

The Assam Rising

Projecting the best of Northeast India everyday

Vol. No. VII ■ Issue No. 215 ■ RNI-ASSEN/2014/58385 | GUWAHATI ■ THURSDAY ■ SEPTEMBER 22, 2022 | PAGES 8 ■ PRICE RS. 10.00

Putin announces partial mobilisation and ...

02

'Huge problem': Eric Dier reveals family no longer attend away...



07

NEWS IN BRIEF

NRL Fund Assam Rising

Guwahati, September 21:

Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) handed Rs 114.76 crores to the Assam government as a part of the first interim dividend for the current financial year 2022-23 for its stake in the state owned-refinery. The CMD of Oil India and the Chairman of NRL, Ranjit Rath handed over the dividend cheque to Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma in the presence of Union minister of state for petroleum and natural gas, Rameswar Teli. The state government in May 2021 increased its stake in the refinery from 12.35 per cent to 26 per cent. The additional stake costs the state's exchequer Rs 2,187, the highest ever investment by the state government in any PSUs.

Batadrava incident

Assam Rising Guwahati, September 21:

Another main accused was arrested in Assam's Morigaon district on Wednesday in connection to Batadrava Police Station arson incident. According to sources, the accused, identified as Safikul Islam, was jointly held in custody by Morigaon and Nagaon Police when he was working at brick kiln called Akash Ali in Moirabari. Safikul is a resident of Haidubi Reserve Basti in Batadrava. In May, the mastermind of the Batadrava arson, Ashikul Islam was arrested however, died in a car accident at Raidongia in Nagaon district a day after he was held. Islam was trying to escape from the vehicle jumped out of it. He was then hit by the escort vehicle of the police that was coming from behind.

Fake identity cards

Assam Rising Guwahati, September 21:

The police have arrested two candidates who had come to appear for a recruitment exam at Jorabat in Assam's Kamrup Metropolitan district with fake identity cards. The two candidates had come to appear for an exam at the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) camp at 9th Mile in Guwahati on Wednesday. According to reports, the duo hailed from Uttar Pradesh's Allahabad but had produced fake identity cards claiming themselves as residents of Assam. The duo were caught red-handed by the locals of the area and then handed over to the Jorabat Police. Upon interrogation by the police, the duo revealed that they had acquired the fake identity cards by providing Rs 3 lakhs to brokers.

Assam, Mizoram CMs optimistic about solving border dispute at earliest

New Delhi, September 21:

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and his Mizoram counterpart Zoramthanga hold another round of talks in the national capital today on the long-pending interstate border issue. The meeting lasted for around 25 minutes. After the meeting, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said that recently, a group of ministers from the two states met in Aizawl on August 9, 2022. And today's ministerial level meeting discussed the progress and reviewed what happened in that meeting, and both the CMs are satisfied with the progress. "We are in the process of forming regional committees to solve



this issue," said Assam CM. Meanwhile, the Mizoram Chief Minister also said the same about the August 9 meeting and stated that they are hopeful of resolving the interstate border issue at the earliest. They had previously met in Union Home Minister Amit Shah's presence in Delhi in November last year and had decided to form panels with participation from all parties to settle the conflict and hold chief ministerial-level discussions. The dispute over Mizoram's 164.6 km of shared border with Assam is linked to colonial demarcations

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

Assam to appoint over 4,700 people in Education Department on September 2023



Assam Rising Guwahati, September 21:

The Assam government will appoint over 4,700 persons in various posts of the Education Department as part of a mega recruitment drive on September 23, a minister said. Education Minister Ranaj Pegu

said appointment letters for 4,717 posts in his department will be handed over during the function on Friday. "Most of these posts are of teachers from school to college levels. Apart from teachers, vacancies in other posts will also be filled up during the exercise," he told reporters here. The list includes the names of 1,298 teachers, who had gone to the Gauhati High Court over a grace mark issue, after the court vacated its stay order on their appointments, Pegu stated. Out of the total posts, 3,811 will be in

schools, 803 in higher education and 103 in technical education sectors, he added. The Assam government will give appointment letters to around 12,000 youths on September 23 in various departments in a mega recruitment exercise in Guwahati. The minister also said that a 'White Paper' will be published by the Education Department, covering all areas such as school, college and technical education. "Since 2011, massive reforms have taken place in the Education Department. Over two lakh appointments were

given. Huge amount of infrastructure development is going on. That is why we have decided to bring out a 'White Paper' on our department," he added. Pegu said that work on the planned 'White Paper' is going on and it is expected to be released within the next two months. When

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

Robert Vadra says sorry for violating travel terms

New Delhi, September 21:

A Delhi court on Wednesday reserved its order till tomorrow on a plea by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to forfeit fixed deposit and initiate legal proceedings against businessman Robert Vadra for violating terms and conditions imposed by the court on trav-



elling abroad. Vadra, husband of Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, offered an unconditional

apology before the court even as the ED said action should be initiated against him. In an affidavit, Vadra said that he made an inadvertent error and instead of "to Dubai", he wrote "via Dubai" in his application seeking permission to travel. Vadra is currently on bail in a money laundering case filed by the ED. A Delhi court had earlier expressed its displeasure

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

Governor administers oath to VC of Majuli University of culture



Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 21:

Assam Governor cum Chancellor of Majuli University of Culture, Prof. Jagdish Mukhi administered the oath of office to Prof. Nirode Boruah as Vice Chancellor of Majuli University of Culture at a function held in the Durbar Hall of Raj Bhavan today. Earlier, Commissioner and Secretary to the Governor S S Meenakshi Sundaram

sought the permission of the Governor to start the proceedings of the ceremony. The ceremony was attended among others by the Education Minister of the State, Dr. Ranaj Pegu, Advisor Education, Govt. of Assam Prof. Nani Gopal Mahanta, Advisor Chancellor's Secretariat Prof. M.K. Choudhury, Vice Chancellors of different universities, and senior officers of the state government.

Private Educational Institutes in Assam to Need Govt Nod for Fee Hike



Assam Rising Guwahati, September 21:

From now on, private educational institutions in Assam cannot hike their fees without prior approval of the state government's regulatory body, officials said on Tuesday. The Assam Non-Government Educa-

tional Institutions (Regulation of Fees) (Amendment) Bill, 2022, passed in the Assembly on Monday, has recommended penal measures against private educational institutions in the state that don't comply with the provisions of the Fee

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

APDCL Releases Helpline No To Address Electricity Bill Related Queries

Assam Rising Guwahati, September 21:

In a bid to address the issue of rising monthly electricity bills in the state, Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) on Wednesday released helpline numbers for customers to register complaints. The APDCL informed that customers can contact on the number 1912 to register their complaints. Additionally, the can also register their grievances



related to rising monthly dues through WhatsApp on the number 7575999666. The power company further assured quick resolution of any complaints registered on the helpline numbers. They said that

the bill would be amended following investigation of the complaints. It may be noted that Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had on Tuesday said that customers having complaints with their monthly electricity bills will have to submit a formal application mentioning their issues. CM Sarma said that the grievances will have to be addressed by customers to their regional

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

Rang Ghar, Sivasagar Progress Taken Up As Akhil Gogoi Meets Assam CM In Delhi



Assam Rising Guwahati, September 21:

Rajr Dor chief and Sivasagar MLA Akhil Gogoi on Wednesday met with Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma upon the latter's arrival in

Delhi. The Assam CM had arrived at Assam House in Delhi yesterday where Gogoi had been staying. The two met to discuss several issues of importance, about which the Sivasagar MLA informed via a video. Gogoi informed

that talks were held over the medium of education in the state, an issue that has been embroiled in a lot of debates and discussions recently. He said, "We discussed on the medium of education in Assam for a while. The CM put forward his view points on the matter. I was accompanied by former MP Ramen Deka during the discussions." The Sivasagar MLA further said, "The honourable CM today approved several long-pending matters related to the development of Sivasagar. He approved the sanction of Rs 1 crore for the survey to declare Sivasagar as a State Heri-

tage Site. The amount will be disbursed in a few days." Speaking further on one of the issues that he had put forward several times in the past, Gogoi said, "The CM has today directed that state tourism department to take steps to organize a light and sound show at the famous Rang Ghar." "CM Sarma has given me his word that in April next year, when the new budget is presented, the Sivasagar University under Cooperative Management will be converted to a general university," added the MLA. He went

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

Swimmer from Assam Elvis Ali Hazarika crossed the North Channel

Assam Rising Guwahati, September 21:

Popular Assamese natator Elvis Ali Hazarika became the first swimmer from Northeast India to cross the North Channel. By crossing the strait between north-eastern Northern Ireland and south-western Scotland, Hazarika also became the oldest swimmer from India to do so. The swimmer clocked a time of 14 hours and 38 minutes treading the waters of the North Channel. In a message, Hazarika said, "I have been waiting for this day since a long

time. After a lot of efforts and hours of pushing myself to work harder, every day, I successfully have become the first Assamese to cross the North Channel by swimming it in Relay Northern Ireland to Scotland." "We had to go through a lot of challenges. Specially, the huge Jellyfish that were accompanying us all the way! We are the first Asian Relay team to cross the North Channel and I am the first oldest swimmer from India to have crossed the North Channel to clock a time of 14hrs 38mins," he added. The swimmer further mentioned that it was a dream come

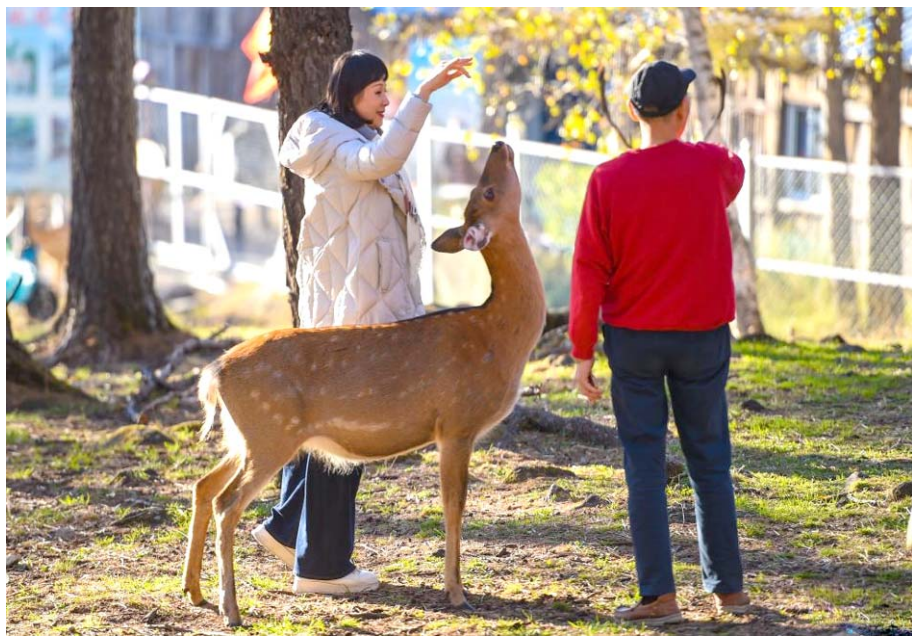


true and a proud moment for all Indians and Assamese people. Known for taking up challenges of

this sort, Hazarika had, earlier this year, become the first individual from North East India to cover the

Indo Arabian Gateway Mumbai Circle swim with

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6



Visitors have fun with a sika deer at a deer park in Arxan of Hinggan League, north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous

Ashok Gehlot asks Jagdeep Dhankhar why Mamata Banerjee abstained from voting during VP polls

Jaipur, September 21 : Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, who met Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Tuesday, sought to know what "magic" did he do on a "tough lady" like Mamata Banerjee that she decided to abstain from voting during the VP election. Friendly banter between the two was witnessed during the felicitation programme in the Rajasthan Assembly on

Tuesday as the Vice President, during his address, also said that he once did magic himself during the state assembly elections. Speaking on the occasion, Gehlot cited the relations Dhankhar shared with Mamata Banerjee during his three-year tenure as the Governor of West Bengal before being elected Vice President in August this

year, and said, "Your relations were the topic of discussion in the country till the time you were there for three years. What magic did you do that when you became the vice presidential candidate, the same Mamata Banerjee abstained from voting? Please tell us the secret." "What magic did you do on a tough lady like Mamata? I am the magician," he said. Gehlot further asked if Dhankhar was a "bigger magician" than him. Gehlot's "I'm the magician" remark comes amid the buzz of him being the frontrunner in the race for the Congress president's post. He is believed to be close to the Gandhi family who is said to be backing the Rajasthan CM for the post. Responding to the Chief Minister's remark, VP Dhankhar jokingly said, "I remember when the Rajasthan Assembly



elections were underway, Rajendra Rathore was the candidate from Churu. I went to his rally. The magic of the magician is okay (pointing towards Gehlot), but even I did magic that he never lost an election till today". "The Chief Minister asked what was that magic that Mamata Banerjee took the decision (to abstain from voting in vice presidential elections). I am beyond politics. Why are the political decisions taken, how are they taken and on what basis are they taken, Ashok Gehlot, Vasundhara Raje and others can throw light on this," he added. Notably,

during his tenure as the Governor of West Bengal, Dhankhar and Mamata were believed to have clashed on various occasions. Dhankhar also joked that he had once sought "help" from former Chief Minister of Rajasthan Vasundhara Raje regarding Mamata in the form of a "magic spell". "Vasundhara Raje started in the parliamentary area in 1989. I also got this opportunity. Since then, my relations with her have been personal. I even sought help from her after becoming the Governor of West Bengal that my Chief Minister is Mamata Banerjee. Please tell me some magic spell," he said.

