digital health platform, has announced its much-awaited biggest sale event, Grand Saving Days (GSD), from September 16 - 20, 2022. The five-day biannual sale will offer the best and most exclusive healthcare offers across all brands and categories to customers, including medicines, health products, lab tests and e-consultations. Tata 1mg has partnered with top brands such as Dettol, Dabur, Himalaya, and more from all leading categories to provide massive offers to every shopper. The Grand Saving Days sale will showcase the range and depth of health and wellness products and services on the Tata 1mg platform for the evolved Indian consumer who seeks an integrated healthcare experience. From fitness enthusiasts and health & wellness seekers to prescription medicine users and caregivers, there will be exciting deals for every segment of buyer on over 2 lakh medicine and health brands, health checkups and lab tests, and doctor consultations. Tata 1mg has also partnered with Centrum, a leading global multivitamin brand, for their India launch this month. Customers will enjoy the

best offers on the entire range of Tata 1mg's products and services along with additional NeuCoins, the rewards customers earn for transacting on Tata 1mg and are 100% redeemable. Some of the categories on deep dis-

cludes HDFC and Paytm, along with Simpli, Mobikwik, Freecharge, PhonePe and Airtel Money. Said Prateek Verma, Business Head - ePharmacy, Tata 1mg: "The Grand Saving Days Sale is being held



count beyond medicines are vitamins and supplements, ayurvedic medicines and supplements, medical devices, personal care products, homeopathic medicines, health checkups, lab tests and more. Tata 1mg Labs will also be offering a Rs. 99 Store during the sale, where popular lab tests like Thyroid Profile Total, Diabetes Screening and Lipid Profile will be available at Rs. 99. Tata 1mg Care Plan subscribers will enjoy an exclusive early access to the Grand Saving Daysone day before the sale goes live for everyone else. Bank & Wallet partnerships for Grand Saving Days sale in-

bi-annually every February and September since the last three years. It has grown year on year to become India's biggest health and wellness sale, with lakhs of people flocking to our platform from all over the country to grab the attractive deals. The sale is an opportunity for us to invite our customers to experience the convenience of digital delivery of healthcare services. Customers can seamlessly order medicines or lab tests through the platform or through a phone call, enjoy superfast deliveries and order medicines or lab tests anytime from anywhere for their loved ones."

ED freezes funds of payment gateways Easebuzz, Razorpay, Cashfree, and Paytm

Mumbai, September 18: The Enforcement Directorate has carried out raids against Chinese-controlled loan apps and seized funds worth ₹46.67 crore kept in payment gateways Easebuzz, Razorpay, Cashfree, and Paytm. These funds have been frozen under the anti-money laundering law, according to the news agency PTI. On Wednesday, searches were conducted at multiple premises of the accused in Delhi, Mumbai, Ghaziabad, Lucknow, and Gaya. In an official statement, the federal agency informed that a total of 16 premises of banks and payment gateways in Delhi, Pune, Gurugram, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jodhpur, and Bengaluru in respect of an investigation related to an app-based token named HPZ



and related entities were also covered. The federal agency has also recovered various incriminating documents related to the Chinese loan apps case during the search operation conducted on September 14. The case was registered by the cybercrime unit of Kohima Police in Nagaland in October 2021. "Huge balances were found to be maintained in the virtual accounts of the involved entities with payment

aggregators like ₹33.36 crore was found with Easebuzz Private Limited, Pune, ₹8.21 crore with Razorpay Software Private Limited, Bangalore, ₹1.28 crore with Cashfree Payments India Private Limited, Bangalore and ₹1.11 crore with Paytm Payments Services Limited, New Delhi," it added as quoted by news agency ANI. Earlier on September 3, the ED also conducted raids at Bengaluru premises of these

online payment gateways as part of an ongoing probe against "illegal" instant smartphone-based loans "controlled" by Chinese persons. During the searches, it seized an amount of ₹17 crore which was kept "in merchant IDs and bank accounts of these Chinese persons-controlled entities". The modus operandi of these entities is that they used forged documents of Indians and made them dummy directors of the entities and generated proceeds of crime. The case is based on 18 FIRs registered by Bengaluru Police's cyber crime station against numerous entities/persons in connection with their involvement in extortion and harassment of people who had availed small loans through the mobile apps being run by the entities/persons.

LEVI'S® X Deepika gets a baggy upgrade

Mumbai, September 18: As baggy silhouettes are back, Levi's® x Deepika Padukone Season 3 is all about the shift to relaxed, comfortable fits in a streetwear-inspired collection that goes beyond denim and promises elevated fashion. Inspired by Deepika Padukone's ease in making relaxed, oversized pieces look effortlessly stylish, this collaboration sets the tone for a season of having fun, being relaxed, and experimenting with your wardrobe with a collection that sees down-to-earth colors meet pop tints. Commenting on the collaboration, Deepika Padukone said, "I've always enjoyed playing with the contrast between

loose & easy silhouettes and fitted & structured pieces. Of the 3 seasons we've done so far, this one's got to be my most favourite and I hope it inspires people to have as much fun with their wardrobe." Speaking about the new collection, Amisha Jain, Managing Director, South Asia, Middle East & Africa at Levi Strauss & Co. said, "After two successful seasons of co-creating with Deepika, this third collection continues to bring Deepika's unique style & fashion identity to life in a way that is true to her but is still Levi's® at heart." The collection is a creative reimagining of what is authentically Levi's®, fusing

exaggerated proportions of the '90s with a modern-day streetwear vibe in a variety of prints, textures, patterns, and fit. This season with the XL Flood, '94 Baggy Carpenter and the high-loose, the jeans answer to that relaxed, loose trend playing out globally. Featuring denim co-ord sets with

satiny upgrade in the shape of cropped fits, oversized t-shirts, and sweatshirts with chic details including tie-dye, bell sleeves, and drawstrings that perfectly emphasize the waist. Through a versatile blend of athleisure, streetwear, and high fashion, the co-ord sets with cotton fleece and



a carpenter trucker jacket and a '70s high straight bottom or with '94s fit baggy carpenter jeans on the other hand, perfectly balance out the bright color pop. The collection continues to explore new textures and indigo-inspired prints in all-new butter-dip print '70s flare jeans that have a cool vintage approach to contemporary style. While bottoms become baggier, tops get a ver-

comfortable joggers make a mark. The third collection brings a rebooted utility denim oversized shirt in pretty peach, a dual-tone woven dress with a giant utility pocket, and a fern hill finish denim co-ord set. The third season of Levi's® x Deepika Padukone will be available at select Levi's® stores, Levi.in and select partner e-commerce platforms.

