

# The Assam Rising

Projecting the best of Northeast India everyday

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Drugs peddlers

**Assam Rising  
Guwahati, June 08 :**

Assam police on Wednesday made three separate narcotics seizures at Boko, Digboi and Dabaka in the state as the war on drugs intensifies. In an operation in Boko in the Kamrup district of Assam, police arrested one peddler and seized illicit substances from his possession. The detained peddler has been identified as Alom Ali, a resident of Goraimari in Chhagaon. Officials informed that heroin weighing 13.42 grams along with two mobile phones and Rs 31,020 in cash were seized from him. The seized drugs are worth around Rs 1 lakh, police added. In a separate operation conducted at Bordumsa village along the Assam - Arunachal Pradesh state borders another narcotics smuggler was apprehended.

### DCs' Conference

**Assam Rising  
Guwahati, June 08 :**

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma chaired a meeting with senior officials and Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Sonitpur district to discuss the upcoming DCs' Conference. The meeting was conducted through an online conference with an aim to review the preparations for the meeting. An official statement read, "The second Deputy Commissioners (DCs) conference will be held in Tezpur in Assam's Sonitpur district on June 12 and 13 to review the implementation of government policies and schemes." Assam Chief Secretary Jishnu Barua and other senior officials were also present in the meeting. The first 2-day DCs conference was held in Diphu in Karbi Anglong district in August last year.

### AAP unit

**New Delhi, June 08 :**

With eyes on the upcoming Gujarat Assembly polls, the Aam Aadmi Party on Wednesday dissolved its state unit to restructure the party in order to trounce the ruling BJP in the elections. "Except for the AAP Gujarat president's post, all other party positions have been dissolved, and a larger and more powerful structure will soon be announced in its place as part of the poll strategy," AAP Gujarat chief Gopal Italia was quoted. The Gujarat AAP president said that all party positions at the state, district, taluka levels, frontal organisations have been dissolved.

## Cabinet expansion : Assam Cabinet To Get Two New Ministers



**Assam Rising  
Guwahati, June 08 :**

Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday informed that two new ministers will be inducted in the cabinet on

June 6 (Thursday). According to an official press communiqué, the two new inductees are Nalbari MLA Jayanta Mallah Baruah and Haflong MLA Nandita Garlosa. Both the inductees won from their respective

constituencies in the 2021 state assembly elections from BJP ticket. Baruah also holds the profile of political secretary to leader of the BJP Legislative Party (Chief Minister of Assam). The swearing-in ceremony will be held at Kalakshetra in Guwahati tomorrow at 3pm, the press

communiqué further stated. This is notably the first cabinet expansion since the formation of the Himanta Biswa Sarma-led cabinet on May 10. In the 14-member ministry, 11 members are from the BJP, two from Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) and one from United People's Party - Liberal

(UPPL). According to Article 164(1A), the total number of ministers in a state cannot exceed 15 per cent of the total number of members of its legislative assembly. Assam, which has 126 members in the assembly, can have maximum 18 ministers, including the chief minister, as per the law.

## 1994 Assam Fake Encounter: High Court seeks court martial proceedings of seven convicted Indian Army personnel

**Assam Rising  
Guwahati, June 08 :**

In a case related to killing of five men in a fake encounter in Assam 28 years ago, the Gauhati High Court has told the petitioners to get a copy of court martial proceedings of seven convicted Indian Army personnel before a decision on compensation for the victims' families is

taken. The Summary General Court Martial (SGCM) had in 2018 sentenced the seven personnel, including a Major General, to life imprisonment for the 1994 killing of five men detained after the murder of a tea estate manager. High Court Acting Chief justice N Kotiswar Singh and Justice Nani Tagia said the details

## Forget Congress 'mukt', we are now Congress 'lupt': JP Nadda

**Kolkata, June 08 :**

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) chief JP Nadda on Wednesday attacked the Congress party over dynasty politics and said that country is now 'Congress lupt' and not just 'Congress mukt'. In an apparent dig at Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, he said that the grand old party, too, has become an organisation run by a brother and a sister. Nadda, who is in Bengal on a two-day visit, also claimed that almost all regional outfits in the country, including the "aunt-nephew party" of the



TMC, have become family-run organisations. Attacking Congress again, Nadda said, "Indian National Congress is neither Indian nor national. Its leaders talk to the workers from London. It has become a party of brother-sister," he said in a direct attack on the Congress party. Addressing a gathering of BJP workers in

Kolkata, Nadda also alleged that the Trinamool Congress (TMC) has no principles or policies, but only syndicates. He stressed that very soon, the BJP will form a government in West Bengal through "democratic means". "40 years ago, my

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## BJP Draws The Line For Spokespersons After Prophet Comments Row

**New Delhi, June 08 :**

The ruling BJP has set new

boundaries for its spokespersons and leaders joining TV debates as its government faces a huge international backlash over party leader Nupur Sharma's comments on Prophet Muhammad. Only authorized spokespersons and panelists will participate in TV debates, BJP sources say, and they will be assigned by the media cell. The spokespersons have been warned against criticising any religion, its symbols or religious figures. BJP panelists have been forbidden from crossing the line during heated discussions. They have been urged to keep their language restrained and not get agitated or excited,



sources say. For no provocation can they violate the party's ideology or ideals, they add. The BJP has ordered its spokespersons to first check for the topic of the TV discussion, prepare

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## Violence broke On Voting Day In Karbi Anglong



**Assam Rising  
Guwahati, June 08 :**

Violence broke out at night on Tuesday at Socheng Dhenta in which one person was injured ahead of elections for the Karbi Anglong Autonomous

Council (KAAC). According to reports, violence broke out at number 17 Rongbongway in Socheng Dhenta in Assam's Karbi Anglong over allegations of distribution of cash for votes. Allegations were made against the ruling party for distributing money

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## Rajya Sabha polls Congress accuses BJP of trying to subvert mandates

**New Delhi, June 08 :**

The Congress on Wednesday said it has the numbers in Rajasthan and Haryana and is confident of the victory of its candidates from the two states in the upcoming Rajya Sabha election. Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera accused



the BJP of trying to subvert

mandates and displace governments where it has lost the electoral contest and said the country has seen such examples in Madhya Pradesh, Goa and Uttarakhand in the past and even during previous Rajya Sabha elections. Khera said the priority of the ruling party should be governance and not displacing governments where it is not in power. He also raised objections over the claim of Subhash Chandra, an Independent candidate from Rajasthan in the Rajya Sabha polls, that he has the support of six Congress

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## Khelo India: Assam Govt. Announces rewards for medal winners and participants

**Assam Rising  
Guwahati, June 08 :**

The Assam government on Wednesday announced cash incentives for the medal winners of the Khelo India Youth Games 2021. As per the government announcement, Gold medal winners will receive a reward of Rs 1,00,000. Rewards of Rs 75,000 and Rs 50,000 will be given to winners of silver and bronze medals respectively. Moreover, Rs 20,000 will be given to each participant

from Assam. The highly-anticipated Khelo India Youth Games-2021 has begun in Panchkula on Saturday (June 4). The multi-disciplined sporting event is officially termed Khelo India Youth Games 2021 as it couldn't be held last year due to the COVID-19. In this mega sports event, 62 athletes of Assam participated. It may be recalled that the tournament will continue till June 13. These decisions were taken in a meeting held under the chairmanship of Minister of sports and



youth welfare, power, Cultural and Tourism depart-

ment Bimal Bara at Janata

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## 'Have nothing to hide, we are a law-abiding party': Congress on ED summons to Sonia Gandhi, Rahul



**New Delhi, June 08 :**

The Congress on Wednesday said it is a law-abiding party and its leaders have nothing to hide from the Enforcement Directorate, which is probing a money laundering case against Sonia Gandhi and her son Rahul in connection with the National Herald-AJL deal. The Congress party said that its leaders Sonia

Gandhi and Rahul will appear before the ED as "they have nothing to hide" from the central probe agency and that the BJP should learn lessons from it. The reaction from Congress came after Sonia Gandhi was asked to appear before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Wednesday in connection with a

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## Kaziranga national park : Speed Limit Set On NH-37

**Assam Rising  
Guwahati, June 08 :**

Several restrictions were imposed by authorities along national highway 37 that passes through the Kaziranga national park in Assam in view of the possible floods. With the view of protecting the fauna of Kaziranga, the Bokakhat

sub-divisional magistrate has imposed restrictions including regulation of speed limits on the stretch. The official order read, "During high flood season, the wild animals of the Kaziranga national park have a natural tendency to migrate for shelter towards the Karbi

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## Assam Science Society (ASS) has formed its Delhi NCR branch

**Assam Rising  
Guwahati, June 08 :**

The Assam Science Society (ASS) has formed its Delhi NCR branch. May 29, 2022 marks a historic day in the history of Assam Science Society (ASS), in its Annual General Body Meeting held in CSIR Northeast Institute of Science and Technology (NEIST), Jorhat confirmed the formation of the ASS Delhi NCR Chapter under the presi-

dentship of renowned Delhi-based Environmentalist Dr Pranab J Patra. "For anyone associated with the Society, it is a big moment; for the first time in its journey of 70-years, this grand-old institution, dedicated to the promotion of scientific temperament and scientific pursuit in the region, is now able to register its formal presence in the Delhi NCR Region," a statement from the Assam Science Society read. Underscoring it as a long-overdue step, the



General Secretary of Assam Association Delhi and an Advisor to the newly formed ASS Delhi NCR branch Dibyojit Dutta said, this

group hopefully will help promote qualitative and quantitative Science Education among students from Assam and its neighboring

areas. The Assamese diaspora of Delhi NCR not only showed immense

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Assam CM Dr. Sarma participated in a programme at Sri Sri Uttar Kamalabari Satra, Majuli on June 8.