Putin announces partial mobilisation and threatens nuclear retaliation in escalation of Ukraine war

Moscow, September 21 : Russian president threatens west with nuclear retaliation, saying "we will use all the means at our disposal". Vladimir Putin has announced a partial mobilisation in Russia in a significant escalation that places the country's people and economy on a wartime footing. The president also threatened nuclear retaliation, saying that Russia had "lots of weapons to reply" to what he called western threats on Russian territory and added that he was not bluffing. In a highly anticipated televised address, Putin said the "partial mobilisation" was a direct response to the dangers posed by the west, which "wants to destroy our country", and claimed the west had tried to "turn Ukraine's people into cannon fodder". "Military service will apply only to citizens who are currently in the reserve, especially those who have served in the armed forces, have certain military professions and relevant experience," he said. Shortly after Putin's announcement, the country's defence ministry, Sergei Shoigu, said 300,000 Russians would be called up as part of the mobilisation that will apply to "those with previous military experience". "These are not

people who've never seen or heard anything about the army," he said, adding that students can "keep going to class". According to the decree signed by Putin on Wednesday, the contracts of soldiers fighting in Ukraine will also be extended until the end of the partial mobilisation period. The Russian leader's televised address to the nation comes a day after Russian-controlled regions in eastern and southern Ukraine announced plans to hold "referendums" this weekend on becoming part of Russia. Kremlin's plans to annex four regions are likely to further escalate the war following Ukrainian recent successes on the battlefield. "To those who allow themselves such statements regarding Russia, I want to remind you that our country also has various means of destruction, and for separate components and more modern than those of Nato countries and when the territorial integrity of our country is threatened, to protect Russia and our people, we will certainly use all the means at our disposal," Putin said. The Ukrainian presidential adviser Mykhailo Podolyak said Putin's decision to announce a partial mobilisation was a "predictable step" that highlights that the war was not going according to the

Kremlin's plan. Putin's speech was also swiftly condemned by western leaders on Wednesday. The British Foreign Office minister Gillian Keegan called the Russian president's speech an "obvious escalation". "Clearly it's



something that we should take very seriously because, you know, we're not in control - I'm not sure he's in control either, really," Keegan told Sky News. Germany's vice-chancellor, Robert Habeck, said Russia's decision to announce a partial mobilisation was "another bad and wrong step from Russia". Putin's national address was planned initially for Tuesday evening, hours after the four

Ukrainian regions announced "referendums" on joining Russia. However, the speech was postponed without explanation, causing a flurry of speculation. Some observers proposed that the Kremlin had changed its mind on its decision to announce a mobilisation, while others pointed to Putin's

for this weekend to join Russia in the parts of Ukraine's Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson, and Zaporizhzhia regions that are under its control. The Ukrainian president, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, slammed Russian plans to stage referendums in the occupied regions as a "noise" and thanked Ukraine's allies for denouncing the votes.

Bad dreams in middle age could be sign of dementia risk, study suggests

London, September 21 : People who experience frequent bad dreams in middle age may experience a faster rate of cognitive decline and be at higher risk of dementia as they get older, data suggests. If confirmed, the research could eventually lead to new ways of screening for dementia and intervention to slow the rate of decline. Most people experience bad dreams from time to time, but approximately 5% of adults experience nightmares - dreams distressing enough to wake them up - at least once a week. Stress, anxiety, and sleep deprivation are all potential triggers, but previous research in people with Parkinson's disease has also linked frequent distressing dreams to faster rates of cognitive decline, and an increased risk of developing dementia in the future. To investigate whether the same might be true of healthy adults, Dr Abidemi Otaiku at the University of Birmingham turned to data from three previous studies that have examined people's sleep quality and then followed them over many years, assessing their brain health as well as other outcomes. This included more than 600 middle-aged adults (aged 35 to 64), and 2,600 people aged 79 and older. Their data was analysed using statistical software to find out whether those who experienced a higher frequency of distressing dreams were more likely to go on to experience cognitive decline and be diagnosed with dementia. The research, published in

eClinical Medicine, found that middle-aged people who experienced bad dreams at least once a week were four times more likely to experience cognitive decline over the following decade than those who rarely had nightmares.

E-TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE

The Notice Inviting Tender published vide this office NIT No. S/V-588/2018-19/NEPOL/32 dated 10.02.2022 in connection with selection of Agency for procurement of Hardware, Design, Development and maintenance of Website and Mobile application for setting of North East Police connectivity is hereby **cancelled** due to technical reason.

Janasanyog/C/10544/22

Inspector General of Police (Admn.)
Assam, Guwahati

NOTICE INVITING QUOTATION

Sealed quotations are hereby Invited from local registered firms / shops dealing with Computer Peripherals affixing Court fee of Rs. 8.25/- (non-refundable) for supply of Computer related articles to the office of the undersigned for the remaining part of the financial year 2022-23.

The Intending firms must submit their quotations In sealed envelope to the Office of the undersigned on or before 7th October, 2022 during the working hours. No quotation will be received thereafter.

For details please visit - <http://nalbarijudiciary.gov.in>

SI No.	Item Description	Qty/Size/Colour
1	Canon printer Cartridge 337	Per Unit
2.	HP Printer Cartridge 12A	Per Unit
3.	HP Printer Cartridge 88 A	Per Unit
4	Canon Printer Cartridge 326	Per Unit
5.	Canon Printer Cartridge 328	Per Unit
6.	12A /88 A Compatible Cartridge	Per Unit
7.	HP Printer Cartridge 110-A	Per Unit
8	Pen drive 16 GB/32 GB (Sandisk/Kingston)	Per Unit
9.	Key Board (HP/Logitech)	Per Unit
10.	Mouse (HP/Logitech)	Per Unit
11	DVD	Per Unit
12	Mouse Pad	Per Unit
13	NPG 59 Drum Unit for Canon Xerox	Per Unit
14	NPG 59 toner for Canon Xerox	Per Unit
15	HP printer Cartridge 388	Per Unit
16.	HP Printer Cartridge 2612A	Per Unit

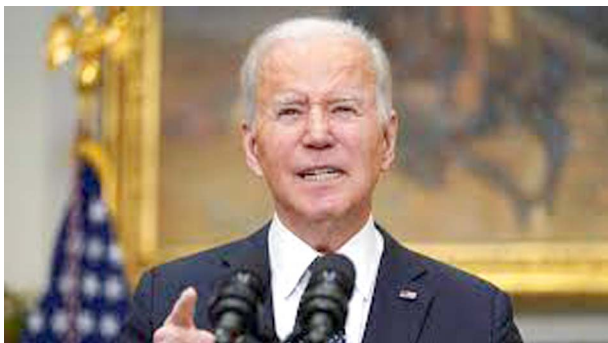
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- The scaled quotation shall be superscribed as " Quotation for supply of Computer Cartridge and accessories" and should contain the following documents.
 - Proof of current Bank Account In the name of the Firm,
 - Trade License.
 - PAN Card In the name of the Firm.
 - GST registration certificate /clearance certificate etc,
- The rates Approved shall be valid for a period of one (1) year from the date of awarding the contract.
- The rates quoted for each item will be final and no hike In price shall be considered in the contract period.
- The rates should be submitted with GST and without GST separately.
- The firm should have an established shop dealing in Computer peripherals/ Stationary articles / miscellaneous articles. Detail of the shop is to be furnished along with the quotation for verification.
- The articles will be purchased as per requirement and the same shall have to be delivered Immediately.
- The undersigned reserves the right not to accept or reject any or all the quotation in part or full and shall not be bound to accept the lowest price.
- The decision of the undersigned in all respect shall be final and binding.

Sd/-
Chief Judicial Magistrate,
Nalbari

Janasanyog/C/10508/22

Biden to rally world leaders against Russian attempts to annex Ukraine regions



New York, September 21 : Joe Biden will use his speech at the United Nations on Wednesday to rally the world to stand firm in the face of Russian plans to hold referendums in occupied parts of Ukraine and possibly introduce widespread conscription, which the US described as signs of desperation unlikely to halt Ukrainian military gains. Biden will seek the broadest possible support for Ukrainian resistance at the UN general assembly (UNGA) by depicting it as a direct violation of the UN's founding charter, and will make new announcements about the US funding of measures to address global food insecurity, caused in part by the Russian invasion, which has threatened developing countries with famine. Biden's national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, said: "None of this - the sham referenda, the potential mobilisation of additional forces - is a sign of strength. On the contrary, it's a sign of weakness. It's the sign of Russian failure." Biden's speech on Wednesday morning will be followed a few hours later by a video address delivered by the Ukrainian president, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, an address that Russia tried to stop but which was overwhelmingly supported by the general assembly membership. Biden and Zelenskyy will seek to present the Russian invasion as a direct affront to everything the UN stands for. They will make their speeches as reports of mass graves filter in from the

charter at a time when a permanent member of the security council has struck at the very heart of the charter by challenging the principle of territorial integrity and sovereignty." Speaking in New York, on the margins of the UNGA summit, the US secretary of state, Antony Blinken said: "None of this - the sham referenda, the potential mobilisation of additional forces - is a sign of strength. On the contrary, it's a sign of weakness. It's the sign of Russian failure." Biden's speech on Wednesday morning will be followed a few hours later by a video address delivered by the Ukrainian president, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, an address that Russia tried to stop but which was overwhelmingly supported by the general assembly membership. Biden and Zelenskyy will seek to present the Russian invasion as a direct affront to everything the UN stands for. They will make their speeches as reports of mass graves filter in from the

formerly Russian-occupied town of Izium, and after the Russian state Duma passed new amendments to the legal code that directly refer to "mobilisation" and "martial law", and introduce criminal liability for desertion or wilful surrender during that period. Four Russian-occupied regions in Ukraine have said they are planning to hold "referenda" on joining the Russian Federation in a series of coordinated announcements that could indicate the Kremlin has made a decision to formally annex the territories. Sullivan said that the US would never accept the claimed results of such "sham referenda". On

possible conscription plans, he said Vladimir Putin "may be resorting to partial mobilisation, forcing even more Russians to go fight his brutal war in Ukraine". However, he did not think it would turn the military tide, which has shifted in Kyiv's favour in recent days. In terms of Russia being able to put more troops onto the battlefield, obviously, that will have an impact on the battlefield equation, but we do not believe at this point that it will undermine Ukraine's ability to effectively repel Russian aggression and to continue making gains," Sullivan said. In his address to the general assembly, French president Emmanuel Macron, described the Russian attempt to occupy Ukraine as "a return to the age of imperialism".



A woman and her kid visit the Pingyao International Photography Festival in Pingyao County of Jinzhong

Governor interacts with the players of Governor's Girls Volleyball Mission



Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 21: Assam Governor Prof. Jagdish Mukhi interacted with the players of the semifinals and final match of

'Governor's Girls Volleyball Mission' in Raj Bhavan yesterday. The Governor said, "Sports is one such thing that can aid in offering a holistic development of every child.

It helps in developing every essential skill that leads to a healthy and happy life. I am happy that these girls have been able to reach this top level of competition." Prof.

Mukhi also said "I am happy to meet and interact with all the players of the Governor's Girls Volleyball mission. It's indeed a pleasure to learn that amongst these talented girls, two teams are going to play the final match tomorrow. I wish them all the very best in their future endeavour." It may be noted that the players had come for the semifinals from eight zones namely Dibrugarh, Nagaon, Hailakandi, Kamrup (M), Sibsagar, Goalpara, Barpeta and Sonitpur. The final match will be played between Sontipur and Barpeta on 21st September at Deshbhakta Tarun Ram Phookan Indoor stadium. It may be mentioned that in a

move to empower girls through sports, Governor of Assam Prof. Jagdish Mukhi launched the "Governor's Girls Volleyball Mission, 2020-21" at Raj Bhavan on February 25 in 2021. The Mission is a joint initiative of the Sports and Youth Welfare Department, Education Department and Panchayat and Rural Development Department. Commissioner and Secretary to the Governor S.S. Meenakshi Sundaram, Director of Sports and Youth Welfare Nibedan Das Patowary, officials of Raj Bhavan and Sports department, coaches and players of the Girls Volleyball Mission were present in the interaction programme.

Photo exhibition on 'Azadika Amrit Mahotsav and 8 Years of Seva, Sushasan and GaribKalyan' begins at Phulaguri



Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 21: The two day long Photo exhibition cum outreach programme by Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Re-

gional office, Guwahati begins today at Raizmel Bhawan, Phulaguri, Nagaon. The theme of the exhibition is AzadiKaAmritMahotsavand 8 years of Seva, Sushasan and GaribKalyan. Inaugurating the exhibition Dr.Sonashree Brahma, Circle officer and Executive Magistrate of Rahasaid that this country is celebrating AzadiKaAmritMahotsav to pay tribute to the martyrs and to aware the masses about their contribution. Talking about the PhulaguriDhewaDr. Brahma said that this place has great significance in the history of Indian freedom struggle movement. She recalled the farmer uprising in the Phulaguri area in October 1861. Shri Palash Borah, Block Development Officer, Raha speaking on the occasion as the guest of honour recalled the sacrifices of the freedom fighters of the Nation. He urged the people of Phulaguri to remember and follow the ideals of the freedom fighters. He also urged the people of Phulaguri to remember the history of the place and to help preserve the heritage of the place. Smt. Barnali Mahanta, Field

Publicity Officer, CBC, Guwahati spoke about the aim and significance of the programme in her welcome address. Smt. Hiranani Das, Field Exhibition Officer, CBC, Guwahati, Smt. Kamini Das, President, Phulaguri Gaon Panchayat, Shri Pranab Barkakoti, Councilor, Anchalik Panchayat, Shri Prabin Hazarika, President, Phulaguri Dhewa Committee, Shri Pradeep Deka, Secretary, Phulaguri Dhewa Committee were also present in the occasion. The two day exhibition showcases various photo panels on many unsung heroes of India's freedom struggle as well as freedom fighters of the North-east. The exhibition also showcases the various initiatives and schemes of government in the last 8 years. Various competitions including art and quiz among students were also held in today's programme. Various stalls of handicrafts by Self Help Groups were also put up in the exhibition. The Private Registered troupe under CBC, Guwahati and local artists performed many cultural programme on the theme of AzadiKaAmritMahotsav.

