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Gareth Southgate says Greg Clarke had to go after comments



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NEWS IN BRIEF

FM Grants Rs 900 Crore For COVID Vaccine Research

New Delhi, November 12: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, along with the income tax relief and employment generation scheme, also announced a grant of Rs 900 crore on Thursday to the Department of Biotechnology for COVID-19 vaccine research. The minister however informed that the grant does not cover the actual cost of vaccine and distribution expenses, which will be made separately as and when the vaccine is available. Ms Sitharaman further mentioned that an additional Rs 10,200 crore budget outlay will be provided towards capital and industrial expenditure for domestic defence equipment, industrial incentives and infrastructure and green energy.

1st Women's Inter-Club Cricket Tournament Held

Gangtok, November 12: Sikkim Cricket Association is hosting its first women's inter-club tournament Khangchendzonga Shield which started at the Ming Ground in Rangpo. The tournament started on November 11 and the final will be held on November 23. BCCI's chief curator Ashish Bhowmick and board's certified coach Dr. Atul Gaikwad are there to help the state body in preparing pitches as well as the players and coaches from the region, the PTI report added.

Sonowal meets Rabha delegations; discusses their problems and demands



Guwahati, November 12: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today met a number of delegations belonging to Rabha tribe at Assam Administrative Staff College and discussed with them several issues concerning their demands and other

problems. The delegations discussed issues for devolution of more powers to Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council, release of more funds, introduction of Rabha medium subject in the curriculum of schools of Rabha Hasong areas with

the Chief Minister. While talking to them Sonowal said that since Rabha tribes are the integral part of the greater demographic profile of the state, State government very sincerely and positively consider all the demands of the Rabha

Hasong areas and solve them. Minister of Health, Family Welfare, Finance etc Minister Dr. Himanta Sharma said that the State government has taken several steps for the socio-economic development of the people belonging to Rabha Hasong areas. Chief Executive Member Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council Tankeswar Rabha, members and other office bearers belonging to Rabha Students' Union, All Rabha Krishi Sangha, Sixth Schedule Demand Committee, All Rabha Women Council, All Rabha Sahitya Parishad were present at the meeting. Principal Secretary Revenue and Disaster Management Avinash P. Joshi, Commissioner and Secretary M.S. Manivannan and several other senior officers were also present at the meeting.

Senior Journalist killed in car accident

Guwahati, November 12: Parag Bhuyan, a senior journalist based in Tinsukia's Kakopthar died after being hit by a speeding car in front of his residence on Wednesday. After the incident, the journalist was rushed to a private nursing home in Dibrugarh in critical condition, where he succumbed to injuries while undergoing treatment. Bhuyan is the younger brother of former minister and Convenor of the newly floated AJP Jagadish Bhuyan. He was also the Vice President of Tinsukia



District Journalists' Association. Taking to Twitter, Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal expressed his grief over the untimely death of the senior journalist. "Saddened to learn about the untimely demise of Parag Bhuyan, a

reputed journalist and Vice-President of Tinsukia District Journalists' Association. My sincere condolences to his bereaved family members & well-wishers," Sonowal tweeted. Meanwhile, the Guwahati Press Club has demanded a high-level inquiry to probe the cause and circumstances leading to the death of the journalist and urged the Assam DGP to form an SIT to investigate the case in a time-bound manner. Tinsukia On the instruction of Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Contd...Page 6

Top ULFA (I) leader Drishti Rajkhowa surrenders to Indian Army in Meghalaya/India

Guwahati, November 12: Rajkhowa, the second-in-command of the militant group, is currently under the custody of the Army intelligence and is being brought to Assam. ULFA (I) leader Drishti Rajkhowa after his surrender. KEY HIGHLIGHTS The operation was based on confirmed inputs and was a result of relentless pursuit over the last nine months by security forces. The ULFA (I) has been demanding an independent state of Assam for the longest time. The central government had banned the militant outfit in 1990. Shillong: In a major victory for counter-militancy operations, a swift and

well-planned operation executed by intelligence agencies of the Indian Army at the Meghalaya-Assam-Bangladesh Border, dreaded hardcore United Liberation Front of Asom (Independent) leader Drishti Rajkhowa surrendered to forces along with four accomplices Vedanta, Yasin Asom, Ropjiyoti Asom and Mithun Asom. A huge cache of arms were also recovered on them. The operation was based on confirmed inputs and was a result of relentless

pursuit over the last nine months by security forces to nab the militants. He has long been on the wanted list of ULFA insurgents responsible



for their militant activities in lower Assam. His surrender is a major blow to the underground organisation and heralds a Contd...Page 6

China proposes pullback at Pangong, India considers offer



New Delhi, November 12: Six months after PLA troops came in 8 km west of the point which India says marks the Line of Actual Control on the north bank of Pangong Tso to trigger a military standoff in Ladakh, China has proposed moving its troops back to Finger 8, and return of troops by the two sides to

their original locations on the south bank of the lake. The proposal also includes moving back tanks and artillery to the depth areas on either side to reduce chances of any incident in a region where tensions are already high, and troops are battling the harsh Ladakh winter. While there is no agreement on this proposal, official sources

said India is considering the Chinese offer, and modalities for other friction areas are still under discussion. The proposal includes creation of a temporary no-patrolling zone between Finger 4 and Finger 8, the official said, "to prevent any friction". India's insistence on status quo ante - of troops returning to their April locations - and China's reluctance to disengage, especially on the Pangong north bank, has had the two sides deploying thousands of troops, tanks, artillery and air assets in the region. Sources said the Chinese proposed disengagement when Lt General P G K Menon, Commander of Leh-based XIV Corps, and Major General Liu Lin, Commander

of South Xinjiang Military Region, held one-on-one discussions during the eighth Corps Commander-level talks in Chushul on November 6. In the previous seven rounds, entire delegations held talks. But on November 6, the commanders also held one-on-one talks, sources said, underlining that there is no agreement yet on the Chinese proposal and the commanders are likely to meet again soon. "There was a proposal" from China, a senior security establishment official said, "that it is ready to move back to Finger 8" on the north bank of Pangong Tso. The proposal, the official said, also mentioned that Indian troops would be at the Dhan Contd...Page 6

Blow to China, Pakistan as Russia backs India at SCO meet



New Delhi, November 12: Russia has come out in support of India noting that bilateral matters should not be raised at the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) forum. The development comes after Pakistan attempted to raise India-Pakistan matters at the virtual meet. The Russian Deputy Envoy to Delhi, Roman N Babushkin, in response to a question by WION, said, "This is a part of SCO charter and SCO

basic documents not to bring the bilateral issue into the agenda. It has been made clear to all members states that it should be avoided...for the sake of the progress of multilateral cooperation." "The importance of SCO is to deal with regional challenges, to promote economic, financial, humanitarian partnership among member states in order to keep the momentum...we will not interfere in bilateral issues of

India and Pakistan... Our position remains consistent and unchanged. We hope such kind of instances will not appear," he added, further. While Prime minister Narendra Modi too had also raised the matter at the SCO head-of-state meeting which was held earlier this week. He had said, "It is unfortunate that many attempts are being made to unnecessarily bring bilateral issues into the SCO agenda. This is a violation of SCO charter and Shanghai spirit". Russian President Vladimir Putin takes note as PM Narendra Modi speaks at SCO meet in front of Chinese President Xi Jinping. In the run-up to the SCO virtual summit, a number of SCO meetings took place. At the SCO-NSA virtual meet, the Pakistani NSA put a Contd...Page 6

33rd Guwahati Book Fair From Dec 30

Guwahati, November 12: One of the largest literary festivals of the northeastern region - the 33rd edition of the Guwahati Book Fair will be held from December 30 this year to January 30 next year. The 12 day event is being organised under the aegis of the Assam Publication Board at the playground of the Assam Engineering College in Chandmari. Keeping in view of the outbreak of coronavirus pandemic, all

precautionary measures will be taken for the smooth and safe conduct of the book fair, publication board's secretary Pramod Kalita said. Earlier, the fair was supposed to be conducted in December 2019 but was postponed to March 2020, due to the Anti-Citizenship Amendment Act protests, but, was again deferred for an indefinite period due to the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic.

Assam Govt Launches 2nd Phase of 'Assam Darshan Scheme'

Guwahati, November 12: The Assam Government on Thursday launched the second phase of the 'Assam Darshan Scheme' at Guwahati's Kalakshetra. The event was attended by Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, Cabinet minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, MLA Keshav Mahanta as well as around 377 saints

from across the state. 'Assam Darshan Scheme' was conceptualized by the Assam government which aims at developing essential facilities in the rich diversity of religious places located across the State. During the event, it was informed that around 915 religious places including Temples, Satras, Contd...Page 6

Produced 40 Million Doses of AstraZeneca Covid Vaccine: Serum Institute



Bengaluru, November 12: Serum Institute of India, the world's largest vaccine producer, said on Thursday it has made 40 million doses of AstraZeneca's potential COVID-19 vaccine, and would soon begin making Novavax's rival shot, as they both seek regulatory approval. While there are no COVID-19 vaccines approved yet and trials are still under way to prove they are safe Contd...Page 6

The encroachment activity is still on from Nagaland side in the bordering area of Karbi Anglong

Diphu, November 12: Despite of being several round of talks between Karbi Anglong Administration and Nagaland Govt. representative i.e. Dimapur Administration the encroachment activity is still on from Nagaland side in the bordering area of Karbi Anglong inside Daldali Reserve Forest. Such illegal encroachments were also seen on Wednesday near Dimapur besides Lahorijan Forest Beat Office. The encroacher with the help of JCB has pulled down the

Border Pillar No. 1 and 2 and tried to gravel nearby the area. After knowing the activities SDPO Bokajan John Das, APS and Prahlad Kro, ACF have rushed to the spot to look into the matter. During their visit the ACP of Dimapur West were also reached on the spot. After a discussion from Nagaland Administration the infiltrate movements were stopped for a moment, but after 30 minutes of both the parties had left, the same activities with JCB were seen in the area. "The intruder of land from Nagaland inside Assam



land under Daldali Reserve forest can be seen several times. It can be noted that the illegal encroachers were holding land pattas issued by Nagaland Govt.. It is in dumbstruck that how the Nagaland Govt. can issue land pattas inside Reserve Forest. We need to take the matter deliberately with the higher authority," told John Das, APS to the reporters during their visit. We were told the area did not belong to Karbi Anglong (Assam), it belongs to Nagaland, as we are holding land Pattas issued Contd...Page 6



Biden sees Johnson as a mini Trump



"I think there's a good chance we'll do something," Boris Johnson said on Monday, notably less bullish than usual on the subject of a US trade deal with the president-elect, Joe Biden. Johnson grinned awkwardly, like a schoolboy who knows he's done something incredibly foolish, as he talked down the prospects of an agreement that was once considered the jewel in his Brexit crown. But while Johnson's embarrassment might be enjoyable, let's not pretend this is the last we will hear of the US trade deal. Even if Britain has slipped back in the queue, we could still be lining up for the chlorine chicken slaughterhouse under the likely terms of a deal with the US. It's true that Johnson may struggle to form a good relationship with Biden. This goes beyond the fact that Biden sees Johnson as a mini Trump, with backbenches replete with hardliners who sounded like Trumpists last week. But far more important is that Trump had a clear rationale for negotiating a US trade deal. Trump sees everything as a zero-sum game. He believed the US gained only when its "opponents" - China and the EU - lost. For Trump, a US trade deal was a means of weakening EU standards and protections, and of pulling a major economy into the US orbit. Biden sees things differently. He has no truck with Brexit, and Nick Dearden wants to mend fences with Brussels. And he quite rightly thinks his priority should be dealing with the worst pandemic in a century and the serious economic fallout heading his way. Chatting to Johnson about matters of more marginal interest is unlikely to reach the top of Biden's to-do list. What's more, his economic strategy for recovery - boosting "buy American" in government procurement, for instance - runs directly counter to Britain's interests in this deal. The pitifully small gains for Britain's economy are likely to fall still further. But all is not lost for Johnson's attempt at a deregulatory trade deal. Last week the trade secretary, Liz Truss, said that "almost all chapter areas are now in the advanced stages of talks". Truss will now race to complete the deal, building as much Democrat support as possible before April, when there is a deadline on the president's power to hurry a trade deal through Congress. After that point, ratification gets much more difficult. In fact, if Biden's victory dampens the criticism towards a trade deal here, including on Labour's frontbench, it could potentially make a toxic US trade deal easier to finalise. After all, who wouldn't prefer to do a deal with Biden than Trump? But sadly we can't assume that a Biden deal would be much different. Trade deals are driven by big business interests. The demand that we import chlorinated chicken comes from US agribusiness. The demand that the NHS pay higher charges for medicines comes from the pharmaceutical industry. The demand to drop our digital services tax comes from Silicon Valley's big tech corporations. That's why it was the Obama-Biden administration that pushed the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, the US-EU trade deal that caused controversy across Europe, and that looked very similar to the US deal currently under discussion. If that deal is really so close to being completed, and should Johnson find a way of preserving the Good Friday agreement, it will be enticing for Biden to just push it over the finish line and satisfy the corporate demands. The arguments against a US trade deal are not about our overall relationship with the US, or how many goods we trade per se. They're about exporting a fundamentally different, more market-driven regulatory model into Britain, replacing the standards and protections we've developed over many years and entrenching corporate power. That's what Johnson, Truss and the rest always wanted. In that sense, the main negotiation over a US deal is still between Johnson and the British public. It is us, not Biden, who need to stop him. Johnson's failure to put our food standards into law in the agriculture bill means keeping chlorinated chicken out of future trade deals remains a matter of trust, not law. And with Johnson still willing to break international law over a trade deal with the EU, there is no reason to trust mere manifesto pledges. But there is a big challenge for Biden here, too. Whatever the reality of Trump's trade policy, he attracted support in the "rust belt" by promising to unwind the free market trade deals negotiated by his Democratic predecessors.

Bihar: Is Education for the Marginalised an Election Issue?

