



The Assam Rising

Projecting the best of Northeast India everyday

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NEWS IN BRIEF

AASU protest

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 30:

The Lakhimpur and North Lakhimpur district units of All Assam Students Union (AASU) on Friday staged a demonstration against the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) over the collapse of a guard wall at the Subansiri dam. The AASU activists also set on fire effigies of NHPC at the main traffic intersection in North Lakhimpur demanding scrapping of the hydroelectric project for the protection of people living in the downstream of the river Subansiri in Lakhimpur district of Assam.

Lead resigned

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 30:

Lohit Gogoi, General Secretary of the Rajior Dal has written a letter to the party president Akhil Gogoi seeking resignation from his post. According to the letter, Gogoi has decided to leave the party on personal grounds. Lohit Gogoi had contested from the Mahmara Assembly constituency in 2021. Earlier this month, senior Rajior Dal leader and spokesperson Bhaben Handique tendered his resignation from the party penning a long post on social media. Handique held the position of state secretary of the party. He was the convener of the party's leadership committee and its RTI cell. In a long post on Facebook, Handique mentioned that his role in the party had become stagnant, leaving him frustrated for a long time.

Joining ceremony cancelled

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 30:

The Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) mass joining ceremony which was scheduled to be held on October 8 in Assam has been cancelled. The joining ceremony was earlier slated to be held in the presence of Union home minister Amit Shah. Many Congress leaders were supposed to join the BJP on that day. The joining ceremony has been cancelled amid internal conflicts in the Congress amid speculations of party leader Pranjal Ghatowar joining the saffron party. It may be mentioned that Amit Shah will arrive in Guwahati on October 8 accompanied by BJP national president JP Nadda, according to a statement from the state unit of the party.



Tezpur- Artists performing traditional Dance

Government has decided not to extend the term of members of Foreigners' Tribunals



Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 30:

The Assam government has decided not to extend the term of members who were appointed for 200 additional Foreigners' Tribunals (FT) that were set up primarily to handle cases related to the National Register of Citizens (NRC). A

Foreigners' Tribunal or FT is a quasi-judicial body and a member is a designation similar to a judge. Practising lawyers and retired civil servants and judicial officers were appointed as members for the additional FTs soon after the complete draft NRC was published in August 2019, leaving out 19.06 of some 3.3

lakh applicants. Assam has had 100 regular FTs since 2009 to try the cases of suspected foreigners referred by the Border wing of the Assam police. A case pertaining to the tenure of the FT members came up for hearing in the Gauhati High Court on Thursday. The State government did not give any written submission, but its counsel told the court that the Political (B) Department has decided not to extend the tenure of the members for the additional FTs. The annual term of the 200 members expired on September 22. The decision has put a cloud on the NRC exercise, which has not progressed to the next phase - issuing each of the 19.06 lakh

"excluded" people a rejection slip, containing the reasons for his or her exclusion, for appealing to the new FTs within 120 days of receiving the slip. The NRC exercise, which most more than 71,600-crore, was paused due to petitions filed in the Supreme Court seeking the re-verification of the list of citizens in view of "major irregularities" allowing "people of suspect nationality" be counted as Indians. The Assam government had appointed 221 new members but 19 of the either did not join or resigned soon after their appointment in September

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CM attends valedictory ceremony of South Asia Regional Junior Badminton Championship

■ Thanks Badminton Asia for giving ABA opportunity for organising the championship

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 30:

The five day South Asia Regional Junior Badminton championship held at Deshbhakta Tarunram Phookan Indoor Stadium at R.G. Barooah Sports Complex here came to an end with Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma thanking Badminton Asia and Badminton Association of India for giving the opportunity to Assam Badminton Association to organise the event. It may be noted that with this edition, Assam Badminton Association got the opportunity for the third time to organise such an international event in Assam. Speaking as the Chief Guest



on the valedictory function of the event, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said that the championship presented very high quality matches of Under 15 and 17 boys and girls category, which according to him would help the budding badminton players in the country as well as in the state to improve their sporting talents. He said that he felt really glad to have at-

tended the closing ceremony of the championship which gave a right platform for the players to showcase their sporting talents and get noticed at the more important platforms. He also said that organizing the championship,

Assam has proved its mettle of being a host in successfully conducting an international sporting event. He congratulated the young boys and girls on putting up a good show and winning medals in the championship. He also congratulated the winning teams and gave away the medals. It may be noted that around 70 players from six countries like India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal and Maldives participated in

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Rahul Gandhi Not Fit for Politics: CM Himanta Biswa Sarma

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 30:

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has slammed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi saying he "does not have systematic seriousness", wants to have power without responsibility and "is not fit for politics". In an interview with ANI, Sarma who was in Congress for over two decades, said he had told the party's leadership that they will lose the northeast without a course correction. Sarma joined BJP in 2015. He



accused Rahul Gandhi of being non-serious as a politician, behaving like "a feudal lord" and being arrogant. "The first thing is he is not fit for politics. Probably, the work he

should not do, he is doing," Sarma said. He said Rahul Gandhi can sometimes leave a meeting in between and go for his exercise

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Guwahati- Geetanagar Sarbojoni Puja on Friday

Assam-Arunachal Border Row: 2nd Regional Committees Meet Held

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 30:

The second Joint Meeting to resolve the border dispute between Assam and Arunachal Pradesh by the Regional Committees of Namsai, Lohit & Lower Dibang Valley Districts of Arunachal Pradesh and Tinsukia District of Assam was held in Dibrugarh on Thursday. The final report of the Regional Committees to be submitted to the chief minis-



ters of both the states was discussed in the meeting. Assam cabinet minister Atul Bora said that majority of the border issues concerning the districts have been sorted out and that the joint report will be submitted to chief ministers of both states within Oct 15. Meanwhile, Arunachal Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein said that both the governments are committed to resolve the seven decades old boundary disputes after the BJP government came into power. Chowna Mein however added that whatever little differences exists on the proposed 'as in and where is

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

Will Priyanka Gandhi contest Congress President election? Sonia Gandhi adds FUEL to the discussion

New Delhi, September 30:

Congress President Election: According to sources, Sonia Gandhi had reached Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's residence on Thursday. It

is reported that the party president stayed there for about an hour. According to reports, there are discussions in party circles about the pressure being put on Priyanka to contest the elections. Speculation continues on the candidates for the Congress Presidential election. Now on Thursday, the name of General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also came into the discussion. Although nothing has been said officially by Priyanka or the party till now, the meeting with interim president Sonia Gandhi has given fuel to the discussions. Friday is the last day to file nominations for the election of the party president. According to sources, Sonia had reached Priyanka's residence on Thursday. It is reported that the party president stayed there for about an hour. According to reports, there are discussions in party circles about the pressure being put on Priyanka to



contest the elections. The special thing is that, whether it is the political developments in Rajasthan or the search for a candidate for the Congress President's election, the party general secretary seems to be away from these matters at the moment. However, former Congress national president Rahul Gandhi is in no mood to take over the reins of the party this time. There are reports that even after being told by many leaders, including Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, he

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'75th year of India's Independence : Vivek Bhaskar' released by Governor of Assam Prof. Jagadish Mukhi

Assam Rising
Guwahati, September 30:

As per the direction and guidance from Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Sports & Youth Welfare, Govt. of India, Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Guwahati has been celebrating 75th year of India's Independence through out the year. As a part of it, a special issue of the socio-cultural Assamese quarterly journal 'Vivek Bhaskar' published regu-

larly from Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Guwahati was released today, by the Hon'ble Governor of Assam Prof. Jagadish Mukhi at Rajbhavan. Prof. Mukhi praised the philanthropic and cultural contributions of Ramakrishna Mission and expressed his attachment with the ideas of Ramakrishna-Vivekananda from his earlier days. In the event, were present among others Swami Achyuteshananda, Trustee and the member of the governing body of the international organisation

Ramakrishna Math and Mission; Swami Ajatananda, editor of the Assamese journal; other monks of Guwahati Ramakrishna Mission; Professor Sudeshna Bhattacharjee, HoD Sanskrit Deptt. Gauhati University; Rajib Adhikari, owner of N L Publications. The Assamese quarterly journal 'Vivek Bhaskar' with its thought-provoking, insightful and inspiring contents contributed by eminent writers, distinguished personalities and special-



ists in different fields covering the vast domain of Philosophy, Arts, Science, Yoga, Culture and Heri-

tage, Education, Personality development, Youth-empowerment, Morality, Assamese traditions, festi-

vals etc. has earned a good name among the

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CM Inaugurates Rs 149.07-crore, 790-metre-long Arya Nagar Flyover

- ♦ **Massive Flyovers, Ring-Road, Etc. Projects Aimed at Transforming Guwahati into Gateway to South Asia: Dr. Sarma**
- ♦ **Works on 6-Km long flyover connecting Dighalipukhuri with Bamunimaidan a dream coming up: Chief Minister**



Assam Rising, September 30: Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma on Friday ceremonially inaugurated the Arya Nagar Flyover, built at an approximate cost of ₹149.07 crore and stretching across a length of 790 meters. Addressing a public meeting held to mark the occasion, the Chief Minister congratulated the concerned parties for completing the construction of the flyover within 19 months, instead of the 30 months as per the original plan. The new flyover the Arya Nagar area will prove decisive in easing traffic congestion in the commercially busy locality. The ongoing construction activities for the upcoming flyovers at Maligaon, which will of nearly 4 kilometre length, and the one at Zoo Road are going on in full swing and if everything goes as per plan, then the former will be dedicated at the service of the public by the early part of next year while the latter by Bohag Bihu of 2024, the Chief Minister added. The Chief Minister also spoke

