



The Assam Rising

Projecting the best of Northeast India everyday

Vol. No. VII ■ Issue No. 274 ■ RNI-ASSEN/2014/58385 | GUWAHATI ■ TUESDAY ■ NOVEMBER 22, 2022 | PAGES 8 ■ PRICE RS. 10.00

Chris Hemsworth to take 'time off' from acting ...

02

Kyrie Irving to return to Nets after taking 'ownership' ...



07

NEWS IN BRIEF

Naga youth

Assam Rising
Guwahati, November 21 :

A Naga youth has been arrested by the police in Assam's Charaideo district for allegedly extorting money by identifying himself as an ULFA-I cadre. The arrested youth has been identified as Tingmon Konyak. He is a resident of Nagaland's Mon district. He was arrested in Sonari's Namtola on Monday. According to reports, the accused had been extorting money from many businessmen in Namtola area in the name of ULFA-I. There are also allegations that he pressurized the people to pay the demanded amount.

Vivek Express

Assam Rising
Guwahati, November 21 :

The Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) said that the Vivek Express, which traverses on the longest rail route in India, will now run twice a week. According to a statement by an NFR official, the Vivek Express which runs from Dibrugarh in Assam to Kanyakumari, the southernmost tip of Tamil Nadu, will be available two times a week from November 22 onwards. The train number 15906 Dibrugarh - Kanyakumari Vivek Express, which used to run on Saturdays every week, will now additionally run on Tuesdays, according to the NFR statement. Moreover, the statement further added that the Train number 15905 from Kanyakumari to Dibrugarh, which runs on Thursdays, will now run on Sundays as well, starting November 27.

Indonesia earthquake

Jakarta, November 21 :

Around 44 people were killed and at least 300 injured after an earthquake of magnitude 5.4 struck Indonesia's main island of Java on Monday. Several buildings were damaged and people in closed places rushed out to the streets for safety. The depth of the earthquake was measured to be 10 kilometres. The quake was strongly felt for almost 3 minutes. Moreover, high-rises in the city swayed and had to be evacuated. "The quake felt so strong. My colleagues and I decided to get out of our office on the ninth floor with emergency stairs," said Vidi Primadhania, an employee in South Jakarta.

Rajiv Gandhi killers' release

Congress to file review petition of Supreme Court order



New Delhi, November 21 :

Days after the Central government filed a review petition in the Supreme Court against the release of convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, Congress, too, has moved the apex court against freeing

the assassination convicts, the party sources have said. The petition challenging the grounds set out in the order will be filed this week. The Supreme Court had ordered the release of six convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, including

Nalini Sriharan, who had

hosted the assassin, noting the Tamil Nadu government had recommended remission of their sentence owing to their good behaviour. Besides Nalini Sriharan, RP Ravichandran, Santhan, Murugan, Robert Payas and Jayakumar walked out of the jail following the Supreme Court order. After facing criticism from a bunch of Opposition parties, the Central government had sought a review of the Supreme Court's order to release the killers of former Prime Minister

Rajiv Gandhi. The Centre said the order granting remission to the convicts, who had assassinated the former prime minister, was passed without affording it adequate opportunity for hearing despite the Union of India being a necessary party to the case. The government highlighted the alleged procedural lapse, saying the convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case seeking remission did not formally implead the Centre

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

Shootout in Guwahati: distributor of Purabi dairy killed



Assam Rising
Guwahati, November 21 :

In a shocking incident, miscreants opened fire in broad daylight at Panjabari area in Guwahati in Assam on Monday. Distributor of Purabi Dairy - Ranjit Bora was targeted by the miscreants. Ranjit Bora sustained bullet in-

jury in his head and was rushed to the hospital. According to reports, the incident took place while he went to bank to deposit money. The incident took place near the Silpagram at Panjabari road in Guwahati, Assam. The miscreants after the firing bullets at Bora, fled

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal Inaugurated Regional Research Institute of Unani Medicine

Assam Rising
Guwahati, November 21 :

The Union Minister of Ayush and Ports, Shipping & Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the state-of-the-art complex of Regional Research Institute of Unani Medicine (RRIUM) in Assam's Silchar. The newly opened institute is the first such center in the Northeast on Unani medicine, which is a traditional medicinal practice among the Ayush systems. The new complex spread over an area of 3.5 acres is built



with an investment of Rs 48 crores. The complex was developed by the Na-

tional Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC), a Government of India enterprise. It was handed over to Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Ayush, government of India. Speaking on the occasion, Sarbananda Sonowal said,

"Ayush system of medicine has reinvigorated its acceptability among people once again after the proven results have benefitted lakhs of people during the pandemic. The effectiveness of Ayush system of medicine in enhancing the quality of life of people is a proven fact that's why we are working on a medical system, where the best of contemporary medicine can be supplemented with the traditional medicinal practices of Ayush." Adding further, Sonowal said, "Unani is one of the most celebrated traditional medicines, not only in India but in other countries as well. It is a matter of great pride that this state-of-the-art institute on Unani medicine is now functional from Silchar to help people avail effective

treatment and regain quality of life. The major benefit of this medicine is that it addresses the prevention and treatment of diseases by using herbal remedies." The newly built complex of RRIUM, which will be under CCRUM, the apex government organization for research in Unani Medicine, will be providing a wide range of patient care services along with conducting scientific research on different aspects, fundamental and applied, of Unani Medicine, and on diseases which are more prevalent in the Northeast, especially in Assam. The centre is also equipped to screen patients with Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) like cardiac, pulmonary, stroke, cancer and

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

Nepal Elections 2022: Counting of Votes Underway for Parliamentary Polls

Kathmandu, November 21 :

The ruling Nepali Congress on Monday won the first seat for the House of Representatives as the counting of votes for the parliamentary and provincial elections began amid tight security. The count-



ing started at 7 am local time and will continue till 5 pm, a day after about 61 per cent polling was recorded across the Himalayan nation. Officials from the Election Commission, representatives of parties and the media are present at the centres. Recording of votes for constituencies 1, 3, 4, 6, and 7 of Kathmandu, all constituencies of Lalitpur and Bhaktapur has begun. The Himalayan Times newspaper reported. Likewise, counting has also begun in Kaski, Jhapa, Mustang, Saptari, Banke, Rupandehi and Nawalparasi west, it said. The Nepali Congress

Plan. "It is Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi who has made the

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

COP27 ends with historic compensation fund to address climate change

New Delhi, November 21 :

The UN climate summit in Egypt concluded on Sunday with a landmark decision to establish a fund to address loss and damage, but the outcome on other crucial issues such as India's call for phasedown of all fossil fuels reflected little progress. India termed COP27 "historic" for securing an agreement on establishing a fund to address loss and damage due to climate change-induced disasters, saying

"the world has waited far too long for this". On the establishment of a work programme on climate action in agriculture and food security, Union Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav said the responsibilities to reduce emissions should not be shifted to smallholder farmers. "For India, there were many positives to be drawn from COP27. The most significant for us was the inclusion of a sustainable lifestyle in the Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation

Assam Rising
Guwahati, November 21 :

Assam Education Minister Ranaj Pegu launched three apps at the office of the Director of Comprehensive Education Mission on Monday to solve problems of teachers through digital mode and to bring dynamism and transparency in the educational work of educational institutions in the state. The apps have been launched for improving

the facilities of 26,000 contractual teachers and 9,000 state pool teachers. According to sources, the education officers will monitor the performance of contractual teachers through the app following which annual income will be increased on the basis of their performance. The teachers can also do their own assessments through the app. Another app is launched to improve the infrastructure of schools. Pegu said that there are 46,000 schools in the state

and in this app daily information on infrastructure measures for infrastructure development will be updated. Schools will be inspected by ministers and cluster stars and based on the inspection data will be entered into the app. The system will have a self-assignment of 50 marks and action will be taken if the teacher's performance is poor during the inspection. There will also be provisions for dismissal in case the performance



is repeatedly poor. Pegu warned the teachers and said, "Everyone should follow the

teacher's rules. There is still time, let's be corrected. Don't force us to make the final decision."

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

Education Minister Launch 3 Apps to Solve Problems of Teachers

Chris Hemsworth to take 'time off' from acting after discovering Alzheimer's risk



London, November 21 : Chris Hemsworth has discovered he has a significantly heightened risk of developing Alzheimer's disease due to genetic factors, prompting the Thor actor to take some time off from acting. The 39-year-old Australian actor learned he had two copies of the gene ApoE4, inherited from both his parents, after undergoing tests as part of his Disney+ documentary series Limitless. Those tests confirmed his "biggest fear", Hemsworth told Vanity Fair in an interview, showing he is among just

2-3% of the population who are as much as 10 times more likely to develop the disease than those without both copies of the gene. "It's not like I've been handed my resignation," Hemsworth told Vanity Fair - but he said working on the show, in which he tests his body and explores ways to live longer and healthier, "really triggered something in me to want to take some time off". "If you look at Alzheimer's prevention, the benefit of preventative steps is that it affects the rest of your life," he said. "It's all about sleep management, stress

management, nutrition, movement, fitness. It's all kind of the same tools that need to be applied in a consistent way." He clarified that this wasn't a diagnosis: "It's not a pre-deterministic gene, but it is a strong indication. Ten years ago, I think it was more thought of as determinant." The actor said the documentary series creator, Darren Aronofsky, and one of the doctors on the show, Peter Attia, discussed how the diagnosis would be covered. It had initially been the plan that the actor receive all his genetic test results live to camera - but Aronofsky told him privately once they got the results. Hemsworth was subsequently given the option of deleting all references to Alzheimer's in the show, but he said he thought it was important to include his genetic predisposition for the deteriorating

neurological condition. He wanted to help his audience improve awareness and understanding of how to take "preventative steps". "My concern was I just didn't want to manipulate it and overdramatise it, and make it into some sort of hokey grab at empathy or whatever for entertainment," he told Vanity Fair. Hemsworth also confirmed to the magazine his grandfather was currently being treated for Alzheimer's. Hemsworth has a role in George Miller's

upcoming Mad Max film Furiosa, which wrapped earlier this month. He said he intended to take a break from acting after finishing the publicity tour for Limitless, along with his other contracted work. He will be going home to Byron Bay to spend time with his partner, actor Elsa Pataky, and the couple's three children. "I'm going to have a good chunk of time off and just simplify. Be with the kids, be with my wife."



People take photos at the Champs-Élysées lit by Christmas holiday lights in Paris, France

World still 'on brink of climate catastrophe' after Cop27 deal

Sharm el-Sheikh, November 21 : The world still stands "on the brink of climate catastrophe" after the deal reached at the Cop27 UN climate summit on Sunday, and the biggest economies must make fresh commitments to cut greenhouse gas emissions, climate experts and campaigners have warned. The agreement reached in Sharm el-Sheikh early on Sunday morning, after a marathon final negotiating session that ran 40 hours beyond its deadline, was hailed for providing poor countries for the first time with financial assistance known as loss and damage. A fund will be set up by rich governments for the rescue and rebuilding of vulnerable areas stricken by climate disaster, a key demand of developing nations for the last 30 years of climate talks. But the outcome was widely judged a failure on efforts to cut carbon dioxide, after oil-producing countries and high emitters weakened and removed key commitments on greenhouse gases and phasing out fossil fuels. Mary Robinson, chair of the Elders Group of former world leaders, ex-president of Ireland and twice a UN climate envoy, said: "The world remains on the brink of climate catastrophe. Progress made on [cutting emissions] has been too slow. We are on the cusp of a clean energy world, but only if G20 leaders live up to their responsibilities, keep their word and strengthen their will. The onus is on them." António Guterres, secretary general of the UN, warned: "Our planet is still in the emergency room. We need to drastically reduce emissions now - and this is an issue this Cop did not address. The world still needs a giant leap on climate ambition." Oil-producing countries had thwarted attempts to strengthen the deal, said Laurence Tubiana, one of the architects of the 2015 Paris climate agreement, now chief executive of the European Climate Foundation. "The

influence of the fossil fuel industry was found across the board," she said. "This Cop has weakened requirements around countries making new and more ambitious commitments [on cutting emissions]. The text [of the deal] makes no mention of phasing out fossil fuels, and scant reference to the 1.5C target." She blamed the host country, Egypt, for allowing its regional alliances to sway the final decision, a claim hotly denied by the hosts. Next

that countries classed as developing in 1992 when the UNFCCC was signed - and thus given no obligations to act on emissions or provide funds to help others - are considered potential donors. These could include China, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states, and Russia. John Kerry, the US special presidential envoy for climate, who tested positive for Covid on Friday night and spent the rest of the summit self-isolating in his hotel,

US to work with developing nations to put pressure on China, or climate protection will become impossible. China should be a climate outcast, along with Russia. "Several key commitments championed by the UK, which hosted last year's Cop26 climate summit in Glasgow, were dropped from the final deal, at the behest mainly of Saudi Arabia and other petro-states, though the Guardian understands that China, Russia and Brazil also played a role in weakening some aspects. These included a target for global emissions to peak by 2025, in line with the goal of limiting temperature rises to 1.5C above pre-industrial levels, the threshold of safety that was the focus of the Glasgow Climate Pact signed last year at Cop26. Although the final text did include the commitment to limiting temperature rises to 1.5C, the language was regarded as weak and marking no progress on the outcome of Cop26 a year ago. Alok Sharma, the UK's Cop26 president, sacked as a minister by Rishi Sunak, was visibly angry at the close of the conference. "Those of us who came to Egypt to keep 1.5C alive, and to respect what every single one of us agreed to in Glasgow, have had to fight relentlessly to hold the line. We have had to battle to build on one of the key achievements of Glasgow, the call on parties to revisit and strengthen their [national plans on emissions]." In Glasgow, in the final moments a commitment to phase out coal was watered down by China and India to a phase down of coal, a last-minute trial that reduced Sharma to the brink of tears. At Cop27, he joined with efforts to include a phase down of all fossil fuels in the text, but it was reduced in the final stages to a simple repetition

of the Glasgow commitment to phase down coal. Sharma listed commitments weakened or lost, hitting the table for emphasis: "We joined with many parties to propose a number of measures that would have contributed to this. Emissions peaking before 2025, as the science tells us is necessary. Not in this text. Clear follow-through on the phase down of coal. Not in this text. A commitment to phase out all fossil fuels. Not in this text. And the energy text, weakened in the final minutes [to endorse "low-emissions energy", which can be interpreted as a reference to gas]. "In the end the responsibility will lie with everyone, as Meena Raman of Third World Network, an adviser to developing countries, points out. "Since the EU and Alok Sharma are disappointed that fossil fuel phase-out is not in the text, we would like them to take leadership and revise their NDCs [nationally determined contributions] and put into plans their fossil fuel phase-out urgently and stop expansion of fossil fuels including oil and gas. [It's] not enough to play to the gallery but act if they really want to save the planet and not hide behind 2050 net zero targets, which will bust the remaining carbon budget for 1.5C."