As the election campaign was raging in Bihar, a group of students and activists demanded the effective implementation of the post matric scholarship (PMS) scheme. The scheme has the potential to empower the Scheduled Caste communities as it allows students who are otherwise unable to access higher education to do so. However, it is plagued with several issues that prevent its benefits from reaching the most vulnerable populations of the country. The ground realities are rarely reflected in the election campaigns of parties. It is heartening to see that government jobs have emerged as a key campaign issue in the Bihar elections. But a narrow focus on jobs hides the grim realities of the status of the education infrastructure and the poor support that students from SC and ST communities receive to access the job market. Attention needs to be paid to enable the conditions that are needed to ensure that SC/ST job aspirants have the requisite skills and knowledge to be eligible and qualified for these jobs. Drop-out rates are much higher for students from the SC community at the secondary school level because many of them cannot afford to go to college and are forced to start working instead. According to the Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) data for 2017-18, the national annual average dropout rate of SC students at the secondary school level is 21.8%. For SC students, financial support for higher education is indispensable. The PMS scheme is one of the largest Central government schemes to support higher education for SC students. It provides financial assistance at the post-matriculation or post-secondary stage level to allow them to enroll in colleges and pursue higher education. Only those students, whose parents or guardians have an income from all sources that does not exceed Rs 2.5 lakh annually are eligible for the scholarship. The scholarship covers expenses towards compulsory non-refundable fees and a maintenance allowance of Rs 380-1,200 per month for hostellers and Rs 230-550 per month for day scholars. Every year, lakhs of SC students apply for this scheme in a bid to improve their living conditions. However, despite the growing demand from SC youth for this scholarship, the allocation for the scheme is grossly inadequate. Analysis by the National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR) shows that the demand for Central assistance (CA) under the scheme by the states and Union Territories (UTs) has not been met, year after year since 2012-13. It should also be noted that

allocation figures projected by the Centre often includes the arrears of the previous years and are not just budgetary outlays available for the present fiscal year. The Departmentally Related Standing Committee Report on Demand for Grants (2018-19) of the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment (DSJE) observed that funds allocated every year for this scheme are substantially lower than the amount demanded. This mismatch has resulted in the accumulation of arrears. The average demand for CA from states/UTs is approximately Rs 4500-5000 crore

per annum, which remains unfulfilled. This results in grave consequences for SC students and their hopes to pursue higher education. In the past two years, there have been demands by the Central government to the state governments to look into cases of corruption. But state governments have refuted all charges of corruption and have pointed to the nonpayment of arrears instead. Due to this long-standing dispute between the Central and state governments, thousands of eligible students have been left out of the ambit of the scheme, or face delays in getting the scholarship money. The situation has worsened with the ongoing pandemic and its effect on the economy. Much like other sectors, the education sector is severely affected by the economic downturn. But unlike sectors such as agriculture or business, education is not a priority for the government when it comes to providing financial relief packages. It should be noted that so far this year for the Ministries of Education, and Social Justice & Empowerment (MSJE), only 15% and 14% expenditure has been made, respectively. Expenditure in MSJE has serious implications for schemes like the PMS. Unless urgently rectified, this implies that scholarships could be

delayed for a very large number of students from the SC community, who are solely dependent on the PMS for continuing their education. In the FY 2020-21, allocation from the Union government for PMS was Rs 2987.33 crore. But in FY 20-21, between April 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020, only 31% of the total allocation, that is, Rs 922.13 crore had been released. Moreover, so far in FY 2020-21, only 11 states have received the funds under the PMS scheme from the Union government. No funds have been released to Bihar. Similarly, during the FY 2019-20, between schemes totalling to Rs 2407.84 crore (76%) have a direct benefit to SC students. The rest of the amount is 'notional', which means they are spent on schemes which do have any relevance to education. However, under the most critical scheme for students pursuing higher education the PMS, the SCSP allocates only Rs 118 crore for FY 2019-20. This is negligible as compared to the demand of the students in Bihar. Therefore, irrespective of whichever government comes in Bihar, it is critical that they prioritise demands of the students and their education. Dharamdev Paswan, Bihar co-ordinator for Dalit Arthik Adhikar Andolan, says, "We are hoping that the next elected government in the state will take the issues of the Dalit students and their demand for effective implementation of the scholarship, as this has affected the future of many young Dalit students.", key recommendations specific to Bihar are as follows: Demand from the SC and ST Community: Bring a SCSP-TSP (Scheduled Castes Sub Plan and Tribal Sub Plan) State Legislation on the lines of Telangana and Karnataka. Set apart 50% budgetary allocation for the overall development of Dalit and Adivasi children, girls, and women with special attention under SCSP and TSP. School Education - for construction of state of the art Residential Schools along the lines of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh at the block level. Immediate removal of the Rs 15,000 cap for PMS and reintroduce Central guidelines for disbursement of the scholarship. Construction of Ambedkar Hostel specifically for SC and ST students in every district with capacities of 1,000 each for boys and girls. The timeline for online applications of PMS should be fixed for every academic year. This should include a fixed timeline for the release and disbursement of PMS throughout the state. Special assistance needs to be provided to those students unable to access online mode to ensure maximum reach to those most vulnerable even amongst the SC community. Announcement of date for filing online application should be published in all Universities and college notice boards from the District Welfare Officer's office on the same day. As the country waits for the election results, the youth of Bihar want very much to be part of the development that every party has promised. Let us hope that the newly elected government keeps the aspirations of the youth in their mind while initiating policies and governing Bihar.



Beena Pallical April 1 2019 to March 31, 2020, the total PMS amount released to seven states from the ministry was only Rs 406.01 crore. Bihar was excluded from this also. Indians who fall in the 14-18 years age group constitute 11% (100.2 million) of the country's population. They form a huge chunk of our much-touted (and neglected) demographic dividend of 390 million millennials and the 12 million young people who join the workforce every year. What appeared to be the country's strength a few years ago is a forgotten story today. For students belonging to marginalised communities, education is the only way to positively harness their potential and avoid falling into modern-day slavery in the form of unskilled labour or poorly paid work. Several students have even had to resort to unskilled work under MGNREGA, serve as domestic help or work as casual labourers to ensure that they have some income to last through these difficult lockdown months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Effective implementation of schemes like the PMS is thus crucial to ensure that they are not left behind in the development story. The Bihar budget for FY 2019-20 allocated Rs 3,149.44 crore under the Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP). Of this,

Enough is enough: Republicans' fealty to Trump imperils America itself

The Republican party has spent four years enabling Donald Trump: backing up his lies, defending his most egregious misbehaviors, shattering longstanding democratic norms to keep his, and by extension their, iron grip on power. But by refusing to push him to concede an election he clearly lost, they're truly following him off a cliff - and threatening to take America with them. And yet, predictably, the president who has spent his entire time in office denying the facts that are in front of his face is insisting that the clear results of this election must be the result of malfeasance. We know that to assuage his own ego and maintain his position, he will say and do just about anything. We know that he is not a statesman or a person who cares about anything beyond himself; we know he is happy to tear

the nation apart at the seams if it means he gets what he wants. And we know that many members of the Republican party have thus far aided and abetted him. But there was some question of when enough would be enough. Surely there was some line the president could cross that would directly imperil America itself and make Republicans finally say: enough. Now, the president is mounting what in any developing country would be called an attempted coup. He is spreading outright lies about America's system of free and fair elections, claiming he won when he didn't. His sycophantic legal team is pulling issues out of thin air to undermine the American system of voting. He is wielding his power to try to install himself as an unelected leader. He is refusing to concede so that he might find



Jill Filipovic some way to illegally grab power. And Republicans are letting him. The president is "100% within his rights" to challenge the clear election results in court, said the Senate majority leader, Mitch McConnell, before scolding

Democrats for demanding the president concede. "Let's not have any lectures about how the president should immediately, cheerfully accept preliminary election results from the same characters who just spent four years refusing to accept the validity of the last election." But these election results are not "preliminary"; they are clear and decisive. And Democrats did not refuse to accept the results of the 2016 election. Democrats did insist on looking into foreign interference into the election, and asked necessary questions about the president's interactions with foreign adversaries. But Democrats did not refuse to concede. They did not undermine the democratic process and American confidence in a free and fair vote. Trump is refusing to concede so he might find some way to illegally grab power.

Harvard, Stanford, and IIM alumni come together to establish the Kautilya school of Public Policy in Hyderabad

Hyderabad, November 11: I nan endeavor to make public policy education an essential part of broader reform for higher education in India, the Kautilya School of Public Policy has been established in Hyderabad. Affiliated to Gandhi Institute of Technology and Management, popularly known as GITAM (www.gitam.edu), the school is founded with the vision to "Rebalance the role of Society, Government, and Business towards an Equitable and Regenerative India and the World". The school aims to nurture and encourage new-age leaders who undertake rigorous public policy education and apply the lessons to solve India's 21st-century problems. It is envisioned to fulfil the urgent need for evidence-based policy making in the country and offer education at par with any Ivy League institute. The newly established campus is spread across 24,500 sq ft area coupled with sophisticated facilities and technology, making it one of the most contemporary institutes in India. Kautilya is designed as a non-hierarchical, interactive space to enable learning and knowledge sharing. The institute has a founding team consisting of alumni from Stanford, the Harvard Kennedy School, and the Indian Institute of



Management (IIM)) along with an eminent Executive board. The founding team includes M. Sri Bharat, President, GITAM Deemed to be University, Prateek Kanwal, Co-founder, Kautilya School of Public Policy, and Sridhar Pabbisetty, Founding Director, Kautilya School of Public Policy. Rathin Roy, Economist and Director NIPFP said "The canvas of public policy is going to broaden far beyond the government and its instruments and agencies." Steve Jarding, Former Lecturer in Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School and a global political campaign consultant said, "India needs a school of public policy that affects change, one

that instills in next-generation leaders the idea that service is a responsibility that every human being has a responsibility to serve." M. Sri Bharat, President, GITAM said, "Today, our country does not only need capable leaders, but people who can steer the growth which we believe is possible through effective public policy education. Coming from a background of public life over generations and a keen interest in nurturing the future of the country through education, Kautilya is a step towards moldings the leaders of tomorrow. Through the institution, our aim is to bring a global quality curriculum addressing the lack of evidence-based education in public policy with experienced faculties and industry experts." Kautilya will have a multidisciplinary program curriculum and structure geared for academic depth as well as practical application. There will be a dedicated focus on quality engagement with Business, Government, and Society on public policy and inclusive growth. The institute will offer world-class infrastructure backed with technology and access to top minds in the field of public policy to enrich the learning experience and campus life. Prateek Kanwal, Co-founder, Kautilya School of Public Policy said, "My experience

of studying at Harvard Kennedy School and running Citizens for Public Leadership made me realize the need of evidence based policy making in India and the need to develop public policy professionals who can solve India's most pressing problems. With strong expertise in academics and practitioners from diverse backgrounds, an interdisciplinary curriculum at par with Ivy League schools of the West, blended with our rich culture and value system, we are excited to offer an enriched learning experience to aspirants who wish to develop an expertise in the field of public policy." Sridhar Pabbisetty, Founding Director, Kautilya School of Public Policy, added "Kautilya will help graduates carve out forward-looking roles for themselves across industries and sectors involving government policies. Our holistic focus on Research, Consulting, Executive Education and Teaching continuum will enable our partners, faculty and students to find innovative solutions to complex public policy problems of the world." Kautilya is all set to offer a 2-year residential Master's in Public Policy (MPP) Program with a unique mix of core courses, electives, skill shops and

specializations, with a batch of 60 commencing July 2021. The applications for MPP will be open from 30th November 2020. Management Development Programs for working professionals will be launched starting January 2021. The Executive Board at Kautilya includes Anil Swarup, a retired Indian Administrative Service officer and an author, Dilip Cheria, Communications consultant, political campaign advisor, Indermit Gill, non-resident senior fellow in the Global Economy and Development program at the Brookings Institution, M. V. Rajeev Gowda, an Indian politician and academician, Navtej Singh Sarna, Former Indian Foreign Services Officer and an author-columnist, Nidhi Razdan, Associate Professor at Harvard University and Ex- Executive Editor, NDTV, Priyanka Chaturvedi, Indian politician serving as Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha from Maharashtra and Deputy Leader of Shiv Sena, Ram Mohan Naidu, Indian politician and a Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha constituency), Andhra Pradesh, Rathin Roy, Economist and Director NIPFP, and Steve Jarding, Former Lecturer in Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School and a global political campaign consultant.

State losing over Rs.108 cr monthly: CM

KOHIMA, November 12 : As the State's overall deficit was rising by over Rs 108 crore every month due to COVID-19 pandemic totalling over Rs 1,000 crore in a year, chief minister Neiphiu Rio said the State government has decided to focus more in promoting agriculture and allied sectors. Addressing a PDA thanksgiving programme for newly-elected legislator Medo Yhokha at Hotel Vivor here on Wednesday, Rio stressed on rebuilding the economy and called for change in the mindset of people. According to Rio, the money received from deficit grant and GST were spent on salaries, pensions, power purchases and other emergencies. He said the situation was a challenge for the government and the people must work hard, earn livelihood and build the society. As Nagas do not pay taxes, he remarked that they do not know about economy. Interestingly, the thanksgiving programme coincided with the 70th birthday of Rio himself. Responding to felicitations, Rio thanked God for the abundance grace, guidance and protection during the entire by-poll process. Also congratulating Medo Yhokha, Rio admitted that winning the by-poll was not easy due to the strong challenge posed by the independent candidate. He thanked BJP for its commitment and support, besides all rank and file of NDPP and well-wishers for their support. He said Yhokha was young and is committed to learn and serve the people. Rio urged young leaders to take up more responsibilities, while urging youth to come forward and work together for the party and the State. Calling for peace, development and progress, he urged everyone to work united on Naga political issue, irrespective of party affiliation. He also thanked those who wished him on his party. On his part, Yhokha thanked God, the ruling coalition leaders and well-wishers for his victory. He sought support, guidance and advice from the seniors as he begins his political journey and reiterated to stand by commitments made during the by-poll campaign. Earlier, BJP's State vice-president Peter Rutsa read out the thanksgiving message of State BJP

president Temjen Imna Along in his absence. In the message, Along congratulated Yhokha for his success and thanked the chief minister, deputy chief minister Y Patton, ministers and advisers, party leaders, workers and supporters of both BJP and NDPP and well-wishers went all out to work for the victory of the PDA's consensus candidate. He said majority of the electorate in



Pungro-Kiphire had decided to re-appoint their trust on Independent candidate and therefore BJP's candidate could not win even though all of them had worked very hard. Nevertheless, he said the greatness of PDA government was that it was inclusive and the coalition remained committed to Common Minimum Programme to provide equitable development to all corners of the State, whether they voted for PDA or not. "The spirit of our alliance is still alive and we will continue to work for the betterment of our people," he added. Since the deputy chief minister could not attend the programme, advisor Dr Longriniken took to the stage to speak on the occasion. He said the efforts of the chief minister and leaders, workers and supporters of both the parties helped the PDA candidate win from 14 Southern Angami I and congratulated Yhokha. NDPP president and PDA chairman Chingwang Konyak delivered greetings on the occasion. NSPP secretary general and PDA member secretary Abu Metha chaired the function while

BJP State general secretary and PDA member Eduzū Thelü-o gave the vote of thanks. PDA to decide on support from Ind State chief minister Neiphiu Rio said the ruling PDA will discuss on whether or not, to accommodate the newly elected Independent legislator from 60 Pungro-Kiphire in PDA. He said this while interacting with media persons on the sidelines of the thanks-

giving programme. Rio emphasised that independent legislators were "independent" and cannot join any political party. He however said if the newly elected independent member wished, he could support the PDA government adding "we can work together". On the other hand, Rio during the recent campaign for the NDPP candidate at Puchama on October 27, had categorically stated that PDA will not accommodate Independent candidates, even if they won the by-polls. On convening a special Nagaland Legislative Assembly session as asked by NEDA convener and Assam finance minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, Rio clarified it was not a question of insistence. He said the Assembly was a platform where every legislator can come together and that PDA would discuss the issue. He said if the need arose, the session could be convened. On cabinet's decision to refer governor RN Ravi's letter to the Home ministry (MHA) in which he (Ravi) directed the state DGP to provide security to Working Committee lead-

ers, Rio pointed out that the SOP and ground rules stated that the negotiating parties should be in their designated camps and are not allowed to stay in public places. Rio asked if there was any threat on any Working Committee members, how about the general public and their neighbours who would also become vulnerable? He therefore, said it was a complicated matter and the State government on its own, cannot decide. In view of this, he said the cabinet decided to refer the matter to the MHA for advice. Asked about opposition leader TR Zeliang refuting his statement on flag and constitution that the issue was not discussed in the meetings, Rio said after Amit Shah asked Zeliang to return, "only then we discussed other issues that were not in his presence and so he doesn't know and he won't know". Rio claimed that it was Union home minister Amit Shah who told them (Rio and Zeliang) to hold a joint press conference and have Zeliang endorse the October 15 consultative meeting resolution, which he had agreed. Rio said without Shah's instruction, neither he nor Sarma would give any directive. On whether he refused to accept the proposal of NPF legislators to form a new forum on Naga political issue, Rio said JLF was dear to the members and was there for more than decades. He also said several rounds of meetings and resolutions were passed both inside and outside of the assembly and still JLF exists with BJP, NDPP and independent. Rio asked how the NPF party proposed to do away with JLF and come up with a new nomenclature and also whether the Speaker (as convener of JLF) had done something wrong (warranting NPF to propose the CM to head the new forum)? He also asked what has necessitated the need for another nomenclature, another platform and then start from zero again? Rio also asserted that JLF cannot be discarded neither the hard work done by it over the years. He said the opposition party just cannot propose anything and ask the government to do what it wanted. Rio said the JLF still strongly feels that all MLAs should come together on the Naga issue.