Students' Union election held at LCC



Assam Rising, North Lakhimpur, September 20: The election of the Students' Union of Lakhimpur Commerce College for the year 2022-23 was held today. The election of the Secretary of the Boy's Common Room was held today as

candidates have already been elected unopposed in several departments including the General Secretary. Rahul Sharma and Seemanta Das contested the election today. Counting of votes conducted by fully computerized ballots

started at 3.30 pm where Seemanta Das defeated his sole rival Rahul Sharma by 15 votes. Advocate Nabajyoti Dutta attended the election as observer. The Returning Officer of the Lakhimpur Commerce College Students' Union Dipul Baruah said that Seemanta Das was elected with a total of 239 votes. On the filling of uncontested posts of the students' union Principal Dr. Lohit Hazarika said notification for selection of students to be nominated had already been made as per the recommendation of the Lyngdoh Commission report.



Assam Rising Nagaon, September 21: District Agriculture, Nagaon in association with Assam Projects on Agribusiness and Rural Transmission (APART) ceremonially distributed various agricultural machinery tools among farmers under Chief Minister's Samagra Gramya Unnayan

Yojana scheme, at the office premise of District Agriculture Officer, Nagaon yesterday. During the programme, the department concerned distributed subsidised machinery tools like combined harvesters, power trailers, spray machines and other machinery tools among the beneficiaries. The combined harvester machines

were distributed ceremonially among two farmers production units in the first phase and the rest of the farmers production units would be distributed in next phases as under the scheme, the state government will provide one each combined harvester to a farmers production unit in every assembly constituency in the district. Additional Deputy Commissioner Bijita Deka, District Agriculture Officer, Nagaon Tarun Hazarika, officials from APART - Surya Kant and Bipin Kumar, Sub Divisional agriculture officers respectively Ranjan Kumar Deka and Miranur Rahman Chowdhury and other officials from the district agriculture department were present in distribution programme today, a release added.

Minister Bimal Bora distributes Indira Miri Universal Window Pension

Assam Rising Bhubagaon, September 20: Minister of Cultural Affairs,

Guest House

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

Industry, Commerce and Public Institutions, Bimal Bora attended the distribution of one-time financial assistance under Indira Miri Universal Widow Pension Scheme at Pabitra Haat Hall today at 11 am. Under this scheme, a total of 466 beneficiaries in Morigaon district will receive Rs. 25,000/- each



in their bank accounts. B.Sc. T.S. Ranjana Malok, a beneficiary of the floods. The event was inaugurated by

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sharma centrally from Tezpur. The meeting was attended by Morigaon Con-

stituency MLA and Chairman of Upland Tribal Development Corporation Ramakant Deuri, Deputy Commissioner Devashish Sharma (VAC), Morigaon Zila Parishad President Isme Yara Begum, Zila Parishad Chief Executive Officer Chandra Pegitish Kshitish, Mayor Yogesh Tamuli, Zonal Development Officers, officers and employees of concerned departments, beneficiaries were present.

APDCL released helpline numbers

Assam Rising Guwahati, September 21: The APDCL informed customers that they can register their complaints by calling the number 1912. Additionally, they can register their complaints about rising monthly dues via WhatsApp on the number 7575999666. The power company also assured that any complaints registered on the helpline numbers would be resolved quickly. They stated that the bill would be amended after the complaints were investigated. It may be mentioned that Assam has been experiencing widespread public outrage over high electricity costs for nearly a

week. The increase occurred despite the fact that APDCL had not recently increased the power tariff. On September 16, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sharma stated that there had been no increase in power

prices and that the higher bills were due to malfunctioning metres. He said that he directed APDCL immediate instructions to repair the malfunctioning smart metres and respond to public complaints.

Police crackdown five illegal coal mafia in Margherita



Assam Rising Margherita, September 21: Margherita police administration seems to have been on the boil after the horrific incident involving the death and bodies of three labourers in an illegal coal mine in

Margherita Lidu in Tinsukia district. The police recovered the bodies of three labourers buried by the coal mafia in a very remote area and detained a total of eight people, including the notorious coal mafia, for question-

ing in connection with the incident. At the end of interrogation today, five people, including Bijon Roy, Rana Das, Anwar Hussain alias Sufi Baba, were produced before the Margherita Judicial court. The court sent five accused in connection with the case to jail. The conscious community has expressed satisfaction over the recent intensification of operation by the police against the mafia involved in the smuggling coal syndicate.

Sirajuddin Ajmal feted Golaghat's little girl Tamanna Shandyal

Assam Rising Hojai, September 20: Sirajuddin Ajmal, MLA, Jamunamukh felicitated Golaghat's little Tamanna Shandyal (popularly known as Khushi) and named her 'Tree Madam'. Learning about the noble endeavours and environmental consciousness of Tamanna Shandyal, Ajmal invited her to his residence in Hojai along with her parents Diganta Sharma and Papri Sharma, in order to encourage her efforts and felicitate them. Ajmal warmly welcomed them and handed over a cash award of Rs.50,000/- to the little girl and planted one Sandalwood and one Agarwood plant along with her at the Research and Development Centre, Flower Valley Agrotech Pvt. Ltd, Gopal

Nagar in Hojai on Sunday. Talking to this Correspondent, Sirajuddin Ajmal said I met a special guest Tamanna Shandyal who hails from Golaghat. He said despite being only five years of age, Tamanna has a hobby of planting saplings. As per report she planted more than 500 saplings so far. He said she is a perfect inspiration for us and the youths. "I have invited her to Hojai and spent some quality time with her along with her parents in our R & D, Hojai.", he added. He said in a bid to appreciate her I have extended a cash award to the little angel and along with a surname 'Tree Madam'. "I wish her all the best for her future.", Ajmal said. It's pertinent to mention that Khushi, popularly known as Tamanna Shandyal, a second grade student of Golaghat

Sankardev Shishu Vidyayiketan, Golaghat, has received appreciation from all around Assam for her exemplary works. As per Tamanna (Khushi) parents, she loved trees and nature since her childhood and fell in love with mother nature, as such from the age of three she began planting saplings. Seeing her love for nature and consciousness, Tamanna Shandyal has been given the responsibility of planting saplings on 1 hectare of the land by the Assam Government. She has gained much appreciation from all the corners of Assam. Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sharma; Debabrata Saikia, leader of opposition; Parimal Suklabaidya, Minister of Environment and Forest, Assam; Mrinal



Saikia, MLA, Khumtai Constituency; Mrigesh Narayan Baruah, DC; Anand Mishra, IPS; actors, media persons and many others have

praised the noble initiative of Tamanna Shandyal (Khushi) and handed over her appreciation letters and wished her bright future.

Book Your Ads in **The Assam Rising**

Text Classified Ad
Classified Display Ad
Display Ad

Special Offer!

www.dainandinbartagroup.in
assamrising@gmail.com
94010-33823

THE ASSAM RISING

VOL. NO. VII, ISSUE NO. 215 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

Climate Change And Floods

Floods can surge all year round, in every region of the world. But discerning the relationship between any given flood and climate change is no small feat, experts say, made difficult by limited historical records, particularly for the most extreme floods, which occur infrequently. It can be tempting to attribute all floods and other extreme events to the forces of warming planet. But weather is not climate, even though weather can be affected by climate. For example, scientists are confident that climate change makes unusually hot days more common. They're not as sure that climate change is making tornadoes more severe. Flooding, like other disasters, involves a number of competing factors that may affect its frequency and intensity in opposing ways. Climate change, which is worsening extreme rainfall in many storms, is an increasingly important part of the mix. Several main ingredients contribute to flood development: precipitation, snow-melt, topography and how wet the soil is. Depending on the type of the flood, some factors may matter more than others. For example, a river flood, also known as a fluvial flood, occurs when a river, stream or lake overflows with water, often following heavy rainfall or quickly melting snow. A coastal flood occurs when land areas near the coast are inundated by water, often following a severe storm that collides with high tides. Flooding can also happen in areas with no nearby bodies of water. Flash floods, in particular, can develop anywhere that experiences intense rainfall over a short period of time. Extreme floods can be triggered by intense precipitation, longer duration, close repetition of precipitations or a combination of these. In the case of intense precipitations, such as was experienced in the United Kingdom, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in its comprehensive assessment of the physical science basis of climate change found that there is high confidence that this is an increasing trend in Europe, especially for winter flooding. "While it is difficult to make a direct link between an individual extreme event and climate change, it is clear that we need to be prepared to face more intense and more frequent extreme hydro-meteorological events due to climate change," says Pascal Peduzzi, Director of the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Global Resource Information Database in Geneva.

Be a Citizen Journalist

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

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

Letter to The Editor

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

Editor,
The Assam Rising
Guwahati, Assam

Late Shailendra Ch Mazumdar - a punctual and strict disciplinarian headmaster

I am still a student at the age of 47. I met many headmasters and principals during my journey of student life. But one figure whose personal behaviour immensely influenced me is unforgettable as long as I keep breathing. That figure was none other than late Shailendra Chandra Mazumdar of Bapuji High School under North Salmara sub division of Bongaigaon district. He was a tall, white skinned, energetic, dynamic and a strict disciplinarian Headmaster. Even assistant teachers also kept trembling. It is a matter of pleasure that I could learn many good lessons of life, cleanliness and discipline only for this dynamic headmaster. I remember now what he predicted of socio-economic, political situation of India came true in reality. This farsighted man was very courageous when I witnessed him arguing with a police officer of S D P O rank in front of our school. As I am still a student, I sometimes think of how the present academic situation is going on in my school where I studied. But the situation changes now, so I do not know whether it is satisfactory or not compared to those of the former glory of my student life's school. It is worth mentioning that his better-half, Devala Chaudhury who is still alive, served in this very school, is a meek and kind hearted lady who possesses innate wisdom and true generosity of a woman. I pray for the sound health of madam Choudhury. Mazumdar Sir is no more physically, his teachings, ideology, philosophy are hard to find at this present age. He left behind two sons, one is an additional D C of Maibong sub-division and younger son is an MD doctor of Arogya Hospital, Bongaigaon. In fine, I wish that the soul of Mazumdar Sir may rest in peace in heaven.

Sanjib Kumar Ray

Memes, fake photos welcome cheetahs to India. Uttarakhand CM wasn't welcomed by an elephant

A cheetah running fast is a fact, but this week it made several others in India run around it. From social media users to creators of memes, fake photos, jokes-all ran after the animal that came to India from Namibia after 70 years. The peculiar thing was that no one went out of breath. Except for Trivendra Singh Rawat, the former chief minister of Uttarakhand. Rawat's convoy, though, was chased not by any cheetah, but an elephant. He somehow managed to escape by climbing rocks while gasping for breath. The video of the incident went viral. By the way, Anil Baluni, the head of BJP's media department, is some sort of an expert on wildlife-related matters in the BJP. He knows all the secrets of how to observe an animal from close quarters. Any BJP leader who goes on a trip to a safari on holiday takes some gurunmantra from Baluni. Baluni explains to them all about what to do and what not to do while being in the wild. Rajiya Sabha MP Radha Mohan Das Agarwal has been appointed as co-in-charge of Kerala. BJP in-charge of the



state is former Union minister Prakash Javadekar. Since Agarwal's in-laws live in Kerala, he has visited the state many times.



