



The Assam Rising

Projecting the best of Northeast India everyday

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Road accident Assam Rising Guwahati, October 01 :

Two brothers of the same family were tragically killed in a road accident that took place in Assam's Sivasagar. Another person was also injured in the incident, sources said. The incident took place at the Konwarpur area in Kari Gaon village. According to reports, the two deceased brothers were identified as Shiromani Konwar (24), and Ajay Konwar while the injured person identified as Pradyuman Bairagi. It may be mentioned that Shiromani Konwar was a karate coach and also a national level player. He recently led a team to a medal in the Assam Youth Olympics. The accident occurred when the victims were on a bike that lost control and crashed into a tree.

Bodo medium

Assam Rising
Guwahati, October 01 :

Bodo medium have been included in Higher Secondary level in schools across state. Students of classes XI and XII can from now on study in Bodo medium and mixed medium. An official notification issued by the department of school education, Assam, read, "In the public interest and in the academic interest of students belonging to Bodo community and other students inclined to study in Bodo medium, the Governor, Assam is pleased to accord necessary approval for the introduction of Bodo medium in the Higher Secondary Level consisting of classes XI and XII in the Bodo medium and Mixed (having Bodo medium) Higher Secondary Schools in the State of Assam." The notification also stated that the order will come into force with immediate effect and until further order.

Girls rescued

Assam Rising
Guwahati, October 01 :

Three minor girls of Baithalangso in Assam's West Karbi Anglong district have been rescued by the police from Ahmedabad on Saturday. The three girls had gone missing from Toradubi and an FIR was filled by their family members at the Baithalangso Police Station on September 11 in this regard. The FIR was lodged against two minor boys for allegedly kidnapping the minor girls. After launching an investigation, the police traced the mobile phones of the girls which showed that they were currently travelling via train to Ahmedabad. After the Ahmedabad Railway Police was informed about the incident, they managed to rescue the minor girls and also arrested the accused duo.

India Abstains In UN Vote Against Russia's "Illegal Referenda" On Ukraine



United Nations, October 01 :

India has abstained on a draft resolution tabled in the UN Security Council which condemned Russia's "illegal referenda" and annexation of four Ukrainian territories and called for an immediate cessation of violence while underlining the need to find pathways for a return to the negotiating table. The 15-nation UN Security Council on Friday voted on the draft resolution tabled by the US and Albania that condemns Russia's "organisation of illegal so-called referenda in regions within Ukraine's internationally recognised

borders." The resolution declares that Russia's "unlawful actions" with regards to the "illegal so-called referenda" taken on September 23 to 27 this year in parts of Ukraine's regions of Luhansk, Donetsk, Kherson, and Zaporizhzhya that are under Russia's temporary control can have "no validity" and cannot form the basis for any alteration of the status of these regions of Ukraine, including any "purported annexation" of any of these regions by Moscow. The resolution failed to get adopted as Russia vetoed it. Of the 15-nation Council, 10 nations

voted for the resolution while China, Gabon, India and Brazil abstained. In the explanation of the vote, India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj said that India was deeply disturbed by the recent turn of developments in Ukraine and New Delhi has always advocated that no solution can ever arrive at the cost of human lives. "We

urge that all efforts are made by concerned sides for the immediate cessation of violence and hostilities. Dialogue is the only answer to settling differences and disputes, however daunting that may appear at this moment," she said. "The path to peace requires us to

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AFSPA extended in Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland for six months from today

Assam Rising
Guwahati, October 01 :

The Central government has extended the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in three districts of Arunachal Pradesh and nine districts of Nagaland for six months from today. According to a notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), AFSPA has been extended in three dis-

tricts of Arunachal Pradesh, including Tirap, Changlang and Longleng districts, from Saturday, October 1 to March 30 next year. The government has also extended AFSPA in the areas falling within the jurisdiction of Namsai and Mahadevpur police stations in Arunachal Pradesh. Furthermore, AFSPA has also been extended in nine districts of



Guwahati- Durga Puja at Bina Pani area at Athgaon On Saturday

PM Narendra Modi drives car in Sweden virtually from Delhi using 5G technology

New Delhi, October 01 :

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the 5G mobile services in India. While using the same technology today, the PM test drove a car in Europe from New Delhi. The services were launched by Prime Minister while attending the opening of the Indian Mobile Congress 2022. To demonstrate the use of the new services, PM drove a car that was physically in Europe while sitting in the Ericsson booth at the aforementioned event. Because of the new mobile services, the high-speed network was used to connect the car's controls with the devices present in India, hence getting the car's remote control. The picture of Prime Minister Narendra Modi driving the car was shared by the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal,



on Twitter. The caption of the video said, "@NarendraModi ji tests driving a car in Europe remotely from Delhi using India's 5G technology." Meanwhile, inaugurating the four-day India Mobile Congress going on at Pragati Maidan, PM Modi also visited several booths. He also encouraged startups in India to use 5G cases. It is to be noted that in the first phase of the deployment of the Mobile services,

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Dr Nirmalprabha Bordoloi memorial gate inaugurated at Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Geetanagar, Guwahati

Assam Rising
Guwahati, October 01 :

Dr Nirmalprabha Bordoloi Memorial gate and Dr. Nagendra Nath Buzbarua Memorial Library were unveiled at Kanya's College, Geetanagar, Guwahati on Thursday. Eminent educationist Bimala Prasad Chaliha, former principal of the college, Sahityacharya Parag Kumar Bhattacharya unveiled the gate. On the other hand, former Vice-Chancellor of Gauhati University, eminent educationist, poet and reciter Dr. Amarjyoti Choudhury inaugurated the newly constructed library. It is to be noted that the gate has been constructed with the financial assistance provided by Dr. Swapna Devi and Brajendra Kumar Bhattacharya Dev, the able daughters of Dr. Nirmalprabha Bordoloi. Dr. Nagendra Nath Buzbaruah Dr. Aparna Bujarbaruah, an eminent educationist, musician and member of the college managing committee has provided financial assistance for the construction of the memorial



library. In the meantime, Dr. Amarjyoti Choudhury released the wall Magazine of the English Department. After this, the foundation stone of the proposed Nagendra Kumar Chamua monch was laid by his able child and donor Ramendra Kumar Chamua. The newly constructed canteen of the college was also inaugurated by educationist Dr. Sushil Kumar Sharma, a member of the college's governing body. The launch event was followed by an open meeting. Dr. Purna Bhattacharya,

educationist, eminent poet, literary critic and member of the Governing Body presided over the inaugural session. Dr. Satyajit Kalita, Principal of the College delivered the welcome address at the meeting organized by Dr. Nabakanta Sharma. In the context of his speech, the Principal sought the cooperation of all concerns in the overall development of the college and expressed gratitude to the donors who have

provided financial assistance to the college. On this occasion, gate Donor Brajendra Nath Bhattacharya, Library Donor Dr. Aparna Bujarbaruah, Dilip Kumar Kalita, the donor of the college magazine "Pragya", Satyen Goswami, a representative of the Indian Tea Association, the seat-giver of the auditorium were felicitated with one felicitation letter

and gamosa on behalf of the college. Apart from this, college principal Dr. Satyajit Kalita, Dr. Namita Barman, Ananya Roy, Binita Gogoi, Gupta Pathak, Shikha Sharma, Barnali Chowdhury,

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Congress president polls: Kharge resigns as Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha

New Delhi, October 01 :

Candidate for Congress presidential polls Mallikarjun Kharge has submitted his resignation to Sonia Gandhi from the post of Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha as per the Udaipur resolution of One Leader One Post. Kharge received support from nearly 30 Congress leaders for the party's presidential polls. These names include Deepender Hooda, Salman Khurshid, Ashok Gehlot, Digvijaya

Singh, Manish Tewari, Prithviraj Chavan, and others. Congress Central Election Authority chairman Madhusudan Mistry said 14 nominations were received by Mallikarjun Kharge, five by Shashi Tharoor and one by Jharkhand Congress leader KN Tripathi. "14 forms were submitted by (Mallikarjun) Kharge, 5 by Shashi Tharoor, and one by KN Tripathi. Tomorrow, we will scrutinise forms and tomorrow evening we will announce forms that are

valid and the names of candidates," said Mistry at the press briefing. Meanwhile, former Madhya Pradesh CM Digvijaya Singh dropped out of the Congress presidential race. He too extended his support to Kharge, saying he "cannot think of contesting an election" against a senior leader like Kharge. Singh was the second Congress leader to pull out of the race after Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot

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'Green' Durga Pujas Shine In Assam This Year

Assam Rising
Guwahati, October 01 :

Several Durga Puja committees across Assam have used environmental-friendly, recyclable and sustainable materials in their pandals and idols this year. Traditional bamboo and cane remain favourites as raw materials for pandal decoration, while biodegradable materials are in the rage for idol making. Sanjib Basak, an artist from Dhubri, has made an idol of the mother goddess using single-use

plastic utensils such as spoons and bowls. Basak said festivals should be used to spread important messages among the masses. In the previous years, he had used empty COVID vials and matchsticks to bring alive Goddess Durga and her entourage in the form of idols. Pradipt Kumar Ghosh, another idol maker from the same district in western Assam, is utilising the occasion to spread the message of

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Guwahati- Durga Puja Pandal on Saturday

Hurricane Ian moves into South Carolina after rampage in Florida



Florida, October 01 : The coast of South Carolina was hit on Friday with a direct strike from Hurricane Ian, the deadly mega-storm that carved a wide path of destruction on its earlier rampage through Florida. The eye of the hurricane crossed over land at Georgetown, between Myrtle Beach and the historic city of Charleston, after strengthening overnight in the Atlantic. The National

Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami warned of the danger of a "life-threatening" storm surge and hurricane force winds all the way from North Carolina to the north-east Florida coast. In Florida, meanwhile, the death toll from the storm that arrived on Wednesday with 150mph (240km/h) winds and a storm surge of up to 18ft (5.5m) had risen to at least 21 by Friday morning, but was expected to grow further, Kevin Guthrie, the state's director

of emergency management, said. Officials fear it will end up being the biggest natural disaster in Florida's history, despite a track record of the state being hit intermittently with devastating hurricanes over the centuries. Early Friday evening, National Hurricane Center forecasters said Ian had weakened to a post-tropical cyclone after its South Carolina landfall, but surge, flooding and wind threats would persist. The storm had appeared to have largely spared the historic South Carolina city of Charleston from the worst, but Charleston's mayor said the city was expecting flooding, and more than 200,000 customers across the state lost power. Rescue teams had reached 3,000 wrecked or flooded homes, Florida's

governor, Ron DeSantis, said at a Friday morning press briefing, while almost 2 million remained without power, and in Lee county, where Ian made landfall near Fort Myers, there was no running water. Footage of the aftermath in Lee county showed a trail of destruction, including the partially collapsed Sanibel Causeway. The coast guard has staged rescue missions on Sanibel Island, and rescued two people and three cats to safety by helicopter. Parts of south-west Florida looked, in the words of one resident, like someone had dropped an atom bomb. DeSantis described Fort Myers Beach as "ground zero" for the destruction, with vast expanses of flattened buildings, and boats tossed into piles, wedged high up between houses or floating down flooded streets. Many who evacuated have lost everything except their lives

and officials warned that they had "literally nothing to come back to". With massive devastation and flooding from Fort Myers on the Gulf of Mexico, through central areas including Orlando, to Cape Canaveral on the Atlantic coast, officials warned the recovery from what Joe Biden said on Thursday "could be the deadliest hurricane in Florida's history" would be lengthy.



shows a view in the Buseoksa Temple in Yeongju, South Korea. Buseoksa Temple is one of the seven Buddhist mountain monasteries in South Korea

Gun reformers feel history is on their side despite bleak outlook in Congress

Washington, October 01 : When Joe Biden signed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act into law this summer, he and congressional Democrats celebrated the enactment of the first significant gun control policy in decades in the US. The US president also acknowledged that the law, a bipartisan compromise brokered after the Uvalde tragedy that left 19 children and two adults dead, did not go nearly far enough to address the devastation caused by gun violence. Although Democrats and activists agree that much more needs to be done to combat gun violence,

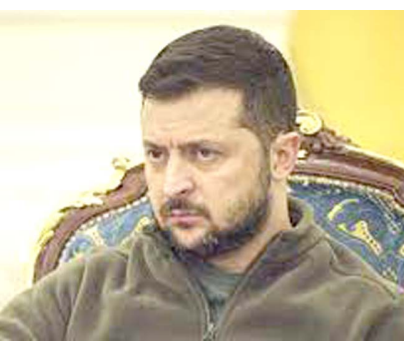
legislative progress on this lightning-rod issue could soon become even more difficult. With crucial midterm elections looming, the prospect of meaningful progress on gun reform now looks unlikely - despite widespread domestic revulsion at continuing gun violence and bafflement overseas at the US gun problem. If Republicans regain control of the House of Representatives after the midterm elections this November, as they are favored to do, proposed gun regulations will probably be dead on arrival in Congress. Despite those obstacles, anti-gun violence activists and their allies

on Capitol Hill insist they are not giving up on their goal to see more desperately needed change in the months and years to come. The Democratic senator Chris Murphy, who played a leading role in negotiations over the BSCA, said on Tuesday that he considers the law to be proof of potential bipartisan cooperation on gun regulations. The compromise secured by Murphy and the Republican senator John Cornyn expanded background checks for firearm buyers under the age of 21, and it enacted new gun restrictions for those previously convicted on domestic violence charges. The legislation also provided financial incentives for states to enact "red-flag laws", which help keep guns away from those deemed to be a danger to

themselves or others, and it provided funding for more mental health services to children and families. Speaking at an event in Washington organized by the Common Ground Committee, Murphy credited the anti-gun violence movement and an engaged citizenry in forcing Congress to finally act nearly a decade after the shooting at Sandy Hook elementary school in his home state of Connecticut. "The reason that we found common ground this summer is because the American public had had enough of inaction," Murphy said at George Washington University. "While Sandy Hook shook this country to the core, it's really been the cumulative impact of mass shooting after mass shooting, as well as suicides and homicides continuing to spiral upward, that brought the public to a point this summer where they just weren't willing to accept Congress retreating to their corners."