COCOMI, NNPGs hold consultative meet



DIMAPUR, November 12 : A consultative meeting was held between WC, NNPGs led by its convener N. Kitovi Zhimomi and six co-convenors with a conglomeration of seven Manipur-based civil societies-- Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI), at Dimapur on Tuesday. At the meeting, WC, NNPGs reassured COCOMI leaders that the "impending Indo-Naga political solution" will be in the interests of both Nagas and Meiteis and other communities. Further, WC said any new political or administrative arrangement or structure that respects and promotes Naga history, culture and identity "without altering the present boundary of Manipur, Arunachal or in Assam" as a result of the "Indo-Naga solution" which benefits all communities "must be appreciated." In response, WC said COCOMI delegates "appreciated the pragmatic stand of WC, NNPGs and the progressed achieved through political negotiations". The meeting also agreed that more interaction and people to people dialogue was necessary to forge a strong indigenous ethnic community platform so as to meet the ever threatening demographic invasion of the NE states. WC said the meeting also agreed that "NE people cannot live in isolation because the danger is too big" adding that common issues needed to be tackled through con-

certed efforts. COCOMI also expressed solidarity with WC, NNPGs and also expressed the hope that negotiations between Nagas and the government of India, "would conclude without delay". COCOMI also said all neighbouring states "were anxiously expecting a positive Indo-Naga political agreement" and further wished WC, NNPG leadership and the Nagas "a great path ahead." According to media cell of WC, NNPGs, the meeting came against the backdrop of both Nagas and Meiteis sharing centuries of shared and harmonious relationship, respect for each other's ancestral domain, customs, traditions and practices. However, it said during the past few decades, tranquillity and mutual respect among both communities "faced rough weather owing to impractical ideology and discomforting political stance of a few." WC said both sides agreed that Naga-Meitei brotherhood "cannot be dictated by haphazard and preposterous sentiments." Reaffirming that Nagas and Meiteis have a larger role to play in the ethno-social political reorganisation of the indigenous people of north east, WC said the meeting "hinged on the need to mutually co-exist as brothers and as peaceful neighbours like in the centuries past." WC said that both Naga and Meitei generations "must avoid living in perpetual fear and mistrust of each other."

Manipur CM blames Shramik special trains for spread of COVID



IMPHAL, November 12 : Manipur chief minister N Biren Singh blamed Shramik Special trains for the rapid surge in COVID-19 infections in the state, during a video conferencing with Union health minister Harsh Vardhan on Wednesday. Singh attended a video conference of the Union health minister with the chief ministers and health ministers of seven states of the country that reviewed the COVID-19 situation in these states. The Union minister reviewed the situations in Manipur, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Tripura and Goa. During the conference, Singh thanked the Central government for extending all possible help to the state in combating the pandemic in the past 10 months. With the assistance from the Centre, he said, the state has received 95 ventilators, 400 oxygen concentrator machines and 500 D-type oxygen cylinders recently. Stating that the state government was earlier concerned about the rise in the mortality rate, the chief minister said that it was slowly coming down now after a technical expert committee was formed to look into the matter. In the beginning, he said, Manipur was doing extremely well in containing the virus. However, the state started witnessing a sudden hike of positive cases after thousands of native Manipuris were brought in Shramik Special trains, he informed. Maintaining that the testing rate has been improved for early detection of positive cases, the chief minister said that 3,72,000 samples had been tested so far. The current testing rate per day per million population of Manipur was quite higher than the national average, he claimed. In order to reduce the transmission rate, the state government was focusing on imparting awareness at the grassroots level, he informed the Union minister. For this, village level committees have been formed, and local clubs, organizations, NGOs, etc. have been roped in

to get them involved in creating awareness on following SoPs strictly, he added. The main objective of the initiative is to gain momentum of the Jan Andolan campaign against COVID-19 and promote COVID Appropriate Behavior (CAB). RIMS, being a major and most important hospital of the state, Singh requested the Union health minister to permit flexibility in fund utilization so that the hospital may meet urgent needs and cope with challenges that emerge from time to time in combating the virus. He informed the health minister that manpower and equipment inadequacies of the Central government-run hospital were even sometimes fulfilled with the funds from the state government considering its urgency. He then requested the Union health minister for urgent requirements of the hospital which he said that he would list all the requirements in detail in a letter to the Union health minister to be provided later. The chief minister also invited Dr Harsh Vardhan, in advance, to the golden jubilee celebration of RIMS to be held next year. The chief minister further requested him to entrust the responsibility of the construction of the National Centre for Disease Control to the state government. Dr Harsh Vardhan assured Singh that he will look into the matters raised during the video conference. Meanwhile, COVID-19 casualty in the state rose to 202 as two more patients succumbed to the viral infections on Wednesday. The infection tally of the rose also rose to 20,957 as 180 fresh cases were confirmed during testing of 2,105 samples in the last 24 hours. During the same period, 164 patients were discharged after they recovered from the disease, taking the recovered tally of the state to 17,698. The recovery rate stood at 84.44%. The state has now only 3,057 active cases, out of which 1,050 were on home isolation.

Growth of Entertainment and Hospitality Sector has to be concomitant with Societal Covid precaution awareness for its progress, opines experts

Guwahati, Nov 12 : The growth of Entertainment and Hospitality Sector has to be concomitant with Societal Covid precaution awareness for its progress, experts opined in a Webinar organised by Press Information Bureau, Guwahati on the topic 'Covid precaution awareness in Entertainment and Hospitality Industry' here today. Experts from Industry fraternity along with academicians deliberated and discussed about the Covid precaution awareness from academic and policy perspective. Ms Anita Dutta Gupta, Entrepreneur in Hospitality and Fashion Industry said that hotels, restaurants and allied sectors are game changers in the services sector growth and development. She further said that the tourism and infrastructure sectors are an addition in that endeavour. She said that the growth of entertainment and hospitality sector calls for greater responsibility to make people aware about the Covid precaution. She said that the hospitality sector, just as entertainment industry is evolving and is very dynamic. Ms Gupta opined that hotels are also changing their business accordingly to tackle the issues because of these trying Covid scenarios. She said that hotels are emerging as centres of business and economic development and it is very pertinent that the hospitality sector would also develop to tackle the scenario. She said whether it is information dissemination to hotel staffs or employees about Covid precaution awareness or the leveraging technology in daily working or hotel activities, the hospitality is sector is evolving to the changing dynamics of business. Abdurrahman Mallick, Advocate Delhi High Court said that Hospitality sector is vital sector which is vibrant and dynamically driven by economic and social development of other allied sectors. He said that sanitisation in hotels and restaurants is important and Covid precaution is very vital for its sustainability. Enlisting all the vital processes in hospitality sector, Shri JP Shaw, former Regional Director (East) for Indiatourism Kolkata, Ministry of Tourism,

said that hotels are evolving their business by various measures be it better sanitisation or temperature control of dishes and food, awareness drive among employees, technology driven menus for food, technology kiosks at vital places and lounges of the hotel are adding to the information and communication endeavours on Covid precaution. Shri Nagendra Nath Tiwari, Deputy Technical Adviser, Food and Nutrition Board, Eastern Region, Kolkata said that office discussion foras are replete with examples of communication endeavours for Covid precaution. He said that communication on Covid precaution has to be addition with Poshan Abhiyaan and other nutritional information to make people aware about the importance of disciplined and healthy system to tackle health issues. Adding to the discussion, Shri Nilotpol Dutta provided a common person's perspective said that in general, hospitality sector along with tourism sector is also evolving and tackling this Covid scenario with optimism. He said that hotel lounges with strategic communication in prominent places are adding to the information dissemination. He said that tourism industry has evolved in multiple verticals such as ecotourism, medical-tourism, adventure-tourism, tea-tourism, hospitality and spa-tourism which include alternative medical treatment such as hydrotherapy, thalassotherapy or balneotherapy, among others. He said in this context, the entertainment and tourism industry is working for public awareness on Covid precaution so that emerging business growth is progressive without any issues. The informative and knowledge webinar was planned and coordinated by Shri Samrat Bandyopadhyay, Joint Director (M & C), PIB, Guwahati. Senior officers of PIB were present in webinar. Shri Pallav Chakravorty, Deputy Director, PIB welcomed the experts as the webinar delved into details on the various aspects of the topic such as Covid information management including in the arena of health, socio-economic, growth and development, among others.

Nagaland should be made 'Kiwi State of India': Union Agri minister

DIMAPUR, November 12 : Union Agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Wednesday asserted that Nagaland should be made "Kiwi State of India" by making persistent efforts in research and training farmers to reap good returns from Kiwi production. Addressing a virtual meet on 'Value Chain Creation for Kiwi fruit- Farm to Fork', organized by the Agriculture ministry along with Central Institute of Horticulture, Nagaland, Tomar said: "A new chapter is being introduced in the agricultural history of Nagaland which will be highly beneficial to the Kiwi farmers of the state. This programme of Kiwi production enhancement will prove to be a milestone in the years to come." The Centre is working closely with the state government and especially the Central Institute of Horticulture, Nagaland, in capacity building of farmers in production as well as packaging of kiwi products, he stated. Tomar lamented that the North East, due to difficult terrain, was lagging behind and all ministries including Agriculture ministry are working towards ensuring a progressive North East. He also elaborated on the problems faced by the farmers in the North East region namely lack of good planting material, productivity issues, lack of packaging facilities and marketing networks for farmers. Tomar said that the ministry was trying to provide handholding support to Kiwi farmers across the country in a bid to reduce the country's dependence on imports in line with the call on "Vocal for Local". Tomar further said the Centre is also ensuring that farmers are connected to the market, so that they can get a fair price for their produce. To boost kiwi production, the minister said the Himalayan climate is suitable for kiwi production and there is a need to introduce high-yielding varieties. Currently, India imports 4,000 tonnes of Kiwis from New Zealand, Italy and Chile, while the domestic production is about 13,000 tonnes.

Emerald doves, wild animal meat seized from Ganga market

ITANAGAR, November 12 : As many as 30 freshly killed emerald doves (birds), barking deer and wild pig meats have been seized from the Ganga market here during an unannounced raid conducted by a team of the Lobi Wildlife Range forest officials on Tuesday. The seller of the wild animal meat has managed to escape from the scene, officials said. However, the forest officials, headed by Deputy Range Forest Officer Tadar Raju are making all efforts to arrest the seller of the wild meat. Itanagar Wildlife Sanctuary's Deputy Chief Wildlife Warden Tana Tapi informed that the drive against trading of wildlife meat would continue.

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Covid and few thought

One day, when the face masks are stashed away and normal life is resumed, there will need to be a public inquiry into the disaster that befell the United Kingdom, and its constituent parts, during 2020. Provided it is not an attempt at a whitewash, the report, when it eventually arrives, will make grisly reading. The facts are already known: the UK has one of the highest death tolls per head of population in the world, and will have seen its economy shrink by 10% in a single year, cancer patients left untreated, a surge in domestic abuse and a rise in mental illness. Covid-19 has accentuated Britain's deep class and generational divisions. While the middle classes have been safely working from home, the working classes have been at far greater risk by driving the buses, delivering parcels and keeping the supermarket shelves stacked. It is the children of the poor who have suffered most from being at home during lockdowns. Meanwhile, the under-25s have been far more likely than older workers to lose their job or be furloughed, even though they are the group least at risk from the virus. It would be easy to blame all this on Boris Johnson and his ministers, but a proper inquiry into what has gone wrong needs to dig deeper than that. True, the government was ill-prepared for the global pandemic when it arrived on these shores earlier this year but so were plenty of other countries. Johnson was not the only world leader to be caught unawares. Yet seven months after announcing the first lockdown, Johnson was forced to announce a second in England. As in March, the concern was that rising infection rates would overwhelm the NHS. For the more charitable among us, the first lockdown might just about have been excusable. A second is not. This is not simply a question of ministerial incompetence, although there have certainly been blunders galore. Saying Johnson is not up to the job is true but misses the point. Nicola Sturgeon has not faced anything like the criticism aimed at Johnson, and indeed has won plaudits for the way she has performed, but Scotland's infection rates are not much lower than England's. A more searching probe into what has gone wrong has to start with the ability of any government - not just this benighted one - to perform its basic tasks properly: ensuring that the health and social care systems can cope in a crisis; providing an adequate welfare safety net; responding quickly and effectively to a pandemic; having a long-term strategy for economic regeneration rather than just spraying money around. There has been much talk over the years about how the UK's manufacturing base was hollowed out in the 1980s, with profound social and economic consequences. What Covid-19 has shown is that the state too has been hollowed out, with what were once its core functions - planning and organising public services - outsourced to consultants and private contractors. There are copious examples of this, at both local and national level. The government had the whole summer to get an effective track-and-trace system up and running but lacked the capacity to do the job itself. It spent £12bn on something that was going to be world-beating, but doesn't do the job. A small fraction of this sum - £563,400 to be precise - was trussed by McKinsey for advice on the "vision, purpose and narrative" of test and trace. To the extent that this drivel means anything, it means "kerching!". There was a time when governments didn't have to call in consultants to advise them on what the purpose of key policies should be: ministers and officials worked it out for themselves. In some ways, of course, the state has grown bigger and more powerful, as shown by its willingness to curtail personal freedom in ways never previously seen before in peacetime. But putting people under a form of house arrest is a sign of fundamental weakness and of a culture in which PR is copiously used to cover up the inability of the state to do its job properly. Here, the future public inquiry will have plenty to get its teeth into: the NHS supply chains that collapsed under pressure; the imported PPE equipment that wasn't fit for purpose; the contracts awarded to Conservative party donors; the £670,000 spent on spin doctors by Kate Bingham, the venture capitalist put in charge of the UK's vaccine taskforce and who just happens to be the wife of the Treasury minister Jesse Norman; the admission by Dido Harding, the head of NHS test and trace, that there was a failure to predict demand when schools and universities went back in the autumn. Given the above, the government's expensive spin doctors should be asked how best to cover up the cronyism, the chiselling, the incompetence and the drift towards a police state. Britain has government by diktat and bullshit. So while it is welcome news that a vaccine could be available by Christmas, the notion that the process will be hitch-free is the triumph of hope over experience. Matt Hancock is already talking about the logistical challenge, which sounds like getting your excuses in early. The hollowing out of the state has been going on for years, but it has taken Covid-19 to expose what has happened. In truth, the last taskforce that really mattered was the one sent to recapture the Falklands in 1982 and it is no accident that the army has been called in for the testing programme in Liverpool. The military is the one part of the state apparatus that can still be relied on to do things properly.

