



The Assam Rising

Projecting the best of Northeast India everyday

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Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez gets engaged to longtime partner... 02

Red Bull fume over 'clone' Aston Martin while Alonso rages ... 07



NEWS IN BRIEF

Kampur flood Assam Rising Guwahati, May 21 :

The flood situation of Kampur in Nagaon district of Assam has remained grim since one week. Around 2.37 lakh people have been affected in Kampur due to the ongoing floods. More than 150 villages under the revenue circle are still reeling under flood waters. Many villages along railway tracks have been submerged under water and the people are now taking shelter at temporary make-shift tents. Here is a photo story of the condition of people in flood-hit Kampur

Leader arrested Assam Rising Guwahati, May 21 :

The police on Friday evening arrested a congress leader from Kawadanga in Darrang district of Assam for conducting illegal drug trade. The arrested leader has been identified as Rahijuddin Ahmed, the president of the Kaliagaon block of Congress. 23 packets of brown sugar, few empty plastic containers and many other illegal items have been recovered from the person's possession. According to police reports, Ahmed had been conducting illegal drug trade since several years. A case has been registered and investigation is underway.

Student leader died Assam Rising Guwahati, May 21 :

Assam student leader Sarat Mudoi passed away on Saturday morning. The leader, who was actively associated with Assam movement was suffering from Cholera and died in the early hours today. He was under treatment at a hospital in Guwahati. Mudoi left behind his wife and two sons. His sad demise has mourned by the near and dear ones. He has also served jail term during the Assam movement. After the Assam movement, Mudoi came back to Guwahati as a permanent resident. Mudoi's wife is a teacher in a private institution.

25 dead in floods across three north-eastern States including Assam



Assam Rising
Guwahati, May 21 :

Floods and landslides have claimed 25 lives across three north-eastern States so far, with Assam being the worst hit. According to data provided by the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) late on Friday, four people, including two children, drowned. The toll due to the disaster has now gone up

CM Himanta Biswa Sarma rated as most popular among CMs of five states

Assam Rising
Guwahati, May 21 :

Among those who won the Assembly elections in May 2021, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and his Kerala counterpart Pinarayi Vijayan were rated as the most popular CMs, closely followed by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K.

Stalin, as per the latest IANS-CVoter survey. CVoter conducted a year-long extensive assessment on behalf of IANS across the four states and one Union Territory (West Bengal, Kerala, Assam, Tamil Nadu and the UT of Puducherry) that went to the polls last year

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Rahul Gandhi harming India in his hate against PM Narendra Modi: BJP



New Delhi, May 21 :

BJP accused Rahul Gandhi of harming India in his 'hate' against Prime Minister Narendra Modi. BJP alleged his frequent critical remarks about India from foreign soils amounted to 'betraying' it. Rahul Gandhi, who is on a tour of the UK, had

an interaction session at the 'Ideas for India' conference. The BJP on Saturday accused Rahul Gandhi of harming India in his "hate" against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and alleged his frequent critical remarks about the country from foreign soils amounted to 'betraying' it. BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia launched a sharp attack on the Congress leader for his remarks at a conference in London where Gandhi accused the ruling party of spreading "kerosene all over the country, you need one spark and we will be in big trouble". In his fierce hate against Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he

has been making comments against India, the BJP leader told a press conference where he also cautioned the Congress against speaking ill about India in foreign countries. It is the Congress which has been carrying

Assam-Arunachal Pradesh border dispute likely to be resolved by next year: Amit Shah

Deomali, May 21 :

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said that the inter-state boundary dispute between Arunachal Pradesh and Assam is likely to be resolved by next year. Asserting that efforts are underway to make North-east insurgency-free, he

Assam Floods Affect 8 Lakh

people have been shifted to 234 relief camps," an ASDMA spokesperson said. A report received by ASDMA from the Water Resources Department's Dibrugarh-based assistant executive engineer said "rain cuts and a major slump down" have been observed at a dyke downstream of the Bogibeel rail-road bridge across the Brahmaputra River. A stretch of more than 2 km near the bridge was affected due to "incessant rainfall and movement of cattle and heavy vehicles",

the report said. The ASDMA report said at least 20 dykes have been breached across Assam and several bridges have either been washed away or damaged. Several roads have caved in or rendered unusable for vehicles while 43,090 houses have been fully or partially damaged across 2,251 flooded villages. As Assam battles flood fury, over 500 families from two villages of the Jamanamukh district, are living

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CM Dr. Sarma inaugurates TIC at Assam Biotech Park



tion drive in Kamrup District. Under the programme three lakh saplings will be planted in the district to increase the

green coverage. In the same programme, Young Innovative Awards and Life Time Achievement Awards were presented. It may be noted that to recognise the outstanding contributions of the scientists and innovative minds, Government of

Assam has been conferring State Science Awards since 2017. Chief Minister Dr. Sarma along with Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan presented the Young Innovative Entrepreneur Award to Mr. Siddharth Arora - Best Young Innovative Entrepreneur

Award, Dr. Ananya Barman - Best Young women entrepreneur award and Kaustov Gopal Goswami - Best Young Innovative entrepreneur award North East. Moreover, the awards for the year 2020 presented to Dr. Joyanti Chutia (Lifetime Achievement Award), Young Scientist Award to Dr. Hemen Kalita and Institutional Award to Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology. The award for the year 2021 presented to late prof. Dhiraj Bora (Lifetime Achievement Award) and Young Scientist Award to Dr. Rupam Goswami. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said that he felt very

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DU's Hindu College professor arrested for post on 'Shivling'

New Delhi, May 21 :

Days after an FIR was filed against him, a 50-year-old

associate professor from Delhi University's Hindu College has been arrested in connection with an allegedly objectionable social media post referring to claims of a Shivling being found at the Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi. According to police, Professor Ratan Lal, who teaches history, had allegedly posted a photo of the structure and made objectionable comments on Tuesday. An officer said Lal was first summoned for questioning, and later arrested. DCP (North) Sagar Singh Kalsi confirmed the arrest on Friday



night. Following the arrest, some student groups, including the All India Students Association, said they were gathering to protest outside the police station in Maurice Nagar. According

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Heavy Rains to Continue Lashing Assam Till May 22



Assam Rising
Guwahati, May 21 :

The intense rainfall activity that has prevailed over

parts of Northeast India for the past few weeks is expected to continue for the next 48 to 72 hours. But on a brighter note, some respite from the gloomy downpours may arrive by the start of next week. As per the India Meteorological Department (IMD), strong southwesterly winds blowing in from the Bay of Bengal will continue dumping precipitation over the northeastern region. Accordingly, widespread light to moderate rains along with isolated heavy to very heavy falls have been forecast over

Arunachal Pradesh on Friday and Saturday; and across Assam, Meghalaya, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Sikkim from Friday to Sunday. Meghalaya will particularly be in for isolated extremely heavy falls on Saturday, May 21. Overall, precipitation worth 30 to 50 mm/day is likely across these states till Sunday, weather.com meteorologists have indicated. In view of these predictions, all the aforementioned states will remain on a yellow watch ('be aware' of local weather) for the next three days. However, the advisory over

Meghalaya will be upgraded to an orange alert ('be prepared' for rough weather) on Saturday. From Sunday, May 22, the severity of wet spells over the region will start to reduce substantially, the forecast adds. This de-intensification in the weather conditions could bring some much-needed respite to the flood-affected areas in Assam. Recent downpours led to the bursting of the Brahmaputra's riverbanks, which effectively flooded

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Mob attacks Batadrava police station after man dies in police custody

Assam Rising
Guwahati, May 21 :

An enraged mob of villagers attacked a police station after a man died in custody at Batadrava constituency in Nagaon district on Saturday. A policeman was brutally injured while a few others sustained minor injuries in the attack. The angry mob broke into the Batadrava police



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Gerhard Schröder to be stripped of privileges for not cutting ties with Russia



Berlin, May 21 : The former German chancellor Gerhard Schröder will lose some of his post-office privileges after failing to cut his links with Russian energy companies over the Ukraine war, the Bundestag's budgetary committee has decided. Schröder, who was German head of government from 1998 until 2005, will be stripped of his office and staff, which cost about 419,000 euros (£354,500) in taxpayers' money in 2021. The motion, which was passed on Thursday afternoon with support from Schröder's own Social Democratic party (SPD), the

Greens, and the Free Democratic party (FDP), does not name the politician's Kremlin connections or stance on the Ukraine war, most likely to avoid legal challenges. Instead, the motion argues that the former leader no longer fulfils any continuing obligation as a statesperson and therefore does not require an office and staff to do so. The main opposition party, the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), backed the move even though it had also called on the government to cut the ex-

chancellor's pension, equivalent to an annual salary of about 100,000 euros. Schröder will keep his pension payments as well as his security detail. The four employees who used to work at Schröder's office, located almost directly opposite the Russian embassy on the Unter den Linden boulevard in Berlin, already resigned of their own accord in early March, after their boss had showed no intention of stepping down from his boardroom roles at Russian oil company Rosneft and pipeline company Nord Stream. The Bundestag budgetary committee's vote comes just hours after the European parliament urged

the commission president, Ursula von der Leyen, to impose sanctions against Schröder because of his ties to the Kremlin. The EU legislature passed a resolution on Thursday that said sanctions after the invasion of Ukraine should be extended "to the European members of the boards of major Russian companies and to politicians who continue to receive Russian money". As well as the German politician, the motion indirectly addresses former Austrian foreign minister Karin Kneissl, a supervisory board member at Rosneft who danced with Vladimir Putin at her own wedding in 2018.



People pray at a funeral of a policeman in Peshawar, Pakistan

SP leader Azam Khan released from Sitapur district jail after more than 2 years in prison

Lucknow, May 21 : Samajwadi Party leader Azam Khan has been released from Sitapur district jail today, in a case of cheating concerning Kotwali police station in Rampur. "The Supreme Court gave justice," Azam Khan's son Abdullah Khan said ahead of the latter's release from Sitapur district jail. Both the sons of SP veteran leader, Abdullah and Adeeb, had reached the Sitapur district jail on Friday (May 20) morning. Adeeb has also expressed his joy at his father's release. The Supreme Court on Thursday granted interim bail to Azam Khan in the case relating to Kotwali police station in Uttar Pradesh. A bench of justices L. Nageswara Rao, BR Gavai, AS Bopanna granted interim bail to Khan, and also granted him the liberty to apply for regular bail before the concerned court within a period of two weeks. The Supreme Court



also assured that the interim bail will be continued until the regular bail is decided by the competent court. Earlier on Tuesday, the apex court had reserved the order on Khan's interim bail plea in the aforesaid case, as opposed by the Additional Solicitor General SV Raju, appearing for Uttar Pradesh state. Khan is currently being lodged in judicial custody in another matter pertaining to Kotwali in Rampur. The Supreme Court had earlier expressed displeasure with the prolonged delay in the announcement of judgement by Allahabad HC on his (Khan's) bail plea and called it a 'travesty of justice'. Last week, the

Allahabad HC had granted Khan interim bail in the case related to wrongful possession of land. The present application filed by Lzafeer Ahmad stated that Khan was arrested in another FIR which appears to be nothing more than a means to subvert justice and to prevent the petitioner from coming out of his prolonged and politically engineered incarceration. "The State has, in order to satisfy political vendetta, adopted all means available, to purposefully delay and deny the right to personal liberty to a senior opposition leader and a legislator who is an incumbent and ten-term Member of the Legislative Assembly, a two-time member of the Parliament, and an erstwhile Cabinet Minister of the State of UP across multiple terms," the application said. The petitioner sought to quash the proceedings and grant interim bail to the petitioner

during the pendency of this petition. According to the application, the case dated 18 March 2020, registered at Rampur's Kotwali Police Station under Sections 420 and 120B of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) was a false and frivolous FIR wherein some alleged deficiency in the affiliation process of one of the schools being run by a trust is given a criminal colour. "The said FIR was registered after the petitioner, his wife and son were already taken into custody, for a completely false and frivolous case where the petitioner was not named. The said FIR neither mentioned the date and time of offence nor disclosed the offence, alleged to have been committed (by Azam Khan)," the petition said. Khan has been lodged in Sitapur jail since February 2020 as many cases are registered against him.