Affidavit

AFFIDAVIT

I Aminur Islam, Resident of village- Adabari Pt-II, P.O- Chagalchara, Dist. Dhuri do hereby declare that my actual and correct name is Aminur Islam, But in my All HSLC documents my name has been recorded as Md. Aminur Islam.

Sudan experiences worst dengue fever outbreak for more than a decade

Khartoum, November 21 : More than 1,400 people in Sudan have been diagnosed with dengue fever this year in the worst outbreak in the country for more than a decade. Half of the country's 18 states have registered cases and nine deaths recorded, including one child, according to the World Health Organization (WHO) who suspect the true number to be far higher. Dr Muntasir Osman, the director general of emergencies at the federal ministry of health, said 2022 had seen "the largest spread of the fever geographically in the history of the country" with 1,430 cases registered. Dengue fever is spread by infected mosquitoes usually found near still water sources or in water storage tanks. It has flu-like symptoms and can sometimes cause organ failure and death. Osman blamed the heavy rains and a lack of "preventive" measures such as bed nets and insect repellants. "For economic reasons the country has lost many essential jobs in terms of preventive medicines. We no longer have the staff that used to work in observational health or workers who used to prepare things before a problem could happen." After last October's military coup, Sudan is in turmoil, aggravated by failed harvests and rising food prices. Nima Saeed Abid, WHO's chief in Sudan, said the confirmed cases were "the tip of the iceberg". "Some [people] present with mild cases, others consult traditional healers or just rely on home remedies and therefore do not report to the health facilities. What are reported to the health facilities are the most severe cases that



require admission or medical care," he said. North Kordofan, North Darfur and White Nile states are seeing dengue for the first time. In North Kordofan state's capital, El Obeid, photos of patients lying on the ground as hospitals run out of beds have circulated on social media. There are at least 1,200 cases suspected in North Kordofan, with 393 confirmed. Dr Ibtihal Ibrahim, of the ministry of health in North Kordofan, said she kept her sick child with dengue at home. "It's not only my child, my entire

neighbourhood is full of sick people with the fever, but they stayed at home to get natural remedies and some of them got drugs by themselves. They are treating themselves," she said. Sudanese buy bread from a bakery in the capital, Khartoum, October, 2021. Wheat prices have risen 180% since the first quarter of 2021. Ibrahim said medicine prices had soared. "I bought drips for my son with 3,500 Sudanese pounds (£5.20), which, just a few weeks ago, were only 600 pounds (90p).

Christie's cancels Trex skeleton auction after doubts raised

Hong Kong, November 21 : Christie's has called off the auction of a Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton days before it was due to go under the hammer in Hong Kong after a US fossil company raised doubts about parts of the skeleton named "Shen". Christie's said in a statement that Shen - a 1,400kg (3,100lb) skeleton - had been withdrawn from its autumn auctions week, which starts in Hong Kong on Friday. "The consignor has now decided to loan the specimen to a museum for public display," it said. Excavated from Montana, Shen stands 4.6 metres (15ft) tall and 12 metres long, and is thought to be an adult male that lived about 67m years ago. Its auction would have followed the sale by Christie's of another T rex skeleton named "Stan" for \$31.8m (£27m) in 2020. It is very rare for complete dinosaur skeletons to be found, according to the Field Museum in Chicago, one of the largest natural history museums in the world. Most frames on display use casts of bones to complete the skeleton.



People take photos at the Champs-Élysées lit by Christmas holiday lights in Paris, France

The Creator of Rasna Legendary industrialist and philanthropist

Areez Pirojshaw Khambatta is no more

Mumbai November 21 : Areez Pirojshaw Khambatta, Founder and Chairman of Rasna Group passes away on November 19, 2022. Khambatta was also the Chairman of Areez Khambatta Benevolent Trust and Rasna Foundation and the former Chairman of WAPIZ (World Alliance of Parsi Irani Zarthostis). He was the past President of Ahmedabad Parsi Panchayat, Vice President of the Federation of Parsi Zoroastrian Anjuman of India. In addition, Khambatta has contributed immensely to Indian industry, business and most importantly societal development through social service, as the Commandant of Ahmedabad Home Guards & Civil Defence for 20 years. Khambatta's efforts in Entrepreneurship Development societal services have been recognized with a lot of awards, to name a few: He was awarded the President of India's Home Guard and Civil Defence Medal as well as the Paschimi Star, Samarseva and Sangram Medals. He was honoured with the National Citizen's Award for outstanding contribution in the field of Commerce by the President of India, Honorable Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma. He was also awarded the Samman Patra by the Finance Ministry for his contribution to the National Exchequer as the highest tax payer of Gujarat. He was felicitated by the Ahmedabad Parsi Panchayat and was chosen as the first 'Outstanding Parsi of Ahmedabad'.

No. NIT/GRC/TB-1/2022-23/875

PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Superintending Engineer, P.W.R.D. Golaghat Road Circle, Golaghat, Assam on behalf of the Government of Assam invite bids (SBD) in the district of GOLAGHAT (SARUPATHAR LAC) under "under CER fund of NRL (Deposit Works) for the year 2022-23. The bids should be delivered to this office on or before 14.00 hours of 05/12/2022. Detail may be seen in the office of the undersigned during office hours from 28/11/2022 to 30/11/2022. Tender papers will be sold on 29/11/2022 to 30/11/2022.

Sl No.	Name of Works	Approx. value of work (in Rs.)	Time of completion	Cost of Tender Papers (in Rs.)	Bid Security 2% (Two) percent (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Repair & Maintenance of Numaligarh Refinery Road (NH-39 Bypass) from Ch.3.18 Km to Ch.5.60 Km (L=2.42Km) under CER fund of NRL (Deposit Work) for the year 2022-23 in PWRD, Sarupathar Territorial Road Division, Sarupathar in Golaghat District (Sarupathar LAC). Package No. NRL (Deposit work)/STRD/01	Rs.99,89,970.00	4 (Four) Months	3000.00	1,99,800.00
2	Repair & Maintenance of Numaligarh Refinery Road (NH-39 Bypass) from Ch.5.60Km to Ch.7.98Km (L=2.38Km) under CER fund of NRL (Deposit Work) for the year 2022-23 in PWRD, Sarupathar Territorial Road Division, Sarupathar in Golaghat District (Sarupathar LAC). Package No. NRL (Deposit work)/STRD/02	Rs.99,10,000.00	4 (Four) Months	3000.00	1,98,200.00

Note: 1) Tender papers may be purchased by depositing non refundable fees as stated in the table above in the form of Demand Draft/Banker's Cheque of a Schedule Commercial Bank drawn In favour of Executive Engineer, PWRD, Sarupathar Territorial Road Division, Sarupathar.
2) Bids must be accompanied by BID security as mentioned in the above Table for each work in the form of FDR/TDR & BG issued by Nationalized/Schedule Bank valid upto 180 days beyond the date of opening of the BID drawn In favour of the Executive Engineer, PWRD, Sarupathar Territorial Road Division, Sarupathar.

(Girindra Deori Bharali)
Superintending Engineer, P.W.R.D.
Golaghat Road Circle, Golaghat.
Dated Golaghat the 21/11/2022

Assam Governor inaugurates State Credit Seminar



Assam Rising, Guwahati, November 21: "For make the Indian economy a 5 Trillion Dollar Economy true to the call of Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with other sectors we have to focus on agriculture and its allied sectors". This was the observation of Governor Prof. Mukhi while inaugurating the State Credit Seminar organized by NABARD, Assam Regional Office in a city hotel here today. Speaking on the

Workshop on Brajawali starts in Kalakshetra

Assam Rising, Guwahati, November 21: A two-day workshop on Brajawali was started from November 20 in Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra, organised by Society for Srimanta Sankaradeva (SSS) and Parampara Pravah, the workshop was inaugurated by Prof. Nani Gopal Mahanta, the Education Adviser to the Govt. of Assam. He said that the study of Brajawali was very important in order to understand Srimanta Sankaradeva, He stressed on the increased popularity of Ankiya plays in Brajawali. The inaugural session was anchored by Dr. Mallika Kandali, Director of Parampara Pravah and vice president of SSS and the purpose of the workshop explained by Mridu Moucham Bora, Secretary of Society for

Srimanta Sankaradeva. Dr. Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti, President of Society for Srimanta Sankaradeva said that Brajawali was not an artificial language. He further said that the modern Hindi Language had emanated from the Brajawali language used by Srimanta Sankaradeva in the Ankiya plays. Utpal Baruah, President of Parampara Pravah also spoke a few words. Dr. Basanta Kumar Goswami, former General Secretary of Assam Sahitya Sabha, was the first resource person. He dwelt on the history of Brajawali language in detail and traced its genesis to the Magadhi Avahattha language. Another resource person Kanaklal Das and Pradip Hazarika, co-ordinator of Society for Srimanta Sankaradeva also attended the inaugural session. Dr. Madhuchanda Chaliha Bhuyan, Vice-President of Society for Srimanta Sankaradeva gave vote of thanks. Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra Society and International Council for Monuments and Sites are also associated with the workshop.

Guest House

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

NEMCARE

Group of Institutions

Approved By: HFW Govt. of Assam, AICTE, PCI and INC Govt. of India, and IMA Affiliated to: SSUBS, Govt. of Assam, ASTU Govt. of Assam, ANC Govt. of Assam

ADMISSION OPEN FOR 2022-23

OUR COURSES

❖ B Pharm

❖ D Pharm

❖ B Pharm (Lateral)

❖ Master in Hospital Administration

❖ BSc Nursing

❖ GNM

CALL NOW

98540 07355

98540 07356

www.ngiguwahati.in

info@ngiguwahati.in

Campus: NH-37, Santipur, Mirza, Kamrup Assam-781123

Book Your Ads in **The Assam Rising**

Text Classified Ad

Classified Display Ad

Display Ad

Special Offer!

www.dainandinbartagroup.in

assamrising@gmail.com

94010-33823

occasion, Governor Prof. Mukhi said, "The Indian Economy in which the services sector is one of the dominant sectors still depends on Agriculture and allied sectors, which provide the stability and acceleration of growth to the economy. Agriculture credit and timely availability of quality farm inputs at af-

40 people from Ledu gets life membership of Asom Sahitya Sabha

Assam Rising, Margherita, November 21: The life membership of the Asom Sahitya Sabha was distributed to 40 people from Ledu. On Sunday, the Ledu Shakha Sahitya Sabha handed over lifetime membership certificates to 40 people from Ledu at a meeting held at Ledu college auditorium. Ranajyoti Neog explains the meeting chaired by Dr. Dipali Barpujari. Eminent journalist Jagat Sangmai was the chief guest at the meeting. He explains the history of the Assam Sahitya

fordable rates are the keys to efficient performance of the agrarian sector. Since, large section of the country's population are dependent on agriculture for their livelihood, providing them with a robust rural banking and financial sector are crucial for their welfare. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) plays an indispensable role in this regard." The Governor also said that the Prime Minister's vision to realize the true potential of Ashtalakshmi would only be realized if NABARD and all the Banking fraternity focus on the potentials of the North Eastern region and the priorities as highlighted by the flagship programmes of the Government of India and Government of Assam. The flagship schemes of the Govt of India in the rural areas especially farming sector namely, Grameen Bhandaran Yojana (ie Rural Godown Scheme), PM Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (ie Agriculture Irrigation Mission), PM

Fasal Bima Yojana (ie on Crop Insurance), PM Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM Farmer's Tribute Fund), Livestock Insurance Scheme and National Action Plan on Climate Change are some of the most notable in this regard. Prof. Mukhi also requested the stakeholders to relentlessly pursue the goal of increasing the ground level credit flow and urge the banks and financial institutions in Assam to extend utmost support and cooperation in achieving the dream of putting Assam in the forefront, not only in the North-Eastern Region, but also across the country. Finance Minister, Ajanta Neog in her address complimented NABARD for organising the State Credit Seminar. Chief General Manager Naveen Dhinra, Commissioner and Secretary Finance Manish Thakur, Regional Director RBI Sanjeev Singha along with a host of other dignitaries were present on the occasion.



