



# The Assam Rising

Projecting the best of Northeast India everyday

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Endangered species

Assam Rising  
Guwahati, November 15 :

At least seven endangered species of black monkey were rescued in Assam's Hailakandi district on Monday. The police found them inside a truck bearing the registration number NL 01 AD 4984. They were found when the police was doing their regular duty at checkpoint in Jamira. According to sources, the truck was en route to Meghalaya from Mizoram when it was intercepted in Hailakandi. The rescued monkeys were handed over to the forest department. It is suspected that the international market value of the endangered monkey is worth crores. Meanwhile, the police have arrested the driver of truck, identified as Rakesh Deb Barma.

### Youth arrested

Assam Rising  
Guwahati, November 15 :

A youth from Assam's Cachar district has been arrested along with arms and ammunition in Mizoram. A .32 pistol and four rounds of ammunition have been recovered from the youth's possession. The youth has been identified as Tamij Uddin Laskar, a resident of Cachar's New Dayapur. The Mizoram Police arrested Laskar while conducting frisking operations in Vairengte of Kolasib district. According to police reports, the youth was apprehended while entering into Cachar from Mizoram with arms. The youth is currently being interrogated by the police.

### Folk Instruments Museum

Assam Rising  
Guwahati, November 15 :

Kaziranga National Orchid and Biodiversity Park in Assam also has various folk songs, folk or tribal dances performed in the orchid garden which makes it a tourist attraction. It has also taken many commendable initiatives including herbal gardens, conservation of indigenous rice seeds, and collection and conservation of human resources. In addition to it, the park has recently added a beautiful museum showcasing folk instruments of the Northeast.

## Nearly 4,500 schools shut down in state after Covid-19 pandemic



Assam Rising  
Guwahati, November 15 :

The Covid-19 pandemic has severely impacted schools in Assam and other states in northeast India, according to a report released by the Union education ministry titled 'Unified

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## 'Coronavirus, Ukraine War have caused havoc in world'

### PM Narendra Modi cautions leaders at G-20 Summit



BALI, November 15 :

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday called for a return to the path of "ceasefire and diplomacy" to resolve the Ukraine conflict,

and opposed the promotion of any restrictions on the supply of energy, amid the West's call against procurement of Russian oil and gas. In an address at the G-20 summit

here, PM Modi said that climate change, the Covid-19 pandemic, the developments in Ukraine and the global problems associated with it have caused havoc in the world and ruled that the global supply chains are in "ruins". Referring to India's upcoming G-20 presidency, PM Modi said he was confident when the leaders of the grouping meet in the "holy land of Buddha and Gandhi, we will all agree to convey a strong message of peace to the world." Speaking at

the session on food and energy security, the prime minister highlighted the implications of global problems and said there is a crisis of essentials and essential goods all over the world and that the challenge for the poor citizens of every country is "more severe" today. PM Modi also noted that India's energy security is also important for global growth as it is the "world's fastest growing economy". "We must not promote any restrictions on the supply of energy and stability in the energy market should be ensured," Modi said at the session on food and energy security, the prime minister said in presence of top G-20 lead-

ers including US President Joe Biden and UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak. Russian foreign minister Sergey Lavrov also attended the summit representing President Vladimir Putin. The prime minister's call for not putting any restrictions on energy supplies came amid the West's call against procurement of Russian oil and gas in view of Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. India has been procuring discounted Russian crude oil. He said India is committed to clean energy and the environment. "By 2030, half of our electricity will be generated from renewable

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## G20 Summit 2022 : PM Modi holds talks with new UK counterpart Rishi Sunak



New Delhi, November 15 :

Prime Minister Modi addressed G-20 Summit's opening session and told world leaders that the "need of the hour" is to show "concrete" and "collective" resolve to ensure peace, harmony, and security in the world. G20 Summit in Bali Live Updates: The annual G20 Summit opened in the

Indonesian capital Bali today (November 15, 2022) with world leaders set to discuss over the next two days the challenges triggered by the Russia-Ukraine war and the Covid-19 pandemic. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also addressed the G-20 Summit's Session I on "Food and Energy Security"

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## Assam CM inaugurates 5 New infrastructure at GMCH



Assam Rising  
Guwahati, November 15 :

Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma on Tuesday

inaugurated a number of infrastructure additions to the Guwahati Medical College & Hospital, aimed at transforming the region's

premier institution into a world-class centre dedicated to medical studies and services. Of the five new buildings inaugurated

by the Chief Minister, the 156-bedded guest house, named Vishram Sadan, has been built at a cost of ₹13.5 crores under corporate social responsibility (CSR) funding from Power Grid Corporation of India Limited. With separate dormitory facilities for men and women, it is meant to cater to the attendants of patients seeking treatment at Guwahati Medical College & Hospital. This apart, the Chief Minister inaugurated a state-of-the-art 450-seat capacity college auditorium built at a cost of ₹6 crore with partial financial support from Oil India Limited under the public-sector undertaking's CSR section. The Chief Minister

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## Population leap! World population projected to reach 8 billion

New Delhi, November 15 :

The world's population is projected to reach 8 billion people on Tuesday (November 15), according to the UN estimates, which consider this a milestone in human development. The latest projections by the United Nations suggest that the global population could grow to around 8.5 billion in 2030, 9.7 billion in 2050, and 10.4 billion in 2100. The annual World Population Prospect report, released on Monday to coincide with World Population Day, also notes

that the global population is growing at its slowest rate since 1950, having fallen to less than one per cent in 2020. While it took the global population 12 years to grow from 7 to 8 billion, it will take approximately 15 years - until 2037 - for it to reach 9 billion, a sign that the overall growth rate of the global population is slowing. In 2022, the two most populous regions were both in Asia: Eastern and South-Eastern Asia with 2.3 billion people and Central and Southern Asia with 2.1 billion. China and India, with

more than 1.4 billion each, accounted for most of the population in these two regions. More than half of the projected increase in global population up to 2050 will be concentrated in just eight countries:

Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Tanzania. Disparate growth rates among the world's largest countries will re-order their

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## Assam Bandh: AACSU President Arrested

Assam Rising  
Guwahati, November 15 :

Assam Police on Tuesday arrested president of All Assam Chutia Students' Union (AACSU) in Golaghat district. Accord-

ing to sources, the president, identified as Mahen Bora, and five others were arrested for burning tyres during bandh called by six ethnic groups of the state. The Assam Bandh, called by the state's six eth-

nic groups for inclusion in ST status, had a wide-spread impact in the district. Several businesses, and government and private bus services were

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## Thalassemia screening camps for children

### "Thalassemia Support Scheme for children was conceived and planned by the Chief Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma" - minister Keshav Mahanta

Assam Rising  
Guwahati, November 15 :

Thalassemia screening camps for children below 14 years of age was centrally inaugurated at Guwahati Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) by Minister for Health & FW, Assam, Keshav Mahanta on November 15, 2022. In his welcome address, Principal of GMCH, Dr Achyut Baishya, said, "Thalassemia Support Scheme for children below 14 years of age would be very much beneficial for the children suffering from thalassemia and all support to the thalassemia pa-

tients will be provided from GMCH." Speaking on the occasion as the Chief Guest, Minister for Health & FW, Assam, Shri Keshav Mahanta Mahanta, said, "Thalassemia Support Scheme for children was conceived and planned by the then Health Minister and the present Chief Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma and I am very much thankful to him for being able to implement the scheme during my tenure. In the first phase we are taking the children below 14 years of age and in times to come we will try to ensure that thalassemia patients of other age

groups also avail similar benefits." He further expressed hope that in today's screening camps which are being held in 7 nos of medical colleges across Assam, maximum numbers of children get screened and government will take necessary steps to ensure that they get the best of the best treatment. Assam State Blood Transfusion Council (ASBTC) under the aegis of Health & FW Department, Govt of Assam has organized Thalassemia Screening Camps for children below 14 years of age

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# Shraddha Walker murder case

## Father suspects 'LOVE JIHAD', demands death for Aftab Poonawalla



**Mumbai, November 15 :** Vikas Walker, father of Shraddha Walker, the Maharashtra girl who was allegedly murdered by her live-in partner Aftab Poonawalla in the national capital, has demanded a death penalty for her daughter's killer and suspected a "love jihad" angle behind the incident. Speaking to ANI, the girl's father said, "I suspected a love jihad angle. We demand the death penalty for Aftab. I trust Delhi Police and the probe moving in the right direction. Shraddha was close to her uncle and didn't talk to me much. I was never in touch with Aftab. I lodged the first complaint in Mumbai's Vasai." Delhi Police probe into the Shraddha Walker murder case has revealed that the accused Aftab Poonawalla was a food

blogger who used to work at a call centre in the national capital. The police are now investigating if he had rented a flat in Delhi's Chhatarpur area as part of a conspiracy to kill the victim. The police investigation has also revealed that the couple had frequent fights. According to police sources, before shifting to Delhi in 2022, the couple had come into a relationship in 2019. They stayed in Maharashtra for some time but used to visit various places as part of their travel plans. According to the police, they went to hill stations in March-April. Both of them had travelled to Himachal Pradesh for a few days in May and stayed together where they met a man who lived in Delhi's Chhatarpur. As per reports, upon shifting to Delhi, they had

initially stayed at the flat of the same Man whom they met in Himachal. However, the stay did not change the situation between them. Later, Aftab rented a flat in Chhatarpur where he shifted with Shraddha. She was reportedly strangled to death on May 18 in the Chhatarpur flat. The police have come to know that the room was taken on rent a few days before the murder. "It is also a matter of investigation whether Aftab had already hatched a conspiracy to kill her," the police sources said. The accused told the police during interrogation that he used to take the pieces of the dead body to the disposal at 2:00 am due to the little movement of people at this hour. The police have come to know that the accused Aftab has done his graduation and lived in Mumbai with his family. "Looking at Aftab's social media, it is known that he had also done food blogging for some time, although no video had come about his blogging for a long time. His last post came in the month of February, after which there was no activity on the profile. He has more than 28,000 followers on his Instagram," the sources said. According to the police, till some time back both Shraddha and Aftab used to work in the call centre. "It is learned that after the murder, Aftab used to come back home by 6-7 pm and then used to take the pieces of the dead body kept in the fridge there for disposal. The accused used to carry the

pieces of the carcass in a black foil but had thrown the pieces out of the foil in the forest, making it difficult to ascertain if the pieces were thrown or the remains were due to animal hunting," the sources said. Delhi Police solved a six-month-old blind murder case, and arrested Aftab for brutally murdering Shraddha, chopping her body into 35 pieces and disposing of them at different places in and around the national capital. Police said that Aftab, after searching on Google, cleaned blood stained from the floor with some chemicals and disposed of stained clothes. He shifted the body in the bathroom and bought a refrigerator from a nearby shop. Later, he chopped the body into small pieces and put them in the fridge. Officials said that Shraddha Walker (27) from Mumbai, met the Aftab while working at a call center in Mumbai. "The two got together via a dating app in Mumbai. They were in a live-in relationship for three years and had shifted to Delhi. Soon after the two shifted to Delhi, Shraddha started pressurizing the man to marry her," Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), South Delhi Ankit Chauhan told. "The two quarrelled frequently and it used to get out of control. In this particular instance that occurred on May 18, the man lost his temper and strangled her," said Chauhan. "The accused told us that he chopped her into pieces and disposed of her parts in nearby areas in the jungle area of Chhatarpur Enclave. He has been arrested and an investigation is going on," added DCP Chauhan. Aftab allegedly chopped her body into 35 pieces, bought a refrigerator and kept them in it. He later started disposing of the body pieces at different locations in and around Delhi during night hours for the next 18 days, said sources. Sources further

said, Aftab used to sleep every day in the same room where he had chopped the body after killing Shraddha. He used to see the face after keeping it in the fridge. Aftab had cleaned the fridge after disposing the body parts. Sources said Aftab had relations with many girls even before Shraddha. Before committing the crime, he also watched many crime movies and web series, including the American crime drama series Dexter. In September, Shraddha's friend informed her family that there was no contact with Shraddha for the last two and a half months and her mobile number was also switched off. Her family also checked her social media accounts and found no updates during this period. In November, Shraddha's father Vikash Madan Walker, a resident of Palghar (Maharashtra), approached Mumbai police and lodged a missing person complaint. During the initial investigation, Shraddha's last location was found in Delhi, and on the basis of this, the case was transferred to Delhi police. Shraddha's father told the police about his daughter's relationship with Aftab and suspected his involvement in his daughter's absence. During the investigation, it was found that Aftab and Shraddha had come to Delhi and started living in a rented apartment in the Chhatarpur Pahadi area. The police during the course of the investigation, traced Aftab and nabbed him. Aftab, during questioning, confessed to the crime and said that they fought often as Shraddha was pressurizing him for marriage. "The accused has been arrested and a case under IPC sections 302 (murder) and 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of an offence committed) has been registered at Mehrauli police station," officials said. Police also recovered some bones from Aftab's rented flat and officials said that the efforts to recover the remaining parts of the body were on.

