



The Assam Rising

Projecting the best of Northeast India everyday

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NEWS IN BRIEF

War memorial

Assam Rising
Guwahati, November 22:

A war memorial will be built on the outskirts of Guwahati where the Battle of Alaboi was fought in the 17th century between the Ahom Army and Mughals. The Assam government has decided to build the war memorial to pay tribute to the sacrifices and valour of the Ahom army. The war memorial will be built with an estimated cost of Rs. 150 crore. The main attraction of the memorial would be a 100-foot height Hengang (Ahom sword) right at the centre of the memorial. The state government today released a 3D model of the war memorial which was shared by Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on his social media handles. "Alaboi Ranakshetra' being built at Alaboi, Kamrup at a cost of Rs150 cr over 75 bigha of land and to feature a 100-foot Henggang will be Assam's glorious tribute to the valour & supreme sacrifice of 10,000 Ahom soldiers martyred in the Battle of Alaboi," Sarma tweeted.

Road accident

Assam Rising
Guwahati, November 22:

Two persons died after meeting with a road accident in Assam's Tezpur on Monday night. According to sources, the bike, bearing the registration number AS12 S 0861, collided head-on with a truck in Niz Bihaguri. The deceased have been identified as Biju Singh and Suman Talukdar. The police have reached the spot and seized the truck and the bike. Another accident also took place on the same day in Kaliabor where five persons were killed on spot.

Leopard carcass

Assam Rising
Guwahati, November 22:

The carcass of a leopard was found in the middle of tea garden near factory at Majjan Tea Estate in Assam's Dibrugarh district. According to sources, the leopard is suspected to have died two-three days ago. The carcass was found by workers of the tea garden while they were plucking tea leaves. Following the recovery of the carcass, the forest department officials reached the spot and took it away for postmortem. The locals revealed that leopards ventured in their area and take away their domestic animals.

Firing kills 6 on Assam-Meghalaya border



Assam Rising
Guwahati, November 22:

Assam's forest guards allegedly shot dead six people from Meghalaya when they were returning with timber from a contested area along the border between the two states and forced authorities to block mobile internet services in the neighbouring

districts to stem any escalation. This comes months after Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and his Meghalaya counterpart, Conrad Sangma, signed an agreement in March to resolve the five-decade-old dispute in six of the 12 contested areas along their 884.9 km-long border between the two states.

Union home minister Amit Shah called the accord historic and said 70% of the dispute will be resolved with its signing. Sarma and Sangma held talks to resolve the dispute in the remaining areas in August. Eyewitnesses said the guards first fired at the tyres of the vehicles carrying the timber to halt them. The guards then al-

legedly fired when they realised they were outnumbered as agitated drivers and other occupants of the vehicles alighted and informed residents of a nearby village. Four people died on the spot while a fifth person succumbed to his injuries at a nearby health centre. Unconfirmed reports said a forest guard also died and scores were critically injured in a clash. Deputy inspector general Davis NR Marak, who is in charge of Meghalaya's eastern range, confirmed the incident and said he was rushing to the scene. "Informa-

tion is very sketchy right now and I am on my way to the location to ascertain the situation." Sangma convened a meeting of top officials to take stock of the situation as the state government notified the cessation of mobile internet services in seven districts for 48 hours. He announced ₹5 lakh each for the families of the five and said the Meghalaya Police have registered a case over the incident. "The details and contents of the case will be shared later." Officials from Assam

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Assam government launches new tourism policy



Assam Rising
Guwahati, November 22:

The Assam government has launched a new tourism policy to invite more entrepreneurs and investors to make the state their investment destination. The policy, launched by Jayanta Malla Baruah, state minister of public health engineering, skill development Employment & entrepreneurship and tourism in New Delhi this week, was

prepared after consultations with the World Bank, stakeholders and industry experts. Keeping in mind the objective of employing the local youth, the department of tourism said it will facilitate on-the-job training to be provided by employers for local employees

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BJP says actors were paid to walk with Rahul Gandhi

New Delhi, November 22:

BJP leaders on Tuesday shared screenshots of a WhatsApp message claiming that Congress is paying actors to walk with Rahul Gandhi in the Bharat Jodo Yatra. Congress dismissed the WhatsApp forward as 'bogus'. After Pooja Bhatt, Sushant Singh, Amol Palekar, Riya Sen, Rashmi Desai walked with Rahul Gandhi in Bharat Jodo Yatra in Maharashtra, several BJP leaders, including Amit Malviya Rane, on Tuesday, claimed actors are paid to walk with the Congress leader. In support, a WhatsApp forward bearing no name was shared which calls for the participation of actors in Madhya Pradesh. According to the WhatsApp mes-



sage, the actors can choose the time slot to walk with Rahul Gandhi for 15 minutes in November in exchange for the 'best possible cost'. The Congress replied and said this show how desperately the BJP is trying to discredit the yatra. Those who have joined Bharat Jodo Yatra are standing for the cause & for our nation. "Other than refurbishing Rahul Gandhi's credential as a

leader, all that his Yatra has achieved is enable rise of a self serving coterie around him, which is doing more harm by this kind of paid PR. But who are these people willing to associate with Rahul even for some money?" Amit Malviya tweeted. Maharashtra Congress leader Sachin Sawant said the cited WhatsApp forward has no name, no number and does not hold water at all. "It is the BJP which masters the art of arm-twisting celebrities to por-

tray artificial support for them, not Congress," Sawant tweeted. Other than refurbishing Rahul Gandhi's credential as a leader, all that his Yatra has achieved is enable rise of a self serving coterie around him, which is doing more harm by this kind of paid PR. "Don't we remember tweets of celebrities on petrol diesel rates during UPA govt & during farmers' protest? Everyone knows that it takes courage to stand against autocratic & divisive bjp agenda," he said adding that those who have joined Bharat Jodo Yatra are standing

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PM Modi distributes appointment letters to over 71,000 recruits



New Delhi, November 22:

As part of the government's

'Rozgar Mela' (employment fair), Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday

distributed over 71,000 appointment letters to new recruits via video conferencing. Physical copies of appointment letters were handed over at 45 locations across the country, except Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh where the Model Code of Conduct is in force. The Prime Minister's Office has said the drive is a step towards fulfilling his commitment to according highest priority to employment generation, and it is expected to be a catalyst in creating more

jobs and providing meaningful opportunities to the youth for their empowerment and participation in national development directly. In October, appointment letters were handed over to 75,000 people. Modi had in June asked various government departments and ministries to

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Assam's Zorba, the Belgian Malinois Dies

Assam Rising
Guwahati, November 22:

Due to his age and current health issues, he passed away last night. An internationally acclaimed rhino conservation and wildlife crime expert, Dr Bibhab Kumar Talukdar, the CEO of Aaranyak, has expressed his deep sorrow over the loss of this K9 hero. "Our K9 squad, including Zorba, helped forest officials locate poach-

ers' exit routes following rhino poaching incidents, resulting in arrests of the culprits by police and forest officials. Zorba's contribution during his lifetime will always be remembered and we will always regard him as a conservation hero," said Dr Bibhab Kumar Talukdar. This Belgian Malinois dog, Zorba was the first such dog deployed in the country to

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UNICEF-NSS study

Nearly 95% of Assam youth suffer from mental health issues due to cyberbullying

Assam Rising
Guwahati, November 22:

An estimated 95% of youth in Assam have suffered cyberbullying and corporal punishment leading to mental health issues, a poll conducted by UNICEF and National Service Scheme (NSS) has revealed. Currently, 19% of Assam's 3.1 crore population (Census 2011) is in the age group

of 15-24 years. "Close to 60% of the young people who were surveyed pointed out that it impacted their social relationships, for 24% it led to stress, anxiety and fear, and 17% reported physical injury," the report said. The U-Report poll, launched in July this year, was developed to support the Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights' (ASCPCLR) cam-

paign called Suraksha, aiming to raise public awareness on the forms of violence against children and redressal mechanisms. U-Report is a social platform created by UNICEF, available via SMS, Facebook and Twitter, where young people express their opinion. Dr. Mythili Hazarika, Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Psychology,

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Shraddha Walker murder After kitchen, blood stains recovered from bathroom



NEW DELHI, November 22 : Forensic teams have found blood stains from the bathroom of the rented accommodation in Chattarpur which Aftab Amin Poonawalla shared with his live-in partner Shraddha Walker before he brutally killed her, sources said on Tuesday. The

recovery was made by teams from the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) and Delhi Police. "The blood stains were found between the tiles. He has already confessed that he cut her body in the bathroom after keeping it under a running shower. The blood samples

have been collected and sent for examination," said the sources. Earlier, blood stains were also found in the kitchen. The sources also said that three weapons, hammer, small saw, and chopper which Aftab used to disintegrate Shraddha's body into 35 pieces, were thrown in the bushes of DLF Phase-III and a garbage van in Mehrauli. Also Read: Aftab Poonawalla gets permission to meet his family; says 'can't recall details' of Shraddha Walker's murder. Police teams are conducting searches in Gurugram and Mehrauli to locate the weapons. Meanwhile, the Saket court has also given permission to the police for a polygraph test before his narco analysis. Aftab will also be taken to two ponds for the search of the body

parts, one in the Mehrauli forest and the other in Maidangarhi. On Sunday, the police teams recovered more human remains from the Mehrauli forest. They have so far sent 18 bones, including the base of a skull, and a decapitated jaw, for forensic examination. To ascertain whether the bones are that of Shraddha, the blood samples of her father and brother have been collected for DNA analysis.



This undated photo shows Lesser Adjutants roosting on tree branches at the Sambo Wildlife Sanctuary in Kratie province, Cambodia

Fears over oil producers' influence with UAE as next host of Cop climate talks

Istanbul, November 22 : Fears are growing among climate experts and campaigners over the influence of fossil fuel producers on global climate talks, as a key Gulf petro-state gears up to take control of the negotiations. The United Arab Emirates, one of the world's biggest oil exporters, will hold the presidency of Cop28, the next round of UN climate talks that will begin in late November next year. Decisions taken at the Cop27 climate summit in Egypt, which finished on Sunday, showed the clear imprint of fossil fuel influence, according to people inside the negotiations. They said Saudi Arabia - an ally of Egypt outside the talks - played a key role in preventing a strong commitment to limiting temperature increases to 1.5C above pre-industrial levels. Many countries, including the UK and the EU, were bitterly disappointed. Alok Sharma, the UK president of last year's Cop26 summit, said in visible anger at the conclusion of Cop27 on Sunday morning: "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." There were also at least 636 fossil fuel lobbyists attending the Cop27 talks in Egypt, of whom 70 were linked to UAE oil and gas companies. This has raised questions over what will happen next year. Yamide Dagnet, director for climate justice at the Open Society Foundations, warned: "We expect the theme for Cop28 to include energy, alongside resilience [to the impacts of climate breakdown], finance and the global stocktake. So we should not be naive and assume that fossil fuel lobbyists will relent." Matthew Hedges, an expert on the Emirates' political economy, who was imprisoned and tortured for almost six months in the UAE capital, Abu Dhabi,

during his doctoral research, said there could be a conflict of interests. "The Emirates is a country with some of the world's largest oil reserves, with a desire to continue to expand and enhance fossil fuel production. There will be an effort to illustrate their engagement in renewables, particularly solar and nuclear, but there are questions to be asked about how you can engage in such conflicting actions," he said. About 13% of the UAE's exports come directly from oil and gas, which represent about 30% of the country's GDP. Many of its other industries, including construction and travel, are also financially linked to fossil fuels. At Cop27, Saudi and other Gulf states, along with Brazil and China, are also said to have stymied attempts to include a resolution to phase down fossil fuels in the final outcome. Hedges said: "The UEA and Saudi

Arabia have a very similar view on fossil fuels. Both depend on their ability to process and export oil." Alden Meyer, senior associate at the E3G environmental thinktank, said the final stages of Cop27, where negotiations ran more than 30 hours beyond the final deadline and were severely criticised by participants as "untransparent, unpredictable and chaotic", should provide a lesson in what can happen when a Cop host nation allows fossil fuel interests to wield too much influence. "It's hard to imagine running a worse process than the Egyptian presidency," he said. "The spotlight at Cop28 is going to be on 1.5C, and UAE are going to have to deal with that. Hopefully they will be more neutral than the Egyptian presidency." Nick Mabey, a founding director of E3G, was more optimistic. "UAE is not Egypt, and not Saudi Arabia. They have very different interests and wish to position themselves differently," he said. "They've said very different things about fossil fuels. That hopefully means they will have a more balanced approach."