Shows the scenery of Mount Wuyi in southeast China's Fujian Province

## The Congolese student fighting with pro-Russia separatists in Ukraine

**Moscow, June 08** : Fighting alongside pro-Russia separatists as part of Moscow's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine wasn't mentioned in the brochures of Luhansk University when Jean Claude Sangwa, a 27-year-old student from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, moved to the breakaway region last year to study economics. But when the head of the Kremlin-controlled, self-declared Luhansk People's Republic announced a full military mobilisation of the region on 19 February, Sangwa, together with two

friends and fellow students from DRC and Central African Republic, decided to join the local militia and take up arms against Ukraine. "I joined because the war came to our republic. What should I have done? I am a man and have to fight," Sangwa said in broken Russian. "The whole world is fighting against Russia," he added when asked why he had decided to join the militia. Sangwa moved to Russia two years ago to study in Rostov, a city close to the Ukrainian border, and then moved to Luhansk, which had been captured by separatists backed by the Russian army in

2014. There is a long tradition of Africans studying in Russia, beginning from when the Soviet Union started offering scholarships to African students in newly independent socialist and communist states in the post-colonial period. Between the late 1950s and 1990, about 400,000 Africans studied in the Soviet Union. While the numbers decreased significantly after the fall of communism,

Vladimir Putin recently said more than 17,000 Africans were currently enrolled in Russian universities. Shortly after joining the Luhansk militia, Sangwa was sent into combat and spent two months fighting. During that time, many of his African friends assumed that he was dead and posted goodbye messages on his social media accounts. Three days after the war started, on 27 February, Sangwa's photo was posted

online by Find Your Own, a Telegram channel created by the Ukrainian internal affairs ministry to identify captured and killed soldiers. The post said Sangwa had been killed by Ukrainian forces alongside another African soldier. "The Ukrainian enemy found my military ID card and said I was dead. I am alive, as you can see," Sangwa said. He is currently back patrolling the streets in Luhansk as a member of the militia.

Prophet," Mufti further added. The former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister said she condemns the Al-Qaeda threat against India but at the same time she alleged that now BJP will use this threat to strengthen their narrative that "Hindus are in danger". Bashing the BJP and the Central government, she said, "Action was only taken when Gulf countries built their pressure on India, and they were forced to act otherwise they were not in the mood to punish them. Further, she questioned the action taken against the ex-BJP leaders Nupur Sharma and Naveen Jindal. The PDP chief said, "The action taken against their spokesperson for Anti Prophet (PBUH) remarks is very minor" and alleged



that soon those persons will be rewarded and garlanded. She added that the BJP leaders are known for their hatred of Islam and Muslims. The former J&K CM said, "Remember Akhlaq, who was lynched and his lynchings, when released from jail, were welcomed and garlanded." "In India, it has become another norm to object to Muslims at every level, from their food to what Muslims wear everything is being objected to. And I would not be surprised if tomorrow those two

spokespersons will be too welcomed and encouraged for their anti-Muslim work," the ex-CM said. She said, "No one can tolerate the way the BJP spokesperson used derogatory words against the Prophet which has hurt the sentiments of Muslims all over the world. The Muslims across the globe are angry." When asked about the lesser number of devotees in the annual religious festival of "Mata KhirBhawani", Mufti said, "Policies had ruined the atmosphere recently. Rahul Bhat and other belonging to minorities were targeted and killed, it is obvious that the number of devotees in temple will be less, but she hoped that things won't remain the same." She said she believes time will change again and the Pandits will celebrate the Mela with full enthusiasm in coming times.

## Pro-Russia officials open trial against Britons captured fighting in Ukraine

**Mariupol, June 08** : Russian proxy fighters in east Ukraine have said they are opening a trial against two Britons, Aiden Aslin and Shaun Pinner, who were captured fighting alongside Ukrainian soldiers in Mariupol. The



two men, who are serving in the Ukrainian military, and Ibrahim Saadun, a captive from Morocco, were shown sitting in a courtroom cage reserved for defendants in a video released on pro-Russian social media channels on Tuesday. Prosecutors from the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic, a proxy government in east Ukraine controlled by Russia, have said that the men face the death penalty for "terrorism" and for fighting as "mercenaries" against the Russian invasion. If the images from the courtroom are confirmed, the men would be the first Ukrainian soldiers to be tried by pro-Russian forces in what observers say could be a series of show trials meant to justify Russia's invasion of Ukraine. "Do you know the information in your indictment?" an interpreter asked Aslin, 28, from Newark,

Nottinghamshire. "Tak tochno," he replied, a military response meaning "affirmative". Shaun Pinner, 48, from Watford and Bedfordshire, also said he understood the charges against him. Russian officials have threatened to hold military tribunals they have called "Nuremberg 2.0", meant to mirror war crimes trials being held in Kyiv for atrocities committed by invading Russian soldiers. Observers say the trials may be deliberately constructed to put maximum pressure on the west and to prompt prisoner exchanges for Russian soldiers captured and tried in Ukraine. In a statement, Aslin's family asked for privacy from the media. "This is a very sensitive and emotional time for our family, and we would like to say thank you to all that have supported us," they said.

## Matthew McConaughey passionately pleads for gun control at White House

**London, June 08** : Matthew McConaughey, a native of Uvalde, Texas, holds up artwork by one of the victims of the mass shooting at Robb Elementary School shooting at a press conference on gun violence in the James S. Brady Press Briefing Room at the White House in Washington, DC on Tuesday, June 7, 2022. Matthew McConaughey made an emotional plea for US lawmakers to pass gun control legislation during an appearance at the White House on Tuesday, where he urged Congress to "reach a higher ground". The Academy Award-winning actor called for bolstering background checks for gun purchases and raising the minimum age to purchase an AR-15-style rifle from 18 to 21. "We want secure and safe schools and we want gun laws that won't make it so easy for the bad guys to get the damn guns," McConaughey said. His speech came in the wake of last month's shooting rampage at an elementary school in his hometown of Uvalde, Texas, that killed 19 students and two teachers. In a highly personal 22-minute address, McConaughey exhorted a gridlocked Congress to pass gun reforms that can save lives without infringing on second amendment rights.



Shows the scenery of Mount Wuyi in southeast China's Fujian Province

## Mystery Russian superyacht sets sail for the US after Fiji court ruling

**Moscow, June 08** : She cost \$325m (£258m) to build, and millions more each year to run. When not at sea, the Amadea superyacht requires a crew of 24 deckhands and engineers to keep her shipshape. In written evidence to a court in Fiji, where the vessel has been the subject of a legal battle over which Russian oligarch she belongs to, her captain listed the costly, and perishable materials: marble, gilded metal fittings, sensitive carpets, silk, precious



woods and leathers, teak decking, mirror polished stainless steel and a high gloss paint system. Without the right care, and the kind of temperature and humidity controls normally used to preserve valuable artworks, the captain said the Amadea would "rapidly deteriorate", leaving "an unsaleable hull". He put the cost of simply keeping her in dry dock at \$1.1m per month. "There are

a very, very limited number of buyers who can afford her upkeep, let alone her purchase price," he explained. The identity of that buyer will now be settled in a US court. Seized during a voyage in the South Pacific at the request of the US authorities, the Amadea has spent the last few weeks docked in Lautoka Wharf in Fiji, awaiting the outcome of a legal dispute between the

Department of Justice in the US and the British Virgin Islands company in whose name she is registered. Fiji's supreme court ruled on Tuesday morning that the vessel could be handed to the US authorities, and the Amadea is now headed for America. Lawyers acting for a previously low-profile Russian oil boss, Eduard Khudainatov, insist he is the owner. They say he is the settlor of a trust, established under English law, which ultimately holds the vessel through a twisting trail of offshore companies. American officials allege Khudainatov is merely a stand-in. They say the Amadea belongs to one of Russia's richest men, the gold tycoon Suleiman Kerimov, who is currently subject to western sanctions.