Guest House

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

about another ambitious flyover project between Dighalipukhuri and Bamunimaidan of nearly 6 kilometre length, and work for the same would be undertaken once the flyover at Zoo Road is ready to be inaugurated. The 6-laning of the stretch of national highway between Jalukbari and Khanapara, along with the two upcoming flyovers at Gorchuk and Basistha Chariali shall provide immense relief to the people of the city of Guwahati, Dr. Sarma stated. Plans are afoot for another flyover connecting Arya College area with Kalapahar and Cycle Factory locality, the Chief Minister stated, adding this would help the residents of the locality reach the national highway within a span of less than 10-15 minutes. In his public address, the Chief Minister mentioned a series of projects and schemes aimed at transforming Guwahati into a gateway to South Asia. Of these, one of the most important is that of a 'Ring-Road' connecting the peripheries of Guwahati and work for the same is expected to start by August 2023, as per the Chief Minister's declaration. He also spoke about a rope-way project connecting Khanapara with Lokapriya Gopinath

Bordoloi International Airport. This, Dr. Sarma said, would ease the traffic problem while at the same time helping the government achieve its aim of sustainable development. The Chief Minister also assured the residents of Guwahati city of the government's seriousness in ensuring every households covered under the water-supply schemes have access to water supply by 2024. The Chief Minister also spoke about the second medical college in the city

at a walking distance from the Arya Nagar flyover. Named the Pragyotishpur Medical College, academic sessions are expected to start from 2024, Dr. Sarma added. The Chief Minister also spoke briefly on other activities being undertaken in the city. These include the riverfront development projects on the bank of river Brahmaputra. The Chief Minister also stressed on the need to transform the Guwahati Municipal Corporation into a transparent and an efficient organisation, truly devoted to its envi-

sioned roles for the city. Every ward under GMC shall be allotted a sum of ₹10 crore each for development of road infrastructure, Dr. Sarma added. Senior Minister in the Assam Cabinet Ashok Singhal, Member of Parliament of Guwahati Lok Sabha constituency Queen Ojha, Member of Legislative Assembly from Dispur Atul Bora, MLA from East Guwahati constituency Siddhartha Bhattacharya were among the host of prominent personalities present in today's inaugural event.

Health minister launches National Deworming Day

Assam Rising, Kaliabor, September 30: Keshav Mahanta officially launched the National Deworming Day in No.1 Hatbor LP School Today on September 30. Efforts to eradicate anemia in children with the idea of 'healthy children, healthy countries'. Arrangements have been made to provide free health care facilities to 60 lakh families in the state through a health insurance of Rs 5 lakh every year. Assam Health Minister Keshav Mahanta said that this number will be increased in a phased manner in Kaliabor today. With the special initiative of the Central and State Governments, continuous



efforts are being made to eradicate various diseases through various programmes. Every child in the age group of 1 to 19 years will be provided free of cost pesticides in every government, government-

aided, private school, and anganwadi centers in the eradication programme. Children who do not go to school or drop out of school are also part of the pest eradication programme. Every

District administration all set for peaceful celebration of Durga Puja at Nagaon

Assam Rising, NAGAON, September 30: Nagaon district administration as well as district police administration is all set to celebrate the upcoming Durga Puja across the district and also make all security arrangements for peaceful celebration. While addressing a press conference at Nagaon DC's conference hall this afternoon, Deputy Commissioner Narendra Kr Shah said that around 180 Puja committees under

Nagaon Subdivision applied online applications for permission till date and the administration had already issued permission order to 82 Puja committees. But the rest will get permission tomorrow if they can submit the relevant documents, Shah added. Referring to the security as well as law and order situation at the areas of the concerned Puja committees, Shah said that the Puja committees were asked to submit a list of volunteers each to the office of the Deputy Commissioner. Besides, three toll free numbers - one for district administration

and two for police administration have been already introduced for the public so that people can inform or intimate anything else before hand for immediate assistance or emergency services. During the press briefing, SP Leena Doley also elaborated the security arrangements during the day of celebration and said that with a view of free and peaceful celebration, the district police administration arranged additional 250 police personnel from outside the district and the additional security personnel would reach the district headquarter

24 Advocacy Programmes conducted under Pradhan Mantri PMVDY

Assam Rising Guwahati, September 30: IIE the Resource Agency for implementation of 'Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Yojana' (PMVDY) scheme in Assam has successfully conducted twenty four advocacy programs over eight districts of Assam. 'Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Yojana' scheme is exclusively developed for the forest dwellers collecting and processing naturally available forest produce for earning their livelihood. 'Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Yojana' scheme is under the direct purview of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India and aims for the sustainable livelihood generation of the Tribal beneficiaries. The scheme is being implemented by Assam Plain Tribes Development Corporation with the Department of Tribal Affairs Government of Assam, being the nodal agency. IIE has been engaged as the Resource Agency for implementation, while TRIFED is the sponsoring agency for the project. The PMVDY scheme has been implemented in the state of Assam in three phases. The 128 Van Dhan Vikas Kendra Clusters (VDVKC)



sanctioned under 1st and 2nd phase of the PMVDY scheme are made operational with training, capacity building, and production and finally marketing of the products. The 174 VDVCKs sanctioned under 3rd phase of PMVDY scheme are already surveyed and Advocacy Programs are being conducted in eight districts of Assam. The advocacy programs are primarily focused on building awareness amongst the beneficiaries about the project in general, so that the beneficiaries could participate with a definitive intent and aim to achieve the desired benefits as promised under the scheme. So far, the advocacy programs have been conducted in Nagaon, Golaghat, Dima Hasao, Udalguri, Sonitpur, North Lakhimpur, Nalbari and Bongaigaon districts of Assam. The upcoming advocacy programs in Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Sivasagar, Kokrajhar, Kamrup M, Kamrup R, Majuli, Dhemaji, Morigaon, Charaideo, Darrang, Karimganj, Tamulpur, Hailakandi, Dhubri, Baksa, Chirang and Jorhat district will be held shortly.

GST Commissioner arrested in Guwahati

Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 30: The central bureau of investigation (CBI) has arrested the Goods & Service Tax (GST) commissioner (Appeals) along with another person on graft charges in Guwahati, Assam on Thursday. The accused have been identified as Raju Shaktivel and the other man identified as Mahavir Jain. As per official, the CBI received the case following a complaint against commissioner and three middlemen from a businessman who had executed a construction work related to the North East Frontier Railway and raised bills. The Additional Commissioner of Central Goods & Service Tax (Dibrugarh) had raised a demand of service tax amounting to Rs. 48,43,034, official added. The complainant preferred an appeal before the Commissioner against the adjudication order. It was further alleged that during one of the hearings of the said appeal, the Commissioner demanded a bribe of Rs. 4,50,000 through middlemen, which was further negotiated to Rs. 3.83 lakh to settle the matter, officials claimed. Following the complaint, CBI laid a trap and caught a middleman (Private Person), while accepting a bribe of Rs. 3.83 lakh on behalf of said Commissioner (an IRS Officer). The Commissioner was also caught. Searches were conducted at the premises of the accused which led to recovery of incriminating materials. Both the arrested accused will be produced before the Competent Court, officials added.

Excise department raids in Digboi and Margherita

Assam Rising, Margherita, September 30: A joint excise search, patrolling, raid along with Naka checking was conducted on 29/09/2022 by the Margherita and Digboi Excise Circles under the supervision of Assistant Commissioner & Executive Magistrate Margherita, Shri. Siddhartha Sh Sonowal, ACS.05 No. s of cases were detected during the exercise in Bongaon, Dehing TE and its adjoining areas and the road side hotels and dhabas. The items that were seized and destroyed within Margherita Circle were Illicit Distilled Liquor approx -20 liters Paswai -165 liters and Fermented Wash approx - 450 litres. Within the Digboi Excise Circle 02 No. s of cases were detected in Powai Centre and the roadside hotels and dhabas. The items seized and destroyed were Fermented Wash -200 liters and Illicit Distilled Liquor- 15 liters.



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

AF(S) 318/SOPD/2022-23/9652-56
The Director of Fisheries, Assam, Guwahati invites EOI from Architects/ Architectural consultants empanelled under Assam P.W.D (Building) and other reputed Architects/ Architectural consultants registered with Indian Institute of Architects/ Council of Architecture and having extensive experience in the relevant field of work for the following work :-

SL	Name of Work	Approx. land area of the project site	EOI processing fee	Time of Completion
1	Preparation of DPR for Establishment of State-Of-The-Art Public Aquarium Complex at Srimalanta Sankardev Kalakhetra under SOPD-G, at Guwahati, Kamrup (M) District, Assam.	2092.44Sq.m	Rs. 5000.00	45 days

- The details may be seen and EOI document along with the Terms of Reference (TOR) that has to be downloaded for this consultancy services from the Fishery Deptt. portal "https://fisheriesdirector.assam.gov.in"
- The validity period of the EOI shall be 180 days from the date of submission.
- The Director of Fisheries, Assam, Guwahati reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals without showing any reasons whatsoever.
- The applicant shall submit non-refundable EOI processing fee in the form of Demand draft / Banker's cheque of any nationalized Bank in favour of "The Director of Fisheries, Assam, Guwahati" payable at Guwahati

Sd/-
Director of Fisheries
Assam, Guwahati-16.