Bharat Agrawal

However, he had never visited Kerala for party-related work and therefore didn't know who will make the arrangements for his stay and who will book the tickets. He was told all this will be explained once he reaches the party office. When he went there, he found out his party colleagues knew where his in-laws live. Clearly, his party members figured the arrangements should be made by him, the way it would be if he was travelling to the state on a personal visit. Punjab's former CM Captain

Amarinder Singh joined the BJP and merged his newly created party. Questions are being asked about what BJP would gain from his

entry. However, the bigger question is, what will the Captain get? Will he be appointed as governor in some state or will he be adjusted in the party organisation? According to a senior leader associated with Punjab, who harbours some resentment towards the Captain, there is only one 'vacancy' for Amarinder. And that is in the Margdarshak Mandal. These days work pressure is getting too in-

tense for the investigative agencies. Therefore, notices are being issued without due scrutiny. In an interesting case, the sister-in-law of MP Abhishek Banerjee - Mamta Banerjee's nephew - was called in for questioning. The time in the summons was mentioned as 2 am instead of 2 pm. So, when Abhishek's sister-in-law reached the place of interrogation at 2 am, it was found locked. She duly informed the concerned investigating agency about its premises being locked. Previously too, the agency had made this sort of blunder. Many senior leaders of Congress had high hopes that they would establish some sort of link with Rahul Gandhi while walking with him during the Bharat Jodo Yatra. But that same hope was also being harboured by local leaders who were not getting their chances. So, when the yatra was in Trivandrum's Kollam, some local leaders showed courage and told Rahul that those who are the real grassroots-level workers are not getting any support even though it is they who had worked the hardest. After hear-

ing such complaints, Rahul promptly instructed some senior leaders to not limit the journey to clicking selfies. He also implored them to spread out in other states and contact the common public. Since then, senior leaders can be spotted in other states. Those who were considering themselves as the 'organisers' of the yatra have also been asked to give more prominence to the locals. By the way, there is also some buzz around suspension of Prashant Kishor's own yatra. The Jan Swaraj Yatra was set to start in October with Kishor's attack concentrated on BJP's political culture. But Nitish's abrupt de-coupling with the BJP spoiled Kishor's gameplan. It is rumoured that Kishor might drop the idea of yatra altogether. Recently, Nitish publicly attacked Prashant Kishor and asked him to first clarify whether he is with the BJP or not. There is a perception in several sections of Bihar that Kishor is actually helping the BJP, which greatly perturbs the election strategist. Now he has become quite vocal against Nitish too. All this has brought "double delight" for the BJP in Bihar.

God save the Queue: how the wait to see the Queen's coffin transformed people

A strange thing has happened since last week, when I wrote about how myself and other social psychologists were studying the crowds of people queuing to watch the ceremonials following the death of Queen Elizabeth - finding out the many reasons and motivations for taking part in this mass event. It seems the Queue itself - and what it supposedly tells us about the state of our nation - has become as big a story as the ceremonies. We stopped watching the pageantry and started watching ourselves watching the pageants. This was just the start of a series of remarkable transformations. The size and behaviour of the crowds did not simply reflect the pre-existing state of the nation. Rather, through these crowds we saw a transformation in our desire to participate in the events, a transformation of relations between those in the crowd, and transformations in their relationship to the monarch, the monarchy and the state. A week is a long time, it seems, and not only in politics. Two things immediately gripped the public imagination. The first was the sheer size of the queuing crowds. Some speculated it was the largest

funeral crowd ever. Such a bold claim is hard to assess, but the answer is it probably wasn't. Four million watched Pope John Paul II being laid to rest, 5 million watched Nasser's funeral, up to 10 million the Ayatollah Khomeini's. And 16 million were there for CN Annadurai, the chief minister of Madras, after he died in 1969. Moreover, in 1980 the queue to pay respects to the Russian singer Vladimir Vysotsky stretched fully 10km, from the Taganka theatre in Moscow to the cemetery where he was buried. But such details are beside the point. Simply by asking whether this is the biggest queue ever, a sense of exceptionalism is invoked. The second factor is also about exceptionalism. Time and again, queues, and this one in particular, have been described as quintessentially and uniquely British: polite, restrained and orderly, reflecting the timeless characteristics of our national identity. Like most supposedly "timeless" national phenomena, this isn't actually accurate. The idea of the British as a nation of queuers dates back to the second world war. The government feared that food shortages, rationing and long queues would lead to social disorder - so there was a concerted propaganda

drive to make orderly queuing into a national duty and a symbol of being British. Controlled crowds were not a reflection of "Britishness". Rather "Britishness" was a device invoked to control the crowds. Just as the funeral and other ceremonies people were waiting to witness are often described as "going back to time immemorial" but were actually invented in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the notion that the civility of British crowds attending those ceremonies like-

Stephen Reicher

stretches back through the mists of time is a powerful piece of myth-making. But the relentless focus on the Queue as a historic event in and of itself made the mere act of queuing seem ever more significant. More and more people wanted to join simply to be part of it. Day by day, as we talked to people, this became more prominent as a motive for attendance. Many who had been sitting at home with no thought of joining in, began to fear missing out on a little bit of immortality. So the



crowd grew ever bigger, becoming ever more significant and thus attracting yet more people.

The snowball rolled and grew faster and faster. Once drawn to the crowd, another transformation occurred. The shared experience and common goals of those waiting together over long hours led to an emergent sense of shared identity. And that shared identity became the basis for the emergence of community. Strangers became friends. People began to talk, to share stories, to share sandwiches, even to develop intimacies. Such solidarity sustained people through the long march. Whatever the reason people joined the queue, the joy of human connection became a reason to stay in the crowd. As

the crowd progressed, as people drew close to Westminster Hall, and then, as they came into the presence of the coffin and crown, yet one more transformation occurred. The joyous and even raucous relationship of queuers to each other gave way to the relationship of each person to royalty. In the hush of the hall, each person stood alone in the presence of the Queen's coffin and the meticulously choreographed precision of her attendants. Those who were there told our research team how their senses were transformed, their emotions heightened. Majesty - hitherto an abstract concept - has been made manifest. Such experiences reflect a prior identification with the monarchy. But collective experiences also create and intensify identification. Most of the discussion of the response to the Queen's death has focused simply on what it tells us about ourselves as a society. But that is to miss the importance of how these events actively change people. We do not come out of the last 10 days as we went in. But that is the whole point of such ceremonials. They are technologies for engineering souls. And by investigating them, we gain crucial insights into how that process works.

Why should we in Pakistan pay for catastrophic floods we had no part in causing?

The climate crisis has accelerated at pace. When temperatures crossed 53C in Pakistan, the summer of 2022 turned our southern towns into the hottest places on the planet, melting our glaciers, burning our forests, scorching our crops. But nothing prepared the country for the biblical flooding that saw a third of Pakistan inundated by an ocean of water, surpassing even the 2010 disaster in magnitude and frequency. Scientific modelling now attributes the extreme flooding in our country to the climate crisis, and the catastrophe presents a clear warning to all those who have set their climate clocks to another few decades. Previously unthinkable doomsday scenarios began to look like the inevitable: Sindh and Balochistan provinces transformed into horizon-free planes of unbroken water, with no land to pitch tents on, no rooftops left

Sherry Rehman

to huddle on. More than 33 million people were rendered destitute; 1,500 people died while the country struggled, in shock, to pick up the pieces. Aside from the map of human misery that this climate emergency presents, the costs of rebuilding and adapting to such new extreme weather is a cause for anxiety. While the world begins forgetting, Pakistan still must wade through the relief stages of the crisis, with a new generation of climate migrants looking for shelter. Just providing for baseline disaster needs such as shelter and food requires immediate funding, leaving us no space to rebuild livelihoods or preserve crops. The rehabilitation effort stands to cost billions, while reconstruction estimates are ongoing. Even in a disaster-free year, Pakistan typically loses 9.1% of its GDP to the compounding impacts of climate stress. Early esti-

mates suggest that figure could almost double due to medium-term losses from the superstorm. Pakistan is not alone in being exposed to both high climate vulnerabilities and low readiness. Much of the global south, buffeted by climate impacts, supply chain interruptions and their high social costs, is looking now for a transfer of resources to go beyond promises - for robust financial mechanisms to actualise the adaptation we desperately need. Our asks are not adversarial, nor are we alone in this. Our goals are realistic, and premised on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by big polluters, coupled with resource transfers to the low emitters in need of crucial funding. The contrast is stark. The G20 alone accounts for 75% of global emissions, many times more than those of the club of cli-

mate-vulnerable countries, which includes Pakistan, who emit less than 1% of greenhouse gases but end up paying over the odds in human, social and economic costs for the carbon profligacy of others.

Letter to the Editor

Kits supplied to Pregnant Mothers in Telangana

Dear editor

kits supplied to the pregnant mothers in Telangana seem to be quite helpful to mothers and newborn babies. This is helping mothers to a great extent to avoid c section surgeries. (which surgeons are doing as a matter of routine). Only those who are seriously looking to help the public in different ways get such ideas. Kudos to KCR, the CM of Telangana for this innovative welfare scheme. Let other states emulate such welfare schemes.

KLRao,
Vizag

Impacts of single-use plastic products



Put simply, single-use plastics are goods that are made primarily from fossil fuel-based chemicals (petrochemicals) and are meant to be disposed of right after use-often, in mere minutes. Single-use plastics are most commonly used for packaging and serveware, such as bottles, wrappers, straws, and bags. Though plastic-a chain of synthetic polymers, essentially-was invented in the mid-19th century, it wasn't until the 1970s that its popularity skyrocketed. Manufacturers began replacing traditionally paper or glass staples with lighter or more durable and affordable plastic alternatives; plastic jugs replaced milk jars, for instance. Since the 1950s, 8.3 billion metric tons of plastics have been produced, and half of that in the past 15 years alone. There are many uses for plastic that are not only reasonable but important, such as surgical gloves, or straws for people with disabilities. But these cases make up a small fraction of single-use plastic. According to a 2017 study, more than half of non-fiber plastic, which excludes synthetic fabrics like polyester and nylon, comes from plastic packaging alone, much of which is for single-use items. Single-use plastics are a glaring example of the problems with throwaway culture. Instead of investing in quality goods that will last, we often prioritize convenience over du-

rability and consideration of long-term impacts. Our reliance on these plastics means we are accumulating waste at a staggering rate. We produce 300 million tons of plastic each year worldwide, half of which is for single-use items. That's nearly equivalent to the weight of the entire human population. Reducing plastic use is the most effective means of avoiding this waste (and the impacts linked to plastic production and use). Carrying reusable bags and bottles is one great way to avoid single-use plastics in our day-to-day lives; more on preventing plastic waste can be found below. Recycling more plastic, more frequently, reduces its footprint. Polyethylene terephthalate, one of the most commonly recycled plastics and the material that makes up most water and soda bottles, can be turned into everything from polyester fabric to automotive parts. But a whopping 91 percent of all plastic isn't recycled at all. Instead it ends up in landfills or in the environment. Single-use plastics in particular-especially small items like straws, bags, and cutlery-are traditionally hard to recycle because they fall into the

crevices of recycling machinery and therefore are often not accepted by recycling centers. Left alone, plastics don't really break down; they just break up. Over time, sun and heat slowly turn plastics into smaller and smaller pieces until they eventually become what are known as microplastics. These microscopic plastic fragments, no more than 5 millimeters long, are hard to detect and are just about everywhere. Some microplastics are even small by design, like the microbeads used in facial scrubs or the microfibers in polyester clothing. They end up in the water, eaten by wildlife, and inside our bodies. They've even made their way up to the secluded Pyrenees mountain range and down to the bottom of the Mariana Trench. For wildlife, microplastics can be particularly dangerous; when eaten they can easily accumulate inside an animal's body and cause health issues, like punctured organs or fatal intestinal blockages. Exposure to microplastics, as well as the chemicals that are added to plastics during processing, harm our health. Many of the chemicals in plastics are known endocrine

disruptors, and research has suggested that human exposure could cause health impacts including hormonal imbalances, reproductive problems like infertility, and even cancer. The phthalate DEHP, as just one example from dozens, is often added to plastic goods like shower curtains and garden hoses to make them more flexible-but was also found to be a probable human carcinogen by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Although single-use plastic pollution accumulates most visibly on our streets, in fact our water suffers even more. Litter can be the first stage in a waste stream that enters waterways as plastics tossed on the street are washed away by rain or travel via storm drains into rivers and streams. Our waterway plastic pollution is particularly concentrated: Just ten rivers carry 93 percent of the world's total amount of plastic that enters the oceans via rivers each year. In 2015 researchers from the University of Georgia estimated that between 4.8 million and 12.7 million metric tons of plastic per year make their way into the oceans via people

living within 30 miles of a coast. The majority of this pollution-dominated by single-use plastic waste-comes from countries lacking infrastructure to properly manage waste, particularly in Asia. India, for example, generates 25,940 tons of plastic waste every day but collects only 60 percent of it. (It's also important to remember that waste management is just one part of the global materials cycle. For instance, a lot of the plastic produced in Asian countries is for products that serve U.S. demand-and the United States often sends plastic waste back to these countries for recycling.) Some companies are taking initiative on their own. McDonald's swapped its plastic straws for paper at its United Kingdom and Ireland restaurants. Disney is eliminating single-use plastic straws and stirrers at all its theme parks, resorts and properties. And Starbucks, which uses an estimated one billion plastic straws per year, is phasing them out in favor of paper ones. These actions are a response to calls for change and shifting consumer habits.

Unique Species of Wild Animal Families in Assam



Assam has a rich cultural heritage and one of the top biodiversity hotspot in India along with one of the top 5 places of Terai-Duar savanna and grasslands. The rare and endangered endemic wildlife and wild animals of Assam includes Great One-Horned Rhinoceroses, Hoolock Gibbon, Wild Water Buffalo, Hog Deer, Golden Langur and Ganges Dolphin. Big Cats are the largest felid species and all great cats are carnivores and efficient apex predators. Kaziranga and Manas are few wild breeding areas in Assam and home to maximum number of big cats in India, such as Indian Tigers, Indian Leopard, Clouded Leopard and the Black Panther. Grassland of Kaziranga National Park of Assam is home to large breeding populations of swamp deer, sambar, Indian muntjac, wild boar and hog deer. Out of 13 species of deer, 5 species of deer found in Assam and also has significant populations of large herbivores of Barasingha. The national parks of Assam host two of the largest snakes

in the world, the reticulated python and rock python. Indian rock python occurs in a wide range of habitats, including grasslands, swamps and marshes. They are excellent swimmers and are quite at home in water. Manas National Park and Kaziranga National Park savanna and grasslands provides shelter to endangered endemic wild water buffalo. Kaziranga has the largest population of the Wild water buffalo anywhere of the world population and has significant populations of large herbivores bovine family of Gayal and Gaur also called Indian bison. Kaziranga was once home to seven species of vultures but now a days only the Indian vulture, slender-billed vulture, and Indian white-

rumped vulture have survived. The white-rumped vulture and slender-billed vulture are two species of Old World vulture falls in the critically endangered species. Protected areas of Assam is home to 9 out of the 14 primate species found in India, few among them are the Assamese macaque, capped and golden langur and the only ape found in India, the hoolock gibbon. Golden langur is found in a small region of western Assam and one of the most endangered primate species of India. Dibru-Saikhowa National Park alone is home to largest species of wild cats in India, the felids include the jungle cat, golden cat, fishing cat, and leopard cat.