Sabha. Principal of Ledu College Dr. Kripaprasad Upadhyay, Chandra Gautam, Laxminath Halwa, Supriyo Dutta Gupta, Sukhdev Sharma, Lily Changmai and many other dignitaries were present in the meeting. Unanimously in the said meeting On December 17 and

18, it was decided to celebrate the session of Ledu Shakha Sahitya Sabha at Ledu Railway Rangmanch. A reception Committee was formed with Jagat Sangmai president Sukhdev Sharma as the working president and Ranajyoti Neog as the general secretary.

Cachar DC inspects roads, sewage channels in Silchar

Silchar November 21: Ahead of the upcoming Assam cabinet's meeting in Silchar, deputy commissioner Rohan Kumar Jha inspected roads in different localities of the town on Monday and instructed officials of various departments to ensure that all the roads are repaired and the drainage system is maintained properly before the cabinet meet. Deputy commissioner Rohan Kumar Jha accompanied by district development commissioner Rajib Roy and Silchar municipal board's executive officer Ashutosh Deka conducted inspections of roads in different areas including Ukilpatty, Narsingtala, Nazirpatty, Sonai Road, Hospital Road and National Highway among others. Besides, the DC inspected the Rangirkhal sewerage channel and gave instructions so that all the roads, which are in a bad shape, are repaired and the sewerage channel is cleaned for



smooth passage of water and garbage materials. DC Rohan Jha also directed the municipal board authorities that All the visited places should be cleaned by November 25. While sharing his reaction, executive officer, Silchar municipal board, Ashutosh Deka said special teams have been constituted to tackle garbage management and the teams would be active all throughout day and night to deal with the problem of garbage management. Roads will be repaired before the upcoming cabinet meeting, executive officer Deka said. Stated in a press release from Regional Office of Information and public relations Barak valley Zone Silchar Assam.

Retired LP School teacher facilitated

Assam Rising, Sipajhar, November 21: Khargswari Kalita, recently retired assistant teacher of Doulguri Primary school was offered public felicitation on November 18. The public meeting organized in the school premises on the occasion was presided over by Damodar Dev Goswami, leading social activist of the locality. The meeting was addressed by Arati Devi, Headmistress and other assistant teacher of school, Bhabendra Saharia. Deben Kalita, President of the School Management and Development Committee explained the purpose of the meeting. Another such meeting was also held in the premises of the residence of Khargswari Kalita under the presidentship of Siva Prasad Sarma, State awardee retired teacher and President of Hazarikapara branch of Assam Sahitya Sabha. Mathura Mohan Deka, President Doulguri Jnan Uday puthibharal, Arati Devi, Headmistress of Doulguri primary School, Ghana Kanta Medhi, Former President, Hazarikapara branch of Assam Sahitya Sabha, Priyanka Bharadwaz and Kamaleswar Hazarika, Assistant teacher were spoke on the occasion. Earlier Deep sikha Deka, well comed the distinguished guest. Paban Kumar Kalita, explained the purpose of the meeting.

Woman commits suicide after elopement at Nagaon

Assam Rising, Nagaon, November 21: A married woman identified as Shikhamoni Devi, hailing from West Bengal, committed suicide at a rented house at Nagaon Azad Nagar today. Sources claimed that the deceased woman who left her husband and children at West Bengal last January and eloped with one Rafiq Ahmed after coming in contact with him via facebook and stayed with him at a rented house at Nagaon Azad Nagar. When she came to know that Rafiq Ahmed was a married person and had a full fledged family, it led to a quarrel between them and Rafiq abandoned her at the rented house. Meanwhile, left no option to be sustained, she finally took the ultimate decision and committed suicide, sources said, adding that local police had already picked up Rafiq Ahmed. Local Nagaon police registered a case in this regard and further investigation is on, sources said.

No. CHD/Market-02/2021-22/98

Dated Kokrajhar, the 19th Nov/2022

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed quotation affixing a court fee stamp of Rs.8.25 (Rupees eight and paise twenty-five) only are hereby invited from the intending registered suppliers for supply of PVC Dustbin (Nilkamal 240 Ltrs capacity) for Kokrajhar/Chirang/Baksa/Udalguri in BTC area, for distribution to the Market/Go-Hat/Perghat under Development Blocks of BTC area with following terms & conditions. The quotation will be received on 25-11-2022 from 10.00 to 3.00PM and will be opened at 4.00PM on the same day in presence of representatives of tenderers. In case of any unusual occurrence like strike/Bandh/Govt. Holiday etc. the opening of quotation will be open in the next working day at the time.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- The quotation should be submitted with up to date Income Tax/GST clearance and registration certificate. Trade license certificate and any such certificate as may be demanded by the Council along with sample of items.
- An amount of Rs.10,000.00 (Rupees ten thousand) only to be deposited as security money in the form of Bank Draft in favour of Principal Secretary, BTC Kokrajhar along with quotation which will be refundable in due course.
- The rate of the items shall be quoted excluding GST and AGST amount shall be shown separately
- The quotationer may present themselves of their representatives at the time of opening the tender Box.
- The undersigned is not bound to accept the lowest rate of quotation and reserves the right to reject any or all the quotation at a time without assigning any reason thereof.
- The necessary list of items may be collected from the CHD, Market & Fair Deptt. during office hour.

Sd/-
CHD, Market & Fairs Deptt.,
BTC, Kokrajhar

IPR(BTC)-528/2022

No. CHD/Market- 02/2021-22/97

Dated Kokrajhar, the 19th Nov/2022

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed quotation affixing a court fee stamp of Rs.8.25 (Rupees eight and paise twenty-five) only are hereby invited from the intending registered suppliers for supply of Bleaching Powder Baksa and Udalguri for distribution to the Markets/Hat/Gahat/Pargahat/Go-Hat/Bus Parking etc. within Development Blocks in BTC area with following terms & conditions. The quotation will be received on 28-11-2022 from 10.00 to 3.00PM and will be opened at 4.00PM on the same day in presence of representatives of tenderers. In case of any unusual occurrence like strike /Bandh/Govt. Holiday etc. the opening of quotation will be open in the next working day at the time.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- The quotation should be submitted with up to date Income Tax/GST clearance and registration certificate. Trade license certificate and any such certificate as may be demanded by the Council along with sample of items.
- An amount of Rs.10,000.00 (Rupees ten thousand) only to be deposited as security money in the form of Bank Draft in favour of Principal Secretary, BTC Kokrajhar along with quotation which will be refundable in due course.
- The rate of the items shall be quoted excluding GST and AGST amount shall be shown separately
- The quotationer may present themselves of their representatives at the time of opening the tender Box.
- The undersigned is not bound to accept the lowest rate of quotation and reserves the right to reject any or all the quotation at a time without assigning any reason thereof.
- The necessary list of items may be collected from the CHD, Market & Fair Deptt. during office hour.

Sd/-
CHD, Market & Fairs Deptt.,
BTC, Kokrajhar

IPR(BTC)-527/2022

No. CHD/Market- 02/2021-22/96

Dated Kokrajhar, the 19th Nov/2022

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed quotation affixing a court fee stamp of Rs.8.25 (Rupees eight and paise twenty-five) only are hereby invited from the intending registered suppliers for supply of Bleaching Powder Kokrajhar and Chirang for distribution to the Markets/Hat/Gahat/Pargahat/Go-Hat/Bus Parking etc. within Development Blocks in BTC area with following terms & conditions. The quotation will be received on 25-11-2022 from 10.00 to 3.00PM and will be opened at 4.00PM on the same day in presence of representatives of tenderers. In case of any unusual occurrence like strike /Bandh/Govt. Holiday etc. the opening of quotation will be open in the next working day at the time.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- The quotation should be submitted with up to date Income Tax/GST clearance and registration certificate. Trade license certificate and any such certificate as may be demanded by the Council along with sample of items.
- An amount of Rs.10,000.00 (Rupees ten thousand) only to be deposited as security money in the form of Bank Draft in favour of Principal Secretary, BTC Kokrajhar along with quotation which will be refundable in due course.
- The rate of the items shall be quoted excluding GST and AGST amount shall be shown separately
- The quotationer may present themselves of their representatives at the time of opening the tender Box.
- The undersigned is not bound to accept the lowest rate of quotation and reserves the right to reject any or all the quotation at a time without assigning any reason thereof.
- The necessary list of items may be collected from the CHD, Market & Fair Deptt. during office hour.

Sd/-
CHD, Market & Fairs Deptt.,
BTC, Kokrajhar

IPR(BTC)-526/2022

VEHICLES AUCTION

SALE NOTICE

KALITAKUCHI BRANCH

Kalitakuchi, Hajo, Assam-781102, Ph. No.: 70055-78061, E-mail: kalita@bankofbaroda.com

(Last Date & Time for bid submission: 4:00 P.M. on 19.12.2022)

The following vehicle financed by Bank of Baroda and seized from the concerned defaulting borrower are available for sale. Persons interested to buy the vehicle may contact the concerned Branch Manager (contact details give below) for physical inspection and for details of the vehicle and its related documents. The intending buyer has to submit offer letter along with a refundable/adjustable Pay Order/Demand Draft Favoring "Bank of Baroda, for the interest free Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) for the vehicle to be purchased in sealed envelopes, superscription "Quotation for purchase of vehicle no. _____" and the same should be submitted at the respective branch on or before 4:00 P.M. on 19.12.2022.

Sealed Quotation will be opened at 11:00 A.M. on 20.12.2022 at concerned Branch Office in presence of intending buyers who have submitted their offer. Successful bidder will have to deposit the quoted price in full within seven(7) days from the date of opening of the quotation or any such time as may be extended by the bank, failing which, the earnest money deposited by the successful bidder shall be forfeited and the vehicle will be sold forthwith.

The vehicle are being sold on "as is, whatever is basis" and will not be sold below the Reserve Price fixed by the Bank. The bank reserves the right to accept or reject all or any of the offers without assigning any reason thereof.

BANK & BRANCH NAME	VEHICLE REGI. NO.	VEHICLE DESCRIPTION	a) RESERVE PRICE b) EMD	BRANCH MANAGER NAME & CONTACT
BOB, Kalitakuchi	AS01-EA-8896	Hyundai, Xcent VTVT S, Mfg. Year 03/2019	a) Rs. 3,45,000/- b) Rs. 34,500/-	Mr. Madhurija Bhagawati Mob: 70055-78061

Date : 18.11.2022
Place : Guwahati

Authorized Officer
Bank of Baroda

THE ASSAM RISING

VOL. NO. VII, ISSUE NO. 274 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22 2022

The Covid-19 era is not yet over

The Covid-19 era is not yet over. The worst might have long since receded - though deaths linked to the virus go on - and for most of us, infection now means nothing more serious than a few days in bed. But the pandemic's grim and complex legacy is becoming clearer, in continuing tragedies that still seem cruelly overlooked: the prevalence of long Covid, a stark crisis of mental health, and developmental problems among children who spent long months deprived of the most basic human experiences. Partly because the NHS was so consumed by the pandemic, we now seem to be facing an upsurge in deaths from conditions such as cancer, heart disease and diabetes that were left undetected or untreated. Covid has hugely accelerated an exodus of adults from the workforce that is causing ministers no end of anxiety. More generally, millions of people are still living with the effects of two long years full of bereavement, fear and loneliness. Trauma, as we all know, is only made worse if it festers in silence. But as the omertà on Brexit also proves, this is a country led by people who seemingly do not want us to talk about the most important aspects of the UK's recent history in case it deepens their political problems. So we have not really been allowed to discuss the pandemic and its effects, apart from in the most inappropriate places. Which brings us to Matt Hancock's absurd tour of duty on I'm a Celebrity ... Get Me Out of Here!: final proof, perhaps, that the kind of world imagined down the years by JG Ballard and the creators of Black Mirror is now a reality. Self-evidently, Hancock's role in the pandemic is the only reason he is there, and the sole explanation for an opening spell in which viewers repeatedly selected him to face all those trials (a term that suddenly has a very surreal resonance). For the show not to acknowledge that would be a nonsense, which is why we have seen his fellow contestants asking him a few limited questions about his time as health secretary. But inevitably, loading the lightest of entertainment with themes it cannot possibly carry only highlights an awful vacuum: it is as if the people responsible decided to seize on one of partygate's basic themes - frivolity and stupidity amid death - and extend it to a completely bizarre extreme. Meanwhile, the government has served notice that almost none of the things we were promised during the pandemic's worst periods are going to materialise. The country's suffering, let us not forget, was meant to be honoured with a huge drive to "build back better". To quote from a Boris Johnson speech made in the summer of 2020, the Covid crisis was "the moment to address the problems in our country that we have failed to tackle for decades": the impossibility of our social care system, rising exasperation about how long it takes to see a GP, and more. He vowed to "double down on levelling up". All this, he suggested, meant that the usual Tory attitude to public spending would have to be put on hold: "I just serve notice," Johnson said, "that we will not be responding to this crisis with what people called austerity." But now look. Instead of being saluted and rewarded, we are suddenly being admonished and readied for even more hardship, and the plain fact that people will be paying more for less. "The furlough scheme, the vaccine rollout and the response of the NHS did our country proud - but they all have to be paid for," said the dependably condescending Jeremy Hunt in last week's autumn statement. Just as Brexit's sunlit uplands evaporated, so has the comparatively modest prospect of at least some of the problems revealed by Covid being fixed: the consequence of all that pain, it seems, is even more of it.