## Cheesemaker sells firm to overcome Brexit barriers after losing £600,000 in sales

**London, November 15 :** A British cheesemaker has sold his business to a larger rival to regain access to customers in the European Union after Brexit left him with an estimated £600,000 black hole in lost EU sales. Simon Spurrell, who made headlines when he highlighted prohibitive export costs after the UK's exit from the single market, will remain managing director of the Macclesfield-based Cheshire Cheese Company and retains a stake in the business. Its new owner, fellow family-run north-west England producer Joseph Heler Cheese, has maintained a presence in the EU as a result of its larger operations and distribution hub in the Netherlands, which Spurrell hopes will make supplying European customers viable again. Spurrell said he was thrilled to be returning to the continent after an absence of two years but still cannot believe how the government wrecked small firms like his with their decision to go for a hard Brexit. "The sad thing is that small businesses like

ours cannot have access to the EU," he said. "Selling the company is a great solution ... it secures the future of the company with a historical cheesemaker." But still feel very let down and bitterly disappointed by the fact I've had so many conversations with the Department for International Trade and government ministers and nothing happens. "They are impotent because of their Brexit policy. They are so anti-Europe they won't even discuss getting a better deal sorted out. Getting access to the single market has to be the first step." Spurrell claims that after his campaign in the press last year to highlight his case, he was told by numerous people that Boris Johnson had referred to him as "that bloody cheese man". Government departments advised him to seek out new business in "emerging markets", counsel he said was risible given the huge market on Britain's doorstep. Spurrell founded the business in 2010 selling wax-wrapped truckles of cheese and racked up numerous awards for 15



A judge checks a rabbit during the Rabbit & Cavy Show at the 2022 Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, Canada

## Israel will not cooperate with FBI inquiry into killing of Palestinian American journalist

**London, November 15 :** Israel has said it will not cooperate with an FBI investigation into the killing of the Palestinian American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh by the Israeli army. Israel's defence minister, Benny Gantz, denounced the inquiry as "interference in Israel's internal affairs" and said he "made it clear to the American representatives that we stand behind the IDF [Israel defence forces] soldiers, that we will not cooperate with any external investigation". "The decision of the US Department of Justice to investigate the unfortunate death of Shireen Abu Akleh is a grave mistake. The IDF conducted an independent and professional investigation, which was presented to the Americans who shared the details," Gantz said. But an outright failure to cooperate would complicate relations with Washington and reinforce claims of an Israeli cover-up of Abu Akleh's death as she reported on a military raid on the West Bank city of Jenin in May. The FBI investigation comes after months of pressure from the highly respected Al-Jazeera journalist's family, who accused the Biden administration of "skulking toward the erasure of any wrongdoing by Israeli forces". The family was backed by dozens of members of Congress. News of the

inquiry was welcomed by Senator Chris Van Hollen, who was highly critical of the failure of Israel to properly account for the killing. "This is an overdue but necessary and important step in the pursuit of justice and accountability in the shooting death of American citizen and journalist, Shireen Abu Akleh," he tweeted. The IDF initially denied responsibility for killing Abu Akleh and pointed the finger at Palestinian gunmen. But investigations by the United Nations and several news organisations concluded that the journalist was not near Palestinian gunfire when she was killed, and that Israeli forces were almost certainly responsible. The UN said that Israeli soldiers fired "several single, seemingly well-aimed bullets" at Abu Akleh and other journalists. In September, the IDF finally admitted that one of its soldiers had probably shot her but said there would be no criminal prosecutions because no laws had been broken and declared the

case closed. The US state department was prepared to let the matter rest there, but that did not ease political pressure from Congress. The longest-serving member of the Senate, Patrick Leahy, challenged the value of Israel's report on Abu Akleh's death, noting there was "a history of investigations of shootings by IDF soldiers that rarely result in accountability". Leahy increased the pressure on Israel by suggesting that its failure to fully explain the Al-Jazeera reporter's killing could jeopardise the US's huge military aid to the Jewish state under a law he sponsored 25 years ago cutting weapons supplies to countries that abuse human rights. Leahy told the Senate said that the Biden administration had failed to act on calls from members of Congress for the FBI to investigate Abu Akleh's death as is "customary and appropriate after a tragedy like this involving a prominent American killed overseas under questionable circumstances".

## Jennifer Siebel Newsom testifies at Los Angeles rape trial of Harvey Weinstein

**London, November 15 :** Jennifer Siebel Newsom, a documentary film-maker and the wife of California governor Gavin Newsom, has taken the stand at the rape trial of Harvey Weinstein, becoming the most prominent woman so far to testify against the former Hollywood producer. Siebel Newsom wept repeatedly as she testified about meeting Weinstein at a hotel for what she thought was a business meeting when she was a young actor, and being shocked when he suddenly returned wearing only a bathrobe and started groping her, despite her protests, eventually pulling her into a bedroom and assaulting her. "I'm trembling. I'm like a rock. I'm frigid. This is my worst nightmare," Siebel Newsom said. "He was just so big and so determined ... This was



hell." She described each stage of the alleged rape in graphic detail, including her disgust at Weinstein's body and fear he would give her a disease. At the time, Siebel Newsom was a young working actor with only a few small roles in film and television, and Weinstein "was like the kingmaker, he was the top of the industry". Siebel Newsom described the producer's employees disappearing from the hotel room and Weinstein re-emerging

wearing only a robe and beginning to grope her. Siebel Newsom said she told him "Please don't, please don't," and searched for an exit. Even as she was trying to get away from Weinstein, the young actor tried to make sure she was being "gracious", she testified. "I was also trying to just be gracious and not be angry," she said. "I was just delicately trying to move away from him." Siebel Newsom testified that Weinstein eventually either dragged or carried her into a bedroom and assaulted her with his fingers, penis and mouth, and that she felt "like a blow-up doll" during the attack. She said she eventually touched his penis, believing he would not stop until he was satisfied. "He was so determined, just so scary," she said. "So I just did it to make it stop."



Cowboy Bret Timmermans competes during the Bull Riding competition of the Rodeo section at the 2022 Royal Horse Show in Toronto, Canada

File No: NAM/50 Bedded AYUSH Hospital/73/2016/pt-II/2876  
**Notice**

It is hereby informed to all the intending candidates who have applied for the positions of Medical Officer and Resident Medical Officer in the 50 bedded Ayurvedic Hospital at Sriram Chapori, Majuli and Dudhnoi, Goalpara as per advertisement vide no. NAM/50 bedded AYUSH Hospital/73/2016/pt-II/24 dated 2/9/2022, the list of the short-listed candidates (provisionally) and list of the rejected candidates (provisionally) is published in the website of Directorate of AYUSH, Assam, <https://ayush.assam.gov.in>.

For any queries/claim the candidate may contact to the office of the National AYUSH Mission, Assam via email ID [claimsrecruitmentnam@gmail.com](mailto:claimsrecruitmentnam@gmail.com), within 17th November 2022, 12:00am.

No claim will be entertained after 17th November 2022, 12:00am.

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Memo No: DHS/NHM/RBSK VEHICLE/TENDER/2022-23/326/2953  
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The sealed tenders must reach in the office of District Health society, Dibrugarh National Health Mission Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh, Pin-786003 on or before 22nd of November 2022 at 3.00 pm and will be opened on same day at 4.00 pm in the presence of bidders or their Authorizes Representative, who wants to be present at that time.

The detailed Tender document format (Terms and conditions etc) can be obtained from District Health Society, Dibrugarh National Health Mission Office of The Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh on payment of Rs.1000/- (Rs. One thousand rupees only) (non refundable) in the form of Demand Draft in favor of "District Health Society Goa Fund, Dibrugarh" from 16-11-2022 at 1 pm to 22-11 -2022 at 11am on any working day during office hours.

The interested service providers may submit the tenders at drop box in two bid system (i.e. part I Technical Bid and part II: Financial Bid) in the prescribed Performa. All the documents in the support of eligibility criteria etc. are to be Xerox and attached with the Tender Documents. Tenders sent by any other mode will not be accepted.

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# East zone inter university Basketball kicked off at USTM



**Assam Rising, Guwahati, November 15:** The AIU East Zone Inter University Basketball Men & Women's Tournaments 2022-23 which is being organised by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi and hosted by the University of Science and Technology

Meghalaya has been inaugurated here today by Lakhya Konwar, Vice President Athletics Federation of India & General Secretary Assam Olympic Association and Raj Kakoti, Vice President Assam Olympic Association, in the presence of USTM Vice Chancellor Prof GD Sharma;

## KVK, Nagaon conducts demo harvest of sali paddy at Jungalbalahu

**Assam Rising, Nagaon, November 15:** Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nagaon organized a grand harvest programme of sali paddy at a crop field near Jungalbalahu on Monday last. The programme was initiated under Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART). The programme was ceremonially inaugurated by Dr Niranjana Deka, principal scientist and Head of KVK, Nagaon. Dr. Niranjana Deka and anchored by Gayatri Goswami. In his inaugural speech, Dr Deka welcomed all the distinguished guests and other participants to the unique harvesting programme. Dr Deka also explained about the objective of the programme and the benefit of using the mini combine harvester. Dr. Kanwar Singh, Resident Coordinator, IIRI stressed upon the ob-

jectives of the various work done under the APART, IIRI project and the various mechanization introduced through this project and the benefits of using the machinery. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Nagaon Bijita Deka was present in the programme as the chief guest. Dr. Rupam Borgohain, Nodal Officer, OPIU, APART, AAU, Jorhat, Dr. Amal Ch. Samah, chief scientist, RARS Shillongani, Dr. Arunima Deb Choudhury, honorary consultant, ARIAS society, APART, and more than 100 farmers including both male and female representing different blocks of Nagaon and Hojai district. The programme was followed by on spot harvesting of the paddy - var swarna sub - 1 using mini combine harvester. Dr. Surya Kant Khandai, associate scientist, IIRI explained the handling and demonstration of the machine. Dipen Ch Nath, SMS, soil science, APART personnel of KVK Nagaon, Agriculture Dept. officials and company technical experts from J.S Industries were also present in the demonstration programme, a release added.