Prosecution rests case early in Trump Organization tax fraud trial

London, November 22 : Prosecutors in the Trump Organization's criminal tax fraud trial rested their case on Monday earlier than expected, pinning hopes for convicting Donald Trump's company largely on the word of two top executives who cut deals before testifying that they schemed to avoid taxes on company-paid perks. Allen Weisselberg, the company's longtime finance chief, and Jeffrey McConney, a senior vice president and controller, testified for the bulk of the prosecution's eight-day case, bringing the drama of their own admitted wrongdoing to a trial heavy on numbers, spreadsheets, tax returns and payroll records. Weisselberg, who pleaded guilty in August to dodging taxes on \$1.7m in extras, was required to testify as a prosecution witness as part of a plea deal in exchange for a promised sentence of five months in jail. McConney was granted immunity to testify. The Trump Organization's lawyers opened their defense by calling to the witness stand the accountant who handled tax returns and other financial matters for Trump, the Trump Organization and hundreds of Trump entities since the 1980s. Donald Bender, a partner at Mazars USALLP, said McConney would call him "numerous times" a week about various tax issues and that he got emails from Weisselberg so often, he even made time to respond while away in the mountains or vacationing in Paris. Bender said he interacted far less frequently with Trump, his biggest client, attending his

2005 wedding, but otherwise talking to him maybe a couple times a year. Once Trump became president in 2017,



Bender said he'd visit him twice a year at the White House so he could sign his tax extensions and returns but those trips ended when the Covid-19 pandemic began. Trump blamed Bender and Mazars for the company's troubles, writing on his Truth Social platform last week: "The highly paid accounting firm should have routinely picked these things up - we relied on them. VERY UNFAIR!" Prosecutors had considered calling the accountant, even prepping him for six hours during a Zoom conference on Saturday, but decided to leave him for the defense. Bender's testimony will continue on Tuesday. Prosecutors called just three other witnesses: the Trump Organization's accounts payable supervisor, a forensic accountant for the Manhattan district attorney's office, and a state tax auditor who investigated Weisselberg's taxes. The auditor was on the witness stand on Monday. Weisselberg, now a senior adviser at the company, testified last week that he conspired with McConney, his subordinate, to hide more than a decade's worth of extras from his taxable income, but that

neither Trump nor the family were involved. McConney testified that Weisselberg and another executive, Michael Calamari Sr, leaned on him over the years to fudge payroll records to hide extras such as Manhattan apartments and Mercedes-Benz cars from their taxable income, in part by reducing their salaries by the cost of those perks and issuing falsified W-2 forms.

Angler lands one of world's largest goldfish in French lake

London, November 22 : Goldfish are normally big enough to live in a bowl in people's homes, happily whiling the hours away, scarcely taking up enough room to cause any trouble. However, angler Andy Hackett managed to catch a much bigger version of the fairground prize favourite when he landed one of the world's largest weighing more than 30kg (67 pounds, or five stone). The elusive fish, known as the Carrot after its orange colour, was landed at Bluewater Lakes in Champagne, France. It



was put into the lake 20 years ago, and has proved to be a slippery customer ever since. Hackett, from Kidderminster in Worcestershire, spent 25 minutes bringing the fish in, the Daily Mail reported. It is a hybrid

species of a leather carp and koi, and is thought to be the second largest of its type ever caught. The 42-year-old said: "I always knew the Carrot was in there but never thought I would catch it." I knew it

was a big fish when it took my bait and went off side to side and up and down with it. Then it came to the surface 30 or 40 yards out and I saw that it was orange. "It was brilliant to catch it but it was also sheer luck." He posed for a photos afterwards before releasing it back into the water. The fishery manager, Jason Cowler, said: "We put the Carrot in about 20 years ago as something different for the customers to fish for. Since then it has grown and grown but it doesn't often come out. She is very elusive."

Indonesia earthquake

Rescuers Search For Survivors as Death Toll Rises to 252

London, November 22 : Indonesian rescue

workers were racing to reach people still trapped in rubble one day after an earthquake struck the main island of Java, as the death toll rose to 252. Monday afternoon's quake, centred in the Cianjur region of West Java province, struck at a depth of 6.2 miles (10km), triggering landslides and damaging buildings, including thousands of homes. The number of people killed is unclear. In an Instagram post on Tuesday the local government said 252 were confirmed dead, with 31 missing, 377 injured and 7,060 displaced. Ridwan Kamil, the governor of West Java, said the majority of the dead were children, many of them students taking extra lessons. "So many incidents occurred at several Islamic schools," he

said. Authorities were operating "under the assumption that the number of injured and [dead] will rise with time". Provisional data released by the authorities and cited by Save the Children said about 51 education sites were affected, including 30 elementary schools, 12 junior high schools, one high school, five vocational schools and one special school. At a local hospital, overwhelmed by the number of patients, the injured lay on the floor on mattresses and blankets, or under makeshift tents. On Monday night, victims were treated in the dark, under torchlight, due to widespread power

cuts. "Everything collapsed beneath me and I was crushed beneath this child," Cucu, a 48-year-old resident, told Reuters from the crowded hospital parking area. "Two of my kids survived. I dug them up... Two others I brought here, and one is still missing," she said through tears. BNPB said at least 25 people were still buried under the rubble in Cianjur as darkness fell on Monday. Efforts to reach victims been complicated by power failures, damaged roads and more than 80 aftershocks. On Tuesday morning, hundreds of police officers had been deployed to assist in rescue efforts, Dedi Prasetyo, the national police spokesperson, told the Antara state news agency.



A flock of migrating starlings are pictured in Ankara, Türkiye

gmda
Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority
STATFED Building, Bhangagarh, Guwahati - 781005
Website: www.gmda.co.in Tel: 0361-2529650/9824
E-mail: ceo_gmda@yahoo.com Fax: 0361-2529991
No. GMDA/DEV/173/2022/3 Dated: 22-11-2022
SHORT TENDER NOTICE
Sealed tender in prescribed format eventually to be drawn up in P.W.D. F-2 Form (Modified) affixing non-refundable court fee stamp of ₹8.25 (Rupees eight and paise twenty five) only from APWD registered contractor experienced in similar nature of work at the office of the Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority for execution of the following work which will be received up to **11:00 AM on 07-12-2022**. The details may be obtained from the office of the undersigned on payment of ₹500/- (Rupees Five Hundred) only in cash counter on all working days during office hours.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Amount
1.	Renovation of Toilet Block near Toytrain Area at Shradddhanjali Kanan	₹12,42,900.00/-

Sd/- (Kausar J. Hilaly, ACS)
Chief Executive Officer
Guwahati Metropolitan Dev. Authority
Bhangagarh, Guwahati - 05

gmda
Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority
STATFED Building, Bhangagarh, Guwahati - 781005
Website: www.gmda.co.in Tel: 0361-2529650/9824
E-mail: ceo_gmda-as@nic.in Fax: 0361-2529991
No. GMDA/DEV/176/2022/3 Dated: 21-11-2022
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Sealed tender in prescribed format affixing non-refundable court fee stamp of ₹8.25 (Rupees eight and paise twenty five) only from experienced and reputed vendors of interior decoration are invited by the undersigned at the office of the Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority for execution of the work "**Repair and renovation of Old Assam Human Rights Office for Guwahati Municipal Corporation**" for an estimated value of **₹24,92,560.00** (Rupees Twenty-Four Ninety-Two Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty) only. The tender will be received upto **2:30 PM** on dated **28-11-2022** and will be open at **3:00 PM** on the same day. In case of unscheduled holiday on the date of opening of the tender, the tenders will be opened on the next working day at the same place and time. The Detailed tender papers may be obtained on all working days from 22-11-2022 to 28-11-2022 on payment of ₹1000.00 (Rupees One Thousand) only in cash at GMDA's Cash Counter or vide Demand Draft in favour of Chief Executive Officer, GMDA payable at Guwahati from 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM only.

Sd/- (Kausar J. Hilaly, ACS)
Chief Executive Officer
Guwahati Metropolitan Dev. Authority
Bhangagarh, Guwahati - 5

No. PHEE/NAL/JJM/ESTT-90/2022 -23/ 4031
INTERVIEW NOTICE
Shortlisted Candidates for the post Microbiologist and Jal Mitra (CWC) as per Advt No.- 02 OF 2022-23 are hereby requested to report at O/o of the EE (PHE) cum DMD, JJM Assam, Nalbari PHE Division, Nalbari on 29/11/2022 at 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM respectively
List of Shortlisted candidates called for interview may be seen in the following websites (www.phewater.assam.gov.in., www.jjmassam.in, www.phesanitation.assam.gov.in.)
Executive Engineer (PHE)
Nalbari Division::Nalbari
Janasanyog/D/16593/22

NFR actively participated in PSU



Assam Rising, Guwahati, November 22: N.F. Railway & Indian Army, under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav organised a mega event at Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium in Guwahati on November 21 during Purvottar Swabhimman Utsav. Purvottar Swabhimman Utsav has been celebrated to mark the contribution of Northeast and its unsung

freedom fighters in nation building by felicitating Veer Naris and showcasing the diversified culture of Northeast regions. The Indian Army had also displayed arms and ammunition during the Utsav. N. F. Railway displayed models of its mega projects which are being done for overall development of the North-eastern regions. Models of Lumding Diesel Loco Shed,

New Bongaigaon Workshop, the much acclaimed Vistadome Coach with rotating seats that provides panoramic view during journey, Dhansiri – Zubza railway line under construction between the two major cities of Indian state of Nagaland - Dimapur and Kohima New Line Project etc were displayed. Mitigation measures to avoid Train Elephant collision in Elephant corridors like Intrusion Detection System, installation of Honey Bee Buzzer were also displayed. Among other mitigation works, proposed

elevated tracks, ramps, and subways in Kamakhya – Azara section to allow safe passage of wildlife were highly appreciated by the visitors. Electrification works which were completed and under progress in the North-Eastern region were also highlighted and displayed. Huge numbers of foot-falls were registered in the stall of N.F. Railway. Visitors praised the developmental works initiated and done by N.F. Railway towards North-east regions by viewing the displayed models. As a part of the Purvottar Swabhimman Utsav many events like cul-

tural shows, musical extravaganza, air display etc were held. Many distinguished guests and dignitaries from Northeast regions were present in the Utsav. The guest present had praised the crucial role of N. F. Railway towards overall development of the Northeast regions. They have expressed their immense satisfaction over the progress of railway connectivity specially in North-eastern regions initiated by Anshul Gupta, General Manager/N.F. Railway and his team aim to connect the entire North-eastern states to the rest of the country.