Govor agrees to buy all McDonald's in Russia and rebrand them

Moscow, May 21 : McDonald's has reached a deal to sell all its restaurants in Russia to one of its licensees in the country, the businessman Alexander Govor, who will operate them under a new name. The fast food company temporarily closed hundreds of outlets across Russia in March after Vladimir Putin launched his invasion of Ukraine, a decision that has cost McDonald's about \$55m (£44m) a month. On Monday, it announced it would sell those stores and leave Russia, saying the humanitarian crisis caused by the war and the unpredictable operating environment meant continuing running restaurants there was "no longer tenable" or "consistent with McDonald's values". Govor, who operates 25 restaurants in Siberia, has agreed to buy its 850 Russian restaurants and run them under different branding. McDonald's said on Thursday. McDonald's did not disclose how much the outlets were sold for. Last year, its Russian operations contributed 9% of the company's total annual sales, or about \$2bn. Govor, a licensee since 2015, has agreed to retain McDonald's 62,000 Russian employees for at least two years on equivalent terms and to fund existing liabilities to suppliers, landlords and utilities. He also agreed to pay the salaries of McDonald's corporate employees until the sale is completed. The sale is subject to regulatory approval but is expected to close within a few weeks, McDonald's said. Govor is also half-owner of Neftekhiminvest, a construction investor that owns an oil refinery in Siberia, and is a board member of another firm that owns projects in Siberia including Novokuznetsk's Park Inn hotel and private clinics.

Canadian premier abruptly quits amid surge in far-right influences

Toronto, May 21 : The abrupt resignation of Alberta's premier has shocked the western province and raised questions about the ideological direction of Canada's conservative movement amid a surge in far-right and populist influences. Jason Kenney announced late on Wednesday that he was leaving the province's top job after barely surviving a leadership review. A slim majority of party members - 51.4% - had voted in favour of keeping him in power but Kenney said that support wasn't enough to justify remaining head of the governing United Conservatives. "The result is not what I hoped for or frankly what I expected," Kenney told supporters. The premier had previously said he would view any result above 50% as a win. "He had seemed so doggedly determined to remain on his leader ... with even a single vote more than those who voted against him," said Lori Williams, a professor of political science at Calgary's Mount Royal University. "So his decision was very much a surprise." Once a star cabinet minister under former prime minister Stephen Harper, Kenney returned to Alberta to unite warring conservative factions and oust the governing leftwing New Democratic Party. He won a strong majority in 2019, but his tenure was marred by party infighting and threats of mutiny. His pugilistic brand of politics won him allies but also created a growing list of enemies and disaffected party members. "It takes a truly extraordinary leader to try to persuade people who may dislike and disrespect one another to work together for the sake of governance," said Williams, pointing out the only Canada politician able to effectively take on this challenge was Harper.

Putin's daughter flew to Munich 'more than 50 times' in two years, leaks reveal



Moscow, May 21 : Since the start of his military campaign against Ukraine, Vladimir Putin has railed aggressively against pro-western Russians, whose appetite for European cuisine and climates meant "their mentality is there, not here, with our people". Yet his own daughter's enthusiasm for sojourns to western Europe at least matches that of the oligarch "scum and traitors" he has decried, a joint investigation by independent Russian media outlet iStories and German magazine Der Spiegel suggests. According to flight records obtained by the two publications, Putin's youngest daughter, Katerina Tikhonova, flew to Munich in southern Germany "more than 50 times" between 2017 and 2019, travelling on chartered flights with full state support and in the company of employees of Putin's own presidential security service. Among the leaked cache of documents relating to a series of flights between Moscow and Munich in spring 2020 are the passports of a then two-year-old girl - apparently a previously unknown granddaughter of the Russian president - and Igor Zelensky, the former director of the Munich state ballet. The report said it is likely that Zelensky is Tikhonova's partner and the father of her child. Unrelated to the Ukrainian president of the same surname, 52-year-old Igor Zelensky was an internationally feted dancer before he became artistic director of the Bayerisches Staatsballet in 2016. He stepped down from his role on 4 April citing "private family reasons", having failed to react to calls to condemn Putin's war of aggression in Ukraine. Zelensky still has a job on the supervisory board of Russia's National Cultural Heritage Foundation, which is building a cultural centre in Crimea and is understood to be close to Putin. An anonymous source at the Bavarian state ballet told Der Spiegel that Zelensky was "most likely a partner of Putin's daughter", before journalists had specifically asked about his family ties.



Liu Meng (L) feeds an elderly at an elderly care service center in Yuhu District of Xiangtan City, central China's Hunan Province

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez gets engaged to longtime partner Riley Roberts

London, May 21 : Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez took a break between visiting Amazon union workers and endorsing progressive candidates to get engaged to her longtime partner Riley Roberts. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez on Sunday. She said: "What happened out here ... what you guys did in Staten Island was just the beginning." Ocasio-Cortez, 32, confirmed to Insider on Thursday that she



and Roberts, who met while both were at Boston University, got engaged last month while visiting her

parents' home town in Puerto Rico. She then wrote on Twitter: "It's true! Thank you all for the well wishes." According to Insider, the pair were quiet about their relationship even before Ocasio-Cortez became a popular political voice, and their friends at university did not always know they were together. Roberts has also been one of her greatest support systems throughout her career, according to a biography published earlier this year,

People magazine reported. "What we do know about Roberts doesn't fit the stereotype of a politician's partner," writes Josh Gondekman in an essay in Take Up Space: The Unprecedented AOC by the editors of New York magazine. "He doesn't seem focus-grouped or media-trained for state dinners and press conferences. We know he's supportive and encouraging in private," Gondekman writes.

Spain braces for heat wave of 'extraordinary intensity'

Paris, May 21 : Temperatures in parts of southern Spain are forecast to exceed 42C on Saturday as a heatwave of "extraordinary intensity"

brings dusty skies, a heightened risk of forest fires and blistering conditions more usually seen in high summer than mid-May. The Spanish government activated its national plan for excess temperatures on Thursday evening after the state meteorological agency, Aemet, warned that Spain was facing "one of the hottest Mays in this country in recent years". Aemet said a mass of hot, dry air is blowing in from Africa, carrying with it dust from the Sahara and "exceptionally high" daily temperatures that are between 10C and 15C above the seasonal average. "The last updates to the meteorological models confirm the extraordinary intensity of this heatwave," said Rubén del Campo, a spokesperson



for Aemet. "For Spain as a whole, it could be the most intense May heatwave of the past 20 years in terms of both the maximum and minimum temperatures. Friday and Saturday will be the hottest days in general terms and, although there will be an important drop in temperatures on Sunday across the western third of the peninsula, that could be the hottest day in parts of

the eastern side of Spain and in the Balearic islands." The forecaster said temperatures in Andalucía's Guadalquivir valley could pass 40C on Friday and exceed 42C the next day. Even as the heat subsides elsewhere, he added, there could be temperatures of 40C or above in the north-eastern Ebro valley - "something unheard of in that area in May".

Guest House

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

USTM organised national seminar on Business Sustainability



Assam Rising
Guwahati, May 21: Considering current globalized competitive business scenario, a national seminar on 'Mediating Role of Quality Management in Business Sustainability' was organized by the Department of Business Administration, University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (USTM) on May 20 at the university campus. Prof. N. N. Sarma, VC (i/c), Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University (KKHSOU), Dipanjon Konwar, Quality consultant and Trainer and Prof. Arup Kumar Bakshi, Aliah University, Kolkata were the resource persons in the seminar. All the three resource persons of the seminar share their knowledge, and experiences from diverse fields. Prof. N. N. Sarma highlighted changing importance, the concept of quality, and its management in business sustainability along with one

remarkable point that nowadays quality is not a technical concept rather it is a business concept. Being a professional quality consultant, Konwar had addressed various practical issues in defining and managing quality in terms of ISO certification to diverse organizations. Prof. Bakshi had explained the concept of quality in terms of branding and its psychological connectivity in an elaborative way. He also talked about different new concepts in branding as well in quality management for sustaining a business.

Man killed in road accident in Lakhimpur

Man killed in road accident in Lakhimpur

Assam Rising
North Lakhimpur, May 21: One person died and four injured in a road accident on National Highway-15 at Moidomia near North Lakhimpur town at around 5-00 o'clock on Saturday morning, police said. The incident took place when a tomtom (bearing registration number AS 07 ER 0378) coming from North Lakhimpur town to Rangpuria collided with a winger (bearing registration number AR 08 B2690) at Moidomia under North Lakhimpur Police Station and the winger of Arunachal Pradesh ran over the tomtom, they added. The driver of the tomtom,

Moinuddin Ali died on the spot while two passengers of the tomtom and the driver and another passenger of the winger suffered serious injuries. All the four injured people have been admitted to the Lakhimpur Medical College and Hospital, police added.

Meeting held on disaster management



Assam Rising
Kajalgaon, May 21: In view of smooth conduct of rescue operation during flood, a coordination meeting was held under the chairmanship of Ajit Kr. Sarmah, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Chirang in the conference

hall of the Deputy Commissioner's office at Kajalgaon on Saturday. The meeting was held with the district level officials from Army, SSB, Police, SDRF, Fire and Emergency Services and other developmental officials. During the meeting Additional

Deputy Commissioner Sarmah urged the members present to develop a smooth coordination amongst all responding agencies with special emphasis on conducting prompt rescue operations for the marooned people during the flood.

Gunotsav Suspended in 3 Districts of Assam



Guwahati, May 21 : The education department in Assam has suspended the second phase of Gunotsav 2022 in three districts of the state. This was stated by Assam education minister Ranoo Pegu on Saturday. The second phase of Gunotsav has been postponed in South Salmara, Hojai and Hailakandi districts. Meanwhile, Pegu said that the decision to organize the third phase of Gunotsav in Dima Hasao and Cachar districts will be taken after discussions. The second phase will begin from May 23, while assessment will take place between May 24 and

May 26. It may be recalled that the first phase of Gunotsav 2022 was held from May 11 to May 14 in 11 districts. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma inaugurated the Gunotsav celebrations at Ghorabandha School at Sipajhar in Darrang district. Moreover, the third phase will begin from June 1 and the assessment will take place between June 2 and June 4. The third phase will include Baksa, Chirang, Dhubri, Dima Hasao, Jorhat, Kamrup metro, Lakhimpur, Sonitpur and West Karbi Anglong.

Blood donation camp held at LCC

Assam Rising
North Lakhimpur, May 21: A blood donation and awareness camp was held at Lakhimpur Commerce College, North Lakhimpur today. The camp was organized by the NSS unit and Community Development Committee of Lakhimpur Commerce College in active collaboration with Marwari Yuva Manch, North Lakhimpur Pragati branch. The blood donation camp was inaugurated by the Principal of Lakhimpur Commerce College Dr. Lohit Hazarika. The objective of the meeting was explained by Dimpey Pareek, secretary and convener of blood donation cell of Marwari Yuva Manch, North Lakhimpur Pragati branch and an alumni



of Lakhimpur Commerce College. Dr. Vikash Singh of North Lakhimpur Medical College and Hospital attended the camp as resource person. Speaking on the occasion Dr. Lohit Hazarika, principal of the college,

urged the students to be aware about blood donation and its importance in the present scenario where improved lifestyle had changed the insecurities of earlier incidents of losing blood in daily life activities. Dr. Vikash Singh in his address also spoke in detail about the health aspects of benefits of blood donation.

Deadbody recovered at Tamulpur

Dipak Kumar Pathak, May 21: Sensation prevailed at Tamulpur district while a deadbody was recovered at Nagapur village today evening under Kumarikata Police Out Post. The deceased person had been identified as Merman Magar (44) of village Latibari under Kumarikata Police Out Post. Today evening some local persons found the body floating on water in Motonga river at Nagapur village and informed it to Kumarikata Police Out Post. Retrieving the information a police team led by Pranjal Baruah, in

charge of Kumarikata Police Out Post rushed to the spot and recovered the body of Merman Magar. It is worth mentioning that Merman had been missing from his house since Thursday. It is suspected that Merman was swept away by the current of water of the Motonga river while he tried to cross it and as a result he drowned to death. The body had been taken to Kumarikata Police Out Post. Tomorrow the body will be sent to Mushalpur for postmortem by police.



