



The Assam Rising

Projecting the best of Northeast India everyday

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Biden says Covid 'pandemic is over', despite US daily ...

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Brighton appoint Roberto De Zerbi as manager to replace Graham...

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Heroin seized

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 19 :

One person has been apprehended and 690 grams heroin was seized from his possession in Karimganj district of Assam. Based on secret information, a team in Karimganj Police launched an operation at Kabarihand village under Patharkandi police station and recovered 49 soap cases containing 690 grams of heroin from a house owned by Jamil Uddin. However, the accused Jamil Uddin fled from the spot. Partha Pratim Das, Additional Superintendent of Police of Karimganj district said that the recovered drugs were kept hidden inside an LPG cylinder. The market value of the seized drugs is estimated to be around Rs 5 crores. Meanwhile, further investigation is underway into the incident.

3 Labourers Dead

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 19 :

At least three labourers were killed and several others sustained serious injuries following a gas leak at a coal mine in Assam's Tinsukia on Sunday night. The incident was reported at a coal mine site near Congress field. The deceased have been identified as Sahidul Islam, Hussain Ali and Aasmat Ali. Meanwhile, the victim's families claimed that the owner of the coal mine buried the bodies with the help of a JCB in the middle of the night in an attempt to cover up the incident. Sources said the police is yet to reach the scene and initiate and investigation into the case.

AGP joining

New Delhi, September 19 :

4 political leaders and 100 women joined Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) on Monday. The joining programme was held in the presence of Minister Keshab Mahanta, Atul Bora and others. Among the political leaders who joined AGP are former President of Youth Congress and former General Secretary of APCC Kamrul Haque Choudhury. The foundation day of AGP will be held in Barpeta.

Akhil Gogoi Suspended from assembly for Protesting Against Medium Policy



Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 19 :

Sivasagar MLA Akhil Gogoi has once again been suspended from the last day of the ongoing Assam Assembly session on Monday. He was suspended for speaking on the medium policy controversy. Gogoi objected the

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Assam government for population control through awareness: Minister

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 19 :



The Assam government on Monday said that it was working towards population control by creating awareness rather than imposing rules. Education and empowerment of women is an important tool in this regard, Health Minister Keshab Mahanta said in the assembly. Replying to the matter of need for population control raised in the House by BJP legislator Hemanga Thakuria, Mahanta said the state government had come out with the Population and Women Empower-

ment Policy of Assam in 2017, which deals with the issue. He said a piece of legislation for population control norms is also being formulated through wide consultations. The

Don't believe PM Narendra Modi is behind 'misuse' of CBI, ED, says Mamata Banerjee

New Delhi, September 19 :

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday said she doesn't believe that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is behind the alleged excesses of central agencies in the state and blamed a section of the BJP leaders for misusing them to serve their

interests. Banerjee, who was speaking on a resolution in the Assembly against the "excesses" of the central probe agencies, urged the Prime Minister to ensure that the agenda of the union government and the interests of his party do not get mixed up. The BJP

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China-US power conflict: Beijing blames Ukraine's desire to join NATO for Russian invasion on Kyiv



Beijing, September 19 :

China is taking full advantage of the Russia-Ukraine crisis to warn the US of its threats -- a classic example of "killing the chicken to scare the monkey," GeoPolitica reports said. From blaming NATO expansion for Russia's invasion of Ukraine to accusing Ukraine's desire to join NATO of endangering Russian security or even condemning anti-Russia sanctions imposed upon the outbreak of the war, Beijing's intentions are only to threaten the US amid the ongoing power struggle, according to GeoPolitica. More of this

becomes clear as one gets closer to Beijing launching an impossible diplomatic push. Much of China's criticism of the West stems from the fact that Beijing is dealing with a major strategic problem. Evan Feigenbaum of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace made an interesting point. It identifies China's three primary goals in the Russian-Ukrainian conflict. The first is China's strategic alliance with Russia. The second is to demonstrate China's commitment to long-standing foreign policy principles of "territoriality" and "non-interference," and the third is to minimise col-

lateral damage from EU and US sanctions, according to GeoPolitica. Beijing officials have been travelling around the world since the war began on February 24. From February 24 to May 19, Beijing had 64 diplomatic talks with international colleagues to address the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. However, one must note that this diplomatic effort is divided into two sections. The first stage concentrated on Western nations in order to manage the impact of Western policy results and the second is China's move to focus on poorer countries. For Instance, on March 15, US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan

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Queen Elizabeth II Funeral 'God Save the King' sung at state funeral

London, September 19 :

Britain's longest-serving monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, died a week ago aged 96 after 70 years on the throne. Queen Elizabeth II's funeral will take place in London on Monday (September 19, 2022) and a host of world leaders, royalty and other dignitaries will attend the same. President Joe Biden, and Indian President Droupadi



Murmu are among hundreds of heads of state and other dignitaries who are in London to attend her state funeral service at Westminster Abbey today. Westminster Abbey has space for around 2,000 people, and around 500 heads of state and foreign dignitaries and their partners are expected, accord-

ing to BBC and Sky News reports. Londoners gather in huge numbers to watch as the State hearse carries Queen Elizabeth II's coffin to Windsor castle where she will be laid to rest. According to Westminster Abbey's official Twitter handle, the music played at

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'Why did you not announce...' Raj Thackeray attacks Uddhav for 'cheating' people



New Delhi, September 19 :

Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray on Monday (September 19, 2022) hit out at his estranged cousin and Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray for creating a tussle over sharing of chief ministerial tenure after 2019 assembly results

were announced. Attacking former Maharashtra chief minister, Raj said that Uddhav's party fought the 2019 polls in alliance with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), but created a tussle over sharing of chief ministerial tenure soon after results were announced."

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'Make sure you do what you're supposed to do': Biden recalls hearty talk with Queen Elizabeth

Washington, September 19 :

Expressing his condolences to the royal family, US President Joe Biden on Sunday (local time) paid his respects at Queen Elizabeth's coffin and said that the Queen had always reminded him of his mother. While mourning the passing of Queen Elizabeth, Biden remembered Queen's warm candour and said, "The way she touched when she leaned over. The way -- she had that look like, 'Are you okay? Anything I can do for you? What do you need?' And then also, 'Make sure you do what you're supposed to do,'"

Biden said adding that she reminded him of his mother. Moreover, President Biden empathized with King Charles III and told him that it is a loss that leaves a giant hole and sometimes one thinks never be able to overcome it. However, Biden gave a reassuring notion saying, "She is going to be with him every step of the way -- every minute, every moment. And that's." "But as I've told the King, So, to all the people of England, all the people of the United Kingdom, our hearts go out to you. And you were fortunate to have had her for 70 years. We all were. The world is better for her," a White House press release

said quoting him. Reminiscing the old memories of his meeting with the Queen he said, "When the Queen had us to the castle for tea and -- we were joking -- crumpets -- she kept offering me more; I kept eating everything she put in front of me -- but she was the same in person as she -- as her image: decent, honourable, and all about service." "I talk about how my mother and father thought that everyone, no matter who they were, no matter what their station, no matter where they were from deserved to be treated with dignity. And that's exactly what she communicated -- just the way she walked by her staff, just the



way -- just the way she acted." Biden shared that the Queen gave a sense of the notion of service. "We all owe something. There's something within our capacity to do that can make things -- not just the world better, but your

neighbourhood better, your household better, your workplace better. And that -- that's what she communicated to me, anyway. And it was an honour to meet her --

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President Droupadi Murmu meets King Charles III ahead of Queen's funeral in London



New Delhi, September 19 :

President Droupadi Murmu met King Charles III at Buckingham Palace on Sunday ahead of Queen Elizabeth's state funeral to be held today at Westminster Abbey in London. President Droupadi Murmu arrived in London on Saturday evening (September 17) to attend the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II and offer condolences on behalf of the Indian government. The World

will say goodbye to Britain's longest-reigning monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, today (September 19). The Queen, the former head of state of the UK and Head of the Commonwealth of Nations, passed away on September 8, aged 96. The funeral will be attended by a host of world leaders, royalty and other dignitaries. Foreign royals and world leaders will join the Queen's family for the state funeral that will be watched by

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Pakistan in talks with Russia on importing oil on deferred payment

Islamabad, September 19 :

Pakistan is in talks with Russia on the possibility of importing oil on deferred payment, according to a media report on Sunday. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had three meetings with Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Uzbekistan's Samarkand

city, which concluded last week, the Express Tribune newspaper reported quoting a top government official. "One was formal and the rest were informal," said the official, who was part of the prime minister's delegation. "What we have discussed during the recent interaction with the Russian side is the possibility of importing oil on

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People participate in the grape stomping during the Limassol Wine Festival in Limassol, Cyprus

'You just get on with it': Jacinda Ardern says Queen gave her 'best advice'

Auckland, September 19 : Jacinda Ardern says the Queen gave her the best advice she got on combining the duties of leading a country and being a new mother: "Just get on with it." New Zealand's prime minister, who is in London to attend the Queen's funeral, said her first meeting with Queen

Elizabeth II was in 2018, when she had recently been elected prime minister and was pregnant with her daughter, Neve. Ardern is one of just a handful of world leaders who have been pregnant and had a child while holding office, and said she had been mulling over how to manage having her first baby while leading a country. "One of the things on my mind alongside being a new prime minister was being a prime minister and a mum - and when you think about leaders who have been in that position ... there were so few

to look to," she told the BBC. "So I said to [the Queen], 'How did you manage?' and I remember she just said, 'Well, you just get on with it'. And that was actually probably the best and most factual advice I could have," Ardern said. "I see now what it takes to be a mum and a leader - and she did it more times over than I." The late Queen gave birth to Prince Andrew and Prince Edward while she was monarch. Ardern gave birth to her daughter, Neve Te Aroha, in June 2018, and returned to her position as prime minister

just two months later. She is only the second elected leader to give birth while in office: the late Benazir Bhutto gave birth while serving as prime minister of Pakistan in 1990. Ardern visited the Queen lying in state over the weekend - and as a visiting dignitary, was allowed to skip the eight-kilometre long queue of people turning out to pay respects and witness the historical moment. She said if she was a private citizen, she would have joined the queue herself. "In part as a way of acknowledging the moment in time as well as the person," she said.

gusts of up to almost 150mph and had already dumped up to 500mm of rain in less than 24 hours on parts of the south-western Kyushu region. Local officials said several people had been injured. In Kushima city in the southern Miyazaki prefecture, a woman was slightly hurt by shards of glass when winds broke windows at a gymnasium. National TV broadcaster NHK reported 15 people had been injured, citing its own tally. At least 20,000 people spent the night in shelters in Kyushu's Kagoshima and Miyazaki prefectures, where the JMA has issued a rare

"special warning" - an alert that is issued only when it forecasts conditions seen once in several decades. The national broadcaster NHK, which collates information from local authorities, said more than 7 million people had been told to move to shelters or take refuge in sturdy buildings to ride out the storm. The evacuation warnings are not mandatory, and authorities have at times struggled to persuade people to move to shelters before extreme weather. They sought to drive home their concerns about the weather system throughout the



safety while it's still light outside. "The JMA has warned the region could face unprecedented danger from high winds, storm surges and torrential rain and called the storm "very dangerous". "Areas affected by the storm are seeing the sort of rain that has never been

evening, utility companies said nearly 200,000 homes across the region were without power. Trains, flights and ferries were cancelled until the passage of the storm, and even some convenience stores - generally open all hours and considered a lifeline in disasters - shut their doors.