Be a Citizen Journalist

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

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

Letter to The Editor

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

Editor,
The Assam Rising
Guwahati, Assam

Letter to the Editor

Violence against Women

Dear editor,

Violence against women is growing day by day. Nirbhaya case was a wake up call, now Sraddha Walker case is another wake up call. This is worse than the earlier one. Audio visual programmes, by Movie, by TV Programme, Social Networking, Video Sharing etc have an impact on the viewers. Hence it is high time to regulate these Programmes. When it is not properly done, it is likely that the society will see more shocking incidents in future. Professors, judges, Psychology Experts and intellectuals should suggest the Government how to prevent violence against Women in the Society for Building a Better Society.

Kantamsetti Lakshman Rao
Visakhapatnam

It's not just Qatar hoping we now 'put politics aside'. It's the hypocritical west, too



The 2022 World Cup was supposed to herald the arrival of Qatar, already an economic powerhouse, into the international arena as a legitimate cultural and political player. But so far, the opposite has happened. In an epic backfiring, all it seems to have achieved is focusing attention on the country's abusive treatment of migrant workers and repression of LGBTQ+ people and women. Everything in Sunday's opening ceremony - which the BBC remarkably chose not to broadcast, focusing instead on all that was wrong with Qatar 2022 - felt coloured by the buildup, precipitating an overall sense of enforced joyfulness. Even the generic welcoming words from the Qatari sovereign felt pared-back and pointed. On the face of it, the frenzy around this tournament has been the rare triumph of a human rights issue "cutting through" to the public. There's just something about how the bid came about that put people off: it looked like money bending the world to its will, with the event being held in winter - in the middle of the European football season - and the use of cheap, exploited labour to build the facilities. Recent headlines including a World Cup

ambassador describing homosexuality as a "damage in the mind" and the sight of a Danish journalist being forced off air, while broadcasting in a public space, seemed to confirm all this. High-profile footballers such as the former Bayern Munich and Germany player Philipp Lahm have said they will not be attending, while the Lionesses' captain, Leah Williamson, has said she hasn't "any interest" in such a compromised contest. Major European cities including Barcelona and Paris are not broadcasting matches in public places, and David Beckham, an ambassador for the event, came under intense pressure to withdraw from the proceedings. But there is something counter-productive and lopsided to the protests: the focus on the actions of sporting figures, players and even viewers seems off when Qatar only managed to manoeuvre itself into this prime position by soliciting the support of powerful states that have fast-tracked its passage into polite society. It is armed to the teeth by the UK, Europe and the US, and is a joint venture in monumental, lucrative financial and real-estate transactions on European soil. The state of Qatar is the 10th largest landowner in Britain. Since it won the right to host the World Cup, it has been granted billions of pounds of weapons sales licences, including

sophisticated surveillance equipment, by Britain. There is a special relationship with London in particular, and it can be seen in the Westminster ledger of declared gifts. In the runup to the World Cup, the value of Qatar's gifts to British MPs was greater than the amount spent by all the other 15 countries whose governments made donations to British MPs combined. The Conservative MP David Mundell, the first openly gay Tory cabinet minister, accepted hospitality worth £7,473 from Qatar, and then, in a parliamentary debate a few months later, in response to concern raised by another MP about LGBTQ+ rights in Qatar,

Nesrine Malik

said that Qatar's critics should "focus their energies on the handling of LGBT issues in professional football in the UK". The last World Cup was held with much less scrutiny. Fifa president Gianni Infantino, Vladimir Putin, Emmanuel Macron and Croatian president Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic after the 2018 final in Moscow. So yes, David Beckham should know better, but he is not making a massive leap into the political fringe. Qatar is not a pariah state - it exists in a global political system of western sponsors that have forged deep alliances with Gulf monarchies and extended their immunity. The country's strong foundations are in its energy wealth, with the yield of gas exported across the world, including Europe, and its soft power is undergirded by strategically investing its surplus to forge titanium geopolitical links in and with the west. And it is the strength of those links that means the

buck has passed to us; and to footballers, coaches and their organising bodies, who have to take difficult questions, or make decisions about attendance, kits, what to say and what not to say. The message from governments, meanwhile, is loud and clear. "We should not politicise sport," Emmanuel Macron said last week. What he really means is that Qatar (the recipient of French arms exports 25 times higher in 2017-21 than in 2012-16) is with the big boys. How, then, to hold any effective boycott or protest, with this sort of high-profile state protection? Further weakening the hand of those now pushed to the frontline of Qatar criticism is the fact that the last World Cup was held, with much less scrutiny, in Russia soon after the Skripal poisonings. The relative pass Russia, a country that hunts its dissidents and passed an anti-LGBTQ "gay propaganda" law, was given compared with the kicking Qatar is getting, makes it hard to argue that there isn't a whiff of bias alongside the indignant good intentions. There is a sort of cultural gatekeeping at play here, where European countries with longer footballing heritages are seen as more legitimate than gauche Gulf upstarts with little historical connection to the sport. Not reckoning with past mistakes allows Qatar to position itself as a symbol of worldly progress, and hands the opportunity to cynics such as the Fifa president, Gianni Infantino, to claim that the country is being "bullied". There is also the vexing question of what constitutes a human rights violation so grave that it deserves a boycott. Is it, shall

we say, running a large offshore prison that exists in a legal vacuum, where over the past 20 years, hundreds of prisoners have been dumped without a trial, and many tortured? Guantanamo Bay is not the same as systematically mistreating thousands of migrant workers - no two human rights abuses are the same. But these kind of differences are not always a matter of objective measurement, but of how successfully we have been sold narratives that inure us to some violations and sensitise us to others. How useful, then, is it really to set up moral purity tests for ourselves when our efforts are compromised by our own governments and our own unexamined prejudices and double standards? Whether you or I tune in over the next few weeks is neither here nor there. If the point is to register an objection and make a stand, then I suppose a boycott is the way to do it. But if the purpose is for some real pressure points to be squeezed so life perhaps gets better for migrant workers and LGBTQ+ people and women in Qatar, then our eyes and efforts would be better trained closer to home. Qatar and other wealthy undemocratic regimes around the world are empowered in Britain, and by extension on the global stage, by a parliamentary system open to lobbying, a lucrative weapons industry, and a real-estate economy that is geared to a global wealthy elite. Qatar may have underestimated the scrutiny that it would come under in the runup to the competition, but there is one calculation that it has surely made correctly: the anger will dissipate and attention will move on, as the football drowns out the noise. The World Cup lasts a month; grubby political alliances are for ever.

Modi's Tamil-Varanasi outreach is BJP's 'Look South' strategy. Fort DMK better watch out

The month-long Kashi Tamil Sangamam event, which Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated in Varanasi on Saturday, is meant to serve as Bharatiya Janata Party's entry in Tamil Nadu. The Varanasi event could have a tremendous political impact thousands of kilometres away in Tamil Nadu. The BJP is using the cultural heritage of Tamil Nadu in an aggressive way, which has put the state's ruling party, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, and its allies in a tough spot. While Modi's speech at the function would boost Hindutva followers as he quoted Tamil scriptures, the speech of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, in which he claimed that "both Sanskrit and Tamil originated from Lord Shiva", has already evoked controversy in Tamil Nadu. Both Modi and Adityanath bowed before the religious leaders from Tamil Nadu who sat on the stage. The video and photos of them are doing rounds in the state. Moreover, 2,500 school/college students from all districts of Tamil Nadu will be travelling to Varanasi in special trains for the event, a collaborative effort of Indian Institute of Technology-Chennai and Banaras Hindu University. Music maestro Ilaiyaraaja performed in an orchestra taking stanzas from Rudram mantra. Tamil news channels telecast the Varanasi function and Modi's speech live. Crucially, the Kashi Tamil Sangamam event kicks off BJP's 'Look South' policy. The BJP adopts different approaches for different states. In Uttar Pradesh, it was 'bulldozer' politics. In Maharashtra, Delhi and West Bengal, it has used the Enforcement Directorate. And in Jharkhand and Telangana, it has launched an onslaught against their chief ministers Hemant Soren and K Chandrashekar Rao. But for

Tamil Nadu, the BJP and its leaders are relying on Tamil culture to make inroads into the state. And it is paying dividends as well. The 'Look South' policy of BJP is to go on the offensive, a decision taken at the Hyderabad National Executive. Since May 2022, Modi has visited Tamil Nadu four times. Union Minister Amit Shah makes it a point to touch down in at least one Tamil Nadu district whenever he visits any southern state. What does it indicate? The carpet bombing style of 45 central ministers zeroing in on Tamil Nadu, hopping up from one district to another, is reminiscent of its 2019 'Look East', through which the BJP managed to win Tripura and some seats in West Bengal. Its strength in Lok Sabha received a boost of 25 MPs from the east. Now, in 2024, the BJP is keen to replicate its success with a 'Look South' policy. Chief Minister and DMK present M.K. Stalin said last month that the actions of some of his party leaders were giving him "sleepless nights". "Every

morning I get up with the hope that our people would not have created any trouble. Sometimes, I am not able to sleep. You can realise it by seeing my body and health condition," he reportedly said. It's a remark on DMK's internal strife. Sharp criticisms are hurled against each other, an example of which was seen recently. Tamil Nadu Finance Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan said that the co-operatives department lacked transparency and that he was

R Rajagopalan

not satisfied with its functioning. Minister for Cooperation I Periyasamy hit back, saying that the people of Tamil Nadu are satisfied. The DMK is also grappling with dynast issues. Stalin's son Udhayanidhi allegedly holds influence over the younger section of DMK ministers. And there have been reports that Stalin would induct him into



the government soon. This could likely cause resentment among the old timers in the party. The 2024 Lok Sabha election and the 2026 Tamil Nadu assembly election will be testing times for the DMK. The AIADMK is in deep trouble. After the death of Jayalalithaa, the party has been split into several factions. Its current situation is similar to Shiv Sena's, where two factions are fighting for the 'bow and arrow' election symbol. Both Shiv Sena and AIADMK are looking for relief from the Election

Commission. Needless to say, the arm-twisting of these two parties by the BJP can't be ignored. DMK General Secretary Durai Murugan said in a public meeting that the BJP's growth in Tamil Nadu is not good for Dravidian politics. The politics of Tamil Nadu is now taking an interesting turn. With stalwarts like Jayalalithaa, Karunanidhi no more in Tamil politics, Rajinikanth taking sanyas from spiritual politics, Kamal Hassan's political career unable to take off, the BJP seems ready to fill the space. It seems all is going well for the BJP and its 'Look South' policy is on the right track.

I too quit Twitter this week-and have never been more relieved

Last month, Elon Musk walked into Twitter and then all the good people left. I quit, too. It was a time-sink, a brain drain and an eye strain. In 12 years, I gained nothing, while witnessing peers and colleagues at their worst. Oh, the bliss of not turning every little thing into a quip. The delight of dealing with reality in the moment, like a grownup, instead of running to tell teacher about every unpleasant incident. Truly, you don't realise that something is pointless, negative and colonising your brain until it's gone. My worst Twitter experience happened after I went to the cinema one day. A

regular cinema trip, not a private screening for colleagues. Unbeknown to me, a well-known media guy and the creator of a much-loved TV show about hapless, but good-hearted men was also there. He was, and is, a total stranger. Later, he tweeted me, saying he'd spotted me and **Bidisha Mamata** unflinched calm of a killer satnav. Quitting Twitter while staying on YouTube, Instagram and WhatsApp, all owned by Meta, is hardly some kind of anti-tech statement. Then there's Apple co-founder Steve Jobs, the withholding daddy of

them all. Jobs was an insanely successful, driven guy who was good at being Apple's co-founder and bad at being a normal, decent human being. Have you read Small Fry, the Stockholm syndrome-esque memoir by his daughter Lisa Brennan-Jobs? It's chilling. So why have Jobs's old Birkenstocks sold for nearly \$220,000 (£183,000) last week, described tenderly by the auction house as still bearing his footprint, as if he's Jesus? Now John Lennon's glasses and Frida Kahlo's half-used lipsticks have been joined by Jobs's stinky sandals in the public's morbid cabinet of inappropriate pop culture relics.