## Missing British journalist's wife pleads with Brazil to find 'love of my life'



**Rio de Janeiro, June 08** : The wife of the British journalist who has vanished in a remote corner of the Amazon with a celebrated Indigenous expert has issued an emotional plea for Brazilian authorities to work harder to find "the love of my life". "I want to make an appeal to the federal government and the relevant organs to intensify their search efforts, because we still have some hope of finding them," Alessandra Sampaio, the wife of longtime Guardian contributor

Dom Phillips, said in a tearful video message. "Even if I don't find the love of my life alive, they must be found, please - intensify the search," Sampaio implored, breaking down as she spoke. Phillips, 57, was last seen on Sunday morning travelling by boat through the remote Javari region with an Indigenous advocate, Bruno Araujo Pereira. Days earlier, Pereira, who has spent years defending the region's isolated tribes for Brazil's Indigenous protection agency, reportedly received a

written threat stemming from his opposition to illegal fishing gangs plundering the Javari's rivers. "We know who you are, and we'll find you to settle the score," it warned, according to the newspaper O Globo. The pair were also threatened on Saturday, when a group of armed men brandished firearms at a patrol by members of the Univaja Indigenous association, according to the association's president Paulo Marubo. Phillips photographed the men at the time, Marubo told the Associated Press. Brazilian police on Tuesday opened a criminal investigation into the men's disappearance. On Tuesday night, Amazonas state police said they had interviewed five people so far: "four people as witnesses and another ... as a suspect." Forty-eight hours after the two men were last seen heading towards the river town of Atalaia do Norte by

## Artist Paula Rego, known for her visceral and unsettling work, dies aged 87

**London, June 08** : Paula Rego, the internationally celebrated Portuguese-born British artist known for her visceral and unsettling work, has died aged 87. The Victoria Miro gallery announced Rego's death on Wednesday, saying: "She died peacefully this morning, after a short illness, at home in north London, surrounded by her family. Our heartfelt thoughts are with them." The painter, who recently had a retrospective

exhibition at Tate Britain, rose to prominence after exhibiting with the London Group in the 1960s alongside David Hockney. In the following years she spent her career focusing on women's rights, and abortion in particular. Having grown up in a privileged family in Portugal under Antonio Salazar's fascist dictatorship, Rego was fascinated by fairytales, and her political paintings span themes of power, possession, childhood and sexual transgression.

## No regrets over handling of Vladimir Putin, says Angela Merkel

**London, June 08** : Angela Merkel has said she feels no regrets for her handling of Vladimir Putin during her time in power, arguing that Russia's president would have perceived a 2008 Nato membership plan for Ukraine that was blocked by her government as a "declaration of war". The former German chancellor also claimed that an oligarch-run and democratically immature Ukraine would have been less prepared for an invasion than that it is now. "I would feel very bad if I had said: 'There's no point talking to that man [Putin]'," Merkel said in an onstage interview at the Berliner

Ensemble theatre on Tuesday night - her first public appearance since leaving office half a year ago. "It is a great tragedy that it didn't work, but I don't blame myself for trying," she added in an unusually frank answer from a politician who rarely spoke freely while in office. Asked about whether she regretted opposing the US-led membership action plan for Ukraine and Georgia in 2008, Merkel said: "Ukraine was not the country that we know now. It was a Ukraine that was very split ... even the reformist forces [Yulia Tymoshenko and Viktor Yushchenko] were very at odds. That means it was not a country whose democracy was inwardly strengthened." She said Ukraine at the time was "ruled by oligarchs". From the Russian president's perspective, "it was a declaration of war". While she didn't share Putin's perspective, Merkel said she "knew how he

### Guest House

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

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. 02 of 2022-23

On behalf of the Governor of Assam, the Chief Engineer, PHE (Water), Public Health Engineering Department cum Additional Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission, Assam invites bids on line through e-Procurement system against RFP No. 02 of 2022-23 from the interested and eligible bidders in two envelop system for "EMPANELMENT OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT FIRMS FOR CARRYING OUT MONTHLY CONCURRENT AUDIT FOR JAL JEEVAN MISSION, ASSAM." The detailed RFP Document will be available in the web portal [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in) and can be viewed from 09.06.2022 up to 16.00 Hr. of 06.07.2022. Bids will be opened at 15:00 hrs. of 07.07.2022. Bid is to be submitted through online and in no case manual bid shall be entertained.

Chief Engineer (PHE), Water, Assam, Cum Addl. Mission Director, JJM Assam Hengrabari, Guwahati - 36.

Janasanyog/C/4115/22



## District admin felicitated HSLC/HM rank holders

**Assam Rising North Lakhimpur, June 8:** Lakhimpur district administration felicitated today the students who secured the top positions among the top ten positions in the results of HSLC and Assam High Madrasa Examinations declared on Tuesday from the district. In the felicitation ceremony, held at the conference hall of the Lakhimpur DC, Raktotpal Saikia (1st position, St. Mary's School, North Lakhimpur), Partha Pratim Das (3rd position, Lohit Dikrong HS School, Bihpuria), Equit Abbott Dutta (5th position, St. Mary's School, North Lakhimpur), Sarmistha Bhagawati (7th position, Jawaharjyoti High School, Pithaguri), Partha Pratim Borah (9th position, Gyanjyoti Academy, Narayanpur), Ayan Mitra (10th position, St. Mary's School, North Lakhimpur), and Sahraj Parbin (3rd position, Doulatpur High Madrasa, Doulatpur, Assam High Madrasa Examination) were felicitated with a packet of books, Japi and Gamosha by the district administration. The guardians of the meritorious students were also felicitated in the ceremony. In the event, Lakhimpur MP Pradan Baruah, Lakhimpur MLA Manab Deka, Lakhimpur DC Sumit Sattawan, District Inspector of Schools Ramesh Chandra Chutia, and Principals and Headmasters of the schools were present. MP Pradan Baruah took the responsibility of higher education of High Madrasa Examination rank holder Sahraj Parbin while MLA Manab Deka took the responsibilities of higher education of HSLC Examination rank holders Equit Abbott Dutta and Ayan Mitra in today's felicitation ceremony.

## Dhubri Girls College observed World environment day



**Assam Rising Guwahati, June 8:** Dhubri Girls College in association with Eco Club and the Unit of Green Girls observed the world environment day at the college premises on Sunday last. During the day, the students, teaching staff as well as other dignitaries from outside the district and invitees carried out a massive plantation drive in and around the college. On occasion of the day, with a view to make aware of greenery environment for survival of living beings on the planet among the young generation, an awareness programme was also organized at the college campus where Dharanidhar Bodo, OSD of Manas National Park and Tiger Project, Dr Dhruba Chakraborty, principal Dhubri BN College, Dr Devamoy Sanyal, chairman of Dhubri Municipality Board, Mohesh Nath, noted Assamese litterateur, nature activist and forest official from Nagaon graced the occasion as special invitees. The programme was anchored by Multofa Begum, incharge principal of the college. While addressing the occasion, Dharanidhar Bodo said that the world body is in doubt about the future of the planet due to its rapid reduction of its greenery environment. Hence, he urged all to spread the message among the new generation that nature is only for human beings, rather it is for other living bodies too. Bodo also shared his experiences in this regard he achieved during his official trips to a slew of foreign countries. Mohesh Nath, a dedicated forest official, writer and nature activist also spoke on the occasion and stressing on more plantation, he also urged all to save the environment and to save their own selves by planting trees in and around every household. Devid Patgiri, superintendent of district jail, Dhubri and other professors of the college were also present in the programme, a release added.

## HSLC results : success journey of GJV continues

**Assam Rising, Golaghat, June 8:** The results of High School Leaving Certificate Examination conducted by Board of Secondary Education, Assam were declared yesterday. In the results Golaghat Jatiya Vidyalaya, one of the premiere vernacular medium schools in Golaghat shines again. Though this year no student from the school was able to secure rank in the state like the previous years, the results were still satisfactory. This time a total number of seventy students appeared in the HSLC exam from Golaghat Jatiya Vidyalaya. Out of these seventy candidates sixty two secured first division and the remaining eight got second division. Eighteen got Distinction while nineteen students secured Star marks. Apart from this seven students in General Mathematics, two in Advanced Mathematics and two in Social Science got hundred percent marks. The pass percentage of the school is cent percent. President of Golaghat Jatiya Vidyalaya Dr Ajit Baruah, Secretary Banashree Kakaty and Headmistress Smritirekha Bora had congratulated all the students and also thanked their parents and the teachers for their support and dedication.