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Akash Phukan, Vice Chairman, Board of Sports, Assam; Commonwealth Gold Medalist Nayanmoni Saikia; Vishesh

## IIE celebrates Janjatiya Gaurav Divas

**Assam Rising, Guwahati, November 15:** IIE an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship setting up a stall to showcase wide range of produce under brand TRISSAM procured from tribal communities in Aadi Bazar on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2022 organised by TRIFED at Lakhidhar Bora Khetra Dighalipukhuri was inaugurated today. The stall was inaugurated by Smt Queen Ojha, MP of Guwahati in the presence of Dr. Lalit Sharma, Director IIE, AD Mishra, Regional Manager (NER), TRIFED, Krishna Dhan Das, MLA Tripura, D Halder, Regional Director, DCH, Jasodha Chettri Resident Commissioner, Sikkim House, Dr Bhaskar Jyoti Saud, Project Head PMVDY, IIE and other government official and guests. While inaugurating the stall the Queen Ojha, MP also launched two new products "foxtail millet" and "handmade soap" with its brand-name



"TRISSAM" and a new product-line under the same brand, by the name "TRISSAMFRESH". Janjatiya Gaurav Divas is being observed to mark the birth anniversary of the revered tribal leader Bhagwan Birsa Munda and remember the contribution of tribal freedom fighters. The new product-line by the name "TRISSAMFRESH" has fresh fruits, vegetable products. In addition to the new products, IIE is also displaying a wide range of products under its brand "TRISSAM", which have been procured from the beneficiaries supported under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana Scheme (PMVDY) that is being implemented in the state, by the institute. IIE has been implementing the scheme as a resource agency

## Kalyan Kr. Das elected as GLTA president

**Assam Rising, Guwahati, November 15:** A new body of the Guwahati Lawn Tennis Association (GLTA) was formed during its Annual General Meeting held on November 14 here with its President Kalyan Kumar Das in the chair. The meeting nominated former renowned tennis player of the state and the Chairman and Managing Director of Pride-East Entertainment (P) Limited Rimiki Bhuyan Sarma as the Chief Patron and also nominated Pronoy Bordoloi, Anirban Das, Kishore Jayanta Madhab as the Patrons of the Association respectively. Eminent tennis player, sports organiser and sports pensioner Kalyan Kumar Das was elected unopposed as the President while Bhaskar Sarma and Debangshu Bora were

elected as the General Secretary and the Treasurer of the Association respectively for the year 2022-2024. The meeting adopted the General Secretary's Annual Report and the Treasurer's Audited Statement of Accounts for the year 2021-2022. The meeting discussed various matters related to the development of the Association and opined that the motto of the Association "Tennis for All" may be given maximum importance in the years to come. In one of the crucial decisions, the meeting opted to change its name. The Association will be known as Guwahati Tennis Association (GTA) instead of its old name Guwahati Lawn Tennis Association, from now onwards. The Tennis Academy run by the Association at the premises of the RG Baruah Sports Complex, Nehru Stadium, Guwahati will also be renamed as GTA Tennis Academy. Apart from that, the meeting also decided to carry forward the initiatives of the Association to develop a property of its own to work for the development and promotion of the game of tennis in the region. Assam Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma also attended and assured all necessary help to the Association. The meeting further elected Dr. Madhurya Hazarika as the Working President, Raja Kakati, Hrishikesh Bijoy Das, Dilip Pathak and Bhaskar Barman as Vice-Presidents, Dhiraj Dutta and Ajay Das as Joint Secretaries and Dr. Bikash Bawri, Rituraj Bhagawati, Samar Deka, Rajesh Baruah and Shyam Barua as the Executive Committee Members.

## NFR celebrates Janajatiya Gaurav Divas

**Assam Rising, Guwahati, November 15:**

To commemorate the birth anniversary of National Tribal Hero, Birsa Munda, N.F. Railway celebrated the Janajatiya Gaurav Divas today on November 15 at Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Sabha Griha in N. F. Railway Headquarters complex. Anshul Gupta, General Manager of N. F. Railway and other officials paid homage by lighting the lamp and offering floral tribute to the portrait of Tribal Freedom Fighter Birsa Munda. The officers, staffs of N. F. Railway Headquarters and representatives of various Associations and Unions were also present. All the divisions and workshops of N.F. Railway marked the occasion by lighting the lamp and offering floral tribute to the portrait of Tribal Freedom Fighter Birsa Munda. On the occasion, essay writing, quiz



and drawing competitions were held across fifteen Railway schools over N. F. Railway. Banners of struggle of tribal freedom fighters were displayed in prominent stations across N. F. Railway. Tribal Freedom Fighter Birsa Munda spearheaded a tribal religious millenarian movement that arose in the Bengal Presidency (now Jharkhand) in the late 19th century, during the British Raj, thereby making him an important figure in the history of the Indian Independence move-

ment. He took up the fight for the tribals through the religious domain and stood up against the forceful religious conversion. Speaking on this occasion, Anshul Gupta, General Manager of N. F. Railway mentioned about Tribal Freedom Fighter Birsa Munda role to restore traditional land rights to the tribal's which had been trampled upon by colonial and local authorities. His whole life is an inspiration for giving direction to tribal movement, the General Manager added.

## Cooperative week held at Nagaon

**Assam Rising, Nagaon, November 15:** The office of Deputy Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Nagaon and Assistant Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Nagaon celebrated the 69th All India Cooperative week at its office premises on Monday last. The programme was initiated with hoisting of the cooperative flag. The theme of the week is 'India at 75 years, development of cooperatives

and the future ahead'. A symposium on the topic of the day - 'ease of doing business for co-operatives, portal and export promotion' was inaugurated by Manoranjan Payeng, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Nagaon. Biswajit Chakraborty, DRCS, Nagaon deliberated at length on the theme as well as the topic of the day. Professor Midul Kr Hazarika, vice principal, ADP college, professor cum noted Assamese poet Jiban Narah,

professor Sadananda Payeng, Bakul Bora, ARCS, Nagaon graced the occasion as invitees and also spoke on the purpose of the programme. All officials as well as employees of the office of Deputy Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Nagaon, Assistant Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Nagaon and representatives of various co-operative societies of the district, were present in the programme, a release added.

NO.IPR.-83/NT/2021/14,

Dated Kokrajhar, the 15<sup>th</sup> November '2022

### SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER TENDER NO. 2 of 2022-2023

Sealed quotations in plain papers affixing (Non refundable) court fee stamps of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight and paise twenty five) only are hereby invited from the local intending reputed Registered supplier/Firms according to their eligibility for printing works of the following mentioned schemes for the financial year 2022-23. The quotations will be received by the office of the undersigned up to 2.00 p.m. on 30-11-2022 and will be opened at 3.00 p.m. on the same date in presence of the quotationer.

Sl. No.	Name of schemes	Scheme Amount
1	Bodoland Laitun Newspaper, size- 1/2 demy size- 16 pages (Printing works)	17,76,000.00
2	Printing of Multi colour Achievement Book, Magazine size- 130 pages.	15,00,000.00
3	Special supplement on Achievement of BTR Govt. on occasion of BTR Accord Day on 27 January '2023 (Printing works).	5,00,000.00

### TERMS & CONDITIONS:

- The details of scheme items may be seen at the office of the undersigned during the office hours.
- The quotationers must be submitted up-to-date Firm Registration Certificate, Trade license, Income Tax clearance certificate, GST Registration, PAN card and registration certificate of I&PR, BTC.
- The quotationers should be quoted their rate both in figures and words legibly for each item.
- The rates should be shown separately for quoted items including all GST/Taxes.
- The approved firm/supplier should be supplied the items within the 10 (ten) days from the date of issue of this supply order.
- The authority is not bound to accept the lowest rates of quotations and reserved all the rights to reject/accept any quotation without assigning any reason what-so-ever.
- The Quotationers will have to deposit 2% (for general) and 1% (for ST/SC/OBC/MOBC) as security money in the form of Demand Draft/Fixed Deposit/ in favour of the R.O. cum CHD, Information and Public Relations, BTC, Kokrajhar as per scheme for the year 2022-23 which will be refundable in due course.

Sd/-  
Regional Officer cum CHD  
Information and Public Relations  
BTC, Kokrajhar

IPR(BTC)-481/2022

INDIA CARBON LIMITED									
Regd. Office : Noonmati, Guwahati 781020, Assam CIN NO : L23101AS1961PLC001173 Ph No. : (033) 22487856/9, Fax No. : 91-33-2230-7507, E-mail : icl@indiacarbonltd.com, Website : www.indiacarbonltd.com									
EXTRACT OF STANDALONE UN-AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND HALF YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2022									
Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended			Half Year ending			(Rs. in Lakhs)	
		30.09.2022 (Unaudited)	30.06.2022 (Unaudited)	30.09.2021 (Unaudited)	30.09.2022 (Unaudited)	30.09.2021 (Unaudited)	31.03.2022 (Audited)		
1	Revenue from Operations	14004.53	12600.32	10530.73	26804.85	17286.81	45612.37		
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	1,854.81	959.60	4,515.85	2,814.40	7,006.98	11,627.03		
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	1,854.81	959.60	4,515.85	2,814.40	7,006.98	11,627.03		
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after Tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	1,802.23	731.60	3,310.56	2,533.82	5,130.83	8,134.83		
5	Total comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after Tax) and other comprehensive Income (after tax)	3,124.69	(1,175.31)	4,248.34	1,949.37	7,737.91	10,314.61		
6	Equity Share Capital	265.00	265.00	265.00	265.00	265.00	265.00		
7	Other Equity (excluding revaluation reserve) as per Balance Sheet for the previous accounting year								
8	Earning Per Share (of Rs. 10 each) (Not Annualised)								
1. Basic :		68.01	27.61	124.93	95.62	193.62	306.97		
2. Diluted :		68.01	27.61	124.93	95.62	193.62	306.97		

### Notes :

- The above is an extract of the detailed format of Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter ended 30th September, 2022 filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the aforesaid results are available on the Stock Exchange Website, [www.cse-india.com](http://www.cse-india.com) and on the Company's website [www.indiacarbonltd.com](http://www.indiacarbonltd.com).
- The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at their meeting held on 14th November, 2022.
- Figures have been regrouped or rearranged wherever necessary.

For M/s India Carbon Limited  
Sd/-

Rakesh Himatsingka  
Managing Director  
DIN: 00632156

Place : Kolkata  
Date : 14th November, 2022



## THE ASSAM RISING

VOL. NO. VII, ISSUE NO. 268 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2022

## The climate catastrophe

Last December in Paris, 195 nations agreed to slow the planet's warming trend by cutting their greenhouse gas emissions. Their goal was to prevent more than 2°C of additional warming. But even before the meeting, scientists questioned whether that target was too high. A study presented in Vienna today at the European Geosciences Union's (EGU's) annual meeting backs up those concerns, providing new evidence that such warming could still lead to catastrophic droughts and sea level rise. But reducing the threshold by just half a degree, to 1.5°C, the scientists say, would make a world of difference. To conduct the study, Carl Schleussner, a scientific adviser at Climate Analytics in Berlin, and an international team of researchers analyzed 11 different indicators of climate impacts, including extreme weather events, water availability, crop yields, coral reef degradation, and sea level rise for 26 nonpolar areas around the world. To do this, they compiled simulations from a wealth of existing climate models, including those used by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and an ensemble of general ocean and atmosphere circulation models. The results of these simulations confirmed that areas already known to be vulnerable to climate change will be at even greater risk if the planet warms by 2°C than by 1.5°C, the team reports in the study, also published today in Earth System Dynamics. For example, warm spells in the tropics would last up to 50% longer-so that virtually all coral reefs in warmer tropical waters would be at risk of severe degradation after 2050. Under a 1.5°C warming scenario, the threat to those reefs wouldn't be significantly different before 2050-in both situations an expected degradation of the tropical coral ecosystems is likely to begin by 2030 regardless. But more of them-about 30%-would survive until 2100. "Some researchers have argued that there is little difference in climate change impacts between 1.5°C and 2°C," said study co-author Jacob Schewe, a climate physicist at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research in Germany. He acknowledges that certain factors such as natural variability and model uncertainties need to be accounted for because they can obscure the picture. "We did that in our study, and by focusing on key indicators at the regional level, we clearly show that there are significant differences in impacts between 1.5°C and 2°C," he added in a statement to the press. Certain places are particularly vulnerable, Schewe says. "There are tipping points in the system such as the Greenland ice sheet where if it were to melt, the mechanisms there are irreversible." Scientists can't say with certainty where that tipping point is exactly, he adds-but they estimate that it's somewhere between 1.5°C and 2.5°C. "So going for 1.5°C is much safer."