Guinness World Record for largest helmet sentence



Tawang, November 21: The Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh on Sunday entered the Guinness Book of World Records by forming the largest helmet sentence to highlight the importance of road safety, especially in the mountains. A total number of 2,350 helmets were used to form the sentence 'Jai Hind' at the Gyalwa Tsangyang Gyatso high-altitude stadium on Sunday morning. Chief Minister Pema Khandu blew the whistle at 6.30 am to start the proceedings of helmet formation. By 8 am, the helmet sentence formation was completed, with Khandu along with legislators of Tawang and West Kameng districts leading to the place of the helmets according to the

formation. The event titled 'Lakshya' - to create awareness of road safety by making the world record - was organized by Amazing Namaste Foundation in collaboration with the Government of Arunachal Pradesh. Khandu and Atul Kulkarni, chairman of the Amazing Namaste Foundation, jointly received the Certificate of Confirmation from the Guinness Book of World Records representative, Swapnil Dangarikar. Speaking on the occasion, Khandu said that awareness of road safety measures and adherence to traffic rules has become all the more important with improved roads in the hills. "People, especially youths riding bikes, tend to drive faster and faster on good

roads. It has been found that over-speeding is the major cause of accidents on our roads here. Therefore, this event and the creation of a world record would draw the attention of the people towards road safety and mandatory use of helmets while riding two-wheelers," he said.

Govt focused on improving connectivity in Arunachal: CM Khandu

Itanagar, November 21: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Saturday said the government is focused on improving air, rail, and road connectivity in the frontier state. With Itanagar coming under the aviation map with the inauguration of the Donyi Polo airport near here, the people of the state will be immensely benefited, Khandu said at the inauguration programme of the airport. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday inaugurated the new Donyi Polo airport in Arunachal Pradesh. The airport is located at Hollongi around 15 kilometres from the state capital Itanagar. The airport, which is the first greenfield airport in Arunachal Pradesh, has been developed in an area of over 690 acres, at a cost of more than Rs 640 crore. With a 2,300 metre runway, the airport is suitable for all weather day operations. The prime minister also dedicated the 600 MW Kameng hydropower project in the

Sikkim, Darjeeling students send trash back to polluters

Sikkim, November 21: Return to Sender Campaign was organized across the globe to mark five years of a global brand audit conducted by Break Free From Plastic (BFFP) to highlight the need for systemic changes and corporate responsibility to redress the plastic waste crisis. The campaign was organized across the globe in partnership by BFFP with local organisations that are part of the movement. Activists from around the world collaborated to give the world's worst plastic polluters a 'happy trashiversary gift' of their own plastic pollution on November 15, a Global Day of Action. The message that was sent read- these companies have been forcing us to deal with their waste for many years - now it's time they



clean up their act. In Sikkim and Darjeeling, Zero Waste Himalaya took the lead with volunteers from educational institutions to take part in the campaign. St Teresa's School with the support of Start Thinking About Sustainability, a local volunteer group, along with St Joseph's College, and North Point College participated from Darjeeling. From Sikkim, Tashi Namgyal Academy and Government Senior Secondary School Sichey participated with much enthusiasm led by their teachers. Students collected plastic trash from around the campus, segregated them brand-wise and mailed them back to the companies with a

strong message asking them to take their trash out of the mountains. The global report released on November 15, 2022, by BFFP shames the companies Coca-Cola, Pepsico, Nestle, Unilever and Mondelez as the top polluters. For the mountains, the Chaudhary group which produces the popular Wai and Wai and Mimi noodles is also on

Political leadership must build trust for national integration: Meghalaya CM

Meghalaya, November 21: Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma on Sunday emphasised the role of political leadership in building trust among all sections of people for greater integration as a nation. He also underlined the importance of cultural exchange between different parts of the country, especially among children and youth, for a better understanding of different aspects of each other's lives. "For greater integration, the most important role is of the political leadership. They must see the different aspects of integration and take the right steps for achieving it," Sangma said. He was speaking at the inaugural day of a two-day conclave on the theme of Celebrating Contribution of India's North East Region in Nation Building', being held under the aegis of the Eastern Command headquarters of the Army, with support of the NE states and North Eastern Zone Cultural Council (NEZCC). Sangma pointed out that building trust was essential to bring all stakeholders together, especially in a

region like the northeast. "For most of the last 75 years, issues of the northeast were not understood and policies were framed by people sitting in Delhi. It leads to an erosion of trust. "There are inter-tribe, inter-community issues here, and policy intervention has been in the wrong direction at times. It leads to one section feeling deprived," the Meghalaya chief minister said. Work has to be done on how to minimise these lapses, and though it might take time, it can be achieved with the right approach, he said. The Meghalaya chief minister mentioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's instruction to Central ministers to frequently visit the northeastern region as a

step in the right direction. When they understand the issues first-hand, it helps evolve solutions, he added. Sangma also stressed the importance of cultural exchange as an important tool for integration. "The cultural exchange should happen from a young age... There is a need to experience each other's lives at different levels," he added. Sangma also put a thrust on historical data collection, content creation and then placing it before the new generations at the right level of their education so that can acquire an understanding of the collective past. "For proper integration, overall connectivity - transport, cultural, economic, historical, etc. - needs to be built," the CM added.

Protest against the national highways widening project in Mizoram

Mizoram, November 21: Environmental activists in Mizoram have slammed the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation (NHIDCL) for not following environmental laws and regulations, while undertaking highway projects in the state. These projects have led to environmental damage, say the activists, including polluting the state's water bodies. NHIDCL, which comes under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, is currently carrying out widening work on four national highways in the state - NH-09 (Seling-Zokhawthar), NH- 102B (Keifang-Manipur), NH-302 (Lunglei-Tabung) and NH-54 (Aizawl-Tuipang). On July 19, more than 2,000 people participated in a rally against these projects in Mizoram's capital city Aizawl. It was led by the Youth for Environment Justice Mizoram (YEJM), spearheaded by social activist Vanramchhuangi, popularly known as Ruatfela Nu. In its memorandum to the office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (PCCF), the YEJM demanded an immediate stay order for highway projects of NHIDCL.

Manipur to host Femina Miss India 2023 in Imphal

Imphal, November 21: For the first time in the history of northeast India, Manipur will host the grand finale of Femina Miss India 2023 in April 2023. On Thursday, an agreement to officiate the partnership was signed between the Tourism Department, Government of Manipur and the Times Group in the presence of chief minister N Biren Singh and the Times of India Managing Director Vineet Jain at CM's Secretariat in Imphal. Speaking on the partnership, chief minister Biren Singh said, "We are delighted to partner with the prestigious Miss India Organisation to host the grand finale here in Imphal, Manipur. The primary motive behind the partnership is to celebrate the diverse and inclusive Indian culture while fostering the competitive spirit of the talented participants. We want to inspire and empower the local youth by welcoming the best of India's talent to our home soil as well as showcase Manipur's rich culture and heritage we are so proud of." For Manipur to host the 59th edition of the Femina Miss India 2023, the chief minister said, reflects the growing interest of investors in



northeast India, especially Manipur. "It shows the growing confidence in the state regarding the security scenario and investment opportunities," he added. Emphasising on why Manipur was chosen, MD Times Group, Vineet Jain said, "Manipur is one of the leading Indian states in terms of gender equality and empowerment. Women in Manipur are a strong force behind its economy. The percentage of working women in the state is double the national average. Manipur has given India the powerhouse of women in sports, like Mary Kom, Saikhom Mirabai Chanu, Kunjarani Devi and Laishram Sarita Devi to mention a few names. What more can Miss India, that celebrates women, ask for in a partner?" He stressed that the finale of the 59th Femina Miss India in Manipur will be historic as it will be the first to be held in Northeast India. "From this partnership, our endeavour is to capture the essence of the state as a backdrop to our finale. This association strategically complements the brand's objective of inclusivity and diversity

and that of Manipur's objective of reaching out to the nation as a destination of culture and beauty," Jain added. Miss India

Organisation spokesperson and Times Group's Brand & Operations Head Natasha Grover said, "We are excited to bring our iconic event to

Northeast Green Summit in Umsaw

Shillong, November 21: Ways to deal with the challenges that climate change poses for the Northeast will be deliberated at the seventh edition of the Northeast Green Summit, which got underway near here on Sunday. The theme of the three-day event at the North Eastern Police Academy (NEPA) in Umsaw, around 20 km from Shillong, is 'Balancing People, Planet, Profit: Sustainable Northeast India and BIMSTEC region'. According to the organiser - Vibgyor NE

Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation that specialises in green issues of Northeast India - the event will bring together policy makers, green professionals and budding entrepreneurs. "The event aims to celebrate the rich and diverse natural and cultural heritage of Northeast India, showcase their inter-linkages and focus on the need for an integrated approach for sustaining this heritage," the NGO said in a statement. "The Summit is striving towards preserving, maximising and

SI No	Name of the Scheme	Estimated Amount (in Rs)
1	Improvement of both side of railway station road near hospital under 15 th FC (untied grant) for the year 2020-21, 1 st installment.	600000.00
2	Earth filling of Green wood park at Ward No 8 under 15 th FC (untied grant) for the year 2020-21, 1 st installment.	477090.00
3	Repairing of RCC drain cover plates for sewerage from Iyoti Nagar to Dimbeswar Baruah Path, Ward No 4 under 15 th FC (Tied grant) for the year 2020-21, 1 st installment.	219400.00
4	Construction of concrete structure (1 love Gohpur) at Gohpur Town under 15 th FC (untied grant) for the year 2020-21, 1 st installment.	545422.00
Total		18,41,912.00
Executive Officer Gohpur Municipal Board, Gohpur.		

NO. BI(EO)/MTB/AUC/01/ 3 3 5 4

AUCTION NOTICE

The sealed tender affixing Court fee of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight and paise twenty five) only are invited from the intending bidders / parties for auction of condemned departmental vehicles of BI(EO) on as is where is basis. Detail of terms and conditions and other documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours. Last date for submission of tender is 14-12-2022, at 2:00 PM and will be opened of the same day at 2:30 PM.

Superintendent of Police,
Bureau of Investigation (EO), Assam,
Srimantapur, Guwahati-32
Contact No.- 6002061239

Janasanyog/C/14605/22

No: GMB 15/2020/

PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed tender in plain papers subsequently to be drawn in F-2 form affixing non-refundable court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 only are invited for the following works from class-I (A,B,C), II & III contractors under P.W.D. (Road) according to their eligibility (1% for ST/SC/OBC) of the estimated amount beyond will have to be deposited as security in form of bank draft pledged in favour of Gohpur Municipal Board along with the tenders submitted. Moreover, the successful tenderer will require to furnish earnest money as per A.P.W.D. (Road) norms before issuing formal work order.

The tenders will be received up to **11.00 A.M of 29/11/2022**. The tenders will be opened on the same day at **2.30 P.M**. Intending tenderer or their authorized agents may remain present at the time of opening the tenders.

The tender papers will be supplied on payment of Rs. 500/- (Rupees five hundred) only (Non refundable) by cash. Attested copy of testimonials like Registration Certificate, up to date clearance of Income tax, Sale tax clearance certificate, Labour licences and experience certificate etc.

Intending tenderer may inspect the plan and estimate in office during office hours.

SI No	Name of the Scheme	Estimated Amount (in Rs)
1	Improvement of both side of railway station road near hospital under 15 th FC (untied grant) for the year 2020-21, 1 st installment.	600000.00
2	Earth filling of Green wood park at Ward No 8 under 15 th FC (untied grant) for the year 2020-21, 1 st installment.	477090.00
3	Repairing of RCC drain cover plates for sewerage from Iyoti Nagar to Dimbeswar Baruah Path, Ward No 4 under 15 th FC (Tied grant) for the year 2020-21, 1 st installment.	219400.00
4	Construction of concrete structure (1 love Gohpur) at Gohpur Town under 15 th FC (untied grant) for the year 2020-21, 1 st installment.	545422.00
Total		18,41,912.00

Executive Officer
Gohpur Municipal Board, Gohpur.

Janasanyog/CF/3057/22

Contd. From Page 1

Shootout in Guwahati: distributor

the spot with Rs 5 lakhs. According to eyewitnesses there were three miscreants, who were involved in the crime. Bora was taken to Gauhati Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) for treatment.

Congress to file review petition

as a party which resulted in its non-participation in the case. Noting that the four convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case are Sri Lankan nationals, the Centre's plea said, "Granting remission to the terrorist of a foreign nation, who had been duly convicted in accordance with the law of land for the gruesome offence of assassinating the former Prime Minister of the Country, is a matter which has international ramifications and therefore falls squarely within the sovereign powers of the Union of India."

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal

diabetes. With a special focus on children, the centre will also provide health checkups for school children and provide effective treatment to those found to be in distress. The centre also aims to assess Temperament (Mizaj) of patients with different ailments. The state of art complex of RRIUM is equipped with specialised OPD clinics in General, Research, Ilaj-bit-Tadbeer (Regimenal), Specialized Ilaj-bit-Tadbeer (Regimenal) therapies, Mother & Child Health (MCH) and Geriatrics. The institute will screen for non-communicable Diseases in the Northeast Population visiting to the institute. The institute will also organise IEC campaigns about the potential of Unani Medicine & create awareness around prevention and preservation of health about preventive/prophylactic aspect of Ayush in different communicable and non-communicable diseases. The inauguration ceremony was attended by a host of dignitaries including cabinet minister Parimal Shuklabaidya, Silchar MP Dr Rajdeep Roy, Karimganj MP Kripanath Mallah, MLA of Udharbandar, Mihir Kanti Shome, among others.