Mr & Miss, North East Beauty Contest concluded

Assam Rising
Margherita, May 21: The Mr & Miss, North East Beauty Competition held in Margherita to give a platform to the budding new generation concluded successfully on Friday last. Grouping was held on May 18 and 19 and the main competition was held on Friday. The Industry Committee said that around 40 contestants from different parts of the state participated in the Mr & Miss, North East Beauty Competition in the main competition organized at India Club in Margherita. The event was attended by Assam

Working Journalists Association South East Zone General Secretary Ranajyoti Neog, Margherita Journalists Association General Secretary Prashant Chetia, Vice President Bikash Baruah, Shyamal Neog, Tapan Dey, Faizur Rahman, Vicky Das, Pratik Chettri among other dignitaries.

Online E-Tender Notice No. 1 of 2022-23 for Sale of Timber Lots

Under the provision laid down in the "Assam Sale of Forest produce, coupes and Mahals Rules 1977 and Amendment Rule" 2000, bids are invited through online by the undersigned from Registered Companies/Firms/Individuals etc. For the online E-Tender Sale of Timber lots of respectively kept in different locations under the Nagaon South Division, Hojai. The details of online E-Tender will be available on <http://www.assamforestonline.in>. Portal from on 23-05-2022 upto 5.00 P.M. on 21-06-2022 (I.S.T).

Sd/-
Divisional Forest Officer
Nagaon South Division, Hojai

Janasanyog/C/2869/22

TENDER NOTICE INVITING

Date: Nagaon the 21st May 2022

Separate Sealed tender affixing non-refundable court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees Eight & paise twenty five) only are hereby invited from registered Contractors/firms for Modification, repair and painting works of Dolphin Floating Camp under Burhachapori Wildlife Sanctuary.

The tender will be received up to 3.00 P.M (IST) on 21/06/2022 and will be opened on the same day at 3.30 P.M (IST) in presence of the tenderer or their authorized representative (s) and in the event of the office remaining closed on 22/06/2022 due to unavoidable circumstances the tender will be received on the next working day abiding by the same terms and conditions.

Tender document can be obtained from the office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Nagaon Wildlife Division, within 24/05/2022 to 18/06/2022. During office working hours on payment of Rs. **Rs. 500.00 (Five hundred)** only being non-refundable processing cost in the form of Demand Draft in favour of "Divisional Forest Officer, Nagaon Wildlife Division, Nagaon" payable at Nagaon against each items.

The undersigned and higher authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason at any stage of the tender process. Technical details and relevant experience details are to be submitted along with the tender. Award of tender will be based on both financial and technical approval from the Government.

Work order will be issued subject to Financial Sanctioned from the Government for the work.

The details of the civil work as below:

Sl. No.	Name and Specification of Works	Location	No. of unit	Estimated Cos (in Rs)
1	Modification, repair and painting works of Dolphin Floating Camp under Burhachapori Wildlife Sanctuary.	Bhomuraguri Beat Office area.	1	8,52,265.00

Sd/-
Divisional Forest Officer,
Nagaon Wildlife Division cum
Deputy Director, Kaziranga Tiger Reserve

Janasanyog/C/2854/22



Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority

STATFED Building, Bhangagarh, Guwahati - 781005
Website: www.gmda.assam.gov.in Tel: 0361-2529650/9824
E-mail: ceogmdaghy@gmail.com Fax: 0361-2529991

No. GMDA/DEV/116/2022/26 Dated: 21-05-2022

SHORT TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA), Chief Executive Officer, GMDA invites online bids eventually to be drawn up in PWD's F-2 Form (Modified) from reputed, experienced & financially sound Artists for the work of "Making & installation of 7 (Seven) nos. of full length Statues of seven freedom fighters of North Eastern States, Monoliths and other art/ relief works in Hengrabari Park" and to be downloaded, submitted & opened as per the following schedule. The Detailed Tender Document can be seen and downloaded from Govt. e-tendering portal <https://assamtenders.gov.in> from 11:00 AM of 22-05-2022.

Date/ Time of raising Pre-Bid queries for seeking clarification	26-05-2022 at 3:00 P.M. subject to request from bidder
Start date and time of submission of Bids	28-05-2022 at 3:00 P.M.
Last date and time for downloading of the Tender	31-05-2022 at 3:00 P.M.
Last date and time for submission of the Tender	02-06-2022 at 3:00 P.M.
Date & Time for opening of Bid	02-06-2022 at 3:00 P.M.

Sl. No.	Description of Work	Tender value	Tender Fee (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)	Time of Completion
1.	Making & installation of 7 (Seven) nos. of full length Statues of seven freedom fighters of North Eastern States, Monoliths and other art/ relief works in Hengrabari Park.	As per item Rate to be quoted	1,000/-	90,000/-	2 Months

Note: Validity of the tender is 120 (One Hundred Twenty) days from the date of receipt of tender. Interested parties may contact the GMDA's office for any additional information/ any clarification.

Sd/- Chief Executive Officer
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THE ASSAM RISING

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China goods in India

India's total imports from China crossed a record \$97.5 billion last year, making up a large chunk of the bilateral trade that reached \$125 billion, for the first time crossing the \$100 billion-mark, figures released earlier this month by China's General Administration of Customs (GAC) showed. Of the 8,455 different types of items imported from China between January and November of last year, a staggeringly diverse list covering everything from a range of chemicals and electronics to auto components and textiles, 4,591 showed an increase, according to an analysis of India's Ministry of Commerce data. The top 100 items by value accounted for \$41 billion, up from \$25 billion in 2020, according to a study of the numbers by Santosh Pai, an Honorary Fellow at the Institute of Chinese Studies in New Delhi. Most of the top 100 items - each of which accounted for more than \$100 million in trade, and included a range of electronic products, chemicals, and auto components - showed sharp growth. The list included both finished and intermediate goods. Of the former category, integrated circuits were up by 147%, laptops and personal computers by 77%, and oxygen therapy apparatus by more than fourfold. Intermediate products, particularly chemicals, also recorded striking growth. One of those, acetic acid, was up by more than eightfold. Among the reasons for the rising imports are a recovery in domestic demand for finished products from China, and an industrial recovery. Growth in India's exports worldwide has also pushed up the need for many crucial intermediate inputs, and disruptions elsewhere have led to greater sourcing from China in the short-term, for instance in the case of coking coal previously sourced from Australia and Indonesia. India's record imports from China in 2021, amid a continuing political impasse over the as-yet-unresolved crisis along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), have reignited a debate on whether the trade relationship and a growing deficit is sustainable. In the past 12 months, according to GAC data, the value of India's imports exceeded total two-way trade in 2019 before the pandemic. India is sourcing both finished goods for the Indian market, such as electronics, in record numbers, while also relying on China for a range of intermediate industrial products, many of which cannot be sourced from elsewhere and are not made in India in sufficient quantities.

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Letter to The Editor

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

Editor,
The Assam Rising
Guwahati, Assam

How food prices play out in India this year will depend on global inflation and local rains



Since March 2021, prices in the wholesale markets have been rising much faster than in the retail markets in India. Consequently, many experts predicted retail inflation would slowly 'catch up' with wholesale inflation in the coming months. In April 2022, at least in case of food, this 'catching-up' appears to have happened. Food inflation in the pipeline is finally showing up at retail levels. Since crops like pulses are cheaper, should the Narendra Modi government rethink the open import window to support farmers? As per the recently released WPI and CPI data, in April 2022, food inflation at wholesale and retail levels averaged about 8.8 and 8.4 per cent respectively. This gap of about 0.4 per cent is much smaller than say the gap of 4.2 per cent observed in January 2022 when the inflation rates were 9.6 per cent and 5.4 per cent respectively. For the catching-up, while the WPI food (WPIF) inflation rates slowed down a little (since February 2022), and CPI food

been talked about commodities that have become expensive, not much is being talked about commodities that are selling cheaper than last year. And there are a few important crops in that category. Let us consider onions. Last year, onions sold at about Rs 15.30/kg at this time in the biggest onion wholesale mandi of the country, Lasalgaon in Maharashtra. This year they are selling at Rs 8.5/kg. As per April 2022

PULKIT KHATRI

inflation rates, onion CPI fell by 3.8 per cent and WPI by 4 per cent. Eggs are a surprising entry into this category of low inflation. Poultry feed has two main components: energy and protein. While energy is largely derived from grains like maize, wheat, broken rice, etc., proteins are derived from oil meal cakes like soybean, mustard, etc. Everything is expensive from maize to soybean oil cakes now, but CPI eggs show a 0 per cent inflation rate in April 2022. In case of chicken meat, CPI inflation rate is about 14 per cent. Apparently, the feed cost impact in broiler (birds reared for meat) is more than in eggs. Pulses are a forgotten lot. Barring masur (lentils) and rajma, most pulses are selling cheaper than last year at wholesale level. Last year we were fighting double-digit

inflation in pulses driving the Narendra Modi government to undertake a series of steps to fight that inflation. From imposing stocking limits to signing MOUs with Myanmar, Malawi and Mozambique, the government took aggressive steps to control pulse prices. It even opened imports of tur, moong and urad in May 2021. In March 2022, it extended the window for 'free' imports for urad and tur till March 2023. Not surprisingly, inflation rates for these pulses have been low or falling. While lower inflation is good for consumers, does it disincentivise the farmers from sowing such crops in the coming months? Interestingly, all the three pulses—urad, tur and moong—are sown in kharif season. Farmers would now be deciding the crops they will grow in kharif 2022. Till now, prices of all three are ruling marginally above or closer to the MSP. Is a window of duty-free imports till March 2023 a dampener for urad and tur farmers? And, due to higher price realisations, will the farmer be incentivised to grow oilseed crops like soybean instead of pulses this year? The kharif sowing data does not raise alarms yet, however, the government will do well to keep a close tab and ensure that pulses do not become a crisis item by this year-end. For the country's nutritional security, the Modi government has strategically invested in Indian pulses by raising MSPs over

time. But after taking aggressive steps to curb price pressures in 2021-22, the government should now review the import duties and quotas so that farmers continue to have an incentive to grow pulses. In the coming months, inter alia, two risk factors emerge for Indian agri-prices: (i) continued contagion from high and rising global inflation; and (ii) monsoon rains. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s cereal price index in April 2022 was higher than during the 2008 food crisis. Its vegetable oil index has reached unparalleled peaks (Figure 2). Via imports, and greater export opportunities these higher global prices are likely to continue to pull up domestic prices in the coming months. Domestically, monsoons are the next critical factor. Unprecedented heat levels in March 2022 in north-western states and drying and erratic monsoon rain patterns are some of the palpable outcomes of the ongoing climate crisis India is witnessing today. With about 48 per cent of country's gross cropped area (GCA) still dependent on rains for irrigation, the centrality of monsoons in the country continues. As per IMD's first forecast, monsoons this year are likely to be normal. However, threats of long dry spells, and erratic monthly and geographic spread loom large. With thin wheat stocks and growing paddy exports, pressure on kharif and particularly paddy crop to do well is huge this year.