Air pollution and its impact on Environment and Health



One of our era's greatest scourges is air pollution, on account not only of its impact on climate change but also its impact on public and individual health due to increasing morbidity and mortality. There are many pollutants that are major factors in disease in humans. Among them, Particulate Matter (PM), particles of variable but very small diameter, penetrate the respiratory system via inhalation, causing respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, reproductive and central nervous system dysfunctions, and cancer. Despite the fact that ozone in the stratosphere plays a protective role against ultraviolet irradiation, it is harmful when in high concentration at ground level, also affecting the respiratory and cardiovascular system. Furthermore, nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), dioxins, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are all considered air pollutants that are harmful to humans. Carbon monoxide can even provoke direct poisoning when breathed in at high levels. Heavy metals such as lead, when absorbed into the human body, can lead to direct poisoning or chronic intoxication, depending on exposure. Diseases occurring from the aforementioned substances include principally respiratory problems such as Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), asthma, bronchitis, and also lung cancer, cardiovascular events, central nervous system dysfunctions, and cutaneous diseases. Last but not least, climate change resulting from environmental pollution affects the geographical distribution of many infectious diseases, as do natural disasters. The only way to tackle this problem is through public awareness coupled with a multidisciplinary approach by scientific experts; national and international organizations must address the emergence of this threat and propose sustainable solutions. Human activities have an adverse effect on the environment by polluting the water we drink, the air we breathe, and the soil in which plants grow. Although the industrial revolution was a great success in terms of technology, society, and the provision of

multiple services, it also introduced the production of huge quantities of pollutants emitted into the air that are harmful to human health. Without any doubt, the global environmental pollution is considered an international public health issue with multiple facets. Social, economic, and legislative concerns and lifestyle habits are related to this major problem. Clearly, urbanization and industrialization are reaching unprecedented and upsetting proportions worldwide in our era. Anthropogenic air pollution is one of the biggest public health hazards worldwide, given that it accounts for about 9 million deaths per year (1). Without a doubt, all of the aforementioned are closely associated with climate change, and in the event of danger, the consequences can be severe for mankind (2). Climate changes and the effects of global planetary warming seriously affect multiple ecosystems, causing problems such as food safety issues, ice and iceberg melting, animal extinction, and damage to plants (3, 4). Air pollution has various health effects. The health of susceptible and sensitive individuals can be impacted even on low air pollution days. Short-term exposure to air pollutants is closely related to COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease), cough, shortness of breath, wheezing, asthma, respiratory disease, and high rates of hospitalization (a measurement of morbidity). The long-term effects associated with air pollution are chronic asthma, pulmonary insufficiency, cardiovascular diseases, and cardiovascular mortality. According to a Swedish cohort study, dia-

betes seems to be induced after long-term air pollution exposure (5). Moreover, air pollution seems to have various malign health effects in early human life, such as respiratory, cardiovascular, mental, and perinatal disorders (3), leading to infant mortality or chronic disease in adult age (6). National reports have mentioned the increased risk of morbidity and mortality (1). These studies were conducted in many places around the world and show a correlation between daily ranges of particulate matter (PM) concentration and daily mortality. Climate shifts and global planetary warming (3) could aggravate the situation. Besides, increased hospitalization (an index of morbidity) has been registered among the elderly and susceptible individuals for specific reasons. Fine and ultrafine particulate matter seems to be associated with more serious illnesses (6), as it can invade the deepest parts of the airways and more easily reach the bloodstream. Air pollution mainly affects those living in large urban areas, where road emissions contribute the most to the degradation of air quality. There is also a danger of industrial accidents, where the spread of a toxic fog can be fatal to the populations of the surrounding areas. The dispersion of pollutants is determined by many parameters, most notably atmospheric stability and wind (6). In developing countries (7), the problem is more serious due to overpopulation and uncontrolled urbanization along with the development

of industrialization. This leads to poor air quality, especially in countries with social disparities and a lack of information on sustainable management of the environment. The use of fuels such as wood fuel or solid fuel for domestic needs due to low incomes exposes people to bad-quality, polluted air at home. It is of note that three billion people around the world are using the above sources of energy for their daily heating and cooking needs (8). In developing countries, the women of the household seem to carry the highest risk for disease development due to their longer duration exposure to the indoor air pollution (8, 9). Due to its fast industrial development and overpopulation, China is one of the Asian countries confronting serious air pollution problems (10, 11). The lung cancer mortality observed in China is associated with fine particles (12). As stated already, long-term exposure is associated with deleterious effects on the cardiovascular system (3, 5). However, it is interesting to note that cardiovascular diseases have mostly been observed in developed and high-income countries rather than in the developing low-income countries exposed highly to air pollution (13). Extreme air pollution is recorded in India, where the air quality reaches hazardous levels. New Delhi is one of the more polluted cities in India. Flights in and out of New Delhi International Airport are often canceled due to the

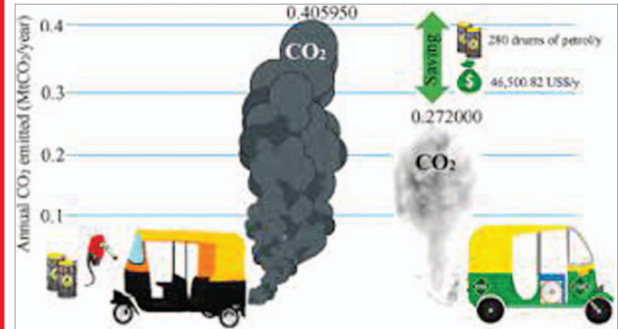
reduced visibility associated with air pollution. Pollution is occurring both in urban and rural areas in India due to the fast industrialization, urbanization, and rise in use of motorcycle transportation. Nevertheless, biomass combustion associated with heating and cooking needs and practices is a major source of household air pollution in India and in Nepal (14, 15). There is spatial heterogeneity in India, as areas with diverse climatological conditions and population and education levels generate different indoor air qualities, with higher PM_{2.5} observed in North Indian states (557-601 µg/m³) compared to the Southern States (183-214 µg/m³) (16, 17). The cold climate of the North Indian areas may be the main reason for this, as longer periods at home and more heating are necessary compared to in the tropical climate of Southern India. Household air pollution in India is associated with major health effects, especially in women and young children, who stay indoors for longer periods. Chronic obstructive respiratory disease (CORD) and lung cancer are mostly observed in women, while acute lower respiratory disease is seen in young children under 5 years of age (18). Accumulation of air pollution, especially sulfur dioxide and smoke, reaching 1,500 mg/m³, resulted in an increase in the number of deaths (4,000 deaths) in December 1952 in London and in 1963 in New York City (400 deaths) (19). An association of pollution with mortality was reported on the basis of monitoring of outdoor pollution in six US metropolitan cities (20). In every case, it seems that mortality was closely related to the levels of fine, inhalable, and sulfate particles more than with the levels of total particulate pollution, aerosol acidity, sulfur dioxide, or nitrogen dioxide (20). Furthermore, extremely high levels of pollution are reported in Mexico City and Rio de Janeiro, followed by Milan, Ankara, Melbourne, Tokyo, and Moscow (19). Based on the magnitude of the public health impact, it is certain that different kinds of interventions should be taken into account. Success and effectiveness in controlling air pollution,

Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) as an alternative fuel

This paper examines the possible use of compressed natural gas (CNG) in vehicles with petrol engines in India. CNG can be used in both petrol and diesel engines. In India, it is only competitive for use on petrol engines, because it costs much more than diesel fuel. In a bi-fuel arrangement, a CNG kit is installed in the vehicle alongside the petrol system. In the 'dedicated' type of CNG vehicle, a petrol engine is optimised for use of CNG, or a purpose-designed engine is used. CNG has the advantages that it emits less carbon dioxide than petrol, causes less air pollution than petrol, and imposes less wear on

of road users is not yet very encouraging. Five suggestions are made for improving their popularity, which have emerged during discussions with CNG filling stations and some road users. A natural gas vehicle (NGV) is an alternative fuel vehicle that uses compressed natural gas (CNG) or liquefied natural gas (LNG). Natural gas vehicles should not be confused with autogas vehicles powered by liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), mainly propane, a fuel with a fundamentally different composition. In a natural-gas-powered vehicle, energy is released by

natural gas). Diesel engines for heavy trucks and buses can also be converted and can be dedicated with the addition of new heads containing spark ignition systems, or can be run on a blend of diesel and natural gas, with the primary fuel being natural gas and a small amount of diesel fuel being used as an ignition source. It is also possible to generate energy in a small gas turbine and couple the gas engine or turbine with a small electric battery to create a hybrid electric motor-driven vehicle. Convenient fuel storage and refueling is a key challenge compared to petrol and diesel vehicles because natural gas is pressurized and liquefied (in case of LNG). The lower energy density of gases compared to liquid fuels is mitigated to a great extent by high compression or gas liquefaction, but requires a trade-off in terms of size/complexity/weight of the storage container and range of the vehicle. Although similar storage technologies may be used for and similar compromises would apply to a hydrogen vehicle as part of a proposed new hydrogen economy, methane as a gaseous fuel is safer than hydrogen due to its lower flammability, low corrosivity, and better leak tightness due to its larger molecular weight, resulting in lower price hardware solutions.



the engine. Its disadvantages are that it emits methane, which contributes much more than carbon dioxide to global warming, that it has 15-20% lower power output, that its storage in heavy cylinders increases vehicle weight, and that it requires much more frequent visits to filling stations. It is estimated that more than 1M vehicles use CNG engines; most of them are in Europe, but over 20,000 of them are in Pakistan. Although use of CNG vehicles has been proposed to reduce Delhi's alarming air pollution, the response

the combustion of methane gas (CH₄) fuel with oxygen (O₂) from the air to form carbon dioxide (CO₂) and water vapor (H₂O) in an internal combustion engine. Methane is the cleanest burning hydrocarbon, and many contaminants present in natural gas are removed at the source. Existing gasoline-powered vehicles may be converted to run on CNG or LNG and can be dedicated (running only on natural gas) or bi-fuel (running on either gasoline or

Contd. From Page 1 Private Educational

Regulation Act. According to the bill, "subject to the provisions of section 10 of the Act, the Fee Regulatory Committee shall recommend maximum limits of fees to be charged by the different categories of Non-Government Educational Institutions in every year before starting of the academic session". Private educational institutions will have to file applications before the government constituted Fee Regulatory Committee for exemption and fixation of their fee structure by October 31. The amendment bill also said that if the non-government educational institutions fail to apply before the Committee, Rs 10,000 penalty will be imposed on them for non-submission of the applications before the deadline. After the deadline, a late fee of Rs 5,000 per month will also be charged. "In the event of non-submission of the proposal by the non-government educational institutions before starting of the new academic session to determine their fee structure, the Fee Regulatory Committee shall suo moto determine the fee structure of that particular institution which shall be binding on such school," the amendment bill added. It is believed that the state government has taken this step after a series of complaints raised against a section of private educational institutes in the state about hiking their fees without any prior notice. A few students and guardians also filed complaints that a few non-government educational institutes abruptly hiked their fees to cover the loss induced due to the Covid pandemic outbreak. They earlier urged the government to take stern steps to stop this kind of practice by the private institutes.

Assam, Mizoram CMs optimistic

made in 1875 and 1933. Mizoram held a stretch of a reserved forest notified in 1875. A section of it now falls under Assam. After seven people were killed and about 60 were injured when police forces from the two states opened fire on each other in July 2021, the two states convened a ministerial-level meeting on August 5 of that year and decided to maintain peace along the border and resolve the problem through dialogue.

APDCL Releases Helpline

APDCL officials. After a request is raised, officials from the power department will visit their homes and examine their meter boxes, added the CM. He further mentioned that in case any fault is found in their respective meter boxes, the monthly dues will be adjusted with the bill of the upcoming month.

Assam to appoint over 4,700 people

asked about closing down government-run schools, the Education minister said that the department has received proposals to amalgamate 1,710 schools with other nearby institutes from the districts. "After that, we have received around 300 applications requesting us not to amalgamate those concerned schools. They cited various reasons for these 300 schools like historic importance or named after some important personalities or physical difficulties in going to the new school," he added. Pegu said that a central committee has been formed to look after these appeals and they will decide on every case separately. "During the last exercise a few years ago, we provincialised teachers but did not touch the schools. So, there was a question of what would happen to those schools. We will amalgamate those schools this time," he added. Pegu, however, said that the entire exercise of amalgamation will be carried out without violating the Right to Education of the children. Provincialisation means the government taking over all liabilities of a non-government school, which was established with the sole purpose of imparting education to serve the society, for payment of salaries and other benefits to the teachers.