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Bangladeshi nationals used

of elements linked with rhino poaching. "The Bangladeshi nationals were found involved in religious discussions in Baghmari, which violates the conditions on which they availed visas to travel to India," he added.Police sources said the 17 Bangladeshis, including a "religious preacher", also visited several other religious places in India in the past. A senior police officer of Biswanath said the group had reached the northern Assam district on September 13 from Cooch Behar in West Bengal.Several madrasas in the state were found to have alleged links with jihadi elements in the recent times and three of them were demolished by the authorities for alleged links with Bangladesh based Ansarullah Bangla Team of Al-Qaeda in Indian Subcontinent. However, police are yet to confirm whether the team of 17 arrested Bangladeshi nationals have terror links.The Assam Police, a day after 17 Bangladeshi nationals were arrested in the state, said Bangladeshi clerics are radicalizing young men of the state.They alleged on Sunday that the clerics of the neighbouring country are violating visa norms by organizing religious meets in remote areas of the state.Due to this reason, the Assam Government had written to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) about the incidents and as a result many Bangladeshi clerics have been banned from the state for repeatedly violating visa norms.Director General of Police (DGP) Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta said, "There is a tendency, especially in Lower Assam and Barak Valley, to invite Bangladeshi clerics on tourist visas for religious preaching. These clerics are violating the rules of the tourist visas issued to them by radicalising young men of the state.""We have told the arrested Bangladeshis that Assam Police will be strict. The 17 who were arrested had come to Assam on tourist visas but did not visit any of the main attractions in Assam. All they did was preaching their religion. Religious preaching violated the norms of the visas issued to them," he added.

Assam Police Recruitment: Results

with 42 posts been left vacant.In the results declared today, 4493 candidates who were slected were male and 707 candidates were female.Speaking to media persons about the results that were declared today, director general of police (DGP) Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta said that the recruitment has been given based on many factors. He also hoped that all those who have been appointed would serve to all people of the state.The appointment letters to the selected candidates will be handed over at the Veterinary Ground in Khanapara on September 22. All candidates have been directed to report at the venue at 9 am on the day.

'Opposition unity impossible with

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) as the "B-team" of the BJP, Ramesh stopped short of analysing the role of the Trinamool Congress, which too, like the Arvind Kejriwal-led party, is opposed to the Congress, by saying, "It (TMC) has Congress in its name.""We have said this before...There is ample evidence to prove that AAP is the B-team of the BJP. If you look at its history or the background of its leaders, you will know it. Regarding the TMC, I am yet to make my assessment, but I think they, too, have Congress in their name," he said.Without naming anyone, Ramesh said those who talk of opposition unity without the Congress only want to weaken the opposition front and the grand old party."In an alliance, you give something and receive something in return. It is an understanding. So far, the Congress has been offering, and everyone has benefited from it. And after getting benefits, they have been trying to use the Congress as a punching bag to weaken it. This has to stop now," he said.Terming the Congress the "big elephant of Indian politics", Ramesh said no one should make the mistake of "writing it off". Speaking on the ongoing Bharat Jodo Yatra, he said a strengthened Congress and a more durable and constructive opposition would be the end product of the march."We have started the Yatra over national issues. The country is going through a situation where our politics, economy, and institutions are falling apart due to the BJP and its divisive politics. Another motive of the Yatra is to galvanise the rank and file of the Congress ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls," the former union environment minister said.Ramesh said the Yatra was not aimed at state elections in the run-up to the Lok Sabha polls. When told that the Congress is speaking of "Bharat Jodo" when the party itself is in disarray, Ramesh said the outfit is trying to fix its internal issues."We have to set our house in order, and we are doing it. We have to fix our issues and are in the process of doing it. The Congress is a 137-year-old party; sometimes, there are some crucial moments in history when you need out-of-the-box thinking to reach out to the masses. Bharat Jodo Yatra is one such thinking and will be a game changer," he said.A nearly 3,650-km-long padayatra from Kanyakumari to Kashmir is being undertaken by senior leader Rahul Gandhi since September 7. The five-and-a-half month-long march aims to galvanise Congress cadres and strengthen the organisation, breathing in new energy.Taking a swipe at Congress 'G-23' leaders, senior politicians of the party who had sought an organisational overhaul and elections at all levels in a letter to the Congress president in August 2020, Ramesh said that after the age of 65, senior politicians should act as 'mentors and groom next-generation leaders'.

Powerful typhoon 'Nanmadol' hits

Agency said Typhoon Nanmadol was near the southern island of Yakushima, packing maximum surface winds of 162 kilometres (101 miles) per hour, as it slowly headed north to the country's main southern island of Kyushu where it could make landfall later on Sunday. Nanmadol is forecast to turn east and reach Tokyo on Tuesday. The agency predicted as much as 50 centimetres (20 inches) of rainfall by midday Monday, warning of flooding and landslides. The agency also warned residents in the affected area of "unprecedented" levels of powerful winds and waves, urging them to evacuate early. Local authorities so far reported no major damage or injuries. In the hard-hit Kagoshima prefecture, more than 9,000 residents took shelter at evacuation centres on Sunday. In the neighbouring Miyazaki prefecture, another 4,700 people were evacuated. Kyushu Electric Power Co. Said more than 93,000 homes across the Kyushu island were without electricity on Sunday because of damage to power lines and facilities.Footage on NHK television showed a pachinko pinball parlour with part of its glass wall shattered by the gust in Kanoya city in Kagoshima. Elsewhere in the prefecture, an elderly woman suffered a minor injury as she fell, NHK said.Hundreds of domestic flights in and out of the region have been cancelled and more are planned to be grounded in western Japan through Tuesday as the typhoon headed northeast, according to Japan Airlines and All Nippon Airways. Public transportation including trains and buses in Kagoshima and Miyazaki was suspended throughout Sunday. Railway operators said bullet trains on the Kyushu island have been suspended.

BJP's Sambit Patra digs at

president in Uttarakhand quit the party even though Kejriwal made tall claims about his party's prospects in these states, Patra said.Hitting back at Kejriwal for claiming that his party was "kattar imandaar" (hardcore honest), he said it was in fact "kattar beimaan" and corrupt. No government has seen so many of its ministers resigning due to various charges in such a short period as has the AAP dispensation, Patra said citing Jitender Singh Tomar and Sandeep Kumar among others.The leader who took "commission" from liquor trade compares himself to "Kanha" (Lord Krishna), he said and called him "bayan bahadur" (one who talks big), the BJP spokesperson said and accused the Delhi chief minister of "glorifying" corruption.Earlier in the day, Kejriwal launched a blistering attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP, accusing them of trying to "crush" the AAP in the name of fighting corruption as they feared a defeat in Gujarat polls.Addressing the first-ever national conclave of his party's elected representatives, Kejriwal also alleged that the Modi government has been trying to frame his party ministers and leaders in false corruption cases as the BJP is "not able to digest the growing popularity of the AAP in Gujarat".