The LIC way or the Air India way - that is the multi-crore disinvestment question

Consider two recent sales by the government - of Air India wholesale to the Tata group, and shares in Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) to retail investors. LIC's offer price was at a fraction of the metrics at which private sector rivals are valued (typically, in relation to what is called embedded value). Yet its share has fallen since listing - a history that has bedevilled government companies before, like Coal India. In contrast to LIC, which remains 96.5 per cent owned by the government, Air India has been fully privatised. An earlier offer to sell while the government continued to own some shares found no takers. Even with all the shares on

offer, the sale happened only because the government more or less wrote off about Rs 50,000 crore. Most people now expect the airline to perform better. This dichotomy is not new. Privatised companies (chiefly the ones sold by Arun Shourie when he was in the Vajpayee government - zinc and copper producers, for instance) have tended to do better, post-sale, than most of the companies that have continued to be run by the government, with private shareholders in a minority. Many such "disinvested" companies are quoted at half or a third of their peak values, though the stock market indices are barely 10 per cent below their peak. The story does not change even when the government has put out



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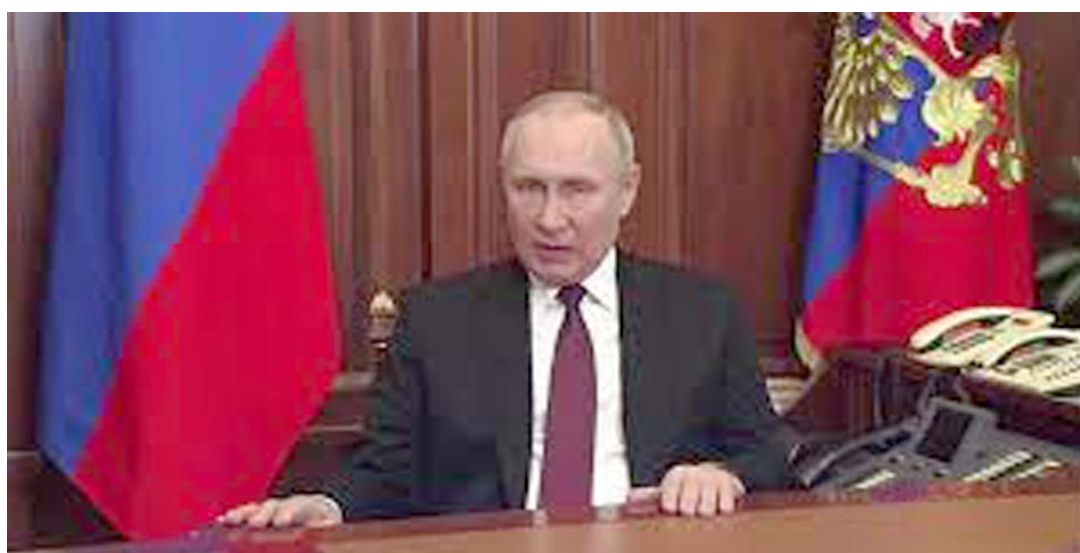
trillions as fresh capital in state-owned banks, or indirectly through massive write-offs in the twin telecom disasters BSNL and MTNL. The logic of "disinvestment" (as

different from privatisation) was that pressure from private investors, even if in a minority, would force state-owned companies to perform better and the government to stay at arm's length. The assumption was that public sector managers would do better if they were left alone,

free from government interference. That logic has worked in some instances, not in others. Defence undertakings like Hindustan Aeronautics and Bharat Electronics have enjoyed a measure of operational freedom, and their share prices are at peak levels. But these are quasi-monopolies. In a competitive situation, Larsen and Toubro's shipyard has shown that it can deliver ships within cost and time schedule, something that Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, another defence undertaking, has never done. The fact is that the room for decision-making in a public sector entity is constricted - which is why LIC and the public sector banks keep losing ground to private competitors. Besides, the proposition that the problem is the government, not public sector managers, negates the argument for listing government companies since many of them have continued to be subject to official whim. This therefore becomes an argument for outright privatisation - as with Air India, which was destroyed by ministerial interference. Defenders of the public sector will point out that private sector failures are as common as public sector ones. After all, most private banks that got licences (Global Trust, Centurion, etc) have ceased to exist, while others have been consumed by scandal (YES Bank). Ditto with most telecom licensees and private airlines. Admittedly so, but the point about competition is that losers should fall by the wayside, whereas with government companies the tendency is to pour more taxpayer money into losers' pockets. The real argument against privatisation in India's context is that any sale of a large company is likely to fall into the lap of one of India's oligarchs. No one sensible would want them to become more powerful than they already are. That is why the model that has worked in India is the privatisation of markets (aviation, telecom, banking, insurance) rather than of companies in those markets. But that still leaves the problem of dealing with the public sector losers in competitive markets.

It's too soon to celebrate Putin's losses - the hard miles are yet to come for Ukraine

There is near euphoria, currently, among supporters of Ukraine at the continued military reverses it is inflicting on Russian forces. But the truth is that Ukraine has a long way to go before it can achieve any kind of acceptable outcome from this war - and the going will get harder the closer it seems to come to victory. It's not just the large areas of territory under Russian control, where Ukraine still has to fight to relieve the suffering of its citizens under a savage military occupation. It's also the political and economic aspects of the war, which have been so often overlooked in the day-to-day tactical detail of Russia's often self-inflicted military disasters. The economic impact of the war is now getting more attention, not only the continual pounding of Ukraine's civilian infrastructure by long-range missiles, but also the global effects of Ukrainian exports being blockaded by Russia - exports that include food supplies vital for other



regions. There's been plenty of talk of who will fund reconstruction of Ukraine after the war. But there is a more urgent question: how can Ukraine's vital role in feeding the world can be preserved? And that economic stranglehold by Russia presents an additional political challenge to Ukraine in continuing the war. There is already pressure on Kyiv to make concessions to Moscow, and it will only increase as the broader economic impact hits

Keir Giles

home. Should Ukraine advance beyond the line of control before the invasion, and liberate occupied Crimea, this will present its backers with further serious questions. But that is no excuse for suggestions that Ukraine should give the aggressor a piece of its territory for the sake of Vladimir Putin's peace of mind. Ukraine's military successes are continuing, bolstered by more and more of its western backers - with the

continuing exception of some major EU states - overcoming their reluctance to help. But many of those successes still seem to be as much a function of Russian failures of military competence as of Ukrainian prowess. This shouldn't be relied on to continue indefinitely. As the war grinds on - and Putin has already belied predictions that he would seek a means of ending it by Russia's Victory Day - it shouldn't be ruled out that Russia may eventually arrive at a more sensible use for what military resources and manpower it has left.

The Russian military commentator and retired colonel Mikhail Khodarenok has received widespread attention for his critiques on Russian state television of the conduct of the campaign and the state of the Russian military. For now, Khodarenok is filling the role of a court jester or holy fool for Russia, occasionally permitted to speak the truth when all about him are still repeating the official lies. The reasons why he has been permitted to do so are as yet unclear, but some seasoned Russia-watchers are wondering if this suggests the prospect of a shaking-out of Russia's military or even the conduct of the war overall. And there are other vital needs for Ukraine that will be even harder to achieve than pushing back the Russian army. By Russia's own count, over 1 million Ukrainians have been removed to remote areas of Russia, in a horrifying echo of the deportation programmes of the 20th century - where "deportation" was a sanitised

euphemism for enslavement. The war will not be over for Ukraine until it has recovered its people - many of them highly likely to be held hostage by Russia as leverage once the fighting is notionally over, in the same way that Moscow held tens of thousands of British and American prisoners of war as bargaining chips long after the end of the second world war. As realisation of the costs of backing Ukraine sets in across Europe, and the war drags on with the looming prospect of another winter with vicious increases in energy prices, support for Ukraine to fight on may dwindle among western EU leaders and their publics. That will be an ongoing challenge not only for Ukraine, but also for those of its backers who see clearly that this is not just Ukraine's war - and that it is vital that Putin does not come away from this venture thinking that it has been anything other than a catastrophic strategic blunder.



Traditional food of North-East

Northeastern India is one of the richest floras in India, where people depend on shifting cultivation systems and forest based food products for their sustainable survival. This region, which lies under eastern Himalayan ecosystem, is not only rich in plants diversity but also have a great treasure of cultural, social and linguistic variability, conserved by tribal people. The region is a treasure of indigenous knowledge systems pertaining to agriculture, food, medicine, and natural resources management. People are habituated to live and survive with the forest

Sanjay Gogoi

ing techniques and preservation methods of food culture, which ensure a range of ethnic foods rich in nutrition and compatible to culture and ethnicity of tribes. Since time immemorial, rural women of this region have selected many wild plants and non-vegetarian foods through trial and error. Women have conserved many local crops, ethnic vegetables and indigenous fruits used in local diet for food and nutritional security. Most of these indigenous materials are collected by women folk either from the forest areas, conserved in shifting land or indigenous kitchen gardens. These ethno botanical resources used in traditional foods are based on the location specific demand, culture, economy, ethnicity, food habit and overall needs. Different fermented and non-fermented foods are used in various combinations with traditional vegetables to meet the food and nutritional security. Mainly the different tribal women share these traditional foods at community level in various cultural occasions (like Etar, Solung and Aran festival in Adi tribe), which ensure the equitable food availability and balanced nutrient supply to all the members of village. The traditional foods consumed by tribes of Northeastern region are intimately connected to virtually all aspects of their socio-cultural, spiritual life and health. The new generation in the same community has undergone a rapid change in their diets over the past 30 yrs. due to intervention of modern crop varieties, materialistic life and current trend towards increasing use of commercial processed foods. For tribal people, traditional food use transformation has been radical, as people have moved from a diet in which the majority of nutrients drawn from local food, to more generic diet of storebought food, most of which are produced and processed far away from locality. People have affinity for sweet-tasting things, and these sweeteners were added to many fruits, vegetables, and even cereals & pulses based flours, which are having harmful effects. Changing cropping pattern, types of farming systems and fast foods through globalization process, accompanied by decrease in the use of traditional vegetables, fruits and fermented ethnic foods of local tribes of northeastern region has resulted in many diseases most notably, heart disease, stroke, diabetes and other ailments. There is an urgent need to explore, analyze and document the ethnic foods (fermented and no fermented) consumed by tribal communities of Northeast India and its associated dynamics to understand, food consumption pattern and availability, nutritional and medicinal values and associated cultural and social aspects of ethnic foods. The present study was carried out in the seven states of Northeast India to explore the diversities and types of ethnic foods made of soybean, bamboo shoot, tree bean, laisaag (leafy mustard) and rai (Brassica juncea). Traditional knowledge of tribal women and their practices of ethnic foods preparation has much relevance to the sustainable food and nutritional security of hilly societies and ecosystems. Every tribal community of Northeast India have their own food habits based on the location specific diversities on crops and forest resources, culture, ecological edges and sea-

sonal variability. The fermented foods prepared from soybean, bamboo shoots, rai and laipatta were found to be compatible with the nutritional security and subsistence economy of tribal women. The wisdom of using plant materials for fermenting and processing were found to be unique and scientific in nature (subjectively) to ensure the good health of tribal women of Northeastern region. The processing of these foods and associated dynamics are transmitted from generation to generation and exchanged within and between communities. Selectivity, harvesting techniques and preservation methods of food

based planting materials indicate the holistic sustainable view of tribal women. Across the culture and bioregional domain, knowledge related to ethnic foods and their consumption patterns vary on account of the women's native knowledge, personal taste and demand of family members. These knowledge systems are basically governed and managed by the elder of society and communicated through the traditional ways of communication. Culturally and nutritionally important soybean and bamboo based foods have become centralized among the old age people and younger generation is no longer interested in learning about these foods systems, thus threatening the traditional foods and eco-culture of tribal societies. Many elements need to come together for positive changes to prevail such as skilled teacher, who hold the traditional knowledge, wisdom and values; interested learners who have the opportunity and desire to become skilled and access to intact, productive environmental or environment capitals on which to build and practice. If any one of these significant element is missing, the ecosystem and socio-cultural dynamics associated with foodweb of Northeastern region cannot be sustaining. The women's knowledge of bio resources used in preparation of ethnic foods and its dynamics with ecocultural aspects reminds us to acknowledge the context of diversities of social capital of Northeastern region and their role in sustainable use of traditional foods and management of related natural resources.