It would be a scandal now if it was alleged that a journalist had secured an interview with an emotionally fragile woman

There's surely no other word for playing on someone's darkest suspicions, planting seeds of doubt that could only leave her more bewildered about whom to trust. It would be a scandal now if it was alleged that a journalist had secured an interview with an emotionally fragile woman - for everyone knew Princess Diana's history of eating disorders, her belief the palace was out to get her, the tales of her trying to throw herself down the stairs as her marriage imploded - after showing members of her family forged bank statements supposedly "proving" that her closest aides were being paid to spy on her. But in 1996, Britain was a different country. A year after the princess's bombshell BBC Panorama interview about the state of her marriage, when claims first emerged that the programme had employed some decidedly dubious tactics as it tried to reel her in, there was no great moral outrage that I can recall. Earl Spencer told much the same story then, about feeling duped into introducing interviewer Martin Bashir to his sister, as he told last week's Channel 4 documentary marking the 25th anniversary of the interview. But, at the time, it felt like just another

plot twist in the endless royal soap opera. True, the graphic designer who produced the forgeries was dropped by the BBC. But the corporation's then head of news, Tony Hall, reported reassuringly back to his bosses that Bashir, while "contrite about it all, remained an honourable and honest reporter who just 'wasn't thinking'". It doubtless helped that in those days Diana was still widely portrayed as a knowingly manipulative player of the media game, a cunning minx who'd got what she wanted out of her coy confession that there had been "three of us" in the royal marriage, while the BBC got its global scoop. Who could have known the whole thing would feel so different, reshaped a quarter of a century later when the media's treatment of another potentially vulnerable princess is still fresh in people's minds? Yet the uncomfortable truth is that it does. The rightwing press has its own reasons now, of course, for taking a story that makes the BBC look bad and flogging it to death for days on end. Any excuse to kick lumps out of a liberal institution in politically sensitive times. It feels horribly unfair, too, that all this is being ex-

humed when Bashir (said to be recovering from heart surgery and Covid complications) is too sick to defend himself. It's ancient history, for heaven's sake, so why not just let it go? But it's history that sheds an uncomfortable light on the present, which is why the BBC is right to promise a fuller inquiry now. Had it not been for this subterfuge, of course, Diana might have ended up telling all on some other broadcaster's sofa instead (indeed, in the BBC's original investigation, she indicated she would have been open to a Panorama interview even without any of the alleged actions). She had already cooperated with Andrew Morton's explosive book about her and spilled the beans in private to the then Daily Telegraph editor, Max Hastings, although that seems to have left him not so much reaching for his notebook as fearing for her mental health. He resolved in the end not to write it up because it seemed best to "keep a lid" on things. Was that an overly cosy, establishment-friendly interpretation of an editor's job or, in hindsight, the compassionate choice? Most reporters will certainly recognise something of the moral dilemma: the knowledge that

sometimes the public interest is served only by people revealing something they will later bitterly regret, and that if it isn't you it will be someone else, balanced against a queasy understanding that news chews people up and spits them out. Some will wonder whether the earl's vehemence in pursuing the BBC now is at least in part about atoning for his own unwitting role in unleashing something that ultimately burned everyone it touched. Diana herself came to regret the interview in later life, it is said, because of the impact on her sons. (A tearful William, then 13, was left to watch it with his housemaster at Eton, another aspect of this story that by 2020 standards feels utterly insane. What teenage boy wants to watch the messy details of his parents' divorce being publicly rehearsed in front of a teacher?) Both princes have struggled all their lives to reconcile their public roles with distrust of the media, and in Harry's case also the suspicion that the palace machine was moving against his new wife Meghan, just as his mother felt it move against her. There is something poignant about reports that the couple are following current developments closely from exile in the US.

Economic impacts of the Jungle Raj story



The Narendra Modi-led National Democratic Alliance, armed with its electoral catchphrase, "Jungle Raj ka Yuvraj", hit the opposition led by Tejashwi Yadav where it hurts the most. The Bihar election results hint that the narratives of the 'Jungle Raj' succeeded in forcing people to recall the politics and governance that ended 15 years ago and which, according to the detractors, carried crime in its DNA. The NDA's poll strategies may have ensured Nitish Kumar's return by evoking the ghost of the Jungle Raj, but crime data tells a different story. A simple analysis of the National Crime Records Bureau's (NCRB) annual data on cognisable IPC crimes in major Hindi-belt states shows that, in the last 45 years, crime count was lowest in Bihar. But since the 1990s, Bihar has been reduced to dark narratives and pejoratives such as BIMARU and Jungle Raj - the second one being the most damaging for the state's development. The entire Jungle Raj narrative emanates from imaginations of poor law and order situation and high crime rates in the 1990s. The narrative, largely built and reinvented around sensational crime stories with graphic details in media, stocks of anecdotes, and electoral political narratives, turned Bihar into a dreaded place in people's imaginations. It made such a deep impact on the psyche that even Biharis living in other states would avoid visiting their hometowns or villages, forget about outsiders. The narrative, however, is rejected by scholars such as Christophe Jaffrelot who refers to the period as a regime of social justice. It is said that with the advent of Lalu Prasad

Yadav's government in Bihar, the established political power hierarchies (well aligned with caste hierarchies) faced stiff challenges. The oppressed castes and minorities found a voice and raised it to a level uncomfortable to certain sections of society holding key positions in each of the four pillars of democracy. While as chief minister, Lalu Prasad, and a few of his kin and close aides, were found to be involved in crimes of varying degrees of intensity, it was, however, used as a peg to hang the entire government and administration. The Jungle Raj narrative, which had started around the criminal acts of ruling politicians, was solidified with the incrimination of Lalu Prasad in corruption cases.

Rakesh Chandra

While the incidence of any crime is unjustifiable, it seems that the issue of crime in Bihar has been magnified with the lens of the Jungle Raj narrative. Lalu Prasad Yadav and the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) governments were held disproportionately more accountable for the same issues than any other ruling government in other states. The NCRB data on cognisable IPC crimes for the last 45 years shows that crime counts (both in terms of absolute figures and in proportion to the population, as seen in was the lowest in Bihar among all Hindi-belt states. The analyses certainly include RJD's 'misrule' phase, on which the entire Jungle Raj narrative had been premised. Even in comparison to Gujarat (taken as ideal in terms of investment climate, post-reform economic growth, and development), Bihar performed better and consistently registered lower crime counts. Bihar's position in interstate crime statistics is counterintuitive and does not add up to the Jungle Raj stories. It, nevertheless, does not absolve the RJD from the popular opinion that it was the worst in terms of law and order and witnessed huge spikes in crime with every passing year. A close look at data (crimes per 100,000 population), however, clears the air and gives us a diametrically opposite under-

standing (Figures 3 and 4). It shows that the phase of so-called misrule and Jungle Raj (1990-95) was, in fact, marked with the lowest crime rates in the last 45 years in Bihar. Moreover, a significant dip in crimes can be seen during the RJD's rule in comparison to the preceding 15 years, whereas a sharp consistent rise in the same is seen with the arrival of the Janata Dal (United) or JD(U). The biggest irony is that the quinquennial crime growth rate - that is, the rate every five years - registered a fall of -18.32 per cent in the first term of Lalu Prasad (a perceived culprit in Bihar's history) as against a rise of 17.34 per cent during the first term of Nitish Kumar (known for sushasan and development), which further went up to 33.25 per cent in his second term. The contradictions between data and Jungle Raj narratives are stark and seem to have served their political purpose well. However, they have been remarkably damaging for Bihar and its people. While the JD(U)-led governments failed to make any significant change, Nitish Kumar could also barely dispel the spectres of the Jungle Raj. This along with other structural variables in effect kept innovators, investors, industrialists, and capital away from the state and subdued Nitish Kumar's development agenda. A review of the FDI (foreign direct investment) inflows in Bihar gives important insights on the issue (Figure 5). While FDI depends on a host of factors, they are very sensitive to the prevalent socio-political environment at investment locations. Bihar received only a paltry amount as FDI when other Hindi-belt states (even with higher crime rates) kept receiving investments in varying amounts in the post-reform period. In a transforming post-reform Indian economy, the market forces were expected to play a significant role in economic growth and generation of employment and other positive externalities. Bihar, however, overcast by the Jungle Raj story, failed to exude any positive

vibes for market forces and therefore missed out on opportunities. It failed to attract investments, witnessed dismal levels of job creation, per capita production, and income. This led to economic inertia and caused a significant increase in the rate of out-migration from Bihar. In a period of two decades (1991-2011), Bihar's net-migration rate has doubled. In only the last decade, more than 30 lakh people migrated from Bihar, which consisted primarily of the young population, also known as 'demographic dividend' in development debates. In the post-reform period, when many states were making development strides, Bihar largely remained in a unique fix. Its complex political metamorphosis in the '90s trapped it into something called 'simultaneity' in statistics (wherein X causes Y, and Y in return causes X, and so on). The narratives manufactured to replace the RJD-led 'social transformation regime' with a 'pro-development political regime' did irreparable damages to the image of the state. They turned Bihar into a no-no for market forces and development agents. And the JD(U), after its failures on sushasan and development agenda, kept refreshing and reinstating the Jungle Raj narrative for electoral gains. So, any positive sentiment and interest towards the state, germinating on the time-healed public memory, were diffused and Bihar remained stuck in the unique fix between Jungle Raj and underdevelopment. For long, we have been witnessing Bihar and its people stuck under imposed identities. While the people seem desperate to shake off manufactured narratives from the past and make a fresh start, a large section of the state's political leadership keeps harping on the past. However, as seen in the 2020 election campaigns, people want to hear about their real concerns - education, health, unemployment, development, and migration. So, this may be the best time to mainstream people's questions in political narratives. If Bihar succeeds, it could be the beginning of a paradigm shift.

The rotten state of American politics made Trump smell fresh

This weekend there have been spontaneous parties on the streets of American cities after TV networks finally called the election for Joe Biden. From New York to Houston, Louisville to Minneapolis, liberals came out to celebrate a moment they had been expecting for four long years: Donald Trump had finally run out of road. The spell was broken. The penny had dropped. The US has certainly earned a moment of relief and celebration, but Trump's toxic presence has not yet been eliminated. In the end, the result was not as close as it first appeared in those nervy early hours on Wednesday morning, and yet more than 70 million Americans picked the incumbent - more than Hillary Clinton managed while winning the popular vote in 2016. In the week before election day, there was a widespread hope that the result would repudiate both Trump and Trumpism. Nobody expected his hardcore base to defect, but there was reason to believe that voters who picked Trump over Clinton might reconsider their choice after seeing his disastrous mishandling of the pandemic, his innumerable legal and ethical violations, his flagrant disregard for the rituals of high office. Pundits put the spot-



light on this hypothetical - Nesrine Malik character. The Republican political strategist Sarah Longwell last month reported that Trump was finally losing suburban

white women, because, "what they saw was somebody who was constantly interrupting and yelling and seemed, you know, to be candid, kind of maniacal". It didn't happen. Trump added almost 8 million votes to his 2016 tally. According to exit polls and preliminary analyses of the vote, he looks to have improved his showing among Asians, black Americans, Latinos, Muslims, and even those white women we were constantly told were put off by his sexism and aggression. If voting for Trump was truly a test of America's moral standards, the country has failed. So what can we say about the voters who stuck with Trump? First of all, this was no reluctant nose-holding: it no longer makes sense to say people voted for Trump "in spite of" his worst qualities, those are clearly a major part of the appeal. It may be comforting to imagine that "populism" involves charismatic politicians who promise the world to the desperate and the gullible. It is bracing to realise instead that in a democracy, Trumpish figures - who scandalise the establishment and gleefully violate its norms - will always emerge when the acceptable range of ideas and policies gets too narrow. At that point, it is only a matter of time before an outside challenge to the settled bipartisan consensus starts to look very attractive, even thrillingly subversive. There will always be an opening in the market for politicians who promise to make politics political again. And so as long as the Democrats shy away from the redistributive action needed to tackle glaring inequalities in a country where the gap between richest and poorest has more than doubled in the past two decades, there will be an opening for the Trumpist right to present itself as the solution to a broken system - the alternative to Biden and the Senate Republican leader. Mitch McConnell. Trump's economic policies overwhelmingly benefited the richest Americans, but until the pandemic took its toll, he continued to lead Biden on the issue: according to preliminary exit polls, voters who named the economy as a top priority went overwhelmingly for Trump. This is a triumph of messaging, not policy. But Americans are still hugely dissatisfied with the state of their country, and Biden's own message of change needs to be louder and sharper - or another Trump will be along shortly. Last year, Biden got in trouble for reassuring a group of wealthy donors that while America's obscene income inequality needed mending because it "ferments political discord and basic revolution", they could



People purchase goods at booths during a shopping festival in Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong Province

HC refuses to quash FIR against Shillong Times editor, says Facebook post divisive

New Delhi, November 12: The Meghalaya High Court Tuesday refused to quash the criminal proceedings against senior journalist Patricia Mukhim for a four-month-old Facebook post denouncing violence against non-tribals in the state. A bench of Justice W. Diengdoh said Mukhim's post "has sought to create a divide to the cordial relationship between the tribal and non-tribal living in the State of Meghalaya even alluding to the role of the state machinery as being bias (sic) in this regard". The case refers to a Facebook post made by Mukhim, a Padma Shri awardee and the editor of The Shillong Times, on 4 July, where she commented on an alleged attack on a group of boys playing basketball at Lawsohtun, Shillong, a day before. The incident allegedly involved two groups — one consisting of tribal youths and the other consisting of non-tribals. In her post, she had written that the attack, "where some non-tribal youth playing basketball were assaulted with lethal weapons and are now in hospital, is unacceptable in a state with a government and a functional police force". According to the high court judgment, the Facebook post further said, "This continued attack on non-tribals in Meghalaya whose ancestors have lived here for decades, some having come here since the British period is reprehensible to say the least." She had also questioned the 'Dorbar Shnong', which are administration units in Khasi villages that carry out traditional governance. "And what about the Dorbar Shnong of the area? Don't they have their eyes and ears to the ground? Don't they know the criminal elements in their jurisdiction? Should they not lead the charge and identify those murderous

elements?" Following this, the Dorbar Shnong of Lawsohtun filed a complaint with police against Mukhim, alleging that her post had incited tensions between the tribal and non-tribal communities, and defamed not only the Dorbar Shnong, Lawsohtun, but the entire village. She was subsequently booked under Sections 153A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language etc.), 505 (statements conducing to public mischief, with intent to incite any class or community of persons to commit any offence against any other class or community) and 499 (defamation) of the Indian Penal Code. In her petition to the high court, Mukhim had demanded that the complaint and proceedings initiated against her be quashed. Among other things, she had contended that her Facebook post only sought to show concern about the handling of the case by police and the Dorbar Shnong. She submitted that the post was made in good faith and in public interest. Justice W. Diengdoh, however, said her post attempts to "make a comparison between tribals and non-tribals vis-à-vis their rights and security and the alleged tipping of the balance in favour of one community over the other". The judge ruled that this "would fall on the mischief of Section 153A (a) IPC as it apparently seeks to promote disharmony or feelings of enmity, hatred or ill-will between two communities". In 2019, the Meghalaya High Court had held Mukhim guilty of contempt, along with publisher Shobha Chaudhuri, for two articles published in The Shillong Times. The first of the two articles related to an order passed by the high court regarding

retirement benefits to judges. The other was a comment on how the order was similar to a previous judgment by two other judges, who were about to retire, on security arrangements for retired judges. The court found them guilty of criminal contempt. They were ordered to sit in "the corner of the courtroom" till the end of the day, and were fined Rs 2 lakh each. The court also said that if they failed to pay the amount, they would be imprisoned for six months, and The Shillong Times would "come to an end (be banned)".