Flooding and landslides in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Fiona knocks out power to island

London, September 19 : Most of Puerto Rico was without power as a category 1 hurricane bringing heavy rains and dangerous winds made landfall on Sunday evening, causing severe flooding and landslides. Hurricane Fiona



also threatened to damage infrastructure on the Caribbean island as well as neighbouring Dominican Republic as it continued to strengthen and dump torrential rain over the next 24 hours. The storm was causing "catastrophic flooding" in Puerto Rico early on Sunday evening, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) said. Several landslides had been reported, government officials said. The storm forced the closure of roads while a highway bridge in Utuado town in the island's center had been washed away by a flooding river. "If you're going to deal with colonialism, all sides have to agree the status quo is not the solution," said Representative Raúl Grijalva of Arizona. Lights went out across Puerto Rico just after 1pm, leaving only those households and businesses with rooftop solar or functioning generators with power. Electricity was initially completely out across the island, said Luma Energy, operator of the island's grid. Some power had begun to be restored on Sunday night, with priority given to hospitals and other critical community services, energy officials

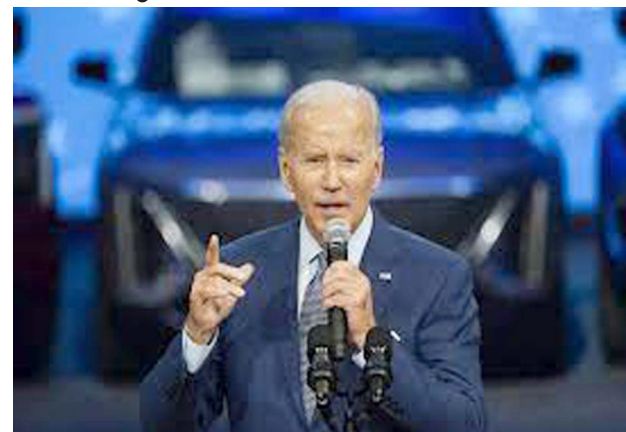
said, but reconnecting the whole island would take several days. "This has been catastrophic," Puerto Rico's governor, Pedro Pierluisi, told reporters in San Juan on Sunday night. "We are responding to the emergency as weather conditions permit." The health minister confirmed earlier that a major cancer hospital in the capital of San Juan was without power after its backup generator failed. An emergency shelter in Sabana Grande in the south-west, where dozens of locals including some infirm residents had sought refuge, was also without power after its generator failed, according to Ruth Santiago, an environmental lawyer and

campaigner for Queremos Sol, a grassroots movement to transition the island away from a centralized energy grid to rooftop solar. "The only thing that can save us this time is that Fiona is not as strong as Maria because so little has changed - the whole transmission system is down," Santiago said from Salinas, a town being battered by gusty winds and torrential rains. "The FEMA money [federal funds to rebuild the energy system after Maria] should have been spent on rooftop solar ... if people die, the Biden government will have blood on its hands." Fiona's center made landfall on Puerto Rico's south-western coast near Punta Tocon at 3.20pm ET (19.20 GMT) on Sunday with maximum sustained winds of about 85mph (140km/h), the NHC said. The storm was upgraded from a tropical storm to a hurricane on Sunday morning. Ports are closed and flights out of the main international airport have been canceled. Flash floods, landslides and high winds have already damaged crops in the south of the island, with more dangerous conditions forecast through Monday.

Burning world's fossil fuel reserves could emit 3.5tn tons of greenhouse gas

London, September 19 : The world will have released more planet-heating emissions than have occurred since the industrial revolution, analysis found. Burning the world's proven reserves of fossil fuels would emit more planet-heating emissions than have occurred since the industrial revolution, easily blowing the remaining carbon budget before societies are subjected to catastrophic global heating, a new analysis has found. An enormous 3.5tn tons of greenhouse gas emissions will be emitted if governments allow identified reserves of coal, oil and gas to be extracted and used, according to what has been described as the first public database of fossil fuel production. The database, which covers around three-quarters of global energy production, reveals that the US and Russia each have enough fossil fuel reserves to single-handedly eat up the world's remaining carbon budget before the planet is tipped into 1.5C (2.7F) or more of heating compared to the pre-industrial era.

Biden says Covid 'pandemic is over', despite US daily death toll in the hundreds



Washington, September 19 : Joe Biden has said "the pandemic is over" in an interview broadcast on Sunday, though he admitted "we still have a problem with Covid", as the US continues to grapple with coronavirus infections that kill hundreds of Americans a day. The president told CBS's 60 Minutes: "We still have a problem with Covid. We're still doing a lotta work on it. But the pandemic is over. If you notice, no one's wearing masks. Everybody seems to be in pretty good shape. And so I think it's changing." Last week the World Health Organization declared the end of the pandemic was "in sight", after revealing that weekly deaths were at the lowest level since March

2020. However, it cautioned that coronavirus still posed an "acute global emergency" and highlighted that during the first eight months of 2022 more than 1 million people died from Covid-19. In the US, the toll of the pandemic has diminished significantly since early in Biden's term when more than 3,000 Americans a day were dying, as enhanced care, medications and vaccinations have become more widely available. But nearly 400 people a day continue to die from Covid in the US, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Biden spent more than two weeks isolating in the White House after two

bouts of Covid, starting in July. His wife, Jill, contracted the virus in August. Biden has said the mild cases were a testament to the improvements in care during his presidency. Biden has asked Congress for \$22.4bn more in funding to prepare for a potential case surge in the fall. In a rare departure from his pattern of avoiding commenting on the Department of Justice's criminal inquiries into his predecessor, Biden told 60 Minutes that Donald Trump's handling of classified documents at his Mar-a-Lago home was "totally irresponsible". "I thought, 'what data was in there that may compromise sources and methods?' And by that I mean names of people who help etc

Monkeypox: don't touch foreigners, says China health chief, as first case reported

Beijing, September 19 : A senior Chinese health official has advised people to avoid physical contact with foreigners to prevent possible monkeypox infection after the first known case of the virus on mainland China was reported on Friday. "To prevent possible monkeypox infection and as part of our healthy lifestyle, it is recommended that 1) you do not have direct skin-to-skin contact with foreigners," Wu Zunyou, chief epidemiologist at the China Centers for Disease Control and Prevention posted on his official Weibo page on Saturday. Wu also called for people to avoid "skin-to-skin contact" with people who had been abroad within the past three weeks as well as all "strangers". "It

is necessary and very important to strengthen the surveillance and prevention of monkeypox epidemic at the social level," he wrote. His post was widely shared across social media over the weekend, but the comments

section under his initial post were disabled on Sunday and in the early hours of Monday in Beijing. Some, who commented on forwarded versions or screenshots of his post,

questioned why foreigners in China, many of whom are long-term residents and have not left recently due to Covid-19 barriers, were considered more dangerous than locals.



People throw color and dance after they finished the color run in Skopje, North Macedonia

Name Change

I am Jaanbi Baruah, W/O- Lt. Uday Sankar Baruah, D/o- Safiqur Rahman. Before marriage my name was Jannat Rassul but After Marriage I changed my Name as Jaanbi Baruah at Nagaon Court on 6th Aug 2022. I declare that Jaanbi Baruah and Jannat Rassul are same person.

**Jaanbi Baruah,
W/O Lt Uday Sankar
Baruah,
Alengisatra,
Senchow, Nagaon**

Name Change

I, Alimun Nessa, DOB 05-01-1968, Wife of Ainuddin Ali, a permanent resident of Morimuslim gaon, P.O.+P.S. Morigaon, Assam. My actual name is Alimun Nessa. But as per my Savings account in Central Bank of India, recorded as Mrs. Mussa Alimun Nessa instead of Alimun Nessa. Alimun Nessa and Mrs. Mussa Alimun Nessa is one and the same person. I will be known as Alimun Nessa in all purposes in future.

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| No. FAAMCH/eT_RAD(2)/1831/2022/1889 |
| NOTICE |
| Following the APPR/2020; it is to inform all concerned that the validity of tender for radiological items invited vide No. FAAMCH/RAD_TEND/1657/2021/245, dated- 04/01/2021 is hereby cancelled henceforth and the bidders are requested to collect the deposited security amount in respect of the said tender from the Office of the undersigned. The new tender for radiological items will be initiated very shortly through the e-procurement system, Government of Assam. |
| No. FAAMCH/eT_PRI/1832/2022/1890 |
| NOTICE |
| Following the APPR/2020; it is to inform all concerned that the validity of tender for printing items invited vide No. FAAMCH/PRI_TEND/1653/2021/263, dated- 04/02/2021 is hereby cancelled henceforth and the bidders are requested to collect the deposited security amount in respect of the said tender from the Office of the undersigned. The new tender for printing items will be initiated very shortly through the e-procurement system, Government of Assam. |
| Superintendent F.A.A Medical College Hospital Barpeta, Assam. |
| Janasanyog/C/10365/22 |

NOTICE INVITING AUCTION (NIA) NO- 10 OF 2022 - 23

Online quotations from registered Class-I contractor/firm of Government Departments, Assam as well as reputed and resourceful Contractor Firms/ Business Enterprises are invited against NIA No. 10 of 2022-23 for the following work.

Name of Work: Auction sale of unserviceable materials and stores of various Divisions of Irrigation Department under Jorhat Circle (I), Jorhat, Assam on "As is where is & Whatever there is" basis in a single lot

Minimum Assessed Value : Rs. 35,47,500.00 (Rupees Thirty five Lakh Forty Seven Thousand and Five Hundred) only.

Details may be seen at website <http://eauction.gov.in> and also in the office of the undersigned during office hours from 17-00 Hours of 18.00.2022 & upto 17-00 Hours of 07.10.2022.

Chief Engineer
Irrigation Department, Assam
Chandmari, Guwahati - 3

Janasanyog/C/10381/22

SHORT NOTICE INVITING Re-TENDER Dated Nagaon the:- 20/09/2022

The Divisional Forest Officer, Nagaon Social Forestry Nagaon invites bid for the Repairing Renovation and Development of Samaguri Park, & Roha Park for the scheme under SOPD for the year 2022-23 for total contract value of the Rs. 16,00,000/- (Sixteen lakhs only for each works) under Nagaon Social Forestry Division, Nagaon from the eligible contractor of class III & above category of PWD (Building) Assam. Tender document can be obtained from the office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Nagaon Social Forestry Division Katimari, within from 20/09/2022 to 28/09/2022 during office working hours on payment of Rs. 500.00 (Five hundred) only being non-refundable processing cost in the shape of Demand Draft/Banker Cheque in favour of under signed. The tender will be received up to 3 P.M.(IST) on 29/09/2022 and will be open on the same day at 3.30 P.M.(IST) The details may be seen at the office of the under signed during office hours.

**Sd/-
Divisional Forest Officer Nagaon
Social Forestry Division
Katimari: Nagaon**

AAPSA organizes Annual Conference NEP 2020



Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 19: All Assam Private School Association organized its Annual Conference 2022 on School Education Regulation in Assam and NEP 2020 at Rudrasagar Hall, Vivanta Taj. The conference's enlightened educators about the NEP2020 recommendations for changes in the regulatory architecture of school education identified and facilitated a platform for educators to discuss the opportunities and challenges faced in the current school education scenario in Assam and engage with key stakeholders in the

implementation of the recommendations of NEP 2020. Speaking about the conference, Sailesh Sarmah, President, AAPSA said, "The All Assam Private School Association protects the interest of all schools. We, as an association, try to collaborate with government institutions to formulate policies that are beneficial for all the key stakeholders associated with the school education in Assam. We believe private schools play a major role in students' learning and development, and regulation must aim to empower private schools by safeguarding their interests

with trust, as private schools are one of the key stakeholders in the progress of the education industry. The conference identifies the challenges and recommends strategies for the overall development of Assam's schooling sector." Pankaj Das, Advisor AAPSA and Director, Modern English School, Kahilipara, Guwahati said, "In the field of school improvement the key is to empower the school heads and teachers. The NEP2020 implementation plan (SARTHAQ) has initiated the tasks and we hope the stipulation of State School Standard Authority (SSSA) will result in effective self-regulation or accreditation of all public, private, and philanthropic schools." The conference was addressed by

Kulbhushan Sharma, President, National Independent School, and Alliance. Three panel discussions were organized to discuss the Regulatory Framework of School Education in Assam, School Education Regulation and Standard Setting under NEP2020 and NEP2020 Implementation in Assam: Challenges and Opportunities. Industry stalwarts attended the event as key speakers namely, R.C. Jain, Chairman, Board of Secondary Education Assam (SEBA), Jahnabi Sarma, State Consultant (P&Q), Samagra Shiksha Assam, N. Hazel Singh Managing Trustee, Emmanuel Foundation, Emmanuel English HS School, Pailapool. Cachar. D. Shashi Kumar, KPMTCC, Convenor Karnataka Private School, Managements,

Teaching-Non Teaching Staff Coordination Committee, Sailesh Sarmah, Director, Our ABC Academy, Tinsukia, Assam, President, AAPSA. Dr.Amit Chandra, Senior Consultant at Central Square Foundation, Dr.Prashant Narang, Senior Fellow - Research and Training Programs at Centre for Civil Society. Pankaj Das, Advisor AAPSA and Director, Modern English School, Kahilipara, Guwahati moderated the panel discussions. The key takeaways of the conference were the recommendations made by NEP2020 for changes to be introduced, keeping in mind the contextual reality of Assam's current school education state and the role of private schools in the education sector.