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THE ASSAM RISING

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Annexation of parts of Ukraine

President Vladimir Putin's planned annexation of parts of Russian-occupied Ukraine, after sham referendums there, is at least as dangerous a moment in the war as the marathon televised spectacle that prefaced Russia's invasion in February. Of course, things have not gone as Putin planned. Back in February, he sought to justify the invasion in an angry speech laced with legal verbiage coupled with a pre-recorded show of support from the country's top brass. The only thing genuine in Putin's effort to frame the "special military operation" as something other than naked aggression was Putin schooling the head of his spy service, Sergei Naryshkin, as he flubbed his script and said he backed the proxy states in east Ukraine becoming part of Russia. Naryshkin was half a year too early and too mean in his ambition. With its invasion, Russia had planned to swiftly decapitate the political leadership in Kyiv, occupy a huge swath of territory, and exercise influence over a newly friendly Ukraine, perhaps leaving some troops there. Ukraine's dogged resistance culminating in the lightning recapture of territory in the Kharkiv region has put the Kremlin on the back foot, forcing it to rush forward haphazardly with what has emerged as its plan B. The would-be referendums in Russian-controlled parts of Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia - precursors to a planned formal annexation this week - were hurried and ugly, held at gunpoint and with shells exploding in the distance. They lacked the Potemkin pageantry of similar so-called ballots in Crimea in 2014, which were at least accompanied by efforts to entice voters with promises of higher pensions and Russian investment. This time, in its urgency, the Kremlin appears to have dropped all but the barest attempts to make the referendums look convincing, opting instead for brutality. So why bother at all? There was a domestic and an international agenda to the mock vote. Putin's main audience is at home. The day after news of the referendums, he ordered a military mobilisation - a deeply unpopular move that Russia has long avoided despite lacking manpower on the front. Russian disinformation has not always had to be sophisticated to find purchase, but people being asked to kill or die - or send their loved ones to do so - are more apt to ask why. Despite Russia's harsh crackdown on dissent, protests have erupted across the country and at least 200,000 Russians have fled the country since Putin's announcement, often spending their life savings on hard-to-get plane tickets out or waiting for hours in queues at the border. Annexation aims, in one pen stroke, to transform the conflict from a faraway, limited "special military operation" that Russians could be jailed for even calling a war, into a battle to defend Russia's own territory, not Ukraine's.

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.

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Letter to The Editor

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

Editor,
The Assam Rising
Guwahati, Assam

Golwalkar to Bhagwat, why RSS chiefs meet Muslim leaders-'De-Arabisation' of Indian Islam

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat's meeting with Muslim leaders has been claimed to be a reachout to the community. But its main message is one that the RSS has been trying to put forward for years - the "de-Arabisation" of Indian Islam. This is not the first time that an RSS chief has held meeting with leaders of the Muslim community. RSS's second Sarsanghchalak, M.S. Golwalkar, had met Muslim leaders in 1961. In his talks with Saifuddin Jeelani, an Arabic scholar, he outlined the views of the RSS on Hindu-Muslim issues, reforms needed and also on the question of Indianisation. Subsequent top leaders of the 97-year-old organisation have held frequent meetings with representatives of Muslims and Christians alike. The meeting between Bhagwat and five eminent Muslim leaders last month was in continuation of this practice wherein it was agreed to hold such periodic interactions. The Hindu-Muslim divide has its genesis in the tragic Partition and in the events leading up to Independence. The Partition plan was a strategic move of the British to create a "religious" buffer between the Communist USSR and the sea lanes of

Seshadri Chari

communication in the Indian Ocean. An 'Islamic' Pakistan was supposed to keep the 'atheist' Russia from forging a Russia-India axis and get a foothold in the Indian Ocean. Implementing this game-plan needed a logically sustainable alibi. Hence, the British devised the policy of division among two communities, thus sowing the seeds for a skewed beginning to the 'tryst with destiny'. Partition on religious lines threw up multi-dimensional problems domestically and internationally. The worst fallout was that politics began to veer



In 2014, India started its unprecedented sanitation journey, as consistent and concerted efforts began to create an Open-Defecation Free (ODF) nation. Considered the largest behavior change program in the world, the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) drove every Indian village, to accomplish a massive milestone and by 2nd Oct 2019, as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th birth anniversary, every gram panchayat declared itself ODF with access to toilets for all. The impact is visible in terms of positive health outcomes, economic & social benefits, and gender empowerment leading to better standards of living, livelihood opportunities for women and better school attendance for girls. Independent studies have shown that diarrhoeal morbidity among children was significantly lower in ODF areas, & better nutritional status prevailed among children of ODF areas, as compared to non-ODF areas. This year we mark 8 years of SBM; so what's next for the sanitation movement in rural India? Hon'ble Prime

Minister was clear in 2019 itself that we cannot just rest on our laurels. We, as a country must always strive to be the best and the leaders in every sphere of human development. Therefore, not stopping with the achievement of ODF status, the Govt. of India, embarked upon the journey of ODF Plus i.e. sustaining the ODF status, ensuring no one is left behind; and setting up a system of environment friendly management of solid and liquid waste. Taking bigger strides on the path of healthy behaviours, we are now working towards achieving 'sampoorna swachhta'. What is ODF Plus? It is about sustaining the ODF status of villages and managing the solid and liquid waste generated. There are primarily three components i.e. Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM), capacity building of stakeholders and behaviour change communication aimed at all. Achieving 'ODF plus' status is the key goal of SBM(G) phase II, launched in early 2020. Significant progress has been made in last 2.5 years as over 1.14 lakh villages declared themselves

ODF Plus in varying degrees and around 3 lakh villages have initiated SLWM works to begin their journey of becoming ODF Plus. Going beyond toilet construction and their usage, SBM(G) phase II is assisting States and UTs in creating assets for SLWM such as community compost pits, community bio-gas plants, plastic waste collection and segregation sheds, soak pits for grey-water treatment & reuse, faecal sludge management systems including waste collection & transportation vehicles. As on date, 77,141 villages, and 90 blocks have constructed 71

Vini Mahajan

Plastic Waste Management Units. A special campaign - Sujlam, was executed for grey water management and construction of more than 22 lakh soak pits (community & household pits) took place across rural India.

An unfortunate legacy in managing faecal waste has been the practise of manual scavenging of sewers and septic tanks. Towards this, SBM-G has explored technological interventions required and currently 368 faecal sludge management arrangements have been instituted across 137 districts. Further, we expanded the scope of engaging start-ups for promoting innovation in areas like mechanized desludging and other aspects of SLWM in rural areas. A Start-up Grand Challenge was organized for

crowd-sourcing technologies that could support sustainable, affordable, scalable, and responsive solutions to the SLWM challenges of rural areas.

A significant challenge of managing animal waste is being addressed through 'Waste to Wealth' initiative - GOBARdhan (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources). This scheme aims to utilize animal waste and biodegradable waste generated in villages for bio-gas/CBG as well as bio-slurry/bio-fertilizer production, to not only bring income generation avenues to rural India but also reduce our dependence on related imports!

These assets (SLWM setups) being created and made functional for making villages ODF plus, are not only ensuring cleanliness, but also generating income and empowering the people involved especially women (individual & Self Help Groups), reducing pollution by productive utilisation of farm waste, improving soil health, & recharging ground water while improving the climate. The funds available under MGNREGS, 15th Finance Commission tied grants for Water & Sanitation (Rs. 1,40,000 crore over 5 years) as well as SBM(G) funds are being converged in rural areas and utilized to good effect.

To promote behavior change & community mobilization towards accelerating efforts of rural sanitation, since 2014 we have

celebrated 15 days, from September 15th till October 2nd each year, as Swachhta Hi Sewa (SHS) - a dedicated participative cleanliness drive across the country. This year, the focus is on improving visual cleanliness and cleaning of legacy waste in villages. The response has been overwhelming with more than 9 crore people participating in various activities of SHS. To validate the efforts and also engaging states in competitive federalism, Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG) is executed annually. An independent survey agency is engaged to assess and rank all States and districts of India on quantitative & qualitative ODF plus parameters viz. direct observation of sanitation public places, citizen's feedback using a mobile app, feedback from key influencers at village level, and service level progress on sanitation parameters. SSG 2022 is the third round and its report will be released, along with felicitation of the winners, during Swachh Bharat Diwas (SBD) scheduled for 2nd October 2022. The aim of achieving ODF Plus India appears daunting, and ensuring sanitation and clean water will always remain an ongoing activity. But, if taken up as a collective national responsibility, India can achieve its goal of Sampoorna Swachhta. Let's re-invigorate the 'jan-andolan' to now achieving and sustaining ODF-Plus status! (- Vini Mahajan

-Secretary, Deptt. of Drinking Water & Sanitation Ministry of Jal Shakti, GoI)

Border crisis, no NSS, no reforms. But Modi govt is going after imagined colonial demons

Just when the nation thought that at 75, the Indian Military has become a model national institution that reflects the idea of India and is in the process of transforming itself to fight future wars, the ghost of its colonial past has come back to haunt it. On 20 September, excerpts of a shoddily drafted leaked letter giving the notice and agenda for an in-house conference under the chairmanship of the Adjutant General to discuss "decolonisation" of the Indian Army, appeared on military WhatsApp groups. Laced with political language, the introductory paragraph of the letter read, "In conformity with the nation's drive towards a 'Developed Nation' and 'Amrit Kaal', while doing away with the British colonial legacy, it is essential to move away from the

archaic and ineffective practices. The Indian Army also needs to review these legacy practices to align to the 'National Sentiment', in consonance with 'Panch Prans'. "The letter goes on to list the "legacy practices" covering a wide ambit including names of regiments, unit insignia, uniforms and accoutrements, pre-Independence theatre/battle honours, grant of honorary commissions, names of roads/parks/institutions, affiliation with foreign armies and Commonwealth Graves Commission, ceremonials, Colonels of Regiments, and