Ukraine applies for Nato membership after Russia annexes territory

Kyiv, October 01 : A defiant Volodymyr Zelenskyy has announced that Ukraine is officially applying for membership of Nato, hours after Vladimir Putin said in a Kremlin ceremony that he was annexing four Ukrainian provinces. In a speech filmed outside his presidential office in Kyiv, Zelenskyy said he was taking this "decisive step" in order to protect "the entire community" of Ukrainians. He promised the application would happen in an "expedited manner". "De facto, we have already made our way to Nato. De facto, we have already proven compatibility with alliance standards. They are real for Ukraine - real on the battlefield and in all aspects of our interaction," he said. "We trust each other, we help each other, and we protect each other. This is the alliance. De facto. Today, Ukraine is applying to make it de jure." The president signed the application form, as did the speaker of parliament, Ruslan Stefanchuk, and the prime minister, Denys Shmyhal. The alliance is unlikely to accept Ukraine's imminent Nato entry while it is in a state of war. As a Nato member, fellow members would be compelled to actively defend it against Russia - a commitment that



goes well beyond the supply of weapons. Zelenskyy acknowledged this soon after Russia's full-scale invasion. "It is clear that Ukraine is not a member of Nato, we understand this," he said in March. "For years we heard about the apparently open door, but have already also heard that we will not enter there, and these are truths and must be acknowledged." In his address on Friday, shared on Telegram, Zelenskyy dismissed the ceremony in Moscow as a meaningless "farce". He said no peace talks with Russia would be possible while Putin was president. "Putin doesn't know what dignity and honesty is. We are ready for dialogue with Russia but only with a different Russian president," he said. Zelenskyy promised that Ukraine's armed forces would continue to free territory from Russian occupation, regardless of Putin's insinuation that Moscow might use nuclear weapons to defend land it has seized. "The whole of Ukraine will be liberated from this

enemy," he said. Moscow was against "life, the law, humanity and truth", he added. The president's office let it be known that they did not watch Putin's speech. Instead, Zelenskyy convened his national security council and met the

commander-in-chief of his armed forces, Gen Valeriy Zaluzhnyi. He said they discussed progress on the battlefield and weapons deliveries. Zelenskyy added: "Everything will be Ukraine." Zelenskyy said Putin's willingness to kill and torture in order to expand his "zone of control" was madness. Ukrainian commentators agreed.

Elon Musk unveils humanoid 'Optimus' robot at Tesla's AI Day

Washington, October 01 : Tesla CEO Elon Musk showcased his much-touted humanoid robot "Optimus" at the electric vehicle maker's "AI Day" event on Friday. The billionaire has said a robot business will be worth more than its cars, hoping to expand beyond self-driving vehicles that have not yet become a reality despite his repeated promises. A prototype of the robot walked on stage and waved to the seated audience. A video of the robot carrying a box, watering plants and moving metal bars in the automaker's factory was shown. "Our goal is to make a useful humanoid robot as quickly as possible," Musk said at the event at a Tesla office in Palo Alto, California. "There's still a lot of work



to be done to refine Optimus and prove it." Musk said currently humanoid robots were "missing a brain", saying they don't have the intelligence to navigate the world by themselves, and they were also very expensive and made in low volume. By contrast, he said, Optimus would be an "extremely capable robot", to be made in very high volume - ultimately millions of units - and it was

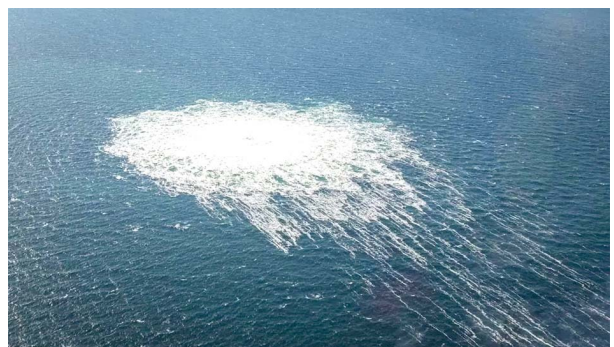
expected to cost much less than a car, at under \$20,000. Musk was also expected to discuss Tesla's long-delayed self-driving technology. In May, the CEO said that the world's most valuable carmaker would be "worth basically zero" without achieving full self-driving capability, and it faces growing regulatory investigations,

as well as technological hurdles. "There will be lots of technical detail & cool hardware demos," Musk wrote on Twitter late on Wednesday, adding that the event was aimed at recruiting engineers. Tesla's live demonstration record is mixed. Launches typically draw cheers, but in 2019, when Musk had an employee hurl a steel ball at the armored window of a new electric pickup truck, the glass cracked. The key test for the robot is whether it can handle unexpected situations. Musk announced Tesla's plan for humanoid robots at its AI day in August last year and delayed this year's event from August to have its robot prototype working, with a plan to start production possibly next year. The recall covers certain 2017 to 2022 Model 3 sedans and some 2020 and 2021 Model Y SUVs. Also included are some Model S sedans and Model X SUVs from 2021 and 2022. Tesla teased the unveiling of the bot on social media with an image of metallic robotic hands making a heart shape. But building human-like, versatile hands that can manipulate different objects is extremely challenging, said Heni Ben Amor, a robotics professor at Arizona State University.

Russia's consulate in New York vandalized in apparent protest

New York, October 01 : The Russian consulate in New York has been vandalized with red spray paint, in an apparent protest against Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine. Officers said they responded to an emergency call just after 1.30am on Friday reporting that paint had been sprayed across the facade of the consulate on Manhattan's Upper East Side. A police spokesperson said the investigation is ongoing into the potential "bias incident" and no arrests have been made. Rosie Morse, a retiree who lives in the neighborhood near the consulate, said the spray paint "looks like artwork". "But the meaning is to express our feeling about Putin, and I can't say that I don't agree," she told Agence France-Presse. "It's vandalism but it is the expression of how people in New York are realizing Putin is killing people," said another bystander, Roman Eaulin. The bright red paint appeared hours before the Russian president announced he was annexing four Russian-controlled territories in Ukraine. Friday also saw one of the worst attacks against civilians in months after shelling by Moscow forces killed at least 30 people in Ukraine's southern region of Zaporizhzhia. Surveillance camera footage shows a hooded and masked figure spraying the consulate building in the early morning. No guards appeared to surround the building. Photos of the vandalized consulate posted online have prompted a slew of responses. One user appeared to poke fun at the recent referendums which the west has condemned as a sham, writing, "No, no. We held a referendum that determined the building was always covered in red paint. Nothing to see here." Someone else wrote: "We should annex 1/3 of it and claim the staff wanted us to denazify it," in apparent reference to Putin's claims to "denazify" Ukraine. Benjamin Wittes, a legal journalist and senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, warned against such behavior, tweeting: "Folks, don't do this. I understand the impulse. Really do. But we have diplomats in Russia. And protecting them requires that we respect the Vienna Convention too. Please keep your protests on the right side of the law, if only so our people over there can claim law's protection."

Size of Nord Stream blasts equal to large amount of explosive, UN told



Berlin, October 01 : Denmark and Sweden have said leaks from the Nord Stream pipelines in the Baltic Sea were caused by blasts equivalent to the power of "several hundred kilograms of explosive". The conclusions were made in a joint report by Denmark and Sweden which was delivered to the United Nations. The UN environment programme said on Friday the ruptures are likely to have led to the biggest single release of climate-damaging methane ever recorded. German

authorities have also said they believe that highly explosive detonations were responsible for the sabotage attacks on the two pipelines. The EU, Nato and the governments of Poland, Sweden and Denmark have all said they believe the leaks were caused deliberately. Data analysis has revealed huge clouds of methane gas are hovering over the leaks, from natural gas that has been pouring into the Baltic Sea from both pipelines since Monday, the ICOS, a greenhouse gas observation

system operating across Europe, reported. The pipes, built to transport gas from Russia to Germany, and only one of which was ever activated but both of which were full of gas, are said to be unusable due to the damage caused by the ruptures. Intelligence sources quoted in the news magazine Spiegel believe the pipelines were hit in four places by explosions using 500kg of TNT, the equivalent to the explosive power of a heavy aircraft bomb. German investigators have undertaken seismic readings to calculate the power of the blasts. The first signs of explosions were registered on Monday morning by a Danish earthquake station after suspicious activity in the waters of the Baltic Sea. A monitoring station on the Danish island of Bornholm measured severe

tremors. A representative of the Swedish coastguard told AFP: "There are two leaks on Swedish territory and two on the Danish side." It remains a mystery as to how the explosives reached the pipeline. According to initial reports, the explosions happened at depths of between 70 and 90 metres. There has been speculation that mini submarines might have been used to deliver the explosives. However, the amount of explosives that would have been necessary to cause such large blasts make this theory increasingly unlikely. Instead, experts are suggesting that maintenance robots operating within the pipeline structure may have planted the bombs during repair works. If this theory proves to be right, the sophisticated nature of the attack as well as the power of the blast would add weight to suspicions that the attacks were carried out by a state power, with fingers

pointed at Russia. Moscow has repeatedly underlined its capability to disrupt Europe's energy infrastructure. On Friday, Vladimir Putin blamed the US and its allies for blowing up the pipelines, raising the temperature in the crisis. Offering no evidence for his claim, the Russian president said in a speech to mark the annexation of four Ukrainian regions: "The sanctions were not enough for the Anglo-Saxons: they moved on to sabotage. It is hard to believe but it is a fact that they organised the blasts on the Nord Stream international gas pipelines." The methane clouds are being monitored closely. The ICOS, which is analysing the air quality, has shown footage of a huge gas cloud hovering above the Baltic Sea and moving across Europe.



shows C919 jets in Pucheng County, northwest China's Shaanxi Province

Fresher's social of English Dept. held at LCC



Assam Rising North Lakhimpur, October 1: The maiden fresher's social and student induction programme of Department of English, Lakhimpur Commerce College (LCC), North Lakhimpur was held on

Thursday. The programme commenced with the inauguration of the wall magazine of the department by Dr. Lohit Hazarika, Principal of the college. An open session was held for that occasion which was chaired by Sazzad

Hussain, Head of the Department, English and eminent columnist. The objective of the meeting was explained by Dr. Harini Patowary Das. The Principal of the college Dr. Lohit Hazarika, Vice-Principal G.K. Chetry and HoD of Sociology Purabi D. Hazarika attended the session as invited guests. Speaking on the occasion Principal Dr. Lohit Hazarika delivered a brief account of the process of starting the Honours course in

English from the current academic session at the college and urged the students to keep the momentum of their newly started programme. In his president's address Sazzad Hussain expressed gratitude to the Principal on behalf of the entire English department in obtaining the permission from Dibrugarh University to start Honours course in English at Lakhimpur Commerce College. The English department also welcomed the newly appointed faculty Dr. Satya Nath

Pegu in that programme. The first batch of the English Honours students was presented with a commemorative badge and other gifts on that occasion by the department. Jajon Biswas, a student from the maiden batch spoke in that open session. Various cultural programmes were also organized in that open session. The entire function was anchored by Prof. Pankaj Lochan Das. The session ended with a vote of thanks by student Niazuddin Ahmed.