State health minister inaugurates Sub-National Polio Vaccination Campaign



Assam Rising
Bhuraogon, September 19: Assam Health, Family Welfare, Medical Education and Research, Science Technology and Information Technology Minister Keshav Mohanty today inaugurated the Bhurbandha M.Sc. VS. He inaugurated the Sub-National Polio Immunization Campaign at the school. The Minister said that although India is polio free in 2014, polio is still present in some countries and polio can re-

transmit to our country from those countries. Therefore, more than 2.6 million polio vaccines are being conducted in 19 districts of Assam. The distribution programme has been started and is continuing regularly in other districts. The Minister distributed polio vaccines to children with his own hands and urged all the people to participate in the polio vaccination programme. The event was attended by Morigaon MLA Ramakant Deuri, State

Director of Health Kamaljit Talukdar, District Commissioner Devashish Sharma, officials of State Health Department and World Health Organization, Additional Commissioner Arundhati Narah Mipun, Morigaon Revenue Circle Circle Officer Hriday Kumar Das. They were also present at the meeting, officers and employees of the district health department, mothers with children, ASHAs and Anganwadi workers.

Fresher's Social of the Nowboicha College celebrated

Assam Rising
North Lakhimpur, September 19: The much awaited Fresher's Day was celebrated on a grand scale at Nowboicha College of Lakhimpur district here on Friday. The day-long programme was inaugurated by hoisting the College Flag by the Principal of the College Dr. Gunindra Nath Sarmah at 9 am. He was given a Guard of Honour by the NCC Cadets of the College. A number of students along with teachers of the College were present in the flag hoisting programme. After this programme, the Vice-Principal of the College Mondita Borah paid tribute to the martyrs of Assam who laid down their lives for the sake of our state at



Swahid Bedi by lighting earthen lamps. At 10 a.m. the Wall Magazine of the College "Udayan" was inaugurated by the Principal of the College. The General Meeting of the Fresher's Programme was started by 11 a.m. and it was inaugurated by Dr. Rahul Pegu, Circle Officer, Nowboicha Revenue Circle. The meeting was presided over by the Principal of the College Dr. Gunindra Nath Sarmah. One of the renowned educationists of the State Dr. Mukunda Rajbongshi was invited as the appointed Speaker of the programme. The Chairman of Assam Higher Secondary Education Council (AHSEC) Rukma Gohain Baruah was also invited as the Special invited guest to the programme. Pulak Borah, ex-student of the college was also invited as the Special Guest for the programme. The noted personalities were felicitated by Phulam Gamosa,

Xorai and Mishang Mafier by the Students' Union Body of the College. In their speech the noted personalities said that the students should be aware of the changes taking place in the society besides academics. They advised the students to take equal interest in their studies, sports and extra-curricular activities for the all round development of their personality. In his presidential speech the Principal of the College Dr. Gunindra Nath Sarmah said that the newly joined students should act in accordance to changes and help to build a better society. The students should make best use of their time, he added. He also added that time once lost, would never be regained under any circumstances. The students from various departments of the College who came out with flying colours in their B.A. Final Examination this year were felici-

Hemkosh Braille edition dictionary inaugurated

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 19: Assam Governor Prof. Jagdish Mukhi inaugurated the Braille edition of Hemkosh dictionary at a function held in Vivekananda Kendra, Uzanbazar on September 16. Speaking on the occasion, the Governor said, "Today is a proud moment for Assam and its people as the Sadin-Pratidin Group has given a new dimension to the Assamese language by publishing the Braille Dictionary. This endeavour will also increase the parameter of Hemkosh as from today onwards, the visually challenged people can also enjoy the benefits of Hemkosh. I congratulate the entire team on this noble cause." Prof. Mukhi also expressed happiness to learn that in 1919, the first publication of the dictionary Hemkosh was published by Hem Chandra Barua who gave a new identity and a new direction to the Assamese language through Hemkosh



which consistently remained a favorite for everybody. Hailing the efforts of Jayanta Barua, the Governor said that for the first time in the country someone has started "Assamese Braille Dictionary" which is highly appreciable. All these years Hemkosh has been helpful in the uplift and progress of the Assamese language and now 'Assamese Braille Dictionary' will be a great help for the visually challenged, the Governor added. The Governor said

that he was happy to learn that the Braille version of Hemkosh will be distributed free of cost to the visually challenged in the state which is a generous step in the direction of spreading knowledge. The launching function was attended by Pandit Bharatendu Pandey of Delhi University, Group Chairman Jayanta Baruah, Director, Pratidin Group Smitakhi B. Goswami, GM, Pratidin Time Gaurav Goswami, academicians, noted writers along with other dignitaries.

Assamese Film 'Bridge' will be Released on September 30

Assam Rising
Golaghat, September 19: An Assamese Film which has been able to get around 19 awards in different National and International Film Festivals and Film Competitions is going to be officially released on September 30. This internationally acclaimed Assamese Film is none other than 'Bridge'. Before the official release of the film the director and other cast and crew of 'Bridge' yesterday visited Golaghat and addressed the media at Golaghat Amateur Theatre Society. Director Kripal Kalita, lead actress Shiva Rani Kalita along with some other crew members reached Golaghat yesterday and attended a press conference at Golaghat Amateur Theatre Society. Director Kalita stated that this film is based on true events and the storyline is made from

some selected news items published in local newspapers and aired on local news channels. A true rural life picture of Assam will be seen in the picture. Kripal Kalita also said that several crew members and also the lead actress Shiva Rani Kalita are absolutely new comers and they had no earlier experience in the film industry. So it was a difficult and challenging task to make this film. Also most of them are from town or city areas and hence they had no idea of rural life and hence they were taken to rural places to provide training as per the demand of the story of the film. The film was mainly shot in Dhakuakhana of Lakhimpur village. Some other shooting locations are Jonai, Pabitar, Golaghat and Guwahati. This film Bridge has been awarded with the Rajat Kamal Award in the 68th National Film Festival, it was one of the regional language films in the Oscar

run, Best Actress and Best Debut Director Awards in Russian British Sochi International Film Awards along with several other national and international awards. In the press meet Director of Bridge Kripal Kalita told that purpose of visiting Golaghat to promote the film is because Golaghat has immense contributions in the Assamese Film Industry as several well known producers, directors and actors of Assamese Film industry are from Golaghat and so he hoped that the people of Golaghat will show good response to this Assamese Film. President of Golaghat Amateur Theatre Society Dr Ajit Baruah in the press meet congratulated team Bridge and said that at present the media can play a key role in promoting Assamese films. He also appealed to all the people to watch this highly appreciated and critically acclaimed Assamese Film on September 30.

Gas Leak In Coal Mine Leaves 3 Labourers Dead & Several Injured

Assam Rising, Tinsukia, September 19: At least three labourers have died while several others sustained serious injuries after a gas leak at a coal mine site in Tinsukia district of Assam on Sunday night. The incident took place at a coal mine site near Congress field. The deceased labourers have been identified as Sahidul Islam, Aasmat Ali and Hussain Ali. Meanwhile, the victims' families claimed that the coal mine's owner buried the bodies in the middle of the night using a JCB in an attempt to cover up the crime. According to sources, the police have yet to arrive on the scene and launch an investigation into the incident.

Blood donation camp held at Nagaon

Assam Rising, Nagaon, September 19: District Unit of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha in association with Nowgong Girls' College, BP Civil Hospital and Sohay Raktdaan Asom yesterday organized a massive blood donation camp on occasion of the birth anniversary of PM Narendra Modi at Nowgong Girls' College campus. During the camp, over hundred members of the district unit of BJYM including the district president of students' organization Sundor Sarma donated blood for the benefits of the patients. Local MLA Rupak Sarma inaugurated the camp in presence of BJP district president Abhijit Nath and principal of Nowgong Girls' College - Dr Balin Kr Bhuyan.



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Artificial intelligence (AI) is a wide-ranging tool

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a wide-ranging tool that enables people to rethink how we integrate information, analyze data, and use the resulting insights to improve decision making-and already it is transforming every walk of life. In this report, Darrell West and John Allen discuss AI's application across a variety of sectors, address issues in its development, and offer recommendations for getting the most out of AI while still protecting important human values. AI is a technology that is transforming every walk of life. It is a wide-ranging tool that enables people to rethink how we integrate information, analyze data, and use the resulting insights to improve decisionmaking. Our hope through this comprehensive overview is to explain AI to an audience of policymakers, opinion leaders, and interested observers, and demonstrate how AI already is altering the world and raising important questions for society, the economy, and governance. Digital life is augmenting human capacities and disrupting eons-old human activities. Code-driven systems have spread to more than half of the world's inhabitants in ambient information and connectivity, offering previously unimagined opportunities and unprecedented threats. As emerging algorithm-driven artificial intelligence (AI) continues to spread, will people be better off than they are today? The experts predicted networked artificial intelligence will amplify human effectiveness but also threaten human autonomy, agency and capabilities. They spoke of the wide-ranging possibilities; that computers might match or even exceed human intelligence and capabilities on tasks such as complex decision-making, reasoning and learning, sophisticated analytics and pattern recognition, visual acuity, speech recognition and language translation. They said "smart" systems in communities, in vehicles, in buildings and utilities, on farms and in business processes will save time, money and lives and offer opportunities for individuals to enjoy a more-customized future. Many focused their optimistic remarks on health care and the many possible applications of AI in diagnosing and treating patients or helping senior citizens live fuller and healthier lives. They were also enthusiastic about AI's role in contributing to broad public-health programs built around massive amounts of data that may be captured in the coming years about everything from personal genomes to nutrition. Additionally, a number of these experts predicted that AI would abet long-anticipated changes in formal and informal education systems.