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# IIT Guwahati Climbs 11 places in QS WUR 2023

**Assam Rising Guwahati, June 8:** Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati has climbed in ranking in the QS World University Rankings (WUR) 2023 by 11 places. IIT Guwahati has received 384th rank in the world in the overall ranking and 37th World rank in Citations per Faculty. QS World University Rankings 2023 released on June 8 indicates that since 2014, IIT Guwahati has moved up at least 217 places from 601-650 range in 2014 to 384th in 2023. In the 2023 edition, the institution has performed among the top 27% in the QS World University Rankings. At 37 globally with a score of 96.3%, the Citations per Faculty is the strongest indicator for IIT Guwahati. Speaking about this performance, Prof T.G. Sitharam, Director of IIT Guwahati says, "A higher ranking in QS WUR for IIT Guwahati makes me very proud of our excellent faculty and students and their efforts to contribute towards top quality research as well as other parameters. Their achievements are critical to our continued success in the global rankings. We will continue to focus on high-end research and make steady strides to go up the global rankings." In its methodology for 2023, it has analyzed



2462 institutions and ranked 1422 institutions. It has ranked 41 institutions in India. In the year 2014, IIT Guwahati became the only academic institution in India that occupied a place among the top 100 world universities under 50 years of age as ranked by Times Higher Education (THE). The institute has continued to maintain its superior position in various national and international rankings. It has retained the 7th position among the best engineering institutions in the country in the 'India Rankings 2021' declared by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) of the Ministry of Education, Government of India.

## Sneha Bayan secures 92% Marks in H.S.L.C exam



**Assam Rising, Chhaygaon, June 8:** Sneha Bayan of historic Chamaria Satra under Boko Constituency of Kamrup District has Secured 92 % marks with 552 in this year's H.S.L.C examination. She appeared in the examination from Anundoram Borooah Academy, Pathsala. Sneha has secured 100 marks in Social Science subject within the state. She has also got letter marks in all the subjects and is happy with her result and wishes to become an IITian in future. She is also acknowledged with gratitude to her parents and teachers for their contributions in her achievement and remarkable success. Sneha Bayan is daughter of Dipu Bayan and Dharitri Bayan of Chamaria Satra.

## HSLC result: Tabibul Haque bring laurels to Chhaygaon

**Assam Rising Chhaygaon, June 8:** Tabibul Haque, son of Tuffazal Haque a teacher of Goroimari Circle under Chhaygaon Constituency and Ayesha Khatun (housewife) has secured 9th rank of the first 10 positions within the state with 589 marks in this year's H.S.L.C examination conducted by Board of Secondary Education, Assam (SEBA). He has also got letter marks in all subjects and is happy with his result and wishes to study medical science in future. He studied at Al Ameen Islamic Model School. Tabibul also acknowledged with gratitude to his parents and teachers for their contributions in his achievement and remarkable success. Expressing happiness, his father Tuffazal Haque said "I am very happy and feel proud of my son. He and his teachers have worked very hard for this day."

## ACHS felicitated Students in Udalguri



**Assam Rising Udalguri, June 8:** HSLC results were declared yesterday by SEBA. According to other districts, the result of Udalguri is also good enough. The passing percentage of Udalguri district is 46.50%. Today, Auxilium Convent High School, Tangla felicitated the students who passed the exam with a good score. From Auxilium High School 93 students appeared for the HSLC exam 2022, among these 93 students 92 students passed. Out of these 92 students 66 students were able to secure 1st division with 11 distinction and 17 star marks, 24 students 2nd division and 2 students secured 3rd division. Whereas in Advanced Mathematics 4 students, in Maths 2 students and in English 1 student scored 100% marks. Highest percentage of the school this year is 96.84% which was scored by Barnali Goswami. For securing good results in Udalguri district, the school administration of ACHS conducted a felicitation program today. Sr. Annie Joseph, Superior and Sr. Cicilia Rapunga, Headmistress of the school felicitated top ten students of the school before all the current students during morning assembly. In this felicitation program, school has felicitated Barnali Goswami (96.84%), Tinteous Ramchiary (95.17%), Maya Khetan (93.17%), Ananya Kashyap (92.05%), Shourav Kr. Rabha (90.50%), Sneha Parashar (89.34%), Jayesh Agarwal (89%), Kumal Saha (88.67%), Priyam Sarker (87.33%), Bhawani Nath (85%) and Krishna Kr. Gupta (85%) with gamusa, flower and gift. All the felicitated students called upon to study well and not to take too much pressure on the current students of the school. With this result all the school staff, administration and students of Auxilium Convent High School, Tangla are satisfied.

## LTK College observed World Environment Day

**Assam Rising, North Lakhimpur, June 8:** Under the aegis of North Lakhimpur's Lakhimpur Telahi Kamalaboria (LTK) College NSS Unit, NCC Unit, Eco-Club, Electoral Literary club, Green LTK Club and in association with the Forest Department of Government of Assam, Lakhimpur Division, the World Environment Day was observed at the college in June 5 last. On this occasion, a plantation program was organised at the college premises where a number of valuable saplings were planted. Erstwhile, a speech program was organised at the college auditorium which was inaugurated by the Principal of the college Dr. Bubul Kumar Saikia. Divisional Forest Officer Ashok Dev Choudhary participated in the speech program as the Resource Person. He elaborately lectured on the topics- "Understanding of Carbon-di-oxide, GreenHouse Gases and Climate Change." More than hundred cadres of NCC and NSS were present in the Day's programs, besides the students and teachers of the college. Employees of the Forest Department provided assistance actively in the Day's programs.

**Indian Bank**

**Zonal Office: Sharma & Sharma Market, 2nd Floor, R.G. Baruah Road, Chandmari, Guwahati, Assam- 781003, Email: zoguwahati@indianbank.co.in**

**APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6)]**  
**Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties**

**E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.**

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank, Hajo Branch, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 08.07.2022, for recovery of Rs. 25,54,535.62 (Rupees Twenty Five Lakhs Fifty Four Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Five and Paise Sixty Two only) (as on 10.08.2021) due to the Indian Bank, Hajo Branch, Secured Creditor, from Shri Atowar Rahman, Prop: M/s. A R Store, Address: S/o Aran Ali, Vill: Saniadi Saklapara, P.O./P.S.: Khopnikuchi, P.S. Hajo, Kamrup-781102, Assam, Guarantor(s):- (1) Shri Aran Ali, S/o Lt. Majjuddin, Vill: Saniadi Saklapara, P.O. Khopnikuchi, P.S. Hajo, Kamrup, Assam, (2) Shri Iman Ali, S/o Lt. Majjuddin, Vill: Saniadi Saklapara, P.O. Khopnikuchi, P.S. Hajo, Kamrup, Assam.

The specific details of the property intended to be brought to sale through e-auction mode are enumerated below:

Detailed description of the Property	All that part and parcel of the free hold land and building in the name of Mr. Aran Ali, S/o Lt. Majjuddin having Registered Sale Deed No. 612 dated 07.09.1995 measuring 4 Bighas and covered by Dag No. 24, Patta No. KP 114 and situated at village Saniadi Saklapara, Kalitakuchi, Bezpara, P.O./P.S. Hajo, Dist: Kamrup, Assam-781102. Bounded:- On the North by: Mr. Darog Ali, On the South by: Mr. Amzad Ali & Others, On the East by: Mr. Azmat Ali, On the West by: Road.
Encumbrances on property if any	Not known any
Reserve Price	Rs. 37,01,874.00
EMD Amount	Rs. 3,70,187.00
Bid incremental amount	Rs. 10,000.00
Date and time of e-auction at the platform of E-Auction service provider https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auction/home/ibapi	08.07.2022, 01.00 pm to 05.00 pm.
Property ID No.	IDIB10674097603A

Bidders are advised to visit the website ([www.mstcecommerce.com](http://www.mstcecommerce.com)) of our e-auction service provider MSTC Ltd. to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance Please call MSTC HELPLINE No. 033-22901004 and other help line numbers available in service providers help desk. For Registration status with MSTC Ltd., please contact [ibapiop@mstcecommerce.com](mailto:ibapiop@mstcecommerce.com) and for EMD status please contact [ibapifin@mstcecommerce.com](mailto:ibapifin@mstcecommerce.com).

For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions please visit: <https://ibapi.in> and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact help line number '18001025026' and '011-41106131'. Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with <https://ibapi.in> and [www.mstcecommerce.com](http://www.mstcecommerce.com).

Date: 02.06.2022  
Place: Hajo  
Authorised Officer

**CANCELLATION NOTICE**

No. F.SAC. 02/E-TENDER/CAMPA/GENE

E-tender for fencing works of AR and Afforestation Plantation sites under Cachar, Karimganj & Hailakandi Division issued from this office vide NIT Nos. (1)NIT/FSAC02/ E-Tender/CAMPA/Genl/CAC. date 12-05-2022, (2)NIT/FSAC.02/ E-Tender/CAMPA/Genl/KXJ, date 12-05-2022 & (3) NIT/FSAC.02/E-Tender/ CAMPA/Genl/ HKD, date 12-05-2022 and Corrigendum issued vide this office No. FSAC.02/E-TENDER/ CAMPA/GENE, dtd. 19-05-2022 are hereby cancelled due to revision of Norms & Estimates of the said works by the CEO, CAMPA, Assam. A fresh e-Tender will be invited with revised Norms & Estimates shortly.