Lecture on Opportunities in HE and Employment held

Assam Rising, Guwahati,

November 22: A child should be taught to inculcate a vision from a young age so that it can be pursued in his or her life in the true sense. One has to dream with a vision, and must pursue that with action. This is the mantra for bringing transformation for a better society, for humanity. We have to work for need based education. This was stated by Mahabubul Hoque, Chancellor, University of Science & Technology Meghalaya while addressing the public on “Opportunities in Higher Education and Employment: Role of USTM” organised by Miraj Welfare Society and the education lovers of Sonamura today. The programme was inaugurated by Pratima Bhowmik, Minister of State, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India in the presence of Dr Balendra Kumar Das, Pro VC, USTM, other delegates and a massive gathering. Inaugurating the programme in a very positive note, State Minister Pratima Bhowmik praised USTM and Chancellor



Hoque and said that students from Tripura can go to the USTM to pursue higher education. She also said that the Government is ready to offer all kinds of support including arrangement of land in the state of Tripura if USTM wishes to establish any educational institution there. Upon the USTM Chancellor's invitation, the Minister has also expressed her desire to visit the University. Addressing a huge gathering of school and college students, guardians and academicians, Chancellor M Hoque said, “Our children and youth must work for humanity, not for any particular community or religion, they must have an inclusive mindset.” He urged the students that they must first set a dream, then they must

have a vision, then they have to pursue that vision to achieve the target thereby transforming vision into action so that action brings change to the society. “Vision must be there for social reformation and we have to work for need based education. NEP emphasizes Interdisciplinary learning, and at USTM we are following this”, he said. Dr Balendra Kumar Das, Pro VC of USTM was the guest of honour on the occasion and addressed the gathering. He stated that the objective of the programme is to create and promote awareness among youths and education lovers about competitive higher education, employment opportunities and to explain the USTM's hitherto contributions and its future vision.

Diabetes awareness camp

Assam Rising, North Lakhimpur, November 22: Under the aegis of Lions Club, Lakhimpur, and in association with All Care Diagnostic and Research Center Private Lim-



ited, Guwahati, a diabetes awareness camp was held at the Lakhimpur district jail, North Lakhimpur on Sunday where about 300 prisoners were checked up to know whether they had diabetes or not. The camp was inaugurated by the president of the Club Monuj Bharadwaj. Club member Dr. Upendra Nath Dutta highlighted the causes, precautions and preventions of diabetes in the camp. Lion Dr. Moon Rudrapal also addressed the event. The camp which started at 11 a.m. came to an end at 4 p.m. The Lakhimpur district jail authority thanked the Lions Club, Lakhimpur for organising the camp among its prisoners at the jail.

400th birth anniversary of Lachit Barphukan celebrates at Bhattadev University

Assam Rising, Barpeta,

November 22: A special lecture programme has been organized by the Department of History, Bhattadev University in collaboration with the Bajali district administration to mark the 400th birth anniversary of the Assamese legend Mahaveer Lachit Barphukan on November 22. The programme was organized in the conference hall of the new academic building in the university campus which was well attended by the faculties, students and invited guests. Dr Sunil Pawan Baruah, a renowned historian and columnist who was invited for the lecture, has delivered his valuable



talk on the topic ‘Life and works of Lachit Barphukan’. Dr Baruah also highlights the various aspects of Lachit Barphukan's life and achievements and his relevance even to the present day. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Subhash Das, Academic Registrar of Bhattadev University. The lecture session was presided over by Arindam Talukdar, HoD, History. The other prominent persons present in the programme were Sarat Talukdar, Associate Dean, Students Welfare, Parag Barman, Director i/c Students Welfare and officials of university and district ad-

ministration. Furthermore, the University Authority, on the eve of Lachit Barphukan's 400th birth anniversary, also organised a poster making competition on Ahom Mughal Conflict and an essay writing competition on Life and achievements of Lachit Barphukan amongst the students of the University. Few of the posters of the competition were displayed in the conference hall. The name and fame of Lachit Barphukan and his achievements shall be known to all the fellow Indians. For ages, their heroics have been sublimed in Indian history.

Symposium held on Lachit Borphukan at LTK College

Assam Rising, North Lakhimpur, November 22: Under the aegis of North Lakhimpur's Lakhimpur Telahi Kamalabori (LTK) College teachers' unit and in association with Lakhimpur district

administration, a symposium was held on the occasion of 400th birth anniversary of Lachit Borphukan at the college auditorium today. In the symposium, started with the poem recitation by Bhaskarjit Borah, students of LTK College and neighbouring educational institutions were present. Lakhimpur DC Sumit Sattawan inaugurated the symposium. In his speech, the DC welcomed the plans of the government to take forward a

great warrior like Lachit Borphukan to the national level. The Principal of LTK College Dr. Bubul Kumar Saikia explained the significance of the Lachit Divas. Professors of LTK College Bidyut Chutiyi, Dr. Binita Saharia, Biju Kumar Sonowal, Diganta Saikia and Dr. Randip Borah participated in the event as resource persons. The resource persons highlighted various aspects of the life and works of Lachit Borphukan such as his heroism, childhood, post, fame, strategy of war and relevance of Lachit in present time. The event was anchored by the professor of History department Lichamoni Baruah Gogoi. President of teachers' unit Champa Tamuli offered vote of thanks.

5 died on the spot in collision of Truck and Car



Assam Rising, Nagaon, November 22: In a tragic head to head collision between a Hyundai Arora car (AS 05 Q 2683) with a truck (UP 37AT 2765), all the five occupants including the driver of the Hyundai car who came in a bridal journey along with the bridegroom to the house of the bride at Tezpur from Bokakhat in Golaghat district, were died on spot on NH 37 (A) near Kaliabor Hariyekhuwa last night. The deceased have been

identified as the driver Sandeep Kumar Paul (Bokakhat klakhuwa), Bibek Das (Bhutpara Moumakhii), Sanjoy Das, Samir Paul and Bikash Sarma (Bokakhat Kolakhuwa), sources said. Local police from Sulung and Uluni PS immediately rushed to the spot soon after the tragic incident and recovered bodies of those victim youths and sent the earthly remains of those victims for post mortem. Meanwhile the driver

and helper of the truck managed themselves to escape from the scene, sources said, adding that the police registered a case in this regard and further legal proceedings are on. As per on-lookers or eyewitnesses, the tragic road mishap took place due to negligence of the NH four lines road construction agency while police doubted that it might be due to over speed of the Hyundai Arora car, sources added further.



tional Park and Tiger Project, CWRC, are continuing the operation through two el-

ephants to identify in order to treat the injured wild buffalo.

400th Birth Anniversary of Lachit Barphukan celebrated at THB College

Assam Rising, Biswanath Chariali, November 22: Keeping conformity with the significance of the famous battle of Saraighat and the role of valiant commander in Chief Lachit Barphukan, Tyagbir Hem Baruah College, Jamugurihat celebrated the 400th birth Anniversary of Lachit Barphukan in a fruitful manner today. The day-long programme was organized by the Department of History under the collaboration Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of THB College. On the auspicious moment principal Dr. Ajit Hazarika, Vice Principal Dr. Anju Chhetry, Sumanta Rajbonshi, Dr. Jitu Tamuli shared their views on the significance of Lachit Divas. Bhagat Tati explained the aims and objectives of the meeting. The main attraction of the day-long programme was the documentary displayed by Plavan Bhuyan, HoD, Department of History, T.H.B. College, on Lachit Borphukan before all students and faculties. Parimita Bora, a student of B.A First Semester delivered a speech on Lachit Barphukan while Srijana Chetry recited a poem on Lachit Barphukan. The day-long programme finally came to an end with the vote of thanks extended by Alaka Roy on behalf of the department of History.

Link with jihadi : police picks up Abul Bashar from Juria

Assam Rising, Nagaon, November 22: Nagaon police led by Additional Superintendent of Police (Crime) Rupiyoti Kalita picked up one youth named Abul Bashar from Juria Kothalguri area today for suspected link with jihadi organization and brought him to Nagaon PS where he was being interrogated by the senior police officials of the district as well as other central intelligence agencies till the time of filing this report. Sources claimed that he was arrested earlier by National Investigative Agency at Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh after one of classmates found link with jihadi organization. But he was later released on bail and came back to his native village near Juria Kothalguri area. It is worth mentioning here that the central intelligence agencies kept a close watch on him since his release. Significantly, Nagaon police are yet to open their lips in this regard. SP Leena Doley ascertained the pickup of the youth while speaking to this correspondent here this evening and said that police would inform all about it soon.

Gouripur police arrest 5 cattle smugglers, rescue 6 cows



Assam Rising, Gouripur, November 22: Following a tip-off, police teams raided and arrested five cattle smugglers transporting cows by Gouripur and Balajan police jointly on November 21. During the operation five smugglers were arrested and rescued six cattle along with a luxury vehicle bearing registration No. AS-01AV/2394 and a pickup van bearing registration No. AS-17B/8773. Arrested smugglers were identified as Aminur Rahman, Hafizur Rahman, Abdur Rahman, Mazam Ali Bhuiya and Ramesh Das. All five cattle smugglers were sent to jail. Further investigation regarding the case is going on.

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Photo exhibition on AzadikaAmritMahotsav at Barpeta

Assam Rising, Guwahati, November 22: The two day long Photo exhibition cum outreach programme by Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Regional office, Guwahati begins today at Adarsha Vidyalaya, Dahalpara, Barpeta. The



theme of the exhibition is AzadiKaAmritMahotsav and 8 years of Seva, Sushasan and GaribKalyan. Inaugurating the exhibition BipulDeka, Block Development Officer, Chakchaka Blocksaid that the country is celebrating AzadiKaAmritMahotsav to pay tribute to the martyrs and to aware the masses about their contribution. He also said that Government is taking various developmental initiatives for the people and through this kind of exhibition the common mass will be more aware of the program and policies of the government. Speaking on the occasion Shri Jayanta Kumar Sarma, Principal, Adarsha

Vidyalaya Dahalapararecalled the sacrifices of the freedom fighters of the Nation. He urged the students to remember and follow the ideals of the freedom fighters. Tilak Das, Principal, Srimanta Sankardev Vidyalaya Dahalaparain hisaddress praises the initiative of CBC Guwahati for organizing such exhibition in Barpeta district. Smt. SucharitaSahoo Field Publicity Officer, CBC, Guwahati spoke about the aim and significance of the programme in her welcome address. Smt. Banti Das Roy, President, Fehurakhowa, Gram Panchayat, Shri Pranjit Das, Gaon Pradhan,

Fehurakhowa, GP, Shri Tilak Das, Principal, Srimanta Sankardev Vidyalaya Dahalaparara and Shri PranabNath, CRC, Cluster Resource Centre, Dahalaparawere also present in the occasion. The two day exhibition showcases various photo panels on many unsung heroes of India's freedom struggle as well as freedom fighters of the North-east. The exhibition also showcases the various initiatives and schemes of government in the last 8 years. Various competitions including art and quiz among students were also held in today's programme. Various stalls of handicrafts by Self Help Groups were also put up in the exhibition. The Private Registered troupe under CBC, Guwahati and localartists performed many cultural programme on the theme of AzadikaAmritMahotsav. image.png

THE ASSAM RISING

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Lachit Barphukan: the war hero of Assam