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Editor,
The Assam Rising
G.N.B. Road, Chandmari Colony,
Guwahati, PIN 781003
E-mail Id : assamrising@gmail.com

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Editor,
The Assam Rising
Guwahati, Assam

It was a very modern pilgrimage - a people's quest that led to this historic day

Great state occasions inspire an elevated kind of journalism, which does its best to match the mystical rituals of the ceremony and reflect or shape what it perceives as the national mood. "Two rivers run silently through London tonight and one is made of people," the Daily Mail's Vincent Mulchrone wrote - memorably, as it turned out - in January 1965 of the queues to see Winston Churchill's lying in state. "Never safer, better guarded, lay a sleeping king than this, with a golden candle-light to warm his resting place, and the muffled footsteps of his devoted subjects to keep him company," the BBC's Richard Dimbleby told his radio audience in February 1952, when the coffin of George VI lay in the same ancient hall. The Guardian has often taken a less Shakespearean approach. Its reports of George VI's lying in state, witnessed by nearly 300,000 people over three days, are lively with detail. Some aspects of queue behaviour still apply: there are ways of jumping it. In 1952, the jumpers honourably included "nurses who had been on night

duty" and, perhaps less forgivably, "the boys and masters of Westminster School", who had been led in through a side door. Other things belong to history. Telephone boxes overflowed with pennies from husbands taking "a minute to explain that they would be home late". A party from a girls' college in Berkshire had arrived through the snow

Ian Jack

by taking an early morning "workmen's train", evidence of their enterprise in an age when "workmen" travelled early and the middle class came late. Other newspapers carried similar details. What marked out the Guardian was its wryness, its refusal to get carried away. It was a Manchester paper, after all. On the night before the king's funeral, the London correspondent toured the streets twice to gauge the kind of people who were prepared to wait for hours in the cold to have the best view. At 10pm, he noticed the groups that had set up camp in the Mall were mostly elderly women - "some were old women and some were very

'Will support India in doing good job' - Xi's trip to Samarkand had a clear message

Satellite imagery confirms Chinese disengagement at PP-15 at the LAC. Xi Jinping tells Putin there are limits to their partnership. Xi concludes his first foreign trip since Covid with the SCO summit in Uzbekistan. Tibetans cry for help as Covid restrictions keep many at home. And a new report says the rotation of Western Theatre Command military officials in 2021 wasn't unusual, contradicting Indian analysts. Last week, we learned about the disengagement between the Indian Army and the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) at Patrolling Point 15 (PP-15), close to Gogra and Kugrang river. Now, satellite imagery published by multiple media organisations has confirmed the disengagement between troops on the ground. NDTV's Vishnu Som reported citing MAXAR satellite imagery that the PLA base close to PP-15 has been dismantled and moved three kilometres north of the previous location. The open-source satellite imagery accessed by me from the Copernicus Sentinel Hub database confirmed the disengagement at PP-15 reported by the NDTV and other outlets. The disengagement has created a buffer zone in the Gogra Hot springs area, which has started a debate over whether India made a compromise by agreeing to create a buffer zone on its side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) - leaving China at an advantage. The complete disengagement of troops will be a long-drawn process and may continue to linger as PLA has enhanced its presence in Ladakh by building multiple heliports and other infrastructure to support the permanent presence of its troops. Meanwhile, ending months of speculation about Xi staying at home until the conclusion of the 20th Party Congress, the general secretary made his first trip abroad since the Covid pandemic started. On his state visit, Xi signalled that Central Asia is critical to China's regional diplomacy by making his first stop in Kazakhstan. "China highly values its relations with



Kazakhstan, and firmly supports Kazakhstan in safeguarding national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and in taking reform measures to preserve national stability and development," Xi said during his speech at talks with Kazakh president Kassym-Jomart Tokayev. The Chinese State media ran a tagline on social media platforms to capture Xi's Central Asia visit that said: "Building a Beautiful Home in the Eurasian Continent". The original idea of forging Eurasian solidarity to counter the "West-led" order was Moscow's creation, but Beijing has cosied into promoting the idea. The Eurasian dream of new regional status might as well be a dream born in Zhongnanhai now, not Kremlin. During his trip, Xi was accompanied by top Chinese officials Ding Xuexiang, Yang Jiechi, Wang Yi and He Lifeng. Though the visit was reported widely by the Chinese media, including in Chinese, the visit didn't trend heavily on social media platforms. The hashtag "President Xi Jinping's trip to Central Asia" was viewed 230 million times on Weibo, which usually gets over a billion views for important events. From Nur-Sultan, Xi flew to Samarkand to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) meet. In his remarks at the SCO, Xi called on other members to counter "external forces from instigating colour revolutions". 'Colour revolutions' is Beijing's referred term for protest movements used by foreign countries to bring about regime change. "We should strengthen high-level exchanges and strategic communication, deepen mutual understanding and political mutual trust, and support each other's efforts to safeguard security and development interests. We must prevent external forces from instigating 'colour revolu-



tions', jointly oppose interference in other countries' internal affairs under any pretext, and firmly control the country's future and destiny in our own hands," Xi said in his speech at the 22nd meeting of the Council of Heads of State of SCO. "The Chinese side congratulates India on taking over as the next rotating presidency of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and is willing to work with all parties to support the Indian side in doing a good job of the presidency," Xi said in his speech. While in Samarkand, Xi held bilateral meetings with Vladimir Putin, the most watched by international media, and other member states. The readout of the meeting between Putin and Xi didn't mention Ukraine or the "no-limits" partnership between China and Russia, which had appeared in previous readouts of meetings between the two leaders. Although we don't know what exactly Xi said to Putin on Ukraine, Putin started the bilateral meeting with Xi by saying, "We understand your questions and concerns in this regard". pasted Graphic. pngXi did indicate that Beijing was willing to work with Russia to support each other's 'core interests'. The body language and the remarks during the exchange between Putin and Xi suggest the relationship isn't on a firm footing, at least for now, as Moscow's offensive in Ukraine has experienced multiple setbacks. Chinascope recently told you about the disruption to the lives of Tibetans because of the Covid outbreak. The situation is

getting worse by the day. Tibetans are posting videos on Douyin, the Chinese version of TikTok, out of desperation, calling for help as the lockdown has left many living in far-flung villages without food. Lhadon Tethong, the director of Tibet Action Institute, is surprised about the amount of information flowing out of Tibet because of the lockdown. "I am a pregnant woman who is almost three months pregnant and came to visit relatives in early June. The original plan was to leave Lhasa and return to the mainland in mid-August. Due to the severe epidemic in Lhasa, it was delayed," wrote a Weibo user stranded in the Tibetan capital. Lhasa city government apologised for "insufficient preparation, insufficient capacity, insufficient response, and poor execution" in managing the Covid outbreak in Tibet. The hashtag "Lhasa city leaders apologise for the lack of epidemic prevention and control work" was viewed 120 million times on Weibo. "Due to the shortage of supplies due to the epidemic, the only source of protein for us at the most difficult time was those 5 eggs. Since the outbreak of the epidemic, I have received a total of 3 government hot dishes. A drop in the bucket for us," wrote a Tibetan Weibo user. Meanwhile, Toronto-based Citizen Lab has published a new report about China collecting DNA samples of Tibetans since 2016. "Our research demonstrates that since June 2016, police in the Tibet Autonomous Region have engaged in a mass DNA collection program targeting men, women, and children across the region. Mass DNA collection appears unconnected to any ongoing criminal investigation. Instead, our research suggests that mass DNA collection is a form of social control directed against the Tibetan people," wrote Emile Dirks in his report. Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taipei has inspired swarms of officials from the

US and the EU to support Taiwan. José Casimiro Morgado, director of the European Union Intelligence and Situation Centre (EUISTCEN), was supposed to travel to Taiwan but had to cancel the visit after his "top-secret preparations" were leaked to Beijing, according to Politico. Following the leak, Beijing pressured the EU to cancel what would have been an unusually sensitive visit. An EU official contradicted Politico's story by saying Morgado was planning to hold meetings with Taiwanese officials over the phone. Regardless, the leak from the EU reveals the extent of Beijing's presence at the top echelon of European politics. And a new report sheds light on the PLA military leadership. Joel Wuthnow, senior research fellow at the National Defence University, who is known for his work on the PLA, has published a new report analysing the biographies of 300 senior PLA officers. The report titled Gray Dragons: Assessing China's Senior Military Leadership says there is a parallel between China and Russia when it comes to the type of officers who are being promoted. "When you go through the data and analyze who China is promoting up to [senior] levels, you start to see some parallels" with "the generals who were faulted for giving [Russian President Vladimir] Putin apparently pretty bad military advice," Wuthnow told South China Morning Post in an interview. In the report, Wuthnow argues that the sudden rotation of the PLA officers in the Western Theatre Command during 2021 doesn't indicate Xi is dissatisfied with the theatre command, something many Indian analysts had argued. "However, comparative data indicate that the pattern was not atypical. Of the five theatre commands, both the Western and Central TCs had four commanders between 2016 and 2022, while two others had three, and one had two. Four officers in 6 years are also not out of step with the tendency of TC leader grade officers to rotate, on average, five times in the previous ten years," Wuthnow writes in his report.

Despite his defeats, Putin still shapes our perceptions. Let's fight him at his own game

The Ukrainians have (again) done what no body believed they could. They have (again) de-

feated the supposedly mighty Russia on the battlefield, shown up the underlying incompetence and moral rot of the Putin system. It took them just six days to take back whole swaths of territory in north-eastern Ukraine that it took Russia six months to conquer. The Russian military, political and propaganda elites are all blaming each other: rifts that usually rumble under the surface are now visible to all. Putin looks shaken. Now it's time for us to act as well. Not just by increasing help to Ukraine on the battlefield (which is paramount), but also by advancing along the other fronts in this conflict: energy, information, finance and diplomacy. Whether we like it or not, Putin is attacking us. This isn't just Ukraine's war. We can feel Putin's weapons waged against us every day. Putin is using energy blackmail to raise the cost of living, trying to bankrupt our businesses and hurt the most vulnerable parts of society. He has used the threat of blocking Ukrainian grain exports as a way to threaten starvation of the world's poor. His use of cyber-attacks, assassinations, corruption and disinformation campaigns is well documented. Last week, new intelligence dumps from the US revealed he has spent \$300m financing political movements in the

west, largely on the far right. Every village the Ukrainian army liberates in east Ukraine is also a victory against the forces of neo-fascism in the thing once known as the west. He is doing this because he wants a new world where

Peter Pomerant



cumb to. Instead, we should see it for what it is - an abusive neighbour one has to cut all dependence from. People need to be reassured their governments can take care of them and that the sacrifices all make have a reward - true freedom and sovereignty. We are not making sacrifices "for Ukraine" - we are breaking from our Russian energy addiction because we need true energy security. But the economic interests that always advocated doing business with Russia will start to raise their voices as the economic costs mount. There is already a whole class of businesses that sees the sanctions and boycotts against Russia as a game: one sells goods to Turkey and other intermediary countries, for example, which then sell them on to

Russia. There's little danger or reputational costs involved. This needs to change. The corrupt or just shady and plain sleazy business and political elites that entrench business with Russia need to be held responsible. This goes all the way from the dodgy lawyers who shuffle money around opaque shell companies, through to the business lobbies and the leadership of political parties who worked to entrench dependence on Russia. We need an uncompromising civic movement that exposes their responsibility. For inspiration, think how Greenpeace worked with academics and journalists to uncover how the fossil fuel industry manipulated politics and public discourse and then launched fearless campaigns to make the fossil fuel companies' corporate lives so hellish they had to change their ways.