Freshmen social of MSSV, Guwahati unit held

Assam Rising, Guwahati, October 1: Freshmen Social of Mahapurusha Srimanta Sankaradeva Vidyalyaya, Guwahati unit was successfully concluded on September 30. The informal session started from 9 am to 11 am. The formal session started at 11 am. The programme started with the university anthem performed by the students of the university.

The guests, parents, journalists and new students were welcomed and the oath-taking ceremony was conducted by the Registrar of the university, Prof. Mrinal Kumar Bora. After the oath taking, Vice-Chancellor of the University Prof. Mridul Hazarika inspired the students by sharing his own life's experiences. He emphasized on setting goals in life and strategies to reach that goal. Attending as a guest, Director (Finance and Planning) cum



Chief Coordinator and Proddhan Sompadak of Srimanta Sankaradeva Sangha, Babul Bora inspired the students to imbibe the qualities of devotion, service, sacrifice and creation which are the pillars to success. He also suggested that every student should love society from where s/he belongs. Attending the programme as chief guest M.P. Pabitra Margherita shared his own struggles and experiences to encourage the students. He said nothing is impossible if there is deter-

mination. Pabitra Margherita declared that an amount of 50 lakhs shall be sanctioned to MSSV from the development fund of M.P. for collaborative projects.



RPF of N. F. Railway recovers contraband goods worth more than Rs. 1.72 crores Apprehended one person

Guwahati, October 01: The Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Northeast Frontier Railway in its endeavour to fight against transportation of contraband goods in trains, has recovered contraband goods worth more than Rs. 1.72 crores and apprehended one person between 27th & 29th September, 2022. The contraband items specifically consisted of ganja & brown sugar that were recovered from unclaimed bags during regular checks and drives at various stations and trains over N. F. Railway. In an incident on 27th September, 2022, RPF team of Guwahati conducted drive in train No. 20501 DN (Agartala - Anand

Vihar Terminal Tejas Express) at Guwahati Railway Station. In course of drive, they seized 01 unclaimed trunk from a coach and recovered 12 kgs of ganja valued about Rs. 1.2 lakhs from the said train. The recovered bag was later handed over to OC/GRP/Guwahati for further course of action. In another incident on the same day RPF team of Kamakhya while checking at Kamakhya Railway Station recovered a backpack containing about 31 kgs of ganja worth Rs 3.19 lakhs. Later the recovered ganja was handed over to Narcotics Control Bureau/Guwahati for further course of action. In a recent incident on 29th September, 2022, acting on an information RPF team of

Lumding and Tinsukia conducted a search in the train no. 15960 (Kamrup Express) at Lumding Railway Station. During the search a suspected person was found with a bag. On opening the bag 421.86 grams of brown sugar valued about Rs 1.68 crores was recovered. The recovered brown sugar along with the apprehended person was later handed over to OC/GRP/Lumding for further course of action. It may be mentioned here that RPF of N. F. Railway towards their objective of a drug free country are constantly vigilant towards activities related to smuggling and transportation of contraband items at various railway stations and trains.

Assam Governor extends Durga Puja wishes to the people

Assam Rising, Guwahati, October 1: Assam Governor Prof. Jagdish Mukhi has conveyed his greetings and best wishes to the people on the occasion of Durga Puja. In a message to the people of the Nation and Assam in particular the Governor said, "Durga is the mother of Universe who is the personification of tender love, wealth, power, beauty and all virtues. Durga Puja marks the eternal essence of victory of good over evil and usher in hope and a bright future. I hope that the festivity strengthens the spirit of unity to fight against all evils." He also said, "May the darshan of resplendent Goddess Durga fill everybody's life with devotion, compassion and love."

প্রয়াত মনোহরি দাস

যোৰা ৩ আহিন (২০ ছেপ্টেম্বৰ ২০২২ চন) মঙলবাৰে মোৰ স্বামী/আমাৰ দেউতা/শৰু/ককা শ্রীমত মনোহৰি দাস পৰলোকগামী হয়।

তেখেতৰ বিদেহ আত্মাৰ চিৰশান্তি অৰ্থে আজি ১৫ আহিন (২ অক্টোবৰ, ২০২২ চন) দেওবাৰে আদ্যাত্মিক উপলক্ষে তেওঁক শ্রদ্ধাৰ্হে সূৰবিহু। তেওঁৰ আত্মাই যেন চিৰশান্তি লাভ কৰে আৰু সবগত বাস কৰে তাৰ বাবে ভগৱানৰ ওচৰত প্ৰাৰ্থনা জনাইছোঁ।

শোকসন্তপ্ত পৰিয়ালবৰ্গ হৈ—

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শ্রীপাৰ্থজ্যোতি দাস (পুত্ৰ) শ্রীশশীমা দাস (বোৱাৰী)

শ্রীৰাজু চৌধুৰী (জোঁৱাই) শ্রীনিমিতা দাস চৌধুৰী (কন্যা)

শ্রীপ্ৰশান্ত পাঠক (জোঁৱাই) শ্রীপ্ৰণীতা দাস পাঠক (কন্যা)

শ্রীমণিদীপ সন্দিকৈ (জোঁৱাই) শ্রীনিবেদিতা দাস সন্দিকৈ (কন্যা)

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Customers upset over service of Naya Bazar AGVB

Assam Rising, Majuli, October 1, The Assam Gramin Vikash Bank (AGVB) has been upsetting its customers at Naya Bazar branch under Ratanpur Miri Gaon Panchayat in Upper Majuli. The servers have been disrupted for hours and customers are in dire straits. The bank's employees have been manipulating customers. A similar situation was seen on Friday. Ten customers sit in long queues for hours in the heat. The employees of the Naya Bazar branch have been manipulating customers for years. They also abused customers, according to some conscious people. Therefore, some conscious people requested that the MLA Bhuban Gam and Commissioner of Majuli should investigate the situation of the branch and pay attention to the convenience of the customers.

Leo Expo artiste and journalist awards announced

Assam Rising, Guwahati, October 1: Noted actor Chetana Das and senior journalist Pronoy Bordoloi will receive the Leo Expo Artiste Award and Leo Expo Journalist Award respectively.

Guest House
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by senior musician Manisha Hazarika, noted actor Moloya Goswami, senior journalist Prashanta Rajguru, along with Leo Advertising's Parvez Khan and Akbar Khan- to the decision confer the respective awards to the duo. The awardees will receive Rs 1 lakh each, along with a citation, a certificate of appreciation, and an Anga Vastra.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre (IEC) inaugurated at LCC

Assam Rising, North Lakhimpur, October 1: The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre (IEC), Lakhimpur Commerce College (LCC) was inaugurated on Friday by Prof. Jiten Samah, Ex-Principal of Lakhimpur Commerce College. A workshop on entrepreneurship was also organized after inauguration of Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre (IEC).



Prof. Jiten Samah delivered a speech on the importance of entrepreneurship in the present day context on the occasion of the workshop. Dr. Lohit Hazarika, Principal of the college presided over the meeting and delivered a short speech and appreciated the IQAC for taking initiative to set up the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre (IEC) of the college. Dr. Dadul Rajkonwar, Coordinator of IQAC addressed the dignitaries in the programme. Dr. Harini Patowary Das, Assistant Coordinator of IQAC explained the objective of the meeting. The resource person of the workshop Meena Promod Kothari delivered a motivating speech on the innovation and idea generation in the workshop. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Dadul Rajkonwar.

APDCL, seized over 35 pre-paid electric digital meters at 'Royal Awas' at Nagaon

on Friday here. Sources claimed that the consumers of the apartment did not recharge the power tariff for over months for which the department concerned had to doubt in this regard. Based on that doubt, the squad led by CEO Bijoy Sankar

Boruah, carried out a sudden operation at the sophisticated apartment today here and during the drive, the squad detected 35 such tempered pre-paid electric digital meters, sources from the department concerned said, adding that the experts from APDCL, Nagaon were examining all those seized digital meters and among 35 pre-paid electric digital meters, the experts confirmed 29 manipulated electric digital meters till the time of filing this report. The experts from APDCL, Nagaon are still examining the other 7 and likely to check hundred more power connections in the sophisticated apartment tomorrow, sources said. Sources claimed that it was the biggest power theft in the district in which the power thieves used specific developed skills in stealing electric power.

GENERAL NOTICE

This is for general information of all concerned that the Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve under jurisdiction of Eastern Assam Wildlife Division will be opened for tourists for the season 2022-23 from 2nd Oct, 2022 onward.

In view of present road conditions due to inclement weather, the Park is partially opened only for Jeep Safari in 02 (two) Ranges namely, Kaziranga Range, Kohora and Western Range, Bagori.

At present, tourists are allowed to travel up to Bimoli Tiniali via Donga tower under Western Range, Bagori and from Mihimukh via Daflang tower to Vaichamari Junction under Kaziranga Range, Kohora till further notification/orders.

(Ramesh Kumar Gogoi AFS)
Divisional Forest Officer
Eastern Assam Wildlife Division
Bokakhat

Janasanyog/D/13428/22

Freedom Rider Biker Rallies

The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, in association with All India Motorbike Expedition (AIME), 2022 has undertaken a Freedom Rider Biker Rallies in 250 + districts in 34 States/UTs covering 21,000 + Kms in 75 days. The rally originated at Delhi on 9th September, 2022 and will terminate in Delhi on 25th November, 2022. Around 75 small scale events at iconic locations in the States/UTs would be organized by FIT INDIA MISSION where NYKS volunteers would join the AIME group at the junction & have small rallies.

The biker's team consisting of 12 female & 63 male which will reach Dispur, Guwahati on 3rd October, 2022 and small scale events will be organized at Kamakhya Temple, Umananda Temple and Assam State Museum is scheduled on 4th October, 2022 before leaving for Tezpur on 5th October, 2022.

The necessary coordination will be done by Sports & Youth Welfare Department along with District Administration, Health and Family Welfare Department, Police, Sports Authority of India & NYKS etc.

Director
Sports & Youth Welfare,
Assam Dispur, Guwahati- 06

Janasanyog/D/13485/22

THE ASSAM RISING

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Durga puja : victory over the demon

Durga Pooja is a Hindu festival celebration of the Mother Goddess and the victory of the warrior Goddess Durga over the demon Mahisasura. The festival represents female power as 'Shakti' in the Universe. It is a festival of Good over Evil. Durga Pooja is one of the greatest festivals of India. In addition to being a festival for the Hindus, it is also time for a reunion of family and friends, and a ceremony of cultural values and customs. While the ceremonies bring observance of fast and devotion for ten days, the last four days of the festival namely Saptami, Ashtami, Navami, and Vijaya-Dashami are celebrated with much sparkle and magnificence in India, especially in Bengal and overseas. The Durga Pooja celebrations differ based on the place, customs, and beliefs. Things differ to the extent that somewhere the festival is on for five days, somewhere it is for seven and somewhere it is for complete ten days. Jiviality begins with 'Shashthi' - sixth day and ends on the 'VijayaDashmi' - the tenth day. Goddess Durga was the daughter of Himalaya and Menka. She later became Sati to get married to Lord Shiva. It is believed that the festival of Durga pooja started since the time Lord Rama worshipped the goddess to get a grant of powers from her to kill Ravana. Some communities, especially in Bengal the festival is celebrated by decorating a 'pandal' in the close regions. Some people even worship the goddess at home by making all the arrangements. On the last day, they also go for immersing the statue of the goddess into the holy river the Ganges. We celebrate Durga Pooja to honor the victory of good over evil or light over darkness. Some believe another story behind this festival is that on this day the goddess Durga defeated the demon Mahisasura. She was called upon by the all three Lords - Shiva, Brahma, and Vishnu to eradicate the demon and save the world from his cruelty. The battle went on for ten days and finally, on the tenth day, Goddess Durga eliminated the demon. We celebrate the tenth day as Dussehra or Vijayadashami.

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Editor,
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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

Leading economies of the world are driving global instability. What can India do to retain its balance?