Cloth masks highly effective Covid prevention for wearer, others-top US health body



New Delhi, November 12: A cloth mask protects not just other people but also the wearer from the SARS-CoV-2 virus, according to the US Centres for Disease Control (CDC). In a new brief issued Tuesday, the CDC recommended wearing non-valved multi-layer cloth masks to prevent transmission of Covid-19. It noted that masks prevent transmission of the virus by pre-symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals and also helps reduce inhalation of these droplets by the wearer. "The community benefit of masking for SARS-CoV-2 control is due to the combination of these effects; individual prevention benefit increases with increasing numbers of people using masks consistently and correctly," the CDC said in a statement. This is a move away from the body's earlier stand that masks are intended to reduce the emission of virus-laden droplets only from infected wearers who may be asymptomatic. The SARS-CoV-2 virus is transmitted predominately by respiratory droplets generated

when people cough, sneeze, sing, talk or breathe. According to the CDC, cloth masks not only effectively block most large droplets, but can also block the exhalation of fine aerosols. Multi-layer cloth masks can block up to 50-70 per cent of aerosols and also limits the forward spread of those that are not captured. In its statement, the US health body cited several studies to note that more than 80 per cent of all respiratory droplets were blocked with cloth masks. In some studies, the cloth masks performed on par with surgical masks. While the effectiveness of various masks has varied widely across studies, multiple layers of cloth with higher thread counts have demonstrated superior performance compared to a single layer of cloth with lower thread counts. Some materials like polypropylene may enhance filtering effectiveness by generating a form of static electricity, while silk may help repel moisture droplets-maintaining breathability and comfort, noted the CDC. The statement also referred to a study of a high-exposure event, where 2 Covid-19 positive hair stylists interacted for an average of 15 minutes with about 139 clients during an eight-day period.

No. ESI/APO/2020-2021/10502

CORRIGENDUM

Please read as **The Reservation for PWD category will be as per Govt. Rule** instead of Physically handicapped candidate will be given as per Government rule and **SI. No.5** read as - **The last date of receipt of application alongwith all the necessary certificates and other testimonials is 26.11.2020** instead of the last date of submission of applications alongwith all the necessary certificates and other testimonials is within 21 days from the publication date of the advertisement, in the advertisement issued vide No. ESI/APO/2020/10301, Dated-05-11-2020 and published on 06-11-2020 in the Assamese Daily newspaper "Niyomia Barta", "Asomiya Pratidin" and English Newspaper "The Assam Tribune" for appointment of 20 Nos. of Para-medical posts under ESI Scheme, Assam.

Sd/-
Administrative Medical Officer,
ESI Scheme, Assam, Guwahati-22.
Janasanyog/D/6867/20

Who's scared of Maryam Nawaz? PM Imran Khan, his party PTI, and their sexist jokes

Islamabad, November 12: In Naya Pakistan, a female politician only deserves respect if she is part of the ruling Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf. Women from the opposition benches don't make the cut. And the signalling is done by Prime Minister Imran Khan himself. The target this time is Maryam Nawaz, a leader of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and daughter of Nawaz Sharif, and the attackers are PTI ministers. PM Imran Khan complained that Maryam Nawaz gets away with criticising the all-powerful military because "in Pakistan, we respect women". This is equivalent to a regular Twitter follower of PTI saying, "Don't use the aurat card". Forget that Khan age-shamed Maryam last month, calling her a "nani (grandma)". Because respect is in the air. Now, Pakistan had to show how much respect is given to Maryam Nawaz. The Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan affairs minister, Ali Amin Gandapur, called Maryam Nawaz's "khoobsurti (beauty)" a miracle of plastic surgeries from taxpayers' money. "Yeh apka maal hai (this is your property)," he said during a public rally in Gilgit-Baltistan. None of the leading lights of PTI found the remarks disgraceful, let alone ask the minister to apologise. In fact, the federal and Punjab information ministers were seen defending Gandapur. Calling a woman "maal" is an addition to the gifts that PTI keeps giving. Not only that, Gandapur was also sure that if anyone spent a quarter of the alleged money on getting this much work done, they would look like Tom Cruise and Brad Pitt. Now we wonder why Gandapur himself seems to be sporting Amrish



Puri's villainous look from Koyla. Gandapur as Kashmir affairs minister shows the government's seriousness about the Kashmir cause. He has a history of getting caught with Black Label whiskey bottles outside Imran Khan's residence and then saying it was honey, not liquor. Gandapur has also threatened other countries with missile attacks if they refused to stand with Pakistan on Kashmir. He declared that because of Pakistan's new map, he can now walk into Indian Kashmir and roam freely. Wonder why he hasn't done it yet. The question that no one wants to ask Imran Khan is this: Why is he scared of Maryam Nawaz? After all, he is the prime minister and she is not even an elected member of the assembly yet. But, she is the heir to former prime minister Nawaz Sharif. So, if political experts see a strong future for Maryam Nawaz, it doesn't suit Khan who thinks he is the end-all and be-all of Pakistani politics. Calling Maryam Nawaz as 'Maryam Safdar' doesn't work as a slur anymore, and neither do the trumped-up corruption cases against her. Maryam Sharif's allegations that cameras were installed in her cell and bathroom during detention isn't a good look for Imran Khan's government either. The PTI now thinks targeting her

looks, make-up, bags, and shoes is a greater issue and resonates with the people. But it does not. The people have been shown this film by Imran Khan for way too long, and no matter how many times he reruns the "Main inko nahi chhodunga (I won't leave them)", Pakistan is suffering due to inflation and even managing two meals a day has become a challenge for some. Only if PM Khan focussed on that. Instead, he has declared that inflation is a propaganda of the opposition parties against his government and the common man in Pakistan is satisfied for the first time. Sexist remarks don't begin with the PTI. During the turbulent politics of the 1990s, former prime minister Benazir Bhutto was at the receiving end of such attacks. In one incident, Sheikh Rasheed, in the National Assembly, is said to have called Benazir, who was dressed in yellow, a "peeli taxi". These days Rasheed is a PTI partner and often takes vile jibes at Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. The information minister of Punjab, Firdous Ashiq Awan, once infamously accused a legislator of coming into politics from a brothel. In recent times, PML-N leaders such as Khawaja Asif, Abid Sher Ali and Talal Chaudhry have also indulged in casual sexism at the cost of female opponents. The party of "tabdeeli" had to change the way Pakistan ran, or that is what we thought. It turns out, the respect that Prime Minister Imran Khan talked about is only reserved for women affiliated to his party, not to an Ayesha Gulalai or a Reham Khan. And people thought Imran Khan would apologise for Gandapur's comments. Hum maayein, hum behnein, hum betiyan, qaumon ki izzat humse hai (We are mothers, we are sisters, we are daughters, it is we who are the honour of the nation). This Naheed Akhtar song from the late 1970s kept playing through the 1990s on Pakistan Television and Radio Pakistan on every Women's Day that I can remember. It was about the role women play in building a nation. And how the honour of the nation was attached to how women are treated. We can threadbare discuss how women are not just maayein, behnein or betiyan, but let's leave that for another day. Fast forward to 2020, and we find that those myths of izzat are just for the milli songs.

Political row in Brazil over Chinese vaccine, New Zealand's 'mystery' case & other Covid news

New Delhi, November 12: The novel coronavirus pandemic continues to devastate countries across the world — the latest count being over 5.2 crore cases and more than 1.2 lakh deaths. A row has erupted between Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro and his political opponent João Doria, who is the governor of São Paulo, over administering an experimental Covid-19 vaccine made by China. Concerns are also being raised in China as three firms are administering doses of experimental vaccines to thousands of people. And Spain has been considering who to prioritise, as the European Union (EU) authorises a vaccine deal with two firms. The Print brings you the most important global stories on the coronavirus pandemic and why they matter. A political row has erupted in Brazil over the experimental CoronaVac vaccine that is being produced by China, reports The South China Morning Post. Earlier this week, Brazil halted the late-stage trial of the vaccine following the death of one of the participants. This prompted Brazilian President Bolsonaro to slam his political opponent Doria, "who had backed the Chinese company". "Death, disablement, anomaly. This is the vaccine that Doria wants to force the people of São Paulo to take," Bolsonaro is quoted as saying by the report. The report also quoted experts who said that the issue was just being politicised by Doria, who is furthering his political interests through the vaccine, and also by Bolsonaro, who is using it to create a narrative that his opponent "is controlled by China". As the race among several Chinese firms to find a vaccine against Covid-19 heats up, many have voiced concerns over administering of experimental doses to thousands of people, reports The Straits Times. The report stated that shots of four experimental vaccines by three pharmaceutical companies, namely Sinovac Biotech, Sinopharm and CanSino Biologics, are being given to people, most of whom are workers in state-owned companies and students planning to go abroad. One such worker who was administered a vaccine has been quoted as saying, "Many of us are worried about the side effects because this is something we don't know anything about, but it felt incorrect to question it at the company." Companies have also been carrying out tests in Indonesia, Brazil and Bahrain. China has recorded 86,299 Covid cases and 4,634 deaths so far. Spain prepares to deal

with challenges of vaccination campaign. After EU authorised a contract to purchase up to 300 million doses of the vaccine being developed by BioNTech and Pfizer, Spain has been considering who to prioritise, reports El País. The report listed some of the significant challenges the Spanish government is likely to face in its immunisation programme. It noted, "Currently, only 54 per cent of people over the age of 65 and a third of healthcare workers are getting seasonal flu immunisations." There are also "logistical hurdles" like "a second dose must be administered 28 days after the first, involving additional work to get a single person immunised". The report quoted a Pfizer spokesperson as saying, "We have developed plans and logistical tools to ensure effective vaccine transportation, storage and continuous temperature control." A mystery Covid-19 case, with no found source of infection, has sparked concerns in New Zealand's Auckland, reports. According to the report, the government has urged people in the city to not panic but "remain vigilant". The case is of a student who became sick despite having "very little contact with other people or large public spaces".



shows an unmanned delivery car displayed at the 2020 World Intelligent Connected Vehicles Conference held in Beijing, capital of China. The three-day conference kicked off here on Wednesday

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STATEMENT OF UN-AUDITED STANDALONE FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30TH SEPT 2020						
Sl. No.	PARTICULARS	3 Months ended		Corresponding 3 Months ended		Year to date figures as on 31.03.2020
		30.09.2019	30.09.2020	30.09.2019	30.09.2020	
		Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Audited
1	Total Income from Operations (Net)	---	---	---	---	---
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(0.550)	(0.638)	(1.200)	(3.472)	(3.472)
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(0.550)	(0.638)	(1.200)	(3.472)	(3.472)
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(0.550)	(0.638)	(1.200)	(3.472)	(3.472)
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period)	---	---	---	---	---
6	Paid-up Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Rs 10/- each)	75.000	75.000	75.000	75.000	75.000
7	Other Equity	---	---	---	---	(7.101)
8	Earning Per Share (before Extra-Ordinary items) of Rs. 1/- each (for continuing and discontinued operations)	(0.073)	(0.085)	(0.160)	(0.463)	(0.463)
	(i) a) Basic	(0.073)	(0.085)	(0.160)	(0.463)	(0.463)
	b) Diluted	(0.073)	(0.085)	(0.160)	(0.463)	(0.463)

NOTES:
1 The above is an extract of the detailed format of Standalone Un-Audited Financial Results for the quarter ended 30th Sept 2020 filed with the Stock Exchange/s under Regulation 33 of the SEBI LODR Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Un-Audited results for the Quarter ended 30th Sept 2020 is available on the Company website "www.purbanchalsteel.com" and on the Stock Exchange website i.e. www.cseindia.com.
For Purbanchal Steel Limited Sd/-
Dhruva Narayan Jha
Managing Director

Place : Kolkata
Date : 12th November, 2020

MISSING INFORMATION



The above photograph is of Smti Somishtha Dutta, D/O Sri Biman Dutta of Meleng Hudama Gaon, P.S. & District- Jorhat has been missing from his home since 03.11.2020.

This refers to Bhogdoi O.P.G.D.E. No 48 Dtd. 03.11.2020

Descriptive Roll of the Missing Person :-

1. Name - Smti Somishtha Dutta
2. Age - 17 Years
3. Colour - Fair
4. Hair - Medium
5. Height - About 4'2"
6. Wearing - Churidar White/Blue

All efforts may kindly be taken to trace out/recover the above noted missing girl and result there of may be intimated to this office at the following address & helpline numbers for further necessary action.

1. Superintendent of Police, Jorhat : 03762320021
2. Officer-In-Charge, Jorhat Police Station
3. Helpline No. : 0376-2320018 (Police Control, Jorhat)

Sd/-
Superintendent of Police,
Jorhat : Assam
Janasanyog/D/6830/20

Contd. From Page 1

Senior Journalist killed in car

Sonowal, the Superintendent of Police, Tinsukia district has seized the vehicle which hit the Kakpathar journalist of Pratinid Time Parag Bhuyan. Bhuyan who was severely injured died at the Aditya Nursing Home in Dibrugarh while undergoing treatment. The Tinsukia police seized the vehicle bearing registration number AS 23BC7881 and apprehended the driver James Murah and Handyman/helper Baba Bordoloi. The vehicle is owned by one Ape Ette of Samuguri village under Namsai PS.