Tripura starts 'governance' drive ahead of polls, hikes pension 100%



Agartala, September 19 : In what could be seen as pre-puja bonanza, the government of Tripura has hiked the social pension of lakhs of beneficiaries by Rs 1,000, chief minister Dr ManikSaha said on Saturday. The beneficiaries who received a monthly pension of Rs 1000 will now receive Rs 2,000. The new pay matrix will be implemented from the month of September. The announcement came shortly after Chief Minister Dr ManikSaha launched his government's first mega outreach campaign - good governance at every home - to mark the birthday of Prime Minister NarendraModi on Sunday. Under the campaign, MLAs, officials and elected representatives of panchayats and urban local bodies will engage in extensive public outreach to ensure that benefits of state and centrally-sponsored schemes reach even the last

man standing in the queue. "We don't need strong words, our work should reflect what we want to achieve. The onus is upon the officials as well as elected members of the state at all levels. Our goal is that each and every person of the state must know what the state government has been doing for the last four and half years. We thought this initiative should be launched on the birthday of Prime Minister NarendraModi and this is why today we are all here," said Dr Saha. He said the campaign will last until November 30, when a series of steps would be undertaken to popularize the state government's initiatives. Administrative camps and loan fairs will be organized in remote villages to push the governance closer to the public. "As the campaign concludes, we shall prepare a report card of our achievements which shall

Manipur constitutes committee to oversee book publication

Imphal, September 19 : Manipur government on Thursday constituted a 15-member committee to oversee the accurate publication of books on the history, culture, tradition and geography of the state. An order issued by Dr NiveditaLairenlakpam, joint secretary, Higher and Technical Education depart-



ment, stated that many books are being published about the state contributing to our repository of centuries of knowledge of our past, civilisations and cultures. It has come to the knowledge of the state government that some books published on the history, culture, tradition and geography of the state contain material which may either distort facts or disturb the peaceful coexistence among the various communities in the state,

the order stated. To ensure that books on the history, culture, tradition and geography of the state are published with accurate information, the governor of Manipur constituted a committee with the members to accord approval for the publication of books on such topics, it said. As per the order issued, the committee constituted of education minister, Manipur as the chairperson and the director of University and Higher Education as the member secretary. It further informed that the individual/group desirous of publication of books on the history, culture, tradition and geography of the state may apply to the director of University and Higher Education, Manipur. The submission must include a copy of the book manuscript that shall place the matter before the committee for its approval, it said. The committee shall convene its meeting as and when required, it added.

eventually be released before the public. Prime Minister NarendraModi's vision of last mile delivery is the main spirit of the campaign," he added. Dr Saha also said that in keeping with the commitment of the state government, the social pension has been increased to Rs 2,000. "Beneficiaries were entitled to get Rs 700 as pension under the 32 social pension schemes running under the state government. After BJP came to power, it was raised to Rs 1,000 and now it has been doubled despite paucity of funds," the CM said. Deputy Chief Minister JishnuDevVarma and Information and Cultural Affairs Minister SushantaChowdhury also spoke on the occasion. Several SHGs, panchayats and beneficiaries of different government programs were felicitated during the event where all MLAs, ministers and officials were present either physically or virtually from the district headquarters.

Street fitness enthusiasts from across state compete in Kohima



Kohima, September 19 : Hundreds of fitness enthusiasts from across the state on Saturday, gathered at Suokhrieze Park at BOC in Kohima, to participate in the seventh edition of the Nagaland Street Fitness Competition. Speaking to reporters, one of the organisers, YanpvuoKikon said the annual event is getting bigger each year and this time, it has witnessed more participation compared to previous years. "It is all about the fitness community coming and promoting each other. This is a get-together of fitness enthusiasts from across the state who are here with the hope of inspiring and motivating others to live a healthy life," Kikon said. As it is a street fitness event, Kikon said that the competitions were not categorised by age or weight. In an interaction with journalists, 28-year-old ImliyangAier, who took part in pushups and free

Itanagar, September 19 : Authorities of the Namdapha National Park in Arunachal Pradesh, the only one in the world to have four species of big cats, have strengthened surveillance mechanism to prevent encroachment, a major cause of concern. The Namdapha National Park and Tiger Reserve, a 1985 sq km protected area in Changlang district, is facing a serious threat of encroachment by 84 families of Yobin (Lisu), a tribe originating from China that had migrated several decades ago, they said. As many as 270 households of the tribe have encroached upon 30 sq km in the buffer zone of the national park, the authorities claim. Despite the efforts made by the park authorities to stop encroachment, many fresh cases have been reported in recent times, a forest official said. We have strengthened our surveillance mechanism in those areas of the park, where encroachment is possible, by



way of staff mobilisation and constructing suspension bridge for patrolling, Deputy Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) Milo Tassar said. In February this year, three illegally constructed structures around the 40 Mile area of the park were dismantled, Tassar said. The park is home to tiger (Panthera Tigris), leopard (Panthera Pardus), snow leopard (Panthera Uncia), and clouded leopard (Neofelis Nebulosa). The encroachment is not new and is reported to have started in

2005-2006, the official said. While the state government had conducted several rounds of meetings with the members of the tribe and offered rehabilitation packages either in form of land or cash, no visible solution is in sight, the official said. As per the revised rehabilitation package, the government has offered Rs 15 lakh per family or land outside the park as an alternative, Tassar said. It is reported that many villagers have been carrying out cropping activities inside the park in the last few years. We have zero tolerance towards encroachers and an eviction drive will continue until the biodiversity hotspot area is freed from illegal settlers, Tassar

said. An official of the park, on condition of anonymity, said that there are eight recognised encroached villages within the buffer zone of the park and re-settlement dialogue will continue only with the villages recognised by the government. The official also said strict action would be initiated according to the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 if there is any attempt by new settlers to settle inside the park. Earlier, due to lack of road connectivity, the forest officials could not regularly visit the interior areas of the park. Taking advantage of it, many settlements came up. But now, due to improved connectivity, the vigilance by officials has improved, the official said.

Locals allege that the tiger population at the park is declining due to encroachment, a claim denied by the authorities. Forest officials said the number of tigers in the park has increased to 11 as per the 2018 tiger estimation report. A researcher with the state government's forest department said that there have been human disturbances in the area over the years that may have pushed tigers outside the Namdapha Tiger Reserve to areas where there is less human presence. The Yobin or the Lisu is an ethnic group living in three countries India, China, and Myanmar. While the government says that they have encroached on land belonging to a protected tiger reserve, community members argue that it has been their home forever. Combined with the remoteness of Vijoynagar and Gandhigram (the nearest town of Miao, the headquarters of Changlang district, is at least over 150 km away), the absence of road connectivity, and written records, it is unclear when the people of the Lisu tribe first migrated to the area. Conflicting claims by the different ethnic groups living in the region also add to the confusion.

Sale and export of local grape wine permitted in Mizoram

Aizawl, September 19 : Three years after the "The Mizoram Liquor (Prohibition) Bill, 2019" was passed by the Mizoram Assembly, the government has recently notified rules of the prohibition law with a special focus on the manufacture and sale of grape wine. The Mizoram Liquor (Prohibition) or MLP Bill, 2019, which was introduced by state excise and narcotics minister Dr K. Beichhua, was passed by the assembly on March 20, 2019. The Act, which brought back the total prohibition on sales, manufacture and consumption of alcohol in the state, came into effect in May of that year. The MLP rules notified on September 7 allowed the manufacture, sale and export of grape wines processed from locally grown grapes, which was previ-

ously prohibited under the new prohibition law. The rules came into force in the whole of Mizoram except in three Autonomous District Councils (ADCs) areas in the southern part of the state. According to the new prohibition rules, all other forms of liquor, except grape wines and those permitted in canteen tenancy license and for use in scientific purposes or medical practitioner's prescription, remains prohibited. It said that the sale and consumption of any alcohol or grape wine in retail outlets and military canteen is prohibited on dry days, which may be declared by the commissioner of excise and narcotics department from time to time. The rules allowed any individual to open a winery, retail shops and export or transport grape wines with a license, which is valid for one year. No one should put up

or display hoarding and advertisements about the wine in the media, it said. Retail sale of grape wine is not allowed within close vicinity of religious places and educational institutions. Vendors are also not allowed to display grape wine bottles visible from the outside. Every winery will have an officer-in-charge to be appointed by the government. The government will have the sole discretionary power to fix the prices of the wine bottles and will also prescribe the strength of the wine to be manufactured in the plants. The materials or bases to be used in making grape wine will be of such description approved by the competent authorities. The rules prohibit the consumption of grape wine by minors below 18 years and at retail shops.

16 MNF leaders including youth president join BJP

Aizawl, September 19 : In another setback for ruling Mizo National Front (MNF), 16 party leaders, including Chakma district MNF youth president Molin Kumar Chakma, quit the party and joined BJP on Friday in Chakma area in the southern part of the state, BJP sources said. The leaders were inducted in a function held at the party office in ChawngteKamalanagar in Lawngtlai district, the sources added. Chakma veteran politician and former state minister, NirupamChakma and former legislator AlakBikashChakma were present at the function. Former president of District School Education Board (DSEB) of Chakma Autonomous District Council (ADC), Molin Kumar Chakma had contested the last council polls in 2018. Earlier, he was in the BJP and also held the District President post in BJP ADC during 2002-2004. He worked in the Central Young Chakma Association (CYCA) as Senior Vice-President from 2011 to

2016. He actively worked and led the Chakma District MNF Youth Front as President for four years beginning in 2018. The other 15 MNF Unit leaders who joined the BJP hail from various Village Councils such as Bajeisora, Baganpara, Ugudasury 'N' and Montola, which fall under 4-Bajeisora MDC constituency. Speaking on the occasion, Molin Kumar Chakma said that when MNF was in the opposition in ADC for 10 years, they had mocked the Congress government for constantly changing the Chief Executive Member (CEM) in ADC and called the ADC Congress leaders corrupted. "Now those former Congress leaders have joined the Chakma

District MNF and are ruling the Council. Due to constant internal squabbles, the people of ADC have already witnessed five CEMs, and there is no stability in the MNF-led ADC government," he said, adding that he sees no future prospect for the MNF. He alleged that the ADC will be a harbinger of doom if MNF continues to rule it for another term. Chakma said that the future of ADC is in the hands of the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He also urged the people of Chakma area to join the world's largest political party if the people of ADC want to see real development in the area.



Five dazzling dance forms from Northeast India

Itanagar, September 19 : What better way to soak the essence of the rich culture of Northeast India than to bear witness to its traditional folk dances. The music, the clothing, the props and the dance steps all help tell us a story, and provide us a peek into an age-old culture that is untouched by modernity and colonisation. We all have heard of the famed Bihu, Sattriya and the Manipuri dance; the last two can proudly claim to be two of India's eight classical dances. But here are five lesser-known folk dances from Northeast India. Each one boasts of a



fascinating origin, dazzling props and passionate performers. To catch one of these dances at your local Northeast festival will surely be on your bucket list by the end of this article. The Monpa tribe are known for their theatrically ex-

pressive Lion and Peacock Dance. In this dance, performers wear masks and costumes of lions and peacocks and imitate the animals' movements and postures. Storytelling lies at the heart of this art form. Hence, many stories relating to animals

(snow lion and peacock) are portrayed, alongside the "protagonist" which is an elderly man with a long, white beard. This folk dance is widely loved thanks to the dancers' dramatic movements, and the stunning work done on the costumes, including the Snow Lion outfit that has two dancers inside the piece. These costumes are innovative inventions: they have mechanical eye lids that can be manipulated to open and close to make the lions "wink". They also have adorable, fuzzy ears that can rise and fall, and jaws that can open and close.

in the gym," the mother of two said. Famed body-builder KenelleleSorüno, popularly known as KenelSorü, hopes the event will set a trend and promote fitness among the youth. "Today we see many youths displaying their fitness and motivating other youth. Fitness is really important. Especially after the pandemic, it has become a necessity for everyone," he added. Organised by Nagaland Street Fitness, a committee formed by a group of fitness enthusiasts, the event at the state capital saw hundreds competing in arm-wrestling, free squats, tug-of-war, and push-ups. In the women's squats category, Peiheile emerged as the champion, while Julia Khing secured the runner-up position. For men's squats, ImliyangAier won the category and AtsiViyie came second. For the push-ups (women), Merenla emerged as the champion while Peteheile secured the second position. In the men's category, Atsi with 93 push-ups emerged as the winner followed by MedovizoBelho (91). In the men's arm wrestling category (left hand), VethozoLohe won while Kuvumerü was adjusted second. In the right-hand category, VethozoLohe emerged as the champion followed by Huluyi. In the women's arm wrestling category, RazuciluLohe emerged as the winner and LoreniTsanglao secured the second position. In the best physique category, Talimoa from Star Gym won the title, followed by Solomon from Wolves Gym. In the tug-of-war (strongest gym competition among seven gyms), Battleground Unisex Gym emerged as the champion while Star Gym secured the second position.