State marks the 400 birth anniversary of Bir Lachit Barphukan, the 17th-century war hero, on November 24. Lachit Barphukan played a key role in the 1671 'Battle of Saraighat' on the Brahmaputra that prevented a long-term attempt by the Mughal forces, led by Raja Ramsingh-I, to recapture Assam. Ahom dynasty's celebrated General, Lachit Barphukan, defeated Aurangzeb's army in the historic Saraighat battle. Mughal's expansionist policies in northeast India were brought to an end by this defeat. Born on November 24, 1622, Lachit Barphukan is often referred to as the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj of northeast India. In their courts, the Kings of Ahom bestowed the title of Barphukan, similar to a 'Senapati'. Lachit rose to the rank of 'Barphukan' in the court of King Chakradhwaj Singha. The Assam Chief Minister has termed Lachit Barphukan, the 17th-century great Ahom army general, as one of Assam's ablest sons. The battle of Saraighat in 1671 saw Lachit Barphukan, despite being ill, lead his army to victory. While the Mughals were at the height of their power, they were unable to consolidate their rule in Assam and the Northeast. Despite 17 attempts to conquer Assam, the Mughals failed each time. Marshals like Veer Lachit Barphukan kept Assam from falling to the invaders. On April 25, 1672, Lachit Barphukan died of an illness. In honour of Barphukan, the state government is constructing Lachit Barphukan Maidan in Jorhat and erecting the Alaboi battle war memorial in Kamrup district. "His unflagging valour and determination ensured the culture, identity and uniqueness of the northeastern region remained intact," wrote Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma in the letter addressed to his counterparts in other states. Lachit raised the army and preparations were completed by summer of 1667. His army successfully retook Guwahati from the Mughal forces. Emperor Aurangzeb (born on November 3, 1618) after being informed of the defeat at Guwahati sent an expeditionary force from Dhaka under Ram Singh. Due to the numerical and technological inferiority of the Ahom forces, Lachit resorted to guerilla tactics which successfully withered away from the Mughal army. Knowing fully well that Ahom forces would easily be defeated if their commander was removed, Ram Singh resorted to subterfuge. An arrow carrying a letter by Ram Singh was fired into the Ahom Camp. It later reached Chakradhwaj Singha. The letter stated that Lachit had been paid 1 lakh rupees to evacuate Guwahati. Furious that his commander was allegedly in negotiations with the enemy, the king started doubting his sincerity, but his prime minister Atan Buragohain convinced him that this was a trick by the Mughals to make Chakradhwaj Singh dismiss the commander who successfully fought the Mughals so far.

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Editor,
The Assam Rising
Guwahati, Assam

Is cardiovascular attack is more deadly than terrorism?

If you ask about the gravest threat to humanity in the current environment, most people will go with terrorism as their answer. Of course, with the growing violent activities all across the globe, terrorism is a serious issue that the world is facing. Still, if you look at the reports on mortality rate and their causes, you will get an entirely different picture. According to data, in 2019, 32.84% of deaths were caused by cardiovascular diseases, while terrorism was responsible for 0.05% of deaths. According to the World Health Organization, Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) are the leading cause of death globally. An estimated 17.9 million people died from CVDs in 2019, representing 32% of all global deaths. Of these deaths, 85% were due to heart attack and stroke. Cardiovascular diseases include heart and blood vessel

disorders, including coronary heart disease, cerebrovascular disease, rheumatic heart disease, and other conditions. It is estimated that four out of five CVD deaths are due to heart attacks and strokes, and one-third of these deaths occur prematurely in people under 70. From the above statistics, it can be said that 650 deaths by cardiac arrest are equal to one terrorist. In a study, it has been found that Sudden Cardiac Death constituted 5.6% of total mortality and about 1/5th of all the cardiovascular deaths. From the data of national mortality figures, it can be roughly deduced that 7-lakh Sudden Cardiac Death cases annually occur in India. According to Global Terrorism Index (GTI), the impact of terrorism is lessened in seven of the nine regions of the world in 2019. While exploring the Global Terrorism Index, it has been

Recent stories from inside an Indian spa suggest that Camilla may be the most misunderstood royal of all. Is it possible for her to be, as advertised, thoroughly no-nonsense - and at the same time the poster girl for a wellness outfit where one-percenters gather for prayed-over food that creates positive vibrations in their bodies? Central to Camilla's rehabilitation years was the appealing idea that she would be immune - unlike her husband - to all temptations of a spiritual or orientalist nature. A stolid, fag- and gin-scented foil to her husband's wispiest, holistic yearnings, she has invariably been talked up by "friends" as the corrective to his hocus-pocus. "She's very down to earth," Lady Anne Glenconner, an ex-lady-in-waiting, confirmed after Charles's accession. Camilla's down-to-earthness being of that peculiarly British kind, we now learn, that can accommodate an attentive guru. In this case Dr Issac Mathai, a homeopath who, as proprietor of Soukya, the "world's first integrative health destination", applies his prodigious diagnostic and spiritual gifts for prices starting at £735 a night. "Just by scrutinising me and taking my pulse," one recent guest reported, "he concludes that I'm breathing at only 60% capacity, that there's a blockage in my liver, something is not quite right with my kidneys and I have some neurological issues." Camilla arrived here, on her eighth visit, in late October, which was news in India, less so at home. Private Eye says royal reporters were warned to keep quiet. "She'll be undergoing rejuvenation therapies," said the Times of



India, adding that Mathai "has been the holistic physician for Camilla and Charles for several years". Mathai previously disclosed that he visits the couple "three/four times in a year" and was at St James's Palace before the Queen's funeral, "for a consultation and to convey my condolences". Like Camilla, Charles has stayed at Soukya: on a birthday visit in 2019 his treatments were rumoured to include shirodhara (having oil trickled down his forehead), meditation and yoga. He and Mathai were introduced, according to the Times of India, by the British integrative practitioner Dr Michael Dixon, a health adviser to Charles, who led the Prince's Foundation for Integrated Health before it was defrauded by its financial director and closed. Dixon now runs its effective successor, the College of Medicine and Integrated Health, with a new team - for which Mathai is an international ambassador. All of which cooperation, as much as it delights homeopaths, may

dismay anyone who hoped Charles, as king, would finally cease campaigning for widespread prescription of complementary medicine, to include practices for which there is no clear scientific basis. In May, Dixon's

Catherine Bennett

Integrated Medicine Alliance, a new group promoting complementary therapies, met Charles at Clarence House. His associate, Mathai, quotes the King writing, after his birthday: "I cannot wait to establish a version of your clinic at Dumfries House." Within Soukya, Mathai's therapeutic ambitions already exceed its 30 or so treatments; he compares himself, according to a hilarious account in the Times, with the late guru Sri Sathya Sai Baba, "the spirit moves me to heal, even the effects of being in the womb". Perhaps he's right to think that most potential customers have now forgotten Sai Baba's signature

spiritual stunt, magicking up watches and jewellery, ditto the BBC investigation accusing him of sex abuse. If royal esteem for Mathai and his holistic resort comes as news to many subjects, this is not for want of trying on the doctor's part. Cautious royal warrant holders, recalling the Queen's excommunication of Rigby & Peller, will surely marvel at Mathai's confidence as he refers, yet again, to royal consultations whose nature he cannot possibly reveal. Photographs of Charles and Camilla adorn his centre's website; no Soukya-promoting interview or travel piece fails to invoke Camilla's repeated visits along with those of her fellow long-haul regular Emma Thompson and, possibly less usefully, Sarah Ferguson. (When Ferguson sought refuge with Mathai they visited Sai Baba, who conjured up a gold necklace for the occasion.) Maybe it was expecting too much of Camilla that, unlike virtually every other recruit to the royal

family, she would resist its homeopathic traditions. Long before wellness became a recognised industry, its members demonstrated how readily the affluent and credulous will embrace practitioners offering the baroque, bespoke care commensurate with their status. In fact, it defies belief, what with mind, body and spirit being so interconnected, that the family fondness for assorted integrative mysteries, energies and healing - one that unites Charles, Diana, Meghan, Harry and now Camilla - never led them all towards harmonious co-existence. It's possible, of course, that Camilla was driven towards paying for enlightenment; that a 10-hour flight followed by Mathai's patent purgation regime could easily feel like sublime peace after those public episodes with Charles's fountain pen. Even so, you wonder what's wrong with a wing of Balmoral or the Castle of Mey or Dumfries House - all of which offer the opportunity to eat organic snacks in total silence, minus aviation emissions and a potentially awkward drive past those citizens of Bengaluru who, in a city where 16% live in slums, must cleanse their colons without professional assistance. For domestic staff familiar with Charles's demands, an additional request, that they pray over Camilla's haggis, could hardly be considered onerous. Failing that, the minister of Crathie recently came across as infinitely loyal. Although for a regular visitor such as Camilla, a future not featuring Soukha's unique ministrations would inevitably increase the possibility of a more toxic gut environment, it would at least relieve her and her husband of a potentially greater risk: that of being Dr Mathai's promotional assets.

The Princess Diaries taught me about growing up - and Marxism. Bring on the third film

News of Hollywood franchise reboots are so frequent as to be usually unremarkable, even tiresome. But Disney's announcement last week that it was developing a Princess Diaries 3 film felt different. "The Princess Diaries 3 movie," in the words of a popular tweet, "will heal our broken nation." That may sound over-dramatic - after all, cultural objects beloved by teenage girls invite suspicion at worst and polite tolerance at best; things that also fall under the banner of "chick-lit" doubly so. And yet the films, and the Meg Cabot books that provided their source material, arguably taught my teenaged self more about life - and even politics -

than textbooks did. They were certainly more fun. Looking for a relaxing read this summer to restore my broken, overstimulated brain, I turned to Cabot's 11-book series, which follows the awkward New York teenager Mia Thermopolis as she discovers that she is the royal heir to a small European principality called Genovia.

They were a staple of my childhood, and I wondered how they would come across now. Perhaps I would get bored reading youth fiction as an adult. Perhaps, as with many beloved artefacts of the millennium, I would be perturbed by the series' awkward politics, and feel ashamed that I ever enjoyed

it. Instead, I was delighted all over again. The books weren't perfect, but I marvelled at how funny they were, how acerbic and quietly cynical. This must be what it's like for parents who bring their children to a screening of Frozen and smirk as they watch a character

Rebecca Liu

matter". Mia's best friend, Lilly Moscovitz, the leftwing muckraker and daughter of two Jungian psychoanalysts, could "belong to Mensa - or at least she could if she didn't think it hopelessly bourgeois". Mia's mother Helen, a bohemian artist with a loft in New York's Greenwich Village, is recovering from a bout of depression because she discovered her last boyfriend, now ex, was a Republican. When Mia arrives at (private) school one day to find journalists gathering outside, she thinks: "I suppose somebody's dad has been accused of money-laundering again." I didn't understand all of this as a 10-year-old, but it didn't matter. Those preteen years, when the glow of childhood has faded and you're gawking, awkward and groping towards any sort of understanding of the world, can be agonising. Following Mia's life through high school and its discontents was a reminder that while this cocktail of self-loathing and humiliation would not go away, at least I was not alone. I looked on, wide-eyed and a little afraid, as Mia contemplated sex (distasteful!). I made mental notes on her first experience drinking beer at a party in case I was ever similarly exposed to the decadent hard-partying lifestyle of the western high schooler (I never was, but one must always be prepared). When a 16-year-



old Mia struggles to leave her bed one day, and also the day after that, her parents take her to see a therapist who helps her through her depression. Cabot's description of what it was like to finally feel a flicker of hope after a long period of sadness - of having someone reach out to you and pull you out of a deep hole - came to my mind years later, at university, during a difficult time. In the later books, Mia, inspired by the liberalism of none other than John Locke, works to make Genovia a representative democracy. Years later, when I began my graduate studies in political thought, I was walking a path cleared by Cabot, who had Mia scrawl down notes on Marx's theory of a commodity in her princess training lessons. Sandwiched between observations on what to do with a napkin in restaurants and when to apply lipstick, is the sentence: "In denying the value of what they [the workers] have produced, the capitalists are undermining their own economic system." The film adaptations, directed by the late Garry Marshall and starring Anne Hathaway as Mia, have a softer edge, and are still a sleepover staple. They are sites of adolescent fantasy for thousands of girls - and not only girls - who dream of one day (in one of the film's most famous

scenes) being made beautiful by a group of generically European beauticians; of getting the keys to their own royal palace and bedchambers; and maybe, if they're very lucky, even getting a boyfriend. Julie Andrews, who plays Mia's beneficent grandmother and Genovia's queen, is not the chain-smoking, young-people-hating terror of the books; Lily's advocacy for labour rights and invectives against the patriarchy and the monarchy are softened in the film to calls to save endangered species. Yet they keep, and enrich, the books' lightness and joy, and have their own delicious sense of humour. After Andrews's queen commissions a family member to fix a bathroom, she discovers that "nepotism belongs in the arts, not in plumbing". The relative conservatism of the films makes me wonder about the success of a Princess Diaries 3 (after a long break, Cabot is also publishing a 12th novel, exploring life in the pandemic). The promise of a glittering royal palace will surely land differently among socialism-curious millennials and Gen Z-ers. Though fantasy, done well, always has its place. Andrews and Hathaway have not yet signed on for the third film. Their reunion, if it comes, may not heal a country; but it will at least, in the chaotic, endless scream of the present, provide a much-needed balm.