IndianOil gets the popular actor on

Indian Oil by 2046, SERVOhas been leading technological changes with energy-efficient, bio-degradable, long drain, and synthetic lubricants. "I am happy to share that we have some ambitious plans to strengthen brand SERVO as a fuel-efficient lubricant that puts environment first. Our range of SERVO Green Lubricants address the need for sustainable future. We are also in the process of developing lubricants for EV and for windmills, apart from lubes for BS VI vehicles," said Mr. V Satish Kumar, Director (Marketing), IndianOil. SERVO green basket includes SERVO 4T Green, SERVO TRACTOR GREEN, SERVO GREENMILE, and SERVO RAFTAAR. In line with IndianOil's commitment towards circular economy and reaffirming the concept of Reduce- Reuse- Recycle, containers with 30% Post - Consumer Recycled Resin (PCR) have also been introduced. IndianOil's lubricant brand also kept pace with technology to provide to provide the best-in-class and benchmark services to its stakeholders. The Corporation has initiated the roll -out of SERVO pack labels are with QR codes for each tracing and tracking. The SERVO Dost app has also been developed to help customers redeem loyalty points hassle- free and seamlessly. SERVO, India's No. 1 lubricant brand, was launched by IndianOil, in 1972. SERVOis testament to India's indigenous efforts in the petroleum sector, having been formulated at IndianOil's R&D Centre, one of Asia's most advanced facilities, in Faridabad. Over the decades, SERVO has evolved to producing and marketing an extensive range of 1,000 active lubricant grades and has established an international footprint, with presence in 37 countries.SERVO, a Superbrand, is the undisputed leader and caters core industries including Defence, Railways, Transport, Power, Coal, Mining, Automobiles and Steel. SERVO has been approved as lubricant of choice by OEMs including Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai, Tata Motors, and Ashok Leyland, and Mahindra.IndianOil is a diversified, integrated energy major with presence in almost all the streams of oil, gas, petrochemicals, and alternative energy sources. With a net profit of Rs. 24,184 crores for the fiscal 2021-22, IndianOil is one the largest and most trusted corporates in the country, touching the lives of over a billion Indians. With a 33,500-plus workforce, extensive refining, distribution & marketing infrastructure, and advanced R&D facilities, IndianOil has provided energy access to millions of people across the length and breadth of the country through its ever-expanding network of customer touchpoints, currently numbering over 50,000.

Chhattisgarh Congress backs Rahul

ruling party's state office. Talking to reporters, CM Baghel said he had moved the resolution for appointing Rahul Gandhi as the party's president, which was seconded by PCC chief Mohan Markam, state Assembly Speaker Charan Das Mahant, ministers TS Singh Deo, Shivkumar Dahariya and Prem Sai Singh Tekam. To a query, Baghel said, "The Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee today passed the resolution (to make Rahul Gandhi president) and the party's Rajasthan unit has also done this." Baghel said he and others also seconded another resolution moved by the PCC chief to authorise the Congress president to appoint the party's state chief and other office-bearers. Both the resolutions were passed in the meeting, he added.Meanwhile, the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' led by Congress MP Rahul Gandhi resumed on its eleventh day from Haripad, Alappuzha. Rahul Gandhi, with other senior Congress leaders, has covered more than 200km of the 3500 km yatra which started from Kanyakumari on 7 September and will end in Srinagar covering twelve states and two union territories in about five months.

President Droupadi Murmu reaches

Droupadi Murmu emplanes for London, United Kingdom, to attend the state funeral of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II and offer condolences on behalf of the Government of India."External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar visited the British High Commission on September 12 to convey India's condolences. India also observed a day of national mourning last Sunday.In 70 years of the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, India-UK ties have evolved, flourished and strengthened immensely, the MEA said in a statement. She played an important role in the welfare of millions of people around the world as Head of the Commonwealth, it said.

Massive protest in private varsity

patience," he added.The woman student accused of leaking the videos was also allegedly demanding money from others for not leaking them. After the matter came to light, students poured out of their hostels and held a protest.Speaking to The Indian Express, Mohali SSP Vivek Sheel Soni said the woman had admitted that she sent her photographs to her friend but they were verifying whether she had sent pictures of other girls as well."We are investigating the matter. There was a protest and everything is under control," said Soni.Soni, at a press conference later said, "I want to make it clear that we did not get any video of the other women. We are also not giving the clean chit to anyone. The prime accused has been arrested and we have confiscated the equipments."In a separate press conference, Punjab Woman Commission Chairperson Manisha Gulati said that they shall be looking at the issue closely. She said that the warden shall also be questioned. Assuring that the inquiry would be concluded within one week, Gulati said that the hostels shall be examined. She added that they will also look into the harassment complaints at all universities across the state.University officials, meanwhile, stated that the building was recently converted to a hostel for girls. According to guidelines, no male members are allowed inside the girls hostel. If maintenance staff enters, they are issued a gate pass and accompanied by the warden.Punjab School Education Minister Harjot Singh Bains appealed to the protesting students to remain calm, adding that "no one guilty will be spared". Higher Education Minister Gurmeet Singh Meet Hayer requested people to refrain from forwarding unverified news, and assured that justice to the students.

China expanding nuclear arsenal does not reflect 'minimal deterrence', warns US

New Delhi, September 18 : China has stepped up its aggressive posture toward the US and its regional allies in recent years, and a top US general has warned of Beijing's expanding nuclear arsenal, adding that it does not reflect minimal deterrence. General Anthony Cotton of the United States Air Force made these remarks while testifying before the Senate Armed Services Committee. According to the Washington Post, the general told lawmakers considering his nomination to lead the United States Strategic Command that the military's assessment of China's nuclear capabilities had changed dramatically since 2018. Earlier, Beijing was judged as requiring "minimal nuclear deterrence" and the Pentagon's nuclear posture review had assessed China's ambitions as being focused on "regional hegemony," the general said, the Washington Post report noted. It is worth noting that the top general is US President Joe Biden's choice to lead the US military's nuclear arsenal and missile defence operations. The general warned on Thursday that China's rise as a nuclear power poses historical threats and challenges that necessitate a rethinking of current policies."We have seen the incredible expansiveness of what they're doing with their nuclear force -- which does not, in my opinion, reflect minimal deterrence. They have a bona fide triad now," Cotton said explaining that the Chinese military has nuclear-capable forces that operate on land and in the air and sea. Another interesting point brought up by the general is that the US approach to Russia will not work for China in addressing the nuclear threat. He went on to say that the United States is well aware of Russia's nuclear ambitions, which date back decades to the Cold War.Beijing and Moscow, the general said, "act differently, from a doctrine's perspective," reported The Washington Post. Historically, Beijing did not possess the arsenal of the two major Cold War superpowers, nor were its nuclear ambitions regarded in Washington as the same as Moscow's intensity. "We need to seriously consider that we are entering a new, trilateral nuclear competition era," the committee chairman, Rhode Island Democratic Senator Jack Reed told Cotton."You will be responsible for continuing to ensure that the United States and its allies can deter not one, but two near-peer nuclear adversaries, something your predecessors did not face."