Contd. From Page 1

President Droupadi Murmu meets

hundreds of millions all over the world. US President Joe Biden arrived in London for Queen Elizabeth's funeral to be held on Monday. Some of the other leaders who will be attending the funeral are Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau, President of France Emmanuel Macron, President of Italy Sergio Mattarella, President of the European Council Charles Michel, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen, Vice President of China Wang Qishan and Secretary General of NATO Jens Stoltenberg among others.

Pakistan in talks with Russia

deferred payment," the official said, adding that Moscow has shown an inclination to consider the proposal. If the proposal is materialised, it will be a landmark development given that Pakistan imports oil from Gulf countries and in past Saudi Arabia and UAE supplied Pakistan oil on deferred payment. However, it is not clear if the government can pursue the option given the likely opposition from the United States. A source in the foreign office disclosed that the US has never explicitly asked Pakistan not to import oil from Russia but "advised us that it is better if we don't enter into such a venture with Russia", the report said.

Queen Elizabeth II Funeral

The Queen's State Funeral held a special significance to her and also had a long association with the church. Queen Elizabeth II's coffin was transferred to the state hearse and taken to Windsor castle. Queen Elizabeth's coffin is being taken on a gun carriage for the last procession through the heart of London. It is being transported to Windsor, outside the British capital, where the former monarch will be laid to rest later Monday. After the state service concluded at Westminster Abbey, The Queen's coffin was lifted in a gun carriage to Wellington Arch as members of the Royal Family walked behind. A two-minute silence was observed across the United Kingdom in honor of Queen Elizabeth II. Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby said "few leaders receive the outpouring of love we have seen" for Queen Elizabeth II. Prayers begin at Queen Elizabeth II's state funeral. In remembrance of her coronation, the choir performs a song. The Very Reverend Dr. David Hoyle MBE, Dean of Westminster, gives a bidding message at Queen Elizabeth II's funeral. The coffin procession is brought to Westminster Abbey and greeted by The Choir of Westminster Abbey. King Charles III, Prince Harry, and other royals walk behind Queen Elizabeth II's coffin to Westminster Abbey for her state funeral which will begin at 11 a.m. in London. US President Joe Biden arrives at Westminster Abbey in London along with First Lady Jill Biden for Queen Elizabeth II's state funeral. The female members of the royal family are expected to wear black veils - known as mourning veils - that fully or partially cover their faces for the queen's funeral, according to the reports. The procession will include approximately 6,000 representatives from all three of the United Kingdom's armed forces, with 98 Royal Navy sailors towing the 123-year-old gun carriage that transport the Queen's coffin to Westminster Abbey. "As we all prepare to say our last farewell, I wanted simply to take this opportunity to say thank you to all those countless people who have been such a support and comfort to my family and myself in this time of grief," King Charles said in a thank you message on the eve of the funeral, as he once again paid tribute to his dear mother. According to the Palace, Prince Andrew will only wear his uniform "as a mark of respect" at the final vigil at Westminster Hall. Harry will wear his uniform to a vigil by the Queen's grandchildren the following evening, at the request of his father, King Charles. King Charles will wear a full-day ceremonial uniform with medals and will carry the red velvet and gold Field Marshal Baton presented to him by the Queen in 2012, when he earned the title. Three of the queen's children, King Charles, Prince Edward, and Princess Anne, will all wear military uniforms and medals as working members of the royal family. According to Buckingham Palace, her grandson, Prince William, will also be dressed in military uniform. Women are expected to wear black gowns and formal hats, while men are expected to wear black coats. Working members of the royal family wear military uniforms, while non-working men wear black coats, as seen at the funeral of the Queen's husband, Prince Phillip, last year. Decisions regarding Royal dress codes have sparked some debate in the run-up to this funeral. The Palace initially stated that Prince Harry would not be permitted to wear his military uniform because he chose to resign from his position. The monarch's funeral, which has never been televised before, is expected to be watched by tens of millions of people in the UK and around the world. Tens of thousands of people lined the route taking the late Queen Elizabeth to her final resting place at Windsor Castle on Monday, throwing flowers towards the hearse and cheering as it departed the British capital following her state funeral. Gun salutes are being fired in nearby Hyde Park, and Big Ben is tolling at one-minute intervals during the procession. King Charles III and members of the Royal Family walk behind the coffin to Wellington Arch, via Parliament Square, Parliament Street, Whitehall, Horse Guards, The Mall, Queen's Gardens, finally Constitution Hill and Apsley Way. King Charles III and members of the Royal Family walk behind the coffin to Wellington Arch, via Parliament Square, Parliament Street, Whitehall, Horse Guards, The Mall, Queen's Gardens, finally Constitution Hill and Apsley Way. Queen's coffin will now travel by gun carriage from Westminster Abbey to Wellington Arch near Hyde Park Corner. Two minute's silence being observed throughout the UK. The Last Post, a musical 'call' associated with military ceremonies and wartime remembrance, plays from the Lady Chapel at the end of the service. The Last Post, a musical 'call' associated with military ceremonies and wartime remembrance, plays from the Lady Chapel at the end of the service. Inside the abbey, lines of scripture were set to music that has been used at every state funeral since the early 18th century. The Queen had also held her marriage ceremony to Prince Philip in November 1947 at Westminster Abbey. Westminster Abbey was the location of the Queen's June 1953 coronation. She was just 27. Tens of thousands of people, many of whom had camped out overnight, lined the route of Queen Elizabeth's funeral procession on Monday and gathered in London's parks to bid farewell to the only British monarch most have ever known.

Raj Thackeray attacks Uddhav

Why did you (Uddhav Thackeray) not announce the alliance terms and conditions publicly ahead of the (2019) polls? Should people who vote for certain parties just keep watching such cheating take place? This is an insult to voters," he said. The MNS leader also rued the political situation in Maharashtra over the last few years and said it was tough to understand or guess who would ally with whom to form the government. "I have never seen such chaos and cheating in Maharashtra politics. No one knows who is with whom, who is forming the government," he said. In June this year, senior Shiv Sena leader Eknath Shinde's rebellion, along with 40 MLAs, against the party leadership, led to the collapse of the Uddhav Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government. Subsequently, Shinde was sworn in as the Maharashtra chief minister and BJP's Devendra Fadnis as deputy CM. Raj Thackeray also sought an inquiry into Maharashtra losing the multi-billion dollar Vedanta-Foxconn semiconductor chip manufacturing project to neighbouring Gujarat and asked if any money was demanded from the joint venture firm. He said that Maharashtra used to be the leading state in the country when it came to attracting industries but this was changing. "It must be investigated why industries that were supposed to come to Maharashtra have now shifted to other states. Was money demanded from them," he said when queried on the Vedanta-Foxconn political slugfest.

China-US power conflict

met with Politburo member Yang Jiechi and reiterated the United States' commitment to a cohesive NATO. Following the Sullivan-Yang meeting on March 15, China's diplomatic campaign moved its focus to poorer countries. Whether it was the visits to the western nations or to the poorer countries, Beijing's aim was anchored in three key messages condemning NATO for its "responsibility" for the conflict, the need for peace talks, and opposition to Western sanctions. Foreign Minister Wang Yi stated in a meeting with Ukrainian Foreign Minister Kuleba that "one nation's security should not be obtained by harming another country, and regional security should not be secured via military bloc expansion." Wang said in a meeting with Pakistan PM Imran Khan that "Ukraine should be the bridge between East and West rather than a pawn in a greater power conflict." China's second point was to condemn anti-Russia sanctions imposed upon the outbreak of the war. The Western countries responded in unison to the Russian invasion. Following the invasion, many western nations -- United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and a number of other nations imposed sanctions on Russian financial institutions and major oligarchs associated with the Putin government. Following the league -- the European Union imposed penalties on Russian officials, financial institutions, and exports. The West used its sanction trump card on February 26. The United States, the European Union, the United Kingdom, Canada, France, Germany, and Italy announced a concerted operation to withdraw. Russian banks from the SWIFT financial messaging system. The EU resolved on March 2 to remove seven significant Russian organizations from SWIFT by March 12, reported GeoPolitica. China began delivering anti-sanction messaging during diplomatic encounters and reiterated Chinese President Xi Jinping's message chastising Western sanctions for impeding international law and escalating tensions. Xi stated that the international community should "wholly advocate negotiation," a veiled criticism of Western countries that simultaneously promote dialogue and offer military help to Ukraine.

Don't believe PM Narendra Modi

opposed the resolution which was later passed by the Assembly. "The present union government is behaving in a dictatorial way. This resolution is not against anyone in particular, but against the biased functioning of the central agencies," Banerjee, also the Trinamool Congress supremo, said. Leader of the Opposition Suwendu Adhikari said such a "resolution against the CBI and ED" is against the rules and regulations of the Assembly. The resolution was passed through division, with 189 voting in favour of it and 69 against. Central agencies such as CBI and ED are probing into several cases in the state, in which senior TMC leaders are accused.

'Make sure you do what you're supposed

an honour to meet her." Meanwhile, senior citizens and children are among those camping along the funeral routes, over 48 hours in some cases, to bid a final goodbye to Queen Elizabeth II on Monday. Some of those have come from as far as the UK countryside and have even brought with them beddings and tents to battle a reasonably cold breeze that flows through London this time of the year. Visitors are also carrying food and beverages for their extended stay on the streets. The Queen's coffin will be taken in a ceremonial procession to Westminster Abbey for the state funeral service. According to local reports, the police have made extensive arrangements for crowd control and security measures as thousands of people are expected to line the route on Monday to say their final goodbyes to the Queen. Terence Bantock, a senior citizen, who is in a wheelchair, was inconsolable while speaking about the Queen. "I have written a poem for her. On my birthday, I used to send her a box of chocolate. She was the mother of the nation, everyone will miss her presence," he said. In some cases, multiple generations from the same family have come. The mourners say what they are doing is nothing compared to the seven decades of selfless service by "her majesty". Sua Wake, who has come to attend the funeral from Yorkshire, says the country will miss her for years to come. "By camping along the funeral route and spending the night along with children in cold is nothing because we are doing our duty for her," she said. Authorities have arranged urinals and medical facilities for any emergency situation. Emma Jones, a local said the long queues outside Buckingham Palace and Westminster Hall show people's love for the queen. She was everyone's favourite. It is an emotional and historic opportunity to pay tribute to the Queen. "People gathered to spend the night were seen sharing stories of the queen and discussing other members of the Royal family."

Akhil Gogoi Suspended from assembly

issue of medium policy and exceeded the time given by the Speaker of the Assembly, Biswajit Daimary. He protested while he was asked to sit by the Speaker for which he was later suspended. Gogoi also stated that the government has given misinterpreted the National Education Policy. He also alleged that the Education Minister has misinterpreted NEP. Earlier also Independent MLA Akhil Gogoi was suspended for the duration of the Question Hour by Assam Assembly Speaker Biswajit Daimary for "disrupting proceedings". Gogoi was taken out of the House by two marshals. The Sivasagar legislator had wanted to ask a supplementary question pertaining to the Education Department, which the Speaker disallowed. The MLA alleged that his voice was being stifled, to which Daimary took umbrage and ordered his suspension for the rest of the Question Hour. "The rules of 'andolan' (protest) cannot be allowed inside the House. It has its own set of rules," the Speaker asserted.

**West Siang District admin organized Sarkar Aap Ke Dwaar**

Assam Rising, Aalo, September 19: The SAKD camp was successfully held under the physical guidance of West Siang Deputy Commissioner Penga Tato APCS, Rujum Raksap ADC Kamba, Marjum Karga and Jumyir Ronya EAC. Govt. The Department of general administration, Medical, Power, Apex Bank, Department of Statistics, Supply, Planning, Industry, ICDS, Agri-Horti etc rendered their valuable services to the needy peoples. Villagers of Kambu, Ruyi, Dego Kamki, Reliance Complex, DPGC complex availed the services from the various department of day long programme.