### Be a Citizen Journalist

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

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

### Letter to The Editor

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

**Editor,**  
**The Assam Rising**  
Guwahati, Assam

## Braverman's new migrant 'crackdown' deal with France is doomed to fail. Here's why



As Suella Braverman exchanged pecks on the cheek and signed a £63m deal for new migrant patrols with her French counterpart, Gerald Darmanin, the home secretary looked like a woman who means business. That was, after all, the point of the exercise. The optics of today's Anglo-French agreement were designed to calm anti-migrant voters who eye the increase in small boat arrivals with dismay and insist that "Britain is full". There have been carefully orchestrated sprinklings of rhetoric to go with it. In an article in the Sunday Telegraph, the immigration minister, Robert Jenrick, pledged to end "Hotel Britain", accusing "economic migrants" of "asylum shopping" in the UK; Rishi Sunak told reporters while on his way to the G20 summit in Indonesia that "the absolute priority that the British people have right now, as do I, is to

grip illegal migration". Nobody can say government hasn't already tried to deter refugees from conflict zones coming to the UK. It has spent a fortune on it - £140m that we know about on the Rwanda deal, yet so far not a single asylum seeker has been sent there. Including the new deal, the UK will have paid £175m to the French government to fund anti-migrant operations since 2018. These expensive initiatives haven't worked- indeed, the number of small boat Channel crossings is at record levels, with the provisional total so far this year at 41,738 compared with 28,526 last year. Samuel Beckett's lines from *Worstward Ho* spring to mind: "Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better." Even Braverman has already admitted that the new Anglo-French deal is not a "silver bullet". These efforts keep failing because they don't engage with a key question. Refugees fleeing conflict have to go somewhere. Where should they go?

### Diane Taylor

According to the government's own data, more than 90% of small boat arrivals claim asylum, and record numbers are being granted leave to remain in the UK because they have been found to be genuine refugees. There are no legal routes for these genuine refugees to reach safe havens such as the UK and other countries in Europe, which is why they're making expensive and terrifying journeys across the Channel in flimsy dinghies. The government's line - that people have already passed through safe European countries so should not be travelling on to the UK - is too simplistic. Some spend their entire journey in a lorry until they reach northern France and are pushed on to a dinghy by smugglers. Others are desperate to reunite with family in the UK. It is a myth that asylum seekers are drawn to the

UK in the hope of sleeping between crisp white sheets in a nice hotel bedroom. They are faced with an impossible decision: pay smugglers, often selling everything they own to do so; or stay in a danger zone. The standard of accommodation on arrival in the UK does not feature in their life or death reckonings. Ministers are so afraid of appearing politically feeble that they refuse to express anything that could be seen as empathy for refugees arriving on small boats, irrespective of the horrors they might have fled. But understanding the suffering that makes people run from their country is an important part of understanding how to solve the problem. Until government acknowledges the basic truths causing people to take flight, announcements such as today's are doomed to failure and small boats piled high with desperate humans will continue to arrive. If words are not matched by delivery, big policy reveals about tough new deals will only go so far with voters who buy into Braverman's inflammatory "invasion" rhetoric. There are ways forward. They are imperfect but better than what we have at the moment. The refugee crisis is a global one and the response must be global too. Wealthy, peaceful countries need to work together to share responsibility equally and proportionately for supporting refugees fleeing conflict. Charities such as Safe Passage, Care4Calais and the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants are calling for safe and legal routes for asylum seekers which they say could

crush the people-smuggling business overnight. Proposals include an expansion of refugee resettlement programmes and special refugee visas. Of course, Brexit has reduced opportunities for the UK to work with Europe on this because we are no longer part of an agreement that allowed some transfers of refugees between different European countries. The only "success" government can claim in its hardline anti-refugee policies is increasing fear and trauma among refugees. But this is not stopping people from coming, because they feel they do not have the luxury of choice. I interviewed an Iranian family - mum, dad and teenage daughter - who arrived on a small boat in June 2022 so are in line for forced removal to Rwanda. They appeared calm until I asked if they had received a notice of intent letter about being moved to Rwanda. As suddenly as the flicking on of a light switch, the teenage girl started screaming and crying hysterically because she heard the word Rwanda. Her mother stood up and lifted her daughter's thick black hair to reveal bald patches underneath. She explained that terror about being sent to Rwanda had caused clumps of this beautiful hair to fall out. They fear they would not be safe there, and that they would be far from Iranian communities which are well established in the UK but nonexistent in Rwanda. They may have heard about the UNHCR's concerns that asylum seekers forcibly sent to Rwanda could be re-refouled - forced to return to a country where they are likely to face persecution. The issue of small boat arrivals is indeed complex and challenging, but surely we can do better than this.

## Cop27 is full of politicians and policymakers- but the global south doesn't work that way

When I say Africans are deeply disappointed with Cop27 so far, I don't want to be misunderstood. There have been real signs of progress, including meaningful shifts towards climate justice by European leaders. But the hope that the global south would have its voice heard by the most powerful nations at this year's Cop summit has - predictably enough - failed to materialise. For years now, global climate negotiations have been dominated by world leaders, policymakers and intergovernmental organisations, leaving little space for anyone else. There is not really any impetus to do otherwise. How can we talk about loss and damage, or fathom the scale of environmental destruction and climate reparations - which should be \$2tn a year according

to the UN - without including the voices of those who know the most? After all, civil society, faith leaders and moral voices play a pivotal role in society and politics across the global south. Yet this is not well understood by the powers that dominate Cop meetings. For the global south, this type of exclusion will prove detrimental. After all, a lack of infrastructure and social preparedness will result in waves of millions - possibly a billion - climate refugees. Western politics has never served the global south's interests or followed through on promises of climate aid and finance. The gravity of the threat faced by these nations, coupled with ignorance about the global south's reliance on civil society actors and moral authority figures to implement meaningful cultural change, will be the final nail in the coffin. It did not have to be this way. In the week before Cop27,

the G20's first religion forum took place in Bali, where the Muslim World League (MWL) and Indonesia's Nahdlatul Ulama organisation brought together moral leadership and civic representation to offer a blueprint to combat the climate crisis across the global south. At the forum, the MWL

### Ndileka Mandela

secretary-general, Dr Mohammad bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa, explained to global interfaith and secular leaders how cross-sector collaboration was vital in the face of increasing global challenges. We would have expected Cop27 - held in Egypt, a Muslim-majority nation like Indonesia - to feature similarly important work bridging local and global priorities. After all, faith is a



unifier for billions across the global south, as well as being a credible solution for political global crises; just consider Desmond Tutu's role in ending apartheid. Unlike the R20, where voices from the global south were front and centre, this has been far from the case in Egypt. And this imbalanced approach isn't just harmful to Egypt or the rest of Africa, or the global south. It hurts the global north, too. If the world cannot agree on a new path that allows

nations to both develop and reduce emissions, they will take the existing path, which would spell disaster. Decades ago, China was hardly seen as the heir apparent to American might. When Richard Nixon opened relations with China, he was mostly animated by the possibility of undermining Moscow; just how it might empower Beijing seemed irrelevant. In just a few decades, though, China has propelled itself into the ranks of historic superpowers, boasting what is now the world's second largest economy. Its carbon footprint swelled accordingly: it is now the world's biggest polluter. Of course, China's citizens also enjoy living standards their recent ancestors could hardly have imagined. In a very short timespan, in economic terms China rocketed from global south to global north, travelling along the same trajectory as western nations, but in a much shorter period of time. This does not mean other large countries in the global south - such as Egypt, Nigeria and Ethiopia - will take the same path. But they could. And why wouldn't they aspire to that? The harm that would be done to the world, including the developed world, if more global south nations took the fast track to highly polluting, highly advanced economies would be awful. Cop27 was supposed to be Africa's chance to suggest a different path; one focused on responsibility, sustainability, prosperity. Instead, it seems, Cop27 has become a tragic instance of superficial diversity, where Africa is everywhere except in the conversation. To be clear, just because Egypt has come up short does not mean Cop27 is a failure. We still have four days to go. And moves by European nations towards climate justice will hopefully inspire other powerful nations - most critically the US and China - to do their part. But that's not enough. The United Nations must insist that hosting a conference of such global significance should mean equality of access with verifiable metrics in place to ensure it.

## A new hope for journalism

There is general accusation that press always indulges or highlights murders, assaults, riots, kidnappings, divorce or scandals with women. It is true that these incidents get wide publicity in the newspapers. But, can anyone say that these are not news? If a newspaper decides not to publish all such news as trash news, then what will ultimately happen to that newspaper? A newspaper may refuse to publish such news on moral grounds, but then the rival newspaper may not be so scrupulous and publish such news. The result would be the first paper would suffer in circulation and might be forced to go into liquidation. Journalistic virtues are centred round the following six principles: Accuracy, Truthfulness, Balance, Decency, Sensitivity and Fairness. Journalists are

servants of the public and truth. Many people complain that newspapers do not give adequate publicity to the constructive activities or development activities of the Government. It is true that there is ample scope to highlight the programmes of economic activity in both the public and private sectors. But, the general complaints are that these are not adequately reported in the newspapers. But if all these incidents are properly weighed on the scale of newsworthiness it will be found that actually there is not much news value from the point of view of the readers. All journalists are aware of the fact that if a snake bites a person, then it is no news. But if a person bites a snake, it becomes a news. The analogy may be very old for, but there is some basic truth in it. If a person bites a snake, that becomes a news. But if there comes a time when the person always bites a

snake, it will no longer be a news. River flows its natural course, which is no news. If the river dries up resulting in terrible misery to the people in adjoining areas, then of course it is great news. This may invite the attention of a scientist as well as ecologists to find out the reason for this sudden behaviour of nature. Similarly, if there is devastating flood in the river causing enormous damages to crops, houses and deaths, it becomes news. If the workshop or factories run as per schedule and its production is just according to target, it is no news, it is expected of workshops. But if there is a strike in the factory or workshop resulting in enormous loss to the nation - it becomes news. Again if there is enough production beyond the target or rated capacity then it becomes good news. The

### Er. Prabhat Kishore

importance of news varies from area to area. In certain areas of the Prakhand, the news of even Panchayat elections is more important than the Vidhan Sabha or the Lok Sabha elections. This is because all the big guns are involved in such elections and the people under the Panchayat are eager to know about the elected persons as they would

Sarpanch or Mukhiya dies after a shock received about any untoward happening to the Chief Minister or a minister of his area then of course such news of death becomes a news. Therefore, it can be safely assumed that there is no hard or fast rule regarding news or its publication. Newspapers, big or small, are interested in publishing only such news in which its readership is interested. But this is also a fact that newspapers hardly know the news preference of its readership, in spite of many analytical surveys. A newspaper or a reporter will undoubtedly be a great success if they are able to find out the news by its readership. Then comes the question of newspapers exposing the malpractices of politicians. Such exposures are nothing new in Indian journalism. Journalists had the courage of and honesty to expose the

gross malpractices of Heavyweight politicians Mr. K.D. Malviya (Minister in the Centre Govt.), Sardar Pratap Singh Kairon (Chief Minister of Punjab), A.R. Antule (Chief Minister of Maharashtra), Bakshi Gulam Mohammad (CM of Jammu & Kashmir), Jagannath Mishra & Laloo Prasad (both CM of Bihar) and many others. Because of exposures of malpractices reported by them they had to quit ultimately. If such exposures are done even now by bold journalists, it will do immense good to the country. It is heartening that many young generation reporters are engaged in exposing many corrupt practices on high places with unquestioned integrity and honesty. That is the real hope for new journalism in our country.



## Meghalaya CM inaugurates Performing Arts & Culture Centre



**Shillong, November 15 :** Meghalaya CM Conrad Sangma on Monday inaugurated the much-awaited Shillong International Centre for Performing Arts & Culture (SICPAC) under the Department of Arts & Culture (DAC) at Mawkasiang. This kind of infrastructure with huge seating capacity is the first-of-its-kind in the state. SICPAC project boasts of an iconic RCC framed structure and the building cluster comprises different theatres and auditoria halls, like a multipurpose theatre with a capacity of 1739 seats, a

small theatre with 302 seats, a Black Box Theatre with 574 seats, and an Open-Air Theatre with a standing capacity of 15,000 people, all connected through a central block surrounded with water bodies. The composite structure is aesthetically placed on the hill slopes of Shillong overlooking a valley. The iconic structure has been built at a total cost of Rs 151.33 crore with fund support of Rs 136.20 crore from the Central Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR), and Rs 15.13 crore from the state. Speaking at the inaugural programme, CM Sangma said, "The Shillong International Centre for Performing Arts & Culture will set a new benchmark as an infrastructure platform for

Performing Arts in the national and international arena. The facility will serve as the venue for mega cultural events in the domains of dance, theatre, and music and also host film festivals and particularly showcase art and crafts from the northeast region. As an International Convention Centre with state-of-the-art amenities, the facility will offer an employable skill development course in art, music, films, television, and multimedia disciplines for the youth of Meghalaya as well as other North-eastern States. A small museum at this facility showcasing the State's art and craft would be an added tourist attraction. A few of the available utilities at SICPAC include a contemporary art gallery, a sky theatre, a special exhibitions space, a VIP lounge, automated elevators, a tribal museum, and administrative workspace, among other facilities.