Lt Gen H S Panag (retd)

procedures/traditions/customs. The letter adds that the list is not exhaustive, implying that every vestige of the colonial past needs to be removed. The Indian Army had cleansed itself of its colonial past soon after independence, ironically, under its most anglicised Commander-in-Chief and later Chief of Army Staff, General K.M. Cariappa, who could hardly speak any Indian language. From being the sword arm of Britain and its colonial enforcer, the Army was transformed into an apolitical organisation guided by the Constitution and firmly under civilian control. Most colonial traditions and customs were discarded and only those that contributed towards promoting regimentation, ethos of valour and fighting spirit were retained. The aim of military reforms and transformation is, and should always be, the improvement of military effectiveness to safeguard national security. Will an all-encompassing review of the thoughtfully retained "colonial" traditions/customs/practices, which have become an intrinsic part of the armed forces in these 75 years, contribute towards this aim? The answer is no. However, since the dye has been cast, let me examine the inspiration for this review, what can and should change, and what requires more deliberate thought because at stake are the ethos and morale of the armed forces, which drive its fighting spirit. Promoting its own version of nationalism lies at the

core of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s ideology. The ruling party sees pre-independence history through its own prism and India's colonial past is anathema to the rule which began in 2014. With respect to the armed forces, the ball was set rolling by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 6 March 2021, through his valedictory address during the Combined Commanders Conference at Kevadia, Gujarat, under the shadow of the statue of Sardar Patel. The official

into action. Public speeches of Modi are political in nature as also his customary address to the military hierarchy. For execution, the government has to give formal directions through the Ministry of Defence (MoD). In my view, the government has given no formal directions in this



regard. Even if it has erred in doing so, the armed forces function under "objective control" of the government, which has always granted the military its functional autonomy as opposed to "subjective control" under which the military is co-opted in pursuit of political ideology. Rational military advice is never ignored by the government. The armed forces either did not advise the government or, worse,

they have unilaterally aligned with its political ideology. After all, in the last 75 years, the "colonial traditions" have in no way impinged on the military's operational effectiveness. Most of the 15 archaic colonial traditions/practices should have changed or been done away with over the years. The traditions that symbolise bravery, sacrifice and regimental spirit must not be tinkered with. The informal linkage of the names of units/regiments to regions or British officers who raised them can easily be dispensed with.

Letter to the Editor

Some Schools dictating Parents

Dear Editor,

Some Schools insist on Parents buying Uniform, School Bag, Text Books, Note Books and stationery from School Stores and the Package comprises ten Pens and ten Pencils, Geometry Box whether the Student needs or not. The School Bags and Uniform sold are of inferior quality. Students do not have the choice of buying Notebooks and stationery as per their need. This is unreasonable and wastes the use of pens, pencils and Geometry Boxes. Moreover this is an avoidable expenditure for Parents. Note Books which were not used in First Term cannot be used for Second Term. New sets of NoteBooks are provided for Second Term. Parents' representations for their choice of buying is unheard of. Uniforms provided by District Education Officers may kindly take note of such Money Making Practice of certain Schools and instruct them to stop such Practice, hence forth.

KLRao, Vizag

QUIZ

- Q.1- Who is the Governor of Assam?
 Ans-
 Q.2- Which day is observed as World Environment Day?
 Ans-
 Q.3- Which colour symbolizes peace?
 Ans-
 Q.4- Who is the owner of WhatsApp?
 Ans-
 Q.5- Which way is anti-clockwise, left or right?
 Ans-

Those who will give all the 5 correct answers, his/her name and photo will be published next week. You can send your answers to : assamrising@gmail.com

Last week quiz Answers Three (red, green, and blue), An igloo, Diwali, Bimal Bora (BJP), 8 Medical College (AMCH, GMCH, SMCH, JMCH, TMCH, FAAMCH, LMCH and DMCH)

Short-Story

The Most Foolish Person



Emperor Akbar was very fond of beautiful, strong horses. His stables were full of horses. Yet, he would like to buy new horses.

One day, a horse merchant came to meet Akbar with some lovely Arabian horses. Akbar was very pleased to see the horses and at once bought them. He also ordered some more Arabian horses and paid a bag full of gold coins as an advance to the horse trader. The man saluted the emperor and promised to come soon before leaving the place. But

he never came back.

After a few weeks, Akbar asked Birbal to make a list of all the fools of his kingdom. Birbal nodded and he submitted a list of all the fools the very next day. Akbar quickly began to read the list. Gradually, his face grew red in anger. It was because he saw his own name at the top of the list. He asked Birbal the reason of it.

"Your Majesty, pardon me for this list. I never saw that a man could believe a completely unknown person and give him a bag full of gold coins as an advance." "All right", said Akbar, "but if the unknown man would come back with the horse?" "Surely, I would put his name in place of your name." Replied Birbal with a smile.



Raktinav Chetia, Class - V, Lakhimpur Govt. Boys' School



Kridoy Koushik Gogoi, Class V, St Mary's High School, Lakhimpur

CONGRATULATIONS

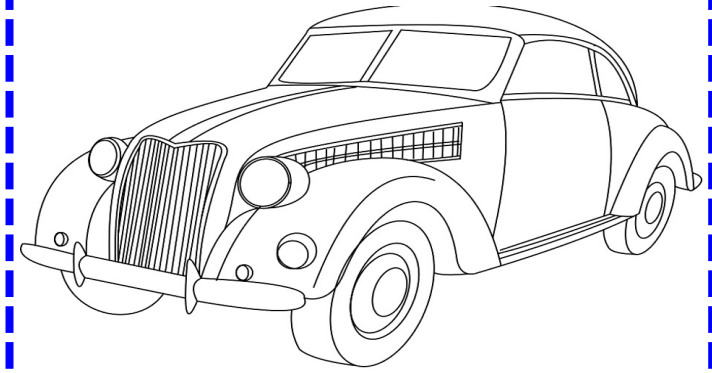
Congratulations! **Saranga Pallab Chetia** for answering all five correct answers of last week's quiz. **Saranga Pallab** is a student of Class VII of VKV, Tinsukia. We wish you success in future.



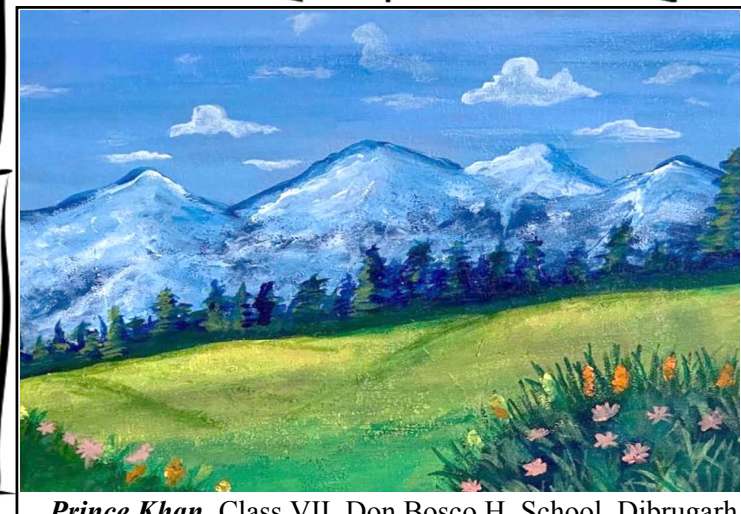
Vivian Buragohain, Class Six, MonAti Aasha Group, Sivasagar