PM dedicates 600 MW Kameng hydro power project to nation

Itanagar, November 22 : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday dedicated the 600 MW Kameng hydro power project in Arunachal Pradesh's West Kameng district to the nation. The Kameng hydro power project has been developed at a cost of more than Rs 8,450 crore in an area spread over more than 80 km in West Kameng district. It is expected to make Arunachal Pradesh a power-surplus state and benefit the national grid in terms of stability and integration.

Solo cycling from Gujarat to Arunachal



Itanagar, November 22 : A 45-year-old mother of two has proved that age is just a number by cycling solo about 4000 km from Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh in about 14 days. Pune-based Preeti Maske began her ride from Koteswar Temple in the western border with Pakistan on November 1 and cycled her way through Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, expedition's chief c r e w Ghanshyam Raghuwanshi told PTI on Monday. Maske completed her 3995 km ride in 13 days, 19 hours and 12 minutes to reach Kibithu, near the border with China in Arunachal Pradesh at midnight of November 14, he said. Her feat made her the first woman solo cyclist to ride across the country from West to East in just 14 days. Maske had taken up cycling five years ago to combat illness and depression. The paperwork, evidence, time stamp

pictures have been submitted and accepted by World Ultra Cycling Association and Guinness World Record. "They will process the same and award the certificate in due course", Raghuwanshi said. It took time to provide the information to the media due to poor digital network issues in the remote areas of Arunachal Pradesh. It delayed the completion of the required formalities with WUCA-GWR. Maske was followed by a five-member crew in a vehicle. She faced many challenges along the way, particularly in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh with a total elevation gain of 15,679 m. "Cycling was tough in these treacherous areas as there was heavy head wind from Darbhanga in Bihar. After Tezu in Assam-Arunachal border, the route is treacherous with elevation, bad roads, boulders and construction work," she told PTI. Besides, the temperature dropped to 2-3

degrees celsius in Arunachal Pradesh during the evening and night. "This made it difficult to ride and we also didn't have adequate warm clothing. With zero network and abandoned roads, we missed the direction and had to take a longer route in the night," Maske said. The Border Roads Organisation gave the necessary logistic and navigational support which helped her to complete the expedition. Maske cycled for almost 350 kms in the first ten days with an average saddle cycling time of 19 hours. "Managing sleep deprivation in a continuous non-stop ride was a challenge. I was cycling continuously for 19 hours and sometimes for more than 24 hours. It was coffee that kept me awake," she said. Maske got a severe cramp in her legs near the Assam-Arunachal border. "It appeared that she would have to call off the rest of the ride but with massage, stretching exercises and rest she recovered," Raghuwanshi said.

Assam-Meghalaya border clash: 4 dead

Shillong, November 22: Amid the ongoing talks to resolve the border dispute between Assam and Meghalaya, an incident of firing was reported from Mukroh village in Meghalaya's West Jaintia Hills on Tuesday. Sungoh, who is currently visiting the site of the incident, is yet to confirm the reason behind the firing incident and also regarding the number of

casualties. Khasi Students Union's (KSU) Mukroh Unit said several persons had sustained injuries in the incident. According to the student's body, the firing incident took place around 3 am. East Mojo also tried to contact the Superintendent of Police and the home minister multiple times but failed to get any response. A video of the firing

incident is also doing the rounds on social media. In the video, it is seen that there is a confrontation between two groups. One of the groups also has policemen armed with rifles and marching forward with the crowd. A local from Meghalaya can be heard shouting that the police have taken out their rifles. In a few seconds, the firing started leaving the people to flee for their lives.

Arunachal governor urges Army to take social welfare programme



Itanagar, November 22 : Arunachal Pradesh Governor Brig (Retd) Dr B D Mishra on Monday urged the Army to initiate programmes for the

welfare of people. Interacting with the General Officer Commanding (GoC) of HQ 56 Infantry Division, Major General V K Purohit,

Mishra asked him to instil a sense of security among the people living at the borders, a statement issued by the Raj Bhavan said. This, he said, will arrest the migration of people to the urban areas. Maj Gen Purohit had called on the governor at the Raj Bhavan during the day. The issue of security near the Line of Actual Control (LAC) was also discussed by them, the statement said. Mishra lauded the GOC for taking the

initiative in preparing students in his area of responsibility for admissions to Sainik School at Niglok in East Siang district and National Defence Academy. "It will open a great opportunity for tribal students from all districts of the state," he said. Maj Gen Purohit informed the governor that measures would be taken to ensure that maximum students are provided coaching to join Sainik School, Niglok or the National Defence Academy.

teachers met the Chief Minister and put forward their demand for the restoration of their services and they were assured that there will be a meeting of 'extended form' after Durga puja. "The Chief Minister is scheduled to meet the legal representatives of 10,323 teachers to discuss their issue as promised earlier. The meeting will also be attended by Education Minister Ratan Lal Nath, Education Secretary Brijesh Pandey and myself," Law Secretary Biswajit Palit told PTI. Kamal Deb, who leads the agitation on behalf of 10,323 teachers confirmed the invitation of

the meeting with the Chief Minister scheduled on November 22. "We are informed that the Chief Minister will hold an extended forum to discuss our problem and find an amble solution for the livelihood of 10,323 teachers," he said. Deb said it was good that the chief minister has initiated a fresh bid to resolve the problem. The High Court of Tripura terminated all the 10,323 teachers of different categories declaring the entire recruitment process as illegal and faulty



in 2014 following several writ petitions. However, the then Manik Sarkar

government had filed a SLP in the Supreme Court challenging the High

Court's verdict but its appeal was quashed by the apex court in March 2017.

Over 200 Kuki-Chin refugees flee from Bangladesh to Mizoram

Aizawl, November 22 : Fleeing an armed conflict between Bangladesh Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) and the ethnic separatist group Kuki-Chin National Army (KNA), more than 200 people from Bangladesh migrated to Mizoram to take refuge in the state, an official said on Monday. Mizoram shares a 318 km long international border with Bangladesh. The official said 274 Bangladeshi nationals, including 125 women and children, fled their villages in Bangladesh and entered Siminasora village in Mizoram's southernmost Lawngtlai district on Sunday. The Bangladesh nationals belonged to the Kuki-Chin-Mizo community, he said. The district administration and NGOs are providing relief to

the Bangladeshi on humanitarian grounds, he added. KNA is the armed wing of the Kuki-Chin National Front (KNF), a

community in Bangladesh, that demands a separate state and safeguard for the community in the

Zo Reunification Organisation (ZORO), an umbrella body that works for the re-unification of Chin, Kuki and Mizo tribes of

Bangladesh army. ZORO leader Lalmuanpuia Punte alleged that the Bangladesh army has reached a secret agreement with the Myanmar-based Arakan Army (AA) to launch joint operations against the KNA. The combined forces of Bangladesh Rapid Action Battalion and Arakan attacked Chaihkhang as well as the surrounding villages last week and abducted 9 civilians, he said. The Mizo group also appealed to the state's people to extend humanitarian aid to the refugees. Besides, the Mizo Students' Union (MSU) has urged the Border Security Forces (BSF), which guards the Indo-Bangladesh border, not to prevent the refugees from entering Mizoram.



political front formed by the ethnic Kuki-Chin-Mizo neighbouring country. Meanwhile, The

India, Myanmar and Bangladesh, has condemned the attack on civilians of the Kuki-Chin-Mizo community by the

'Festival of Oneness 2022' begins in Manipur



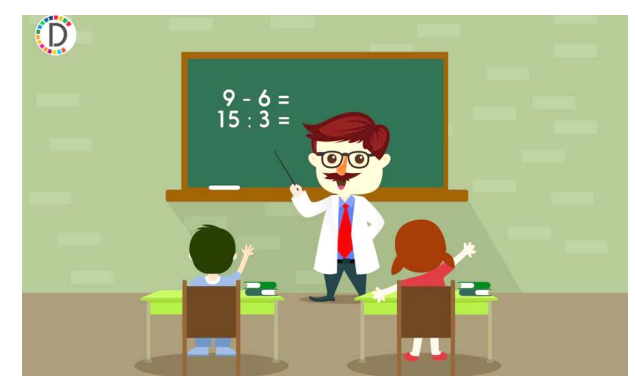
Imphal, November 22 : Union Minister of Tourism, Culture and DoNER G Kishan Reddy declared the Manipur Sangai Festival 2022 open at the main venue of the Festival at the Sangai Ethnic Park, Moirang Khunou in Bishnupur district. The Festival which commenced on Monday will continue till November 30, 2022, at different venues across the state. Speaking on the occasion, G Kishan Reddy expressed his gratitude that he got the opportunity to be a part of the festival. He

continued that he was lucky to have met groups of 33 different communities in one place, who have come to represent their communities in the festival. Stating that he could see the celebration of the festival with pomp and gaiety, he invited people across the country to visit the state and witness the beauty of the Festival. He also appreciated chief minister N Biren Singh, his cabinet colleagues, MLAs and other officials for organising the festival in such a grand manner. He further stated that he would convey to Prime Minister Narendra Modi about the organisation of the festival with the construction of permanent structures at the Sangai Ethnic Park. The Union Minister spoke on the natural beauty of Manipur and its uniqueness. He continued that the Central Government had always been taking up initiatives for the development of northeast states, adding that the Prime Minister has a big place for the people of Manipur. He informed India would host the next G20 Summit Union and as such many big events

would be held across the country. Some events will also be held in the state, he added. He also spoke on various developments taken in different sectors under the leadership of the Prime Minister. Speaking as the Chief Host of the inaugural function, chief minister N Biren Singh said a clear vision is required to achieve something. He said that the festival is celebrated as the Festival of Oneness to achieve unity through the participation of all indigenous communities of the state and to encourage oneness, a sense of belongingness, and pride of ownership of the land amongst the people.