Women and their contribution to animal husbandry in rural India

India, an agricultural based country has a tremendous potential in animal husbandry. It has very large population of livestock and poultry which play a leading role in upliftment of the socio-economic conditions of the rural people. According to 2020-21 report, livestock sector contributes 4.11% to the GDP and 25.6% to total Agriculture GDP. Livestock sector not only produce food for human consumption but also provides rural income through drought power, fuel and has a vital role in self-employment of the rural women. Animal husbandry is thus considered as an engine for economic growth of the country and for bringing a desirable change in the society. In India, livestock production is largely in the hand of women and 70% of the total workforce engaged in livestock sector. Women play a significant role in animal husbandry. According to ox-farm India report, women are responsible for about 60-80% of food production and 90% of dairy

production. Except grazing, all other livestock management activities like milking the animal, cleaning of animal and their sheds, watering, collecting and processing of cow-dung, collection of farmyard manure etc. are predominantly performed by women. Dairying sector is also considered as an important subsector which provides sustainability to landless, small and marginal women farmers. India is the largest producer of milk in the world but in term of milk yield and performance of per dairy cattle, it is lowest in the world. Besides livestock, poultry production is also maintain by women from caring to management all the functions are entrusted to farm women. Poultry sector contributes about 2% to the national G.D.P. India ranks 3rd in egg production and 4th in broiler production. Both broiler and layer industry are growing at an equal rate and provides direct employment to the millions. Rural/backyard poultry provides a source of income and generate self-em-



Shasanka Sandilya

ployment to the rural women through sale of eggs and birds. Piggery sector has also been an emerging area through which rural women can be self-employed. Feed conversion ratio (F.C.R) in pigs is significantly good which provides a good output in form of meat (pork). Goat farming is also popular and rural women are well equipped in rearing and

management of goat. Women can earn a regular daily wages through the selling of milk and meat respectively. Thus this entire sector has a significant potential in empowering rural women, it not only provides a source of regular income but also improves the socioeconomic status of the women as well as the family. Although, the contribution and involvement of women in animal husbandry is significantly

high but their role has always been underestimated. It is due to this reason, "National women farmer's day" is celebrated on 15th October every year with an aim towards working on an action plan which will better feminisation of agriculture as well as animal husbandry. This will also provide better access to credit, skill development of women farmers, and entrepreneurial opportunities.

Cultural varieties of Deoris



The Deoris prefer those areas having a river and suitable agricultural land. Thus most of the Deori villages are located near a river. The river not only supplies them with water but also provides fish. During Summer they collect firewood from the river banks. The firewood are carried by the strong currents of the river. Neanness to a forest is also considered for establishing a village as forests provide not only firewood but also herbs and roots other medicinal plants. Following villages

were established by the Deoris after migrating from the original place. The unique feature of traditional one clan one village is maintained by the Deoris at least in case of the broad divisions. Besides unlike some other tribes, the villages are solely inhabited by the members of the tribal community and non-tribal families are not found inside a Deori village. But this does not mean that the Deoris do not mingle with nontribals rather they have a cosmopolitan outlook while dealing with nontribals. Unlike some other

Ripunjy Deori tribes like Misng, Tiwas, Karbis, Dimasas, the Deoris do not have dormitories for bachelors in the village. Normally dormitories were used by the bachelors to spend the night and in the morning they leave the place for their respective homes. Among the Deoris the bachelors spend the night at the "Michon" (an open veranda of a residential house). However, this prestigious institution is survived in one or two Deori villages only. Normally an Eleng Achecho is located in

a central place of the village or in a corner of a village. All the unmarried youths become the members of a dormitory. The members have to follow certain rules and behaviour. Women and even married adults are not allowed entry to the dormitory. Traditionally unlike some other tribes, the Deoris do not have any dormitory for unmarried girls. Outsiders can enter the dormitory with permission from the Gaonbura. Tribal life without bamboo cannot be imagined as this product has multifarious use right from building a house, preparing fishing implements, weaving articles, for making fans and other household articles of daily use. In fact the material culture of the Deoris, by and large, can be called as bamboo culture. "The Deoris depend largely on market for their earthen jars which are required for storing water as well as storing "Suja" (rice beer). The staple cereal food of the Deoris is rice. Along with rice they take boiled green vegetables seasoned with chillies and salt. For their meat supply they rear pigs, fowls, ducks and goats. The meat of other animals is scrupulously avoided. The poultry and pigs are not only reared for household consumption but these constitute as good source of income for women-folk who use the money for purchasing yarn clothes, ornaments etc. Fish forms a special delicacy in the Deori meal. Rice beer (Suja) is prepared in most of the households and it is served to all particularly during festivals. Today, however, rice beer consumption among the educated sections is fast disappearing. Rice beer is a prime item in their festive occasions which is also offered to the visitors. Habit of taking tea is fast coming up among the educated boys and girls. The elderly people take red tea without sugar. Due to Government efforts, some families are growing wheat but wheat products like Atta, Maida etc. are not prepared in the families. There is a section "Buruk" among the Tengapania Deori who consider eating of mutton as taboo. A legend prevalent among them states that the Buruks were immortal and for years together they were deprived of feasts as nobody from them died.

Rita Boro's Novel, Bachiram Jwhwlaolao

Rita Boro one of the dynamic novelists in Bodo literature has grown as an important literary architect in the fictional prose. She has succeeded in recording the socio-cultural aspects of the Bodo Community throughout the pages of her novels. Her novel Bachiram Jwhwlaolao is remarkable in highlighting the age-old heritage of the Bodo Culture. In narrating the main story of the novel, the author has synthesized a number of folk cultures exercised in Bodo society. In this respect she has quoted some folk songs which are in vogue among the Bodo people which reflect the socio-economic, socio-cultural, religious belief and customs of the community. The author has recollected the past incidents of the Bodo society when they were fighting with enemies since its inception. Bachiram, the hero of the novel is nationalized as a symbol of the constructed society. The folk song sung at certain moment has inspired the hero in approaching the war courageously. Through the folk songs the novelist takes the privilege in reflecting the customs of the Bodo community. This paper attempts to analyze the significance of the folk songs presented by the novelist in her novel Bachiram Jwhwlaolao. Rita Boro is a popular novelist in Bodo literature have well-established common image in the society. It is an outstanding creating structure of the author from which the large number of antiquities form of literary framework carry out in to the history of Bodo literature. The author has created limited numbers of folksong in her fictional prose but have lots of folk or traditional knowledge also. That time was a beginning step for the development of Bodo literature. Rita Boro was a writer the age of modern period in Bodo literature. During that period numbers of novelists were became in the growth and development stage. That moment was pursuing to review in its trend and it was a challenging moment to expedite their creating source in Bodo literature. That information was reflecting the sign of effective image in different language and literature in Northeast India. From amongst Rita Boro prominently established her dignity through the writing capacity and used simple technique,

method, and use of style etc. in her writing text. The Bachiram Jwhwlaolao (Bachiram Hero) is one of fictional prose of her own creation which is published in 2019. Bachiram Jwhwlaolao is a mythological novel of Rita Boro in the analysis procedure. The structural phenomena are orally transmitted from the folk society in this way Bachiram life is the co-existence status in the form of literature. In this respect there should be study on the folksong and are impersonal in their approach to subject matter", the above referend content is similarly related part with the Bachiram Jwhwlaolao novels. Bachiram is a national hero is demanded by the Bodo community and encourage him to forward to battle field to fighting with the enemy. In this sense different folksong was sung by the followers. Bachiram Jwhwlaolao novels have some folk song which is related with the Bachiram character these songs categories are related with session or spring time, fishing habit, funny song, narrative song and ballad types etc. Once time there was a Kundu kingdom nearby Bhutan country. Bachiram is a main leader of the Kundu Kingdom where there was the name of king Debthairwn. During his leadership Bachiram was got a girlfriend name is Jwbwthi. When Jwbwthi was catching fish in the cannal at that moment suddenly Bachiram was reached to the place where Jubwthi was catching fish that time Bachiram was suspect that the fish catching sound it may be dangerous vi-

brant of the deity suspected by Bachiram, for this cause

Chittaranjan Mushahary which was a

sung in the Bachiram Jwhwlaolao fictional prose. Folksong is a traditional utterance or song which show repetitive patterns which is circulate by words of mouth. Folksong Richmond say" concentrate on a single episode, develop their stories dramatically

through-out this fiction have some important character seeing in the story. In this story Bachiram Jwhwlaolao is a main protagonist which is narrated by the author. The advantage of the story is culminated to folklore status in the context. It is the structural status for conducting



Chittaranjan Mushahary

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Assam Legislative Assembly will

Assembly during the first anniversary of the govt. Assam Assembly Speaker Biswajit Daimary today said that the government is planning to 'digitize' the Assembly premises amid efforts to adopt modern technology to ensure more efficiency. Digital passes will be introduced in the Assembly premises for the first time. MLAs will also get digital passes which will immediately clarify their status and security personnel will get to know at once. From now onwards, the MLAs will also be able to use laptops inside the Assembly. They will also be able to avail of internet service. Daimary said that broadband internet service will be installed inside the Assembly and the legislators will be able to use it. Mobile phones, however, will not work as 'jammers' have been installed on the premises, confirmed Daimary. He also said that vernacular reporters reporting for non-Assamese mediums will also be given the facility to report from the Assembly grounds. "Some reporters will only be able to stay on the grounds; some others will be allowed to enter the gallery. However, some senior reporters will be able to enter the minister's chambers," Daimary said. Daimary also confirmed that Assam legislators will be able to speak in Bodo in the state Assembly. The decision was reached earlier during a special meeting attended by Assam Legislative Assembly Speaker Biswajit Daimary, who represents the Bodo people.

25 dead in floods across three

on the railway tracks, the only high ground that did not submerge in the floodwaters. People from Changjurai and Patia Pathar village have been left in the lurch after they lost almost everything they had in the floods. The villagers, who have taken refuge under temporary shreds made of tarpaulin sheets, claim they have not received much help from the state government and district administration over the last five days. 43-year-old Monwara Begum is living under a temporary shred along with her family after their home in Patia Pathar village was destroyed in floods. Four other families from have also joined them to survive the floods. They all are living under the same sheet in inhumane conditions, with almost no food. "For three days we were under the open sky, we then took some money on credit and bought this tarpaulin sheet. We are five families living under the same sheet, there is no privacy," said Monwara Begum. Beauty Bordoloi's family is also living in a tarpaulin sheet after losing their home in Changjurai village. "Our harvest-ready paddy crop was destroyed in floods. The situation remains uncertain as it is very difficult to survive like this," she told. "The situation here is extremely challenging, there is no source of safe drinking water, we eat only once a day. We have only received some flattened rice over the last four days," said Ms Bordoloi's relative Sunanda Doloi. "We got help from government yesterday after four days. They gave us little rice, dal and oil. But some have not received even that," Nasibur Rehman, another flood victim from Patia Pathar told. The flood situation in Assam remains grave, with over 8 lakh people across 2,585 villages in 29 districts hit by the natural disaster. Fourteen people have died in the floods and landslides triggered by pre-monsoon rains. As many as 86,772 people have taken shelter in 343 relief camps, while another 411 relief distribution centres are also operational. The Army, paramilitary forces, and national and state disaster relief forces have evacuated 21,884 people from various flood-hit areas using boats and helicopters.

CM Dr. Sarma inaugurates TIC

happy to inaugurate Technology Incubation Centre at Assam Biotech Park which he believed would be helpful in encouraging the entrepreneurial culture among the students and professionals from the initial stage of their curriculum to equip them with potentials to become job providers rather than a job seeker. He also said that the venture would be a catalyst to create a momentum towards sustainable development in the state. Chief Minister Dr. Sarma also said that his government has given a lot of emphasis to create a balance between economy and ecology. He, therefore, said that the programme 'Shayamalima Kamrup' where extensive plantation drives would be launched will be replicated across the state to create a green environment to support sustainable development in the state. Chief Minister Dr. Sarma synchronising with the occasion also released Assam Biotech Policy 2022-27. He said that his government is according top priority for the growth of biotechnology which according to him will play a pivotal role for future development. He also said that under the dynamic leadership of the Prime Minister, Government of India has made tremendous efforts in promoting bio-science research, entrepreneurship and creating an ecosystem of start up ventures. He said that in line with Assam Biotech Policy, Government of Assam will also formulate and release Start Up Policy for encouraging a robust platform of start up avenues in the state. He also thanked Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan for his ministry's help and his presence which according to him would enable the state to script new success stories in collaborative ventures between Government of Assam and central institutions like IIT Guwahati. Union Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister for Science and Technology Keshab Mahanta also spoke on the occasion. Minister for Education Dr. Ranaj Pegu, Director IIT Guwahati Prof. T.G. Sitharam, DC Kamrup who is also the CEO of Assam Biotech Park along with other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

CM Himanta Biswa Sarma rated

to ask a series of questions on a wide range of issues. During the survey, the respondents were asked to rate the performance of the Chief Ministers of their respective states. In the case of Assam, more than 43 per cent of the respondents said that they were very much satisfied with the performance of Himanta Biswa Sarma, while in case of Kerala and Tamil Nadu, more than 41 per cent expressed the same sentiment. The high rating of Himanta Biswa Sarma stands out as he is the Chief Minister of a deeply polarised state where Muslims, who constitute more than one-third of the electorate, are not favourably disposed towards the BJP. In contrast, West Bengal CM Mamta Banerjee scored 39 per cent in the "very much satisfied" category when almost similar number of minorities stand rock solid behind her party. It may be recalled that Sarma had resigned from the Congress to join the BJP in 2015. He played a pivotal role in BJP winning the 2016 Assembly elections in Assam for the first time in the electoral history of the state. Another 44 per cent of the Tamil Nadu respondents said they were somewhat satisfied with the performance of Stalin, while 37 per cent of Assam respondents were somewhat satisfied with the performance of Sarma. Reflecting the polarised nature of politics in Assam, about 18 per cent of the respondents were not satisfied with the performance while 13 per cent of Tamil Nadu respondents were not satisfied with the performance of Stalin. The surprise winner of 2021, Pinarayi Vijayan, had 41 per cent of the respondents very satisfied with his performance, while another 30 per cent were somewhat satisfied with his performance. About 27 per cent of the respondents were not satisfied with his performance. Into her third term as the Chief Minister of West Bengal, Mamata Banerjee brought up the rear in the popularity sweepstakes. More than 39 per cent of the respondents said they were very satisfied with her performance, while another 41 per cent were somewhat satisfied. The poll was conducted on a daily basis for the last 12 months, after these CMs took charge of their respective offices following the fiercely-contested Assembly elections last year.