There was a time when the world's leading economies were the engines of global growth and, in their different ways, countries to be emulated - the United States, Northern Europe, Japan and China. Over the past 15 years, however, they have become the sources of global instability. The 2008 financial crisis grew out of the excesses of US financial capitalism, and Covid out of laboratory collaboration between American and Chinese researchers. The governments in many of these countries responded to growing economic troubles with massive bail-outs, first of banks and companies and then of consumers, piling up debt and pushing monetary policy beyond its normal limits in order to control the fallout. Matters got more complicated recently because of the existential fears of a fallen superpower, even as the rising one profited from years of unchecked mercantilism. The first

has resulted in geographical annexation through war for the first time in many decades, while the rising power might well attempt the same, even as its mercantilism has caused trade distortions between countries and inequalities within them. In turn the growing inequalities have forced questions about who benefited from globalisation, and the legitimate shares due in an economy to the owners of capital (profits) and the contributors of labour (wages). Almost inevitably, the world has passed the high noon of the liberal (critics would say "neo-liberal") era, as disillusioned voters have sought refuge in nationalism, nativism, populism and thinly-disguised racism. The political shockwaves, too, have come from the power centres of the world. Even the most self-assured democracies, like the United States, face an uncertain political future when opinion



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Ninan

polls show that half the country says it will not accept the results of the next elections. In Europe, right-wing neo-fascists have gained support all the way from Sweden in the north to Italy in the south. Now the economic unwinding has begun in the economic powerhouses, transmitting yet more shocks to a hapless periphery. Sharp interest rate swings are moving capital in and out of countries, and swinging currencies up and down. Free trade was supposed to prevent war through the creation of inter-dependence. But as the world divides into hostile camps, the supply chains of globalisation are being broken because the primary goal is now resilience, not efficiency. Governments (including a struggling China's) wrestle to break free from slowing or anaemic growth, but are hobbled by debt and trapped between the contradictory pulls of recession and inflation - the latter caused partly by an economic war that has accompanied the military one. Britain's desperate answer has been a budget-buster disguised as a "mini-budget", provoking a currency plunge and risking a heart-stopping freeze of the bond market, Lehman style. The US, China, Europe - these remain the financial, strategic, and economic centres of the world, but they are

all systemically challenged simultaneously. One therefore has to look beyond the headlines signalling chaos and focus on the structural fault lines. Could the real problem in China be that it now confronts the middle-income trap, unable to find new growth engines to replace labour-intensive exports and an artificial property boom? What then of the power shift to Asia, and its future form when neighbouring Japan, Korea, and Taiwan are all high-income success stories? In the US, are the less populous states trying to turn the electoral clock back to the pre-Civil Rights era and ensure permanent minority rule? Will a country with a racial mix radically different from the 1960s accept such a hijacking? And in Europe, will Russia have to be permanently hobbled, were that possible, in order to reassure the alienated neighbours to its West that don't have geographically defensible borders? If there were some other way out, might the Ukraine war have been averted? Such questions don't yield to instant answers, but they have a domestic resonance. How does a rising middle-power like India shape its responses to future shocks that will certainly come in a changed world that is off balance? The answer has to be the same as for individuals and companies in turbulent times: Be alert, build bulwarks and capabilities while staying outward-focused, and retain room for manoeuvre.



The key variable that helps explain the chaotic sequence of events in Rajasthan is the authority of the Congress high command. The high command is a somewhat misunderstood concept in media circles but when it comes to the Congress, it simply represents a dynamic balance of power between the Gandhi family (and its coterie), and the senior leadership of the party, at both the national and the state level. This balance of power has turned against the Congress high command because of two reasons: one, the Gandhi family can no longer win elections for the party; and two, its ability to dispense patronage has diminished as it can no longer accommodate ambitious leaders in the central government. Sonia Gandhi had understood the import of these fundamental shifts and therefore adopted a consensual, status quoist approach to party management. In the three years after he took over the reins of party and government, Rajiv Gandhi had changed Congress chief ministers twelve times. At once every three months, this turnover rate was higher than even under the imperious Indira era. Comparatively, Sonia Gandhi has only forced out two chief ministers in two decades: Ashok Chavan (in 2010) and Amarinder Singh (in 2021). Ashok Gehlot is likely to become the third deposed CM, his apology notwithstanding. His rebellion represents perhaps the most serious challenge to the authority of the high command in the entirety of the Sonia era (even more so than the G23 episode). Authority, a formalised system of power, is about perception; and the truest gauge of authority is in how it is seen to respond when confronted with a challenge. If the high command is seen to be

enforcing no costs, it would risk transmuting a temporary damage into a permanent diminution of authority. If regional satraps are allowed to walk all over it, for all intents and purposes, it ceases to be a high command. After Gehlot's exit from the presidency race, we can sketch two plausible scenarios of how the Rajasthan impasse can be resolved. We say this is the likely scenario because both sides here satisfy their core interests: the high command gets to preserve its authority, whereas Ashok Gehlot manages to retain control over the choice of his successor, and keep Sachin Pilot out of the fray. There have been signals from both sides on the desirability of this compromise. In his press briefing after meeting Sonia Gandhi, Gehlot left the choice of the future CM to the discretion of the Congress president. In the meeting, he only insisted that placing Sachin Pilot on the throne would break the government (leaving open the possibility of the succession of another leader). Meanwhile, the high command has been careful to spare Gehlot from the disciplinary dragnet, charging only his hatchet men, thus allowing him the space to manoeuvre towards a settlement. If this scenario turns into reality, it would beg a simple question: why could such a straightforward compromise not be hammered out behind closed doors, and needed a Game of Thrones style saga playing out all over the national media? Both sides, perhaps, over-estimated their negotiating hand, since the balance of power between the Congress high command and its senior leadership has been in an unprecedented state of flux. The mistake of the Gandhis was in denying Ashok Gehlot the right to influence the choice of his own successor. Both Sonia and Rahul had reportedly communicated to Gehlot that he need not concern himself with the choice of the

future CM. They can point to longstanding Congress tradition, where such a decision has wrested solely with the high command. Nevertheless, it was an unreasonable position, in light of prevailing reality. Gehlot is one of only two Congress chief ministers. Asking him to relinquish that enormous power to assume the presidency of a declining party that is unlikely to come to power anytime soon at the Centre, without acquiescing to his demand of continued influence over his home turf,

Asim Ali

was an almost Biblically severe test of loyalty. The mistake of Gehlot was in accepting the opportunity to run for the Congress presidency, knowing what it entailed. A firm 'no' at the outset (ala Kamal Nath) would have left him in a stronger position than he is today. Defiance of the high command in private, as bad as it is, is better than defiance in full public glare. He might have nevertheless been forced to submit to a similar transition, but he could have maintained his unimpeachable record of loyalty to the high command. After all, Gehlot's biggest political capital, over the last four decades, has been proximity to the Congress high command: the Gandhi family and its surrounding coterie. It was this proximity, rather than his personal charisma or vote-catching abilities (both of which are rather modest), that had fuelled his rise up the organisational ladder. More importantly, it had enabled him to fend off equally formidable (or even more formidable) challengers to the CM chair,

thrice in succession - Parasram Maderna in 1998, C.P. Joshi in 2008 and Sachin Pilot in 2018. The rebellion has staked out all that carefully accumulated political capital, although a compromise now might help repair the frayed relations. Of course, there is a second plausible scenario where Gehlot refuses to budge from his chair. The high command might then feel constrained to allow him to run through the remainder of the term, especially if the only alternative involves jeopardising the stability of the government. This might be construed as a victory for the Gehlot rebellion, at least on a short-term evaluation. He gets another year as chief minister and (equally importantly) keeps Sachin Pilot out. But in the long-term view, it decisively moves the high command towards the Pilot camp. Gehlot will steadily shed power as he moves towards the end of the term. Especially so if the high command administers a restructuring of the state unit (particularly the post of the PCC chief), away from the stranglehold of the Gehlot camp. Much has been made of the loyalty of party MLAs towards Gehlot, but we must remember that political loyalty is a transactional value that mainly depends on expected patronage. In other words, the political calculus of MLAs (and indeed all organisational functionaries) is determined less by the softer skills of man management and more by the hard, shifting dynamics of power. At any rate, it is very hard to see Gehlot returning to power again, even in the remote possibility of a Congress victory. Thus, the moment he vacates his chair, he loses his entire political leverage, as the

locus of power shifts once again to the Delhi durbar. Post-December 2023, without the Congress presidency, and facing a hostile Pilot buttressed by the high command, Gehlot might also lose the ability to shape the political career of his son, Vaibhav Gehlot (which, all along, had been a key bone of contention in his feud with Pilot). Hence, a compromise now (from a position of relative strength) might serve his long-term interests better than pressing home the advantage over a stunned high command. One can also think of a third possible scenario - the removal of Gehlot and the enthroning of Sachin Pilot. But that seems very unlikely. Gehlot's gambit has succeeded in ensuring that making Pilot the CM would now be perceived as an undemocratic imposition of the high command over the wishes of the party MLAs. It would be a particularly hard move to justify at a time when the 'defence of democracy' forms an important component of the ideological positioning of the Congress, reflected in both the Bharat Jodo Yatra and the resumption of presidential polls after a two-decade hiatus. The Rajasthan crisis is still in a fluid situation, and the two principal players (Gehlot and the high command) are yet to make their final moves. Gehlot, the magician, might have temporarily vanished the authority of the high command, but political reality is rapidly gushing back to demand its due. In whichever way this impasse is resolved, it would show us the real measure of the prevailing balance of power undergirding the authority of the Congress high command. It is this newer paradigm that would shape the future of the Congress, much more than any presidential election.

Trickle-down Truss is carrying on the dirty work of Thatcher, Blair and Osborne

If Kwasi Kwarteng's mini-budget survives the storm it triggered, a banker on a million-pound annual salary stands to receive £50,000 of income tax relief - on top of the extra bonuses the bank can throw in, now that the Liz Truss government has removed the cap on them. Meanwhile, a Deliveroo rider gets a pep talk on the emancipatory value of aspiring to be wealthy,

consequently, their bonuses) or to speculate in the derivatives market or in real estate. The dirty secret behind the zombie idea of trickle-down economics is that only one thing can prevent the vicious financial cycle from spinning out of control: the government's (and, sometimes,



deregulated public services. Then, in 2008, under the weight of its hubris, the financialisation vicious cycle had its famous

Yanis Varoufakis

collapse. At once, the Bank of England combined forces with the government to re-float it. To that splendid example of socialism exclusively for the financiers, George Osborne added austerity, which, by suppressing aggregate demand further, eradicated any remaining drive toward actual investment in Britain's productive base. Four decades after the neoliberal experiment began, the evidence is in: trickle-down economics is dangerous make-believe. Growth is in fact impervious to the top income tax rates. Paul Krugman recently showed that neither Ronald Reagan's tax cuts nor Bill Clinton's tax hikes affected the US's income path significantly. Similarly in the UK, the data dispels the Tory conviction that Thatcher put Britain on to a brave new path to higher growth. We find that in 1979, the output per hour worked in the UK was trailing France and Germany by 17% and 18% respectively. Did the UK catch up after four decades of trickle-down tax policies and assorted deregulation measures, which never happened in France? No, in 2019, France's productivity remained 18% higher than the UK's, and Germany's 17%. From this historical perspective, the recent backlash against Liz Truss seems almost unfair.

the central bank's power to feed it. Margaret Thatcher, whom Liz Truss pretends to idolise, understood this dirty little secret. She learned the hard way that tax cuts for the wealthy merely shifted income to the ruling class without delivering growth dividends. For her neoliberal policies to deliver a semblance of growth, she had to throw into the vicious financial cycle pre-existing public wealth: council houses and public utilities (gas, electricity, water) in particular. In short, Thatcher's policies boosted growth not because trickle-down worked, but because swathes of society's common wealth was liquidated at cutdown prices and thrown into the City's cauldron. Thatcher's business model for the UK has remained more or less the same ever since. While the last Labour government did use its revenues from taxing the City to fund the NHS and social services, the UK's productive capital base continued to shrink. Tony Blair and Gordon Brown not only maintained the financialisation cycle that Thatcher had begun, but boosted it in two ways: by removing all remaining regulatory constraints on the City, and by throwing into its circular flow the proceeds from