Rang Ghar, Sivasagar Progress

on to further say that the medical college that had been promised for the Thowra constituency will now be jointly available to both the constituencies. Gogoi further expressed his gratitude to CM Sarma for taking up the pending issues and providing quick resolution to them.

Swimmer from Assam Elvis Ali

his relay team. In November last year, he had become the first Assamese to successfully swim from Dharamtar Jetty to the Gateway Of India, Arabian Sea, the total length of which is around 38 kilometers. In 2019, he again became the first person from Assam to swim across the Catalina Channel in the United States of America.

Robert Vadra says sorry

with Vadra for allegedly violating the terms and conditions imposed on him by the court last month, while allowing him to travel to the United Kingdom via the United Arab Emirates. On August 12, a city court had allowed Vadra to travel abroad to the UK via UAE, Spain and Italy for four weeks. In an order of Monday, special judge Neelofar Abida Parveen took exception to Vadra's explanation for his stay in Dubai on account of medical exigency during his trip to UK and said that she was unable to accept the assertion by Vadra that he was forced or compelled under the circumstances of his health. Issuing a show cause notice to Vadra, the court asked why his fixed deposit receipt (FDR) deposited in terms of the order dated August 12 be not forfeited for violating the terms and conditions of the permission granted to Vadra. The court further said that a copy of the travel tickets indicated that Vadra was supposed to stay from August 25 to 29 in Dubai then he was about to travel to London on August 29. "I am unable to accept the assertion on sole affirmation of applicant contained in para 5 of the affidavit that the applicant was forced/compelled under the circumstances on account of medical exigencies to stay at UAE while traveling via UAE to UK for the simple reason that itinerary filed on August 22 and copy of the travel tickets indicates that Vadra all along intended to stay from August 25-29 at Dubai then travel to London on August 28," the court said in its order. Vadra in his affidavit after his return has said that he stayed in UAE before embarking on his further journey because he had deep vein thrombosis (DVT) in his left leg and he had been advised to take proper rest between long-haul flights".

"Role Of Anchor Is...": Supreme Court On Hate Speech On TV

New Delhi, September 21: The Supreme Court today held the "role of anchor" as "very important" while coming down on TV channels over hate speech. It also asked why the government is "remaining a mute spectator". "These speeches on mainstream media or social media are unregulated. It's (the anchors') duty to see that hate speech doesn't continue the moment someone does. Freedom of press is important... Ours is not as free as US but we should know where to draw a line," Justice KM Joseph observed at the hearing of a batch of petitions filed since last year. "Hate speech is layered... Like killing someone, you can do it in multiple ways, slowly or otherwise. They keep us hooked based on certain convictions," said the court, expanding on why hate speech interests viewers. "Government should not take an adversarial stand but assist the court," it further observed, remarking, "Is this a trivial issue?" The matter will next be heard on November 23, by when the court wants the central government to clarify if it intends to act on Law Commission recommendations on curbing hate speech. The Law Commission, upon a prompt by the Supreme Court, had submitted a report in 2017 recommending specific laws. "Hate speech has not been defined in any law in India. However, legal provisions in certain legislations prohibit select forms of speech as an exception to freedom of speech," the commission noted. It shared a draft legislation as well, suggesting "insertion of new sections 153C (prohibiting incitement to hatred) and 505A (causing fear, alarm, or provocation of violence in certain cases)". TV shows - late-evening debates, in particular - often go viral as clips on social media. Internet companies, thus, have also been under fire for not doing enough to curb hate speech. Earlier this month, Google and Meta - firms that run YouTube and Facebook, among other platforms - said they'd take fresh steps to combat online extremism "by removing more violent content and promoting media literacy with young users", at a summit in the US on fighting hate-fuelled violence.

Oil India beats Sanjivani Somaj by 5 - 1 in the first semi final

Assam Rising, Nagaon, September 21: Oil India FC, Duliagan beat Sanjivani Somaj, Nagaon by 5 - 1 in the first semi final match of the ongoing 74th ID Cup prize money tournament here at Nagaon Nurul Amin Stadium this evening. The match was played under floodlights. Mintu Bodo of Oil India FC scored the first goal in the very first minute of the first half. Meanwhile Arun Tanti from Sanjivani Somaj, Nagaon returned it in 28 minutes for which the match remained a draw till the end of the first half. In the second half, for Oil India FC, Duliagan Milan Bosumotary, Surag Chhetri, Mintu Bodo again scored four more just before a few minutes of the final whistle and ensured the victory in the match. The second semi final match of the tournament will be held tomorrow between Assam Rifles vs Laneroll FC, Cachar at the same stadium.

Human- Elephant Conflict in Kaliabor



Assam Rising, Kaliabor, September 21: Day by day Elephant - human conflicts have been increasing in different parts of Kaliabor. Sunday night Wild elephant scare in two villages - Bagharchuk village and Samdhara village in Kaliabor.

The menace of wild elephants entering the villages in search of food from kaziranga national park is increasing day by day in rural areas of Kaliabor. Wild elephants break the wall of Manmohan Saikia's Godam house in Bagharchuk village at night and carry out terror. On the same night, wild elephants destroyed several kuintals of paddy by demolishing the 'pucca verandah' of Narayan Chandra Bara in Samdhara village. In the past too, wild elephants have damaged the houses of the two men several times.

Human- Elephant Conflict in Kaliabor

Assam Rising, Kaliabor, September 21: Day by day Elephant - human conflicts have been increasing in different parts of Kaliabor. Sunday night Wild elephant scare in two villages - Bagharchuk village and Samdhara village in Kaliabor. The menace of wild elephants entering the villages in search of food from kaziranga national park is increasing day by day in rural areas of Kaliabor. Wild elephants break the wall of Manmohan Saikia's Godam house in Bagharchuk village at night and carry out terror. On the same night, wild elephants destroyed several kuintals of paddy by demolishing the 'pucca verandah' of Narayan Chandra Bara in Samdhara village. In the past too, wild elephants have damaged the houses of the two men several times.



Digvijaya Singh On Congress Chief Election: "Why Rule Me Out?"

New Delhi, September 21: In the intense build-up to the Congress president election, Digvijaya Singh today added a new twist by suggesting that he could join Ashok Gehlot and Shashi Tharoor as a candidate for the top post. The Congress veteran also said Ashok Gehlot, a frontrunner for the top post and the Gandhis' favourite for the role, will have to "obviously quit" as Rajasthan Chief Minister if he takes charge. Digvijaya Singh spoke to NDTV in the setting of a brewing showdown between Ashok Gehlot and the man who could be his replacement as Rajasthan Chief Minister - his rival Sachin Pilot. The Congress adopted a "one man, one post" resolve at a leadership meet in Rajasthan's Udaipur earlier this year but Mr Gehlot today said he could well hold, not one but "three posts", signaling that he is not ready to give up his Rajasthan role. On whether Mr Gehlot could be both Congress president and Chief Minister, Digvijaya Singh referred to the Udaipur resolution. So Mr Gehlot would have to resign, Mr Singh was asked. "Obviously, yes," said the former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister. Ashok Gehlot or Shashi Tharoor? "Let's see. I am not ruling myself out also, why do you want to keep me out?" - he replied, suggesting that he could be the third man in the party's first election for Congress president in over 20 years. "Everyone has the right to contest... You will know the answer on the evening of 30th (last day of nominations).""There is no concern at all. Whoever wants to contest has got the right to contest. And if one doesn't want to contest, then they can't be forced to contest. That's it," he said. Rahul Gandhi has refused to return to the post he quit after the Congress's drubbing in the 2019 national election. Ashok Gehlot has said he will contest only if he can't bring Rahul Gandhi around. "One has to face reality... This is what appears to be. But let's wait," he said, adding that once Mr Gandhi has made up his mind, it is difficult to change it. In the past, the Congress has functioned with a non-Gandhi at the top, he argued. "Didn't we function when Narasimha Rao was there? Didn't we function before when Sitaram Kesari was there," he said. If not as president, Rahul Gandhi would play "whatever role the new Congress president" assigns, Mr Singh said. When it was pointed out that Rahul Gandhi remains the face of the Congress, he quipped: "He is one of the 119 yatis who are walking from Kanyakumari to Kashmir."

Excise search, patrolling and raid in Margherita

Assam Rising, Margherita, September 21: A joint excise search, patrolling and raid was conducted by Margherita & Digboi Excise circle under the Supervision of DSE, Margherita Prasanta Dutta in Tipong Colliery and adjacent areas under Lekhapani P.S on September 20. A total of 3 No.s of cases were detected and around 65 litres of Illicitly Distilled Liquor and 450 litres of Fermented were seized and destroyed during the raid.



Awareness meeting on snake bite held

Assam Rising, Kaliabor, September 21: An Awareness meeting on snake bite and its treatment was held at Kuwaritol Primary Health Centre premises in Kaliabor, Nagaon. Dr Surjit Giri, a medical expert on snake bites, participated as a content person as well as Chief guest. The awareness meeting was organized by nature lover Sanjeev Deka in collaboration with The Sub-Divisional Administration of Kaliabor, Kuwaritol Rural Hospital.

Two cyber criminals arrested in Laharighat

Assam Rising, Bhuragaon, Sept 21: Two cyber criminals were arrested in Dhupguri under Laharighat police station in Morigaon district. The arrested cyber criminals were identified as Azhar Uddin and Abdul Aziz. They are both residents of Bhuyanbari village. Eight mobile phones and 123 mobile SIM cards, PAN cards, Aadhaar cards and voter cards were seized from the two cyber criminals. They are currently being questioned. The arrested cyber criminal Azhar Uddin had gone to jail earlier for such crimes.

Dr. Gayatri Gogoi received International-level Award

Assam Rising, North Lakhimpur, September 21: Dr. Gayatri Gogoi from Assam received International-level Dr. Chandra Shekhar Das Memorial Excellent Service in Cancer Award-2022 from Breast Cancer Hub, an NGO situated in North Carolina, USA who works in the fields of cancer research and social service. She is an Assistant Professor of Lakhimpur Medical College who had been working in the Assam Medical College in Dibrugarh for a long time. On Monday, Dr. Gogoi, who is well-known for her honorary service towards research and cancer patients, received this honour from the President Dr. Lopamudra Das in a youth convocation programme of the organisation. Another recipient of the award was cancer specialist Dr. Raghav Reddy Induru, an Indian-origin American. Dr. Gayatri Gogoi attended in the USA to participate in the conference of American Association for Cancer Research, an organisation that leads cancer research across the world, and during this visit she got the prestigious Dr. Chandra Shekhar Das Award.



Minor girl abducted from Assam rescued in UP

Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 21: In a major breakthrough, Assam Police rescued a minor girl from Uttar Pradesh who was abducted in Guwahati. According to reports, she was kidnapped from Guwahati's Rehabari and taken to UP. Following this, the girl's relatives filed a complaint with the Paltan Bazaar Police Station. On Tuesday, a Paltan Bazaar police team headed to Uttar Pradesh. The cops located the girl after beginning their search. The minor girl had been kidnapped by a person identified as Ashok Kumar. He has been arrested and is currently being questioned by police. As per reports, the girl was a student in the seventh standard. She is said to have connected with Ashok on the social networking site Instagram and then been lured and taken to Uttar Pradesh.

Rampur Anchalik College to celebrate silver jubilee

Assam Rising, Palasbari, September 21: Rampur Anchalik College, established on August 20, 1996 in Rampur under Palasbari LAC in South Kamrup, will celebrate its Silver Jubilee on the occasion of its 25th anniversary. A meeting was held at the college premises today and convened a general meeting on October 15 to discuss the date of the Silver Jubilee and other issues. It may be mentioned here that, on September 10, the college management committee organised a special meeting to nominate Principal Dr. Dinamani Kalita, Professors Manowar Hussain and Dinesh Das, Journalist Bimal Sharma and former student leader Rupam Kalita as conveners to carry out the Silver Jubilee celebrations.

Operation against illegal electricity connection

Assam Rising, Bhuragaon, September 21: Illegal electricity connection against opera by Laharighat sub divisional electricity board staff last night. The operation was led by engineers Janardan Bora and Mithun Ghosh of the electricity sub-division. They seized e-rickshaw batteries, electronic water pumps and electrical wires from the houses of 12 people. They were also handed a copy of Caesar with their signatures. During the raid, men and women obstructed the seizure of electronic motors from a house in Udghati village and had a heated argument with the electricity workers. The engineer finally called the Barshala police station to calm the situation and police were deployed. However, the electronic motor could not be seized from the women. The journalist fell into the pond when the concrete plate under the motor collapsed while the electronic motor was being opened. An electrical worker also injured his leg.