Rahul Gandhi harming India in his

has often spoken negatively about the country in foreign places like the US, the UK and Singapore. "He keeps making such comments frequently and it will not be wrong to say that this amounts to betraying the country," Bhatia said. The opposition leader, who is on a tour of the UK, had an interaction session at the 'Ideas for India' conference organised by non-profit think-tank Bridge India on Friday. He attacked the BJP government and said Indian democracy is a "global public good" and a central anchor for the planet, and if that cracks, it is going to cause a problem for the planet. Asked about the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Gandhi drew parallels with the Chinese actions in Ladakh. Like Pakistan, the "deep state" is eating India, he alleged.

DU's Hindu College professor arrested

to police, a case was registered against Lal under IPC sections 153-A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion) and 295-A (malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings) based on a complaint by a "social worker". An FIR was registered at Cyber Police Station late Tuesday night. After his social media post went viral, Lal had posted a video saying he had received several threats online, and asked police for "security" and help. On Wednesday, Lal had told The Indian Express: "I was not expecting threats and abuses for this statement. There is a long tradition of critique in Hinduism from Phule, Ravidas and Ambedkar. Here, I haven't even critiqued it, it is just an observation. In our country, religious feelings get hurt over anything. What will people do, just put patti (bandage) on their mouths?"

Assam-Arunachal Pradesh border dispute

Pradesh, Shah said that the Centre is committed to bringing peace and development to the region. He said that the governments of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam were working for an amicable and permanent resolution of the inter-state boundary dispute. "Youths of North-east no longer carry guns and petrol bombs. They are now carrying laptops and are launching startups. This is the path of development that the Centre has envisaged for the region," he said. "Manipur, which was earlier known for bandhs and blockades for more than 200 days a year, is now witnessing a sea of change without any bandh during the last five years of BJP rule in the state," he said. Shah said that the insurgency in the Bodoland region of Assam was resolved through the signing of the Bodo Peace Accord. "Surrender of militant groups in Tripura and resolving of the Bru refugee issue was undertaken by the Modi government. The Union Home Ministry has taken initiatives to bring peace to Assam's Karbi Anglong," he said. The Union home minister said that a three-pronged agenda has been prepared for the development of the Northeast. "Firstly, we would preserve and promote the indigenous cultures and languages of the region. Secondly, we want to end all disputes among the northeastern states and make it free from insurgency and thirdly, we want to make the eight states the most developed in the country," he added.

Mob attacks Batadrava police station after

station and ransacked the police station. Later, the mob set the police station on fire. According to reports, one Safiqul Islam of Salnabari in Dhing was on the way to Sivasagar to sell fish when he was allegedly detained by Batadrava police on Friday night. However, the family members of the deceased discovered Safiqul's body in the morgue of the Nagaon civil hospital on the very next day, which led to an uproar. The agitated family members on Saturday gheraoed the Batadrava police station and blocked the road by placing the body in front of the police station. When the news of Safiqul's death spread in the Salnabari area, an enraged mob of hundreds of people attacked the police station. The villagers accused the policemen of beating Safiqul for failing to give away a duck and cash Rs 10,000, resulting in his death. Meanwhile, three people have been arrested for attacking the police station, informed the top Nagaon police officials.

Heavy Rains to Continue Lashing Assam

more than 1,900 villages in the northeastern state. The resultant inundation has been described as 'unprecedented', and it has so far killed at least 10 people while affecting more than 7 lakh. The army, NDRF and state forces have been carrying out rescue and relief operations day and night, but the shortage of essential items and widespread destruction of properties continue to haunt the people that remain marooned as well as those rescued from the affected areas. Meanwhile, persistent rain spells since the month of April have dumped above-average precipitation over several northeastern states during this pre-monsoon season. Between March 1 and May 19, Assam (701.7 mm) and Meghalaya (1334.5 mm) have recorded 'large excess' rainfall as compared to their respective long-term averages, while Sikkim (734.2 mm), Nagaland (359.1 mm) and Manipur (390.4 mm) have registered 'excess' figures. On the other hand, the precipitation over Arunachal (756.2 mm) has been 'normal', whereas Mizoram (279.1 mm) and Tripura (331.6 mm) have suffered 'deficit' rains this season.

'Congress doesn't want to be Big Daddy': Rahul Gandhi

New Delhi, May 21 : After his remark, that the Congress alone can fight the BJP as regional parties neither have an ideology nor a centralised approach, upset many parties in the opposition, senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has now opted for a more nuanced position. He said his remarks in Udaipur were misconstrued and that he does not consider the Congress as "the big daddy." Gandhi said the Congress is in no way "superior" to the other opposition parties. He said all the parties are fighting the same battle but added that the "ideological battle that is taking place is between the national vision of the RSS and the national vision of the Congress." During an interaction in London, Gandhi also said that the Congress was not winning elections because of polarisation and the dominance of the media by the BJP. He added that the fight in India is not a political fight, it is not a fight between one political organisation and a set of other political parties. "We are now fighting the institutional structure of the Indian state which is being captured by an organisation which means the only way for us... we will get no respite from the institutional framework of our country... the only way for us is to go to the large mass of the India people. And that is not just the Congress... that is for all opposition parties," he said. He said the Congress will have to think about an organisational system which is much closer to a large mass of the people. "And we also have to think of large-scale mass movements on issues like unemployment, prices, regional issues and we have to coordinate with our friends in the opposition. So I don't view the Congress as the big daddy. It is a group effort with the opposition but it is a fight to regain India." Asked whether he was cementing collaboration with other parties to move forward, he said: "Yes. And the point I made in Udaipur which was misconstrued is that this is an ideological battle now and it is a national ideological battle which means that, of course, we respect... for example the DMK as a Tamil political organisation, but the Congress is the party that has the ideology at the national level. So the Congress will have to think about itself as a structure that is enabling the opposition. In no way is the Congress superior to the other opposition parties. We are all fighting the same battle... they have their space... we have our space. But the ideological battle that is taking place is between the national vision of the RSS and the national vision of the Congress," he said. In his concluding remarks at the Udaipur Chintan Shivir last week, Gandhi had said that the Congress alone can fight the BJP as the regional parties neither have an ideology nor a centralised approach. "Regional parties belong to some caste. They don't represent everyone," he had said. "This battle cannot be fought by a regional party. Because this is a battle of ideology. The ideology of the RSS is fighting against the ideology of the Congress. BJP will talk about the Congress, its leaders and workers but will not talk about regional parties. Because they know that regional parties have a space but they cannot defeat the BJP because they don't have an ideology. They have different approaches. We have a centralised approach. And our fight is about ideology," he said. On why the BJP is winning elections and Congress is not despite issues like unemployment and rising prices, he attributed it to "polarisation and total dominance of the media." "Also, there is another thing which one has to accept which is that the RSS has built a structure that has penetrated into the large mass. And the opposition parties and the Congress need to build such structures. And we need to go much more aggressively to the large mass of people... the 60-70 per cent of people who do not vote for the BJP and we need to do it together," he said.



Guwahati- Skill Training in driving scheme launch



Guwahati- Street Vendor selling seasonal fruit Litchi

Supreme Court seeks Pegasus Report By June 20

New Delhi, May 21 : In the case involving allegations that Israeli-made Pegasus software was used to snoop on journalists, activists and politicians in India, a Supreme Court-appointed committee was today granted four more weeks to submit a report on its investigations. A bench headed by Chief Justice NV Ramana said the committee would complete its inquiry by May end. The report will be handed over to the Supreme Court by June 20, after it is examined by a supervising judge. The Supreme Court will take up the case in July. "A standard operating procedure for testing the 'infected devices' will be finalised too," the Supreme Court said. The committee told the Supreme Court it has examined 29 mobile phones for the spyware, and also has recorded the statements of some petitioners, activists and journalists. Multiple petitions before the Supreme Court have called for an investigation into allegations that the Pegasus spyware - sold only to governments - was used to target opposition leaders, journalists and others in India. An international media consortium reported that over 300 verified Indian mobile phone numbers were on the list of potential targets for surveillance using the Pegasus spyware. Petitioners, including former union minister Yashwant Sinha, CPM MP John Brittas, Supreme Court advocate ML Sharma, the Editors' Guild of India and individual journalists, had asked the court to order the government to produce details of the alleged unauthorised surveillance using Pegasus. The Supreme court, in October 2021, ordered an investigation headed by former Supreme Court judge Justice RV Raveendran. The Supreme court had said that in a democratic country governed by the rule of law, "indiscriminate spying on individuals cannot be allowed". "We live in the era of the information revolution, where the entire lives of individuals are stored in the cloud or in a digital dossier. We must recognise that while technology is a useful tool for improving the lives of the people, at the same time, it can also be used to breach that sacred private space of an individual," the court had said in its order.

Visa scam case: MP Karti Chidambaram moves anticipatory bail application

New Delhi, May 21 : In connection with an alleged visa scam case, Congress MP Karti Chidambaram on Friday (May 20) moved an anticipatory bail application in a Delhi Court. Opposing his bail plea before the court, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) said that the application was not maintainable at this stage. The court, however, observed that if the central probe agency wanted to arrest Karti, the latter needs to be given a notice three working days earlier. The CBI submitted before the court that the agency "will give notice at least 48 hours earlier if he needs to be arrested." The court, which noted that Karti Chidambaram is presently not in India, said that "the accused shall join the investigation within 16 hours after he reaches India". The CBI on Thursday got four days remand of S Bhaskar Raman, a close aide and former chartered accountant of Congress MP Karti Chidambaram, in the alleged visa scam case. "It is reflected from the submissions of CBI that investigation has started in this case which is at its inception, investigation officer is required some time to collect all the relevant information which may be necessary in this case, therefore, in my considered opinion, it would be appropriate that 4 days police remand custody is granted to the CBI," ANI quoted Special CBI Judge Prashant Kumar as saying on Thursday. The court further noted that the accused is admittedly CA of Karti Chidambaram and he has been wanted in another case wherein he has been enlarged on bail. "The FIR is dated May 14, 2022. It is further reflected that though the accused has been inquired about during this period, however, a detailed inquiry, as well as a recording of his statement, is yet to be done," the court observed. On behalf of CBI, it was stated that there are other accused persons involved in this case for which relevant information is required to proceed ahead in this case. While seeking remand of S Bhaskar Raman, the CBI alleged that the accused being CA of Karti Chidambaram has a relevant piece of information as well as various e-mails which are required to be extracted from him for which his police remand is required.