Home work : Fill the picture with colour

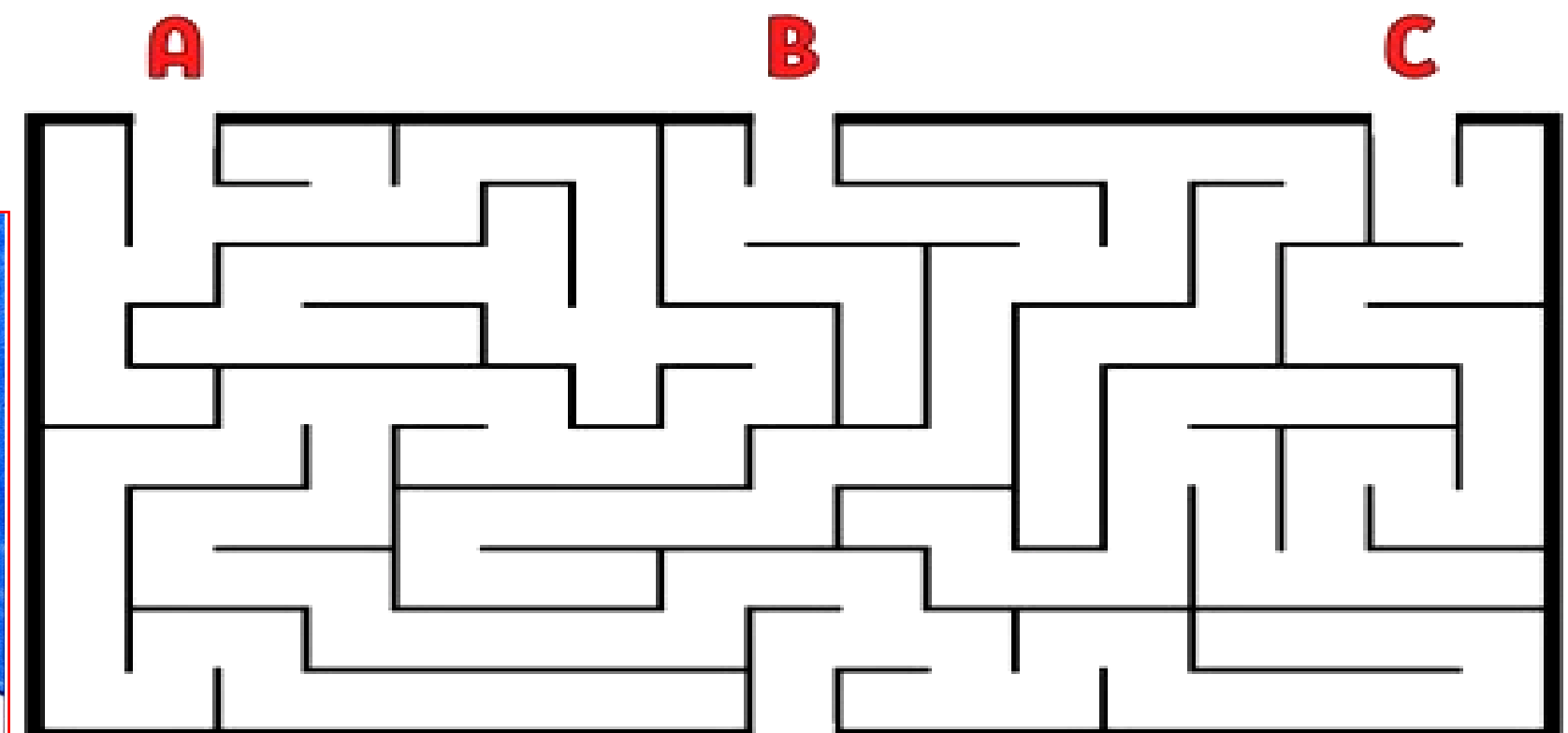


Find 5 differences

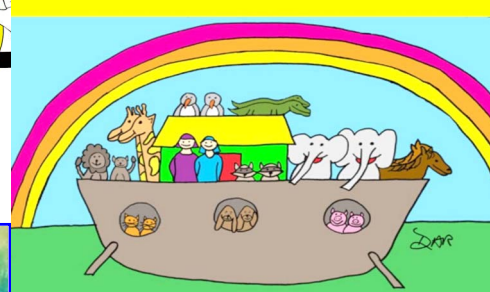


Prince Khan, Class VII, Don Bosco H. School, Dibrugarh

Can you help the A, B, C to reach bottom??



Animal Poems for Kids



NOAH'S ARK
 Ancient Noah had an ark.
 He filled it up by day and dark
 with mammals from the local zoo.
 They walked the plank up, two by two.
 And also, after quite a while,
 the lizard and the crocodile,
 the ostrich and the spotted owl
 and countless types of fancy fowl...

Monsters

Many different creatures walk around
 On a night like tonight
 Not because it's Christmas
 So lets all stop singing jingle bells
 'Tis because it is Halloween so
 Everyone beware
 Real monsters walk around
 Saying trick or treat everywhere



Dear Bhagins,

Moral values are standards that help an individual choose between right and wrong or good and bad. This understanding is necessary to make honest, credible, and fair decisions in daily life. Children can shape a good character and a pleasant personality by moral values. Never try to be the first, but try to be the best. You may not secure the highest marks but you may be a good human being. It all depends upon how we behave, how we nurtured, what we learnt and how we utilise our knowledge.

Your
 Abhi mama.
 Contact me on : assamrising@gmail.com



Contd. From Page 1

Government has decided not

2019 while vacancies in the existing 100 FTs were filled up with 23 others."As the new FTs are not functional, the remaining 179 members were attached to the existing FTs during their term," an officer of Assam's Home Department said, adding that their monthly pay of ₹89,000 each was stretching the State exchequer. The decision to not extend the service of the FT members is likely to close the doors on the appointment of some 1,600 Ministerial staff who were selected to serve in the additional 200 FTs. A case filed by 238 of these selected candidates is scheduled for hearing in the high court on October 14.

Assam-Arunachal Border Row: 2nd

basis' by the district administrations of both sides, it will be amicably resolved between the two legislatures from both sides in consultation with the stakeholders. The first joint meeting of the Inter-State Regional Committees was held on August 22 at Namsai after the field inspection of the inter-State border areas. Earlier, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had directed officials to set up temporary checkpoints along the Assam-Arunachal Pradesh border in order to check the illegal entry of liquor made from the neighbouring state.

Will Priyanka Gandhi contest

has refused to contest the elections. News agency ANI had quoted sources as saying that Rahul wants to hand over the top post of the party to a non-Gandhi and hence he is not allowing Priyanka Gandhi to nominate either. On Wednesday, Congress MP Abdul Khaleque had appealed to Priyanka Gandhi Vadra to take over as the party president. She had argued that she was the daughter-in-law of the Vadra family and hence she was not a direct member of the Gandhi family. He tweeted, "As Rahul Gandhi is refusing to be the President of Congress again, in my opinion, Priyanka Gandhi is the best candidate. Being the daughter-in-law of the Vadra family, she is no longer a member of the Gandhi family as per Indian tradition." The meeting of leaders took place at the residence of senior Congress leader Anand Sharma on Thursday evening. According to ANI, the sources said that the leaders discussed the situation regarding the election of Congress President and these leaders will meet again. Chances are being raised that a leader of the group may file for a nomination for the post of party president on Friday. Former Union Minister Manish Tewari, former Maharashtra Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan and former Haryana CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda were present at this meeting. Meanwhile, Chief Minister Gehlot has distanced himself from the election of the President. He took this decision after meeting Sonia on Thursday. Here, on Friday, Kerala's Thiruvananthapuram MP Shashi Tharoor and former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Digvijaya Singh are preparing to file their nominations. September 30 is the last date for nominations.

Rahul Gandhi Not Fit for Politics:

routine like jogging or suddenly go to the next room and come after half an hour." There is no systematic seriousness," he said. Sarma said Rahul Gandhi, who is on Bharat Jodo Yatra from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, had taken moral responsibility for the party's defeat in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections and for his losing from Amethi and had stepped down as president but continues to take crucial party decisions. "Rahul has taken moral responsibility that the party lost the Lok Sabha elections under my leadership, so I will not be the president. But who is running the party today, who is leading the Bharat Jodo Yatra? Who is the whole party running after? That means you want to enjoy the power without accountability. In a democracy, when somebody wants to enjoy the power without parliamentary accountability, without party accountability, without the accountability of the people, that is the most dangerous thing," he said. "You are not Congress president but you take all the decisions. If you are not Congress president, taken up moral responsibility after losing the election, why entire party is behind you now," he added. Sarma said Rahul Gandhi was on yatra but had failed to convey his vision for the country. "They (Gandhi family) go to the poor people, but do the poor come to their house? Have you ever seen Sonia Gandhi, and Rahul Gandhi having dinner with poor people at the same dining table," Sarma asked. He said Congress has an ecosystem where only the Gandhi family matters. "I must give credit to Congress party, they create an environment that beyond Gandhi family you have nothing. When someone resigns from the party, the Congress spokesperson says he has betrayed the family, they will not say he has betrayed the nation. They will say that the family gave you everything but the fact is that the people of the nation give power. But they create a buzz that family had made you MP. This is the environment of Congress," Sarma said. "The day you join Congress... the Congress has an inside culture that your life starts and ends with Gandhi(s). Like you get attached to any guru, you just surrender everything to that guru. There is an atmosphere. I don't know who started this, who will end but this ecosystem is very strong in Congress," he added. Sarma also said that a lot of people will come to the BJP from Congress.

Anti-Romeo squad to check

Mahato further informed that if this exercise shows good results, the police may continue the anti-Romeo squad for the whole year.

CM attends valedictory ceremony

the event. CEM Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council who is also the Working President of Assam Badminton Association Tuliram Ronghang, MLA Naharkatia Taranga Gogoi, Secretary General Badminton Asia, Moosa Nashid, Senior Development Manager Badminton Asia Thanabalan Aarikrishnan, Vice President Assam Badminton Association Partha Sarathi Mahanta and host of others were present on the occasion.

'75th year of India's Independence

learned and the critics along with the Education Department, Govt. of Assam. A worth read for all age group, the journal is engaged in serving the society in a silent yet impactful way through character-building and guiding the youth of today on the basis of our rich cultural and spiritual heritage. At the end of the meeting, on behalf of Ramkrishna Mission, Swami Ajatananda thanked Prof. Mukhi for releasing the issue and expressed his gratitude to the persons present there and the writers and contributors of 'Vivek Bhaskar'.

Delhi's 'Winter Action Plan' ready to control pollution: CM Arvind Kejriwal

New Delhi, September 30 : While addressing a press conference on Friday, September 30, Arvind Kejriwal discussed the "Winter Action Plan" to control pollution in the coming winters in Delhi. The Kejriwal-led government has released a 15-point agenda to tackle pollution. In his address, CM Arvind Kejriwal said that 18.6% of pollution has come down. The pollution situation has improved in his government. Also, Delhiites together took many steps in 7 years to control pollution. 24 hours electricity started in the AAP government, which has helped in reducing pollution. There were which were closed by AAP resulting in a significant pollution reduction. AAP also fixed dust and pollution. A heavy fine was imposed on the construction site. Polluted fuel was used in the industry. But now all the registered industries use PNG- piped natural gas. Green cover is increasing in our government. Today there is 23.6 green cover in Delhi. Got the support of Delhiites. In 2020, they brought the vehicle policy along with electric vehicles. We added many new buses to public transport. An anti-smog gun is mandatory for a construction site of 5000 sqm. Pollution under control certificates are now checked strictly. Construction sites which are more than 500 sq meters have to register on a portal for real-time dust control monitoring. For road pollution - 80 road sweeping machines, 521 for water sprinkling, and 150 mobile anti-smog guns will be installed. Parali Decomposer- Providing free-of-cost bio-decomposer to the farmers which are prepared by the Pusa Institute. Anti-dust pollution campaign will be run from 6th October. 586 teams are formed. Vehicular Pollution under control certificates are now checked strictly.