Chief  
Conservator of Forests,  
Southern Assam Circle,  
Silchar

Janasanyog/C/4168/22

## THE ASSAM RISING

VOL. NO. VII, ISSUE NO. 112 THURSDAY, JUNE 09, 2022

## The hate speech

The BJP on Sunday had suspended its national spokesperson Sharma and expelled its Delhi unit's media head Naveen Kumar Jindal as the row over their alleged derogatory remarks against Prophet Mohammed escalated with protests from some Muslim countries. "I have practically grown up in the organisation. I respect and accept their decision," Sharma said after she was asked about the BJP's action against her. Amid demonstrations by Muslim groups and the sharp reaction from countries like Kuwait, Qatar and Iran, before suspending its leaders, the party on Sunday had issued a statement asserting that it respects all religions and strongly denounces insult of any religious personality. Sharma's comments, made in a TV debate nearly 10 days back, and Jindal's now-deleted tweets sparked a Twitter trend calling for a boycott of Indian products in some countries. Party general secretary Arun Singh in a statement had said that the party is strongly against any ideology which insults or demeans any sect or religion. The BJP does not promote such people or philosophy, he said. The BJP statement, however, made no direct mention of any incident or comment. The statement announcing action against Sharma and Jindal also made no particular reference to their controversial remarks. The OIC had hit out at India after Nupur Sharma's comments against the Prophet and had urged the United Nations to take necessary measures to ensure that the rights of Muslims are protected. Earlier on Sunday, the BJP suspended its national spokesperson Nupur Sharma and expelled the party's Delhi unit media head Naveen Jindal for their controversial remarks. The party also issued a statement aimed at assuaging the concerns of minorities and distancing itself from these members, asserting that it respects all religions and strongly denounces the insult of any religious personality.

## Be a Citizen Journalist

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

Editor,  
The Assam Rising  
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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](mailto:assamrising@gmail.com).

Editor,  
The Assam Rising  
Guwahati, Assam

## HSLC result and Students' suicide

Due to not getting the expected marks, it is seen that some students commit suicide hours after the announcement of the final board results. Many student choose the path of suicide due to depression and stress. Unless we teach our children patience, concentration and strong optimism the risk of students losing their lives prematurely in despair does not end. Many parents are thinking of their children's education as an investment business. Therefore, the children of private schools are educated at the expense of huge money per year. If the child is not able to score marks in the examinations as expected by the parents, the children of such families face bitter criticism, have to endure mental stress. And if this pressure becomes unbearable, there seems to be no alternative for students to commit suicide. There are many such incidents in society. Some parents decide in childhood whether their children will grow up to be doctors, engineers, scientists or lawyers. No one cares about the children's wishes or desires. I don't hear anyone saying that their son or daughter will become a farmer or businessman, a good athlete or actor in the future. They don't see a career in these. But if you ask what jobs Amitabh Bachchan, Akshay Kumar, Hima Das, Sachin Tendulkar, Mukesh Ambani etc. do, everyone will be silent. They are, however, millionaires. If your child wants to earn money in the future by studying, there are thousands of honest ways to earn such money. Don't limit them in terms of career. Realize the latent talent and potential hidden in them and move them forward accordingly. We can succeed in any field if we do the things we love with heart and soul. We should not compare ourselves with others. For example, fish cannot climb trees, monkeys can. But that doesn't mean the fish is useless. The fish can swim in the water, which the monkey cannot. The present era is an era of intense competition. There is competition in education, business, arts, literature and politics. There are many reasons why parents are drowned in the frenzy of this competition. Everyone is in a race to make their children well-paid employees. This has increased the stress on the students. Not knowledge, the precondition for spending money on children's education seems to be getting good marks in exams. The child's willingness, mental ability etc. are not matters for parents to judge. Some parents express such fears to their children that all their dreams for the future will be shattered if they do not get good marks. There are many students who commit suicide every year due to the ridicule of the society for those who fail. The mark-oriented education system has been harming students physically and mentally. Their parents seem to impose the pressure of study on their tender minds. The marksheet-based education system has been discouraging quality education. But in real life, none of us ever carry the marksheet with us. It is easy to understand the importance of moral lessons in income-generating education. Our request to parents-- rather than making your children big employees, focus on making them good people. Never let your children get lost among you because they cannot bear the stress of studying while running after marks. Those who were not able, and those who failed the exams, should not end their precious lives for a few marks. Life's failures open many doors to success.

Sanjay Robidas

## Modi's 8 years mark a new India where self-confidence is worn like a badge of honour

Evolution of a country is complex — it is not just a "highlights" reel. Beyond epochal events, it is a process, bringing together events, leadership etc. within a global context. Narendra Modi's eight years as prime minister mark an important stage in India's evolution — the emergence of a 'new' India with hugely ambitious expectations and a self-confidence worn like a badge of honour. After Independence, starting with Louis Mountbatten's appointment as Governor General, there was continuity in administration and politics. Leadership remained uncontested with the Congress. After Jawaharlal Nehru's death, the shackles of government tightened around the country and its citizens, and denuded the high-spirited exuberance of 1947. The stranglehold grew into the Emergency and we only got relief thanks to Jayaprakash Narayan and the Janata Party's victory in the 1977 general elections. Rajiv Gandhi started unravelling the Licence Raj, but real evolutionary change occurred under P.V. Narasimha Rao. The animal spirits of private enterprise took flight and India started decoupling from the government. Rao's legacy was a largely markets-driven economy — with its potential and some of its warts. If 1947 was political freedom, Rao's reforms freed

our economy. Modi took over as PM in 2014. Despite gargantuan challenges like the Covid-19 pandemic, his eight years have seen game-changing initiatives like Jan Dhan, Ayushman Bharat (National Health Protection Scheme). Beyond the "highlights reel", perhaps of greater significance is that Modi's eight years represent a decisive stage in India's evolution. India and Indians have "stepped out" and come of age. Pre-Modi India had a resigned, passive acceptance of status-quo — the Hindu rate of growth, poverty in villages, repeated natural disasters with huge losses of life. We perennially played catch-up with events, and were over-reliant on "mother state". Under Modi, the paradigm changed to proactivity and anticipation. Handling Covid was an example. The first lockdown was ordered while many countries were fumbling. Through many people, especially migrant labourers, faced immense hardships, millions of lives were saved. Then came the vaccination drive. While advanced countries debated minutiae of vaccination policy, India gave 194 crore+ vaccine doses. To provide perspective, that is more than the aggregate population of the 10 most populous countries after India. Proactivity was also evident in defence. Our Achilles heel was long-drawn procurement processes and coordination. Modi appointed General Bipin Rawat as the first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). Before Gen Rawat's demise, huge strides had been made in streamlining procurement and improving inter-service coordination. Kashmir was a festering issue with the state's inhabitants artificially excluded from

India's progress. Like Alexander cutting the Gordian knot, Article 370 was abrogated. Despite vested interests using every trick including violence, true integration of Jammu and Kashmir into India is now irreversible. Modi engendered a belief that we can substantially be master of our fates. Higher expectations also encompass the political leadership. M.S. Dhoni's rise brought non-metro India into cricket — a phenomenon reflected in the huge IPL talent pool. Modi took political leadership out

Saket Misra

of the incumbent, urban-elite establishment. While we had PMs — Chandra Shekhar, H.D. Deve Gowda, and Charan Singh from non-urban backgrounds — they got overpowered/assimilated by the Delhi durbars. Modi did not owe his rise to "Lutyens". Hence, we see a freshness of approach drawing on regional, state influences in policy and personnel. State politicians like Manohar Parrikar were pulled in. Another aspect has been the expectation of personal probity. Modi has set a benchmark with his work ethic and integrity. His family leading middle-class lives provides daily proof. Translation in reality has been Modi's altered policy approach. Most visible is the

focus on process and scalability instead of short-termism. Whether it was Jan Dhan, sanitation or electrification, each initiative was carefully planned and executed in project mode. Timelines were adhered to, and synergistic benefits recognised and realised. Each had a scale — 45 crore Jan Dhan accounts are an example. Modi also avoided dogma or ego-based policy making. Aadhaar was grown and GST implemented. Internationally, despite domestic criticism, Modi made an outreach to India's neighbours without being weighed down by legacy. He was also not browbeaten internationally — as Donald Trump found out while lobbying for Harley Davidson. Modi showed comfort with disruption. The emphasis on renewable energy, NITI Aayog replacing the outdated Planning Commission or the Start-Up India — all recognise that faster, leap-frogging development needs disruption. There is also an openness to learn from others. Instead of defensiveness or mere admiration, there is a hunger to apply global best practices to India. The policy platform leads to the third leg of India's evolution under Modi — self-belief. Modi's approach to welfare policy is inspired by M.K. Gandhi's sarvodaya (welfare of all). Equally important has been delivery of welfare — technology-driven; "blind" to caste, creed or region; and cutting-out middlemen.