Omicron subvariant BA.4 found in Tamil Nadu, says state health minister

New Delhi, May 21 : After India's first infection of Omicron subvariant BA.4 was confirmed in Telangana's Hyderabad, Tamil Nadu Health Minister Ma Subramanian on Saturday (May 21) said that one case of the subvariant has been detected near the capital Chennai, ANI reported. Speaking to mediapersons, the Tamil Nadu Health Minister said, "One case of BA.4, a sub-variant of Omicron, has been recorded in Chengalpattu district near Chennai." He further informed that the BA.4 subvariant was reported in a family, where two individuals tested positive for the coronavirus. The 19-year-old daughter, who tested Covid-19 positive on May 9 and was apparently infected with BA.4 subvariant, the minister said. "The family, where the case was reported has two COVID-19 positive cases. The mother and her daughter got tested positive for COVID on May 4. They don't have any travel history. Both are vaccinated with two doses in the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive. Their contact has been traced and tested," the Health Minister said, adding that both the patients are keeping well. On May 15, the samples of the 19-year-old girl and her mother were sent to the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) for whole-genome sequencing, where it was discovered the mother was infected with BA.2 sub-lineage of the Omicron variant and the daughter had BA.4 variant.

Red Bull fume over 'clone' Aston Martin while Alonso rages at F1 stewards

Barcelona, May 21 : Formula One opened the European leg of the season in sweltering temperatures and an appropriately heated and fractious atmosphere in the paddock. Fernando Alonso launched a scathing attack on the FIA, the sport's governing body, for which he faces a potential punishment, while Red Bull in turn expressed scorn and disbelief at Aston Martin, who were accused of copying the design of their car. Before practice had even begun at the Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya the brickbats were flying. Aston Martin, who have been off the pace all



season, wheeled out the updated version of their AMR22 car which bore a striking resemblance to the mightily quick Red Bull RB18, with which Max Verstappen has already won three races this season. At the end of last year, two senior

aerodynamicists, Dan Fallows and Andrew Alessi, left Red Bull to join Aston Martin and the Red Bull Team principal, Christian Horner, noted his "grave concern" that Red Bull's intellectual property may have been compromised. "It is quite a thing to instruct your team to come up with a very close-looking clone of our car and, of course, a few people have moved over the winter period, and what you can't control is what they take in their heads," he said. The Aston Martin has already been dubbed the "green Red Bull" and Red Bull's pit-wall team were pointedly sat with the green version of the

drink at their work stations during practice. Aston Martin have form in this department. When the team were Racing Point in 2020, they used photographs to mimic the design of the title-winning Mercedes of 2019, after which the FIA banned teams from copying rival designs. The FIA issued a statement on Friday announcing they had concluded a legality investigation into the Aston Martin, with both teams involved, and ruled no wrongdoing had been committed and that it was not a result of reverse engineering or of an illegal transfer of intellectual property (IP).

Giro d'Italia: Démare lands sprint hat-trick as breakaway comes up just short

London, May 21 : Arnaud Démare took his third victory of this year's Giro d'Italia on stage 13 after the peloton thwarted a spirited breakaway within sight of the finishing line in Cuneo, in north-west Italy. Démare once again proved the class of the sprinting field in the race as he held off Phil Bauhaus and Mark Cavendish after his Groupama-FDJ team delivered him to the front, securing his 10th career Grand Tour stage win, eight of them in the Giro. Cavendish fought his way past Fernando Gaviria in the finale, while Bauhaus finished the fastest having launched too late, but there was no catching Démare as he extended his advantage in the points classification. That all came after a four-man breakaway was finally reeled in inside the final kilometre. "At some point I started to doubt that we'd be able to catch the breakaway because some elements of my team had given everything they

had," Démare said. "They were very committed actually. I've also had the feeling that I was cooked myself. Only with 10km to go, I've started to believe it would be a sprint finish. I was at the limit for sprinting. It's exceptional to get one more win."



Existent well priced to eclipse Winter Power at Haydock

London, May 21 : The official ratings suggest that Winter Power, last season's Nunthorpe Stakes winner, has at least 9lb in hand of her 11 rivals in Saturday's Temple Stakes at Haydock, but Tim Easterby's filly disappointed twice after her Group One success and will need to be back to something like her best to win this well-contested Group Two. There were no obvious excuses for either of those poor runs and though Winter Power won first time up in 2021, a price of around 13-8 seems very short in the circumstances. Half a dozen opponents could take

advantage if the favourite is below her best, including Came From The Dark, Twilight Calls, King's Lynn and Last Crusader, but the horse that seems to have crept in almost unnoticed at around 12-1 is Stuart Williams's Existent (3.45). The four-year-old was much improved on the all-weather over the winter and stepped up another notch when finishing strongly to take second in the Palace House Stakes at Newmarket last month. That was a well-run Group Three and on that form, Existent should not be twice the price of Twilight Calls, who was a length behind him in

fifth. Haydock 1.25: Songo put up a career-best when returning to the Flat at Bath earlier this month and has an obvious chance to follow up from a 5lb higher mark. Goodwood 1.45: River Pride looks much improved this season and can underline the point here, having run into a rival with a similarly progressive profile when second at Newmarket last time. Haydock 2.00: A fascinating stayers' handicap and Goobinator, fourth in the Cesarewitch last season and hurdling since, could still have some scope for improvement on the Flat.

Aaron Wise escapes serious injury after ball strikes him on head



London, May 21 : The world No 91 Aaron Wise enjoyed a lucky escape from serious injury after being struck on the head by a wayward tee shot during the second round of the US PGA Championship. Wise was bending down to assess the lie of his ball in rough at the 7th hole at Southern Hills as Cameron Smith, playing the adjacent 2nd, cracked a drive in his

direction. Wind strength back towards Smith meant Wise did not hear a clear shout of 'Fore.' Smith's ball struck Wise on the right side of his head, which left a mark on his hat and left the 25-year-old applying an ice pack for a lengthy period after the end of his round. He had applied a cold water bottle to the injury at the time of the incident. "I was surprised my ball wasn't in the fairway and

the next thing you know, there's a little bit of ringing in my head and I was down on the fairway," Wise told the Golf Channel. "Obviously, there's a lot of adrenaline in the body after something like that happens. So it's really just trying to calm myself down and get back to feeling somewhat normal for the last few holes." Wise added that he felt "fine" but a "little sore." Joel Dahmen, playing alongside Wise, described the incident as "a glancing blow." Dahmen added: "All the spectators heard it. It was loud. He was definitely shaken getting into that next shot, for sure." To Wise's immense credit, he saved par at the 7th. His second round of 72 left him on one-over par for 36 holes and likely to make the cut. It has been reported that a television reporter was struck in the face by a ball during round one, which left the individual in question requiring hospital treatment.

Switching PGA courses after mob rampage a success for all bar Trump

London, May 21 : The horrors associated with a violent mob rampaging around the US Capitol last year meant a subsequent decision relating to a golf tournament barely registered. Donald Trump's Bedminster golf course had been announced as the 2022 US PGA Championship's host venue in 2014. With Trump caught in the middle of the Capitol storm, the PGA of America changed its plan, and Southern Hills in Tulsa, Oklahoma was the beneficiary at short notice. "We find ourselves in a political situation not of our making," said Seth Waugh, the PGA of America's chief executive. "We're fiduciaries for our members, for the game, for our mission and for our brand. And how do we best protect that? Our feeling was given the tragic events



that we could no longer hold it at Bedminster." The damage could have been irreparable. The only real course of action was to leave. "It was a fine call then, just as it is now. Trump, once such an advocate of the PGA Tour, has shuffled off to form a dubious alliance with Saudi Arabia. His Doral course in Miami will stage the closing event of this year's LIV Golf Series, funded by the kingdom's Public

Investment Fund. The partnership feels perfectly appropriate. If there is a widespread and a perfectly reasonable sense that golf has suffered through the R&A's understandable refusal to stage the Open Championship at Trump-owned Turnberry, this US PGA switch has been an unquestionable success. Southern Hills was a strong course in 2001 and 2007 - when it staged the US Open and US PGA

respectively - but has been elevated by changes overseen by the renowned course architect Gil Hanse. Days one and two in Tulsa have seen every facet of golf tested; as is precisely the way it should be in a major. The showcasing of this course to a broader audience has been entirely worthwhile. "We were trying to be truthful to the original design," said Hanse of his Southern Hills project. He had used old photographs with that in mind. This largely related to the restoration of slopes around greens, as were created by the original architect of this course, Perry Maxwell. With typical modesty, Hanse has said he does not want his "fingerprints" visible here. Instead a sense of: "This is what Perry Maxwell did."

London, May 21 : The end of the season is the most emotional time in the footballing year. It's when teams lift trophies and escape the drop and when fans give a salute to their heroes, with the Premier League promising to come to a spectacular conclusion in the last round of fixtures on Sunday. But in 2022 the season's climax has seen emotion turn to disorder, once more causing disquiet at all levels of the game. Pitch invasions by

supporters have caused trouble at Nottingham Forest, Northampton, Everton and Port Vale this week, as playoff fixtures and relegation matches ended with players being targeted by fans. On Thursday Robert Biggs, a 30-year-old Forest season-ticket holder, was jailed for 24 weeks for running on to the pitch and head-butting Sheffield United's Billy Sharp. That same night there was a pitch invasion at Goodison Park after Everton's dramatic 3-2

win over Crystal Palace that staved off the threat of relegation from the Premier League. The Palace manager, Patrick Vieira, was involved in a confrontation with an Everton fan where Vieira appeared to aim a kick at a man taunting him. The Football Association and Merseyside police said separately they were looking into the incident. Meanwhile the government threatened five-year bans on fans convicted of selling or taking class A drugs, as Boris

Johnson said "middle-class cokeheads" were driving crime across the country. The Manchester University academic Geoff Pearson, a leading voice on fan culture and crowd safety, has argued that a "carnival" culture among some fans has been exacerbated by the absences from stadiums caused by the pandemic. But he also says behaviours have been unlearned during that time and punishments of the like imposed on Biggs are necessary to turn the tide. "There is an accountability issue," he says, "and it takes time to correct that behaviour. But if you look back to the 80s people said hooliganism was intractable and between 1988 and 1994 we got a grip of it quite quickly. We're now in a much better place than then and police already have the tools they need. But ultimately it is fans who will start to re-establish boundaries and that will be enforced by people being banned."

Wimbledon stripped of ranking points over ban on Russian players

Wimbledon, May 21 : The ATP and the WTA have decided to penalise Wimbledon for its decision to ban Russian and Belarusian players from the tournament by stripping ranking points from the tournament this year. The decision marks the most significant split among the tennis governing bodies in a long time. It means that Wimbledon will essentially be rendered an exhibition event in the tennis ecosystem, with players unable to earn the ranking points this year as they do at all other official tournaments. Those who performed well at last year's edition will be unable to defend their points, meaning there could be significant disruption to the rankings. "The ability for players of any nationality to enter tournaments based on merit, and without discrimination, is fundamental to our Tour," said the ATP in a statement. "The decision by Wimbledon to ban Russian

and Belarusian players from competing in the UK this summer undermines this principle and the integrity of the ATP Ranking system. It is also inconsistent with our Rankings agreement. Absent a change in circumstances, it is with great regret and reluctance that we see no option but to remove ATP Ranking points from Wimbledon for

2022." In their statements, both the ATP and WTA stressed that by banning Russian and Belarusian players, Wimbledon have breached their rankings agreements: "The recent decisions made by the All England Lawn Tennis Club (AELTC) and the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) to ban athletes from competing in the upcoming

UK grass court events violate that fundamental principle, which is clearly embodied in the WTA rules, the Grand Slam rules, and the agreement the WTA has with the Grand Slams," said the WTA. Additionally, the ITF has announced the removal of points from the juniors and wheelchair tournaments at Wimbledon.