Tripura brings changes in rules for govt-aided schools

Agartala, November 22 : The Tripura government has brought in major changes in the rules for government-aided schools to ensure quality education in them, a minister said. Under the amended rule, the school managing committee will constitute a committee like the Tripura Teachers' Recruitment Board with concurrence from the director of the school education department for the recruitment drive, Education Minister Ratan Lal Nath told the media on Sunday. The recruitment of teachers must, however, fulfill the student-teacher ratio prescribed for the government-run schools, he said. "I had a meeting with the authorities of



government-aided schools on how to manage the schools in the best possible way. In the meeting, most of them had suggested amending the old service rule for these schools," he said. The minister said the new service rule has empowered the school authority to transfer teachers to nearby government-aided schools based on the situation and demand, a provision that was

not mentioned in the previous service rule. The service rule for government-aided schools adopted in 2005 has been amended after the department felt it necessary to streamline the system in these schools to ensure quality education, he said. Earlier, the managing committee of a particular school used to independently conduct interview and appoint teachers as per the requirement.

Contd. From Page 1

Assam government launches

in hotels and resorts. It aims to guarantee 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 Assam government said in a statement. 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. "Our goal with this new policy is to enable the world to view it from the point of view of the attraction. The presence of pristine water, forests, mountains, and rivers provides the state with limitless possibilities in the field of tourism. The new tourism policy reflects the same goal. Assam is sure to enchant the travellers with what it has to offer at every nook and corner. For investors, we have also come up with special packages," said Baruah. The mission of the policy will be to create a 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, he added. "The policy's fundamental guiding principle is to encourage sustainability and foster responsible tourism, to make Assam a sustainable and responsible tourism destination. The goal is to promote sustainability by limiting the negative effects of tourism on social, environmental, and economic sectors while ensuring the positive effects. The strategy shall also promote responsible tourism, which shall bring together all stakeholders to share responsibility for creating a better environment for people to live and visit," added Maninder Singh, additional chief secretary, department of tourism of the government of Assam.

Firing kills 6 on Assam-Meghalaya

were not immediately available for comments. Videos circulated on social media purportedly showed an angry confrontation between two groups in the area. One of the videos purportedly showed uniformed personnel armed with rifles charging at a crowd. A person can be heard shouting the guards have taken out their rifles. A few seconds later, gunshots can be heard as people flee for their lives. The two states formed three panels each in August 2021 to discuss the border dispute. Sarma and Sangma submitted a draft resolution to Shah on January 31 for the Union home ministry's consideration after two rounds of talks between the states. The two sides proposed Assam will keep 18.51 square km and give 18.28 square km to Meghalaya. The agreement regarding 36 villages was reached in the first phase of settlement. The dispute dates back to 1972 when Meghalaya was carved out of Assam. There have been different readings of the Assam Reorganisation Act. Five Assam police were killed in an exchange of fire with their counterparts from Mizoram over a similar border dispute in 2021.

BJP says actors were paid to walk

for the cause and for our nation. "BJP's attempt to belittle their honesty and malign their characters only shows how correct the stand of artists is. Today's statement of PM against Bharat Joda Yatra & such malicious propaganda from BJP only reaffirms our resolve and proves that the yatra is on the right track," the Congress leader said.

Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia

lying on a bed. Mineral water bottles and a remote are also seen. In one video, he was seen getting a head massage while sitting on a chair. Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia had claimed that Jain was receiving physiotherapy following a spinal injury and accused the BJP of doing "cheap" politics on health issues by illegally leaking CCTV footage.

Nearly 95% of Assam youth suffer

Gauhati Medical College Hospital, said cyberbullying has become common in recent years as the presence of young people in the digital space has increased considerably, even leading to death by suicide in some cases. "Social alienation, a feeling of powerlessness, anxiety, depression and loneliness are common manifestations. The victim often believes that it is his/her fault leading to psychological issues. It is important that the victim must report the matter to his/her immediate family and take legal redressal", Hazarika told. Social activist and counsellor Archana Borthakur told PTI that trolling in cyberspace as well as corporal punishment can have a permanent effect on the mental health of young people and they must immediately go to the police, counsellors and also seek legal help. As many as 9,500 NSS volunteers from 24 universities and educational institutions of the state participated in the poll on cyberbullying and corporal punishment and its results were released on Sunday. Half of the young people reported being bullied online by an unknown person, 12% were bullied by a classmate and 14% by a friend. Facebook was identified by 36% of the young people as the most common social platform for being bullied, followed by Instagram at 25%. Spreading lies, embarrassing photos or videos on social media (35%) were the most frequent forms of bullying with physical appearance as the most common reason for being bullied online. According to the poll, 35% of young people experienced corporal punishment at home, 25% at school, 14% at other spaces such as private tuitions and on sports grounds. Twenty-six per cent experienced it in all the three settings. The most common form of punishment was being hit or slapped on the hand, arm or leg (67%) followed by yelling or verbal abuse (16%). Awareness about redressal mechanisms were known to 68% of the volunteers, of which 57% recognised Assam Police as the most popular available support system. "Given Assam government's impetus on creating a conducive environment for youth to grow and thrive, UNICEF Assam has been working with them, especially those from the most vulnerable communities," UNICEF Assam chief Madhulika Jonathan said. In 2020-21, the NSS Directorate for the northeast region and UNICEF Assam joined hands to work on the issue of child protection in all eight states as a mandate of a national partnership between the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, and UNICEF India.

Assam's Zorba, the Belgian Malinois

track down poachers. With an 8-year career covering several rhino protection areas in Assam - Kaziranga National Park, Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, and Orang National Park, Zorba was actively engaged in anti-poaching operations. Zorba's first handler, Anil Kumar Das, said, "I have immensely rich memories with Zorba and he has always been an inspiration to me." The K9 dog squad of Aaranyak, comprising six Belgian Malinois dogs along with its handlers, has been actively assisting forest and police officials in Kaziranga and Manas National Park as well as other rhino-bearing areas in Assam resulting in the arrest of many poachers by law enforcement agencies. "As soon as they pick up a scent and track, they can outrun and capture the suspect, which they can defeat if the suspect tries to elude them. Our K9 squad members, including Zorba, have assisted forest officials in tracing the poachers' exit routes after rhino poaching incidents. It ultimately leads to the arrest of perpetrators by forest and police officials. Belgian Malinois are world-class sniffer dogs who create an unbreakable bond with their owners," Dr Talukdar added. In the last eight years, Zorba helped wildlife officials track down more than 60 poachers in the state and was ferociously involved in anti-poaching operations. After being relieved from duty in December of 2019, Zorba was in intensive care in Aaranyak's K9 unit centre. A member of the Aaranyak K9 unit said, "Perhaps a little more than most dogs, Zorba loved playing with balls. Besides my professional relationship with the hero, I'll miss playing with him. "There are distinctive characteristics to Zorba. Due to the nature of his duty, I have a special affection for him, and I know he did a lot of work". Mrigen Das, another handler of Zorba, stated.

PM Modi distributes appointment

undertake the recruitment of 10 lakh people on a "mission mode" in the next year and a half. Modi on Tuesday also launched the Karmayogi Prarambh module. The module is an online orientation course for all new appointees in various government departments. It will include a code of conduct for government servants, workplace ethics and integrity, human resource policies and other benefits and allowances that will help them to get acclimatized to the policies and transition smoothly into the new roles.

7th Kaala Utsavam held at Kalakshetra



Assam Rising, Guwahati, November 22: Thejaswini, a socio-cultural organization has been organising Kaala Utsavam (A National Classical Dance Festival) since 2016 to give platform to artists all over India as well as Assam. Like previous years this time also Thejaswini, under the supervision of Guru Bhanu Rashmi, presents 7th Kalaa Utsavam at Srimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra, here on November 20. The event was inaugurated by Padma Shri and Akademi Fellow Nityacharya, Sangeet Natak Akademi awardee Jatin Goswami. Exponents from Kolkata and Manipur have also performed in the said festival. Director North East Zone Cultural Centre (NEZCC) Dr. Prasanna Gogoi, Project Director Sangeet Natak Akademi, Arup Bordoloi and Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Cultural Affairs and Environment & Forest Dept. Madhurima Barua Sen (IAS) were amongst the various eminent personalities present in the festival.

Assam Governor inaugurates 49th Rashtriya Bal Vaigyanik Pradarshani



Assam Rising, Guwahati, November 22: "Science exhibition indeed provides a wonderful opportunity to generate curiosity among children, unleash their creativity and imagination," said Assam Governor Prof. Jagdish Mukhi while inaugurating the 49th Rashtriya Bal Vaigyanik Pradarshani at Srimanta Sankardeva International Auditorium here today. Speaking at the inaugural function which was organized by the Dept. of School Education, Government of Assam in collaboration with NCERT, New Delhi, Prof. Mukhi said, "Science is the specific and specialized form of knowledge. The rich knowledge and positive thinking of man has made the present time a science era. With the help of science, man has made his life very simple and convenient. On one hand, human beings have been successful in solving many problems with the proper use of science, on the other hand, because of its misuse, not only humans but also other creatures are facing new problems with every passing day. The science exhibition being organized showcases the glimpse of merits and demerits of science". It may be mentioned that NCERT and SCERT have jointly organized the event. A total of 240 students of the country are participating in the "National Children's Science Exhibition", who are displaying their models. In addition, cultural programs will be held daily in the evening, where participants from each state will perform cultural programs specific to their state. Education Minister and Chairperson of the organizing committee Dr. Ranuj Pegu also spoke on the occasion. Advisor, Education Assam and Chairperson of the Organizing committee Prof. Nani Gopal Mahanta, Director Shamagra Shiksha, Assam Dr. Om Prakash, Secretary, Dept. of School Education S.N. Choudhury, Joint Director, NCERT Prof. Sridhar Srivastava, eminent scientist Dr. Prashant Goswami along with a host of other dignitaries were present at the inaugural function.

Assam Rifles provides amenities to orphanage

Assam Rising, Biswanath Chariali, November 21: Lokra Battalion under the aegis of Headquarter 21 Sector Assam Rifles and Headquarter Inspector General Assam Rifles (East) distributed essential items to orphanage at Naba Prabhat Academy in Ketekibari under Sonitpur District today, stated a press release. The aim of the project was to support the children & administration of the orphanage in day to day functioning. The basic amenities also included items for assisting the orphanage in providing better education to the children & promoting improvement of functional literacy in the community. The troops of Lokra Battalion also interacted with the students and locals and motivated them to be responsible citizens of the country. The children were also motivated to join the Armed Forces. This initiative taken by troops of Lokra Battalion was highly appreciated by the children & administration of Nabha Prabhat Orphanage.



Digboi Bn. organised awareness drive for students

Assam Rising, Margherita, November 22: Digboi Battalion of Red Shield Division under the aegis of Spear Corps to mark the Lachit Divas, a regional public holiday of Assam, celebrated as birth anniversary of Lachit Borphukan, org a presentation Shiksha Valley School and Salt Brook Academy, Dibrugarh. Shiksha Valley School had an audience of 111 students including 41 girls and Salt Brook Academy had 231 students. All the teachers and staff were also in attendance. The presentation was followed by an interactive session in which students were allowed to ask all their doubts about the selection procedures from the officer. The young students seemed quite motivated and inquisitive about Army life and requested for another interactive session with the officer. The pn proved fruitful in orienting the young minds to follow and take up a respectable profession.

Road mishap claims one at Kothiatoli Chariali

Assam Rising, Nagaon, November 22:

One pedestrian identified as Swapan Bhowal of Nambor Lalungaon, died in a tragic road mishap on NH 36 at Kothiatoli bus stand near Kothiatoli Chariali today while four others including two women pedestrians were injured in the same incident. The tragic incident took place when a speeding Ultra bus bearing registration number AS 02 AC 8588 going towards Lanka town hit those pedestrians. Meanwhile locals and other police personnel from Kothiatoli Outpost sent all of them to Nagaon Civil Hospital in a very critical condition for urgent treatment. But unfortunately Swapan Bhowal breathed his last on the way to Nagaon BP Civil Hospital, sources said, adding that the driver of the bus managed to escape from the scene right after the incident. Meanwhile an irate mob from the local areas went on a rampage and staged a protest against frequent fatal road mishap on NH 36 near Kothiatoli Chariali and asked local police administration to ensure adequate measures to control speed of vehicles on the road.