Food Waste

■ Vijay Gar G

About 870 million people globally are undernourished, while almost 2.5 billion tonnes of food produced annually goes unconsumed. And the financial cost? A whopping \$1 trillion. In fact, growing more food isn't necessary to end world hunger; reducing just 50% of food loss or waste could end it. No one can survive without food. We say that it is a matter of concern that many people are dying without food amid fears that the availability of food items will become scarce due to many factors such as price rise, inflation, unemployment, shortage of cash, and damage to agriculture. Moreover, many people in poor countries are unable to eat even two meals to their satisfaction. But what is shocking is that no one takes the issue of food wastage seriously. An Indian in India wastes 50 kg of food every year. The statistics are not only surprising but also shocking. 50 kg of food is wasted per person every year in India. This puts India second on the list of countries that waste food most negatively. Clearly, the huge quantity of food we waste sits uneasily with the millions of people who go hungry every day. According to the United Nations Food Waste Index Report 2021, 61 percent of the food wasted in India takes place in our kitchens. Statistics show that 69 lakh kg of food is thrown away uneaten every day in Mumbai. If we avoid wasting this food, half of the people of Mumbai will go hungry. This means that the amount of food produced is much higher than the daily requirement. The impact of food wastage is not only a moral issue but also an environmental concern. Another report found that 33 percent of greenhouse gases are caused by a faulty food chain. China is the number one food waste. Every year, around 91 million tonnes of food is wasted here. Next is China. The sad part is that China, which has the largest population, and India, which is the second largest, are not rich countries, and many people in both countries go to bed hungry every day. A strong emphasis on hospitality in the cultural heritage of India and China may also be a major factor in food wastage. Cooking too many ingredients and cooking too many types of food on important occasions such as restaurants, ceremonies, weddings, and festivals is wasted to a large extent. Apart from these, food items are wasted in many ways such as transportation of agricultural products, rotting of products, wastage, etc. Food waste is everyone's problem. Therefore, it's time to reflect, rethink and reconsider why this has assumed gigantic proportions, and discuss potential ways to address it. While proposed solutions have usually been in the economic and political realm, it remains to be seen what organizations can do to stop food wastage; specifically, how we can use technology to prevent, reclaim and manage it. Resources deployed to produce, process, transport and dispose of food likewise generate a huge amount of waste and expense. Coupled with raging food-price inflation and persistently high energy prices, food loss and waste constitute one of the most urgent and daunting challenges in society. Everyone is part of the food-waste problem and everyone could be part of the solution. Preventing food waste, after all, is simply the right thing to do.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational Columnist Malout Punjab)

Continuing India's sanitation revolution- from ODF to ODF Plus

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 'sampoornaswachhta'. 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 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

asses 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!

Silence

■ Heramba Nath

I like silence
In silence
I find the sweetness of life
In silence
Latent talents
Have the opportunity
To develop
Silence is like
Background of creation
Where my heart and brain unite
And realise transcendence
Preludes artful creation
In the prelude I write
All the people are equal
No matter how big or small.

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 bio-degradable waste generated in villages for biogas/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 pol-

lution 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

Gandhiji's vision of Education in India

Education play a pivotal role in the well-being of a country. The pathway to human development goes through the lanes of education. As highly a society is educated, so much developed that region is said to be. In British India, the Macaulay's Education policy was introduced not for the development of people's intellectual power, but only to constitute a gang of literates, whose heart and mind be that of an English man. Gandhiji's vision of education aimed at all-round devel-

opment of personality, hence he gave emphasis on education which leads to develop physical, mental, social & spiritual power in the child. In addition to 3 R's of education, he emphasized for 3 H's i.e. Head, Heart and Hand too. He advocated free and compulsory education to all boys & girls of age group 7-14 years. He was of strong view that up to primary level, medium of education must be the mother tongue of the learners. Gandhiji's ideas and thoughts on education was a novel one. He wanted moral education containing ethical values of truth, non-violence, charity, patriotism and others. For him, an education without character building was in vain. Indian freedom fighters were fully aware of the drawbacks of Macaulay propagated education system in the country. In 1931, at Round Table Conference in London, Gandhi pointed out the ineffectiveness of primary education in India and stressed on educating the children through manual work, not as a side activity but as a prime means of intellectual activities. On July 31, 1937 Gandhiji has published his views regarding education in his renowned weekly "Harijan". On 22-23 October 1937, India National Education Conference was held at Wardha under his leadership, in which resolution for education in national context was passed. A committee headed Dr. Zakir Hussain, the then principal of Jamia Millia and lateron third President of Indian Republic, formulated the education plan on the basis of the resolution, which have been popularized as "BuniyadiShiksha". The word "Buniyadi" has been derived from the word "Buniyad", which means the foundation upon which the whole thing rests and Gandhiji wanted to make the foundation of the educational edifice strong and durable. With such objective he

put forward this scheme of education, which aims at making a child self-reliant by enabling him to use his acquired knowledge and skills in practical affairs of life. The salient features of BuniyadiShiksha are:- (1) Free & compulsory

conference of 1945 at Sevagram characterized BuniyadiShiksha as "Education for All". In 1946, a conference of education ministers was called by Sri B. G. Kher and ultimately "BuniyadiShiksha" took final



education for age group 7 to 14 years, (2) The curriculum should be of 7 years duration, which lateron refined for 8 years i.e. 6 to 14 years, (3) Medium of instruction should be mother tongue

shape after a decade of rigorous experimentation, discussion and suggestion. After independence, the "Buniyadi Shiksha" was accepted as national policy of education. In 1956, the "BuniyadiShiksha

■ Er. Prabhat Kishore

and study of Hindi should be compulsory, (4) Education should be centered around some forms of manual and productive work and it should be job-oriented and self-sustained, so that the child may become self-dependent in life, (5) Cleanliness, health, citizenship, work and workshop, play and recreation should be given proper emphasis, (6) The girl students can opt for home science in place of crafts, (7) There will be no place for English and Religious teaching in the curriculum, (8) Textbook should be avoided as far as possible, (9) There should be no external examination and only internal evaluation based on day to day activity will be done. The "BuniyadiShiksha" yojana was approved at Haripura session of Congress in 1938, but due to resignation of Congress provincial governments, its implementation hampered. In the meantime, various other committees were formed and recommendations were suggested. The

evaluation committee" headed by G. Ramchandran strongly recommended to transform all primary schools in to the Buniyadi set up. But both the systems were kept alive side by side by the Western psyche education machinery. Although in early years of independence Buniyadi Vidyalayas were increased, but in a minimal number. Government started opening of primary and middle schools in place of Buniyadi Vidyalayas and due to apathy and step-motherly attitude of western minded government machinery, these vidyalayas of Gandhi's dream were ruined. India got independence, but psychology of the government machinery remain unaltered. Some drawbacks have been incorporated by the critics of BuniyadiShiksha, namely school turning into small scale industry, dependency of teachers upon earnings of students, neglect of liberal education, imbalance between vocational and intellectual education, lack of

Foreign students do not come to India

The choice of country and institution for higher education generally depends on the quality of life in the country concerned, the cost of studying and living, the level of education and the opinion of the students who have studied here before. We should not hesitate to admit that India cannot match the developed countries in terms of quality of life. A few days ago there was news that this year the number of students going from India to America for studies has reached a new high. This year (2022) A total of about eighty-two thousand students have enrolled in US educational institutions for higher education. Students from India also go to study in other countries especially Australia, Canada, UK, New Zealand etc. According to the figures so far, the number of Indian students studying abroad is between 11 and 12 lakhs and it is estimated that by the year 2024 it will cross eighteen lakhs. This news also needs to be seen along with other news. In August this year, the University Grants Commis-

sion (UGC) It announced that universities and higher educational institutions of the country would be allowed to provide up to twenty-five percent additional seats for foreign students in their undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. No entrance



test will be conducted for these seats. Certainly our country wants to attract a large number of foreign students. But the reality is that the world's second-largest populous country, which is now claiming to be the world's fifth-largest economy, has no access to higher education. It has not been able to make its place on the global stage. In the year 2021, only 23,439 students came to India from abroad to study. At present, the total number of foreign students in the country does not exceed fifty thousand.

The National Education Policy released in the year 2020 talks of internationalization of Indian higher education. Here the intention is to make Indian higher educational institutions the preferred centers for higher education and to increase the number of students

admission in such institutes is also very difficult. The status of bureaucracy is also in the higher education world. Some private universities Easy access, but the quality of many of them has been questioned. This will be clear with an example. The number of such students has increased in the country who want to take admission in MBBS for medical studies and many of them also have the necessary talent for this, but due to less seats, less of these students get admission. The rest change their course or move to countries like China, Ukraine, Russia where the expenses are not very high and the entry is easy, takes away. Even in IITs and IIMs, very few students get admission in the number of people who apply. However, in the last years new centers of these institutions have also been opened. Overall, it can be said that the road to quality higher education in India is not as easy as it should be. Barring a few government institutions, higher education has now become much more expensive than before.

coming from abroad. This will not only increase the income of educational institutions, The exchange will also increase. It is a matter of debate that why the number of people opting for higher education in India is so low in comparison to the number of people going out of India for studies? One reason is clear that if we leave out institutions like IITs, IIMs and Indian Institute of Science, then India's higher education places do not have any special name in the world. Apart from this, the path of getting

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AFSPA extended in Arunachal

area". It also allows security personnel to use force and even open fire after due warning in the case of a breach of law and order. Some of these powers include opening fire upon anyone who is acting against law and order, arrest anyone without a warrant, stop and search any vehicle or vessel, and prohibit a gathering of five or more people. Possession of firearms by civilians is also banned under the AFSPA. The law also confers special power on non-commissioned officers. With special powers accorded to the armed forces, there have been multiple allegations of "fake encounters" and other human rights violations by the security forces in 'disturbed' areas. "Tirap, Changlang and Longding districts in Arunachal Pradesh and the areas falling within the jurisdiction of Namsai and Mahadevpur police stations in Namsai district of Arunachal Pradesh, bordering the State of Assam, are declared as 'disturbed area' under Section 3 of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 for a period of six months with effect from October 1, 2022, unless withdrawn earlier," reads a fresh notification issued by MHA on Friday. The step has been taken after reviewing the security of these districts of Arunachal Pradesh, "the MHA notification read. "Dimapur, Niuland, Chumoukedima, Mon, Kiphire, Noklak, Phek, Peren and Zunheboto districts in Nagaland and the areas in Nagaland falling within the jurisdiction of i) Khuzama, Kohima North, Kohima South, Zubza and Kezocha police stations in Kohima District; ii) Mangkolemba, Mokokchung-I, Longtho, Tuli, Longchem and Anaki 'C' police stations in Mokokchung District; iii) Yanglok police station in Longleng District; and iv) Bhandari, Champang, Ralan and Sungro police stations in Wokha District, are declared as 'disturbed area' under Section 3 of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 for a period of six months with effect from 01.10.2022, unless withdrawn earlier," the notification read further.

India Abstains In UN Vote

keep all channels of diplomacy open," she said, adding that Prime Minister Narendra Modi "unequivocally conveyed" this in his discussions with world leaders, including with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. She also referred to statements made by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Ukraine during the high-level General Assembly session last week. Referring to Modi's remark to Putin on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Uzbekistan's Samarkand that "today's era is not an era of war", Kamboj said New Delhi sincerely hopes for an early resumption of peace talks to bring about an immediate ceasefire and resolution of the conflict. "India's position has been clear and consistent from the very beginning of this conflict. The global order is anchored on the principles of the UN Charter, international law and respect for sovereignty and the territorial integrity of all states. Escalation of rhetoric or tension is in no one's interest," she said. "It is important that pathways are found for a return to the negotiating table. Keeping in view the totality of the evolving situation, India decided to abstain on the resolution," Kamboj said. Russian President Putin on Friday proclaimed the annexation of the Ukrainian regions of Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia. The announcement came a day after UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said that "any annexation of a State's territory by another State resulting from the threat or use of force is a violation of the Principles of the UN Charter and international law." "Any decision to proceed with the annexation of Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions of Ukraine would have no legal value and deserves to be condemned," Guterres said. "It cannot be reconciled with the international legal framework. It stands against everything the international community is meant to stand for. It flouts the purposes and principles of the United Nations. It is a dangerous escalation. It has no place in the modern world. It must not be accepted," the UN chief said. The resolution also calls upon all States, international organisations and specialised agencies not to recognise any alteration of the status of Ukraine's regions of Luhansk, Donetsk, Kherson or Zaporizhzhia on the basis of Russia's "unlawful actions" with regards to the illegal so-called referendum taken on September 23 to 27, and to refrain from any action or dealing that might be interpreted as recognising any such altered status. It also decides that Russia shall "immediately, completely and unconditionally" withdraw all of its military forces from the territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders, which includes those regions addressed by the "illegal so-called referendum" to enable a peaceful resolution of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine through political dialogue, negotiation, mediation or other peaceful means.