Military and diplomatic pressures mount for Vladimir Putin as Ukraine counterattacks

Kyiv, September 18 : Pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin mounted both on the battlefield and in the halls of global power as Ukrainian troops waging a counteroffensive pushed Saturday to advance farther into the country's partly recaptured northeast. At a high-level summit in Uzbekistan, Putin vowed to press his attack on Ukraine despite recent military setbacks but also had to address concerns over the drawn-out conflict voiced by India and China."I know that today's era is not of war," Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi told the Russian leader in televised comments as the two met Friday in Uzbekistan.At the same summit a day earlier, Putin acknowledged China's unspecified "questions and concerns" about the war in Ukraine while also thanking Chinese President Xi Jinping for his government's "balanced position" on the conflict. The hurried retreat of his troops this month from parts of a northeast region they occupied early in the war, together with the rare public reservations expressed by key allies, underscored the challenges Putin faces on all fronts.Both China and India maintain strong ties with Russia and had sought to remain neutral on Ukraine.Xi, in a statement released by his government, expressed support for Russia's "core interests" but also interest in working together to "inject stability" into world affairs.Modi said he wanted to discuss "how we can move forward on the path of peace". On the battlefield, Western defence officials and analysts on Saturday said Russian forces were apparently setting up a new defensive line in Ukraine's northeast after Kyiv's troops broke through the previous one and tried to press their advances further into the east.The British Defence Ministry said in a daily intelligence briefing that the line likely is between the Oskil River and Svatove, some 150 kilometers (90 miles) southeast of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city.The new line emerged after the Ukrainian counteroffensive punched a hole through the war's previous front line, allowing Kyiv's soldiers to recapture large swaths of land in the northeastern Kharkiv region that borders Russia.After the Russian troops retreated from the city of Izium, Ukrainian authorities discovered a mass grave site, one of the largest so far discovered.President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Friday that more than 440 graves have been found at the site but that the number of victims is not yet known.Zelenskyy said the graves contained the bodies of hundreds of civilian adults and children, as well as soldiers, and some had been tortured, shot or killed by artillery shelling. He cited evidence of atrocities, such as a body with a rope around its neck and broken arms.Ukrainian forces, in the meantime, continue to cross the key Oskil River in the Kharkiv region as they try to press on in a counteroffensive targeting Russian-occupied territory, according to the Washington-based Institute for the Study of War.The Institute said in its Saturday report that satellite imagery it examined suggests that Ukrainian forces have crossed over to the east bank of the Oskil in Kupiansk, placing artillery there. The river, which flows south from Russia into Ukraine, had been a natural break in the newly emerged front lines since Ukraine launched its push about a week ago."Russian forces are likely too weak to prevent further Ukrainian advances along the entire Oskil River if Ukrainian forces choose to resume offensive operations," the institute said.Elsewhere in Ukraine, Russian forces continued to pound cities and villages with missile strikes and shelling.A Russian missile attack early Saturday started a fire in Kharkiv's industrial area, said Oleh Syniehubov, the regional governor. Firefighters extinguished the blaze.Syniehubov said remnants of the missiles suggest the Russians fired S-300 surface-to-air missiles at the city. The S-300 is designed for striking missiles or aircraft in the sky, not targets on the ground.Analysts say Russia's use of the missiles for ground attacks suggests they may be running out of some precision munitions as the monthslong war continues.Shelling of the nearby city of Chuhuiv later on Saturday killed an 11-year-old girl, Syniehubov reported.In the southern Zaporizhzhia region, a large part of which is occupied by the Russians, one person was wounded after the Russian forces shelled the city of Orikhiv, Zaporizhzhia's Ukrainian governor Oleksandr Starukh reported on Telegram.Starukh said the Russian troops also shelled two villages in the region, destroying several civilian facilities there.The central Dnipropetrovsk region also came under fire overnight, according to its governor, Valentyn Reznichenko.

Beijing-backed Chinese language schools in UK to be replaced with teachers from Taiwan

Beijing, September 18 : A group of cross-party MPs is in talks with Taiwan to provide Mandarin teachers to the UK as the government seeks to phase out Chinese state-linked Confucius Institutes, the Observer has learned. There are currently 30 branches of the Confucius Institute operating across the UK. Although controversies have existed for many years, they have continued to teach Britons Chinese language, culture and business etiquette. These schools are effectively joint ventures between a host university in Britain, a partner university in China, and the Chinese International Education Foundation (CIEF), a Beijing-based organisation.Until recently, the Beijing-backed programme was viewed positively by the Conservative government. As education minister in 2014, Liz Truss praised the network of Confucius classrooms, saying they "will put in place a strong infrastructure for Mandarin" in the UK.But Truss has since taken an increasingly hawkish stance on Beijing. Recent reports suggested that she was prepared to declare China an "acute threat" to the UK's national security, placing it in the same category as Russia. As bilateral relations between China and the UK continue to deteriorate, the Confucius language learning and teaching project has been under heavy scrutiny.Campaigners have questioned the funding and recruitment process of the Chinese language teaching initiative. They also highlighted the limit to free speech in these classrooms and called the UK's approach to Mandarin teaching "outdated".Almost all UK government spending on Mandarin teaching at schools is channelled through university-based Confucius Institutes, a study conducted by China Research Group in June has shown. This amounts to at least £27m allocated from 2015 to 2024, according to estimates. Those involved in the talks with the Taiwanese included Tory MP Alicia Kearns. Under the new proposal being seen by MPs, this funding could be redirected to alternative programmes such as those from Taiwan.Britain's foreign language capability has been a major topic in Westminster in recent years as the country looks for ways to implement the post-Brexit "global Britain" framework. It was revealed last month that only 14 FCDO officials are being trained to speak fluent Chinese each year. The lack of Mandarin proficiency raised concerns for British diplomacy and also put language teaching under the spotlight.Such concerns are shared in the US, too, and Taiwan has stepped in. In December 2020, the Chinese-speaking island signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the US to expand language teaching. Taipei's Overseas Community Affairs Council, also a government agency, has been setting up Mandarin learning centres in a number of US cities since last year, in apparent competition with Confucius Institutes.But Andrew Methven, who began studying Chinese two decades ago and now runs a Mandarin-learning newsletter, Slow Chinese, said that outsourcing language teaching "is not a solution"."There needs to be a much deeper change in how we understand China in our education system," he said."For example, considering how China can be included more in the existing syllabus at GCSE level and below - such as China's role in the second world war, as well as looking at earlier parts of Asian history. At A-level and beyond, language should be taught based on experiences of people who have actually learned it, and not outsourced to anywhere - China, Taiwan or anywhere else."