Mallikarjun Kharge to contest Congress president poll, Digvijaya Singh decides to withdraw from the race

New Delhi, September 30 : The Congress presidential election witnessed a new twist on Friday as reports came that senior party leader Mallikarjun Kharge, who is Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, will file his nomination after meeting interim president Sonia Gandhi. Congress leader Pramod Tiwari confirmed this development by saying that his colleague Kharge will file nomination for the party president's election, adding that he and PL Punia will be proposers for Kharge's candidature and Digvijaya Singh, who collected nomination papers on Thursday, may not contest. Pramod Tiwari also indicated that a consensus could be reached on who will take over the top party post from Sonia Gandhi, adding that Kharge is one of the most experienced persons in the party and he is a Dalit leader too. Notably, Friday is the last day for filing nominations for the top party post. Kharge is likely to enter the contest with the blessing of the Gandhi family. Ahead of filing his nomination for the Congress presidential poll, senior Congress leader Digvijaya Singh met his colleagues Mallikarjun Kharge and K C Venugopal here on Friday. On Thursday, Singh collected nomination papers for the party president election while Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot decided to opt out of the race. There is speculation that Singh may replace Kharge as the Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha if the latter becomes the party chief. The 'one man, one post' formula will apply to Kharge, as in the case of Gehlot, who was asked to quit as chief minister if he contested for the top party post. Talking to reporters at his residence, Digvijaya Singh said that he would withdraw his nomination. "Had I known that Kharge ji would file his nomination I would not have filed the papers," he said, adding that he would rather be one of the proposers. Meanwhile, ahead of filing his nomination for the Congress president election, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor on Friday said that there is no "no rivalry" among party leaders who are in the fray adding that it is a "friendly contest". "We all share the same ideology, values and ideals. We want the party to be strengthened. It is a friendly contest, no rivalry," Tharoor said while speaking to the reporters here today. The Thiruvananthapuram MP said, "I'm going to be filing at noon. You'll see me at 24, Akbar Road." When asked about the candidature of senior party leader Mallikarjun Kharge, Tharoor said that the more candidates for contesting the better it will be for the party, adding "I only see speculation (of Kharge contesting). He's also a very respected colleague, we worked together in Lok Sabha. It will be good to have more people in the fray. From the beginning, I have said, the more candidates, the better." Tharoor also quoted former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi as saying, "India is an Old country but a young nation... I dream of India Strong, Independent, Self-Reliant and in the front rank of the nations of the world, in the service of mankind." He offered prayers on the occasion of the fifth day of Navaratri and paid a visit to Raj Ghat to pay his homage to Mahatma Gandhi. When asked if there are chances that he will pull out from the race the Congress MP denied the possibility. Late Thursday night, the G-23 leaders, including Manish Tewari, Bhupinder Singh Hooda, and Prithviraj Chavan met at Anand Sharma's residence but did not divulge details of the meeting. According to sources, Manish Tewari, a face of the G-23 group of leaders (those seeking reforms in the party) is also mulling filing the nomination for the top post. G-23 leaders on Thursday evening met at the residence of Anand Sharma. Former Union Minister Manish Tewari, former Maharashtra Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan and former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda were present at the meeting. It may be noted that nominations for the post of Congress president close at 3 pm today and results will be declared on October 19.

RBI hikes repo rates by 50 basis points to 5.90%

New Delhi, September 30 : RBI Monetary Policy 30 September 2022: Bad news for loan borrowers, RBI hikes repo rates by 50 basis points to 5.90%. New Delhi: In a move that will raise borrowing costs for corporates and individuals even further, the RBI Monetary Policy Committee led by Governor Shaktikanta Das hiked Repo Rate by 50 basis points to 5.90 percent on Friday. Repo is the rate at which Reserve Bank of India lends funds to commercial banks when needed. It is a tool that the central bank uses to control inflation. This is the third hike since the beginning of the current financial year, taking the rate is back to pre-pandemic levels in order to tame the inflationary pressure. The six-member Monetary Policy Committee headed by Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das started deliberations on the bi-monthly policy review on Wednesday. Addressing a press conference, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said that there is nervousness in financial market, global economy eye of new storm. He added that Indian economy continues to be resilient in midst of global turmoil. World is in midst of third major shock from aggressive monetary tightening by central banks, Das said. This is the fourth consecutive rate hike after a 40 basis points increase in May and 50 basis points hike each in June and August. In all, RBI has raised benchmark rate by 1.90 per cent since May this year. The six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) headed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das decided in favour of the rate hike.

JNU student Sharjeel Imam gets bail in inflammatory speech case

New Delhi, September 30 : JNU student Sharjeel Imam was granted bail on Friday by a Delhi court in a case related to speeches he had allegedly made at Jamia Milia Islamia University, the Aligarh Muslim University, Gaya and in Asansol in December 2019. He was accused of making inflammatory speeches against the government in these places while protesting against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the National Register of Citizens (NRC). The Delhi Police had alleged that his speech "promoted enmity" between people and led to riots in and around Delhi's Jamia Mila Islamia University. The court granted bail on the condition that Imam pays a personal bond of Rs 30,000. Imam has been in judicial custody since January 2020. Despite getting bail in the case, Sharjeel Imam is not yet a free man and will have to remain behind bars as there are several cases against him that are still pending. Imam had filed a bail application in the Saket district court in Delhi citing the Supreme Court's verdict issuing a stay on all trials of sedition cases.

Hurricane Ian strengthens after hitting Florida; significant damage and 15 deaths reported so far

New Delhi, September 30 : Hurricane Ian, which made landfall in the US state of Florida on Wednesday, September 29, has left more than 2.5 million homes and businesses without electricity, according to media sources. According to local police, a 72-year-old man who fell into a canal in the city of Deltona died as a result of the storm, while rescuers are searching for missing people. Hurricane Ian has reportedly regained strength after inflicting significant damage on Florida. 15 people have been reported dead, according to a news agency, across southwest and central Florida due to the lethal hurricane. According to the latest National Hurricane Center advisory issued on Thursday, Ian is approaching the states of South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia with life-threatening flooding, storm surge, and powerful winds, according to Xinhua news agency. The storm is expected to hit the coast of South Carolina on Friday before moving inland over the Carolinas on Friday night and Saturday. Ian is forecasted to strengthen slightly before landfall on Friday before rapidly weakening across the southeastern United States late Friday into Saturday, with maximum sustained winds of 120 km/h. It made landfall as a Category 4 hurricane in southwest Florida on Wednesday afternoon, delivering devastating storm surges, heavy rainfall, and destructive winds, as well as severe floods to both the coast and interior areas. On Thursday, US Vice President Joe Biden referred Hurricane Ian as the deadliest storm in Florida history. "The statistics are still uncertain," Biden said during a visit to the offices of the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Washington, D.C. "However, we're hearing early reports of a significant loss of life." According to PowerOutage.us, approximately 2.5 million consumers in Florida were without power as of Thursday evening.



Alumni talk held at ADBU

Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 30: The Department of Mechanical Engineering of Assam Don Bosco University School of Technology organized an alumni talk on September 30 for the students. The welcome speech of the event was given by Dr. Buljit Buragohain, a prominent career counsellor of the state and Head, Department of Mechanical Engineering. Bishnu Prakash Medhi and Sidartha Bora, the 2nd Batch of B. Tech Alumni of the Department of Mechanical Engineering addressed the event. They explained about the steps involved in a patent filing in India. Their B. Tech project work "A Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinder carriage for pedal propelled Cycle Rickshaws" is published in "The Patent Office Journal No.36/2022". They interacted with the students.

Indian army felicitated the parents of martyr Ratneshwar Hazarika



Assam Rising, Doom Dooma, September 30: Rupai Battalion under the aegis of Spear Corps in coordination with the NCC cadets of Doomdooma college felicitated the parents of late Sep Ratneshwar Hazarika as a part of the "SHAHIDO KO SAT SAT NAMAN" initiative. Sep Ratneshwar Hazarika a resident of Bor Dirak village of Tinsukia district, he was part of 119 Territorial Army (Assam) Bn. The martyr was killed in action on active service during Op Rakshak in Tripura in 1997. He is succeeded by his father, who attended the felicitation ceremony. The ceremony was attended by NCC cadets, college students, faculty, Students Union leaders. This outreach programme aimed at remembering the martyrdom of the heroes of this region that will keep inspiring the generations to come and will motivate them to join Indian Armed Forces. The initiative was lauded by the college faculty, parents of the students and Student Bodies as these initiatives help channelise the energy of youth in right direction and further cement the patriotism in them.