## 74% reduction in insurgency incidents in NE: MHA

**Agartala, November 15 :** The security situation in the northeastern states has improved substantially since 2014 and the year 2020 recorded the lowest insurgency incidents and casualties among the civilians and security forces during the last two decades, said a report of the Ministry of Home Affairs. According to the MHA report, there has been a 74% reduction in insurgency incidents in 2021 as compared to 2014. The northeast region is culturally and ethnically diverse having more than 200 ethnic groups, which have distinct languages, dialects, and sociocultural identities. The region covers 7.97% of the country's geographical area and 3.78% of its population and has 5,484 kilometres of international border with Bangladesh (1,880 km), Myanmar (1,643 km), China (1,346 km), Bhutan (516 km) and Nepal (99 km). The terrain, socio-economic development, and historical factors, such as language, ethnicity, tribal rivalry, migration, control over local resources, and long and porous international borders, have resulted in a fragile



security situation in the northeastern states. This has resulted in violence, extortion, and diverse demands by various Indian insurgent groups (IGs), which maintain safe havens and camps in the neighbouring countries. As per the report in 2014, around 824 incidents took place, while in 2021 the number of incidents is 209. Starting from 2014 till 2021, while around 5,319 extremists surrendered, 580 were killed and 9, 103 were arrested. "Though Law & Order is a State subject, the Central Government is supplementing efforts of the State Governments

for curbing the illegal and unlawful activities of insurgent groups of North Eastern States through various measures. These include deployment of Central Armed Police Forces, reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure (SRE) to the State Governments under SRE Scheme, Central assistance to the State Governments for modernization of State police

forces, sanction of India Reserve Battalions, banning the Unlawful Associations operating in NE Region under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA) and declaring specific areas/Stater as 'Disturbed Areas' under The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA)", the reporter said. It also claimed that due to significant improvement in

the security situation in North Eastern States, The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA) has been removed from 23 districts and partially from 1 other district of Assam, 15 Police station areas in 6 districts of Manipur and 15 Police Station areas in 7 districts of Nagaland from 1st April of 2022. The report also stated that during 2021, security forces casualties have come down by 60% and civilian deaths by 89%. "In 2021, a total of 209 insurgency-related incidents were registered in the NE region in which 23 civilians and 8 security forces personnel lost their lives. Counter-insurgency operations led to the neutralization of 40 insurgents, arrest of 686 insurgents, and recovery of 367 weapons in the region. A total of 1,473 cadres of insurgent outfits of NE states surrendered with 471 arms and joined the mainstream of the society," the report of MHA said.

## Sikkim pugilist Pemplaki dares to dream big with 'family' support

**Shillong, November 15 :** A glance at her Whatsapp summary reads, 'Family' with emojis of love and heart! Quite normal for any individual! Here we are speaking about Sikkim pugilist Pemplaki Bhutia, who was separated from her biological family at the age of five and the 'family' she mentions is her present one. Pemplaki was fascinated by boxing when she saw MC Mary Kom picking the bronze medal at the London Olympics in 2012. However, for the next two years, her dreams of pursuing the sport professionally never crossed her mind, nor was there any push from inside, or thanks to the negligible facilities for the sport in her surroundings at Namchi in South Sikkim - her new address after being adopted by Tilok Kumar Pondyal, an ASP with the state police force. So what made you switch families? Weren't you happy with your own family? "I was born in Phalidara but soon lost my mom, and my father was also good. I was too small and didn't remember everything vividly. But from what I can recollect, I would go for morning trips to fetch milk, and on the way would cross home, and the family loved me, they would take care of me, and I felt them as my own. I used to spend most of my time at their place, and one day my new father asked me if I would want to stay with them forever, and from that day I got a new

family," Pemplaki, now 21, explained while refreshing her memories. The family then moved to Namchi and with time the memories of her past gradually started fading away from Pemplaki's mind. While the rest of the siblings were good at studies, Pemplaki was more inclined towards sport, and

Mary Kom's medal - India's first-ever Olympic medal in women's boxing did give her the push to dream of a career in sports. She was, however, clueless about the coaching facilities in her locality before an opportunity came knocking when her school teacher wanted a few students to

participate in the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan, a central sponsored scheme launched by the Congress-led UPA government in February 2014 before the BJP-led NDA merged it into Khelo India after returning to power in May, the same year.



**Gangtok, November 15 :** A day after Sikkim Police reported of involvement of Sikkim Democratic Front spokesperson JB Darnal's involvement in supporting 'Sumanta Kumar', the JantarMantar protester against Article 371F, Sikkim Krantikari Morcha came all guns blazing against SDF and its leader Pawan Kumar Chamling, demanding his and Darnal's resignation from SDF party. Addressing the media in a press conference in Gangtok, SKM spokesperson Jacob Khaling demanded the removal of Pawan Kumar Chamling from party leadership along with JB Darnal. He stated, "The involvement of Darnal in the JantarMantar protest against Article 371F implementation in Sikkim, showcases how the likes of Darnal and SDF leader Pawan Kumar Chamling can stoop to for politics. They have worked against the very sentiment of being

Sikkimese by aiding a person who has spoken against our protected right under Article 371F. The involvement of Darnal is evident but even he must be working at the behest of his party leader Pawan Kumar Chamling. On the moral ground they must both resign from the party, and even if they don't the SDF central executive committee must remove them, if they want to prove that they are working for Sikkimese people, their welfare and rights." Later in the day, Darnal hit back saying the entire JantarMantar episode has been orchestrated by the SKM party and Kumar. He stated, "I have no connection in this case since I never tried contacting Kumar. All I did was condemn his acts on social media after which I did not pursue the matter further. Therefore, neither I nor my party President will resign from our posts, as



demanding by Jacob Khaling. I have never dared to hurt the sentiments of the Sikkimese people in fact I was the first person to condemn the statements made by Kumar against Article 371F. Hence, I am ready to answer any queries regarding this issue." Darnal challenged SKM to bring CBI and solve the case within a month's time and prove their loyalty towards Sikkim and its people. Khaling led a similar attack upon Sikkimay Suraksha Samiti President Madan Tamang who was also named by Sikkim Police as an accomplice of JantarMantar protester along with three other names. Speaking about Madan Tamang, Khaling stated, "At one end Madan Tamang is leading a protest for days at

District Administrative Center in Sichey demanding Inner Line Permit and protection of Article 371F, on the other end, he is calling Sumanta Kumar promising of aiding him in his protest against Article 371F and rights of Sikkimese people. The likes of Chamling and Madan Tamang are working against the people of Sikkim which is evident now. It is also evident, that they are only trying to defame the ruling SKM government. The guns were fired by likes of Chamling and Madan Tamang from the shoulders of Sumanta Kumar." Madan Tamang, moments after he was named by the Sikkim Police on Monday, addressed a few media houses, denying his involvement. He was quoted, "The only reason my name is being floated in the JantarMantar protest is that I am seen as a person who is vocal and fighting

for the rights of Sikkimese people. It is an attempt at sabotaging our protest demanding for Inner Line Permit. I have no part in aiding Sumanta Kumar, rather I had condemned his statement from Sikkimay Suraksha Samiti's side when the incident happened." Khaling, however, upon being questioned by the media about the statements of Tamang, urged him to file a defamation case against Sumanta Kumar for naming him. He outrightly denied the claims made by Tamang. Khaling also questioned the involvement of old settler and activist Prem Goyal, S i k k i m Bihari Jagran Manch General Secretary Birendra Prasad and Homeopathy practitioner VK Prasad, questioning them for the reason for their involvement.

## 'Bengal model' ideal alternative for Tripura

**Agartala, November 15 :** Trinamool Congress Lok Sabha MP Mahua Moitra on Monday claimed that the populist governance model of Bengal is an ideal alternative for Tripura and all the welfare schemes that the Bengal government has introduced would be brought in the state as well. Addressing a public meeting followed by a rally in Agartala, Moitra said, "The BJP has a complaint against us. They accused us of doing dole politics. I want to rectify their misunderstanding about

us. We follow the principles of humanitarian politics and welfarism. If these cardinal principles of politics are absent, what is the meaning of politics? We can open private limited companies instead." Taking a dig at BJP's "double engine" slogan, Moitra said, "We are witness to a number of double engine governments. In Gujarat, the double engine government has released the culprits who raped an innocent housewife and killed her entire family. And here in Tripura, four incidents of rape were reported back-to-back in less than 10 days. The double engine government has really performed well in disrupting the peace and shattering law and order." Moitra said the BJP has lost its moral ground to continue in power soon after the change of chief minister. "People of Tripura badly wanted an alternative which was the main reason behind BJP's emergence. The Chief Minister of Assam during his visit made many promises before elections and today the voters have realized as to how they were deceived.



Does anyone in the state receive jobs by giving a missed call? All the pre-poll promises were a treat to the ears but none of them were delivered on the ground. Even the person who was appointed the Chief Minister could not continue his full term. This explains the level of stupidity of the government," said Moitra. The Bengal leader also accused the BJP of raising baseless allegations against the Trinamool Congress and said, "The BJP has an agenda of raising baseless allegations. After Mamata Banerjee came to power for the third time, the BJP kept speaking on post-poll violence. They have all the power, why can't they prove anything against us. The Home Ministry is under their control. They keep spreading false information, and our party has decided to set our own narrative not being bothered by the fake statements."

## 5 arrested for Shillong rally violence

**Shillong, November 15 :** Five people have been arrested so far in connection with the violence that took place in Shillong last month. This comes at a time when Meghalaya Police have been continuously questioning leaders of the Federation of Khasi Jaintia and Garo People (FKJGP). President of the FKJGP Dundee Khongsit was summoned on Monday for questioning at the Sadar police station. Superintendent of Police (SP) City Vivek Syiem and East Khasi Hills Superintendent of Police Sylvester Nongtinger informed that five people have been arrested so far out of the three cases that were registered last month. An unemployment rally was carried out by FKJGP on October 28 when some masked protestors went on a rampage attacking passersby and commuters. Syiem said that they have been getting the full cooperation of the organisation and that investigation is going on. He added that there has been progress in the interrogation of the case and notices have been served to the leaders of the FKJGP. T