Top ULFA (I) leader Drishti

new dawn ushering in peace in the region. Rajkhowa, the second-in-command of the militant group, is currently under the custody of the Army intelligence and is being brought to Assam, news agency PTI quoted government sources as saying. Assam police officer killing case NIA files chargesheet against 7 ULFA cadres in Assam police officer's killing case. He is believed to be a close confidante of Paresh Baruah, the so-called 'commander-in-chief' of ULFA (I). Sources said that Rajkhowa was based in Bangladesh till recently and entered Meghalaya only a few weeks ago. The ULFA (I) has been demanding an independent state of Assam for the longest time and the central government had banned the militant outfit in 1990. Assam Finance and Health Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had in August said that Union Minister Amit Shah is focused on resolving the ULFA issues in the northeast and bring peace to the region. Later that month, security forces had nabbed three hardcore cadres of the outfit near Nonglo in Tirap district of Arunachal Pradesh on August 28. Three pistols, three magazines, live rounds of ammunition and badges of the banned militant outfit were also recovered.

China proposes pullback

Singh Thapa Post, just west of Finger 3. The proposal includes creation of a temporary no-patrolling zone between Finger 4 and Finger 8, the official said, "to prevent any friction". Troops on the south bank of Pangong Tso are also supposed to return to their original positions, according to the proposal. "Everything is in the grey zone. Nobody has formally committed. All matters of details are currently under deliberations," the official said, adding "modalities, timelines, distances" are being discussed between the two sides. "How it will be done, when, nothing is agreed" as of now, the official said. Pointing to the "trust deficit", the official said, "everything will be based on verification". Though the proposal is being considered at the highest level, India will continue to remain cautious, the official said. The "trust deficit" widened after the Galwan Valley clashes on June 15 in which 20 Indian Army personnel died and the Chinese too had an unspecified number of casualties. According to India, the LAC passes through Finger 8 on the north bank of Pangong Tso. In May, Chinese troops came 8 km west, up to Finger 4. After an initial round of disengagement in early July, the Chinese stepped back from the base of Finger 4 to Finger 5, and Indian troops moved to Finger 3. But the Chinese refused to vacate the ridge of Finger 4, and have been there ever since. In late August, Indian troops surprised the Chinese by occupying dominating heights on the south bank of Pangong Tso, and in the larger Chushul sub-sector. Indian troops positioned themselves on Gurung Hill, Magar Hill, Mukhpari, Rechin La and Rezag La. They now have direct view of China's Moldo Garrison, and the strategic Spanggur Gap, which can be used to launch offensives — as the Chinese did in 1962. Indian troops also readjusted their positions on the north bank of the lake, occupying features to dominate Chinese positions on the ridgeline connecting Finger 3 and Finger 4. This scramble for heights led to warning shots being fired by the two sides.

Blow to China, Pakistan as

map of Pakistan that violated the territorial integrity of India eliciting a strong response from New Delhi. The SCO is a grouping of eight countries— India, Pakistan, Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. India will be hosting SCO heads of government in a virtual meet on November 30 which will focus on economic cooperation among the nations.

Produced 40 Million Doses

and effective, leading drugmakers have been funded to begin production early to expedite deliveries, as the pandemic has killed more than 1.2 million people worldwide. AstraZeneca said last week that it was holding back deliveries of its COVID-19 vaccine candidate while it awaits the data from late-stage clinical trials, which got delayed due to a summer dip in UK coronavirus infections. Serum declined to comment on whether the 40 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine were meant for global supply or only for India. For production of the Novavax vaccine, Serum said it has received the bulk of the vaccine from the U.S. company and will soon fill and finish them in vials. Novavax, which is testing its vaccine in a late stage study in the UK, last month postponed the start of its U.S. trial by roughly a month due to delays in scaling up the manufacturing process. Serum said it had enrolled 1,600 participants in India for the late-stage trials of AstraZeneca's candidate, and also plans to seek regulatory approval to run late-stage trials for the Novavax vaccine. The AstraZeneca vaccine, co-developed by Oxford University, is the most advanced in human testing in India, Serum said, adding that the company and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) will pursue "early availability" of the shot in India. The ICMR, a federal government body, had funded the clinical trial site fees for the AstraZeneca vaccine, Serum said. The company and the ICMR are currently conducting Phase 2/3 clinical trials of the shot at 15 centres across India. The news came as coronavirus infections in India, the world's second-worst hit country, reached 8.68 million on Thursday and the death count increased to more than 128,000. India also has at least two home-grown COVID-19 vaccine candidates in development, while Dr Reddy's Labs is carrying out a trial in the country for Russia's vaccine candidate. Earlier this week, Pfizer and its partner BioNTech said their vaccine candidate had proven more than 90% effective based on initial trial results. Pfizer said it was committed to advancing its engagement with India's government to supply its potential vaccine in the country.

Assam Govt Launches 2nd Phase

Churches and Masjids were given approval letters in the first phase. A total of 377 such religious places will be given approval letters in the second phase, for which Rs 37 crores and 70 lakh have been disbursed to strengthen and improve basic infrastructure in and around these sites. Cabinet Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said Rs 10 lakh will be sanctioned to each of these religious places. Roads and pavements will also be constructed by the Public Works Department (PWD) in these sites for easy commute as well as for beautification. Mr Sarma assured that if the funds are used wisely and honestly, Rs 15 lakh will be provided in the future. While talking about religious intolerance, Mr Sarma said that there was a sense of tolerance and reverence in the ancient times unlike today and asserted that the scheme will teach people to live peacefully with each other. Mr Sarma further stated that the Assamese culture must be preserved and protected while making sure that no other religion is harmed in the process. He added that the scheme will unite people.

The encroachment activity is still

by Nagaland Government. So, we have every right to settle in the area as told by the encroachers. But this cannot be termed as legal, because the area has been under Daldali Reserve Forest and we have Forest Border Pillar. But during over visit the Pillar which was erected could not be seen, as the encroachers have dismantled it all," told Prahlad Kro, ACF to the reporters. While opposing the illegal encroachment activities from Nagaland by Karbi Students' Association (KSA) (Lumding Road faction) urges Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC) and Assam Government to intervene into the matter and make a way to solve it in a peaceful manner. If they fail to do so, then the KSA will be bound to call Road Blockage at NH-36 and NH-37 highway on 20th November, 2020 for four hours, as stated by KSA President Simeon Rongphar at a Press Conference at its own Office premises on Thursday.

Inauguration Of Digital Language Lab & Junior Computer Lab At Kendriya Vidyalaya Khanapara

Guwahati, Nov 12 : A grand inauguration programme was held at Kendriya Vidyalaya Khanapara, a prestigious educational institution of greater Guwahati on Monday 10th November 2020. Sri Biswajeet Pegu (IAS), Deputy Commissioner Kamrup Metro and Chairman, Vidyalaya Management Committee of KV Khanapara inaugurated a newly established well equipped Language Lab and modern Computer Lab in the school. The dignitaries who were present on the auspicious occasion were Shri Varun Mitra, Deputy Commissioner, KVS Guwahati Region and Assistant Commissioners of KVS Guwahati Region, Sri Deepak Kumar Dabral and Sri Venkateswar Prasad and members of Vidyalaya Management Committee Kendriya Vidyalaya Khanapara. The programme commenced with the lighting of lamp by Sri Biswajeet Pegu (IAS), Shri Varun Mitra, Dr. Sanjay Kumar and other dignitaries present there. It was followed by a welcome song by the young artists of Kendriya Vidyalaya Khanapara. The dignitaries were accorded a warm welcome by the Principal, Dr. Sanjay Kumar and Vice Principal, Sri Babu Ram with phoolamgamocho. The welcome address was presented by Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Principal, K.V. Khanapara. All teachers of the school were also present on this occasion. On this occasion, Master Rituparna Roy of class 7 was also felicitated by Sri Biswajeet Pegu, Deputy Commissioner Kamrup Metro for his national level achievements in painting competition. After the inauguration programme a meeting of the Vidyalaya Management Committee was held which was chaired by Sri Biswajeet Pegu, IAS, Chairman VMC of KV Khanapara. Overall it was a remarkable milestone in the journey of Kendriya Vidyalaya Khanapara.



CM unveils Dr. Bhupen Hazarika's statue at Royal Global University

Guwahati, November 12 : Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today unveiled the statue of Dr Bhupen Hazarika at the Royal Global University premises in the city. He also launched the Royal Group Health Services and Royal Anna Sewa on the occasion. These initiatives are part of Royal Global Group's Corporate Social Responsibility programme. Speaking on the occasion the Chief Minister appreciated Royal Global Group's initiative to install a life size statue of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika and he urged the young generation to follow the ideals humanity and universal brotherhood as propagated by Dr. Hazarika through his timeless songs. He also referred to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Sab ka sath, Sab ka vikash Sab ka Viswash" motto and highlighted state government's initiative to achieve all-round development of the state. Calling on the youth of the state to strive for excellence and empower themselves through knowledge and skill to compete with the best of the best in the world, Sonowal stressed on the need of the hard work and dedication for achieving success in any sector. He also said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi India is making rapid progress in all spheres and he underlined the holistic development of all sections of the society brought about by Prime Minister Modi led Central Government since coming to power in 2014. He appreciated Royal Global Group for their corporate social responsibility like Royal Swastha Sewa and Royal Anna Sewa for the weaker sections of the society. Under Royal Swastha Sewa, doctors and paramedics will provide medical services 24/7 to needy and downtrodden while Royal Anna Sewa would provide food to 100 poor people daily. The Chief Minister also released the brochure of 'Royal Awas' affordable housing initiative at Betkuchi in the city by the group. Media Adviser to Chief Minister Hrishikesh Goswami, Chairman DNPL Rupam Goswami, Chancellor of Royal Global University AK Panchari, Pro Chacellor AK Modi, Zonal Manager of Punjab National Bank Siva Sankar Sen, Guruji Baba Kalidas Dahel etc. were also present in the programme.

Senior journalist Parag Bhuyan killed in road accident, CM condoles death Vehicle seized, driver and handyman arrested

Guwahati, November 12: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal condoled the death of senior journalist Parag Bhuyan who died in a road accident in Tinsukia district. In a condolence message, the Chief Minister said, "Late Parag Bhuyan has made significant contribution in the field of journalism and his death is an irreparable loss to the society. I convey deep sympathy to the bereaved family and pray for eternal peace of the departed soul". Chief Minister's 39;s Media Adviser Hrishikesh Goswami also mourned the death of journalist Parag Bhuyan and offered his sympathy to the bereaved family. Meanwhile, police seized the vehicle that knocked down Bhuyan and arrested its driver James Murha and handyman Baba Bordoloi from Namsai in Arunachal Pradesh.

CM reviews implementation of erosion protection schemes

Guwahati, November 12 : Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal reviewed the implementation of erosion protection schemes of the Water Resources Department in a meeting held at Assam Administrative Staff College in Guwahati today. Chief Minister Sonowal while directing the department to speedily carry out construction of the vulnerable embankments also asked to complete the ongoing erosion protection works timely. He also instructed the department to take early steps for implementation of schemes declared by him during his visits to various flood affected areas of the State. Further underlining the need for conducting research to develop modern and sustainable technologies to tackle flood and erosion, the Chief Minister asked the department to undertake joint initiatives with IIT, Guwahati. Sonowal also stressed on adopting steps such as plantation of vetiver grass for erosion protection. He also informed that the central government appreciated the State government's step for hydrological survey of the rivers of the State. Chief Secretary Jishnu Baruah, CM's Additional Chief Secretary Paban Borthakur, Additional Chief Secretary of WR Department Syeddin Abbasi, Additional Chief Secretary of Revenue & DM Department Avinash Joshi, CM's Special Commissioner Ranjan Chakravarty, Commissioner & Secretary of Revenue & DM Department MS Manivannan, Chief Engineer of WR Department and other senior officers were present in the meeting.

UN Children's Week

Guwahati, November 12 : The World Children's Week which would be celebrated on November 14-20 by The Morning Club, Assam in collaboration with two organisations based in Afghanistan and Malaysia. A week long program will be held with the participation of two global partner organisations, over 50 executives and 5000 children, an official release of The Morning Club stated. "In this UN Children Day week we'll keep CHILDREN ON ACTION-20 as our theme and try to incorporate the children with the SDGs, 2030 and issues related to it," release said. During the fear and trepidation created by 'COVID-19' pandemic, The Morning Club Assam, under its flagship project CHILDREN ON ACTION-20 (COA-20) carried out an awareness programme with the children on forefront, focusing on cleanliness and clean water (SDG-6). The campaign aimed at creating a chain reaction by incorporating the children with SDG-6. The awareness campaign was carried out by creating SDG-6 awareness paintings by children across Assam.

Students should fix upon a noble aim in life

Meritorious students felicitated at Jatiya Bidyalaya, Sipajhar

SIPAJHAR, Nov 12 : The students should fix upon a noble aim in life and to full fill it they should work hard with devotion. They are the future hope of a country, said Kanak Chandra Nath, Principal of Jatiya Bidyalaya, Sipajhar. He was addressing a felicitation meeting organized at the Jatiya Bidyalaya premises. Dhritiraj Bastab Kalita, 1st position holder in the HSLC examination last, appearing from Barampur Jatiya Bidyalaya, Kalupriya Saikia, ex student of Jatiya Bidyalaya, Sipajhar who has passed HSSLC examination securing highest marks in English appearing from Brilliant Academy, Mangaldai, Sazid Jamal Haque, ex student of Jatiya Bidyalaya, Sipajhar and Research scholar and Prime Minister Research Fellowship Awardee from Chennai Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) and Kakali Bora, ex student of Jatiya Bidyalaya, Sipajhar and Research scholar and Prime Minister Research Fellowship Awardee from Indiana Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati were felicitated in the meeting for their bright achievements. Dilip Kalita, senior teacher of the school, pulin Hazarika, President of the management committee of the school, Gajen Bora, Controller of class, Ganesh Sarma, teacher and Mairakshi Bhattacharya, teacher were also addressed the meeting and discussed the relevance of Jatiya Bidyalaya for the academic and personality development of the students for the greater interest of the society.

Dramatist Pankaj Jyoti Bhuyan awarded

A Correspondent, Biswanath Chariali, Nov 12: Pankaj Jyoti Bhuyan; a known Dramatist, playwright, director and an ideal teacher of Sootea has been awarded with 'Ali Haidor Natyakar Bota-2019' by Asom Natya Parishad in an award distribution meeting held at Lakhimpur on November 8. Notably, Ali Haidor Natyakar Bota has been initiated from 2019 which includes a cash amount of rupees ten thousand, a citation paper along with a sarai and a japi. Dramatist Bhuyan started his dramatic career in the decades of the 80's. He has written more than fifty one act plays, hundred street plays, radio dramas, more than fifty T.V serials for Doordarshan Guwahati etc. He is closely associated with many socio-cultural organizations of greater Sootea area. People from all sections of society have congratulated Mr. Bhuyan for his achievement.