PM Narendra Modi drives car

these services will be made available in 13 cities. Moreover, expectations are the whole country will be covered with the 5G network by 2024. He also stopped by the booth of a group of over 100 local entrepreneurs that are working together to create 5G solutions to address India's real-time issues with healthcare, education, disaster management, and other areas. Modi visited the Jio Pavilion, where he saw the genuine 5G gadgets on display and used Jio Glass to experience the use cases. The Prime Minister also took the time to understand how a team of Jio engineers was developing end-to-end 5G technology locally and how 5G will assist close the healthcare delivery gap between urban and rural areas. According to Modi, the wait for 5G technology in the nation is ended, and soon every town will experience the advantages of "Digital India."

Dr Nirmalprabha Bordoloi

Rupamani Talukdar and Deen Barman, Putuli Barmanattha Palashjyoti Bhadali were also felicitated. Dr. Amarjyoti Choudhury, former Vice-Chancellor and Educationist, Gauhati University was the guest of honour at the event. In the context of the speech, he highlighted the importance of academic climbing of Girls College and study of books. Choudhury recited the famous poem published in memory of sudhakantha. Dr. Parag Kumar Bhattacharyadev was the guest of honour. The second issue of "Bodhidrum", a handwritten magazine prepared on behalf of the Joint Literary Forum, was also released. Both the magazines were launched by educationist eminent poet and critic Dr Purna Bhattacharya. In his presidential address, Bhattacharya delivered a keynote address on the progress of the academic quality of the college. At the end of the meeting, Professor Vinita Gogoi presented the salutations. The programme was followed by a welcome meeting of the college's newcomers. College professors Nitantjali Baishya and Dr. Jyotika Medhi performed at the meeting. The students of the college implement various cultural programmes. Eminent singer Gayatri Hazarika was also present at the meeting. The new generation of popular artists Bubumani Deka, Niyor Kashyap, Asmita Deka and Alok Debnath also presented the song in the welcome meeting.

Congress president polls: Kharage resigns

amid political turmoil in his state. Gehlot said he would be the proposer for Kharage. Nominations for the post of Congress president closed at 3 pm on Friday and results will be declared on October 19. With the Gandhis not running for the top post this time around, the grand old party is all set to get a non-Gandhi president after over 25 years.

'Green' Durga Pujas Shine In Assam

sustainability. Ghosh has made an idol using coconut waste, while in previous years, he had used sugarcane pulp, discarded cycle tubes and plastic bottles. A pandal at Tezpur town has used only recyclable materials, completely shunning plastic. The marquee has been decorated with cane and bamboo materials. Organisers said they wanted to show people how a beautiful pandal can be built using items available in the nature. The puja committees in Guwahati are also not behind in creating awareness about environmental conservation. The Shantipur Durga Puja committee has centred the pandal around the theme 'heritage' and used jute leaves for the decoration. The Chatribari Sarbajanin Debo Pujasthan Samiti is utilising the occasion to motivate people to develop reading and writing habits. Over 10,000 books in various languages will be displayed in their pandal, which is themed as 'library', while two sets of idols have been made - one of clay and the other using colourful pens and pencils. Organisers said they will also be handing over 1,000 books to children visiting the marquee to instill in them a habit of reading books. The makers of masks of Ravana for Dashami or Dussehra day, which marks the culmination of Durga Puja festivities, are also using recyclable materials. Surajit Baruah of Sivasagar and his team of eight artisans have been working overtime for the past one month on a large mask of the demon king. He said only organic raw materials, including natural colours and dyes, have been used for making the mask designed in the traditional Assamese style. At Gohpur, Biren Nath and his team are also engaged in making another huge Ravana mask using recyclable and organic raw materials.

Customers upset over service of Naya Bazar AGVB



Assam Rising, Majuli, October 1 : The Assam Gramin Vikash Bank (AGVB) has been upsetting its customers at Naya Bazar branch under Ratanpur Miri Gaon Panchayat in Upper Majuli. The servers have been disrupted for hours and customers are in dire straits. The bank's employees have been manipulating customers. A similar situation was seen on Friday. Ten customers sit in long queues for hours in the heat. The employees of the Naya Bazar branch have been manipulating customers for years. They also abused customers, according to some conscious people. Therefore, some conscious people requested that the MLA Bhuban Gam and Commissioner of Majuli should investigate the situation of the branch and pay attention to the convenience of the customers.

Mahatma Gandhi makes special appearance at UN, shares message on education

United Nations, October 01 : In a first, Mahatma Gandhi made a special appearance at the United Nations, sharing his message on education at the world organisation as it commemorated the International Day of Non-Violence on the occasion of the Indian leader's birth anniversary. A special life-size hologram of Gandhi was projected during a panel discussion organised on Friday by India's Permanent Mission to the UN and UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP) at the UN headquarters here to commemorate the International Day of Non-Violence. The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on October 2, the birthday of Gandhi. According to the General Assembly resolution of June 2007, which established the commemoration, the day is an occasion to "disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness". The resolution reaffirms "the universal relevance of the principle of non-violence" and the desire "to secure a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and non-violence". The panel discussion featured India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj, CEO of The King Centre, Atlanta Bernice King; and youth representative and digital education transformation champion Princess Hayu of Indonesia. The discussion, moderated by UNESCO MGIEP Director Anantha Duraipapp, was focused on 'Education for Human Flourishing'. It was part of the Ahinsa Lecture Series and kickstarted the 10-year celebration of UNESCO MGIEP. It was for the first time at the UN that a life-size hologram of Mahatma Gandhi led the panel discussion, a statement said. A voice-over accompanying the Gandhi hologram shared the iconic leader's thoughts on education. "Literacy is not the end of education or even the beginning. By education, I mean an all-around drawing out of the best in the child and the man, body, mind and spirit. By spiritual training, I mean education of the heart," Gandhi said. Ahead of the panel discussion, a message by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres was read out. In his message, Guterres said Gandhi's life and example revealed a timeless pathway to a more peaceful and tolerant world, as the UN chief called on the international community to walk this path together, in solidarity, as one human family. Director of the Mahatma Gandhi Digital Museum in Hyderabad Birad Yajnik told the event's audience that the hologram was the second edition of the Gandhi hologram in 4k. He recalled that the making of the hologram was a process that started in 2018 when Ambassador Kamboj was in South Africa. In 2019, in association with the MGIEP, a dialogue with a hologram of Gandhi was envisioned. Ananda and his team researched the collected works of Gandhi and his thoughts on education. "At our end, digitally graphic files were further sculpted, merged with motion graphics to produce a high-definition hologram that narrated the script," Yajnik said, adding that this version led the panel discussion at UNESCO in Paris and later in New Delhi. "The future of this hologram is to enable it with AI (Artificial Intelligence) voice engine that can engage the people of the world. The message of Mahatma Gandhi is a message of peace and love, a message that the world desperately needs today. And this would be our small effort to bring it to the youth of the world through the language of technology," Yajnik said. Guterres said in his message that the International Day of Non-Violence celebrates not only Gandhi's birthday but the values he embodied that echo across the decades: peace, mutual respect and the essential dignity shared by every person. "Sadly, our world is not living up to those values. We see this through growing conflicts and climate chaos. Poverty, hunger and deepening inequalities. Prejudice, racism and rising hate speech. And a morally bankrupt global financial system that entrenches poverty and stymies recovery for developing countries," he said. The UN chief emphasised that the world can defeat these challenges by embracing Gandhi's values and working across cultures and borders to build a better, more peaceful future for all.



LCC organised industrial awareness program

Assam Rising, North Lakhimpur, October 1: An awareness programme on industries in Assam was held at Lakhimpur Commerce College (LCC), North Lakhimpur on Wednesday. The programme was organized by the Information and Career Guidance (ICG) Cell of the college in association of District Industries and Commerce Centre, Lakhimpur as part of the golden jubilee celebration of Lakhimpur district. A meeting was held for that occasion at the college which was inaugurated by Dr Lohit Hazarika, Principal of the college. Dr. Biva Dutta, coordinator of ICG Cell of the college explained the objective of the meeting. Ranjan Bora, General Manager, DICC, Lakhimpur attended the programme as a resource person. He made a presentation on various industrial schemes by the state government and explained their terms and conditions, financial aspects, marketing and skills. The Functional Manager of DICC-Lakhimpur, Kitartha Sarma, Asstt. Manager, DICC-Lakhimpur, Mukul Goswami also attended the programme. Various self-employment schemes by DICC like PMEGP covering sectors like aluminum fabrication, Assamese jewelry, bee keeping, cane and bamboo industry, car washing, dairy farming, incense stick making to plumber, electrical works were explained before the students in the programme.

Uddhav Thackeray or Eknath Shinde: SC allows EC to decide which faction is the 'real' Shiv Sena

New Delhi , October 01 : The Supreme Court on Tuesday allowed the Election Commission of India (ECI) to decide on rival claims made by groups led by Uddhav Thackeray and Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on which faction is the real Shiv Sena. A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Justice DY Chandrachud declined to stay proceedings before the Election Commission on the Shinde group's claim for recognition as the 'real' Shiv Sena. The bench also comprising Justices MR Shah, Krishna Murari, Hima Kohli and PS Narasimha rejected the plea of the Uddhav Thackeray group seeking a stay on proceedings before the EC till the Supreme Court decides on the main issue pending before it. "We direct that there would be no stay of the proceedings before the Election Commission of India. Accordingly, the Interlocutory Application is dismissed," the bench stated in its order after a day-long hearing. The ECI will now also look at the issue of allotment of Shiv Sena's traditional bow and arrow symbol of the party. Earlier, the apex court had verbally asked the poll panel to not take any precipitative action on the issue. Thackeray group had filed an application before the top court seeking direction to restrain the Election Commission from deciding the claim raised by the Shinde faction for recognition as the official Shiv Sena party. During the hearing, Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for the Thackeray group, argued that Shinde has incurred disqualification as his various acts amount to voluntary giving up of the party membership under Paragraph 2(1)(a) of the Tenth Schedule and also he has violated the party whip. He said that allowing the Election Commission to decide Shinde's claim can result in "irreparable damage" to the Thackeray group. Senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi also appearing for the Thackeray camp contended that "In whatever form the Shiv Sena exists today, they have no claim that they have merged with the BJP. You (Shinde group) have left the Shiv Sena, but you want the goodwill of Shiv Sena and so you won't merge." Senior advocate Neeraj Kishan Kaul, appearing for the Shinde group, claimed that over 1.5 lakh party members had sent their representations to the Election Commission supporting the Shinde group. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Maharashtra Governor, told the bench that the Election Commission should be allowed to discharge its duties. He said, "This is a political question and it is not the first time that such a split has happened and to decide which faction is the real party. It is the election commission which is equipped to look into this." The top court is seized of several petitions filed by rival groups of Shiv Sena in relation to the Maharashtra political crisis. In August, the top court's three-judge bench had referred to a five-judge Constitution bench the issues involved in the petition filed by rival groups of Shiv Sena in relation to the Maharashtra political crisis. Earlier, the Supreme Court three-judge bench had said that some of the issues involved in the Maharashtra political crisis may require a larger Constitutional bench for consideration. It had also asked the Speaker of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly, Rahul Narwekar not to take any action on the new disqualification notices issued against the members of Shiv Sena. There are various petitions pending before the apex court filed by both the factions of Shiv Sena. Thackeray-led faction had approached the top court challenging the Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari's decision to invite Eknath Shinde to form the government and also the Speaker's election and floor test. Later they had challenged the Shinde group approaching poll panel claiming they are 'real' Shiv Sena. They had also challenged the newly appointed Maharashtra Assembly Speaker's action recognising the whip of the Eknath Shinde group as the whip of Shiv Sena. The plea said the newly appointed Speaker has no jurisdiction to recognise whips nominated by Shinde as Uddhav Thackeray is still the head of the Shiv Sena official party. Thackeray camp's Sunil Prabhu had filed a plea seeking suspension from the Maharashtra Assembly of new Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and 15 rebel MLAs against whom disqualification pleas are pending. Shinde groups challenged the disqualification notices issued by the Deputy Speaker to 16 rebel MLAs as well as the appointment of Ajay Choudhary as Shiv Sena Legislature Party leader, is also pending before the apex court. On June 29, the top court gave a go-ahead to the floor test in the Maharashtra Assembly on June 30. Refusing to stay the Maharashtra Governor's direction to the then Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray to prove his majority support on the floor of the House on June 30, the bench had issued notice on Prabhu's plea against floor test. After the apex court's order, Uddhav Thackeray announced his resignation as the Chief Minister and Eknath Shinde was later sworn in as the Chief Minister. On June 27, the top court granted interim relief to Shinde and other rebel MLAs to file their reply to disqualification notices issued to them by Deputy Speaker by July 12, 5.30 pm. Earlier, Deputy Speaker had granted them time to file a reply by June 27, 5.30 pm.