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## G20 Summit 2022 : PM Modi holds

and said that we have to find a way to return to the path of ceasefire and diplomacy in Ukraine. He also told global leaders that the "onus of creating a new world order" for the post-Covid period lies on our shoulders. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was welcomed at the summit venue by Indonesian President Joko Widodo, ahead of the formal opening of the summit. "Recover Together, Recover Stronger" is the theme picked by Indonesia when it took charge last year and the world leaders are scheduled to hold three working sessions on food and energy security, digital transformations, and health. PM @narendramodi attends the #G20Indonesia Working Session on food & energy security. In his intervention, underlined the criticality of resilient supply chains for food, fertilisers & energy, and the need for affordable finance for smooth energy transition for the Global South. pic.twitter.com/ZZ4XVoOG8b - Arindam Bagchi (@MEAIndia) November 15, 2022 On the sidelines of the summit, Prime Minister Modi is slated to hold bilateral meetings with Indonesian President Widodo, Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez, French President Emmanuel Macron and Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong. Earlier on Monday, a day ahead of the summit, US President Joe Biden and his Chinese counterpart Xi held a meeting for three and a half hours in Bali and discussed US-China relations. While Russian President Vladimir Putin has opted out of the Bali summit, he has sent his foreign minister Sergei Lavrov to represent the country. The G20, notably, comprises 19 countries namely Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the UK, the USA and the European Union (EU). Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address and interact with the Indian community in Bali today. A draft of a declaration by leaders of the G20 major economies strongly condemned the war in Ukraine and stressed it was exacerbating fragilities in the global economy. "There were other views and different assessments of the situation and sanctions," said the draft declaration, according to a report. The 16-page document has yet to be adopted by G20 members. "Recognising that the G20 is not the forum to resolve security issues, we acknowledge that security issues can have significant consequences for the global economy," the draft declaration read. Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen has cancelled meetings he was due to have at the G20 summit in Bali after testing positive for Covid-19, a statement posted on his Facebook page said. Hun Sen, who is the current chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), had tested positive before he had held any meetings including those scheduled with French President Emmanuel Macron and Chinese leader Xi Jinping. Prime Minister Narendra Modi held talks with his new UK counterpart Rishi Sunak during the first day of the G20 Summit in Bali. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Tuesday told world leaders gathered at the G20 summit in Bali that now was the time to stop Russia's war in his country under a peace plan he has proposed. "I am convinced now is the time when the Russian destructive war must and can be stopped," Zelenskyy said while speaking via video link to the summit on the Indonesian island. The Ukraine war and a global spike in inflation are overshadowing the summit, the first time the meeting is being held since Russia's invasion of Ukraine. It is noteworthy that the G20 accounts for more than 80% of the world's gross domestic product, 75% of international trade and 60% of its population. US President Joe Biden is set to try to cajole the world's largest economies to further isolate Vladimir Putin's Russia diplomatically and economically over its invasion of Ukraine. In meetings today at the Group of 20 Summit in Indonesia's Bali, Biden is likely to continue a global tour pressing nations to stand up to Russia and defend Ukraine's sovereignty in both symbolic and substantive ways. A senior US Administration official, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss the G-20 summit, said that the summit's final communique will make clear that "most" of the nations condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the toll it has taken on global food and energy supplies. The G20 leaders in Bali are scheduled to hold three working sessions - on food and energy security, digital transformations, and health. "Recover Together, Recover Stronger" is the theme picked by Indonesia when it took charge last year. After the meeting in Indonesia, India will take over the Group of 20 presidency for one year. It is notable that the G20 comprises 19 countries: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the UK, the USA and the European Union (EU). Indonesian President Joko Widodo has asked world leaders to follow the UN charter and called for an "end" to the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war in his remarks at the G20 Summit. He said all leaders have a responsibility to the people of the world and being responsible meant following the UN charter "consistently." "Being responsible means we must end the war," he said in the English portion of his brief opening remarks. It will be difficult to move forward if the war is not ended, Widodo said, adding that the world must not slip into another Cold War. I heartily congratulate President Joko Widodo for giving effective leadership to the G-20 in a challenging global environment. Climate change, the Covid pandemic, the developments in Ukraine, and the global problems associated with it. All these together have caused havoc in the world. Global supply chains are in ruins. There is a crisis of essentials, essential goods all over the world. The challenge for the poor citizens of every country is more severe. Everyday life was already a struggle for them. They do not have the financial capacity to deal with the double whammy. Due to the double whammy, they lack the financial capacity to handle it. We should also not hesitate to acknowledge that multilateral institutions such as the UN have been unsuccessful on these issues. And we have all failed to make suitable reforms in them. Therefore, today the world has greater expectations from the G-20, the relevance of our group has become more significant. I have repeatedly said that we have to find a way to return to the path of ceasefire and diplomacy in Ukraine. Over the past century, the Second World War wreaked havoc in the world. After that, the leaders of that time made a serious effort to take the path of peace. Now it's our turn. The onus of creating a new world order for the post-Covid period lies on our shoulders. The need of the hour is to show concrete and collective resolve to ensure peace, harmony and security in the world. I am confident that next year when the G20 meets in the holy land of Buddha and Gandhi, we will all agree to convey a strong message of peace to the world. During the pandemic, India ensured food security of its 1.3 billion citizens. At the same time, food grains were also supplied to many countries in need. The current shortage of fertilizers in terms of food security is also a huge crisis. Today's fertilizer shortage is tomorrow's food crisis, for which the world will not have a solution. We should build mutual agreement to maintain the supply chain of both manure and food grains stable and assured. In India, for sustainable food security, we are promoting natural farming, and re-popularising nutritious and traditional foodgrains like millets. Millets can also solve global malnutrition and hunger. We all must celebrate the International Year of Millets with great enthusiasm next year. India's energy-security is also important for global growth, as it is the world's fastest growing economy. We must not promote any restrictions on the supply of energy and stability in the energy market should be ensured. India is committed to clean energy and environment. By 2030, half of our electricity will be generated from renewable sources. Time-bound and affordable finance and sustainable supply of technology to developing countries is essential for inclusive energy transition.

## Assam Govt, IIM Bangalore to Train

level as well as gain academic expertise from a prestigious institute like IIM Bangalore. Endeavours such as these will open the doors of the government to talented people. More detailed announcements relating to this programme will be made shortly. My thanks to the team of IIM Bangalore for partnering with us," said Chief Minister of Assam, Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma. Professor Rishikesha T Krishnan, Director, IIM Bangalore, said it was a great honour for IIMB to work with the Assam Government on this critical capacity building project. "This marks our biggest efforts in the Northeast and we hope the brightest talent in the country will get an opportunity to work for one of India's fastest growing states. We expect a large number of applicants who are motivated by the dynamic leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister," he said.

## 'Coronavirus

sources. Time-bound and affordable finance and sustainable supply of technology to developing countries is essential for inclusive energy transition," he added at the summit being held in this Indonesian city. On the Ukraine conflict, he referred to his repeated call for resolving the crisis through talks. "I have repeatedly said that we have to find a way to return to the path of ceasefire and diplomacy in Ukraine. Over the past century, the Second World War wreaked havoc in the world," he said. "After that, the leaders of that time made a serious effort to take the path of peace. Now it's our turn. The onus of creating a new world order for the post-Covid period lies on our shoulders," he noted. The prime minister said the need of the hour is to show "concrete and collective resolve" to ensure peace, harmony and security in the world. "I am confident that next year when the G20 meets in the holy land of Buddha and Gandhi, we will all agree to convey a strong message of peace to the world," he said. PM Modi said India will work for global consensus on all key issues during its presidency. The prime minister also complimented Indonesia for its leadership of G20 in a challenging global environment. "Climate change, the Covid pandemic, the developments in Ukraine, and the global problems associated with it. All these together have caused havoc in the world. Global supply chains are in ruins," PM Modi said. "There is a crisis of essentials, essential goods all over the world. The challenge for the poor citizens of every country is more severe. Everyday life was already a struggle for them," he said. "Due to the double whammy, they lack the financial capacity to handle it. We should also not hesitate to acknowledge that multilateral institutions such as the UN have been unsuccessful on these issues," he said. "And we have all failed to make suitable reforms in them. Therefore, today the world has greater expectations from the G-20, the relevance of our group has become more significant," he added. The Prime Minister also highlighted India's efforts to ensure food security during the pandemic. "During the pandemic, India ensured food security of its 1.3 billion citizens. At the same time, food grains were also supplied to many countries in need. The current shortage of fertilizers in terms of food security is also a huge crisis," he said. "Today's fertilizer shortage is tomorrow's food crisis, for which the world will not have a solution. We should build mutual agreement to maintain the supply chain of both manure and food grains stable and assured," Modi said. The Prime Minister said India is promoting natural farming, and re-popularising nutritious and traditional foodgrains like millets for sustainable food security. "Millets can also solve global malnutrition and hunger. We all must celebrate the International Year of Millets with great enthusiasm next year," he said. The G20 comprises 19 countries: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the UK, the USA and the European Union (EU).

## Assam CM inaugurates 5 New

also inaugurated the new addition to Hostel number - 4, built at a cost of ₹11.06 crore and having a capacity to accommodate 84 seats. A nurses quarter, costing ₹3.32 crore, and the Principal's residential quarter, built at a cost of ₹2.03 crore, were also inaugurated by Chief Minister Dr. Sarma. Addressing the faculties, staff and students of GMCH at the inauguration venue, the Chief Minister congratulated them for the new infrastructure addition to their esteemed institution. These additions, he said, would go a long way in helping the government realize its long-term vision for GMCH. Referring to the upcoming Pragjyotish Medical College, the Chief Minister said the city getting two medical colleges would be helpful in asset and resources distribution and would immensely benefit patients undergoing treatment for various ailments. The Chief Minister also declared that GMCH students' long-standing demand for a playground would be taken up as a priority and necessary instructions would be issued to concerned departments at the earliest. The Chief Minister was today accompanied by Health Minister Keshab Mahanta and Principal of GMCH Achyut Baishya.

## Assam Bandh: AACSU President

closed due to the bandh in Golaghat. The police were on high alert since morning to ensure that no one goes against the law and that peace and order is maintained. However, Mahen and five others were involved in burning tyres due to which they were arrested. On Monday, Assam Police issued a warning and asked the six ethnic groups to call off the bandh. They had warned that they will arrest the protestors who will take to the streets in the name of bandh. The police in a directive said that they had not allowed the bandh and the union will have to compensate if the bandh supporters damage any of the public properties. It may be mentioned that the Central Government in September approved the inclusion of various communities in the lists of ST of five states namely Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. The decision was taken at a meeting of the Union cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and was welcomed warmly by the states concerned. However, they failed to include six ethnic groups from Assam. Granting ST status to the Adivasi, Chutia, Koch-Rajbongshi, Matak, Moran and Tai-Ahom communities was one of the promises of the BJP ahead of the 2016 Assembly elections. These communities together comprise more than 30 percent of Assam's electorate.

## Population leap! World population

ranking by size. According to UN estimates, India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country during 2023. Population growth is caused in part by declining levels of mortality, as reflected in increased levels of life expectancy at birth. Globally, life expectancy reached 72.8 years in 2019, an increase of almost 9 years since 1990. Further reductions in mortality are projected to result in average longevity of around 77.2 years globally in 2050. Countries with the highest fertility levels tend to be those with the lowest income per capita. Global population growth has therefore over time become increasingly concentrated among the world's poorest countries, most of which are in sub-Saharan Africa. In these countries, sustained rapid population growth can thwart the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which remain the world's best pathway toward a happy and healthy future. Even though population growth magnifies the environmental impact of economic development, rising per capita incomes are the main driver of unsustainable patterns of production and consumption. The countries with the highest per capita consumption of material resources and emissions of greenhouse gas emissions tend to be those where income per capita is higher, not those where the population is growing rapidly. Meeting the objectives of the Paris Agreement to limit global temperature rise, while achieving the SDGs, critically depends on curbing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, according to UN. Yet, slower population growth over many decades could help to mitigate the further accumulation of environmental damage in the second half of the current century.

## Thalassemia screening camps

in seven medical colleges and hospitals across Assam on November 15, 2022 from 9 am onwards. It may be mentioned that Thalassemia Support Scheme for children below 14 years of age was launched on 1st October during National Voluntary Blood Donation Day. To bring more patients under the ambit of this scheme, thalassemia screening camps are being organized at Gauhati Medical College and Hospital, Assam Medical College and Hospital, Silchar Medical College and Hospital, Lakhimpur Medical College and Hospital, Tezpur Medical College and Hospital, Fakhruddin Ali Medical College and Hospital, Barpeta and Jorhat Medical College and Hospital.