Joey Evison inspires Kent to Royal London Cup glory against Lancashire

Lancashire, September 18: Kent fans can sit easy: they may be losing Darren Stevens, but a ready-made replacement is in place in the form of Joey Evison. On a day that was about waving farewell to the departing 46-



year-old all-rounder, it was the 20-year-old Evison who inspired Kent to glory over Lancashire with a stellar all-round display in a 21-run win at Trent Bridge. Only weeks into his Kent career, Evison's fine 97 was followed by two wickets, helping Kent to their first victory in a List A final since 1978. Chasing an

imposing 307, Lancashire went close in an innings of ebb and flow but were forced to settle upon a season of near-misses; they went into this match having lost the T20 Blast final and with their County Championship hopes

who Kent have decided to let go at the end of the season, contributed a scratchy but ultimately vital 33 not out with the bat on an occasion that celebrated his storied career. "To be playing at 46 the way he is - he's been such a massive Kent legend," said Evison. "It's been an honour to play with him the last couple of weeks." Lancashire lost the toss but were smiling not long after, when Ben Compton fell to Tom Bailey for a four-ball duck in the first over. It was then a case of the kids coming to the rescue as Ollie Robinson, 23, settled in with Evison. There was little movement on offer for the quicks and with the sun gracing Trent Bridge life was good for the batters. Robinson fell for a 48-ball 43 but Evison remained comfortable, taking advantage of a ground he knows well. After coming up through the ranks at Nottinghamshire he joined Kent only in July, leaving Trent Bridge initially on loan but having agreed a

permanent deal that will see him through to the end of the 2025 season. Notts expressed their disappointment at his departure, having offered Evison a three-year contract themselves, but the all-rounder is hungry for more first-team action. Privacy Notice: Newsletters may contain info about charities, online ads, and content funded by outside parties. For more information see our Privacy Policy. We use Google reCaptcha to protect our website and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply. Here he was front and centre, with the most mature of knocks. After reaching 50 off 72 deliveries his next 47 took 39 balls, but a deserved century evaded him as a masterly Danny Lamb knuckleball rattled the stumps to end his fun. Lancashire, powered by Keaton Jennings's immaculate timing, had an electric start in the chase but a medium-pace squeeze from

both ends - Harry Podmore at one, Stevens from the other - produced the wicket of Josh Bohannon and briefly pulled back Lancashire's scoring rate. The twists were endless from thereon in. Jennings's deft touches - including a sublime little sweep off Stevens for four - helped Lancashire regain control, taking them to 125 for two in the 22nd over. But the off-spinner Hamidullah Qadri eventually had Jennings pop a simple catch to cover for 72 before Evison struck in his third over, getting Dane Vilas - a centurion in Lancashire's semi-final defeat of Sussex - to drag the ball on to his stumps for 11. Qadri and Evison remained economical and after 34 overs the required run-rate moved above eight an over. Steven Croft decided it was time to change things up, smashing five boundaries in the space of two overs but he found midwicket on 72. From there, Lancashire's hopes faded. Once again, they were forced to settle for silver.

London, September 18: It is impossible to know if Marcus Smith would have tilted this match in Harlequins' favour but the fact he was not allowed to play while Saracens' England contingent all contributed to their narrow victory - ultimately settled by Elliot Daly's long-range penalty - left a cloud hanging over an otherwise entertaining London derby and provided a reminder that club rugby in England rarely helps itself. The Harlequins coach, Tabai Matson, did his best to bite his lip afterwards but there is something awry when Smith is limited to shuttle runs before kick-off while Owen Farrell and Billy Vunipola, and to a lesser extent Maro Itoje, Jamie George and Mako Vunipola, are allowed to influence matters in this manner. To recap, England players from the Australia tour are still supposed to be resting but, while Saracens were given dispensation to field theirs ahead of schedule, Harlequins were blocked from playing Smith. In his absence Tommy Allan performed admirably but one cannot but wonder whether Smith, who has a habit of pulling rabbits out of the hat late on and turning defeats into victories, would have been able to sprinkle enough stardust to turn the match Harlequins' way. How much influence Eddie Jones, who was in attendance at the Stoop, had on the decision is unclear. The Rugby Football Union says he does not have

the authority single-handedly to block an application for players to return early but he has input and the Saracens director of rugby, Mark McCall, confirmed afterwards that the England head coach's say is considerable. "All we

Farrell, they may well have switched off immediately. It would be a shame if they did because this was an engrossing encounter to the very last moment when Farrell kicked the ball out to end the match and celebrate with the



do is put a plan in and we get the thumbs up or thumbs down," said Matson. "We knew that it was probably going to create a kerfuffle for our fans and for probably everyone looking in from the outside. But we can only move forward with the group that we have." Even without Smith, Harlequins still had their moments and there is a strong case to be made that Alex Dombard's withdrawal just before half-time through injury was more significant, such was his influence. But the inconsistency points to a wider problem. This is one of the most eye-catching fixtures in a competition desperate for more eyeballs. Had any of the casual fans that Premiership Rugby is so eager to attract turned on their TVs, expecting to see Smith lining up against

sort of aggression he is renowned for. He was among Saracens' best performers; so too was Billy Vunipola - all the more galling for Harlequins as he played more minutes for club and country than Smith last season. "The parties involved are the player, very importantly, the club, Eddie Jones, PRL and the [Rugby Players' Association]," said McCall. "I think it's a really good process, actually. The decisions are taken in the best interests of the player and obviously we're delighted to have our players available today. It's very important that there isn't a general rule for everybody. It shouldn't be a one-size-fits-all. It should be on a case-by-case basis. I certainly see it as a sensible process."

Underhill injury news makes bad day worse as Bath fall to 14-man Sale

London, September 18: "Cohesion" has become a buzzword in rugby and there can be no doubt which team displayed more of the "C" word here. Despite losing the prop Nick Schonert to a seventh-minute red card, Sale dominated on a glistening late-summer's day in the south-west. The Sharks' impressively joined-up approach, executed with no little power and precision, extinguished Johan van Graan's hopes of victory on his Premiership bow as head coach at the Recreation Ground. Van Graan's side began their league campaign with a narrow defeat by Bristol last week but this, considering the fact they had a man extra for 73 minutes, was far more dispiriting. Another season of frustration beckons unless the former Munster coach can galvanise his players and transform them, collectively, into something durable. News that the England back row Sam Underhill needs surgery on a shoulder problem, and will be out for 12 weeks, will hardly help. On the other hand Sale look a team ready to challenge for the highest honours: it was an eye-catching afternoon for Tom O'Flaherty, one of their summer recruits from Exeter, while the addition of Jonny Hill in the second row also looks a natural fit. Rob du Preez, at fly-half, was metronomic and flawless off the kicking tee with 15 points while Manu Tuilagi looked fit, motivated and at his

destructive best. When he recovers from injury George Ford's vision and game-management will be a potent addition. "Pretty simple - we've got to be better," said Van Graan. "There's absolutely no excuse from my side. You won't get any excuse through the whole season. I learned a lot from individuals today, and I learned a lot from the team

was no mitigation for Schonert. Red card. Lesser teams would have wilted but Sale are made of strong stuff. A couple of Piers Francis penalties got Bath on the board but the Sale hooker Van der Merwe soon bundled over, bouncing off several would-be tacklers on the way. Ben Spencer, the home captain and scrum-half,



today. It's only game two, we had moments. But not good enough." Even at 15-a-side, briefly, it had looked hard enough for Bath. The Sharks' attacking machine immediately clicked when Akker van der Merwe floated the first lineout long to the No 8 Dan du Preez. Exerting that familiar crushing power in collisions, Sale engineered the opportunity for O'Flaherty to dot down. Three minutes later came the incident that arguably defined the match, albeit in an unexpected way. Bath had a penalty but an upright tackle by Schonert on Dave Attwood attracted the TMO's attention. The referee, Christophe Ridley, took his time in deciding there

went off after sustaining a blow to the head and a knock-on by Lewis Boyce, the front rower, exemplified Bath's ineffective attempts to make their numerical advantage tell. Soon after half-time Josh Bayliss and Cameron Redpath combined to create an overlap for Joe Cokanasiga to speed over unchallenged in the corner. That roused the home crowd, and it looked momentarily as if a stirring fightback might be on the cards. Only momentarily. The England back row Tom Curry came off the bench to round off an excellent move by the Sharks, Tuilagi feeding O'Flaherty, who offloaded inside for the England back row to dive over.