Whether it's Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), distribution of rations or delivery of health services, technology brings services to citizens and minimises manual interface "leakages". Even the withdrawn agriculture bills sought to give farmers freedom of choice and from middlemen. "Sabka prayas" — contribution of citizens has been harnessed. Thousands of households gave up LPG subsidies. Creating "confidence" needs more than welfare. Modi is creating an ecosystem of opportunity for people and enterprises to succeed and become global champions. Initiatives like Skill India and Start-Up India have transformed the mindset of the country's youth. Instead of looking for government jobs, there is a flourishing entrepreneurial culture that creates jobs. Atmanirbhar Bharat, launched during the pandemic, gave Indian businesses a path to recovery and future growth. Combined with the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme, Atmanirbhar Bharat can unleash India's manufacturing potential. It is no surprise that 40+ unicorns were created in 2021. In the eight years under Modi, India has evolved into a country with significantly more ambitious expectations for itself, and a confidence in its ability to fulfil its aspirations. It's a tricky political challenge, because no longer will Indians be fooled for long with freebies and pithy slogans — they insist on a sustainable, better future.

## Dharamvir Singh : The architect of Doordarshan

Communication has always been of prime importance. With the advent of television in 1927, Indians also dreamed for this service and after independence television service was started in Delhi as a part of All India Radio (AIR) in 1959. For its expansion across the country, its management was separated from AIR and independent new body named "Doordarshan (DD)" was constituted. One of the architects of the ambitious Doordarshan service was - Shri Dharamvir Singh. Dharamvir Singh was born on 10 June 1932 in Barh in Patna district. His native village is Simra Bilgawan on the banks of Son river under Bhojpur district. His father Shri Devsharan Singh (Former Chairman, Bihar Legislative Council) was a renowned Congress leader and freedom fighter at the national level and was an advocate at Barh Sub-Divisional Court. Dharamvir Singh graduated from Bihar National College, Patna under Patna University. He was a meritorious student from the very beginning and along with studies, he also had special interest in journalism, sports and social works. He was selected by Sarat Chandra Bose as a member of the "International Brigade" to go for the independence of Indonesia in 1947. He was a member of Bihar Lawn Tennis Council in 1952 and Secretary of Bihar Table Tennis Association from 1954-67. He was also associated with New Patna Club, Delhi Golf Club and Delhi Gymkhana for a long time. In the company of his father, Dharamvir Singh inclined towards active politics. In 1967, he was elected for the first time from the 193-Bakhtiarpur Vidhan Sabha constituency in Patna district and became the secretary of the Congress Legislature Party. In the election held on 21 February 1967, Dharamvir Singh (20772 votes) contesting on Indian National Congress ticket

defeated Independent Shri Ramlakhan Rai (18221 votes) and Shri R.S. Singh (15317 votes) of Jan Kranti Dal in a tough contest. Again in 1969, he was elected from the 193-Bakhtiarpur Assembly Constituency and became the Chief Whip of the Congress Legislature Party. In this election held on 9 February 1969, Indian National Congress candidate Dharamvir Singh (19578 votes) defeated Ram Lakhan Rai (17896 votes) of Samyukta Socialist Party and Ramchandra Singh Chouhan (15364 votes) independent. In 1970, he was inducted for the first time in the Bihar Cabinet as Minister of State for Labor, Information and Tourism. On the special initiative of the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi, Dharamvir Singh contested for the Fifth Lok Sabha in 1971 on Indian National Congress (R) ticket from the 34-Barh Lok Sabha constituency. Outgoing MP and former Union Minister Smt. Tarkeshwari Sinha was contesting against him as an Indian National Congress (Organization) candidate. The Fire-brand stalwart Smt. Tarkeshwari Sinha had won four consecutive elections namely- the First Lok Sabha (3-Patna East constituency in 1951), the Second Lok Sabha (28-Barh constituency in 1957), the Third Lok Sabha (34-Barh constituency in 1962) and the fourth Lok Sabha (34-Barh constituency in 1967). Dharamvir Singh (184484 votes) created a new history in this area by securing 48.10 percent votes defeating an invincible MP like Smt. Sinha. After being elected to the Lok Sabha, he resigned from the membership of the Bihar Legislative Assembly, on which the flamboyant socialist leader Bhola Prasad Singh was elected in the by-election. Mrs. Gandhi was highly impressed with Dharamvir Singh and he was inducted into the Union Cabinet in 1971 as Deputy Minister of Information and Broadcasting, in his first inning as a Member of Parliament, a position he held till 1977. Several remarkable works have been performed in the Ministry during his tenure, the most notable event was the formation of "Doordarshan". On 1 April 1976, television broadcasting was separated from the radio network and replaced by the name "Doordarshan". In 1972, television service was started in the second city of the country, Mumbai. Prior to this, the service of television broadcasting was available only in the national capital Delhi. By the

Prabhat Kishore

year 1975, television service had expanded to seven cities of Bharatvarsha. During his tenure, he made a lot of efforts to promote artistic films as well as commercial and devotional films like "Jai Santoshi Maa". All India Radio Annual Awards were started in 1974. He led several Indian delegations abroad. During the election of the Sixth Lok Sabha in 1977, there was a wave of Janata Party due to the student movement in the whole country. Bihar was the center of this movement. Congress could not get a single seat in Bihar due to the

post of President of Bihar unit of Congress (S). In 1984, for the Eighth Lok Sabha, Dharamvir Singh contested again from the 18-Barh Lok Sabha constituency on Indian National Congress (S) ticket. In the election, he got full support of socialists like Karpooi Thakur. But he again fell victim to the sympathy wave triggered by the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and lost the election to a controversial figure like Prakash Chandra alias Baby, son of Ram Lakhan Singh Yadav, who was contesting on Indian National Congress (Indira) ticket. Shri Prakash Chandra got 384719 votes out of total cast of 610745, while Shri Singh had to be satisfied with only 161983 votes. The people of the Barh area continued to repent of his defeat till the end. In 1986, at the National Convention of Congress (S) in Mumbai, Dharamvir Singh proposed the merger of Congress (S) with Congress (I) in his capacity as General Secretary, which was accepted unanimously. The entire life of Dharamvir Singh was dedicated to the nation. He wanted to see India as a great nation. The only goal of his life was to make the country self-sufficient and prosperous and to bring harmony in the society. He was

constantly striving to achieve his goal. He was an articulate and fighting man. He was a strong supporter of the politics of honesty and remained unmarried throughout his life for the fulfillment of this motto. He was a skilled politician and a strong orator. His charitable life inspired him to travel to European countries. Dharamvir Singh was no match in the field of journalism. The editorials and articles written by him on various national as well as international burning issues in newspapers and magazines like Weekly Dinaman etc. had fascinated the public. He was the flagbearer of the communication revolution in India. On 5 April 1989, in the midst of the discussion on his election to the Rajya Sabha from Maharashtra, Dharamvir Singh went to Mumbai where he held detailed talks with the then Chief Minister Sharad Pawar on various issues. But on 06 April 1989, he suddenly passed away in a suspicious condition in Mumbai. A wave of mourning ran across Bihar and this shining star of Indian politics disappeared from the national horizon forever.

(The author is a technocrat & academician)

## Letter to the Editor

## No will to resolve the issues is dangerous trend

Sir,

We have been facing Borewell deaths, Fire Accidents, Gas Leakage, Question Paper Leakage, Atrocities against women, Women trafficking, Scams, Frauds, Drug abuse & Drug Trafficking Let any number of issues may arise When the will to resolve them is not there, such issues continue. We have to note down this point that the Government is not prepared to resolve. Opposition Parties too, even though Lions clubs have "Establishing Good Governance and Good Citizenship" as their objective, they too have forgotten. Hence I appeal to all the Lions Clubs in the country, to take up Establishing Good Citizenship and Good Governance, along with their Service Activities. Then Good Governance will be established, certainly.