## Nearly 4,500 schools shut down

District Information System for Education Plus' (UDISE+). The report states that over 4,500 schools in the region have shut down in 2021-22 compared to the previous year. "The decline in total number of schools is mainly due to the closure of schools under private and other management," the report mentioned. While there were 1.509 million schools in the country in 2020-21, the figure dropped by 20,000 to 1.489 million schools in 2021-22. Of these, nearly 4,500 (more than 20%) closed down in Assam. Assam had 43,591 primary schools in 2020-21. A year later, that figure dropped to 40,482. Similarly, the number of upper primary schools came down from 11,789 to 10,672 in the same period. Though Covid-19 had impacted the education sector in 2020-21 as well, the effect was more on the enrolment of students, especially in lower classes and among students with special needs, than the closure of schools. In 2020-21, the number of students enrolled in pre-primary classes dropped by 2.91 million, those in Class I dropped by 1.88 million and enrolment of students with special needs decreased by 80,000 in comparison to 2019-20. Secondary schools witnessed a drop of 266 from 7556 in 2020-21 to 7,290 a year later. The only increase was seen in the number of higher secondary schools, from 2,267 in 2020-21 to 2,415 in 2021-22. "While private schools may have closed down due to losses and dropout of students due to Covid-19, the decrease in government schools could be attributed to a decision to merge some non-performing schools with others nearby," said an official of education department on conditions of anonymity. In August this year, the government had ordered merger of 195 newly provincialised schools with secondary schools. The same month, 34 government schools with zero success rate in Class X board exams were decided to be closed down and their students attached with nearby schools. Apart from decrease in number of schools, the total number of teachers working in schools in Assam also declined from 370,341 in 2020-21 to 352,944 in 2021-22, the UDISE+ report mentioned. The overall enrolment in schools in Assam also recorded a drop of 37,049 from 7,582,019 in 2020-21 to 7,544,960 to 2021-22. The number of new admissions in Class I decreased 36,003 from 710,236 in 2020-21 to 674,233 in 2021-22. Quoting the latest UDISE+ report, Assam education minister Ranaj Pegu stated earlier this month that the dropout rate in primary schools has nearly doubled due from 2020-21 to 2021-22 because of Covid-19. "Increasing dropout rate is a national phenomenon. Due to Covid-19 pandemic, the entire education system, mostly the primary education suffered a lot and resulted in school dropout," the minister told journalists this week. While the dropout rate in primary schools was 3.3% in 2020-21, it increased to 6.02% in 2021-22. For upper primary schools, the dropout rate increased from 4.6% in 2020-21 to 8.8% in 2021-22. The total number of dropout students was 129,543. Pegu added that the dropout rate could be on the higher side as many fake students enrolled by government schools in order to get bigger amounts of grants, mid-day meal provisions, text books, uniform and other benefits were filtered out through an ongoing surveillance mechanism. "Many schools had uploaded inflated enrolment figures on the UDISE+ portal directly in order to avoid merger or closure due to low student enrolment. But with data purification undertaken, we expect the situation to stabilise soon," the minister said. The only silver lining was the lowering of dropout percentage in secondary schools from 31% in 2020-21 to 20.3% in 2021-22.



## GU NSS Team to participate Republic day parade at KU

Assam Rising, Palasbari, November 15: A Gauhati University NSS team with 12 volunteers is leaving for West Bengal today to participate in the Pre Republic Day Parade Camp to be held at Kalyani University, Nadia from November 16 to 25. The camp is sponsored by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India. The team selected from different affiliated NSS units under Gauhati University NSS Cell comprises Ajit Deka, Sumit Kr. Roy, Bishnu B. Basumatary, Hirak Jyoti Gogoi, Adil Uddin Ahmed, Ankur Nath, Pahi Mahanta, Arjina Begum, Chayanika Bora, Purabi Sarkar, Doli Choudhary and Monalisa Chetry. The Assam Contingent will be led by Dr. Jugabrat Das, NSS Program Officer, Goalpara College, Goalpara. Meanwhile GU Vice Chancellor Prof.P.J. Handique, GU Registrar Dr H. K. Nath, Regional Director, NSS, NER, Guwahati Dipak Kumar, Director Sports and Youth Welfare, Assam Nibedan Das Patowary and Director, Students' Welfare, Gauhati University Dr Ranjan Kr Kakati wishes good luck and best wishes to all the participants to make their Pre RD camp successful. The successful volunteers from this Camp will get a chance to participate in the Republic Day Parade Camp to be held at New Delhi from 1st January to 31st January next year.

## Fire in Laharighat, three houses burnt down

Assam Rising, Bhuragaon, November 15: A fire broke out in Dantialbari under Laharighat police station in Morigaon district this morning. The fire destroyed three houses and properties of two families in the village. The fire broke out in the morning. The fire completely burnt down two houses of Ahd Ali and a house of his son Ikramul Haque. The fire brigade was informed about the incident but the fire brigade could not reach the scene. The fire spread to the house of a nearby observer and caused some damage to three houses of two father and son in the village along with paddy, cotton, a ornaments, various items and necessary documents. The accident occurred at around 10:30 pm local time. The incident was not known at the time of writing.

## Wall megazine Darshan inaugurated



Assam Rising, Bhuragaon, November 14: The Principal Jitendra Chahu and Assistant Teacher Jyoti Chutia Bora and other teachers conducted a random lecture, drawing competition and quiz competition among the students and distributed evaluation prizes. The school also launched a wall magazine called "Darshan" for the first time. The wall magazine prepared by the students and teachers of the school revealed other lost talents of the flood areas. The wall magazine was launched by the chief guest, Coordinator of Baglipara Zonal Resource Centre, Mokhesur Rahmane. The event was attended by Faizul Haque Ahmed, Assistant Teacher, Tenguri Primary School No. 2 and Surjit Shaikia, Assistant Teacher, Baglipara Boys Primary School.

## Birsa Munda remembered

Assam Rising, Biswanath Chariali, November 15: The 147th birth anniversary of martyr Birsa Munda organized by the primary branch of Assam Munda Mahasabha was held at Munda Basti, Jamugurihat today along with various parts of the country. The birth anniversary of the national martyr held at Sri Sri Kali Than, Munda Basti began with hoisting of the flag by Mahendra Munda, former president of the regional committee of Munda Mahasabha followed by swahid tarpan by Jagat Munda. A series of competitions were organized among the students to commemorate the special day. The open session began with a chorus which was held with Jagat Munda in the chair. Lalan Orang, retired teacher graced the occasion as an appointed teacher who had highlighted the contributions of the legendary leader and national martyr as well and his special role for all round development of the Adivasi community. The meeting was attended by Ganga Devi, panchayat president of Dakshin Shilabandha GP as chief guest. Chenaram Munda, president of the Sonitpur district committee of Munda Mahasabha conducted the proceedings of the open session. A series of cultural activities were also performed amid the session.





# Verstappen's refusal to give Sergio Pérez his place may return to bite him

**London, November 15 :** Appearing to bear a grudge is far from a good look and for a double Formula One world champion it cannot help but diminish the sheen of success. Max Verstappen might have felt he made a point in refusing to give up his place to teammate Sergio Pérez at the São Paulo Grand Prix but his actions came across like those of an irascible child, self-obsessed to the point of being unable to grasp the needlessness of his actions nor the potential harm they might bring on himself in future. At Interlagos, George Russell took his first F1 win and Mercedes' only victory so far this season in a celebratory atmosphere. In his wake Red Bull's Verstappen and Pérez were enduring an altogether more fractious Sunday afternoon. After Verstappen had clashed with Lewis Hamilton his chance of a win had gone but having moved through the field he found himself in sixth in front of Pérez. Verstappen and Red Bull have long sealed both drivers' and constructors' titles already

but the Mexican is in a tight fight with Ferrari's Charles Leclerc for second in the championship. Red Bull, for all their success, have never secured a one-two in the drivers' and really want



to this year, with a car that has dominated over both Ferrari and Mercedes. The world champion was duly told to move over for Pérez so he could take the additional two points and move in front of Leclerc before the final round next week in Abu Dhabi. To the consternation of his team, the Dutchman flat out refused and Pérez, subsequently finishing seventh, is now only level on points with Leclerc. When asked why, Verstappen said: "I told you

already last time, you guys don't ask that again to me, OK? Are we clear about that? I gave my reasons and I stand by it". The comments appeared to suggest this was some form of payback

him, the car developed to suit his driving style (the opposite to how Pérez would prefer it) and yet the driver whom has been praised roundly for how much he has matured in recent years was having none of it. The Red Bull team principal Christian Horner was moved to apologise to Pérez over team radio and the Mexican's reply was acidic. "It shows who he really is," he said. It is believed the issue stems from this year's Monaco GP where Pérez crashed in qualifying, preventing Verstappen from a shot at taking pole. Pérez went on to win and there have been unsubstantiated reports that he has since admitted he crashed deliberately and that this stuck so vehemently in Verstappen's craw he has

refused to let it go since. He declined to elucidate on the reasons for his actions after the race in Brazil and Red Bull, who pulled their drivers into their motor home immediately afterwards to clear the air, would not reveal any details other than to say the drivers had spoken to one another and the matter had been cleared up. Verstappen smiled when asked if it was Monaco that had influenced his decision and replied: "I'll let you work that out yourself". So if it was Monaco, that was a full 15 races ago. Verstappen has since won 10 races and taken the title. At the meeting before Monaco, in Spain, Pérez had dutifully moved over to let Verstappen past not once but twice, to his own disadvantage. Yet it seems Verstappen could not just let it go.

## Sinckler recalls 'surreal' England talk before World Cup win over All Blacks



**London, November 15 :** Kyle Sinckler has lifted the lid on the "surreal" team meeting that left him certain England would beat the All Blacks and reach the World Cup final in 2019, labelling the two sides' first meeting since then "big-boy rugby". Eddie Jones famously brought a samurai sword into the meeting and sliced kiwi fruit in two in an effort to convince his squad how New Zealand could be beaten. Sinckler, fresh from scoring a try in the quarter-final win over Australia, remembers that the whole squad was transfixed by Jones' left-field move and that England were left in no doubt that they would beat the All Blacks six days later. England lined up in a V-shape in response to the haka before kick-off and then proceeded to deliver arguably their best performance under Jones, with Manu Tuilagi scoring an early try in a 19-7 victory in Yokohama - the first time they had beaten the All Blacks since 2012. Sinckler said: "We had a team meeting on the Sunday which is very strange. Normally Sunday is a day off, you never really see Eddie, but he called a players' meeting at 9am. I'll never forget that meeting, in terms of how we set the week up with our gameplan - putting pressure on them, we're going at them, walking towards the danger. It was a surreal experience as we had no doubt after that meeting we were going to win. How many times have we seen [teams] walk to-

wards the haka and New Zealand put 50 points on them? We felt if we were going to do that we needed to back it up. It was one of those rare moments in your career where everything went to plan. Saturday's match

will be the All Blacks' first trip to Twickenham since 2018 and England have not beaten them at home since Tuilagi ran amok 10 years ago. New Zealand are on a six-match winning streak and, though Scotland gave them an almighty scare on

Sunday, Sinckler, who first encountered the All Blacks when representing the British & Irish Lions in 2017, believes their physicality sets them apart. He added: "They can do the flashy stuff but the nuts and bolts of their game are very impressive. That was one of the biggest eye-openers for me, when I first played New Zealand. Jesus, these guys are really physical. We've got to make sure we bring our 'A' game because, if we don't, they are a world-class outfit. And, for me personally, it's just ultimate gratitude to be in a position to do what I love. Big-boy rugby now!"

## Cristiano Ronaldo claims Glazer family 'don't care' about Manchester United

**London, November 15 :** Cristiano Ronaldo has claimed Manchester United's owners, the Glazer family, do not care about the club. The 37-year-old's latest criticism of United, its owners and anybody who has been critical of him came from an interview with Piers Morgan on TalkTV being drip-fed on social media until a full broadcast later this week. Ronaldo insists he does not speak to the Floridian family, who have been owners since 2005, yet claimed to know their motives. "The Glazers, they don't care about the club. I mean, professional sport, as you know, Manchester is a marketing

club," he said. "They will get money from the marketing - the sport, it's, they don't really care, in my opinion. The fans, they're always right. I think the fans should know the truth, should know that the players want the best for the club. I want the best for the club. This is why I came to Manchester United. This is why I love this club. But you have some things inside the club which don't help Manchester [United] reach the top level as [Manchester] City, Liverpool and even now Arsenal, for example. It's hard, in my opinion, it will be hard for Manchester [United] to be in the top of the game in the next two, three years." The Portugal

also international singled out two former United teammates, Wayne Rooney and Gary Neville, after criticism from the pair recently. "I don't understand. You should ask this question to him [Rooney] but I don't know why he criticises me so bad," he said. "He finished his career in [his] 30s. So, I'm still playing high-level. It's hard to listen to that kind of criticism and negativity from people who play with you, for example, Gary Neville, as well." People can have his [their] own opinion but they don't really know what's going on. For example, inside the training ground and Carrington or even my life. They have to listen to my point of view as well.