'He's an old legend': Summerhand times Ayr Gold Cup surge to perfection

London, September 18: Summerhand proved there is no substitute to experience as the eight-year-old struck in typically late fashion to scoop the Ayr Gold Cup. Commanche Falls looked poised to add the prestigious six-furlong handicap to the Stewards' Cup he won in July, but he was denied in the dying strides as Scotland's own Danny Tudhope weaved his way into contention aboard David O'Meara's evergreen runner. It was the second time this season the 12-1 winner has denied Commanche Falls, with Summerhand accounting for Michael Dods's five-year-old when the pair clashed at York last month. The first two home have run over 90 times between them over the course of their respective careers and it was the winner's 15th victory on his 71st start. O'Meara was picking up his second Ayr Gold Cup to add to Louis The Pious's victory in 2014 and he told ITV Racing: "He's been with me a long time and he's an old legend isn't he? He's run here a good few times and hit the woodwork a fair bit. He's an absolute legend." Liam Heard rides him out every day and I don't really gallop him. Like a lot of these good sprinters, they don't need a lot of work. He runs quite frequently and sort of looks after himself. He loves the game and it was a great ride by Danny. I think they were saying it's been over 50 years since a Scottish jockey has won this race. "Meanwhile, Roger Varian's exciting Sakheer

confirmed the promise of his clear-cut Haydock success with a bloodless victory in the Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury. Defeated only by inexperience on debut, he built on that first appearance on Merseyside last month before taking the step up to Group Two level with aplomb on just his third start. Always well positioned tracking the early leader Shouldvebeenear, the result was elementary once David Egan showed the son of Zoffany some daylight and pushed the button for home. The 4-5 favourite scorched clear to return an emphatic three-and-a-half-length verdict at the line, with the victory bringing up a four-timer on the day for Egan. For Varian it was his sixth winner of the tour that followed it. There are highlight-package snatches of Mohammad Yousuf's implacable batting, Danish Kaneria's sly grin as he schemed over his next delivery, and Shoaib Akhtar's fringe flapping like a crow's wings as he celebrated defeating another of England's batsmen who, hapless and baffled, collapsed twice as they lost the Test series two-nil. "I think I remember watching the Sports Personality of the Year awards that year," Butler says, "and I feel like, did the team get the award and they were all sat out here lined up?" They did. They stayed up till 3am to appear live on video link and paid for it the next day when they were ripped apart by Akhtar again in a one-day game England lost by seven wickets. It has been 17 years since that tour. For six of those, immediately after the terror



could have another Classic contender on their hands, with Coral going 10-1 from 33-1 for next year's 2,000 Guineas. "He has size and scope, he's very exciting and I think he'll stay seven furlongs or a mile," said Varian. "You can never really expect things to go as well for us as it has today, but everything is clicking. He's in the Middle Park, but it's next week, very soon. We'll have to see."

Jos Buttler and England aware of debt to Pakistan on first tour since 2005

Karachi, September 18: Jos Buttler does not recall much about England's last trip to Pakistan. It was in 2005 and he was a teenager playing for Somerset Under-15s. He could tell you plenty about England's win in the Ashes that summer - "probably the best series ever" - but he knows only fragments of the tour that followed it. There are highlight-package snatches of Mohammad Yousuf's implacable batting, Danish Kaneria's sly grin as he schemed over his next delivery, and Shoaib Akhtar's fringe flapping like a crow's wings as he celebrated defeating another of England's batsmen who, hapless and baffled, collapsed twice as they lost the Test series two-nil. "I think I remember watching the Sports Personality of the Year awards that year," Buttler says, "and I feel like, did the team get the award and they were all sat out here lined up?" They did. They stayed up till 3am to appear live on video link and paid for it the next day when they were ripped apart by Akhtar again in a one-day game England lost by seven wickets. It has been 17 years since that tour. For six of those, immediately after the terror



attack on the Sri Lanka team in March 2009, there was no international cricket played in Pakistan at all. There is a group of players who passed their entire time in international cricket without ever playing a game in front of their own home crowds. The careers of the fast bowler Tanvir Ahmed, wicketkeeper Adnan Akmal and spinner Zulfiqar Babar began after the exile and ended before it did. And there is a generation of fans who for six years saw their team play only on television in empty stadiums in the United Arab Emirates. It is true, too, but less often said, that there is a generation of English players, such as Buttler, who have never

had the chance to come and experience the sport as it is played here. "They've been robbed too," says England's coach, Matthew Mott, who came here with Australia's academy side in 1995, when they, too, got worked over by Akhtar. "It was one of the best tours I've ever been on. As an Australian growing up, it felt so foreign and so exciting." It still does. Buttler has played in 15 different countries, across five continents, but has never been here before. Which is one reason why he wanted to come even though he is injured and it is touch and go whether he will be able to play. Buttler has no real idea what to expect, except that the crowd will be loud and the bowling fast. Some of his squad do, from the Pakistan Super League. Alex Hales, who knows Karachi well, says it is a wonderful place to bat if you are in form and an awful one if you are not a quick, skiddy pitch and a battery of tearaway quicks queuing up to bowl at your head and your toes. England will get their first real taste of all that on Tuesday. It is an unavoidable shame that until then they will be shut off from the city around them.

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Mohammed Shami Ruled Out Of T20I Series vs Australia After Testing COVID-19 Positive

New Delhi, September 18: India pacer Mohammed Shami has been ruled out of the upcoming three-match T20I series against Australia after testing positive for COVID-19, the BCCI confirmed in an official media release on Sunday. Umesh Yadav has been named as his replacement. Shami

series between India A and New Zealand A. Saini will now head to the NCA for further management of his injury," stated the release. The All-India Senior Selection Committee has named Rishi Dhawan as Saini's replacement in India A squad. India