Kantamsetti Lakshman Rao

Visakhapatnam

# Eagle-Characteristics, habits and facts



Eagle, any of many large, heavy-beaked, big-footed birds of prey belonging to the family Accipitridae (order Accipitriformes). In general, an eagle is any bird of prey more powerful than a falcon. An eagle may resemble a vulture in build and flight characteristics but has a fully feathered (often crested) head and strong feet equipped with great curved talons. A further difference is in foraging habits: eagles subsist mainly on live prey. They are too ponderous for effective aerial pursuit but try to surprise and overwhelm their prey on the ground. Like owls, many decapitate their kills. Because of their strength, eagles have been a symbol of war and imperial power since Babylonian times. Their likeness is found on Greek and Roman coins, medals. Eagles are monogamous. They mate for life and use the same nest each year. They tend to nest in inaccessible places, incubating a small clutch of eggs for six to eight weeks. The young mature slowly, reaching adult plumage in the third or fourth

year. The harpy eagles, named after the fowl, malign creatures (part woman and part bird) of Greek mythology, are large, powerful, crested eagles of the tropical forests of South America and the South Pacific. They nest in the tops of the tallest trees and hunt macaws, monkeys, and sloths. The great harpy eagle (*Harpia harpyja*), which ranges from southern Mexico to Brazil, is about 1 metre (3.3 feet) long and bears a crest of dark feathers on its head. Its body is black above and white below except for a black chest band. It is becoming increasingly rare, particularly in Mexico and Central America. The New Guinea harpy eagle (*Harpypsops novaeguinae*) is about 75 cm (30 inches) long. It is gray-brown and has a long tail and a short but full crest. Very similar in appearance and habits is the Philippine eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*). It is about 90 cm (35 inches) long, brown above and

white below, with a crest of long, narrow feathers. It is an endangered species. The harrier eagles, six species of *Circaetus* (subfamily Circaetinae, serpent eagles), of Europe, Asia, and Africa, are about 60 cm (24 inches) long and have short unfeathered legs. They nest in the tops of trees and hunt snakes. The hawk eagles (genera *Spizastur*, *Spizaetus*, *Lophastur*, and *Hieraaetus*, subfamily Accipitrinae) are lightly built eagles that have fully feathered legs and large beaks and feet. They hunt

all kinds of small animals. Members of the *Spizaetus* species-e.g., the ornate hawk eagle (*S. ornatus*) of tropical America-have short wide wings, long rounded tails, and ornamented heads. Bonelli's eagle (*Hieraaetus fasciatus*), of Mediterranean areas and parts of southern Asia, is about 60 cm (24 inches) long, is dark above and light below, has a broad tailband, and usually shows a white patch on the back. The martial eagle (*Polemaetus bellicosus*) of Africa is heavily built, brown above with black throat and black-spotted white underparts. It has a short, barred tail and bright yellow eyes. It is large and strong enough to kill jackals and small antelopes, but its usual food is chickenlike birds and hyraxes. The sea eagles (sometimes called fish, or fishing, eagles, *Haliaeetus* species) are very large eagles that live along rivers, big lakes, and tidewater throughout the world except South America. Some reach 1 metre (3.3 feet) long, with a wingspan nearly twice that. All have exceptionally large

high-arched beaks and bare lower legs. The undersurfaces of the toes are roughened for grasping slippery prey. These birds eat much carrion but sometimes kill. They snatch fish from the water surface and often rob their chief competitor, the osprey. The largest sea eagle is Steller's sea eagle (*H. pelagicus*), of Korea, Japan, and Russia's Far East (particularly the Kamchatka Peninsula). This bird has a wingspan surpassing 2 metres (6.6 feet) and can weigh up to 9 kg (20 pounds). The only sea eagle of North America is the bald eagle (*H. leucocephalus*), which is found across Canada and the United States and in northern Mexico. The white-bellied sea eagle (*H. leucogaster*), frequently seen on the coasts of Australia, ranges from New Guinea and Indonesia through Southeast Asia to India and China. A well-known African species is the African fish eagle (*H. vocifer*), found along lakes, rivers, and coastlines from south of the Sahara to the Cape of Good Hope.



## Indian Monsoon

Monsoon, the most prominent of the world's monsoon systems, which primarily affects India and its surrounding water bodies. It blows from the northeast during cooler months and reverses direction to blow from the southwest during the warmest months of the year. This process brings large amounts of rainfall to the region during June and July. At the Equator the area near India is unique in that dominant or frequent westerly winds occur at the surface almost constantly throughout the year; the surface easterlies reach only to latitudes near 20° N in February, and even then they have a very strong northerly component. They

soon retreat northward, and drastic changes take place in the upper-air circulation (see climate: Jet streams). This is a time of transition between the end of one monsoon and the beginning of the next. Late in March the high-sun season reaches the Equator and moves farther north. With it go atmospheric instability, convectional (that is, rising and turbulent) clouds, and rain. The westerly subtropical jet stream still controls the flow of air across northern India, and the surface winds are northeasterlies. As the high-sun season (that is, the Northern Hemisphere summer) moves northward during April, India becomes particularly prone to rapid heating because the highlands to the north protect it from any incursions of cold air. There are three distinct areas of relative upper tropospheric warmth-namely, (1) above the southern Bay of Bengal, (2) above the Plateau of Tibet, and (3) across the trunks of the various peninsulas that are relatively dry during this time. These three areas combine to form a vast heat-source region. The relatively warm area above the southern Bay of Bengal occurs mostly at the 500-100-millibar level. (This atmospheric pressure region typically occurs at elevations between 5,500 and 16,100 metres [18,000 and 53,000 feet] but may vary according to changes in heating and cooling.) It does not appear at a lower level and is probably caused by the release of condensation heat (associated with the change from water vapour to liquid water) at the top of towering cumulonimbus clouds along the advancing intertropical convergence. In contrast, a heat sink appears over the southern Indian Ocean as the relatively cloud-free air cools by emitting long-wavelength radiation. Monsoon winds at the surface blow from heat sink to heat source. As a result, by May the southwest monsoon is well-established over Sri Lanka, an island off the southeastern tip of the Indian peninsula. Also in May, the dry surface of Tibet (above 4,000 metres [13,100 feet]) absorbs and radiates heat that is readily transmitted to the air immediately above. At about 6,000 metres (19,700 feet) an anticyclonic cell arises, causing a strong easterly flow in the upper tro-

posphere above northern India. The subtropical jet stream suddenly changes its course to the north of the anticyclonic ridge and the highlands, though it may occasionally reappear southward of them for very brief periods. This change of the upper tropospheric circulation above northern India from westerly jet to easterly flow coincides with a reversal of the vertical temperature and pressure gradients between 600 and 300 millibars. On many occasions the easterly wind aloft assumes jet force. It anticipates by a few days the "burst," or onset, of the surface southwesterly monsoon some 1,500 km (900 miles) farther south, with a definite sequential relationship, although the exact cause is not known. Because of India's inverted triangular shape, the land is heated progressively as the sun moves northward. This accelerated spread of heating, combined with the general direction of heat being transported by winds, results in a greater initial monsoonal activity over the Arabian Sea (at late springtime), where a real frontal situation often occurs, than over the Bay of Bengal. The relative humidity of coastal districts in the Indian region rises above 70 percent, and some rain occurs. Above the heated land, the air below 1,500 metres (5,000 feet) becomes unstable, but it is held down by the over-riding easterly flow. This does not prevent frequent thunderstorms from occurring in late May. A totally different development arises when the easterly jet moves farther north than usual. The monsoonal wind rising over the southern slopes of the Himalayas brings heavy rains and local floods. The weather over the central and southern districts, however, becomes suddenly drier and remains so for as long as the abnormal shift lasts. The opposite shift is also possible, with midlatitude upper air flowing along the south face of the Himalayas and bringing drought to the northern districts. Such dry spells are known as "breaks" of the monsoon. Those affecting the south of India are similar to those experienced on the Guinea Coast during extreme northward shifts of the wind belts (see West African monsoon), whereas those affecting the north are due to an interaction of the middle and low latitudes. The southwest monsoon over the lower Indus plain is only 500 metres (about 1,600 feet) thick and does not hold enough moisture to bring rain.

## China builds 'artificial Moon' to mimic lunar environment

China's space programme has been growing by leaps and bounds, with 2021 as one of the most successful years for Beijing in the 21st Century. The country has now built an artificial moon facility that will simulate lunar conditions and the environment for scientists to test new tech and future missions. Being called the "first of its kind in the world", the facility located in the eastern city of Xuzhou, in Jiangsu province, will make gravity "disappear". The facility can replicate low gravity environments for as long as one wants, making China less dependent on zero-gravity planes to train astronauts, and environments to test new rovers and technologies. Li Ruilin, from the China University of Mining and Technology, who is leading the development, told the South China Morning Post, "While low gravity can be achieved in an air-



craft or a drop tower, it is momentary. Li said in the simulator that effect can "last as long as you want." The mini-moon is about two feet in diameter and the artificial surface has been made with rocks and dust that are as light as those on the moon. It is worth mentioning that gravity on the Moon is not zero, it is one-sixth as powerful as the gravity on Earth due to the magnetic field. "Some experiments such as an impact test need just a few seconds, but others such as creep testing can take several days," Li added. The idea to develop the facility has its roots in the Russian-

born physicist Andre Geim's experiments to levitate a frog with a magnet. The physicists later won a Nobel for this groundbreaking experiment. "Magnetic levitation is certainly not the same as anti-gravity, but there is a variety of situations where mimicking microgravity by magnetic fields could be invaluable to expect the unexpected in space research," the physicists told SCMP. With China already clearing the fourth phase of its lunar exploration program that will see the construction of a research station on the Moon and lunar exploration through future Chang'e-6, Chang'e-7

and Chang'e-8 missions, the new facility will play a crucial part. The Chang'e-7 spacecraft will be launched to the moon's South Pole, followed by Chang'e-6, which will return the samples from the surface. Beijing already has plans to land astronauts on the lunar surface by 2030 as it continues the construction of its space station in Low Earth Orbit. Li further told SCMP that the moon simulator could also be used to test whether new technology such as 3D printing could be used to build structures on the lunar surface. "Some experiments conducted in the simulated environment can also give us some important clues, such as where to look for water trapped under the surface," he added. China has already developed an "artificial sun" to replicate the nuclear fusion process that occurs naturally in the sun and stars to provide almost infinite clean energy.