Drugs worth Rs 50 crore seized

accused were identified as Abdul Saeed, Ibazur Rahman and Sameer Alam, all residents of the Cachar district. Cachar Superintendent of Police Numal Mahato said, "These three were smuggling tablets in a lorry. The drugs were being smuggled in a secret chamber built in the vehicle's carrier. Based on specific information, three people were arrested after searching the vehicle and tablets were seized." The police officer further informed that as per the initial investigation, Abdul Saeed had brought the tablets from the Churachandpur district of neighbouring Manipur state. The purpose was to smuggle them to foreign countries. Further investigation is underway in the case. In another incident, police and CRPF in a joint operation intercepted a truck and seized four quintals of Ganja hidden in a modified secret chamber in Karbi Anglong district on Sunday. Two accused were also apprehended.

COP27 ends with historic

pitch for an environmentally-friendly lifestyle, through his mantra of Mission LiFE and the world today moved in that direction," a blog post by Yadav read. The summit was scheduled to conclude on Friday but went into overtime as negotiators pushed for an agreement on issues such as mitigation, loss and damage fund and adaptation. At one point in time, the talks veered close to a collapse but gained momentum in the final hours after progress on a new finance facility to address loss and damage, a long-pending demand of poor and developing countries, including India, and the key element at this year's UN climate summit. The success of the talks hinged on progress on this track. Developed nations, particularly the US, had opposed this new fund over fears that it would hold them legally liable for massive damages caused by climate change. The proposal for a loss and damage finance facility was put forward by the G77 and China (India is part of this group), least-developed countries and small island states. Vulnerable countries had said that they would not leave COP27 without it. The conference agreed to set up a "transitional committee" to decide how the money will be provided and who will contribute to the fund. Its recommendations will be discussed at COP28 next year. The hope at COP27 was to include a phasedown of all fossil fuels, including oil and gas, as proposed by India and backed by many developed and developing countries including the EU and the US, but the final agreement did not essentially build on what was agreed upon in COP26. Negotiators said intense discussions took place on the matter late into Saturday night, but it could not find a place in the agreement. Many countries seemed dissatisfied with the final package but chose not to intervene as it would have risked the loss and damage deal that poor and vulnerable nations wanted for long. A number of parties rued the agreement leaving out the call for peaking of emissions before 2025 and the weakening of language on the transition to green energy. "Emissions peaking before 2025 as the science tells us is necessary. Not in this text. Clear follow-through on the phase-down of coal. Not in this text. Clear commitments to phase put all fossil fuels. Not in this text. And the energy text weakened in the final minutes," the UK's lead climate negotiator Alok Sharma said at the closing plenary. However, when compared to COP26, the summit this year has brought in stronger language on renewables and included the just transition principles while bringing up energy transition, experts said. Another sharp message from COP27 is to reform multilateral development banks to provide more climate finance without forcing developing countries deeper into debt, they said. The Sharm-El Sheikh Implementation Plan called upon "parties to accelerate the development, deployment and dissemination of technologies, and adoption of policies, to transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up deployment of clean power generation." It also proposes energy efficiency measures, including accelerating efforts towards phase down of unabated coal power and phase-out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, while providing targeted support to the poorest and most vulnerable in line with national circumstances and recognising the need for support towards a just transition. "The plan reaffirmed the Paris Agreement goal of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, recognising that this would "significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change". Shruti Sharma, Senior Policy Advisor, International Institute for Sustainable Development said it is disappointing that COP27 did not build on the COP26 statement to deliver a stronger message on the phaseout of fossil fuels. "COP26 asked parties to, among other things, transition to low energy systems through the phasedown of unabated coal phase down. The hope at COP27, through India's proposal, was to include a phaseout of all fossil fuels, including coal oil and gas. Perhaps the most significant milestone for this COP has been the creation of a loss and damage fund," she said. "COP27 has been a tough pill to swallow but in the end, there has been more progress than was anticipated. The negotiators have debated on language but in the big picture, the world has saved one year from being wasted by not compromising on the language on 1.5 degrees temperature rise," said Aarti Khosla, Director, Climate Trends. This COP will be remembered for the agreement to create a loss and damage fund. The COP has demonstrated how geopolitics is shifting and each country has acted in its interests. There is also notable progress in including a scale of renewables, she said. "The countries fell short of agreeing to a phasedown of all fossil fuels, which speaks to the energy crisis and the hold of the oil and gas lobby at this COP, Khosla said. Mohamed Adow, Executive Director, Power Shift Africa, said it's sad to see countries just "copying and pasting the outcome from last year's COP26 in Glasgow". "It's deeply saddening that countries couldn't agree to commit to a phase down of all fossil fuels, not just coal, as contained in the Glasgow Pact. The science is clear, the impacts are getting worse and we know that renewables are the future. "Polluting countries need to leave coal, oil and gas in the ground if we're going to keep global heating from running out of control, he said.

Employees of Assam Power Sector

components of generation, transmission and distribution like KSEB Ltd and HPSEB Ltd; reintroduction of the Old Pension Scheme for all power sector employees; Regularization of all contractual and casual workers/employees by averting legal complicity as has been done in Telengana, Punjab, Odisha and Rajasthan; and filling up of existing vacancies with a policy of regular jobs to be discharged by regular employees alone.

Nepal Elections 2022: Counting

(NC) opened its account as its candidate Yogesh Gauchan Thakali has been elected as a member to the House of Representatives from Mustang. Gauchan secured 3,992 votes against his nearest rival Prem Tulachan of CPN-UML, who secured 3,078, according to the Election Commission. The vote counting in Taplejung has been delayed as helicopter companies expressed the inability to airlift the ballot boxes from remote areas in the district. The District Election Management Committee said that the ballot boxes of Olanchungola, Yangma, Gybla and Ghunsa polling stations of Paktanglung Rural Municipality Ward No 6 and 7 are being brought through land route, Republica newspaper reported. Yangma is the most remote polling station in the district. The team that walked from the capital Fungling to conduct voting reached Yangma, which lies at an altitude of 4,200 meters, in four days. A total of 12 of the total 61 votes were cast in the area. Meanwhile, four police personnel died and eight others were injured when their jeep veered off a hilly road at Ningladi stream of Patan Municipality in Baitadi district on Monday morning. The police personnel were returning to duty after handing over the ballot boxes at the district headquarters, police said. The polling began on Sunday at 7 am local time at over 22,000 polling centres and closed at 5 pm. The voter turnout was significantly lower as compared to the past two elections - 77 per cent in 2013, and 78 per cent in 2017. More than 17.9 million voters were eligible to cast their votes to elect a 275-member House of Representatives and provincial assemblies. Out of a total of 275 Members of Parliament, 165 will be elected through direct voting, while the remaining 110 will be elected through a proportional electoral system. Voters also voted to elect representatives to seven provincial assemblies. Out of a total of 550 members of the provincial assemblies, 330 will be elected directly and 220 will be elected through the proportional method. There are two major political alliances contesting the polls -- the ruling Nepali Congress-led democratic and leftist alliance and the CPN-UML-led leftist and pro-Hindu, pro-monarchy alliance. Nepali Congress led by Prime Minister Deuba, 76, has formed an electoral alliance with former Maoist guerrilla leader 'Prachanda', 67, against former premier Oli, 70. The Nepali Congress-led ruling alliance includes CPN-Maoist Centre, CPN-Unified Socialist, and Madhes-based Loktantrik Samajwadi Party while the CPN-UML-led alliance includes pro-Hindu Rashtriya Prajatantra Party and Madhes-based Janata Samajwadi Party. The next government will face challenges of keeping a stable political administration, reviving the tourism industry, and balancing ties with neighbours - China and India. Out of a total of 2,412 candidates contesting the election for federal Parliament, 867 are independents.

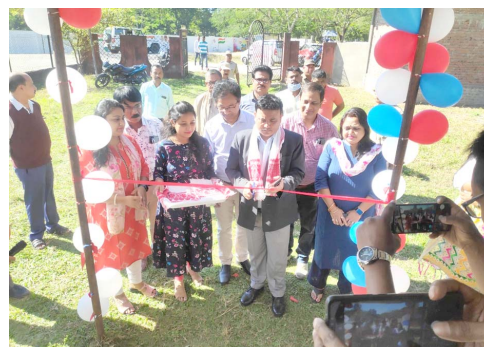
CM Dr. Sarma attends Purvottar Swabhiman Utsav



Assam Rising, Guwahati, November 21: Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma attended the celebrations of Purvottar Swabhiman Utsav organised by Eastern Command of Indian Army as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav at Sarusajai Sports Complex here today. It may be noted that the programme was organised to celebrate the contributions of India's Northeast in nation building. This event was also organised to provide a unique opportunity to deliberate on the role played by the NE region for the growth of Indian nationhood and how Northeast is emerging as the driving force to India's rise in the socio-political and economic front in the global landscape. He congratulated the Eastern Command of the Indian Army for this remarkable initiative, which aimed at celebrating the contributions of India's Northeast in nation building. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma paid his rich tributes to all the freedom fighters of the region who played a stellar role to lend might to the freedom movement to free the country from the foreign dominion. He also remembered soldiers from the Northeast and the veer naris who have always been on their toes to protect the nation and uphold its sovereignty and territorial integrity. He said that the programme like this also helps in exhibiting the spirit of North East and a civil and army fusion. He on this occasion, also paid his tributes to Lachit Barphukan who is primarily responsible for strengthening the edifice of resilient Assam. On the occasion of the 400th anniversary of Veer Lachit Barphukan being celebrated on November 24, the Chief Minister appealed to the people of the state to light at least one earthen lamp as a mark of respect and tribute to this great soul. Chief Minister Arunachal Pradesh Pema Khandu, GoC Eastern Command Indian Army Lieutenant General Rana Pratap Kalita also spoke on the occasion. Culture and Information Minister Tripura Sushanta Chowdhury, MP Kamakhya Prasad Tasa and a host of other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

Blood donation camp organized Biswanath

Assam Rising, Biswanath Chariali, November 21: To commemorate the 400th birth anniversary of Lachit Barphukan, the Biswanath District Administration in association with District Health Society, Biswanath organized a blood donation camp at the Officer's Club here today. The blood donation camp was formally inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Munindra Nath Nagatey. Inaugurating the blood donation camp, the deputy commissioner himself donated a unit of blood. The deputy commissioner expressed his happiness at being a part of this noble mission that was organized in conjunction with the 400th birth anniversary of the great hero Lachit Barphukan. The blood donation camp was attended by Ananya Lahkar, assistant commissioner of Biswanath, Trailokya Bargohai, district account manager of National Health Mission and several senior officers, employees and students from various educational institutions and donated blood. The program was also attended by Liza Talukdar, additional commissioners of Biswanath District, Dr. Suryakamal Bora and Biswajit Saikia, ADC's, Ananya Lahkar, assistant commissioner, Dr. Yogen Chandra Bay, Joint Director of Health Services, Dr. Nripen Saikia, Sub-Divisional Health Officer, Dr. Gunjan Pathak, officer-in-charge of Blood Bank, Biswanath beside others.



Joint raid by Margherita & Digboi excise circle

Assam Rising, Margherita November 21: A joint excise search, patrolling & raid was conducted by Margherita and Digboi Excise party under the supervision of DSE Margherita on Saturday. 5 No.s of cases were detected under the Margherita Excise Circle in areas like Bongaon, Dihing, Makum Killa, Makum Pathar etc. Illicit Liquor around 35 litres, Fermented Wash approximately 1120 litres and 04 No.s of Distilling Apparatus were seized and destroyed in the raid. Within Digboi Excise Circle, 03 No.s of cases were detected in Bongaon area. Illicit Distilled Liquor around 5 litres Fermented Wash approximately 2000 litres and 2 No.s of Distillation Apparatus were seized and destroyed by the team.

KRDC takes various initiatives in the memory of Chilarai

Assam Rising, Chirang, November 21: The Koncha Rajvanshi Development Council has adopted an ambitious scheme. The Council has taken steps to install a statue of Vishwa Mahavir Chilarai, the master of bravery of the Koncha Rajvanshi community at the places required in upper Assam and repair the dilapidated or dilapidated Chilarai buildings in lower Assam. Durbasa Mohan Rai, a resident of Kokrajhar and a retired electrical engineer of the electricity department, one of the members of the Konch Rajvanshi Development Council, said that discussions with the Assam government were being continued for the betterment of the all-round backward community. Apart from this, Durvasa Mohan Roy also said that in order to fulfill other demands including tribalization of the Koncha Rajvanshi community, under the leadership of Pranab Narayan Dev, chairman of the Koncha Rajvanshi Development Council, efforts are being made to reach the goal by sticking uncompromisingly to the demands. He also informed that the statue will also be erected in the name of freedom fighters of the Koch Dynasty. A section of the people of the community have been demanding a solution to all the problems of the community on the basis of the statement of what the Koch Rajvanshi Development Council is doing.