Carlsen v Niemann debate rages on after world champion resigns after one move



London, September 21 : It took less than a minute to reignite the feud. Hans Niemann v Magnus Carlsen at the Julius Baer Generation Cup opened conventionally with 1 d2-d4 Ng8-f6 2 c2-c4. But then Carlsen disappeared from the screen, the commentators were aghast, while Niemann shrugged and then also disconnected. The world champion's father, Henrik Carlsen, had already announced that his normally media-friendly son would give no press interviews during the tournament. The action was captured live on the chess24 broadcast. Monday's cameo was the sequel to the controversial incident earlier this month across the board at the \$350,000 Sinquefeld

Cup in St Louis. Carlsen was outplayed by Niemann, suffering a rare defeat as White, and withdrew from the tournament. Niemann admitted to being banned twice by chess.com for cheating online, but denied cheating over the board. The St Louis organisers explained all their many anti-cheating procedures and emphasised there had been no wrongdoing at their event. A third round of Carlsen v Niemann is possible this weekend. The format of the Julius Baer Generation Cup is an all-play-all of 16 from Monday to Thursday, followed by a knockout among the top eight from Friday to Sunday. Despite his self-inflicted zero, Carlsen is expected to qualify for the quarter-finals and Niemann may also do so. Play starts at 5pm BST each day. Monday's bizarre occurrence is almost without precedent in

international chess. Bobby Fischer and Vlad Kramnik defaulted games in world championship matches, but their protests were against organisational decisions. The nearest precedent is probably the 1 c4 Resigns of Fischer v Oscar Panno at the 1970 interzonal, when the Argentinian grandmaster resigned in protest at changes in the schedule to accommodate the religious beliefs of Fischer and Samuel Reshevsky. England's leading female player, Jovanka Houska, accused Carlsen of "pouring more fuel on the fire" of the controversy. On Norwegian TV, Carlsen's former teammate and aide, Jon Ludvig Hammer, called for sanctions. "It's the most unacceptable behaviour to lose on purpose," he said. "It's the most unsportsmanlike thing you can do." It is believed Carlsen chose to make a single move rather than none at all so as to technically fulfil his contract with the organisers.

Hales half-century on comeback guides England to T20 win over Pakistan

Karachi, September 21 : Twenty20 games come, and Twenty20 games go. There have been 757 of them in international cricket in the past 12 months alone, everywhere from Austria to Zimbabwe, and you will find that even the men and women who played in them cannot recall too many of the details of most. The 758th game, though, was something else. England won it by six wickets, thanks in the large part to Alex Hales who made a scratchy 53 on his comeback to the team after three years in exile. But it wasn't the match, it was the moment. The game was the result of years of diplomacy, months of preparation, and came at the end of weeks of anticipation. The Pakistan Cricket Board has spent \$5m (£4.4m) on the security for this series, which means it will make them a loss. They've employed more than 5,000 soldiers to guard the two teams while they are here in Karachi, there is a helicopter escort (they had

to remove the Spidercam in case it needed to land on the pitch in an emergency), a Swat unit on the stadium roof, and dozens of three-man sniper teams on the surrounding apartment blocks. They had gone to extraordinary lengths to try to make this feel something like just another game of cricket, with the inevitable result that it ended up anything but. The match was also a fundraiser for the Flood Relief Fund, with all the gate money being given to help the 33 million people who have been affected by the monsoons in the south and south-west of the country. Pakistan wore specially designed shirts for the occasion, with the players' names partially submerged under water, and every six the teams hit totted up another \$1,000 donation from the sponsors. As if all this was not enough, there was also a minute's silence at the start to mark the death of the Queen. The sports stories, Hales' return to the team,



the debuts for Luke Wood and Shan Masood, felt like incidental details. With all that, the match inevitably ended up falling a little flat, as if crushed by the weight of its own significance. Hales, of course, did not see it that way. "It felt like a debut again," he said. "Those three years felt like for ever. Guys have said in the past that the reason I was out of the team was never down to cricket, but there was still plenty of nerves." Even he had a sense of the bigger picture. He knows, and loves, this city well from his time playing in the Pakistan Super League. "This is a country where I've got a lot of very special memories. I've played in front of full houses here and it's

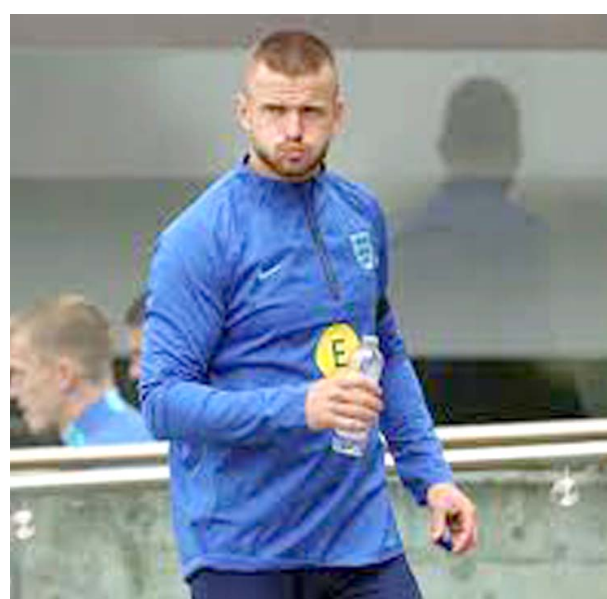
something different. It's one of the best atmospheres in world cricket. Karachi put on a show tonight." Pakistan were put in and for a while it felt as though their two openers, Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan, were going to put on a show, too. They made 85 runs together, in a stand that lasted most of the first half of the innings, and which featured an array of glorious fours, before Adil Rashid bowled Azam with a googly. Rizwan pressed on, and was particularly severe on David Willey, whose wayward second over went for 17. Privacy Notice: Newsletters may contain info about charities, online ads, and content funded by

outside parties. For more information see our Privacy Policy. We use Google reCaptcha to protect our website and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply. The innings faltered badly when Pakistan lost three wickets in 11 balls, Haider Ali caught in the deep, Rizwan stumped for 68, and Masood caught off a reverse-sweep. So 104 for one off 12 overs became 125 for four off 16, and it needed three late sixes from Iftikhar Ahmed to revive the innings. Wood, the quickest and best of England's three left-arm seamers, finished up with three cheap wickets after having Iftikhar and Naseem Shah caught in the deep in the final over.

'Huge problem': Eric Dier reveals family no longer attend away games over abuse

London, September 21 : Eric Dier has revealed that his closest family members no longer attend away matches because of the abuse they hear inside stadiums, which he feels is getting worse and represents a "huge, huge problem" for football. The Tottenham centre-half, who is back in the England squad for the first time since March 2021 having located the best form of his career, famously went into the stands to confront a hostile fan after his club's home defeat against Norwich in the FA Cup in March 2020. Dier, who was banned for four games and fined £40,000, had feared for the safety of his younger brother, Patrick, who had become embroiled in an argument with the supporter. Dier did not reach the fan, who turned and fled when he saw him coming. Dier said on Tuesday that he had no regrets and would do it again to protect a loved one. Dier is a reluctant spokesman for a subject that has privately bothered him for some time. Even at St George's Park - before the Nations League tie in Italy on Friday and the Wembley fixture on Monday in the same competition against Germany - he attempted to shrug it off as not being overly dramatic. But he was able to get a few things off his chest. "It has definitely

got worse [since the incident in March 2020]," Dier said. "For me, it is a serious problem. I had some family and friends at the Chelsea away game with Tottenham [at the start of this season] and they had problems. Not nice ones, either. It is a huge, huge problem. It was verbal, not physical but, like, bad stuff. One incident was in the Tottenham away end. I want to emphasise that it was both sets of fans. I am not saying it is Chelsea fans or Tottenham fans - it is football fans in general." I never complain about this stuff and I don't really mind. We played Burnley after I went in the stands for the next away game and the Burnley fans were singing a song about my brother and I like that kind of thing. I find it quite funny. I like that kind of humour ... if it is in the right way. I love playing away games and I enjoy those kinds of atmospheres. It is part of it." But there are some things I find very strange. It is not nice. My family would never go to an away game nowadays because of it and that's a shame that I feel too uncomfortable for them to go. This has been for years. My Mum has not been to an away game. She would love to but I would be worried about it, and that's crazy, isn't it? All of



our families go through it. Every player's parents have been watching them since they were kids and have

gone through that kind of stuff." Dier reflected on the incident with the abusive supporter after the Norwich

cup tie. "I've never spoken about that situation in the press before because, to be honest, I wasn't at all happy with the way it was handled. I don't know what I can say about it because I don't know if I'll get banned or fined again." "It wasn't too dramatic, like people make it out to be. But yeah, I don't regret it at all and I'd do it again. [For] my family, my teammates, anyone, a friend of mine. I consider myself to be extremely loyal." Dier became something of a scapegoat for Spurs' implosion under José Mourinho over the second half of the 2020-21 season and a low point came when he missed out on the European Championship in the summer of 2021.

Chelsea sack commercial director after 'evidence of inappropriate messages'

London, September 21 : Chelsea said they had terminated their commercial director Damian Willoughby's employment with immediate effect after receiving evidence he had sent "inappropriate messages" before being appointed by the club. Willoughby began working at Chelsea this month after the club's takeover by an investment group led by Todd Boehly and Clearlake Capital. "Evidence of inappropriate messages sent by Mr Willoughby, prior to his appointment at Chelsea FC earlier this month, has recently

been provided to and investigated by the club," a club spokesperson said. "While they were sent prior to his employment at the club, such behaviour runs absolutely counter to the workplace environment and corporate culture being established by the club's new ownership." The Telegraph, which first reported the story, said that Willoughby had been sending the messages to a football finance agent from last year. The report said that Willoughby's lawyers had declined to comment.

Ban Russia from all sport, says Ukraine footballer Andriy Yarmolenko

London, September 21 : Andriy Yarmolenko, the Ukraine captain, has called for Russia to be "totally isolated" from all professional sport as news emerged that the country will be excluded from qualification for Euro 2024. Russia has been banned from Uefa and Fifa competitions since the invasion of Ukraine began in February. With the Euro

2024 qualifying draw scheduled for 9 October, organisers will not include Russia. Yarmolenko, speaking in Glasgow before Ukraine's Nations League meeting with Scotland on Wednesday, endorsed Uefa's stance and called on other sports to follow the example. "My thoughts are quite simple," the former West Ham player said. "Russian football, Russian sport should be

totally isolated. This is a country of terrorists, a country that kills Ukrainians, that kills Ukrainian children. We cannot just talk about sport when something like that is happening. All the Ukrainian players want Russia to be isolated on every level." "We cannot allow Russia to take part in any competition whilst its army is killing the civilian population in Ukraine. The stand of the Ukrainian team is



governing body after expressing a desire to take up arms against Russia. Petrakov said he was unaware of the size of the monetary penalty and appeared perfectly at ease with the situation. Asked about the Football Union of Russia's desire to have him banned, Petrakov was similarly relaxed: "I will say again whatever I said before," the 65-year-old coach said. "This is clearly the Russian

football federation and their legal team. Whatever they are doing is their business. I am standing by my words." When Ukraine visited Scotland in June, Petrakov's team progressed to a World Cup playoff final, which they lost, against Wales. Steve Clarke, the Scotland manager, has now conceded circumstances around that delayed fixture made it difficult for his players.





The bond of love and devotion.

100% DEPENDABLE... That's our guarantee !





CHIMNEYS WITH APPS | R.O. WATER PURIFIER | HOBS | GAS STOVE | OTHER KITCHEN APPLIANCES

Abhayapuri-94350-22784 | Agartala-98560-93668 | Baihata chariali-94351-42568/98641-40488 | Bangaigaon-7002184811, 9435547654,9435121367 | Barpeta road-94350-17865 99541-41975 | Barpeta town -94350-25127 | Bhawanipur-7002206773 | Bandardewa-98649-84753 | Bijoynagar -99570-98392/94010-01157/94353-40662 | Boko-94010-02588 | Chaygaon-9435014549 | Dadara -98546-98027 | Dhupdhara-96785-16189 | Dhamaji-99546-51322 | Dhubri-94350-29279 | Diphu-94350-66701/94350-66643 | Dudhnoi-94357-21505/94351-28048 | Goalpara-70023-10904/88762-23858 | Golaghat-96132-30384 | Guwahati -94355-59057/97065-94950 | Hajo-94353-47024/88763-09327 | Hojai-94357-29521/84028-59256 | Jorhat -94350-53934/98541-06776 | Kharupitia -98541-44223 | Kokrajor-97070-29429/99548-88721/94354-81234 | Karimgunj-97061-39061 | Krishnai-88224-15337 | Lumding -94351-63327/97066-14137 | Mangaldoi -94350-87284/94351-86435/97065-39174/73994-79163 | Mirza-98540-71983/99572-81858 | Morigaon -94350-64986/80111-17171 | North lakhimpur-88224-21077 | Nagaon-97061-79408/94355-18665 | Nalbari -98644-14515/98540-30209 | Pathala-80110-06658 | Dhekiajuli-98548-29934 | Dibrugarh-98548-11265 | Rangia -94351-05888/96782-26563 | Silchar -97061-39061/70054-86129 | Silapathar-70028-94393 | Shillong-90869-66640 | Suwalkuchi -98643-54859 | Tinsukia-94350-35156/94350-35511/94350-36463 | Tezpur-97060-73481 | Tihu-97068-53124 | Udalguri-97063-46492

Trade enq. 9435146909/9435559057/9435559056
www.capsindia.in
Toll Free: 1800 103 4646

Lokra Bn. organised training camp for Assam Women's Football team



Assam Rising Biswanath Chariali, September 21: Lokra Battalion under the aegis of Headquarter 21 Sector Assam Rifles and Headquarter Inspector General Assam Rifles (East) and in conjunction with Assam Football Association (AFA) & Tezpur District Sports Association (TDSA) is organising a practice cum training camp for Assam Women's Football Team from September 20 to 26. This practice camp is being conducted as a run up for the 36th National Games for selec-

tion and training of women's football team for representing Assam in the National Games scheduled to be conducted in Gujarat from September 27 to October 10. Lokra battalion in conjunction with AFA & TDSA has conducted various selection matches and tournaments over the past three months and identified best players from various football clubs from entire Assam to form a state

team to represent Assam in the 36th National Games being conducted in Gujarat. The team will be moving to Ahmedabad on September 28 for participation in the National Games. The Assam Women's Football Team is placed in Pool B with Maharashtra, Gujarat & Orissa. AFA & TDSA have expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Assam Rifles for extending their prompt assistance in conduct of this practice camp.