Chelsea executive initially brushed off female agent's complaint over inappropriate messages



London, October 01 : Chelsea's president of business, Tom Glick, told a female agent that her complaint to him about a string of inappropriate messages from a senior executive he had hired days earlier did not interest him and was not relevant to his job. Glick's initial response to Catalina Kim came after she forwarded him historical messages of a sexual nature she had received from Damian Willoughby, whose brief period as Chelsea's commercial director ended last week with his sacking over the matter. Willoughby was fired on 20 September,

two days after Glick initially sought to play down Kim's complaints during a phone call. Glick said he had set the issue aside. When contacted by the Guardian for this story, Glick's lawyers said that regrettably he had not properly reviewed the screenshots before their telephone call. He told Kim on the call that he had just looked at "the headlines". Before their conversation ended, and after being pressed by Kim, he committed to looking into the issues raised. Kim had been in talks with Chelsea and Glick on behalf of overseas investors looking

to pump money into Chelsea's academy, men's team, women's team and foundation, but developed misgivings after being informed on 29 August that Willoughby was set to join the club in a senior role. Glick, who worked with Willoughby at Manchester City, set up a meeting between the trio at Stamford Bridge on 1 September. After this meeting Kim told Glick she felt "uncomfortable" working with Willoughby and on 3 September she forwarded to him eight screenshots showing messages Willoughby had sent her. Two days later Willoughby started his role at Chelsea, where he had previously worked as head of sponsorship. After chasing Glick for a reply, Kim arranged a call with him on 18 September. Glick, who in July became the first

appointment of the Todd Boehly-Clearlake Capital regime at Chelsea, initially said: "I saw some of the headlines of the stuff that you sent and I just set it aside. So it's not something I'm particularly interested in." Pressed by Kim, Glick said: "It looks to me like something that is just not interesting or relevant to me in terms of running the business. But what is your view? Tell me what I'm missing." The messages shared by Kim with Glick showed that Willoughby brought up the subject of having sex and asked whether she was naked. Willoughby suggested he would arrange a meeting with the senior Manchester City executive Ferran Soriano if she was willing to be "naughty". Those advances were repeatedly rejected by Kim, whose

talks with Chelsea over her investment proposals are understood to have stalled since she raised her concerns. Kim asked Glick in their phone call whether he had any concerns over how Willoughby interacted with women. Glick said: "What I'm saying is I looked at some of the headlines that you sent and I set it aside. So tell me what your view is. What is your objective?" Kim said she was not comfortable with Willoughby's behaviour and had concerns over his integrity. Asked whether she no longer wanted to work with Willoughby, she replied that it was down to Glick, as the person who had hired him, to review whether Willoughby should continue in his job. Glick responded: "So that's your objective. I thought you wanted to try to create a partnership with Chelsea."

Soumillon gets 60-day ban for elbowing jockey off horse but keeps Arc ride

London, October 01 : Christophe Soumillon, one of the sport's most successful and high-profile jockeys, was banned for 60 days on Friday after an extraordinary incident at Saint-Cloud in Paris in which he elbowed his fellow rider, Rossa Ryan, from the saddle in the middle of a race. Ryan was riding Ralph Beckett's Captain Wierzbna in a juvenile contest over a mile when Soumillon moved his mount, Syros, to his right, with his elbow making contact with Ryan as he did so. Ryan turned three somersaults after hitting the turf but walked away from the incident unscathed. Syros went on to cross the line in second place, before being disqualified by the stewards a few minutes later. "I felt a little bit of pressure from Rossa on my outside while trying to keep a better



position behind Ryan [Moore, on eventual winner Continuous]," Soumillon told Sky Sports Racing afterwards. "I was just behind Ryan at the time and I put my elbow against him just to make him understand I wasn't going to the inside. Unfortunately, when I asked my horse to stay there and go a little bit to the right I have pushed him for a stride or two and he fell off." "Straight away I knew I made a mistake and I'm terribly sad about what happened because I hate to see stuff like this. When you are doing that, it is even more terrible, so I really want to apologise to everyone, all involved with the horse. I have just seen the jockey and he is fine and I'm happy about that, and the horse too. As for all the people who love racing, it was not a nice act from my side and I'm terribly sorry and want to apologise for what happened today." Despite the severity of his punishment, Soumillon will still be free to ride Vadeni, the French Derby and Eclipse Stakes winner, in Sunday's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp, as his ban runs from 14 October to 12 December. "Unfortunately, my end of season is now gone, but I accept the

sentence for what I did and the terrible decision I made," Soumillon said. "I shouldn't do that, I didn't do it on purpose to make him fall off his horse, I was just trying to keep my position, but maybe I did it with a bit of power and it was a misjudgment from my side." "I don't really understand what happened in that moment, it went so fast, but it is a terrible thing I did. I know a lot of people will not excuse me and I feel very bad at the moment for that." "Saffron Beach provided Jane Chapple-Hyam with her first Group One winner in the Sun Chariot Stakes 12 months ago and added another at Deauville in August, but her impressive consistency at the highest level could face its sternest test to date when she attempts to repeat her Newmarket success on Saturday. Homeless Songs, who powered five-and-a-half lengths clear of Tuesday, the subsequent Oaks winner, in the Irish 1,000 Guineas in May holds a slight edge on ratings, while John and Thady Gosden's Laurel, who did not see a racecourse until late July and remains unbeaten after two starts, will also have her backers at around 6-1.

Cal Raleigh's walk-off home run ends Seattle Mariners' 21-year playoff drought

London, October 01 : More than an hour after Cal Raleigh ended the longest playoff drought in baseball, he was back on the field with his teammates, circling the perimeter of the field to acknowledge the tens of thousands of fans who still stuck around. The celebration was more akin to winning something big in October, rather than a victory on the last day of September. But after 21 years, the Seattle Mariners could be excused for going a little over the top upon their return to the playoffs. "It's better than maybe what you could dream it to be," Seattle manager Scott Servais said. Raleigh hit a game-winning home run with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning and the Mariners clinched a wild-card berth in the American League with a 2-1 victory over the Oakland Athletics on Friday night. Raleigh, pinch-hitting for Luis Torrens, hit a 3-2 pitch from Domingo Acevedo (3-4) just inside the right-field foul pole for a solo homer that sent the Mariners to the postseason for the first time since 2001. "I remember the moment when I knew it was fair and looking at the team and everybody's jumping. It was just crazy," Raleigh said. Seattle's celebration on the field lasted more than 10 minutes as fans and players lifted themselves from the burden of two decades without seeing playoffs from their baseball team. Nearly an hour later, and with the stands still mostly full, Servais and his team were back on the field after a wild clubhouse celebration. He grabbed the



microphone and reminded the crowd—colorfully—that when he arrived along with president of baseball operations Jerry Dipoto seven years ago, the mission was to "end the ... drought." "We did it. These players behind me are special. They care. They care about winning the right way. They care about representing the city of Seattle," Servais told the crowd. It indeed had been a long wait—the last time the Mariners advanced to the postseason, the team was led by rookie Ichiro Suzuki and Edgar Martinez and managed by Lou Piniella. As has been the case for most of this season with the Mariners, their 86th win and the one that sent them back to the playoffs happened in the most stressful way possible. Seattle was unable to solve Oakland starter Ken Waldichuk and an assembly line of relievers for eight innings, held only to Ty France's RBI double that scored Dylan Moore two batters into the game. Acevedo struck out

Mitch Haniger and Carlos Santana to open the ninth, but Raleigh came through with his 26th home run of the season, the most ever by a Seattle catcher. "It's not really a pressure moment," Raleigh said. "We're having fun. We're playing baseball. That's the way I look at it. And I think that's the mentality you got to have." Aside from the clinching a spot in the postseason, Seattle stayed one and a half games behind Toronto for the top wild-card spot and one half-game ahead of Tampa Bay as the three continue to jockey for seeding. But the place in the standings didn't matter on this night. It was all about punching the final AL ticket and ending two decades without the guarantee of playoff baseball. Seattle's berth ended the longest active playoff drought in any of the four major professional sports, a dubious honor that now falls to the Sacramento Kings, who have not made the NBA playoffs since the 2005-06 season. The Mariners are still

the only current team never to have played in the World Series. The last time the Mariners reached the postseason they tied a major league record by winning 116 games in the regular season, but lost to the Yankees 3-1 in the AL Championship Series. Seattle's Logan Gilbert threw a career-high eight innings, allowing three hits. His only mistake was a home run by Shea Langeliers in the second inning. Gilbert retired 18 of the final 20 batters he faced and set down the A's in order in each of his final four innings. Seth Brown walked leading off the seventh but was retired on a double play. Gilbert struck out four and walked off the mound after the eighth to a standing ovation and the plea from fans for a run. Matt Brash (4-4) struck out a pair in the ninth and set the stage for Raleigh. "It was crazy. I mean, I haven't been in Seattle but a few years but I feel like I'm one of the fans that have waited for 21 years," Gilbert said. "It was just a culmination of a lot of waiting."

Former Australia Test captain Tim Paine in a 'good place' for cricket return

Melbourne, October 01 : Tim Paine is as fit as ever and in a good place mentally, according to the coach of the Hobart grade cricket side for whom the former Australian Test captain will make his playing return. Some 18 months after his last first-class appearance, Paine will take the field for University of Tasmania against New Town at Kingston on Sunday in a premier league 50-over game. The 37-year-old wicketkeeper walked away from the sport in the lead-up to the 2021 Ashes series against England when a sexting scandal dating back to late 2017 became public. "He's looking forward to playing and we're thrilled to have him back," Damien Wright, coach of University, Paine's junior club, told AAP. "He's as fit as he's ever been. Mentally, he's in a really good place as well. From all reports he's been training the house down." "I see him quite regularly. He knows there's a bit of hype around it. It's a great story—he's still got plenty of cricket left in him, we believe." Paine has been training with the Tasmanian Tigers squad in recent months as an uncontracted player, with coach Jeff Vaughan indicating he was in the mix for selection in the Sheffield Shield. The Tigers open their Shield season against Queensland on October 6.



Antonio Inoki, popular wrestler who faced Muhammad Ali, dies aged 79

London, October 01 : The popular Japanese professional wrestler and lawmaker Antonio Inoki, who faced world boxing champion Muhammad Ali in a mixed martial arts match in 1976, has died at 79. Inoki brought Japanese pro wrestling to fame and pioneered mixed martial arts matches between top wrestlers and champions from other combat sports like judo, karate and boxing. He also was the first in his sport to enter politics. He promoted peace through sports and made more than 30 trips to North Korea during his time as a lawmaker in hopes of forging peace and friendship. Inoki, who was battling



a rare disease called amyloidosis, died earlier Saturday, according to the New Japan Pro-Wrestling Co, of which he was the founding president. Inoki was upbeat and in good spirits, even as he was fighting the disease. With his trademark red scarf dangling from his neck, Inoki last appeared in public in August on a TV show, in a wheelchair. "As you can see, I'm pushing myself to the limit, and I'm getting power as I get to see you," he said. Born as Kanji Inoki in 1943 in Yokohama, just outside Tokyo, he moved to Brazil with his family when he was 13 and worked at a coffee plantation. Inoki won local fame in shotput as a student, and debuted as a professional wrestler at 17 while on wrestling tour in Brazil where he captured the attention of Rikidozan, known as the father of Japanese pro wrestling. Inoki made his pro wrestling debut in 1960 and gave himself a ring name Antonio Inoki two years later. With his archrival and another Japanese legend, the late Shohei 'Giant' Baba, Inoki made pro-wrestling a hugely popular sport in Japan. Inoki founded the New Japan Pro Wrestling in 1972. He rose to global fame in the sport in 1976 when he faced Ali in a mixed martial arts match at Tokyo's Budokan Hall, a match fans remember as "the fight of the century." Inoki entered politics in 1989 after winning a seat in the upper house, one of Japan's two chambers of parliament, and headed the Sports and Peace Party.