Assam Govt launches new tourism policy 2022

Assam Rising, Guwahati, November 21: To drive sustainable development in the state, a new Assam Tourism Policy 2022 was launched by Jayanta Malla Baruah, Minister, Public Health Engineering, Skill Development Employment & Entrepreneurship and Tourism; Government of Assam, Rituparna Baruah, Chairman of Assam Tourism Development Corporation, Arvind Singh, IAS, Secretary of Tourism, Govt. of India and Maninder Singh, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Dept. of Tourism, Govt. of Assam, Kumar Padmapani Bora, IRS, Secretary, Tourism and Managing Director of Assam Tourism Development Corporation, in the national capital. Atul Bora, Agriculture Minister, Assam, UG Brahma, Minister of Handloom and Textiles, Assam, Sanjoy Kishan, Minister of Labour and Employment of Assam were also present at the Assam Tourism Road show. The new tourism policy was unveiled on the sidelines of 'Assam Tourism Road Show 2022', hosted by the Department of Tourism, Government of Assam. It also witnessed Panel Discussions, Audio Video Presentations, Cultural Dance Performances, and B2B Interactive Sessions to invite entrepreneurs and investors to make the state their investment destination. The policy was prepared after extensive consultations with the world bank and at every stage of its preparation, the view of the stakeholders and industry experts has been given due weightage. The new Assam Tourism Policy 2022 has been laid out at an opportune time when the state stands at the threshold of new beginnings. The policy aims to guarantee and safeguard the effective standardization of processes and practices, to foster uniformity which can result in sustainability and an overall improvement in the quality of tourism products. The mission of the Policy is "to create a policy framework and strategic roadmap in collaboration with central ministries, various state government departments, local communities and tourism stakeholders to improve the tourism sector in Assam, to support the private sector engaged in tourism in the state, and to strengthen tourism support segments and its sub-sectors". Keeping in mind the objective of employing the local youth, the Department of Tourism will facilitate on-the-job training to be provided by employers for local employees in hotels and resorts. These programs will aim to advance women for management and leadership positions in their companies and encourage employers to provide childcare support and safe transport for female workers, particularly those working at night. Particular efforts will be made to train women in male-dominated positions such as guides, cooks, waiters, and drivers, and provide recognition to firms that encourage women in these positions.



Kyrie Irving to return to Nets after taking 'ownership' of link to antisemitic film



London, November 21 : Kyrie Irving will end his suspension from the Brooklyn Nets and return to the team after he issued an apology for linking to an antisemitic film."Kyrie took ownership of his journey and had conversations with several members of the Jewish community," the Nets said in a statement on Sunday. "We are pleased that he is going about the process in a meaningful way."Irving first caused controversy after posting a link on Twitter to a film called Hebrews to Negroes: Wake Up Black America. The documentary is based on a book that claims, "that

many high-ranking Jews have reported to worshipping Satan and Lucifer". The film's director is a holocaust denier and provides a fabricated quote from Adolf Hitler in the film to promote an antisemitic conspiracy theory.Irving initially refused to apologize for his actions and would not directly answer questions about whether he held antisemitic beliefs. The Nets subsequently suspended the seven-time All-Star for a "failure to disavow antisemitism". However, on Saturday Irving was more contrite.

"I'm not antisemitic," Irving said in an interview with SNY. "I never have been. I don't have hate in my heart for the Jewish people or anyone that identifies as a Jew. I'm not anti-Jewish or any of that. And it's been difficult to sit at home with my family with them seeing all of this and having questions."The 30-year-old added: "'I just really want to focus on the hurt that I caused or the impact that I made within the Jewish community," Irving told SNY. "Putting some type of threat, or assumed threat, on the Jewish community, I just want to apologize deeply for all my actions for the time that it's been since the post was first put up. I've had a lot of time to think, but my focus initially, if I could do it over, would be to heal and repair a lot of my close relationships with my Jewish relatives, brothers and sisters."The Nets play the Memphis Grizzlies on Sunday. The team have gone 5-3 since Irving was suspended.

Frazzled Qatar team fluff their lines on World Cup's surreal opening night

Qatar, November 21 : As the Qatar players lingered in the tunnel of the vast Al Bayt stadium, steeling themselves to walk out for the second half of this hyper-strange sporting super show, two or three of them could be seen wincing a little, rubbing their eyes, looking, it has to be said, a little overwhelmed by the moment.Unsurprisingly so. The moment was overwhelming. Not to mention unreal, fabricated, thin, frazzled and fringed with ghosts and waste. Welcome to the opening night of Qatar 2022, an occasion that felt, as it passed in a glaze of colour and borrowed heat, like the end point of something.This was the global game in its final form, a private power-show for the benefit of a very small group of very rich people; all played out inside a disposable lighted hanger on a lovely, dusky winter plain 20 miles outside Doha.Little wonder the Qatar players felt the moment. They were 2-0

down by half-time, playing at a level above their capacity, carrying all that weight, and exposed here, held up to the light by the fact that whereas people and presidents and slogans can lie, elite sport rarely does.These players are not simply android specimens of the Qatar Aspire academy. They are, like everyone outside the elite here, essentially a group of workers, seekers of opportunity.Qatar played poorly here. The players froze, ate the moment, and were easily beaten by Ecuador. There was a fear before this tournament that Qatar would turn out to be the worst host team at a World Cup by miles. In the moment, caught off guard, that flicker of tension felt hearteningly human.Because the rest of the night was, frankly, a show with a hole in it, a performance of noisy, insistent unreality. But then, of course it was. Like so many things on this supercharged peninsula the Qatari national team is a kind of screenshot version of reality. Wandering around this place, with its gleaming generic structures, it can be hard to avoid this feeling of the unreal, of a kind of Warhol World Cup, all pastiche and glossy limitation, the fancy buildings made to look like "fancy buildings", the vast lighted stadiums plonked down in an empty space because the show demands.The Al Bayt is designed to resemble a massive-scale desert tent. And so it does, a vast and trunkless thing rising up out



of the lone and level sands. This thing is a minor engineering miracle in its own right, a plateau of perfect green surrounded by desiccated scrub. But it is also a kind of monstrosity, constructed beyond any reasonable sense of scale, a grotesque and needless monument to human vanity.Plus, like all of these structures, it will remain a kind of lighted mausoleum for the lives lost along the way. At one point in the opening ceremony a large white ghost could be seen rising up from pitch level, spectral, sad, lost-looking. This was of course La'eeb, the in-house mascot sprite, an inhabitant - it says here - of the ethereal mascot-verse. It is still hard to process this. Qatar's mascot, the spirit animal of these blood-stained structures, is a ghost.More unreality. Before kick-off the area behind one goal had been filled with a specially attired troupe of Qatar ultras, who filed in as one then spent the whole game shouting and cheering with what looked like real, genuine, choreographed excitement. Or at least real fake excitement. Maybe even real

real excitement. Does it actually matter? The picture looks the same.There was a genuine cheer before kick-off for the former emir, who waved from his box and then shook hands with someone who looked a lot like, and in fact was, Mohammed bin Salman. Relations have warmed. Saudi is, after all, Qatar's former protector, the regional big brother. But a handshake here was a big deal.Before long the great Gianni also popped up, boggle-eyed and beaming, and looking once again as surprised as anyone else to find himself at the summit. Infantino pronounced some random words referencing love and peace and everyone getting along together. The ground was flooded a deep purple shade. Dancers twirled and drums were pounded. Morgan Freeman, formerly of the US bid team, said stuff about peace and love.And almost immediately Ecuador scored, had it chalked off, then scored again though a penalty kick rolled into the corner by Enner Valencia. The yellow shirts (real) roared and sang and danced as the rest of the stadium fell silent apart from an oddly

taunting disco soundtrack.Qatar were terrible in that opening spell. Spooked, heavy handed, incoherent in their passing, with a goalkeeper who seemed intent on cartwheeling about in a peeled-eyeball frenzy. But then imagine, if you can, that pressure, the build towards this game over half a lifetime.Imagine all that when you're not actually very good, when your basic existence is a hot-housed PR and soft-power project, doomed to be dead-headed at some as-yet unscheduled point. Maybe there is something to be said for building an actual living sporting culture before you stage the greatest show on earth. Expect amazing: expect amazingly bad at football.And so it rolled on. The colours were real, the purple Fifa awnings, the yellow, the red, the deep green turf. Qatar had no way back on the pitch.Faced with the task of scoring twice against an Ecuador team that had not conceded in five matches, they did at least produce more of a show, more of a sense of life in the middle of all that artifice.

Verstappen closes season with 15th win as Leclerc clinches second in standings



Abu Dhabi, November 21: After the bang with which Formula One ended last season in Abu Dhabi it was perhaps fitting that this year a somewhat anticlimactic season bowed out with a whimper at the Yas Marina circuit.Max Verstappen took the season finale win with the same dominant, inch perfect execution that long since secured his second championship but it was another victory that only emphasised how much the sport has missed a genuine fight at the front of the grid.Lewis Hamilton was at the heart of it with Verstappen last year, losing out in that controversial decider at Abu Dhabi. The crushing disappointment has doubtless not been alleviated by an arduous season with an underperforming Mercedes. He cannot wait to see the back of the car

that delivered a final ignominy at Yas Marina, when he was forced to retire with a hydraulic problem three laps from the end.All too much then for the Mercedes team principal, Toto Wolff, who announced his intention to make one final use of the cars. To have them lurk at the team's factory and engine plant, like Banquo's ghost, "pour encourager les autres". Wolff said: "We are going to put these cars in the receptions in Brackley and Brixworth to remind us every single day how difficult it can be. This is a character building season. It's raw and it's bad and it's OK to feel like this but next year we are back."For Hamilton there has been precious little to take away from the year, save his appreciation of how hard his team have worked to drag their car into a competitive

state such that it was, in teammate George Russell's hands, finally able to win a race at the last round in Brazil.There was no such small comfort for Hamilton in Abu Dhabi. As the season ends so, too, does his remarkable record of being the only driver to have taken a victory in every season he has competed in F1 since his debut in 2007. He may shrug this off as an irrelevance but he has also fallen into territory in which he will not be happy. He finishes the title race in sixth, his lowest standing and behind Russell, who was fourth and took fifth place in Abu Dhabi. There will be no fond memories of his recalcitrant W13, Hamilton conceded in what he described as one of his three worst seasons. "We started with a car we didn't want and we finished with a car we didn't want," he said. "I am very pleased it is over and done with. I gave it everything, but ultimately the last race was like my whole season. It summed up my year."Verstappen has endured no such angst with his machinery. His win was a pedestrian affair unchallenged out front but the real battle was in his wake. Behind him Ferrari's Charles Leclerc and Red

Bull's Sergio Pérez were in a fight of their own for second place in the championship. They took it to the wire having adopted alternative strategies but Ferrari's one-stop ultimately paid off. Leclerc managed his rubber brilliantly to the flag to seal second despite a charge from Pérez who was third. Red Bull once more denied their first drivers' title one-two. The team will not lose sleep over it. For all that it was serene for Verstappen this, too, was an apt reflection of his and Red Bull's season, on track at least. He closes with 15 wins from 22 races, a record, and his team have taken 17, their best return. They go into the close season top and will remain favourites when racing resumes in March next year.Mercedes have their work cut out to challenge them but it is Ferrari who must do the most soul searching this winter. They left it far too late in the season to finally pull off a strategic coup for Leclerc that also secured second place for the Scuderia in the constructors' championship. Too little too late after a year strewn with errors and the winter presents a chance for the team to reset.

'I talk when I want to': Cristiano Ronaldo on his Manchester United interview

Doha, November 21 : Cristiano Ronaldo has claimed he is "bullet proof" and that the timing of the interview that may lead to his sacking by Manchester United is not a distraction to Portugal's World Cup campaign.Ronaldo was speaking at his nation's World Cup training base for a first time since the allegations he made against United that have caused the club to explore potential legal action against the forward."Timing is always timing," he said. "From your side it is easy to look at how we can choose timings. Sometimes you write truths, sometimes you write lies. I



don't have to worry what others think. I talk when I want to - don't have to worry what others think. I talk when I want to. Everybody knows. Please, don't ask players about me. Ask about the World Cup."Ronaldo also described himself as "bullet proof" and denied there was

friction with Bruno Fernandes, his United and Portugal teammate. A video of them together when joining up for the World Cup caused a view that there may be.Ronaldo said: "I was playing around. His plane was late - I asked him: 'Did you come by boat?'"The 37-year-old

is confident his interview will not have a negative effect on Portugal. "The players know me really well for many years and know the type of person I am," he said. "It's an ambitious group that is hungry and focused. So I'm sure it won't shake the changing room's concentration and focus." Portugal play their first game against Ghana on Thursday and Ronaldo said he was "feeling great" and that Portugal, winners of Euro 2016, were capable of securing a first World Cup. "I believe Portugal is the best team in this World Cup," he said. "But we need to show it on the pitch."

The bond of love and devotion.