Elocution at Biswanath College on Lachit Borphukan

Assam Rising, Biswanath Chariali, November 22: Biswanath College, a premier higher educational institution of Assam has undertaken a series of programmes to commemorate the 400th Birth Anniversary of the legendary general Lachit Borphukan. An elocution competition was organized by the History department today on Lachit Borphukan. Dr Chinta Mani Sharma, Principal of the college inaugurated the competition and lauded the initiative of the history department. Mrs. Bandana Gogoi, head of the department explained in detail about the necessity of organizing this event. Leena Hazarika, HoD, Political Science and Hem Kumar Gautam, HoD, Nepali graced the occasion as judges. Safikul Islam begged the first position while Shruti Agasti and Deepjyoti Timsina hold the second and third positions respectively. Harishna Das was awarded with a consolation prize by the jury.

“Swasthya Sewa Abhiyan” held in Margherita TE



Assam Rising, Margherita, November 22: Every individual has the right to health care, but a lack of quality infrastructure, scarcity of competent medical personnel, and lack of access to essential medicines and medical facilities prevent Indian residents from receiving it. "Swasthya Sewa Abhiyan" a special medical camp held on November 22 at the hospital premises of Margherita Tea garden hospital under Ketetong Block PHC in Tinsukia. The main objective of the camp is to spread health care facilities in the given area, promote health care, early screening, and detection of disease, reach the unreached community population, and raise awareness of various diseases. The camp was inaugurated by Preeti Kumari, IAS, SDO (Civil) Margherita in the presence of senior health officials from district and block level of Tinsukia. It is to be mentioned that Margherita TE hospital has a population coverage of 5430. Specialist Doctors like gynecologists, Pediatrician, Medicine, ophthalmologist, Chest and TB participated in the camp. During the camp a total of 848 patients were examined and got free medicines.

Gareth Bale's penalty rescues point for Wales in World Cup opener with USA



London, November 22 : Is this the real life? Is this just fantasy? They were the unmistakable lyrics a dozen or so Wales supporters sang as they hopped off a metro escalator and descended on a stadium adjacent to a 500,000 square metre shopping mall fit with a five-star hotel. A few days after the Brazil legend Cafu wished Wales good luck wearing a tricolour bucket hat now synonymous with the nation, they are the kind of words that could have reasonably been running through Gareth Bale's mind after his penalty snatched a late draw on their first appearance at the World Cup finals since 1958. Bale is the true prince of Wales and despite spending almost the entire match on the margins he provided another one of those big game moments to file with the rest of them. His catalogue this year is already turning into quite the collection: two stunning goals against Austria in March, a match-winning free kick against Ukraine to secure their place at these finals, and, a fortnight ago, an extra-time header to help Los Angeles FC en route to lifting the Major League Soccer Cup. And now this, an unerring spot kick, having drawn a clumsy foul from the USA defender Walker Zimmerman, to cancel out Timothy Weah's incisive opener and get Wales off the mark. It was an occasion awash with emotions for everyone involved, particularly Neco Williams, whose grandfather died on Monday. "To go from crying all day to start in a World Cup game was extremely tough," Williams said. This was a game that seemed to take on an extra dose =of significance after

on for Wales and give performances that surprise people," said Page, the Wales manager. "I said to him on about 75 minutes: 'Are you OK to carry on?' and he went: 'Yeah, I'm fine.' And at the end of the game he said: 'That's why I stayed on.' "He looks after himself, he manages himself through games. If he'd have gone full-tilt from the first whistle, he probably wouldn't have lasted until half time. But he's very experienced and clever at managing his body." Bale's nous ultimately gave Wales a route back into a game that looked lost until Moore's introduction at half time, when Page asked his players to be braver. A rethink seemed inevitable given Wales's passive approach in the first half and it was no surprise that Page turned to Moore, the only bona fide No 9 in the Wales squad. He quickly got to work. Ben Davies's diving header forced Matt Turner into a sprawling save soon after the hour and from the subsequent corner Moore glanced a free

World Rugby investigates Australia not replacing White after brain injury



Melbourn, November 22 : World Rugby says it is "looking at the circumstances" of the controversial events in Dublin on Saturday when Australia's Nic White was allowed to return to the field despite clear signs he had sustained a brain injury in the second half of his side's 13-10 defeat against Ireland. White has since been stood down for 12 days and will miss the final game of the Wallabies' tour against Wales. But despite being visibly unsteady on his feet after a tackle on Mack Hansen and an accidental collision with Josh van der Flier's boot, the scrum-half was not permanently removed from the fray as should have been the case. Instead the former Exeter player was allowed back after passing a head injury assessment, prompting an angry reaction from the concussion pressure group Progressive Rugby. It has since been claimed the independent matchday doctor and the Australian medical team missed the

crucial footage of a dazed, stumbling White because they were busy reviewing the initial tackle. While White has not subsequently exhibited any symptoms of concussion, there are clear echoes of the incident involving Tomas Francis during England's game against Wales game at Twickenham this year. A subsequent investigation found the Wales prop should have been "immediately and permanently removed from play" and a number of recommendations were put forward to avoid similar mistakes in future. White's absence from the Wales game

compounds the availability problems increasingly being experienced by the Wallabies. Dave Porecki, Taniela Tupou, Hunter Paisami, Rob Valetini and Andrew Kellaway are all injured, while Bernard Foley and Will Skelton are required to return to their respective Japanese and French clubs because the match falls outside the international window. Tupou looks likely to be the longest absentee, the prop having sustained a serious achilles injury what could make him a doubt for next year's Rugby World Cup in France.

Cody Gakpo and Klaassen stun Senegal with thrilling Netherlands late show

London, November 22 : It began as a tale of two centre forwards and ended as a game of two goalkeepers. As the Netherlands began their World Cup campaign with a 2-0 win against Senegal, it had seemed the decisive factor would be the absence from the starting lineups of Sadio Mané, and Memphis Depay. But in the end it turned out to be about the two goalkeepers, the debutant Andries Noppert of the Netherlands, who had a fine game, and Édouard Mendy of Senegal, who did not. For Senegal, it had all seemed to be going well. With their fans drumming away behind Aliou Cissé's bench, this sounded like a Cup of Nations game and, for a long time, it looked like a Cup of Nations game as well. There was very little width, a lot of bodies banging into each other in a congested centre, and only ever the vaguest sense that a goal might come. When one did eventually arrive, with six minutes remaining, it was for the Netherlands and Mendy was badly at fault. Nor did he impress with the decisive second that sealed the game deep into injury time. With their three powerful central midfielders, Senegal had, for the most part, negated the Dutch but when Frenkie de



Jong was given time to measure his cross from the left, Mendy was slow to react, allowing Cody Gakpo to get to the ball first and direct it into the net. Then, Depay, who had come off the bench just after the hour, was released on the break as Senegal chased the game, Mendy tamely pushed his low shot into the path of Davy Klaassen. Given Senegal had the better of what few clear chances there had been before that, the contrast was obvious. The Dutch have so struggled with goalkeepers of late that Remko Pasveer, a 39-year-old who had never previously been capped, played in the last two games before the World Cup, but Noppert looked an inspired selection

but I was not happy with ball possession on our side, we were inaccurate and ran with the ball too much. "To an extent, that played into Senegal's hands. "We deserved at least a point from this match," said their coach Cissé. "We had a definite plan from the outset. We had a plan to press them high up the pitch but eventually we had to drop back a little bit. We had chances but we didn't score. "He felt his side lost intensity after Cheikhou Kouyaté was forced off with a twisted ankle and he must wait also on the fitness of the left back Abdou Diallo, who limped off with a muscle strain. Senegal's biggest injury issue, though, without question, is the absence of Mané. Cissé acknowledged it was "a problem" but insisted that "the players who did play did what was expected of them", particularly in "shutting down their attacks on the wings". Van Gaal, at least, had the option of introducing Depay, whom he praised for bringing "precision". Next up for Senegal are Qatar, who surely cannot be as bad again as they were in losing to Ecuador on Sunday. "If you lose the first match," Cissé said, "then the second match becomes like a final."

'We're disappointed' Kane unhappy that Fifa banned 'OneLove' armband



London, November 22 : Harry Kane said he was disappointed after the threat of sporting sanctions from Fifa stopped the striker from wearing the "OneLove" rainbow armband during England's 6-2 win against Iran. Fears that captains could receive an instant booking for wearing the armband prompted the move, and LGBTQ+ groups reacted with fury at authorities preventing teams from

promoting diversity during an increasingly farcical World Cup. Seven European nations scrapped plans to continue with the "OneLove" campaign after hours of uncertainty and Kane was instead ordered to wear Fifa's "anti-discrimination" armband when Gareth Southgate's side opened their campaign in Qatar by thrashing Iran. "We're disappointed," Kane said. "I said yesterday we wanted to wear it. That decision was taken out of my hands today. I turned up to the stadium with the armband that I wore and I was told I had to wear that [the official Fifa one]. It's out of our control as players. I'm sure the FA and Fifa will continue those discussions but most importantly today we focused on the game and got a great result." Kane said England, who took the knee before facing Iran, will continue to do their best to speak out against injustice. "You've seen over the last five years we've made a stand as a squad and we'll continue to do that as much as we can. We took the knee today as well but sometimes these decisions aren't up to us and that's the bottom line." Southgate refused to condemn Fifa's behaviour and said teams should be allowed to focus on their performances.

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England show their true colours with meek surrender in armband fiasco



London, November 22 : Every man has a limit. A place they will not be taken, a line that will not be crossed, a point at which they bend and break. And as England's footballers peeled off their smart blue training jackets a few minutes before 4pm local time at the Khalifa International Stadium, perhaps we discovered theirs. They really, really wanted to wear the armband. Perhaps was the main thing. Indeed that was the thrust of the Football Association's statement issued about an hour before kick-off in their opening World Cup game against Iran, in which it declared it was "very frustrated" with Fifa's ban on the little strip of elastane that had been unveiled with such proud fanfare in advance of the tournament. On reflection, maybe the real armband was the press releases it issued along the way. And so, farewell to the OneLove

armband. We never really knew you. Certainly we didn't know what you were for. LGBTQ+ rights, we think. Maybe a bit of anti-racism too? Some gender equality, some disability rights, and maybe a little bit of migrant worker feels thrown in there too. None of this, of course, was specifically mentioned in the promotional literature. Meanwhile the time-honoured rainbow design of traditional LGBTQ+ allyship was eschewed in favour of red, black, green, pink, yellow and blue stripes, which is the sort of rainbow children draw when they don't know what colours are. The official intention was to "promote inclusion and send a message against discrimination of any kind", a mission statement of such magnificent vagueness that it is impossible to imagine a single cogent argument against it. You couldn't object to the