Aaron Judge ties Babe Ruth with 60th home run, one shy of Maris's AL mark

Paris, September 21 : Aaron Judge sent a sinker soaring into the left-field bleachers, another of his no-doubt drives, and circled the bases for the 60th time. Modest throughout a march into history that now has him level with Babe Ruth, Judge then took a moment far more rare than one of his long balls a curtain call. "I really didn't want to do it, especially, we're losing, it's a solo shot," he said, recalling how his leadoff homer in the ninth inning only cut the Yankees' deficit to three runs. Giancarlo Stanton followed Judge's drive with a game-ending grand slam, completing New York's stunning five-run, ninth-inning rally to beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 9-8 on Tuesday night. "I kind of lost my mind," said Judge, one homer shy of matching Roger Maris' American League season record. "That's a signature Giancarlo Stanton 10-foot-(high) laser to the outfield. I had a good front-row seat for that one. I think the whole team lost its mind and the stadium erupted." Judge homered on a 3-1 pitch from Wil Crowe (5-10) to match Ruth's total from 1927, which stood as the big league record until Maris broke it 34 years later. Judge got to 60 in Game 147 no debate on the length of the season, like what surrounded Maris' pursuit to the point his hair fell out. Judge is on pace for the AL's first Triple Crown in a decade, leading in home runs,



RBI's (128) and batting average (.316). No one else in the majors has more than 40 homers. "To be that far ahead of the field," Yankees manager Aaron Boone marveled, "it's hard for me to grip." Judge dropped his bat near the plate he never flips and when he finished his trot after his 430-foot drive, he exchanged a high-five with Anthony Rizzo, a hug with Gleyber Torres and slaps with Josh Donaldson. Judge walked up and down the dugout to receive congratulations and then emerged from the dugout steps and ever so briefly tipped his helmet to fans. "I kind of joked around with Matt Carpenter earlier in the year, I think he had two homers in a game or something like that and he got a curtain call," Judge said. "Man, I've been here six years and I've only got one curtain call. So I guess it takes hitting

60 to get another one." Rizzo doubled, Torres walked and Donaldson singled to load the bases. Stanton, mired in a 9-for-72 slump, sent a changeup half a dozen rows into the left-field seats, capping a 19-pitch sequence that will long be replayed and set off a raucous celebration among what remained of the crowd of 40,157. The drive, Stanton's record-tying third game-ending slam, was calculated by MLB at 118mph. "I think they need to recalculate the 118. That felt more like 130," Boone said. Roger Maris Jr and Kevin Maris, sons of the former player, were both on hand. Stanton noted Judge's understated manner. "He hit 60 tonight, and it's like nothing happened. He's got more work to do," said Stanton, who hit 59 for Miami five years ago. Crowe's great-great uncle, Hall of Famer Red Ruffing, was Ruth's teammate on the Yankees in the 1930s. Crowe visited

Ruffing's plaque in Yankee Stadium's Monument Park before the game. "He did what he was supposed to do with it," Crowe said of Judge, "3-1 count, I'm not going to put him on. I felt like I wanted to go after him. Started away, came back in. He put a good swing on a bad pitch." Aroldis Chapman (3-3) pitched a 1-2-3 ninth as the Yankees maintained a 5 1/2-game AL East lead over Toronto. Bryan Reynolds had tied it 4-4 with a solo seventh-inning homer off Lou Trivino, then hit a go-ahead single off Jonathan Loaisiga in the eighth for his fourth hit. Rodolfo Castro the player suspended for a game by Major League Baseball last month after a smartphone flew out of his pocket during a headfirst slide followed with a three-run homer against Clay Holmes. Harrison Bader had a pair of go-ahead singles and drove in three runs in his debut for the Yankees. Once Judge hits No 61, the only ones with more in a season will have been Barry Bonds (73), Mark McGwire (70 and 65) and Sammy Sosa (66, 64, 63), accomplishments all from 1998-2001 stained by the Steroids Era. "I think it puts it a notch above," Boone said. "I got to believe it's right there with some of the best very short list of all-time seasons."

Arsenal's WCL hopes in balance after Leuchter's first-leg double for Ajax

London, September 21 : Arsenal face a tricky trip to Amsterdam next week, after a 2-2 draw at home to Ajax put their hopes of reaching the Champions League group stage in the balance. The Gunners came from behind in the first half, with Stina Blackstenius cancelling out Romée Leuchter's strike before Kim Little put the home team ahead from the spot. A controversial offside decision denied the Gunners a second penalty and Leuchter then ensured that the Dutch side would be returning home with the tie level. "You have to look forward," said manager Jonas Eidevall afterwards. "You have to say there are lessons in this game to be learned. You can argue based on chances we should have won. It's going to be an intense game next week but we have to be brave. If you want to go into the Champions League group stages you have to

win those games. You can either be afraid of those challenges or look forward to them." If there was a question mark over Eidevall's Arsenal last season, it was perhaps whether there was enough resilience and fight when the team conceded first. Just twice, in all competitions, would the Gunners come from behind to secure a win - though they would also rescue a point apiece against Manchester United, Manchester City and Tottenham. This perceived weakness would be tested early on against Ajax, a team who are not one of Europe's elite, but are a well-organised side bolstered by Netherlands internationals Sherida Spitse, who has over 200 caps for her country, and young stars Victoria Pelova and 21-year-old Leuchter. It would be Ajax that would carve the better chances with Pelova forcing a save from Manuela Zinsberger early on before Leuchter flicked Chastity Grant's cross from the right beyond the home side's goalkeeper at the near post. The Arsenal players looked extremely frustrated at having conceded their first goal since April. They sought an instant reply, with Euros Golden Boot and player of the tournament Beth Mead

going for goal from a free-kick - goalkeeper Lize Kop spilled the ball but Blackstenius could only hook the rebound wide of the post. Three minutes later and the Swedish forward was not so profligate, pouncing after Rafaele's header from a corner had smacked back off the crossbar to fire past Kop. Arsenal continued to control the tempo, but struggled to find a way through. Instead, the visiting team would again threaten, with Zinsberger forced into a save at her near post after Leuchter had beaten Rafaele and struck for goal. "We knew they were a very pressing team," said Eidevall of their first-half struggles. "When you look at their PPDA [which measures passes allowed per defensive action] versus all the teams in the WSL and the Dutch league they were the team with the lowest PPDA in all the games that [analytics platform] Wyscout covers. You can only have that when you have a lot of pressing. We did our homework on that - even if it didn't look like it." The Gunners came out after the break with the bit between their teeth but they struggled to find a way through the resilient centre-back partnership of 17-year-old Isa Kardinaal and 21-year-old Lisa



Doorn. Privacy Notice: Newsletters may contain info about charities, online ads, and content funded by outside parties. For more information see our Privacy Policy. We use Google reCaptcha to protect our website and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply. Arsenal would twice hit the post, through Steph Catley and Rafaele but it would take an error to force a goal, with Soraya Verhoeve penalised for clattering heavily into Mead's head just inside the box. Up stepped captain Little who sent the keeper the wrong way and sidefooted coolly in. Arsenal could perhaps feel aggrieved their margin was not greater. Substitute Caitlin Foord was released through the middle and clattered into by Kop but the offside flag was controversially up denying them a possible penalty and red card. Moments

later they were to rue the decision further, as some chaotic defending saw Noelle Maritz beaten and England captain Leah Williamson fail to clear allowing Leuchter to swipe in from close range. Eidevall said some of the decisions were frustrating but added: "Let's not put the focus there now because we have things that we can learn here and that's where we need to put our focus. They're not going to redo the decisions." Arsenal went in search of the winner. They looked to have one when substitute Katie McCabe turned a free-kick into the roof of the net from close range but the flag was up for offside. Eidevall's side next faces Tottenham at the Emirates Stadium on Saturday, where there will likely be a WSL record crowd with 48,000 tickets sold, before they travel to the Netherlands for the return leg.

'We've got to win it'

Sarah Hunter to lead strong England squad at Rugby World Cup

London, September 21 : The England head coach, Simon Middleton, says his record-breaking squad will feel like failures if they do not emerge victorious at the forthcoming Women's Rugby World Cup in New Zealand. Middleton has now confirmed his 32 players for the tournament, led for the third successive edition by the vastly experienced Sarah Hunter. With the Red Roses already established as the first side in history to win 25 successive Tests, they are clear favourites to become world champions for the first time since 2014. There is such strength in depth that established figures such as Natasha Hunt and Bryony Cleall have failed to make the cut and Middleton admits that flying back home without the trophy is not an option. "We've got to win it," said Middleton, whose



side fly out at the end of this week. "This is the best prepared squad with the best strength in depth we've ever had. We are as ready to go as we could be. That doesn't mean we will win it. The one thing you can't guarantee is that you'll win it because it doesn't work like that." The Black Ferns' new head coach, Wayne Smith, has been talking up England and even suggesting they are three years ahead of all their rivals in terms of their professionalism. Middleton is more than happy for his players to accept the mantle of favouritism but is not about to be lured into a false sense of security by his opposite number. "We might be three years ahead of some of the players he's brought in, but certainly not most of the squad," he said. "They've got more World Cup winners than we have, so I'm not having that. We've got a lot of young kids in this group. Point that out to Wayne Smith. "Middleton also remains keenly aware that sport is never entirely predictable. "Look at Argentina's men beating New Zealand in New Zealand for the first time or Andy Ruiz knocking out

Anthony Joshua when he ain't got a chance. Or, going back to when I was playing, Wimbledon beating Liverpool [in the 1988 FA Cup final]. Everyone's got a chance in sport, that's the beauty of it. What you've got to do is prepare your very best and try to deliver your best performance when it matters. You're never going to get a 100% performance, but if we can get as many people playing as close to their best when it matters we'll be in a good spot." Harlequins' Lucy Packer and Worcester's Laura Keates are the two biggest selectorial winners, having been preferred at scrum-half and prop respectively to Hunt and Cleall. Middleton suggested Packer's selection was largely down to the specific quick-ball tactics England are keen to employ, while Keates's scrummaging ability has earned her a recall as potential specialist front row cover. There is also a place for the wing Abby Dow, still recovering from a broken leg sustained against Wales in April. The Wasps flyer has been making a remarkably swift recovery and is ven hopeful of be-

ing available for England's opening game against Fiji on 8 October. Privacy Notice: Newsletters may contain info about charities, online ads, and content funded by outside parties. For more information see our Privacy Policy. We use Google reCaptcha to protect our website and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply. "There's still a little bit to go but she's ahead of where we thought she would be," Middleton said. "It's refreshing to say that because it's been a really tough ride for her. She's looking in great shape, her attitude is fantastic and she can't wait to play. If we can get her on the park and something near her best form, we know we'll have a cutting edge." Nineteen members of the group will be playing in their first World Cup but Hunter and her vice-captain Emily Scarratt will both be featuring in their fourth tournaments. Hunter, with 135 Tests to her name, is now just a couple of caps short of Rocky Clark's all-time record and Middleton says her leadership ability is still improving. "Sarah is a better captain now than she has ever been. She has owned the captaincy and how she represents the squad is absolutely brilliant. Her pride in and love of representing her country is as strong as ever. She is a class act and we are very fortunate to have her leading the side." As well as Fiji, the Red Roses also have pool matches against France and South Africa. All their games will be available to watch on ITV and covered minute-by-minute on theguardian.com/sport, with the final in Auckland on 12 November.

'It's hard to think it's safe'

WNBA players shun Russia after Griner's ordeal



Washington, September 21 : Brittney Griner's highly publicized legal problems in Russia and the country's invasion of Ukraine have prompted the WNBA to take their talents elsewhere this offseason. For the past few decades, Russia has been the preferred offseason destination for WNBA players because of salaries that can exceed \$1m and the resources and amenities on offer. That time has come to an abrupt end. "Honestly my time in Russia has been wonderful, but especially with BG still wrongfully detained there, nobody's going to go there until

she's home," said Breanna Stewart, who played alongside Griner in Russia for UMMC Ekaterinburg. "I think that, you know, now, people want to go overseas and if the money is not much different, they want to be in a better place." Now, Stewart and other WNBA All-Stars, including Jonquel Jones and Courtney Vandersloot - who have also made millions of dollars playing in Russia - are going elsewhere this winter. All three played for Ekaterinburg. Nearly a dozen WNBA players competed in Russia last winter and none of them are heading back this year. After the World Cup tour-

namment, Stewart is going to Turkey to play for Fenerbahçe. Top players can make a few hundred thousand dollars playing in Turkey, much less than their Russian salaries. Playing in Turkey also allows Stewart to be closer to her wife's family in Spain. "You want to have a better lifestyle, a better off-the-court experience, and just continue to appreciate other countries," Stewart said. Like Stewart, Vandersloot isn't headed back to Russia, choosing to play in Hungary, where she obtained citizenship in 2016.