Indian Journalists Association mourns the death of journalist Parag Bhuiyan. IJA demands government adequate compensation for the family

East Barpeta, 12 November : Parag Bhuiyan, a prominent journalist from Kakpathar in Trinsukia district, died in a road accident. While returning home from duty, an unidentified vehicle drove the Journalist . As a result, honest, fearless journalist Parag Bhuyan died in the hospital while undergoing treatment. The family members described the accident as a preplanned incident. Drugs , coal, smugglers and various other types of corruption are reported daily in pratidin Time News channel, Asomiya Khabar . He also reported on the syndicate of select leaders of the ruling BJP. Therefore, this incident is not easy to accept. The Barpeta District "Iza" Committee has expressed deep grief over the untimely death of the journalist. The committee has demanded a high level inquiry into the matter and justice for the family of the journalist. The committee also demands to identify the person behind the Parag accident and give appropriate punishment . The Indian Journalists Association (IJA) has said that unless a law is enacted to ensure the safety of journalists, the country's journalists will continue to be persecuted and die at the hands of the vicious circle. A Journalist, Executive President Of Barpeta District IJA Committee Azizul Haque has demanded legal action to protect the lives of journalists. Azizul Haque, a journalist and district executive president, also demanded that the Assam government pay adequate compensation to the family members of Parag Bhuiyan.

Students of DPS, Jorhat shares Diwali with children

A Correspondent : Biswanath Chariali: Nov 12: As we gear up for Diwali festivities, one school in Jorhat town is busy spreading happiness. The Delhi Public School; Jorhat has always been at the forefront when it comes to community service and even in this unprecedented situation of pandemic, the school has not given up on its ideology of 'Service before Self'. To celebrate the occasion of Diwali, which is coinciding with Children's Day this year, the students of DPS Jorhat decorated earthen lamps to share with the students of Malow Pather Jatiya Vidyalaya. Some of the students, along with a few teachers and staff of the school, went to the above mentioned school and gifted stationery, chocolates and other goodies, along with the beautifully decorated earthen lamps to the students. The teachers and students of DPS Jorhat also interacted with the students of Malow Pather Jatiya Vidyalaya and exchanged pleasantries. In these times of uncertainty and stress, DPS Jorhat is ensuring that they engage in activities that promote harmony and kindness. The school keeps on organising such activities from time to time to inculcate the values of compassion and empathy in its students.

Harekrishna Mahanta conferred Samaj Prabhakar Uttar Purush Award 2020

SIPAJHAR, Nov 12 : Harekrishna Mahanta, 97 years old satradhikar of Barangajuli Sri Manta Sankardeva Satra was conferred the Samaj Prabhakar Uttar Purush Award 2020 at a function organized in premises of Satra under the auspices of Uttar Purush Mancha. The award is conferred in memory of late Anil Barthakur. Addressing the function Deputy Commissioner, Udalguri BTAD, Prakash Chandra Gharphalia while expressed his feelings offered his respect to Harekrishna Mahanta for his noble activities also appreciated the steps of Uttar Purush Mancha. Thaneswar Malakar, former Deputy Commissioner, Udalguri BTAD and retired IAS officer and Prominent social activist Gopal jalan while attended as distinguished guest planted saplings on the occasion. The programme started with changing Mangla charan by Dibakar Renu, General secretary of Uttar Purush Mancha followed lit the ceremonial lamp and garlanded the portrait of late Anil Barthakur by Dipamoni Barthakur, wife of late Anil Barthakur. Goutam Haloi, joint secretary, Uttar Purush Mancha explained the purpose of the function. Guru Bandana was presented by Spwandan Palash, Rina Borgohain Barua, working president of Uttar Purush Mancha read out a life sketch of late Anil Barthakur prepared by Dibakar Renu. Dr Bijujagan Saleha Begum, Babita Baishya and Dr Anima Bora were also attended in the function. Receiving the award Harekrishna Mahanta offered his gratitude to the organization. Pulakesh Rai Barua, literary secretary of Uttar Purush Mancha moderated the programme. It may be mentioned here that Harekrishna Mahanta who has already awarded by Government of Assam with Kalicharan Brahma Award 2018 is a great devotee of Sri manta Sankardeva rendered his life for spreading the message of love, tolerance, humanity and brotherhood among various communities and has established 30 satras across the state.



Masters like no other arrives with golf powering to a crossroads

London, November 12: The major championship to change the complexion of golf? Since he strode to victory in the US Open it has not been about what Bryson DeChambeau will do at Augusta National. The question, instead, relates to what Bryson DeChambeau will do to Augusta National. Bryson the Bludgeoner has been the fascination of this post-lockdown spell, with those who preside over the sport edgy over what will transpire if the American demonstrates that this famous Georgian property can be dismantled by power. Nervous shuffling was evident as Fred Ridley, the Masters chairman, delivered his annual - if delayed - pre-tournament address. Augusta National, which at least appears an increasingly powerful voice in respect of broader dynamics in golf, is not of a mind to stand by and watch brawn overshadow art. Ridley left the distinct impression he would consider it an affront if sacred ground continues to be by-passed up to 400 yards at a time. Shifting tees into new Zip codes is not, to the chairman, the answer. "I've been reluctant thus far to make any major changes regarding adding distance to the golf course," he said. "I think there are unintended consequences that come out of that; the scale and the scope of the hole changes when you add distance. The look of a hole changes, the design philosophy changes. I've always been very conscious of maintaining the design philosophy." Having said that, I think we are at a crossroads as it relates to this issue. We have always been very supportive of the governing bodies. We will continue to be supportive. We think it's good that the game of golf is governed by the USGA and the R&A. We think they are great stewards of the game. But I'm hopeful with the work and studies that have been ongoing for some time - I understand there will be publication in April - that we're coming closer to a call to action. "This would put Augusta on a direct collision course with equipment manu-



facturers, who are adamant technology must be advanced rather than rolled back. It brings into play the prospect of a Masters-specific ball, for example. In direct reference to the 13th, a par five which leading players can easily reach in two shots, Ridley was candid. "The 13th hole still provides a lot of drama but its challenge is being diminished," he said. "We don't think that's good for the Masters, we don't think that's good for the game. But the issue is a lot larger than Augusta National and the Masters. We have options, we can make changes, but not every golf course can." There are times when DeChambeau's antics can appear over the top. On Tuesday he wandered to the 1st tee with two drivers in hand - battering one shot left, one shot right - as experimentation continued. Yet it would also be unfair to portray the Californian as a one-trick pony. His putting and wedge play have dramatically improved in 2020. The true test of the former at least lies ahead; his putting statistics at the Masters are historically awful. "My short game should be really good," said DeChambeau. One tool he has never lacked is confidence. Biblical rain late on Tuesday further softened an already inviting course.

Given the events of 2020, weather problems are not likely to cause much of a fuss for those lucky enough to be on site, but Thursday's forecast has raised eyebrows. If widely predicted storms hit Augusta - and with daylight hours much reduced from when the Masters typically takes place in April - organisational chicanery will be required. The good news for now is that the weekend outlook is actually better than could reasonably be anticipated for Georgia in November. Conditions would appear to suit Rory McIlroy as he looks to join golf's most exclusive club, that of players who have tasted success in all four majors. They also suit Dustin Johnson, Justin Thomas and Bubba Watson, who is something of a forgotten Augusta specialist. Hitting towering, long shots could never be considered a drawback at Augusta but it seems especially valuable at this point in the year. Brooks Koepka should be a leading contender but questions of fitness continue to hover over the Floridian, who has also shown a damaging propensity to three-putt on this course. If applying form, there is no case whatsoever to be made for a successful defence of the Green Jacket by Tiger Woods. Nineteen

months on from shaking the sporting world to its foundations, Woods is grasping desperately for momentum. His putting has regressed into a particular source of concern; few players get better on the greens as they get older. Logic, though, does not necessarily apply in respect of Woods and Augusta. Magnolia Lane seems to trigger a fresh state of serenity within a man who is now left with absolutely nothing to prove to anyone. The 44-year-old's almost freakish knowledge of the course can offset technical woes. If recent years have taught us anything, it is to discount Woods at our peril. He can always win under the towering Georgia pines, though saying that is fundamentally different to stating he will. The weirdness of it all will hit home as Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player clamber on to the 1st tee to strike ceremonial drives, moments after daylight arrives and with only a handful of select guests looking on. There are no azaleas to decorate Amen Corner. Even Augusta National cannot tamper with nature to that extent. Beautiful autumnal leaves form the backdrop to a competition for 92 players - including six amateurs - who represent 23 countries. There has never been a November, patron-free Masters before and most likely never will be again; alternative glances towards the future will be essential if DeChambeau joins a Green Jacket to his wardrobe.

Liverpool blow as Joe Gomez suffers knee injury in England training

Liverpool, November 12: Joe Gomez has suffered an injury at St George's Park in the preparations for Thursday's England friendly with the Republic of Ireland at Wembley, a setback for the national team but one that has potentially more serious consequences for Liverpool.



Gareth Southgate provided an update on the central defender's condition in his pre-match press conference, saying he was "praying" for a positive diagnosis but that it was "not a good situation". While the severity of the problem is unclear, any length of absence would be particularly troublesome for Liverpool, who have a number of problems at the back. The Burnley goalkeeper Nick Pope, who will start against Ireland on Thursday, added: "Joe made a pass or a movement with no one around him and ended up on the floor. He was in a great deal of pain. When you see one of your friends or teammates go through that, it's not easy." Jürgen Klopp, who sold Dejan Lovren to Zenit St Petersburg over the summer, has Virgil van Dijk as a long-term cruciate knee ligament casualty. Fabinho, the defensive midfielder who has played in central defence, is currently recovering from a hamstring injury. It is hoped that he will be back after the international break. Klopp's only other established option in the position is Joël Matip, who has just returned from a muscle problem. Klopp lost the right-back, Trent Alexander-Arnold, to a calf strain in Sunday's 1-1 draw at Manchester City and, like many managers, has been outspoken about the physical demands being put on the players.

'Not acceptable'

Gareth Southgate says Greg Clarke had to go after comments



London, November 12: Gareth Southgate says that Greg Clarke had no alternative but to resign from his position as the Football Association's chairman after making remarks that were "not acceptable" on Tuesday that led to hurt and condemnation within the organisation. The England manager lost Joe Gomez to a horror knee injury in training on Wednesday - a setback that threatens to end the Liverpool centre-half's season and has deepened his club's defensive selection crisis. But as Southgate prepared for Thursday night's Wembley friendly against the Republic of Ireland, it was the Clarke fiasco that cast long shadows. The 63-year-old had caused offence with a string of comments in front of MPs on the digital, culture, media and sport committee. He referred to black players as "coloured"; suggested "different career interests" led south Asian people to choose careers in IT over sport; said girl footballers did not like the ball to be hit at them and described a gay player coming out as a "life choice". Southgate said: "The terminology he used in a number of areas was not acceptable and doesn't reflect the view of the FA, it doesn't reflect what we as a team stand for. I don't think he had any alternative but to take the decision he did to resign. Unfortunately, he's going to be remembered for the comments he's made." Southgate had overseen a squad meeting on Monday to discuss the recently introduced FA Diversity Code, into which he and a number of his players, including the captain, Harry Kane, Jordan Henderson and Tyrone Mings, had fed ideas. He felt the need to address them again, speaking "from the heart" after Clarke's resignation. "I know there's a view of what the forward face of the FA is but there are 800 people here and it's as diverse an organisation as I've ever been part of," Southgate said. "Internally there was a lot of upset about what had been said. I think Greg recognised that amongst all the other challenges that what he said would have provided, the upset internally was massive." Southgate said the FA's next chair did not have to be a former player but that there ought to be a football person

on the board. He name-checked Paul Elliott, the chair of the inclusion advisory board, who also sits on the FA's board although without voting powers, as the type of committed football administrator that the organisation needed. Southgate said that he was not saying Elliott should be the next chair. Southgate was asked whether Clarke's successor ought to be black or female. "We have a lot of black and female staff at the FA and they would all say that what they would want would be the right person for the role," he replied. "And that could be anybody from any background, of any gender." "I could easily grandstand here and say: 'Yes, it should be somebody from one part of the community,' but I don't think that would be correct either. There's a bigger message. As an organisation we have to change. We can't keep talking about it and not enforcing it." Gomez has not yet had scans on his damaged knee but it is clear that Southgate and the rest of the squad fear the worst for a luckless player who missed the 2018 World Cup through injury. Southgate said it was "not a good situation" and talked of "praying" for a positive diagnosis. The Burnley goalkeeper Nick Pope, who will start against Ireland, added: "Joe made a pass or a movement with no one around him and ended up on the floor. He was in a great deal of pain. When you see one of your friends or teammates go through that, it's not easy." "Liverpool, who sold the centre-half Dejan Lovren in July and did not sign cover, are already without their star central defender Virgil van Dijk (knee ligaments) and the full-back Trent Alexander-Arnold (calf). Fabinho, who has played at centre-half, is recovering from a hamstring injury. Southgate said he had given Gomez an extra day of recovery as he was mindful of the player's physical exertions in recent weeks and yet "this has still happened". He added that there was "nothing we would have done differently." "The bigger picture is that governing bodies need to work together," Southgate said. "With a winter World Cup in 2022, there was an opportunity this year to think differently but everybody's tried to cram the programme into a smaller period. Nobody has given way, people haven't collaborated enough. We're now trying to affect things too late. 'We are going to see injuries and it's a desperately sad situation. A lot of these discussions could have happened in the summer. We could have delayed the start of the league, we could have delayed international football." Southgate said he expected to learn on Thursday whether Wembley can stage next Wednesday's Nations League game against Iceland, amid concerns over a new coronavirus strain in Denmark. Iceland are scheduled to play in Denmark on Sunday. If Wembley cannot host, Southgate said the game was likely to be switched to Germany.

Cricket has an important role to play in shining a light on racism in society



London, November 12: I was in year 8 when my education about Indigenous Australia really began. My best friend at the time was Indigenous and taking flak from a few of our classmates about the stolen generation and the government policies that underpinned it. "I don't know what people are complaining about," they said. "The government was just trying to give those kids a good education." The insensitivity of those comments struck me hard, but not nearly as much as the passion, clarity, dignity and strength with which my mate responded. "They were literally tearing children away from loving families," she said, the conviction in her voice clear. "How can you not see the problem with that?" To that point, my exposure to the issues confronting Indigenous Australia had been limited. I had absorbed the occasional lesson here and there, hanging out with my Indigenous mates in the south of Adelaide. But in terms of formal education? Hardly anything. Our textbooks were full of Captain Cook and the first fleet, but almost nothing of the

50,000 years of Australian history that preceded them. I took my best friend's side at school that day because she was my best friend. Now, when I look back on that moment, I wish my support had been motivated by an understanding and empathy for the injustices experienced by Indigenous Australians over centuries, not just a sense of mateship on the day. As a nation, we need to be much better when it comes to educating ourselves about the true history of this land and the people who have called it home. When you're a kid, you don't challenge the curriculum placed in front of you. You figure that if they're teaching it, it must be right. I know now that it's entirely inadequate when it comes to our First Nations People. How is it that so many Australians are ignorant to the experiences of Indigenous Australia? How can we know so little about our own people, culture and heritage? How can we make meaningful strides towards reconciliation while our own education system brushes over a few millennia of lived experience. We still have a long, long way to go on the education front but, in the spirit of Naidoc week, it has been encouraging to be involved in discussions with players across the WBBL in recent weeks about Indigenous Australia, the Black Lives Matter movement and issues pertaining to racial inequality. Conversations about taking the knee were confronting and uncomfortable for

some people, and that's OK. Everyone is on their own journey. But the very fact those discussions happened, and every team felt strongly enough to kneel or form a barefoot circle, demonstrated a commitment to better understanding racism in society and shining a light on it. I am proud that the Australian women's team has taken a strong position on understanding and connecting with our Indigenous culture in recent years. Through the leadership of Meg Lanning, Matthew Mott, Rach Haynes and Ash Gardner, we have strived to better educate ourselves and, in so doing, raise awareness in a meaningful and enduring way. Ash has been amazing. She knows the questions I ask her come from a good place and a desire to deepen my own understanding and empathy. She has shared with us her real-life experiences and hosted discussions with members of her family. The lessons she has imparted have made me more confident discussing issues related to Indigenous Australia in the media which, I hope, promotes more public discussion. We don't want this to be a once-a-year conversation around an Indigenous round, a dedicated match (like the Faith Thomas Trophy, which the Strikers and Scorers compete for), the wearing of Walkabout Wickets artwork, or even Naidoc week. As wonderful and important as each and every one of those initiatives are, our ambitions is for the discussion to never end.