All women, married or unmarried, entitled to safe and legal abortion: SC

New Delhi, September 30 : The Supreme Court on Thursday (September 29, 2022) said that all women, married or unmarried, are entitled to a safe and legal abortion till 24 weeks of the pregnancy. "Marital status of a woman can't be ground to deprive her right to abort unwanted pregnancy. Single and unmarried women have the right to abort under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act & rules till 24 weeks of pregnancy," the top court said. "Distinction between married and unmarried women is artificial and constitutionally unsustainable, and perpetuates a stereotype that only married women are sexually active," the SC said on the abortion law. A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud, JB Pardiwala and AS Bopanna delivered the verdict on the interpretation of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, and whether unmarried or single women can be allowed like their married counterparts the benefit of abortion up to 24 weeks. Under the MTP Act provisions, the upper limit for the termination of pregnancy is 24 weeks for married women, special categories including survivors of rape and other vulnerable women such as the differently-abled and minors. However, the time period is 20 weeks for widows and unmarried women, who are or were in consensual relationships, for allowing abortion under the statute. The top court also said that the meaning of offence of rape must include marital rape for the purpose of the MTP Act. Earlier last month, the bench had said it would interpret the MTP Act and the related rules in such a manner that discrimination between married and unmarried women is removed to allow abortion till 24 weeks of pregnancy. Observing there is a need to "fine-tune" the provisions in the MTP rules, the SC had said it would like to add a category of women who suffer desertion irrespective of marital status to the seven categories of women eligible to seek abortion till 24 weeks of pregnancy. "Denying an unmarried woman the right to a safe abortion violates her personal autonomy and freedom. Live-in relationships have been recognized by this Court," it said.

Xi Jinping makes first public appearance since SCO summit amid rumours of military coup in China

New Delhi, September 30 : Amid rumours of a military coup in China, President Xi Jinping on Tuesday (September 27, 2022) made his first public appearance since returning to Beijing from the SCO summit. Xi, who is widely expected to secure a precedent-breaking third term as a leader at the Communist Party's once-in-five-years Congress next month, was last seen in public when he attended the 22nd Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in Samarkand, Uzbekistan on September 16. Jinping's absence from the limelight had sparked rumours of a coup in China meant to depose him as the head of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and that he had been placed under house arrest. The hashtag #ChinaCoups also trended on the micro-blogging site Twitter for several days. There were also rumours that powerful military leader Li Qiaoming is set to replace Xi Jinping as the Chinese President. His latest appearance, however, has now put to rest rumours about him being under house arrest. Observers say that Xi's absence from the public events may have been due to the seven-day mandatory quarantine in a designated place followed by a three-day home stay, as per the official guidelines for those returning from abroad under the country's "dynamic zero" Covid strategy.

West Brom Women switch from white to navy shorts due to period concerns



London, September 30 : West Brom Women will wear navy shorts with their home kit from now on because of concerns about having to wear white while on their periods. The players will wear navy for the rest of this season and beyond after discussions with the club. Wearing white while on a period is an issue that has been highlighted by women across all sports, including the Lionesses who contacted their kit manufacturer, Nike, after calling their shorts "not practical" during Euro 2022. After consultation with the players, West Brom have taken a forward-thinking approach and confirmed the colour change, with a pledge to consider the situation when designing all future home kits. The West Brom captain, Hannah George, told the club website: "It's great that the club are supporting our change to navy shorts."

Liam Norwell's nine-wicket haul saves Warwickshire and relegates Yorkshire

Edgbaston, September 30 : The final day of the County Championship season left nails chewed down to the nub and hearts racing as a remarkable nine-wicket performance from Liam Norwell saw Warwickshire pull off the great escape and send Yorkshire tumbling into Division Two. Defending just 139 runs against Hampshire under ominous skies at Edgbaston, second-bottom Warwickshire found themselves on the brink of becoming the fifth side in the era of promotion and relegation to follow winning the County Championship with the drop.



As their head coach, Mark Robinson, later put it: "We needed snookers." Norwell had other ideas, his career-best figures of nine for 62 from 19 lung-busting overs sealing a staggering five-run victory that meant the trap door was dodged by a margin of three points. As well as those present, the denouement was watched by 16,000 more spectators online and, by nudging his side up to eighth in the table, the fast bowler broke the hearts of those doing so at Headingley. "I just went mad - all the emotions came out," said Norwell, visibly broken by his efforts, when asked to describe the winning moment. It came by trapping the No 11 Mohammad Abbas lbw for a four-ball duck, with Hampshire bowled out for 133 in 43.5 overs and forced to settle for third place behind Lancashire and champions Surrey. His was only Norwell's fourth match of a season blighted by injuries and one which, after a recent elbow problem, saw him given a "10% chance" of playing only to push through the pain. The 30-year-old was also on England's reserve list for their Test tour of the Caribbean back in March, only to spend a month in hospital when his newborn son caught meningitis and cricket very much became secondary.

change that [the colour]. It's very nice to have an all-white kit but sometimes it's not practical when it's the time of the month." Informative, passionate, entertaining. Sign up to our weekly round-up of women's football now. 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 issue has also been raised at Wimbledon, where a strict dress code requires players to wear white.

Chess: latest round of Hans Niemann saga expected in St Louis on Wednesday



London, September 30 : Hans Niemann will be tested by three of the top 10 grandmasters next week when the 19-year-old, who the world champion, Magnus Carlsen, has publicly declared to be a cheat, takes on the American elite in the \$250,000 US championship at St Louis, which has its first round (of 13) on Wednesday. Niemann will be returning to the "capital of chess" where a few weeks ago he shocked Carlsen by defeating the Norwegian in the third round of the Sinquefeld Cup. The manner and circumstances of that result, an exceptionally rare loss for Carlsen with the favourable white pieces against a much lower rated opponent - ending the Norwegian's run of 53 games without defeat, has come under close scrutiny after the world champion singled it out in his statement on Monday night. "Throughout our game I had the impression that he wasn't tense or even fully concentrating on the game in critical positions, while outplaying me as black in a way I think only a handful of players can do," said Carlsen. "This game contributed to me

London, September 30 : Joe Burrow tossed a late two-yard touchdown pass to Hayden Hurst to seal a 27-15 win for the Cincinnati Bengals over Miami in a Thursday game marred by the horrific sight of Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa being taken off on a stretcher. Tagovailoa was chased down and thrown to the turf by Cincinnati's Josh Tupou in the first half. He remained down for more than seven minutes before being taken to a hospital with reported head and neck injuries. The Dolphins later said they expected him to be discharged and fly home with his team. The 24-year-old Tagovailoa was suffering from a sore back and was listed as

questionable for most of the week ahead of the game. He briefly left Sunday's 21-19 victory over the Buffalo Bills after appearing to be disoriented by what the team originally said was a head injury after taking a hard hit from Bills linebacker Matt Milano late in the first half. He missed just three snaps and returned after halftime, a decision that prompted a joint review by the NFL and National Football League Players Association of what went into the decision to allow him to return to the game. The team and Tagovailoa said after the game the quarterback had a back injury that caused his awkward stumble and fall after he was slammed into the turf in the second



quarter. The team said on Monday that Tagovailoa was not in concussion protocol. Tagovailoa said he "hyper-extended" his back on Sunday after getting his legs caught under another player on a quarterback sneak. Some criticized the decision to play Tagovailoa so soon after his injuries in Sunday's game. Hall of Famer Shannon Sharpe tweeted: "That's a serious injury. Tua shouldn't have been out there with Sunday Thursday turn around. Sometimes players need protecting from themselves. Dolphins failed Tua." After

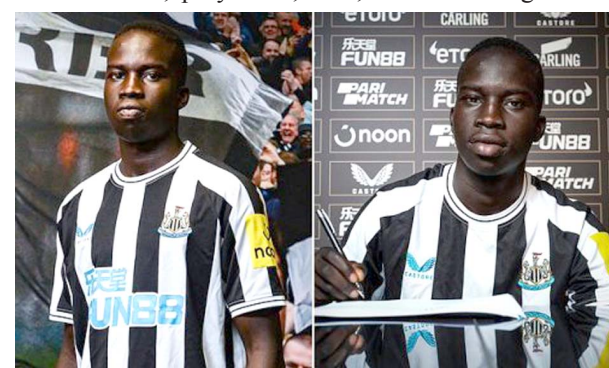
Thursday's game Dolphins head coach Mike McDaniel defended the decision to play Tagovailoa, and said the quarterback had passed a number of checks by independent specialists before playing against the Bengals. "I don't think an injury from last week made him fall a certain way this week," said McDaniel. "I have absolutely zero patience for, or ever would I, put a player in harm's way. That's not what I'm about at all." Vonn Bell's interception of Miami backup quarterback Teddy Bridgewater - the safety's second pick of the

night - with three minutes left in the game set up the Bengals' final drive. Evan McPherson also kicked two fourth-quarter field goals - including a 57-yarder. Burrow was 20 for 31 for 287 yards and two touchdowns as the Bengals won their second game in five days after dropping the first of the season. Tee Higgins caught seven passes for 124 yards and a TD. Tagovailoa was 8 for 14 for 110 yards and an interception before his injury. Bridgewater finished 14 for 23 for 193 yards, a touchdown and an interception in relief.