Assam Gorkha Sanmellan welcomes Adivasi Accord

Assam Rising, Udalgori, September 19: The Assam Gorkha Sanmellan has welcomed the Adivasi accord signed in the presence of Amit Shah the Union Home Minister and Dr. Himanta Biswa Sharma the Chief Minister of Assam. In a statement the organization hoped that the accord will ensure the peace and progress in the Adivasi areas of Assam. They also expressed the hope that the government will treat the United Gorkha People's Organization in the same way.

BJP supporters Joined Assam Trinamool Congress in Haflong

Haflong, 19 September: Membership drive in Assam TMC growing everyday. The membership drive mission from all districts is rising as on Monday many supporters of BJP joined Assam Trinamool in Haflong. In a joining meeting held at District party office, Haflong 8 BJP supporters joined Assam Trinamool Congress with much fanfare. These supporters are from Haflong and Jatinga areas of the District. For the official joining, a ceremony was held at TMC district office in which Dima Hasao TMC President Aching Zeme, Vice-President Manglen Haolai, General Secretaries Satminthang Khongsai, Boitendra Srongpang and other district executive members were present to welcome new member. In this occasion district president Aching Zeme said that there will be more such joining in upcoming days. TMC is the only opposition in the state and will continue to criticize all wrong doing of the BJP rules state Government.

Two drug dealers arrested in Laharighat

Assam Rising, Bhuragaon, September 18 : The Morigaon and Laharighat police arrested two drug traffickers from Dhingarati in a joint operation today. The arrested drug dealers were identified as Saddam Hussain and Inamul Haque of Dhingarati respectively. Police seized 29 containers of suspected drugs and two mobile phones from the two drug dealers. They are currently being questioned by police. The drugs weighed 38.67 grams.

**Students Felicitated for Cracking JEE and NEET**

Assam Rising, Golaghat, September 19: A felicitation program was organised at the premises of Reliance Senior Secondary School in Golaghat where two students of the institution were felicitated for cracking JEE and NEET exams. The objective of the program was stated by Principal Priyanka Saikia Das. In the program two students of Science stream named Harshadeep Borgohain and Kaushiki Nanda Duarah were felicitated with a Gamocha and Gift. Harshadeep have cleared JEE Mains (98.29) JEE Advanced, NEET (99.23) & CEE exams (48th Rank) of 2022. Also Kaushiki have cleared JEE Mains (97.19) & JEE Advanced. Father of Harshadeep, Dipmoni Borgohain (Jr Assistant in Golaghat Commerce College) was also felicitated. It is to be known that Kaushiki Nanda Duarah passed Class XII exam with 90.8% and Harshadeep Borgohain with 87.2% from Reliance Senior Secondary School this year. Rector Dr T.N Hazarika, Principal Priyanka Saikia Das, Senior Faculty Dr Amarendra Nath Dutta, Padma Tamuly, Dr Bipul Bhuiya, Debranjani Samah and other faculty members were present in the programme.

Roe reversal powers new generation to sign up and vote

Washington, September 19: Sonya Koenig is scared. A 19-year-old student from Kalamazoo, Michigan, Koenig often stays up until 2am thinking. Sometimes she paces up and down the hall, or speaks to her roommate about nightmare scenarios in which she ends up pregnant and in need of an abortion. "Being in college, I hear stories all the time of women getting drugged at parties, or just walking down the street, and something unfortunate can happen," says Koenig, a freshman at Michigan State University. "A guy can walk away, but [these abortion bans] mean the woman has to choose: 'Do I want to give this baby up ... or raise this child with no help from anybody?' That's a really hard decision." In August, a week after her 19th birthday, Koenig signed up to vote. She is one of many women registering in droves since the supreme court overturned the constitutional right to an abortion on 24 June. "My brain is constantly on fire. I can't relax. I just want this election to be over with," says Koenig, who plans to vote to protect abortion rights in a Michigan ballot as well as voting Democrat come November. People such as Koenig threaten to be a hugely pivotal voting bloc as the midterms loom, with organizers focusing on women and young people in voter registration drives all over the country. The first hints of that bloc's voting power came in early August, when women in Kansas came out overwhelmingly to protect abortion rights. That election saw huge turnout, with women representing 70% of newly registered voters. They ultimately protected abortion rights in a state where Donald Trump had a 15% lead in the 2020 presidential election that he lost to Joe Biden. That trend seems to be continuing in other states - a threat to Republican lawmakers, who in recent weeks have quietly removed abortion-related election pledges from their websites and softened their anti-abortion messaging. For instance, the Republican gubernatorial candidate for Minnesota, Scott Jensen, had previously said he would ban abortion outright. But more recently, Jensen released a video saying he supports abortion in the cases of rape, incest, and threat to life of the pregnant person. That pivot might not be enough to hide the party's hardline agenda: this week, Senator Lindsey Graham of South Carolina proposed a nationwide ban on abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy, despite months of Republican rhetoric about putting the question back to the states. Perhaps women are unconvinced. Target Smart analyzed new voter registration from 45 states following the supreme court decision that reversed federal abortion rights - the group said female registration shot up 12%. In Wisconsin, a battleground state that voted for Biden by a margin of just 30,000 votes in 2020, women are out-registering men by 16%. New registrants also skew hugely Democratic: 52% of newly registered voters in Wisconsin, compared to just 17% of new registrations by Republicans. "In my 28 years of analyzing elections, I had never seen anything like what's happened in the past two months in American politics," Tom Bonier, chief executive of Target Smart, wrote in the New York Times. "Women are registering to vote in numbers I never witnessed before. I've run out of superlatives to describe how different this moment is." This week, the Michigan supreme court agreed to put the question of abortion rights directly to voters in November, after 730,000 Michiganders signed a petition requesting a vote. Initially, Republicans on the state's board of canvassers tried to block the call for a referendum, complaining about spacing errors.

Jets and Dolphins grab stunning comebacks on thrilling day in NFL

London, September 19 : Joe Flacco's 15-yard touchdown pass to rookie Garrett Wilson with 22 seconds left rallied the New York Jets to a 31-30 win over the Cleveland Browns, who blew a two-touchdown lead in the final two minutes. On 3rd-and-10 Flacco, who had four TD passes, found a streaking Wilson over the middle. Earlier, the 10th overall pick had dropped a crucial pass, allowing the Browns (1-1) to open their lead. Nick Chubb's third rushing TD put Cleveland up by 13 with 1:55 left. However, rookie kicker Cade York, who made a 58-yard field goal in the final seconds to beat Carolina last week, pushed his extra point to the right. The miss would come back to haunt the Browns. Flacco hit Corey Davis for a 66-yard TD with 1:22 left to pull the Jets (1-1) within six at 30-24. New York recovered the onside kick and Flacco, who's filling in while starter Zach Wilson recovers from a knee injury, drove to the 15 without any timeouts before hooking up with Wilson. Greg Zuerlein made the deciding extra point to make it 31-30. In a game that



finished shortly afterwards, Tua Tagovailoa threw for 469 yards and six touchdowns, four of which came during a spectacular fourth quarter, and the Miami Dolphins rallied from a 21-point deficit to beat Lamar Jackson and the Baltimore Ravens 42-38. Tagovailoa's seven-yard touchdown pass to Jaylen Waddle with 14 seconds left completed the incredible comeback after Miami (2-0) trailed 35-14 with under 13 minutes remaining. Tyreek Hill had touchdown catches of 48 and 60 yards during that rally, the latter of which tied the game with 5:19 to play. Justin Tucker kicked a 51-yard field goal with 2:18 remaining to put Baltimore ahead, but that was far too

much time for Miami's offense, which the Ravens (1-1) didn't come close to stopping in the final quarter. Jimmy Garoppolo threw a touchdown pass on his first full drive after replacing an injured Trey Lance and ran for another score to help the San Francisco 49ers beat the Seattle Seahawks. Lance was taken off the field on a cart with his injured right ankle in an air cast after getting hurt on a run on the second drive of the game for San Francisco (1-1). That set the stage for Garoppolo to come in and reclaim the job he held for most of the past four seasons as the surprising decision to keep Garoppolo on a reduced contract paid nearly

immediate dividends for the Niners. He completed his first five passes in his first game since last season's NFC title game, including a 38-yard touchdown pass to Ross Dwyer that put San Francisco up 13-0. The Niners mostly coasted from there as the Seahawks (1-1) looked rather flat six days after their emotional, season-opening victory over former quarterback Russell Wilson and the Broncos. Brett Maher kicked a 50-yard field goal as time expired, and the Dallas Cowboys held on to beat the Cincinnati Bengals after losing a two-touchdown halftime lead. Joe Burrow got the Bengals even at 17-17 by leading a 19-play, 89-yard

drive in the fourth quarter, throwing a five-yard touchdown pass to Tee Higgins and finding Tyler Boyd for the two-point conversion. After the Cowboys stopped the Bengals with about a minute remaining, Cooper Rush got the Cowboys in range for Maher to help Dallas win for the second time in his two career starts filling in for an injured Dak Prescott. Byron Murphy Jr scooped up Hunter Renfrow's fumble and returned it 59 yards for a touchdown with 3:51 left in overtime, and the Arizona Cardinals rallied from a 20-point deficit in the second half before running away with a wild victory over the Las Vegas Raiders.

India learn from England's mistakes as Smriti Mandhana hits 91 in first ODI



London, September 19 : Jhulan Goswami's farewell tour started with a flourish as the 39-year-old helped India restrict England to 227 for seven in the first one-day international at Hove on Sunday, despite an unbeaten maiden ODI half-century from Alice

Davidson-Richards. India then rolled back to their target in 44.2 overs with seven wickets in hand, thanks to fifties from Yastika Bhatia, Harmanpreet Kaur and Smriti Mandhana - the latter falling just nine runs short of a century. "In practice, we had spoken about trying to be more on the front foot," Mandhana said. "We learned a few things from England's mistakes - a few of them got out on the back foot. I am a back-foot player, but I was trying to tell myself to be on the front foot." It's all about the mindset when you go out to bat - I have to keep telling myself not to get carried away. "Curiously, England chose to omit the two seamers who had been most effective in the T20 leg of the series - Lauren Bell and Freya Davies - and then failed to bring Sophie Ecclestone, their premier bowler, into the attack until the 17th over, when the match was already half-won. The result hands India first blood in the new ICC Women's Championship cycle, with the win worth two points in the race towards automatic qualification for the 2025

'It was terrifying': swooping magpies alarm world road championship cyclists

Wollongong, September 19 : There is a sign in Lang Park, near the beach in Wollongong, with a warning for passers-by. "Birds swooping!" it reads. "Dismount and walk your bike through this area. Magpies are nesting in this area." The organisers of the 2022 UCI Road World Championships, which began on Sunday and run all week, must have missed the memo. The finish-line for the race is right near the sign, and magpies have been causing chaos for the world's best cyclists. "I've been swooped twice already since being here," Australian rider Grace Brown, who won silver in the



women's time trial on Sunday, told Guardian Australia. "So it's not just the international athletes that are worried about it. I get pretty scared by magpies." Cyclists are accustomed to danger while out riding. The nature of the sport, taking place in an uncontrolled environment, means that on-road hazards can send riders flying - roundabouts, signage and raised drainage holes have all caused crashes in the past. A collision between the peloton and a motorbike caused chaos at the 2016 edition of Tour de France, while riders were forced to dodge cows on the road a year before. But the 1,000-strong international peloton, from 70 countries, have been taken aback by the aerial dangers in Wollongong. Although the World Tour does include an Australian leg, in January

each year, this is the first time in over a decade the world championships have been staged on these shores during swooping season (between August and October). A small percentage of male magpies swoop during breeding season, to protest chicks in the nest. "A fairly large bird came very close [during a training ride] and it just kept following me," Belgium's Remco Evenepoel, a favourite for the elite men's road race this weekend, told CyclingNews. "It was terrifying. But that's Australia, apparently. I hope it's the only time it happens, but I am afraid of it." Magpie attacks are relatively common in Australia during spring, with the birds often targeting cyclists' heads. Some local riders have been known to add plastic spikes to their helmets to scare off the magpies.