England make surprise call to Dylan Hartley for advice on tackling Georgia

Paris, November 12: The former captain Dylan Hartley was a surprise addition to England's training bubble on Wednesday as Eddie Jones's side ramped up preparations for their Autumn Nations Cup opener against "brutal" Georgia. The retired hooker, who captained England 29 times under Jones, was a keen observer during the high-intensity training session. The Rugby Football Union has confirmed Hartley had to undergo a Covid-19 test in order to meet strict protocols before join-

ing the camp where he was seen in close conversation with his former head coach. The 34-year-old, who hung up his boots 12 months ago, recently revealed the harsh manner in which Jones explained his Test career was over but the pair remain on good terms. Hartley, who is working for Amazon Prime during the Autumn Nations Cup, follows a host of former players and coaches from other sports invited to attend Jones's training sessions - a tradition that has not stopped despite the pandemic.

England last played Georgia at the 2011 World Cup and Ben Youngs, who reached a century of caps last time out against Italy, is the only member of the squad who featured in that 41-10 victory. Hartley also started and may well have had some sage advice for Jones's squad, having been shown a yellow card on the stroke of half-time. England are expected to win easily on Saturday against an inexperienced Georgia side, but Jones's squad are wary of the physical challenge posed by their

forwards. While they have not faced each other in nine years, Jones has organised training sessions against Georgia and last February a brawl broke out between both sets of forwards in front of hundreds of school children at an open event in Oxford. Youngs, who confirmed his desire to extend his England career to the 2023 World Cup, said: "We have to be ready for that physical confrontation. We have trained



against them a couple of times and a few times that has been pretty tasty." [Last year] I was with the backs. We were running some nice strikes, attacking, doing our thing.

Wayne Pivac's side face the Irish in Dublin on Friday

London, November 12: Wales sacked their defence coach, Byron Hayward, after a first home defeat to Scotland for 18 years on Halloween, but of the players who started in Llanelli that afternoon 14 have kept their places for Friday's Autumn Nations Cup opener against Ireland in Dublin. It was Wales's fifth defeat in a row but the only change sees the return of Justin Tipuric, an original pick against Scotland who withdrew on the morning of the match through illness. With 23 of the squad sharing nearly 1,100 caps, only three have been blooded by the head coach Wayne Pivac, who took over from Warren Gatland a year ago. None is a back, which is a surprise given that his mandate was to sharpen Wales's attacking game. Nick Tompkins has been dropped from the bench and like the Gloucester wing Louis Rees-Zammit will have to wait for Georgia next week. Although the uncapped Bristol fly-half Callum Sheedy is among the replacements, he comes in for the injured Rhys Patchell. "We are in this together," said Pivac on why he had not changed the side after a performance he admitted was well below what he expected. "It is a collective effort and not all about putting it on the players. We have not been flash in defence or attack and need to show an improvement. We believe we can turn this around." The Exeter prop Tomas Francis will be winning his 50th cap on the ground where he made his Test debut five years ago while the captain, Alun Wyn Jones, will be playing his 150th international. Wales lacked ball-carrying capacity against Scotland but the second-row Jake Ball is fit to take a seat on the bench.

IPL 2020 Final: Slow bouncers the ace up Mumbai Indians' sleeve

London, November 12: In the 15th over of Delhi Capitals innings—just around the time the batting side had wrestled impetus from Mumbai Indians—Rohit Sharma rang in Nathan Coulter-Nile into the attack. It was widely interpreted as a defensive ploy—his inclusion at the expense of James Pattinson itself was considered counter-intuitive. Until the fifth ball, the introduction seemed a folly, after Rishabh Pant had netted a brace of boundaries. The first was more of a paddle-flick, while the second was topped four. The latter embodied everything risky about a short ball, its ridiculously slim margin for error on a relatively smaller ground. Short-pitched bowling will always leak runs, often in boundaries and with top edges coming into play, it is difficult to predict where the ball will fly to, as there is a lack of protection behind the

wicket-keeper. Then, good batsmen have an array of sophisticated strokes to take full toll of it, like the ramp and uppercut. A reason, it's not considered as precious as a yorker. But that didn't deny the West Australian from slipping in another short ball later in the over. This one landed around the same area of the pitch. Pant, instinctively as much as prematurely, was into the hook. Only that it took an eternity to reach him. It was also a shade closer to his body as he swivelled at the crease. And all he did, for the Sufi-dancer like pirouette of his body, was to splice the ball to the perfectly-positioned fielder, who was just shifted from short fine-leg to the deep. The field change was the only sign of another impending bouncer, which he failed to read. The bowler dropped no clue at all. For Coulter-Nile had masterfully disguised it. As with any slower ball, the deception was in its disguise. The run-

up and gather had the same bustle, the follow-through, arm-speed and release had identical intensity. The difference was just about the grip. He had spread out the index and middle fingers so that the whip of the ball at the time of the release is reduced, which means the ball decelerates after landing. The ball rises up like a fast bouncer, but arrives around 20-25 kmph slower. Coulter-Nile's high-arm action makes it all the more difficult to decrypt. His usual speed was 140 and thereabouts. But Pant's wicket-ball was 125, while Axar Patel's, later on, nudged 120. There are no half measures about it. After judging the length, the batsman is already most of the way into the shot. So if the ball arrives unexpectedly slower, his balance goes utterly off-kilter. He can't check the stroke, unless when he drives. Neither his hands nor wrists can bail him out of trouble. That is why you often see a bats-

man initially deceived by a slower bouncer making a desperate flap as it floats past him, invariably mistiming it. Like Shimron Hetmyer. The Guyanese has a fast blade and a pair of sharp eyes. So good that he had adequate time to detect Trent Boult's slower ball, but didn't have the heightened control over his muscle-memory to change his stroke. He was already committed to the upper cut, he tried to slow his stroke down but all he could manage was to slap the ball gently into the short third-man. What else could he have done? Maybe in a Test match, he could have

withdrawn from the shot. But even that method is bound to fail. The last bowler he would have expected a slow-bouncer was perhaps Boult, someone who sparingly uses his bouncers or relish in a drastic change of pace. In the entire four overs, he bowled one genuine shot ball and just one delivery below 115 kmph. The New

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Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay all face injury issues

Rio de Janeiro, November 12: For Brazil, forward Philippe Coutinho is out. Argentina will be missing striker Paulo Dybala. And Uruguay will have to do without midfielder Federico Valverde. Brazil has the added problem of missing Neymar for the team's match against Venezuela on Friday because of a groin injury. But he could return against Uruguay on Tuesday. Brazil and Argentina lead the 10-team qualifying group with six points from two matches, followed by Colombia and Paraguay with four points each. Uruguay has three points. Argentina will host Paraguay on Thursday and then travel to Peru for a match on Tuesday. The Uruguayans play at Colombia on Friday and then face Brazil. In other matches, Bolivia plays Ecuador on Thursday and then faces Paraguay on Tuesday. Chile hosts Peru on Friday and then goes to Venezuela for a match on Tuesday. The top four teams in the group will automatically qualify for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar. The fifth-place team will reach a playoff against a team from another continent. Argentina will be without Dybala against Paraguay because of a

Copa America. "There can be similar things to that Copa America match," Paraguay coach Eduardo Berizzo said. "Mainly in the way we closed the defensive gaps, how we helped each other by being close and how we attacked them with speed and straightforwardness. But no match is like the other." Besides Coutinho and Neymar, Brazil also has injury concerns with Casemiro, Fabinho and Rodrigo Caio. Another defender, Eder Militao, is out with COVID-19. "When you have a team that is playing many matches together and then you lose some parts there could be a lack of balance," Brazil defender Thiago Silva said. "But that is no excuse, we have to show our mindset to prove our value, prove why we play for Brazil." However, striker Gabriel Jesus and goalkeeper Alisson, who missed the first two qualifiers because of injuries, will return. Venezuela has lost both of its qualifying matches so far. Besides Valverde, who has a right leg injury, Uruguay goalkeeper Martín Silva, defender Sebastián Coates and striker Maxi Gómez are also out. But Colombia is facing its own problems

'Rohit a mix of Sourav, Dhoni': Turns under-achievers into trophy-guzzling dynasty

New Delhi, November 12: A day after Rohit Sharma ran Suryakumar Yadav out in the Indian Premier League final, the latter struck a gaming analogy. "It's like our FIFA (PS4) matches. I may be in a scoring position, but if I see Rohit in a better scoring position, I will pass the ball to him. And I am sure he will also do the same. In the end, our team scores," Yadav told. In the end, the run-out was inconsequential, but Yadav's explanation illustrated the infinite trust a player has in his captain and the implication that he would go to any extent for the leader. A few days ago, Jasprit Bumrah dwelled on the freedom Sharma empowers him with: "He (Rohit) has always given me the freedom, he has always told me to express yourself (myself), be whatever you want, be it any situation, take ownership of your own bowling, so that gives me a lot of confidence and a responsibility that I'm responsible for whatever I'm doing." Trust, belief, confidence and aggression. These are fundamental virtues behind any successful dynasty, sporting or otherwise. And Mumbai Indians un-

der Sharma has been an incredibly successful sporting dynasty: five titles in eight years, and the second-best win percentage for a captain in the IPL, after Chennai Super Kings' MS Dhoni (60.11 and 58.65). Before he inherited a stuttering side midway through the 2013 season, Mumbai was a bunch of malcontent, directionless stars who shone only sporadi-



cally. Sharma turned them into a trophy-guzzling beast. At the heart of the revival has been his uber-cool, but authoritative, leadership. So intoxicating has been the success he has generated that a raft of pundits want him to helm India in white-ball cricket. Gautam Gambhir asserts it "would be a loss" if Sharma doesn't lead India in

the future. "Rohit has shown in white-ball cricket how big the difference is between his and Virat's captaincy. One player had led his team to five titles, the other hasn't won yet," he told ESPN Cricinfo. Former England skipper Michael Vaughan reckons it's time India deliberated on splitting captaincy. "Without question, Rohit Sharma should be the Indian

T20 captain. Fantastic manager and leader. He knows exactly how to win T20 games. It would also give Virat a chance to take a breather and just be the player," he wrote on Twitter. Considering that India are not wading through a captaincy crisis in white-ball format at this juncture, a change isn't necessary. But

Sharma definitely furnishes a strong alternative. He certainly has the virtues to succeed Kohli, India's most successful ODI skipper. In fact, he has fared admirably well whenever he has stood in as stand-in skipper. He has won 15 of the 19 games he had led in T20s with a win percentage of 78. Kohli's corresponding number is 65.71, though he had led in twice as many games. In the 10 ODIs Sharma has led India in, he has won eight. Impressive numbers, but wizened old-timers would say that leading a team on a permanent basis is a different proposition. The stamps of a fine leader in Sharma, though, are evident. It's difficult to know too much about a dressing room one has never been in, but Sharma gives the impression of being like a school prefect - somebody who can join in the fun without compromising his authority. One suspects most of the players would vouch for his man-management skills and ability to extract the best out of them. Yadav's own IPL career was floundering when Mumbai acquired him from Kolkata Knight Riders. "As a captain, he is very approachable. Not just for me but for everyone in the team. He proactively talks to all the youngsters in the team. That automatically breaks the ice

for everyone," he says. Likewise, a crew of fine players has turned their IPL careers around under Sharma. For instance, Trent Boult, who Delhi Capitals didn't know how to utilise, or Quinton de Kock, who had seemed shackled in his Royal Challengers Bangalore days. Others like Ishan Kishan, Rahul Chahar and Jayant Yadav have all blossomed under his nurturing. Before this IPL season, Jayant Yadav was a T20 outlier. But Sharma instilled belief in him, might not be with words but with action. Introducing the off-spinner as early as the fourth over of the final, against Capitals' most prolific batsman Shikhar Dhawan, signified his belief in the bowler. He cleaned up Dhawan with his third ball. "The way he used Yadav showed his class. Any captain would have gone with a seamer. Rohit used his instinct. It showed how clear was his thinking. It showed that he's a bowlers' captain," remarks Irfan Pathan. Sharma's use of attacking options makes him almost a must-watch captain. The middle overs are rarely boring while he is scheming. He sets subtle traps for batsmen, backs his hunches, and has attack as the default option. "He is a mixture of Dhoni and Ganguly," says Pathan. "Ganguly trusted his

bowlers and went by it. Dhoni trusted his bowlers but always took decisions with an instinct," he adds. In his body language, Sharma is neither. He doesn't stand out, rather blends into his personnel. He hardly shouts out orders, rarely pesters the bowlers, hardly ever seen emoting, he doesn't engage in lengthy mid-pitch meetings or field settings. He lets them be. He doesn't celebrate wildly, neither does he make fuss about setbacks. But his nature should not be misconstrued as a lack of intensity but understood as the way he is. Sharma is the first person to console a bowler struck for a six or a youngster who has dropped a difficult catch. His captaincy, in that sense, is an extension of his batting. Lucid, yet powerful. He detects the drift of the game like few others, he out-reads the opponent's move, and plots his move. It's like he has the mind of a blitz-chess champion. His moves are quick, yet thoughtful. Pathan offers another instance of Sharma's foresight. "One of the games was getting close, so he used Bumrah in the 17th over, though he usually uses Bumrah in the 18th.



urinary infection while Sergio Aguero remains out with muscular problems, making it likely Lionel Messi will have Ángel Di María as his partner up front. Things aren't much better behind the attacking line. Midfielders Marcos Acuña and Eduardo Salvio are injured and defender Lucas Martínez Quarta could be left on the bench because of health protocols. He is expected to arrive in Buenos Aires only a day before the match at La Bombonera Stadium. Argentina struggled to a 1-1 draw against Paraguay in the 17th over, though he usually uses Bumrah in the 18th.

ahead of Friday's match in Barranquilla. Radamel Falcao has a right leg injury, defenders Santiago Arias and Stefan Medina are out, and forward Rafael Santos Borré has COVID-19. Added to that, defender Dávison Sánchez will miss the match because his wife is about to give birth. Goalkeeper David Ospina, however, will be back. Ospina missed the first two World Cup qualifying matches because of health protocols. "This is a critical match," Colombia coach Carlos Queiroz said. "We need to know we will face a great team, with a lot of experience, one of the best in the world."

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