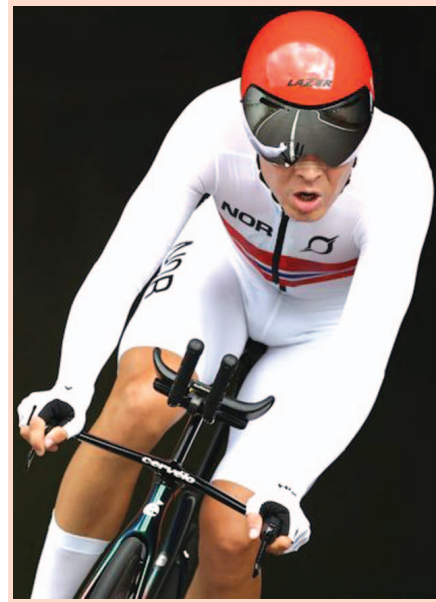


was originally named in the squad for the T20I series against Australia and South Africa. "Fast bowler Mohd. Shami will not be able to take part in the upcoming three-day Mastercard T20I series against Australia after testing positive for COVID-19," stated the official release. "The All-India Senior Selection Committee has named Umesh Yadav as his replacement," it added. The board has also confirmed that pacer Navdeep Saini has been ruled out of the India A one-day series against New Zealand A after sustaining a right groin injury. "Navdeep Saini sustained a right groin injury on Day 1 of the Duleep Trophy semi-final match between North Zone and South Zone. He is ruled out of the ongoing tournament and also from the upcoming three-match one-day

squad for Australia series: Rohit Sharma (Captain), KL Rahul (vice-captain), Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Deepak Hooda, Rishabh Pant (wicket-keeper), Dinesh Karthik (wicket-keeper), Hardik Pandya, R. Ashwin, Yuzvendra Chahal, Axar Patel, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Harshal Patel, Deepak Chahar, Jasprit Bumrah, Umesh Yadav. India A squad: Prithvi Shaw, Abhimanyu Easwaran, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Rahul Tripathi, Rajat Patidar, Sanju Samson (Captain), KS Bharat (wicket-keeper), Kuldeep Yadav, Shabbaz Ahmed, Rahul Chahar, Tilak Varma, Kuldeep Sen, Shardul Thakur, Umran Malik, Rishi Dhawan, Raj Angad Bawa.

Road World Championships: Tobias Foss shocks favourites in men's time trial

Wollongong, September 18: The smile on his face said it all. Sitting in the hot-seat on the opening day of the 2022 UCI Road World Championships in Wollongong, Australia, Tobias Foss watched on as the final rider on course crossed the finish line. Foss blinked, shook his head and laughed in disbelief. He slapped his face multiple times, as if to make sure this was no dream. Then the Norwegian cyclist let out a guttural roar. A new men's world time trial cham-



pion had been crowned - and an unlikely one at that. Since recording the fastest time earlier on Sunday afternoon, the 25-year-old had watched on as some of the world's best time-trialists had failed to better his effort. The final four riders to take on the technical 34.2km course were practically a roll-call of the best against the clock: two-time European time-trial champion Stefan Küng, two-time Tour de France winner Tadej Pogacar, recent Vuelta a España winner Remco Evenepoel and defending world time-trial champion Filippo Ganna. These were the riders expected to triumph in Wollongong. Not Foss. The Norwegian has a reasonable palmarès: he won the Tour de l'Avenir in 2019, a race known for

anointing future stars, won the road race and time-trial titles at last year's Norwegian championships and finished ninth overall at the 2021 Giro d'Italia. But compared to the time-trial pedigree of Ganna and co, Foss had not even been considered among the pre-race favourites. Yet one by one, the final four failed to better the Team Jumbo-Visma rider's pace, of 40 minutes and two seconds - averaging a rapid 51.3km per hour across the course. Küng came the closest, only 2.9 seconds away, to take the silver medal. Evenepoel continued his recent Vuelta form to finish third, nine seconds back. But when Ganna crossed the line - a two-time world champion in the discipline, a Tokyo gold medalist on the track, a cycling star soon to take on the hour record - the Italian was, remarkably, nearly a minute back. And so Foss smiled, laughed, slapped his face and roared. A remarkable win, an unexpected win, a win for the ages. With his triumph, Foss became the first-ever Norwegian to win the world time trial title. He joins Thor Hushovd, winner of the road race at the 2010 world championships (also held in Australia), and Monica Valvik, who won the women's road race in 1994, as the only Norwegians to have worn the iconic rainbow jersey. "I guess we really like Australia," he laughed after the race. "It was unexpected - I knew my shape was strong, coming

in from Canada, putting in some nice work, [and] training has gone well in the past two months. I was really hoping to go deep today. Good preparation, good execution, and in the end there was a gold. That's unreal. "After his impressive showing in the time trial, Evenepoel will start next Sunday's road race among the favourites - if he can shake-off lingering jet-lag. "I just hope I can recover and feel more fresh than I was the last week," he said. "I feel like I can fall asleep already now. This season is getting quite long - I just hope I can recover well." It was heartbreak on the streets of Wollongong for Ethan Hayter, the two-time track world champion and Olympic silver medalist who recently switched to the road with Ineos Grenadiers. The 24-year-old came flying down the start ramp and looked on course for a medal, but suffered a mechanical incident with his chain-ring at the halfway mark. He battled back for fourth, but the time loss ended his medal hopes. "Slightly disappointed, but fourth place is still pretty good," he said. Hayter is an emerging star on the road after departing the Great Britain's track programme, and pledged to return stronger from the disappointment. "It was a big opportunity, but fortunately the world champs are every year. "At the post-race press conference, Küng - with the silver medal around his neck - underscored the surprise that had been sprung on the cycling world by Foss's victory. "I could cry - and not out of joy," he said. "I've been circling around this big win for quite some time.

London, September 18: Emma Hayes is serene in a small bungalow in Cobham as, amid the uncertainty, one era sweeps into another at Chelsea's heavily monitored training ground. Two weeks ago, a short walk from here, Thomas Tuchel was sacked by Chelsea's owners the morning after his 100th game at the club. Hayes had just passed 10 years in charge of Chelsea Women, in a reign made remarkable by five Women's Super League titles, four FA Cups and two League Cups. The second half of her career at Chelsea coincided with the arrival of her son, Harry, born only half an hour before Hayes gave birth to his twin brother, Albie, who had died inside her after 28 weeks. Now it feels as if she has been released from four years of hidden trauma. Hayes, an engagingly open woman, has reflected on her grief and loss while also expressing sympathy for Tuchel. The 45-year-old has spoken about her belief that she has ADHD and remembered the days when her dad told her to "change the face of women's football". Hayes has suggested how best to capitalise on England's Euro 2022 triumph before switching to fluent Spanish when revealing her "dream job" in football. These fascinating insights are offered on an afternoon when, glowing with energy, Hayes says: "I had an off-season taking in life and enjoying anything from a walk to a drink. It's no

surprise this is the freshest I've felt. I always find a way to read, to study, to be interested. But this summer my study was life. I've also reached a point in my career where I'm really enjoying it. I've had years where I didn't but, now, I love the work. There's a coming together of a football model I've been working on my whole career. All the jigsaw pieces are in sync and there's a lovely energy to the team where it's a given that we'll keep competing." Hayes is the best manager in the WSL and as the new season begins, she hopes to steer Chelsea to a fourth successive title. "I'm well again," she says. "I feel the best I've felt since before I gave birth because the last four years I haven't been right. When I knew I was only going to deliver one live baby, I hadn't actually contemplated I still had to deliver two. I just needed to get Harry into this world healthy. But I realise now why women take a year off work after child-birth because I didn't prepare for the significant hormonal, physical, emotional challenge. "My biggest regret was coming back to work after eight weeks. It's nothing to do with the club because how do you step away from your job as a football manager for a year? What if they bring in an interim coach and after eight months they say: 'We'll stick with him or her'. The club would have given me maximum support but it felt an impossible position. "Hayes looks wounded as she remembers the desolation of losing Albie. "That moment will never leave me and I feel sad for Harry, who doesn't have a brother. I'm not saying it doesn't hurt now but I accept it. I will still have a cry about it every birthday and Christ-