Fresh look to US PGA Championship leaderboard with Will Zalatoris on top at halfway stage



London, May 21 : In the city that houses a new museum dedicated to Bob Dylan, the times they are a changin'. How else to explain a major

leaderboard as has Will Zalatoris and Mito Pereira - without a main tour victory between them - at the summit? Zalatoris leads Pereira by one at the halfway point of this US PGA Championship. A 64 from Pereira, the 27-year-old Chilean, was already in the books before Zalatoris putted out for a 65. Nine under par plays eight under par. Increasingly benign conditions were notable on Friday

afternoon but these were still terrific performances. "I actually got away with murder a few times," said Zalatoris. Rory McIlroy, in a similar position on the draw, could fare no better than 71. McIlroy remains firmly in the picture at Southern Hills - he is five behind Zalatoris - but looked and sounded frustrated at failure to capitalise on a course that had little by way of defence. "There's a long way to go, a lot of golf left," said

McIlroy. "We're going to see a completely different golf course the next two days because of the wind direction. It's going to play completely differently." McIlroy was nudged into a share of fifth by Bubba Watson. The two-time Masters champion rampaged towards a 63, which included nine birdies. Watson thereby leapt from plus two to minus five. Tiger Woods delivered a sense of familiarity.



Dina Asher-Smith says Florence Griffith Joyner's world records are at risk

Washington, May 21 : Florence Griffith Joyner's imposing and controversial women's 100m world record of 10.49sec could finally fall this summer, Dina Asher-Smith has forecast. The British sprinter insisted that the rapid improvements in spike and track technology meant "nothing is impossible" for modern athletes - including surpassing Flo-Jo's iconic 100m and 200m records set in 1988. Last summer the Olympic champion Elaine Thompson-Herah ran 100m in 10.54 on the lightning-fast track in Eugene where the world championships will be staged in July. And Asher-Smith predicted that with a stronger tailwind and more boisterous fans behind the athletes, history could be made. "I think someone can break it, definitely, given the advantages of shoe technology, definitely given the increase in track technology," said Asher-Smith, who runs her first 100m of the season at the Birmingham Diamond League on Saturday. "I ran in Eugene and that track was great." That, plus all the advantages - the competition, nice winds, amazing crowds, we have all been starved of crowds because of the pandemic. "We shouldn't put limits on ourselves," she added. "When you



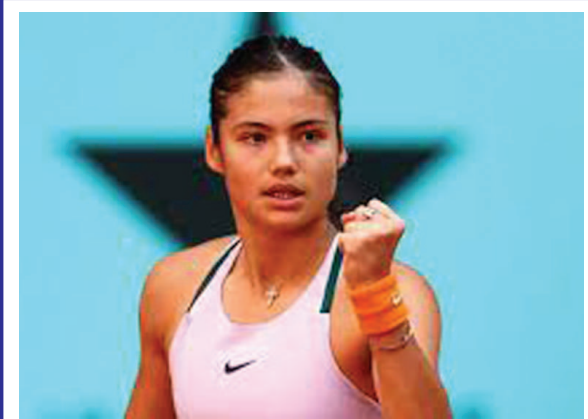
stop thinking about limits and focus on the processes, who knows what can be achieved? Everything seems impossible until it's done." If Griffith Joyner's 100m world record was to fall it would be greeted with relief by many fans. At the time eyebrows were raised about the American's rapid improvement, although she never failed a drugs test, as well as whether the wind gauge was correct when she set her record. And when Asher-Smith, whose personal best of 10.83 is a British record, was asked whether she might be the one to break it, she did not demur. "If I said no, what would you say?" she asked. "Crazier things have

been done and nothing is impossible. I'm excited to go out there and put together some really good races. Who knows?" Asher-Smith's confidence is based

on a belief that she is a far better athlete than when she won the 200m world title in 2019 - her only frustration being that she has not been able to show it due to the pandemic and a hamstring injury before last summer's Tokyo Olympics. "It's been a long, long time since I ran a PB and I'm definitely one of those people who tries to PB year on year," she said. "It has been annoying. But I'm confident in the work that I've done. Just how much of a different person, different athlete I am since 2019 - it's light years away. When I peak, which is championship time, it will be amazing to lay down some really good times." Asher-Smith is the headline act in a mouthwatering Diamond League that features multiple Olympic medalists in action, including the Brit-

ons Keely Hodgkinson and Laura Muir in the women's 800m and 1500m respectively, Josh Kerr in the men's 1500m, and Holly Bradshaw in the pole vault. A capacity crowd of 16,000 will cheer the athletes on, and the event will be shown live on BBC One. But Asher-Smith conceded that the sport needed to do more to attract bigger audiences. "A Netflix show would be brilliant," she said. "It would provide a really good insight to get to know what we are like. I would also like to have more events in the major cities, maybe get some more street races back. Make sure we have lots of fun, energetic, energised events. I think that should be the priority to engage Gen Z." It would also help if athletes were more forth-

coming in interviews and the hugely likable Kerr did that this week when he said he "didn't want to be on a yoghurt pot". That was an oblique reference to UK Athletics' sponsor Müller, which has used British stars to promote its yoghurts, but it did not go down well with all his teammates. On Friday, Kerr took the controversy in his stride. "How boring is our sport when that's making headlines for three days?" he joked. "We need sponsors but I just like to have a bit of fun." And from a personal standpoint, I've been in the sport since I was nine years old and I want to be at the top of the world. When I do that, then we can start talking about me being a poster boy for cereal boxes and yoghurts."



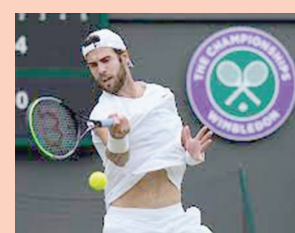
Emma Raducanu enjoys the buzz in Paris as she keeps focus on gym work

London, May 21 : After enjoying a solid clay court season, nonetheless filled with various injury niggles, Emma Raducanu arrives at her first senior French Open content with her progress but still figuring out how to optimally manage her body as a professional athlete. Raducanu says that she is still in the process of learning about her body, and she has been increasing her work in the gym in the hope of strengthening it and building up its resistance to injuries. "I think it's something I'm definitely learning to enjoy with each bit that I do," she said of her focus on gym work. "I kind of get that positive reinforcement and I feel really good about myself and each time I feel like even if I do a little bit, I'm getting better and it's something that I think helps you mentally as well if you know that you definitely put the work in. I'm gonna be out there, I'm gonna outlast or be fitter than my opponent on the other side of the court and it's definitely something that I want to continue." Raducanu arrived in Paris on Thursday, her first time back at the French Open since she contested the junior event in 2018, and in the afternoon she trained before a crowd on Court Suzanne Lenglen. Such is the enduring buzz around her, a solid crowd was on show to watch her play and cheer her various drop shots. After retiring against Bianca Andreescu with a back injury in Rome and appearing unsure of whether she would be fit in time for the French Open, she says she is moving freely now and enjoying her practices again. "I'm learning about my body, for sure, but I'm very happy to be continuing my preparations for the French Open and to be able to play this tournament and fortunately I didn't have to miss this grand slam," said Raducanu. "That is definitely a really positive thing because I really look forward to these big moments and the big tournaments." The draw has been fair to Raducanu and she stands a chance of piecing together victories in Paris if she is healthy. She begins against a qualifier and the first seeded opponent she could face is the former world No 1 Angelique Kerber, who is notorious for her dislike of clay courts and has lifted the trophy at all grand slams apart from Roland Garros. Regardless of how she fares this year, perhaps the biggest revelation for Raducanu is how much she has embraced the surface and how much she believes the surface has embraced her game, something she was not sure about at the beginning of the swing. "I think that I have definitely come a long way and probably progressed faster than expected in the last few weeks and I really am enjoying the clay. To be honest, I think I'm enjoying it more than I thought I would. Clay at the beginning kind of was like written off: 'Oh, it's a clay court, just have a go.' But now I really believe that I can be good and faster than I thought it would be," she said. A week after he suffered a flare-up of his chronic foot injury during his loss to Denis Shapovalov at the Italian Open and gave a sobering description of his situation afterwards, Rafael Nadal spoke with notable optimism about his presence in Paris. Nadal, who is trying to establish his top form after a fractured rib halted his 20-0 start to the season, said that the foot problem he suffered in Rome is something he has to accept. The pain will always be present and the important point is whether he can manage it. "It is something that I live every day with, so is nothing new for me and is not a big surprise. So I am here just to play tennis and to try to make the best result possible here in Roland Garros, no? And if I don't believe that this thing can happen, probably I will not be here," he said. Novak Djokovic, meanwhile, was unmoved by the news that Nadal stands as a potential quarter-final opponent, even as he identified Nadal and Carlos Alcaraz as the other big tournament favourites.

Wimbledon's Russia ban prompts tours to cut ranking points

Paris, May 21 : Russians, Belarusians, Russians Wimbledon, Belarusians Wimbledon, sports news, indian express The women's and men's professional tennis tours will not award ranking points for Wimbledon this year. The women's and men's professional tennis tours will not award ranking points for Wimbledon this

year because of the All England Club's ban on players from Russia and Belarus over the invasion of Ukraine, an unprecedented move that stands as a significant rebuke of the sport's oldest Grand Slam tournament. The WTA and ATP announced their decisions Friday night, two days before the start of the French Open - and a little more than a



month before play begins at Wimbledon on June 27. In a technical sense, this renders the event an exhibition, be-

cause there are no ranking points at stake. Still, it remains Wimbledon, with its traditions and prestige, from the grass underfoot to the all-white clothing, from the Royal Box to the strawberries and cream, not to mention millions of dollars in prize money, and so the expectation is that everyone eligible to enter will do so.

Barça aim to seal superpower status in Women's Champions League final



Paris, May 21 : Three years ago, Barcelona were humbled in Budapest by a strong and athletic Lyon side powered by more than a decade of investment. By the half-hour it was 4-0, with Ada Hegerberg's 17-minute hat-trick stealing the show. A late consolation goal by the substi-

tute Asisat Oshoala would do little to ease the bruising. It was the Spanish side's first Champions League final but Lyon's sixth European title, their fourth won consecutively, and they added a seventh the following year. As Barcelona players, with tear-stained faces, stopped to speak to the waiting media there was a feeling that the

standard they needed to aspire to had been emphatically set. It was thrilling then last summer to see Barcelona dismantle Chelsea with an eerily familiar ruthlessness to lift the trophy for the first time. That 4-0 defeat of Emma Hayes's side in Gothenburg lifted the pressure on a club that had set conquering Europe as the number one goal. On Saturday, against Lyon in Turin, they have the chance in another final not only to exorcise the ghost of 2019 but to shift the narrative from it having been a crushing defeat to a moment of learning. "For every team that has ambition and goals, when you lose a game you go back to the drawing board and ask yourself questions about why you lost the game, what happened, what went wrong," said the Barcelona forward

Oshoala. "We lost to Lyon three years ago in the final in 2019, yes, but it was also a good defeat for us. It helped us open our eyes and see what we could improve as a team. We needed to play more together, we needed to stay together more, we needed to improve on our defensive activities, we needed to be faster - there were a whole lot of things that went wrong in the game." The defender Irene Paredes, who joined Barcelona from Paris Saint-Germain last summer having finally piped a dominant Lyon to the Division 1 title, said that "everyone made a change" at Barcelona after that 2019 final. "They trained more in quantity and quality. Also, a lot of the players are the same and that's really good because you have the same players, with a lot of talent, and now with a lot of

experience. Losing that way helps you be better; you understand what you need to do. Physically as well they have grown a lot." Talk of a power shift at the top of European women's football after Barcelona's trophy win last summer has frustrated Lyon, long-time investors in the women's game. "There was women's football before Barcelona, and it was played here for years," Hegerberg told L'Équipe pointedly before Lyon's semi-final defeat of PSG last month. "We have to win again to regain our place in world football." Oshoala is not of the mind that a shift has taken place and goes as far as describing Barcelona as underdogs. "Lyon is the team to beat in Europe," she said. "They're one of the powerhouses of women's football in Europe. It's not like we're

out for revenge [for the 2019 final] but we want to put on a better show. We lost 4-1 the last time against them and we don't want the same to happen again. We want people to enjoy football. We want people to have fun. Football is about entertainment. Of course, we want to win, but the most important thing is you want to show the world that you've improved, and that you are a better team from the team they saw three years ago." Paredes's understanding of Lyon could be part of the key to unlocking them. "I played against Lyon many, many times," she said. "It's one of the best clubs in the world, so it's going to be really, really difficult, but my experience of course counts.





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