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Lauren Jackson ends Opals career on a high with basketball World Cup bronze



Ontario, September 01 : Lauren Jackson saved the best game of her Opals comeback for last, starting for Australia as they clinched World Cup bronze with a 95-65 defeat of Canada at Sydney's Qudos Bank Arena. Jackson confirmed just hours before tip-off her Opals comeback would conclude after the World Cup, at which she played all eight games for Australia following an absence of nine years from the national team. Following a second-half rampage that helped her finish with 30 points - the second-highest tally for anyone in a single game this World Cup - Jack-

son left Australian fans to wonder whether she might reconsider her retirement. Coach Sandy Brondello had alluded to the fact Australia's bench would play a big role in the bronze-medal tie, which took place just 16 hours after their semi-final loss. But even the coach would not have been able to foresee just how pivotal her 41-year-old former teammate would be. Her first points, a jump shot, sparked an 8-0 Australian run that helped the home side quash Canada's early dominance. Across the board, Australia shook off the shooting woes that thwarted them in the tight semi-final loss to China.

Australia's best player across the World Cup, Steph Talbot, was the chief architect as the home side maintained their lead in the second quarter. Talbot had 11 points for the period, including a clutch three-pointer in the final seconds, to go with some trademark defensive efforts as the Australians took an eight-point lead into the main change. Canada's Kia Nurse contributed almost half of Canada's first-half points (19 of 43) with a versatile shooting display that made it easy to forget the World Cup had marked her return from an 11-month ACL injury lay-off. With Canada still very much in the game after half-time, Nurse left the court after two fouls in quick succession and Australia needed to capitalise on her absence. The majority of Australia's best players were coming off big minutes in Friday night's semi-final so the Opals found a hero in their greatest player of all time, who only made a cameo against China.

Worcester players turn against owners after statement blaming squad

London, September 01 : Worcester players and staff have rounded on the club's co-owners after Jason Whittingham and Colin Goldring released an astonishing statement appearing to blame the squad as well as supporters for the club's plight. The statement came on another sorry day for Worcester when it emerged that players and staff face losing their jobs next Wednesday with the company that holds their contracts - WRFC Players Limited - likely to go into liquidation due to HMRC's winding-up order. The remarkable statement from Whittingham and Goldring came after the club's captain, Ted Hill, gave an interview to ITV Central in which he said that an "apology is needed from not only the owners, but also from other people high up from the company as well". In a statement derided as "laughably pathetic" by the club's forwards coach Nick Easter and criticised by Worcester players on

social media, Whittingham and Goldring responded. Addressing "staff, supporters and community of Worcester Warriors" the owners said: "We are thankful to all of the staff that supported the club through Covid in accepting a significant reduction in their salary but sorry that the playing squad could not accept a similar level of reduction and in some players' instances would not accept any pay cut at all despite our openness at the financial impact this would have on the club." "We are thankful to all of the supporters who continued to support the club in any way they could, including many that donated their season ticket payment during the lockdown, and to the government for the furlough support that enabled us to keep every single staff member fully employed throughout the pandemic when



many club's and business' were making redundancies. In doing so the club took on enormous debt like so many others but we felt it was the right thing to do." "We are thankful to those supporters who turned up week in week out to support the club but sorry that there were not more, nor enough of you on a regular basis to help make the club financially viable despite the significant personal funds we put into the club. We are sorry that we did not have the foresight during the pandemic to cut back on the squad budget but instead remained committed to giving the club the best chance of being competitive." "The statement was issued on the day players and staff were supposed to receive September's wages. It is understood those payments were not forthcoming, allowing players to hand in notice of their intention to leave the club. The club has 14 days to make those payments or the players can leave after another fortnight. Before that, however, WRFC Play-

ers Limited is expected to be liquidated when the winding-up order is heard in court next week, which would lead to the contracts of players and staff being terminated. Whereas WRFC Trading Limited has been put into administration, the arm of the business that holds the contracts of the players and staff has not been and though an adjournment to the winding up order has been sought, it is understood it is expected to be rejected. Julie Palmer of Begbies Traynor, the appointed administrators for WRFC Trading Limited, said HMRC has signalled its intention to stick with the 5 October hearing rather than agree to a delay. Liquidation, therefore, appears likely, though there is still a degree of hope of a two-week extension to allow more time for a buyer to be found for WRFC Trading Ltd. While some players would be able to find new clubs, and it is thought a number have lined up moves, plenty would not. Those who wish to stay with the club would effectively

have to hope that new buyers come in quickly and Worcester are allowed back into the Premiership. The predicament for staff, many of whom are still waiting on outstanding wages from August, is all the more bleak. The administrators are focusing on talks with more than one potential buyer, working to a deadline of "weeks rather than months" with mid-October considered a key timeframe. Worcester's match against Gloucester on Saturday has been called off and next Saturday's home fixture against Harlequins is almost certain to follow. Worcester then have a free week but should any subsequent matches be called off the chances of the club returning to the Premiership would seem unlikely. As much as the administrators are trying to move quickly, it is understood that they have been held up because of difficulty in accessing relevant documents because the IT provider, EBC Group, are one of the club's creditors and the wifi was cut off in early September.

'A sea of positivity': older women boost London Marathon numbers

London, September 01 : As 50,000 London Marathon runners take to the capital's streets on Sunday, spectators may notice a few more grey (or purple, see above) hairs poking out from under the caps and beanies. Analysis has revealed the number of female runners aged 50 and older finishing the race has increased by 65% since 2018. It comes alongside a 91% increase in the number of female runners aged 60 to 69 registering to run, a demographic change organisers say will be hard to ignore. "Older female runners aged 50 to 70 are the fastest growing group we have," said Hugh Brasher, the event director. "The demographic change is really noticeable and has created an atmosphere that's just a sea of positivity, where finishing times are only one of many motivations for taking part." In 2020, when the race was run virtually because of the Covid pandemic, the number of men and women running were equal for the first time. Brasher suggested many of those women may have been older runners who felt able to give the marathon a go for the first time when it was held out of the spotlight. And now they are attending the real thing. Kate



Neale, 60, will be running the marathon on Sunday - followed by the Dublin marathon a month later. She did her first 26.2-mile race in Brighton in 2018 and completed Belfast the following year. "I started running when I was 47 and needed some headspace that was cheap and quick," she said. "I was quite unusual then but I'm not now: in my local running club, the majority of beginners are women, and more of them are in their 40s and older." Brasher puts the increase in older female runners down to a combination of factors, the earliest being Paula Radcliffe's 2003 historic completion of the London

Marathon. "Many women who are running now in their 50s were inspired to start in their 30s when Radcliffe showed them that running was possible," he said. Stuart Lewis, the founder of Rest Less, a digital community and advocate for people in their 50s and 60s, put the increase down to longer and healthier lifespans: "Today's 50- and 60-year-olds are fitter and healthier than ever before," he said. Esther Newman, the editor of Women's Running, said she was not surprised by the increase in older women taking part in the marathon. More than 60% of her readership is aged 45 and over - with almost 4%

aged between 65 and 74. "The proportion of women running marathons is growing," she said, pointing to Cardiff's half marathon in 2018 where more women registered than men. "More women are running ultra marathons too, because women are realising they can do these things." Women in their 40s and 50s are taking to running because they're the demographic with all sorts of competing responsibilities on their plates, from work to family and more," she said. "This demographic isn't necessarily starting running because they want to lose weight or even keep fit. They're start-

ing because they're realising it's the best way to take time out for themselves. When you run, you just think about breathing and putting one foot in front of the other. It's meditative. It's pure mindfulness." She added: "There are hundreds of running groups for women now that support women to run whatever hesitations they might have, whether it be running in an urban environment, running for the first time or running at night." All this makes running very accessible for women in a way it hasn't ever been before, while longevity means women who start running can carry on into their 50s and beyond." Jane Jaffe, 69, will also be running in this weekend's marathon. Jaffe started running when she was 50; Sunday will be her 27th marathon and 15th in London. "Every single race I do, I notice there are more and more older women taking part," she said. "The fact is that older people are getting younger. I don't feel old: I run with my daughter and one of my grandsons, and plan to continue for many years to come."

"Think India Have Found Their New Zaheer Khan": Former Pakistan Star On Pacer

New Delhi, September 01 : Since making his debut in the Indian Premier League in 2019, Arshdeep Singh's stocks have been on the rise. The pacer had an excellent IPL 2022 season and went on to make his international debut during the tour of England. He then bagged seven wickets during the tour of West Indies. He played for India at the Asia Cup in last month, but didn't have the best of outings. However, the young pacer made a strong comeback in the first T20I against South Africa earlier this week. Arshdeep, who was rested for the T20I series against Australia, struck

thrice in his first over. The Proteas batters looked clueless while facing Arshdeep, who ended the match with figures of three for 32 on a swinging pitch in Thiruvananthapuram. Speaking on Arshdeep's performance, former Pakistan wicketkeeper-batter Kamran Akmal drew comparisons with a left-arm pace icon from India. Arshdeep Singh is an incredible bowler. I think India have found their new Zaheer Khan," Akmal said in a video uploaded on his YouTube channel. "Arshdeep has both, pace and swing, and he has that bowling intelligence. He's mentally strong and knows his abilities, and uses them according to the conditions," he explained. Akmal also added that despite being young, Arshdeep possess bowling intelligence and maturity, which is a good sign for the Indian team. "He first got Rilee Rossouw caught behind,



and then castled De Kock. But the best wicket was that of David Miller because he kept getting the ball to move away from him before bowling a sharp inswinger to bowl him out. He bowls brilliant and he is mature, has pace and is still young. It's a good sign for Team India because they needed a left-arm after Zaheer Khan," he added. Notably, Arshdeep has been selected in the 15-man squad for the T20 World Cup in Australia.

Stunned Casper Ruud Follows Ill Cameron Norrie Out Of Korea Open

New Delhi, September 01 : World number two Casper Ruud crashed out of the Korea Open quarter-finals on Friday to 56th-ranked Yoshihito Nishioka, while Britain's Cameron Norrie pulled out due to illness. Japan's Nishioka had the top seed and US Open finalist on the back foot from the start, breaking his first service game without allowing the Norwegian to take a point before powering to the first set 6-2. Ruud rallied to take the second set 6-3 but was outclassed in the third set as Nishioka won it 6-2 to take a shock victory in just under two hours in Seoul. Nishioka will face either Mackenzie McDonald of the United States or Aleksandar Kovacevic from Serbia in the semi-finals. "It was an unfortunate result but that's how it is sometimes," said the 23-year-old Ruud, who was also the runner-up at the French Open.

New-look USA see off China for fourth straight Fiba World Cup before record crowd



Washington, September 01 : A'ja Wilson scored 19 points, Kelsey Plum added 17 and the United States beat China 83-61 on Saturday to win their fourth consecutive gold medal at the women's basketball World Cup. This was one of the most dominant teams in the

Americans' storied history in the World Cup that now has won 11 gold medals. They now have won four straight gold medals for the first time ever. This was also the biggest win in a gold-medal game, surpassing the 20-point wins that the Americans had done twice. "It feels

great," said Wilson, who was selected as the tournament's MVP. "We came here on a mission, we got it. We got gold. Now we're going home with some hardware. It feels great to us. Australia was great to us. I didn't see any kangaroos, but it's OK because we are leaving with a gold." What started with Sue Bird and Diana Taurasi has now been passed down to Wilson and Breanna Stewart. With Alyssa Thomas the oldest player at 30, the domination could continue for years to come. As they've done all tournament, the Americans did it on both ends of the court, playing stellar defense as well as using a high-powered offense. The US

(8-0) finished the World Cup averaging 98.8 points - just short of the mark held by the 1994 team that averaged 99.1. They won by an average of 40.8 points, topping the mark held by the 2010 team. The game was a sellout with nearly 16,000 fans - the biggest crowd to attend a women's World Cup game since the inaugural tournament in 1953 in Chile. Led by Li Yueru and Wu Tongtong, China hung around. The Chinese team trailed 33-28 late in the second quarter before the US went on a 10-2 run highlighted by fast-break layups by Stewart and Wilson to extend the advantage to double-digits. Jin Weina hit a

three-pointer just before the halftime buzzer to get China back to within 10. The US were just too good to let the upset happen, outscoring China 25-14 in the third. The Americans did have one scary moment when Thomas went down after a collision with Li in the lane. She was helped off the court, but returned a few minutes later. China won their first medal since the 1994 World Cup when the team also took the silver and are a rising power in women's basketball. After the game, the team posed for a photo with their flag and men's great Yao Ming, who is the

president of the Chinese Basketball Association. Li finished with 19 points and Wu added 13 before leaving the game in the fourth quarter after her knee gave out driving to the basket. She had to be carried off the court. The victory was the 30th in a row in World Cup play for the Americans, who haven't lost since the 2006 semi-finals against Russia. The Soviet Union holds the World Cup record with 56 straight wins from 1959-86. This is only the second time in the Americans' storied history they've reached four consecutive gold medal contests.