OneLove armband because it didn't really exist. It was essentially designed as an empty vessel, a weightless piece of branding, the fabric equivalent of the shrug emoji. It wasn't nothing. But it was probably the next best thing. And yet given English football's predilection for fixating on nothing, perhaps it was no surprise that OneLove became something of a cause célèbre among the English media in Qatar, particularly when word got out that Fifa was thinking of banning it. Much like the fuss over the taking of the knee in 2021, where the discourse over the gesture overshadowed any of the causes or issues the gesture was highlighting, press conferences and off-record briefings were lit with feverish armband chatter. Would it be an automatic booking for Harry Kane? What if he refused to take the armband off? Could someone else - maybe Jordan Pickford - wear the armband instead? And would England ultimately defy the bloodless bureaucrats of Zurich and stand up for the cause they believed in, whatever it was? Well, of course not. As soon as the threat of "sporting sanctions" was brandished - no, please, not the sporting sanctions - England and their international comrades-in-arms simply quivered into line. An armband that was already a form of surrender was now being

folded into a larger surrender. And although the official communication came from Fifa, the armband ban really comes from the same place as the 11th hour ban on stadium beer: a naked last-minute Qatari power move, an assertion of control and ownership, insubordinates being nudged into line with a bloody stick. The argument is that condemnation should not fall on England's players, who did not impose this ban and who bear no direct responsibility for the moral cost of this World Cup. And yet just across the halfway line, there was a very different concept of what it means to be an athlete for your country in 2022. As the Iranian national anthem played before the game, not a single word was sung by any of Iran's players in defiance of the country's brutal crackdown on protesters. Women are being beaten in the streets. Men are being dragged into police stations and killed. Human rights groups estimate that about 400 demonstrators have been murdered. Not all of Iran's players have spoken out against the violence. But those who have, including the star striker Sardar Azmoun, do so in the knowledge that sporting sanctions are the least of their worries. And really the true measure of activism is in what you are pre-

pared to give up. Muhammad Ali protested against the Vietnam war even though he knew he would be arrested, stripped of his world titles, robbed of his prime years. Iran's players have risked unemployment, humiliation, imprisonment, threats against their families from a depraved autocratic regime. England have shown that they are not even prepared to risk a yellow card. There are two World Cups happening in Qatar over the next month. The Khalifa International hosted a terrific game of football on Monday. The outside of the stadium was emblazoned with slogans such as "Celebrate" and "Live it All". Once the game began, the goals poured like rain. Each England goal was punctuated by a blast of "Freed From Desire", and the England fans - those who had paid to be there and those who had not - jumped up and down as if they were having the best time of their lives. This is the World Cup that Fifa and Qatar want everyone to talk about and enjoy. Skyscrapers festooned in Kylian Mbappé posters, stadiums bouncing to ear-splitting music, a din so loud you can no longer hear the screaming of those who suffered to make this happen. Yes, there are two World Cups happening here. England have decided they only want to play in one of them.



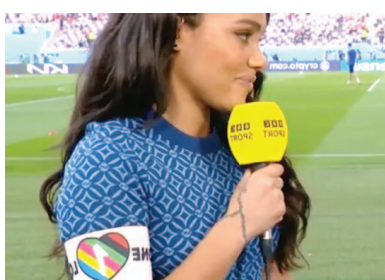
England will tour Pakistan for three Tests, beginning December 1

London, November 22 : Ben Stokes-led England have brought in a team chef for the upcoming Pakistan tour, comprising three Tests. As per a report in ESPNcricinfo, a personal team chef has been roped in after a debrief from the limited-overs England team that visited Pakistan earlier this year for seven T20Is before the T20 World Cup. The same report states that the players and support staff from the limited-overs side had given the feedback that food was not upto the mark. There were even some England players who had suffered

from upset stomachs at certain parts of the seven-match T20I series against Pakistan. As per ESPNcricinfo, Omar Mezziane will be the team chef for England and he is the same person who had worked with England men's football team in a similar capacity during the 2018 FIFA World Cup and Euro 2020. This is the first time that the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) will be bringing in a specifically employed chef for an overseas tour. England are slated to play three Tests against Pakistan, beginning December 1 and the series will begin on December 1 in Rawalpindi. The

next two Tests will be played in Multan and Karachi. During the T20I series against Pakistan, England's stand-in captain Moen Ali had talked about the differences in food when one goes to Lahore and Karachi. "Food-wise, I have been a little bit disappointed in Lahore. Karachi was really nice," ESPNcricinfo had quoted Moen as saying. When England had toured Pakistan earlier this year, they ended up winning the seven-match T20I series 4-3 and later, the Three Lions also ended up winning the T20 World Cup.

BBC's Alex Scott wears rainbow armband for England World Cup match



Qatar, November 22 : The BBC pundit Alex Scott wore a rainbow armband as she presented coverage of England's first match of the Qatar World Cup, in an apparent gesture of solidarity with LGBTQ+ people in a country where same-sex relationships are illegal. Her decision to wear the OneLove armband - which officially represents a stand against all forms of discrimination - came hours after the England and Wales teams decided not to wear the same armbands after being informed that players could

receive yellow cards for breaching Fifa rules on clothing. Scott's decision to wear the armband was the latest element of the BBC's World Cup coverage to be openly critical of the host nation. It follows the corporation's decision not to air Sunday's opening ceremony - an elaborate performance featuring Morgan Freeman and the K-pop singer Jungkook - on its main broadcast channel. Millions of BBC One viewers instead saw an extended series of discussions and films criticising Qatar's human rights record and treatment of migrant workers. The BBC said the opening ceremony was still available to watch on an online iPlayer feed, while the host Gary Lineker said the change

was influenced by the BBC's desire to show a Women's Super League game between Chelsea and Tottenham. The Match of the Day presenter said: "It's not customary for us to show any World Cup or Euros opening ceremonies in their entirety on BBC One, but do make it available to view on BBC iPlayer, red button and website. Very different, of course, for the Olympics." Despite the criticism of Qatar, the allure of free televised football remained strong for the British public. A peak audience of 8 million viewers tuned in for the opening game of the World Cup, in which the hosts, Qatar, lost 2-0 to Ecuador in a turgid match. These overnight ratings, provided by Digital-ido, do not include people watching in public spaces such as pubs or those watching online streams.

Iran's brave and powerful gesture is a small wonder from a World Cup of woe

Doha, November 22 : Well, that was unexpected. After the cold, cold theatre of Qatar 2022's opening game, elite sport reimagined as a despot's light-show, something remarkable happened on Monday afternoon in Doha. As night fell over the vast, swooping Khalifa International Stadium (all these World Cup structures are vast and swooping; unless specifically told otherwise, assume vast and swooping) England and Iran produced something that felt jarringly real, oddly warm, suspiciously authentic. Against all odds at this dislocated World Cup, a football match broke out. Albeit one shot through with its own layers of intrigue, and indeed pathos and horror. First the fun part. England were excellent in this group B opener: eager, fluent and fancy-free against a poor Iran team. A 6-2 victory is England's most thrillingly



unbound start to any tournament ever. It almost feels a bit too much. Steady, chaps. History tells us stodgy, cautious stuff, cardigan-football is the way to go here. The 1966 World Cup kicked off with 0-0 draw against Uruguay so tedious the Guardian match report contains a whimsical digression on the writer's urge to drift off to sleep in the second half. Instead England produced something that felt a little transgressive in this most controlled of stages, tightening their grip in a bruising first half, before freewheeling downhill in the second with their feet up on the handlebars. Jude Bellingham, only 19, was sensationally good in central midfield, even against opponents who provided all the high-grade resistance of a beaded curtain. Bukayo Saka was spiky, sharp and adorably relentless. Victory leaves England in a position to drive through this group and on to the agonies to come. Better opponents than these will test this fun, peppy version, and indeed Southgate's own will to retain a progressive midfield. No matter. This, also feels

like football. Because of course there were layers here too. Welcome to Qatar 2022, a World Cup so contorted by wider push and pull you can almost feel the political actors at the side of pitch shunting their avatars about the turf with long wooden paddles. Much will be made of Fifa banning England from wearing the bespoke armband of tolerance during this game. Harry Kane may take some flak for failing to press the point and insist. In reality he deserves our sympathy. This has become a power-play between England, Fifa and the Qatari leadership. England's players have been very good on these issues. Kane himself is an unaffected and hugely committed advocate of the rainbow campaign. He doesn't have to be like this. It just comes naturally, in a way it doesn't, to say, the celebrity popinjay David Beckham. Kane is, most definitely, not part of the problem. Indeed, if this game deserved to commemorate anything it was perhaps the deaths of two people five years apart. Mahsa Amini was arrested by the Iran's morality po-

lice and died in hospital days later in September. Her crime was a breach of the country's strict dress rules. Her death was a spark for the ongoing popular uprising against the regime. Zac Cox is an Englishman who died in January 2017 after falling 40 metres from rigging while installing a catwalk. This happened right here, in this same Khalifa Stadium. An English coroner has since described the working conditions that caused his death as "chaotic, unprofessional, unthinking and downright dangerous". Cox is one of the three - yes really: three - that the Qatari government has been willing to acknowledge as actually related to this vast vanity project. Other estimates put the toll at more than 6,500. It could be argued there is a note of shared significance to both deaths. Both feel like reminders that the real divide, so starkly present at this Pharaonic sporting super-show, is between the powerful and the powerless. This week Fifa's morally invertebrate president, Gianni Infantino,

gave a speech that attempted to paint his World Cup as a marker of a grand struggle between the bright new world and corrupt old Europe, with Infantino himself the Mandela at its centre. In reality Infantino has presided over a World Cup staged in a repressive state that has feasted on those who built its palaces, and has barely wagged a finger at Iran's regime in the lead up to their appearance here. This is not an east or west thing. It's a power thing. With this in mind perhaps the most significant element of the afternoon was the sight of the Iranian players refusing to sing their own national anthem, a brave and powerful gesture. There were some calls for England to boycott this game with the intention of shaming the dictatorship, but this is to misunderstand the dynamic. The football team is not an extension of Iran's leaders, but is in fact the opposite, seen as an amplifier for freedom, group expression, modernity. It is no coincidence women have been banned from football grounds since 1979. The regime fears this thing, with its spontaneity and its sense of collectivism. Iran's support duly kept up a drum-walloping din through the second half, even as England glossed the scoreline. And this is already the strangest of World Cups, a place where it is possible to nod approvingly at the improved staggered positioning of the England midfield; while also drinking in the joy of the gathered Iranians, a small note of victory in the wider battle of football against the enemy.

India's Predicted XI vs New Zealand, 3rd T20I: Will India Stick To The Winning Combination?



London, November 22 : India will aim for a series win while parity on the final result will be in the mind of New Zealand when the two sides meet for the third T20I at McLean Park, Napier on Wednesday. While the first T20I of the three-match series was washed out due to rain, India won the second game to lead 1-0. A win in the final game can help the guests bag the series, while a win for the Blackcaps will see it all end at 1-1. New Zealand will be led by Tim Southee in the match in Napier as their regular skipper Kane Williamson misses out due to a pre-arranged medical appointment.

Mark Chapman has been added to the squad as his replacement. On the other hand, all Team India players in the squad are available for the final game. But, will the side tinker with the winning combination? Here is what we think could be India's playing XI for the 3rd T20I vs New Zealand: Ishan Kishan: The player failed to find his rhythm in the first game against some quality swing bowling from New Zealand pacers. However, he still managed to score 36 runs off 31 balls. Rishabh Pant: The idea of letting Pant open the innings didn't come out well in the first game as the

swing bowling in Mount Maunganui got better of him. India will look to give him more chances as an opener. Suryakumar Yadav: The right-handed batter is on a league of his own. In the first T20I vs New Zealand, he scored 111 not out off 51 balls, an innings that was laced with 11 fours and 7 sixes. He batted at number 3, a spot above than his usual position, in the absence of Virat Kohli. Shreyas Iyer: The right-handed batter didn't have a good game as he was dismissed as hit wicket on the ball of Lockie Ferguson.