Garang Kuol, 18, joins Newcastle United with the innate tools of a star

London, September 30 : Garang Kuol is officially off to Newcastle United. Having rode a wave of momentum from A-League youth football to the biggest league in the world in less than a year, the world is at the feet of Australian football's next big thing. Now, with an entire nation watching on, he stares down the barrel of taking daunting, treacherous steps into the unknown. Just a week on from becoming the youngest player to debut for Australia since 17-year-old Harry Kewell, Kuol was formally unveiled as the latest member of the Toon on Friday after flying to the UK following the Socceroos' 2-0 win in Auckland to seal the deal. Signing a contract that, according to reports, will make the 18-year-old one of Australia's highest-paid footballers, the attacker will complete his move to the English Premier League when the transfer window opens in January. Central Coast, who moved to sign him to a two-year deal in June, are expected to receive a transfer fee of close to half a million dollars for the talented youngster, as well as the promise of lucrative sell-on fees. "It's unreal," Kuol said in a

statement. "As a young boy in Australia, the Premier League is the main thing that everyone watches, but nobody actually thinks they'll reach those heights. To be one of those people, to be in the position I am, it's amazing." Now that I've signed for Newcastle, I want to train hard, play hard,



hopefully go to the World Cup and come back here." The announcement caps off a whirlwind six-month rise for Kuol, during which he has progressed from a fringe youth prospect at the Mariners seeking to follow in the footsteps of his older brother Alou, to the darling of the A-Leagues and a potential World Cup bolter. To date, he has four goals and an assist in seven appearances off the bench. He has not started a single game of senior professional football. Even taking into account the limited sample

size, Kuol represents one of the most exciting and naturally talented prospects produced by Australian football in years. Playing with a sense of freedom he also has an innate sense of timing and positioning not often seen emerging from the country's developmental framework. At 17, he was among the A-

League Men's leaders in dribbles and entrances into the opposition penalty area when adjusted for his limited minutes. In short, he makes stuff happen, a quality which will have him in the frame for Graham Arnold's Qatar 2022 squad - should he be given and the opportunity to shine in the opening six weeks of the domestic season. Nonetheless, the hype train may need some tempering. Australian football is littered with cautionary tales that, for a variety of reasons, were never able to deliver on the fanfare.

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Miedema fires Arsenal into WCL groups but Eidevall hits out over concussion

Washington, September 30 : It was far from pretty, but Arsenal edged into the Champions League group stage, a goal from the Super League record scorer Vivianne Miedema earning the team a feisty 1-0 away win against Ajax, 3-2 on aggregate. The Gunners were forced to play a lengthy period of added time with 10 players after Lisa Doorn crashed into the back of the substitute Beth Mead's head, forcing her off. The Arsenal manager, Jonas Eidevall, asked for use of a concussion sub but was denied, with Arsenal having used all three of their regulation changes. The Arsenal captain, Kim Little, had said it was "incredibly important" for the team to qualify. "Our ambition is always as a club to be in the Champions League and progress through it and to be a part of the group stage." But the implications of an exit would have gone way beyond the football, with financial incentives improved and the third qualifying spot in the WSL at risk. There were three changes to the Arsenal team that drew 2-2 in the first leg. The right-back Laura Wienroither and the forwards Katie McCabe and Caitlin Foord, who were all returned to the side for Arsenal's 4-0 defeat of Tottenham on Saturday, were chosen to start in the south of Amsterdam. Much like in the reverse fixture, the first half was tightly contested, with Arsenal edging possession but once again struggling to trouble the centre-back duo of Doorn and the 17 year old Isa Kardinaal, despite the terrier-like



McCabe and Foord wide of Stina Blackstenius. The play matched the conditions. A farcical situation presented itself before kick-off, with staff hurriedly adjusting the height of the goals after staff of the visiting side had pointed out a height discrepancy of 10cm that had seemingly gone unnoticed. At half-time the ladder was back out to remeasure the height of the crossbar. "Playing against a big club like Ajax, where we had to measure the goals before the start of the game... I have never experienced anything like it," Eidevall said afterwards. With thunder rumbling and rain falling hard, the attempts on target were few at both ends. In the 16th minute Leuchter was played through with only Leah Williamson and the goalkeeper Manuela Zinsberger to beat but the England captain nipped the ball away from the feet of the young forward. Blackstenius had a chance not long after, with Steph Catley's cross bouncing off her before she was able to collect and get a tame shot away that was smothered by the goalkeeper Lize Kop. Just past the half-hour mark, Rafaelle Souza went down under a heavy challenge from

the Ajax forward Chasity Grant. The defender was eventually replaced by Lotte Wubben-Moy came on in her place in front of the watching England manager, Sarina Wiegman, who, the day before, had dropped the centre-back from the Lionesses squad for the October fixtures against USA and the Czech Republic. The De Toekomst Stadium was sold out, but while the travelling contingent was small, there were a huge number of Dutch Arsenal fans present for the return of Miedema, the national team's record goalscorer, to her home country. Informative, passionate, entertaining. Sign up to our weekly round-up of women's football now. 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. Those fans were rewarded early in the second half, as Miedema drove to the edge of the D before firing low into the bottom corner to put Arsenal in front. Mead, a surprising omission from the Starting XI, came on and delivered a sumptu-

ous cross shortly after coming on that evaded Wienroither and fell to Foord on the edge of the box, but her effort was blocked. Ajax went close moments later, with Wubben-Moy doing enough to put off Tiny Hoekstra as she stretched to get on to the end of Nadine Noordam's cross. As Ajax sought a reply and Arsenal tried to kill the game, Eidevall sprinted up and down his technical area. He was furious when Mead was felled and his team were denied a replacement. Afterwards, Eidevall said: "I think Uefa removed the concussion sub, they still have the concussion protocol which means the doctor takes the decision. There's no doubt that Beth needs to be taken off." The problem that I have is that I asked the fourth official if we can do a concussion sub and she said yes, and that's why we are preparing

Lina, and then when we are going to do it she says no. "We had that break for two, three minutes and we could have spent a lot of that time speaking to the players on how we would have defended with 10. So I think that's misinformation from the referee. I honestly don't know how and why that can be, because for me it's just such a simple question to answer yes or no. "In Sweden - where I come from - in ice hockey it's very big. If you tackle towards the head they've realised how dangerous that is, they are so harsh on penalising violence towards the head. Because that's not only pain, it can have impact for the rest of your life. "If that's not a red card to go towards a head like that - I know she doesn't mean it - but it's careless. And in the end it's carelessness that puts Beth at real risk. I just hope she's all right."

London, September 30 : We're in touching distance of the finishing tape but there's still time for a last stumble in the mud. For once, however, the Spin is early, laden with gongs to dole out to the best, worst, and most memorable events of the 2022 Championship season. This is a Championship that may - depending on which way the counties vote on the Strauss report, probably before the fixtures come out in November, possibly sometime in the spring of 2048 - be in its final incarnation of two divisions with promotion and relegation. Much then, to celebrate. With no further ado: please put your hands together for... The Micky Stewart award for team of the season Surrey, a cut above the rest. Well led by Rory Burns, 22 focused players, 10 of them homegrown, who took a 16-point lead into September and didn't slip up. Most tellingly, Ollie Pope



and Ben Foakes were desperate to come back and play for their club in the penultimate match of the year and help seal the title. A class act. The Kwasi Kwarteng award for inept announcements The ECB, for publishing the final results of the High Performance Review on the very day Surrey won the championship. This ensured that players were asked about their thoughts on Strauss's fine print just after doing a victory lap of the Oval, and were pushed to the side of their own story. The Joe Root award for outstanding excellence with the bat Harry Brook, head and shoulders above other young English contenders, who dominated the first half of the season before being called up by England. His absence in September proved a glaring hole in Yorkshire's batting lineup as they fought to avoid relegation. The are-we-there-yet award The Cricket Disciplinary Committee's investigation of the Azeem Rafiq saga at Yorkshire, which drags on and on. Interviews are due to happen this autumn with a final report expected before Christmas. Don't hold your breath. The canary-in-the-coalmine warning 19 July 2022, the UK's hottest day on record, where the temperatures around the grounds nudged towards 40C. Most spectators stayed at home with the curtains drawn, but there was nowhere for county

cricketers to hide. Hampshire and Gloucestershire and Lancashire and Northants agreed to the ECB's offer of reducing the playing time to 90 minutes per session with extra drinks breaks. It is a huge issue for cricket to contemplate: as the experts say - this is the coldest summer of the rest of your life. The Steve Waugh award for brotherly love Surrey's Jamie Overton, who sent down a bouncer to brother Craig which knocked him to the Taunton turf. As others gathered round, Jamie scowled and strutted away. Not so long afterwards, a beaming Craig handed Jamie his first Test cap. Moment of madness award for dropping the ball Hampshire, whose chances of winning their first championship since 1973 disappeared in the blink of an eye after being bowled out for 57 at home against the most unlikely opponents, Kent. The Ciderabad award for interesting pitches Chelmsford, in the penultimate round of the season, where 26 wickets fell on the first day, 14 on the next, as Essex failed to chase 98 and everything was wrapped up just after lunch on the second afternoon. To the gnashing of teeth at Taunton, and despite the pitch being marked as poor, and reports of unexpected holes, no points were deducted because it couldn't be proved that Essex had done it on purpose.

"You Learn A Lot"

Playing In Tricky Conditions: Rohit Sharma After 1st T20I vs South Africa

New Delhi, September 30 : India captain Rohit Sharma is happy that his team got to "learn a lot" in their eight-wicket victory over South Africa in a low-scoring chase on a "tricky track" in the first T20 International. Suryakumar Yadav's unbeaten 50 off 33 balls ensured that India didn't face too many hiccups despite KL Rahul's struggles on a track where South Africa were left tottering at 9/5 at the start of the game. "The wicket was tricky. You learn a lot playing such a game. You understand what the team needs to do in tough conditions. It was nice to play



a game like that. We knew the bowlers will get something seeing grass on the pitch, but we didn't expect help for the full 20 overs," Rohit said at the post-match presentation ceremony. Rohit admitted that the pitch was a bit damp and that made South Africa stay in contest despite a paltry score of 106/8. "It was still damp. Both teams were in the contest

and the team that played better won the game. We started well, got five wickets in quick time and that was the turning point. It was a perfect showcase of how to bowl when there is help for the pacers." While Rahul scored a half-century (51) off 56 balls, Rohit said that one got to respect the conditions. "We knew it wasn't going to be easy. Got to respect the conditions. Lost two wickets and that partnership between KL and Surya got us home." KL Rahul, whose scratchy batting got paped over by Suryakumar Yadav's regal half-century, said that his partner's at-



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