Brighton appoint Roberto De Zerbi as manager to replace Graham Potter

London, September 19 : Brighton have made Roberto De Zerbi their new manager, with the Italian signing a four-year deal. The 43-year-old former Sassuolo and Shakhtar Donetsk manager agreed final terms late on Sunday afternoon on a deal to succeed Graham Potter, who departed for Chelsea this month. De Zerbi met with the club owner, Tony Bloom, the chief executive, Paul Barber, and the technical director, David Weir, a few days ago and flew into Sussex on Friday night before watching a behind-closed-doors friendly at the Amex Stadium on Saturday afternoon. As a mark of respect on the day of the Queen's funeral, De Zerbi will not be formally introduced to the media until Tuesday afternoon. De Zerbi's 14 months at Shakhtar came to an end in July, as a result of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Shakhtar were top of the table when last season had to be abandoned. Bloom said: "I am absolutely thrilled Roberto has agreed to become our new head coach. Roberto's teams play an exciting and courageous brand of football and I am confident his style and tactical approach will suit our existing squad superbly." Weir said: "Roberto has shown his undoubted ability with his work in Italy and Ukraine, and what he achieved at Sassuolo certainly stands out.



Australia's Cameron Smith banks \$6m from first LIV Golf win in Chicago

London, September 19 : Australia's British Open champion Cameron Smith has claimed his first LIV Golf victory in only his second start on the lucrative Saudi Arabia-backed circuit with a three-shot triumph over Dustin Johnson and Peter Uihlein just outside Chicago. Smith, one of 12 major champions in the 48-player field at Rich Harvest Farms, shot a three-under-par 69 in the final round of the 54-hole event on Sunday to reach 13 under and secure the \$US4m (\$A6m) first prize. "I think I had to prove to probably myself and some other people that I am still a great player, you know I am still out here to win golf tournaments," Smith said. "Proud of how I hung in



there today. Didn't really have my best stuff the first eight or nine holes but stuck it tough and made a few good putts coming in. It was nice." The stage was set for a final-round duel between two of the world's best golfers as overnight leader Smith began the day two shots clear of playing partner Johnson (70), who fell three

shots back after a bogey at the first hole. Both players birdied the second hole but Smith bogeyed the fourth and sixth as Johnson got to within a stroke before the duo carded birdies at the par-five seventh. Smith opened up a three-shot lead with a birdie at the par-four eighth, where Johnson carded the first of two consecutive bogeys to reach the turn four back and his hopes of becoming the first multiple winner on the LIV Golf series all but dashed. Uihlein (69) got into the mix and was briefly one shot back of Smith, who was cruising along the back nine until a bogey at the par-three 16th, but the Australian reached the 18th three shots clear after a birdie at the

penultimate hole coupled with a late Uihlein bogey. Smith is the highest-ranked player to join LIV Golf to date and finished fourth in his debut two weeks ago in Boston where he missed out on a three-man playoff by one shot after a bogey on his penultimate hole. Compatriots Matt Jones (72) finished four under, Jed Morgan (71) and Wade Omsby (72) four over, and Marc Leishman (78) six over to come home in last place. While Johnson could not catch Smith he did help his 4 Aces teammates Patrick Reed, Talor Gooch and Pat Perez to victory in the team competition as the squad split a \$US3m (\$A5.4m) first-place prize for the fourth consecutive event.

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Canelo Álvarez dominates faded Gennady Golovkin to cap trilogy

Las Vegas, September 19 : Saúl "Canelo" Álvarez swept aside the troubles of his difficult year, and a festering rivalry, when he defeated a faded Gennady Golovkin in a unanimous victory on points in their third fight in Las Vegas on Saturday night. Álvarez, the undisputed world super-middleweight champion, was a comprehensive winner and the only surprise was that, for once, the judges were sympathetic to Golovkin. Two scorecards of 115-113 were strange, with the third official's verdict of 116-112 in favour of Álvarez a marginally more accurate reflection. Álvarez was too young, too strong and too driven for Golovkin - a once great world champion who is now a 40 year old man in the unforgiving ring. Beneath the glaring lights and the percussive impact of Álvarez's power punching, Golovkin cut a subdued figure from the outset of a one-sided contest. He was unable to impose himself and, especially in the first seven rounds, he looked a disconsolate version of the previously formidable middleweight champion who dominated his division for so many years. In contrast, Álvarez set about his work with fire and force. He was aggressive, if occasionally wild, and he pushed back Golovkin repeatedly. By the end of round five, the older man looked lonely on his stool in the corner, his face reddened and a swelling forming beneath his right eye. Álvarez continued to land the meaningful punches



and it looked as if Golovkin would need to rely on all his considerable bravery to survive a slow and methodical beating. But, to his credit, Golovkin dug deep within himself and there were fleeting bursts of effective work from him. Álvarez was dragged into a real fight in the ninth and tenth rounds when, finally, Golovkin let his hands fly. He fought with real purpose and resolve for these six minutes because, unlike the hapless judges, he realised he required something special to try to change the pattern of the bout. Golovkin landed some stinging blows, even backing Álvarez up against the ropes. But in those tightly-contested exchanges, Álvarez still fired volleys of punches in return. Both rounds

could be awarded justifiably to Golovkin - but they were his only real success of the night. He tried to build on that momentum but, in the last stretch of the fight, Álvarez cruised comfortably home. Despite the caveats of Golovkin's age and disappointing performance, he can claim this victory as one of his most satisfying in a professional career which began when he was just 15 in 2005. Álvarez has a troubled history at the T-Mobile Arena, which was, again, electrified by his raucous Mexican fans. It was here, in May, that he lost for only the second time in 17 years, when he was outboxed by Dmitry Bivol. Álvarez had moved up in weight to challenge Bivol for his light-heavyweight world title and, while the clear context re-

mained that he was much the smaller man, the aura of the great Mexican was badly dented. Bivol exposed and frustrated him. Of course Golovkin had already undermined the Canelo hype-machine, which was just beginning to roll when he fought Álvarez at the T-Mobile for the first time five years ago this week. Golovkin won that bout in the eyes of most sensible observers but the Las Vegas judges scored it as a damagingly controversial draw. Exactly a year later, in September 2018, they returned to the very same ring and Álvarez shaded a very close decision in less contentious fashion. It was plain that, then, he and Golovkin were two champions of almost equal merit. In the ensuing four years Álvarez rose seamlessly to the status of a fêted boxing master who

WSL champions Chelsea stunned by promoted Liverpool in opening game

Liverpool, September 19 : Katie Stengel scored two penalties on her Women's Super League debut as defending champions Chelsea were stunned by newly promoted Liverpool. Chelsea took the lead when Fran Kirby converted from the penalty spot after Gilly Flaherty collided with Guro Reiten. Sam Kerr saw an effort ruled offside while Liverpool capitalised on their second-half chances to end the Blues' 13-game unbeaten streak while celebrating their return to the top flight in front of a record 3,006 fans at Prenton Park. Stengel joked she was just trying to avoid embarrassing herself on her Women's Super League debut. "I told myself don't miss, please don't miss, all of these people here will make fun of me if I miss," the American told Sky Sports. "I was like, I have to change it up, and I got



lucky I guess." The striker said the result was down to her team's determination, and an invigorating half-time pep talk from the head coach, Matt Beard. "He just reiterated we have to believe in ourselves," she added. "[He said:] 'We can win this game and it's just another team out there, another 11 players, and we prepared all pre-season so why not believe in ourselves?'" Chelsea's head coach, Emma Hayes, was frustrated but insisted she was not worried for her side.

"It's not like in open play they've had multiple shots, they've just maximised the situations, and for us going forward I don't think we could hit a barn door today," she said. "I say it all the time, what's to be worried about losing a football match. I'm not emotional about it. I think we have to reflect, watch it back and next week's a new week." The former Chelsea defender Flaherty got her new side off to an unfortunate start, mistiming her clearance and instead making contact with

Challenged By Her Inswinger When Jhulan Goswami Bowled To Rohit Sharma



New Delhi, September 19 : Legendary India Women pacer Jhulan Goswami is playing her farewell series in England. The veteran pacer is set to retire after the ODI series against England. India men's team captain Rohit Sharma on Sunday paid tribute to the 39-year-old, who

has played over 250 international matches for India, calling her a "stalwart" for the national team. He also recalled an instance when the two were at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) together when he was recovering from an injury and he had the chance to face up to her in the nets. "I have only had few interactions with her, when I was injured at the NCA, she was also there and she was bowling to me," Rohit Sharma revealed in a press conference ahead of India's three-match T20I series against Australia at

home. "I was challenged with her inswinger, it was good to see," Rohit said. He was full of praise for the veteran pacer. "I think she is one of India's stalwarts in terms of what she has done for the country, lead bowler for India. Whenever I have seen her play, she has always shown so much passion for the country, which is a good learning for all the young kids who are coming up and wanting to represent the country, whether it is women's cricket or men's cricket," Rohit Sharma said. "I do not know how old she is, even at this age, she is running this hard and

trying to knock the opposition out. It tells you something, it tells you about the passion she has," he added. "I can only wish her the best for the future, you do not find a player like that everytime. She is once-in-a-generation player," Rohit said. "Big, big congratulations on such a wonderful career. Mithali (Raj) and Jhulan are the ones who have taken Indian women's cricket to a different height. And the current team are trying to take that legacy forward, they are playing some good cricket which is very exciting to watch," he concluded.

Karachi's renowned Polo Ground still fertile territory for Pakistani cricket



Karachi, September 19 : Late Sunday morning, and there is not a scrap of spare ground to be found at Polo Ground in downtown Karachi. Every last patch of its 20 acres of path and grass is taken up with games of tape-ball cricket. There must be 30, 40, 50 overlapping matches - enough, anyway, that it is impossible to count the hundreds of players who are scattered all around, the fielders mixing with each so that, if the man at mid-wicket in one game turned on the spot, he could play cover in another, or fine leg for a third.

Outside India, and the Oval Maidan in Mumbai, there is not a sight in cricket quite like it. The place is officially known as the Gulshan-e-Jinnah but no one will be able to give you directions if you call it that. Polo Ground, on the other hand, everyone knows. Everyone in Karachi cricket has played here over the years. Back in the late 1940s and early 1950s it was where Hanif Mohammad and his four brothers learned the game. They had only just moved to the city after partition. "One could see hundreds of people,

mostly youngsters, playing cricket there every day," Hanif wrote in his autobiography. "Whoever came first would choose his own spot and pitch his stumps for practice or for a match. Even the maulvis would join in." His younger brother Mushtaq told Peter Osborne how "when we were still small, my youngest cousin Iqbal and my older cousin Nisar and I would set out every Sunday with just two annas each in our pockets, and we headed to Polo Ground in the centre of the city where many teams used to be playing matches with intermingled field placings". He has still not forgiven his older brothers for making him the 12th man. Soon enough Mushtaq and his brother both graduated to the old Gymkhana ground over next door's wall,

where Pakistan played some of their earliest games against MCC and other teams. In the 1960s the government used Polo Ground for military parades and after that it had a reputation as a spot where young lovers would come to meet each other. That stopped, the story goes, when a TV crew came and made a show in which the presenter went around asking the couples whether they had told their parents they were visiting the park together. The cricketers, though, have always been here. For years players have come from all over the country to play in this park in Karachi as they try to find their way in the game. These days they dream of making it much further than the Gymkhana, to the National Stadium, further out of town.



অমৰ ছহিদলৈ শ্ৰদ্ধাঞ্জলি

২০ ছেপ্টেম্বৰ, ২০২২

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