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

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

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

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

Mark Allen fights back to stun Ding Junhui and win UK Championship



London, November 21 : Mark Allen produced a stunning comeback after trailing Ding Junhui 6-1 to win the UK Snooker Championship 10-7. The Northern Irishman has come from behind in every match this week and did it again at the York Barbican to win his second triple crown title. "It's absolutely amazing and I don't really know how I have won that," said Allen. "I've not played well most of the week, I didn't play well in the first session and got punished. Ronnie O'Sullivan reacts during his match against Ding Junhui at the UK Snooker Championship." I hung in and secured the last frame and after my first break of 60 [in the second session] I felt so good and started to score." At 6-6 I felt so confident. To beat Ding in a best of 19 frames match when being 6-1 down is one of my best-ever wins - he's an absolute legend." A resurgent Ding, who white-washed the world No 1, Ronnie O'Sullivan, in the quarter-finals, looked in fine form in the afternoon session as he raced into a 6-1 lead

with three centuries. Allen looked listless, perhaps jaded after his late-night win on the final black over Jack Lisowski on Saturday night, though he did win the final frame of the session to trail 6-2. In the evening it was a different story as Allen came out looking much more positive. He has played a more considered, patient game for much of this tournament but returned to his more natural attacking game and blitzed through the first four frames of the session to level at 6-6, at one point scoring 357 points without reply. He then added two more to make it seven frames in a row, to lead 8-6. Now it was Ding's turn to look out of sorts as he seemed powerless to respond to Allen's onslaught. Full credit to him, though, as he replied with a fine 105 break to pull back to 8-7. But Allen then took the next two to complete an amazing comeback. His victory continues a fine season, with this his second trophy after he successfully defended the Northern Ireland Open title in October. He also lost to Ryan Day in the final of the British

Open. It is some turnaround after his struggles with off-the-table issues in recent years, including being declared bankrupt in May 2021. He shed four stone in the summer and returned looking meaner and more confident. His second title of the season lifts him to No 5 in the world, after he started the season just inside the top 16. He has completed the second leg of the triple crown, after winning the Masters four years ago. Thoughts will now turn to the world championship in April, where he has a poor record for someone of his talent. Ding has enjoyed a resurgence of his own in this tournament after three years in the doldrums since winning his 14th ranking title here in 2019. He had slipped to No 38 in the world but this performance lifts him up to No 19, within touching distance of the top 16 who qualify automatically for the world championship. But as Allen came back at him there were signs that the old frailties were returning. He is a fine front runner but seems to struggle when the pressure is on. He entered this tournament, remarkably, as the eighth-highest ranked Chinese player, and has seen his compatriots Yan Bingtao and Zhao Xintong win triple crown events in the last two seasons. Ding's excellent form here gave him hope of adding a fourth UK Championship title but it was not to be as Allen's doggedness and determination proved too much for him.

Wales's football revolution is born of tears, pride, fan culture and radical history

Wales, November 21 : Wales fans have been waiting 64 years to take their place among football's elite and a long-held pipe dream has suddenly begun to feel very real. For some, confirmation that we have made it came when they saw Wales in a Panini World Cup sticker album, unfinished business from childhood being concluded in middle age. For others it is the uncharacteristic cascade of content around the Wales squad. TV documentaries, pages to ourselves in broadsheet pull-outs, journalists who have spent careers covering other teams muttering about "indefatigable team spirit" on podcasts, all complementing the Football Association of Wales's relentless social media blitz; footage of Gareth Bale putting off Chris Gunter as he tries to pose for his official photo, Ben Davies ruffling Joe Rodon's hair, the team laughing as they do stretches in the new training kit that is flying off the shelves in Wales. For me it was seeing Cafu, the greatest full-back of all time and the most capped Brazil footballer, welcome Wales to the tournament on behalf of Budweiser by speaking Welsh. "Cymru," he says, resplendent in our 21st century national dress, the Spirit of '58 bucket hat; "Croeso nol!" ("Welcome back"). The first time I watched Cafu explain that how our qualification had inspired him

felt mildly disorienting, like tripping up the stairs, or finding one's wallet in the fridge. The second time my eyeballs stung with pride. We are announcing ourselves on the world stage. And we are doing it in the Welsh way imaginable. The Empire State Building was lit up in red, blue and white to celebrate the USA players who will contest Group B against Wales, England and Iran. Gareth Southgate announced his squad at St George's Park, the state-of-the-art facility in Staffordshire where the England teams train. Southgate took questions from the press about James Maddison's fitness and Trent Alexander-Arnold's inclusion in front of a wall adorned with the English FA's corporate sponsors, perfectly reasonable behaviour for the manager of a national football team. Rob Page announced his squad at Tylorstown Welfare Hall, the last remaining miners' welfare hall in the Rhondda Fach valley, a community facility minutes from where his parents still live. You do it your way. This is how we do it in Wales. There was a time when the FAW comprised dozens of old, white men who would meet in Caersws to make bad decisions. But over the past decade or so a revolution happened around the Wales football team. An organic, fan-led culture has emerged in the stands, feeding off the golden gen-



eration that has represented us on the pitch. But the FAW has transformed itself into a modern, progressive governing body staffed by supporters who would be in the Canton end of the Cardiff City Stadium if they were not working at each game in an official capacity. For those who remember the daydreaming each failed qualification campaign would bring ("Would Rush and Hughes have found the defences at Mexico 86 as acquiescent as they did those in the English First Division? How would Yorath and Toshack have coped with the heat of Argentina 78? Was Euro 2004 ready for Craig Bellamy?"), what no one imagined as we cried in our pints was a revitalised FAW tapping into a growing sense of Welsh self-confidence, that it would use qualification for football's biggest stage as a nation building exercise. The official Wales World Cup song is Yma o Hyd. Originally released in 1983 by Dafydd Iwan, a singer who by 2022 had retired, it was adopted by the players who found its melody stirring and its message inspiring. Yma o Hyd. We're Still Here. Conceivably as a retort to Thatcherism, Iwan was asked by the players to

perform it before the World Cup playoff semi-final against Austria and a phenomenon was born. The accompanying video has all of the knee slide celebrations and crowd shots expected from a World Cup single but it is also interspersed with footage of the 1984-85 miners' strike, Cymdeithas yr Iaith (the Welsh Language Society) demonstrations from the 1960s, and the statue of Betty Campbell, the community activist who became Wales's first black head teacher. It's the video you didn't know you needed; an elated Kieffer Moore interspersed with a crash course in Wales's radical history. We have waited a long time to tell our story at the world's largest sporting event. So forgive us if there are a few things we need to get off our chest. Football fans often adopt the character of the team they support, and Welsh fans are no different. A tapas of heartbreak had been filed away in every supporter's mental Rolodex, creating a fanbase with a healthy sense of humour and world class resilience to disappointment. But we are no longer defined by failure. Wales are ranked 19th in the world. We have reached three of the past

four major tournaments. Just getting to a World Cup has always been the ambition, but no one feels we do not deserve to be there. I first noticed football's power for putting Wales in the spotlight during Euro 2016, when taxi drivers and bar owners would shout "Gareth Bale!" at Wales fans as we walked around Bordeaux or Toulouse. But when children play football in the street, it's the World Cup they're imagining, not the European Championship. In the current scramble for context, one observation about Wales's first appearance at a World Cup for 64 years struck me like no other. John Charles, Ivor Allchurch and the boys of '58 were closer to the first modern Olympics of 1896 than they are to the class of '22. Cliff Jones and Terry Medwin, the two remaining members of the 1958 team who played in Sweden, met the present squad last week. Cliff and Terry are 87 and 90 years old respectively, both Swansea boys and Tottenham legends from the double winning team of 1961, and they chatted convivially to Bale about his fitness before posing for selfies. This current Wales team respects its past. But it is making history.

Chaos and anger at Fifa's fan festival on Qatar's 'extraordinary day'

Doha, November 21 : Ten minutes before the first World Cup held in the Middle East begins the prospect of watching Ecuador's Enner Valencia put Qatar to the sword seems remote. "Sorry, sir, we're full," says the maître d' of Desert Rose, one of the few restaurants showing the game in Doha's Souq Waqif. Their outdoor screens can be viewed from the pavement, however. "Sorry, sir, you can't stand there," says a polite but firm security guard. "Move along, sir." Moving along through the bustling alleyways and squares there is little evidence to support the assertion of Qatar's head coach, Félix Sánchez, that this will be "an extraordinary day like no other". At least not in Souq Waqif, a rare example of Qatari architecture in Doha where market stalls and shisha lounges abound and TV stations from around the globe have set up studios for that authentic backdrop (Souq Waqif was renovated in 2006). The Bulgarian great Hristo Stoichkov brings a touch of World Cup authenticity by conducting an interview near a huge golden thumb. Nearby three Mexico fans in Arab dress, including one in a wrestling mask, are appearing on local TV. Otherwise there are more journalists searching for World Cup fans than fans - local or otherwise - looking to watch the opening game of what Fifa's president, Gianni Infantino, would contest is a ground-breaking World Cup. Old men push wheelbarrows through the streets and the pavement cafes are mainly



filled with locals smoking shisha pipes. It was a different and more disturbing picture at the Fifa Fan Festival at Al Bidda Park further up the Corniche. The venue has an official capacity of 40,000 but for the second day since it opened there were chaotic scenes at the venue. Organisers allowed too many fans to enter the site before kick-off. One report estimated that double the capacity had tried to gain entry. They were kept in a holding area between the main festival park and the perimeter entrance before being shepherded back out. "It was dangerous," one fan carrying a child aged nearly four, who had exited the holding area, said. "They let too many people in. We never made it into the main area and I was glad to leave." Police took about 45 minutes to clear the excess fans amid angry scenes. Another headache for Fifa, which has somehow managed to add to the controversies surrounding the tournament in recent days. Fans are encouraged to descend on Al Bidda Park - where Fifa sponsors

such as Budweiser get to sell their wares, alcoholic or zero (taste) - because options to immerse themselves in the World Cup experience elsewhere in Doha are complicated to say the least. Many visitors arrived at their expensive hotels to find the price does not include access to

watching matches on TV. Many hotels balked at paying the host broadcaster BeIN Sports a subscription fee of 100,000 Qatari riyals (£23,105 at today's exchange rate) to show the World Cup in their restaurants, bars and rooms. The same goes for owners of private villas and apart-

ments that are being rented out to fans from around the world. Off to the Fifa Fan Festival it is then, providing you have an official Hayya pass. The appropriately named 'La Boca' is another restaurant showing the World Cup opener in Souq Waqif. But elsewhere, and despite a few cheers when Ecuador's early goal was disallowed, it is Sunday business as usual. On the hour's walk to the Souq via the lively Al Jazeera Street there is the occasional sight of Qataris embracing a moment of huge sporting significance for the Arab world. Families also gather in front of a large screen in Millennium Plaza - children, women and men all dressed in Qatar kit - and cheer every time the national team's coach appears on screen en route to Al Bayt Stadium almost 50kms north of Doha.

Fans Upset With JioCinema For Poor Streaming During FIFA WC Opener

New Delhi, November 21 : One of the biggest sporting event in the world -- The FIFA World Cup -- kicked off on Sunday with a glittering opening ceremony. The likes of Morgan Freeman, BTS' singer Jung Kook enthralled the capacity crowd at Al Bayt Stadium in Al Khor, Qatar. However, the fans in India had a problem in streaming the opening ceremony as Jio Cinema kept on buffering. Many users then took to Twitter to slam the platform for not having the best possible streaming for the

biggest event in the world. The problem was not just restricted to the opening ceremony, with fans also having difficulty in watching the match between Qatar and Ecuador. Soon after, fans started complaining on Twitter, the official handle of Jio Cinema tweeted, saying that the users are required to update the app in order to have the best possible streaming. However, even after updating, the problem continued for the users. The opening match of the FIFA World Cup was

contested between Qatar and Ecuador, and it was the latter that came out on top, winning the contest 2-0. Qatar became the first home team to lose their opening World Cup match as Ecuador cruised to a 2-0 victory over the hosts, with Enner Valencia scoring twice in the tournament curtain-raiser on Sunday. Asian champions Qatar enjoyed the backing of the majority of the crowd at the 60,000-capacity Al Bayt Stadium, but could not follow a glitzy opening ceremony with a statement performance.

England must harness momentum from rescue act into Springboks test

London, November 21 : Always leave them wanting more. For a fixture that comes around every four years or so, the anticipation for the next instalment of England versus New Zealand is already palpable. Marcus Smith's decision to take the draw added to a strange mix of exhilaration and anticlimax at full-time and it was left to Maro Itoje to try to make sense of it all. "Why can't we play like that for the whole game?" he wondered. Sometimes the most obvious questions are the hardest to answer. First, it

pays to go back four years to the All Blacks' previous visit and a similarly thrilling finish. England went down 16-15 but were far more polished. Eddie Jones has never been happier in defeat and we found out why at the World Cup semi-final 12 months later. Indeed, he recently recalled how in that defeat "we learned more about them than they learned about us". It is telling that four years on, after snatching a draw from the desperate position of being 19 points down with 10 minutes to go, Jones was more downbeat as he tried to accentuate the positives. He

was unconvincing when claiming England were "disappointed" to draw and resigned to the fact that in the first half New Zealand had simply been too good for his side. If England learned one thing about the All Blacks on Saturday it is that this incarnation cannot be bullied as they were in Yokohama and, as easy as it is to criticise Jones's side for not "playing like that for the whole game", to a large extent they simply were not allowed to. If they looked like world beaters for 10 minutes, for 70 they were made to look like World Cup also rans. "We have an in-



credible amount of potential in this team, we just need to unlock it," Itoje insisted. "We just didn't get out of the blocks how we wanted to, we left it until the second half where all the pressure was on

us to finally be free and finally play this type of rugby that we want to play." To return to Itoje's question, it is worth looking at what went right as they scored three tries in the last 10 min-

utes, and the most obvious answer is Smith's sense of abandon. It was he who instigated the move that led to Beauden Barrett's yellow card and Will Stuart's first try with his trademark hitch-kick, seizing the reins that he sometimes struggles to share with Owen Farrell. Jones said: "I like him when he's really aggressive. I think sometimes he can be a little bit play-a-play to play-a-play." In other words, he can be a bit too tentative, trying to lay the platform for subsequent phases.