mas. That's normal. But for those first four years I was just trying to survive. I felt exhausted. But I woke up when Harry turned four this May. That was the first time I thought: 'I'm back. I'm back!'" She is back, too, in the madness of football which is so evident in the men's team at Chelsea. Since 2012, when Hayes joined and brought stability and structure, there have been 10 male managers, including caretakers. The managerial churn took its latest twist when Tuchel was sacked after 20 months in which Chelsea won the Champions League. "I'm gutted," Hayes tells me before Graham Potter replaced Tuchel. "I love Thomas. He's a great man, a great coach with a brilliant history, albeit short here, who's had to go through lots of change. It's disappointing and I'm super sad for him but Thomas will thrive anywhere." Did she and Tuchel talk deeply about football? "Yes, we made time but it's fleeting when you can grab an hour to do that. We had a really good relationship. "Hayes stresses how much she has missed working with the previous regime and, especially, the former chairman Bruce Buck. "Bruce has been humongous for me. I miss him already. He's an amazing Chelsea guy because, as an American, he really understood the women's game and pushed me to keep pushing the club. I always felt really trusted by him and Marina Granovskaia [the former director who handled contracts and transfers] so I was devastated when they left. "Whenever there's change, there's apprehension. But during the takeover [when Roman Abramovich sold Chelsea to a consortium led by the Ameri-

can billionaire Todd Boehly], Bruce said: 'It's going to be different but that doesn't mean it's going to be worse.' I say to my players all the time: 'I want you to be open to change.' I had to do that myself." Has she spoken much to Boehly? "Yes, I speak to Todd quite regularly. The interactions I've had with our current ownership group make me think they are going to be champions for women's football. I am super excited because they can drive women's football in this country to a new level." Hayes has been such a revelation as a coach that some Chelsea fans and pundits, including Pat Nevin, suggested Boehly should have considered her as a replacement for Tuchel. Hayes is committed to Chelsea Women, and she usually hates being asked about managing a men's team, but it is striking how she answers when I ask what has frustrated her most. "The Sky Sports headline which suggested I said it was an insult to coach AFC Wimbledon. That pissed me off the most. I've since told Sky how fucking dangerous it is to put out such a statement. I did not say it was an insult to coach AFC Wimbledon. I referred to my own players and said: 'It's not an insult to coach these women.' I was honouring the women I represented, and no amount of money was going to take me away from that. "The AFC Wimbledon chairman wrote to [Chelsea Women] criticising me. That was a terrible misjudgment by him because we share their stadium. I deal with that question all the time about the men's game but it was particularly upsetting. Sky Sports ran a headline which



would cause lots of damage subsequently for any woman in that situation. Sky have shifted since they've

taken on coverage of the women's game but I understand that anything I say is clickbait."

Son Heung-min Ends Goal Drought With Treble As Tottenham Hotspur Beat Leicester City

London, September 18: Son Heung-min said he never doubted he would end his goal drought as the South Korea star responded to being dropped by hitting an incredible 13-minute hat-trick in Tottenham's 6-2 rout of Leicester on Saturday. Son came off the bench to score Tottenham's last three goals, including a pair of brilliant long-range finishes, in an emphatic victory that lifted them into second place in the Premier League. It was the ideal response from Son after he had been axed for failing to score in his previous eight appearances. Just days af-



ter Tottenham boss Antonio Conte had warned that no player was undroppable, Dejan Kulusevski came in for Son, who finished as the

Premier League's joint top scorer last season. Explaining Son's omission, Conte said: "We needed to start making rotations because playing all the same players in all the games is not good." The 30-year-old's treble showed he won't sulk when Conte wants to take him out of the firing line. "My finishing has been poor this season. I've also been a little bit unlucky," Son said. "I was really disappointed, but I knew the goal was coming and I wasn't worried about it. I was working hard and always want to help the team." I'm always having great supporters behind me

and great staff. This makes me always believe and make me strong in these tough moments. I'm getting emotional to be honest, with the amazing support. "It was the perfect evening for Tottenham, who bounced back after losing for the first time in eight games this season on Tuesday when Sporting Lisbon scored twice in stoppage-time to seal a 2-0 win in the Champions League. Tottenham's fifth win from seven league games moved them above Arsenal and level on points with leaders Manchester City. Bottom of the table Leicester's sixth successive defeat will pile

pressure on boss Brendan Rodgers. "It's been a really difficult start. It's my responsibility. Whatever happens to me at Leicester, whether I stay and fight on, I'll always respect them," Rodgers said. Beleaguered Leicester had taken the lad when Davinson Sanchez conceded a spot-kick with a needless lunge on James Justin. Hugo Lloris saved Youri Tielemans' penalty, but VAR showed the Tottenham keeper had stepped off his line before the kick, giving the Belgian midfielder a retake that he gratefully converted.

Sydney defy thrilling Collingwood comeback to win through to AFL grand final

Sydney, September 18: Sydney will meet Geelong in the 2022 AFL grand final, after the Swans held off a courageous Collingwood comeback by one point to win a thrilling preliminary final 14.11.95 to 14.10.94 before an ecstatic 45,608 fans at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Having waited 72 years for their iconic 2005 premiership, the Swans will now look for their second AFL flag in a decade as they prepare to take on the Cats, who purged into the decider with a 71-point obliteration of Brisbane at the MCG on Friday night. But Sydney went within a whisker of blowing it, as Collingwood overcame a

four-goal deficit to close within a kick. In the end, a brave Bloods outfit did enough to hold on. In front of a heaving home crowd, Sydney scored the game's first four goals. The first came from a smart pass from Isaac Heeney that found Luke Parker on the fly. Dylan Stephens seized on an error for the second, rushing the goal square and getting a boot on a tumbling ball. Ryan Clarke kicked the third after Buddy Franklin made a contest. When Tom Papley, the little big man with the rip to back up his lip, kicked Sydney's fourth from 50-metres out, the old Members Pavilion shook



with the roar from the crowd. Despite being blown away on the scoreboard, Collingwood kept calm, knowing they had kicked goals in fast batches all sea-

son. The Magpies hadn't scored from their first eleven inside-50s but slowly they settled. Mason Cox marked strongly on the arc and dinked infield where Will

Hoskin Elliott snapped over his left shoulder. Cox won another contest minutes later and this time Darcy Elliott found Jamie Elliott who banked back-to-back majors for the visitors and narrow the margin to 14 points. But Sydney were in a mood and on a 10-game tear. Their ferocious pressure snuffed every Magpies raid before it got started. Even when the Pies made a rare incursion inside-50, Sydney's back men Dane Rampe and the McCartin Brothers, Paddy and Tom, had it covered, diffusing and clearing for a fresh Swans raid downfield.