## 'Peace-all we need': Russia's Rublev sends message after ATP finals win



**London, November 15 :** Andrey Rublev called for peace after he fought back to win a lengthy thriller against Daniil Medvedev in the opening Red Group match of the ATP Finals. Rublev had to hold his nerve in a final set tie-break on day two of the end-of-season tournament to edge out his fellow Russian by a 6-7 (7), 6-3, 7-6 (7) score in Turin. After his victory, world No 7 Rublev appeared to send a message regarding the war in Ukraine - following Russia's invasion of the country in February - by writing the word "peace" three times on one of the on-court cameras followed by "all we need". The packed crowd were treated to two hours and 31 minutes of exceptional tennis but it was 2020 ATP Finals winner Medvedev who claimed the

first set. Rublev would not be deterred though and hit 25 winners across the second and third sets to secure an important victory in the battle to progress into the semi-finals. On Monday night, Novak Djokovic continued his dominance over Stefanos Tsitsipas with a 6-4 7-6 (4) win. Djokovic's outstanding serving, mighty forehand and all-court defence delivered him a ninth straight win over Tsitsipas in their Red Group match. Djokovic broke the Greek in the opening game and rode that advantage to capture the first set in a match that came just two weeks after the Serbian beat Tsitsipas at the Paris Masters, a tournament that is also played on indoor hard courts. Tsitsipas finally got

his lone look at a break point opportunity while leading 2-1 in the second set but Djokovic crushed an overhead to erase the danger. Tsitsipas showed signs of life in the tiebreak when he battled back from 5-1 down to get to 5-4 but Djokovic pounded two precise serves to reach the finish line. Djokovic will next play Rublev while Tsitsipas will face Medvedev in the second round of the round robin stage of the season-ending tournament for the world's top eight players. Earlier in the day Britain's Neal Skupski teamed up with Wesley Koolhof of the Netherlands to beat Australian duo Nick Kyrgios and Thanasis Kokkinakis 6-7 (3), 6-4, 10-5 in Green Group of the doubles competition.

## Ronnie O'Sullivan battles 'impostor syndrome' despite first-round win

**London, November 15 :**



The world champion Ronnie O'Sullivan eased into the last 16 of the UK Championship with a 6-2 win over Matthew Stevens but then admitted to feeling "impostor syndrome" and not wanting to play snooker at the moment. The 46-year-old looked in good form at York Barbican and hit two century breaks to take a step towards claiming a record eighth title. While O'Sullivan clinched a record-equaling seventh world crown in May and backed it up with victory at the Hong Kong Masters in front of 9,000 fans last month, he revealed his flatness after a routine round-one success on Monday. "I feel flat, I'll be honest with you," he told BBC Two. "I don't really want to play snooker at the moment, I don't play much snooker. I just listen to my body, listen to my mind and just go out there and treat it like a practice. One thing I am doing is applying myself mentally. Whether I play good or bad, I don't really care and I will always apply myself well while I am out there, but I don't feel buzzed up at the moment. I suppose that is normal. I am just here enjoying York. I am going to be here for the duration, no matter what. I just like it here, you know." The world No 1 rejected suggestions in the summer he was the greatest in the sport's history after his Crucible triumph. And he again raised questions about how long he will continue to play snooker following this win over Stevens, who after taking the fifth frame to reduce the deficit to 3-2 had no answer. O'Sullivan added: "I shouldn't even be playing at my age really, by rights. Look at [Stephen] Hendry, [Steve] Davis and those guys, so I don't take it too seriously and just find it quite funny I am still here. I feel like I have a bit of impostor syndrome. I felt happier when I lost them five finals because it felt right but when I've started to win a few tournaments, I don't really feel like I deserve it or that I have played well enough."



Zealand in the semi-finals. In front of a near-capacity crowd in York, the result may have been the same, but barely anything else was. This is a national team who have captivated the public, and you would hope that the Women's Super League receives the benefits domestically next year. However, credit must go to the Kiwi Ferns for the way they set up a fourth straight final against Australia's Jillaroos. The hosts forged an early 6-0 lead and you wondered if England were capable of causing a shock. But as the night wore on, while New Zealand asserted their dominance and ran out winners, England held their own in the contest right until the final whistle, in stark contrast to 2017. "I've seen the sacrifices they've made and I'm so proud of them," Richards said, before breaking down in tears when revealing someone else will coach England next year. "We've got girls heading into the gym at 6am, they go to work, and go back for another session. What more can they do? Professionalism is the answer." The WSL has made great strides but all the players are amateur and were unpaid in 2022, in stark contrast with the NRLW, where a large majority of the players - including several of New Zealand's stars here - are full-time professionals.





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## RFL launch investigation into alleged fight at England team hotel



**London, November 15:** The Rugby Football League have launched an investigation after allegations that at least one member of the England side became embroiled in a fight in the hosts' team hotel after their defeat in the World Cup semi-final. England were beaten by Samoa in dramatic circumstances in London on Saturday, and while most of the squad left their base in Manchester after that loss, several members, including the squad's Australian-based players, remained at the team hotel in Worsley. It has since emerged in reports from Australia that one member of the team became involved in a fight on Sunday evening. The RFL would not confirm the identity of any of the individuals involved, but did confirm an investigation has begun. "The RFL have been made aware of allegations and are currently investigating the matter," a spokesperson for the governing body said. World Cup officials also confirmed they had received a complaint. "The Rugby League World Cup is aware of reported incidents and is in conversation with the respective parties to establish the circumstances," a tournament spokesperson said. "There will be no further comment at this time." Samoa, who will play in the final for the first time when they face Australia on Saturday at Old Trafford, had relocated to the team hotel England had been using after their victory at the Emirates Stadium. They were believed to be in the hotel when the incident occurred. Samoa won the dramatic semi-final 27-26 in golden point extra-time courtesy of Stephen Crichton's drop goal. England returned to their hotel in Manchester before most of the players headed off on their off-season breaks, but the reported melee has now cast a further shadow over England's disappointing exit.

# Stadiums of shame: the numbers World Cup hosts Qatar don't want to be seen

**London, November 15:** As 32 teams gather in Qatar for this most unsettling of World Cups, the following numbers serve as a stark reminder of the human cost of the tournament, as well as the ongoing suffering among migrant workers, women and the LGBTQ+ community in the country. Gianni Infantino, Fifa's president, wants us to focus solely on football. Many will. But the World Cup's impact should not only be measured on the balance sheet or the tournament's roll of honour, but in the realities of ordinary people's lives. These are just some of the numbers that shame Qatar's shiny new stadiums and the 22nd edition of the World Cup. Amount Qatar is reported to have spent on getting the World Cup ready, compared with around \$11bn spent by Russia in 2018. Number of human rights clauses or conditions concerning labour protections requested by Fifa of the Qatari authorities when awarding hosting rights in 2010. Official number of worker deaths during World Cup 2022 preparations, according to the

Qataris and Infantino. Nicholas McGeehan of human rights organisation Fair Square calls that number a "wilful attempt to mislead" as it focuses on projects that account for only 1% of construction in Qatar. The Supreme Committee says that a further 36 workers from stadium sites also died, but for "non-work" reasons - ie, they died after a day's work due to "natural causes". The exact number of migrant workers who have died as a result of negligence on projects linked to the World Cup. The real number will never be known. According to Human Rights Watch "Qatari authorities have failed to investigate the causes of deaths of thousands of migrant workers, many of which are attributed to 'natural causes'." HRW also found that, in such cases, families seldom receive compensation for deaths because, under Qatari labour law, deaths not considered work-related are not entitled to compensation. Migrant workers from India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka reported by the Guardian to have died



in Qatar between 2010, when it was awarded the tournament, and 2021. Nepali worker deaths due to heat in Qatar, according to a 2019 study in the journal Cardiology that found a correlation, concluding that "as many as 200 of the 571 cardiovascular deaths [of Nepali workers] during 2009-17 could have been prevented" with effective heat protection measures. "We know workers are undergoing medical assessments before leaving their home countries and upon arrival," says Isobel Archer, of the Business & Human Rights Resource Centre. "They're deemed to

be fit and healthy, yet we know there have been many, many deaths among previously fit and healthy young men on such a scale that it would be astonishing in any other context." Minimum figure for number of migrant workers Amnesty International consider to have been exploited and suffered abuse because of lax labour laws and insufficient access to justice in Qatar in the past 12 years. Hours worked a day by many migrant workers in Qatar, particularly in the domestic and security sectors, according to Amnesty. A recent report by

Equidem found many similar stories, including from a Kenyan worker who described working 14-hour days at the Lusail Stadium without paid overtime for more than two years. Legal minimum wage a month in Qatar (1,000 riyals), the equivalent of about £1 an hour, although food and accommodation are provided. In recent years, the authorities have introduced a number of labour reforms, including the introduction of a minimum wage and the abolition of the kafala, or sponsorship, system. However, human rights groups say it has been piecemeal and many abuses still take place. Range in dollars paid as a recruitment fee by some migrant workers from India, Bangladesh, Nepal and elsewhere seeking work in Qatar. While this is now illegal, many workers are still struggling to repay their recruitment fees, and associated debts, and send money to their families. Qatar's rating, out of 180 countries, on the Reporters Without Borders press freedom index. That makes it one of the better countries in the region, however reporters have still been warned by human rights groups that they are likely to face surveillance at the World Cup. Years in prison that men and women who have sexual relations outside marriage can face under 281 article of the penal code. HRW say this disproportionately affects women,

who have been prosecuted if they report rape. It says "police often do not believe women who report such violence, instead believing the men who claim it was consensual, and any evidence or suggestion that a woman knew the male offender has been enough to prosecute the woman". Cases of ill-treatment in detention for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people between 2019 and 2022, according to a report by HRW in October 2022. It said that Qatar Preventive Security Department forces have arbitrarily arrested LGBT people and subjected them to ill-treatment in detention including six cases of "severe and repeated beatings and five cases of sexual harassment in police custody between 2019 and 2022". As a requirement for their release, security forces mandated that transgender women detainees attend conversion therapy sessions at a government facility. According to the authorities, however, there are no gay "conversion" centres in Qatar. Possible number of years' imprisonment under article 296 of Qatar's penal code for "leading, instigating or seducing a male in any way to commit sodomy or dissipation" and "inducing or seducing a male in any way to commit illegal or immoral actions". Amount Amnesty and others believe Fifa should make available to help compensate migrant workers who have died or suffered injury in Qatar. That is equivalent to the World Cup's prize money. However, Qatar's labour minister has rejected such proposals, claiming criticism of the government counts as "racist". The minister, Ali bin Samikh al-Marri, told AFP there was "no criteria to establish these funds," and asked: "Where are the victims? Do you have names of the victims? How can you get these numbers?"

## There's no ceiling for him'

# How Sam Curran became England's T20 future

**Melbourne, November 15:** After the trophy had been presented, the medals collected, the glitter cannons fired, and the players' families beckoned on to the pitch, England returned to their dressing room and the focus shifted. "The one thing about our team is, when we work we work hard," Moeen Ali said. "And when we're not working, we relax well as well." Moeen was one of seven members of the squad celebrating a second World Cup win. For their coach, Matthew Mott, it was a fourth. "If you could bottle

that hour straight after the game and have that for the rest of your life, you'd be pretty happy," Mott said. "For a lot of people, particularly after games like that, the relief is obvious. Once you get over that, it's just pure joy. There was a lot of pressure coming into the game and there was a big release after it. Everyone sat back and reflected a bit and then the music came out and the boys who wanted to



national Cricket Council had taken the probably sensible decision to take it away and leave England with a replica. Through it all one man was in the centre of the action, the proverbial life and soul. After the group was asked to leave the MCG at 1.30am he was the one roaring up and down the aisle of the team coach as it returned them to their hotel, leading the singing. Once they arrived, before the players reconvened in a private room

where the celebrations continued until 7am, he made sure that Mott made good on his promise to shave his head if England won the World Cup. Sam Curran has become a key figure in the England team over the last few months, culminating in him being named player of the match and of the tournament after they beat Pakistan in the final, and it turned out he had no intention of stopping just because the tournament had. "He loves the occasion," Moeen said. "He loves the big time." Curran will become even harder to ignore in the

coming days, assuming he fulfils his side of the bet with Mott and dyes his hair in a colour of the coach's choosing. But that kind of superficial change seems unnecessary when over the last two months he has already transformed the way people look at him. Curran made his T20 debut for England more than three years ago but, of all the games in which he has taken two or more wickets, 67% have come in the last two months, and of those where he has leaked fewer than seven runs, an over 64% have come in the last two months.



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