## Ozone Layer Depletion

The ozone layer is mainly found in the lower portion of the earth's atmosphere. It has the potential to absorb around 97-99% of the harmful ultraviolet radiations coming from the sun that can damage life on earth. If the ozone layer was absent, millions of people would develop skin diseases and may have weakened immune systems. However, scientists have discovered a hole in the ozone layer over Antarctica. This has focussed their concern on various environmental issues and steps to control them. The main reasons for the ozone hole are chlorofluorocarbons, carbon tetrachloride, methyl bromide and hydrochlorofluorocarbons. Let us have a detailed look at the various causes and effects of ozone layer depletion. Ozone layer depletion is the thinning of the ozone layer present in the upper atmosphere. This happens when the chlorine and bromine atoms in the atmosphere come in contact with ozone and destroy the ozone molecules. One chlorine can destroy 100,000 molecules of ozone. It is destroyed more quickly than it is created. Some compounds release chlorine and bromine on exposure to high

ultraviolet light, which then contributes to ozone layer depletion. Such compounds are known as Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS). The ozone-depleting substances that contain chlorine include chlorofluorocarbon, carbon tetrachloride, hydrochlorofluorocarbons, and methyl chloroform. Whereas, the ozone-depleting substances that contain bromine are halons, methyl bromide, and hydro bromofluorocarbons. Chlorofluorocarbons are the most abundant ozone-depleting substance. It is only when the chlorine atom reacts with some other molecule, it does not react with ozone. Montreal Protocol was proposed in 1987 to stop the use, production and import of ozone-depleting substances and minimise their concentration in the atmosphere to protect the ozone layer of the earth. Ozone layer depletion is a major concern and is associated with a number of factors.

## Importance of social forestry

During the advent of the social forestry strategy, various terms were used to represent it: not only 'social forestry' but also 'community forestry'. Originally, these terms were often considered as synonyms. Both terms were used to refer to any forestry policies and activities that closely involved local people in forest management and tree-growing, for which rural people as-

sumed (part of) the management responsibility, and from which they derived a direct benefit. Gradually, however, the terms were differentiated on the basis of either normative commitments or management systems. In respect to normative commitments it has been suggested that the term social forestry should primarily be understood as a reaction to the conventional approaches to forestry, which were dominated

by the ideology of forest conservation and production forestry under state stewardship, which legitimized forest service control over forest lands and tree species. It was suggested that social forestry involves the development of new forestry professionals who can work within a rural development context rather than a bureaucratic context. The motives of local people for being involved in forest

management are not related to such considerations regarding the nature of professional activities. Rather, the community interests are to maintain forest resources as part of the local livelihood strategies. Community forestry can best be used in relation to such local interests. Alternatively, it was also suggested that the term social forestry is often used in an implicitly narrower sense than community forestry.



Biodiversity refers to the variety of living species on Earth, including plants, animals, bacteria, and fungi. While Earth's biodiversity is so rich that many species have

yet to be discovered, many species are being threatened with extinction due to human activities, putting the Earth's magnificent biodiversity at

risk. Biodiversity is a term used to describe the enormous variety of life on Earth. It can be used more specifically to refer to all of the species in one region or ecosystem. Biodiversity refers to every living thing, including plants, bacteria, animals, and humans. Scientists have estimated that there are around 8.7 million species of plants and animals in existence. However, only around 1.2 million species have been identified and described so far, most

of which are insects. This means that millions of other organisms remain a complete mystery. Over generations, all of the species that are currently alive today have evolved unique traits that make them distinct from other species. These differences are what scientists use to tell one species from another. Organisms that have evolved to be so different from one another that they can no longer reproduce with each other are considered different species.

All organisms that can reproduce with each other fall into one species. Scientists are interested in how much biodiversity there is on a global scale, given that there is still so much biodiversity to discover. They also study how many species exist in single ecosystems, such as a forest, grassland, tundra, or lake. A single grassland can contain a wide range of species, from beetles to snakes to antelopes. Ecosystems that host the most biodiversity tend to have

ideal environmental conditions for plant growth, like the warm and wet climate of tropical regions. Ecosystems can also contain species too small to see with the naked eye. Looking at samples of soil or water through a microscope reveals a whole world of bacteria and other tiny organisms. Some areas in the world, such as areas of Mexico, South Africa, Brazil, the southwestern United States, and Madagascar, have more

biodiversity than others. Areas with extremely high levels of biodiversity are called hotspots. Endemic species-species that are only found in one particular location-are also found in hotspots. All of the Earth's species work together to survive and maintain their ecosystems. For example, the grass in pastures feeds cattle. Cattle then produce

manure that returns nutrients to the soil, which helps to grow more grass. This manure can also be used to fertilize cropland. Many species provide important benefits to humans, including food, clothing, and medicine.



## Biodiversity - Protect Life on Earth

## Contd. From Page 1

## 'Have nothing to hide, we are

money laundering case pertaining to the National Herald-AJL deal. However, she had sought time from the agency as she is recovering from coronavirus. The Congress president, who tested positive on Thursday, is yet to recover and her latest report is not Covid-negative. Rahul Gandhi has been asked to appear before the ED on June 13 and he is likely to appear before it. He was earlier summoned on June 2 but had sought time as he was abroad at the time. Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera told reporters, "We are a law-abiding party. We follow rules. So, if they have been summoned, of course, they will go. We have nothing to hide". "We are not like them. We remember when Amit Shah was running around from 2002 to 2013," he said. "They will learn some lessons from us on what kind of people who adhere to the path of truth are. They should learn from us," Khera said. The Congress is likely to make it a big event on Monday when Rahul Gandhi appears before the probe agency's headquarters in central Delhi. The case pertains to the probe into the alleged financial irregularities in the party-promoted Young Indian that owns the National Herald newspaper. The paper is published by Associated Journals Limited (AJL) and owned by Young Indian Pvt Limited. Officials said the agency wants to record the statements of Rahul and Sonia Gandhi under criminal sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

## Forget Congress 'mukt', we are now

friends from Congress would say, Nadda ji, you do not understand politics. It is a matter of opportunity; you are the right person in the wrong party. Today, I want to ask them - who is in the right party?" Nadda said. "Nobody thought that Mulayam Singh's (former UP CM Mulayam Singh Yadav) rule will go, nobody thought we will be Congress Mukta. In fact, we're now Congress lupt (disappear), let alone be Congress mukt (free). We'll form government in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh too," Nadda told the BJP workers in West Bengal. The BJP chief made these remarks while addressing the state executive committee meeting in the state. "It is only BJP, where there are leaders, workers, will, and willingness to work together. Some parties have workers but no leaders. Where there are leaders, there is no intent... Only Bharatiya Janata Party has a leader, policy, intention, workers, and the environment under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," he further added. Exuding confidence that the "future belongs to the BJP", he vowed to defeat the TMC in the next elections, "just as we won against the Congress". "In politics, there is nothing static, things change. The future belongs to the BJP. The TMC has no principles or policies, it has only syndicates," Nadda said. TMC has often been accused of backing organised extortion rackets, often referred to as syndicates, mainly in the construction and manufacturing segments. The top BJP leader also said that the Banerjee-led govt in Bengal has not given the details of the MNREGA fund expenditure for the last three years.

## Khelo India: Assam Govt.

Bhawan today. Sports Department Secretary Farooq Alam, Sports, and Youth Welfare Director Nivedan Das Patowari, Joint Secretary Ranaj Barkatki, and Several officials including special duty officer Shaurya Sharma were present at the meeting. Assam has won 14 medals, including 2 gold, 7 silver, and 5 bronze medals in this mega sports event.

## Kaziranga national park : Speed

Anglong Hills thereby crossing NH-37. "While migrating, there is every likelihood of wild animals falling prey to the hands of miscreants or meeting with accidents that may put the lives of passengers as well as wild animals at risk," it added. The order further stated, "There are sufficient grounds to regulate the speed of the vehicles and impose restrictions in the scheduled area, so as to protect human lives and wild animals." It may be noted that the speed of vehicles has been regulated on the stretch of NH-37 from Panbari animal corridor to district/ sub-divisional western boundary near Bagori. Moreover, no vehicle will be allowed to exceed the speed limit of 40 kilometers per hour while crossing the stretch of NH-37 along the Kaziranga national park. According to directions stated in the order, no vehicles will be allowed to park along the highway which may obstruct the safe passage of wild animals, birds, reptiles, etc. during migration. It has also been notified that no harm or injury shall be caused to the wild animals, birds, reptiles, etc. taking shelter on the highway, while carrying lethal weapons in and around the national park has also been prohibited.

## 1994 Assam Fake Encounter: High

of court martial proceedings may have relevance in ascertaining the compensation. The court is hearing two petitions - including the one filed in February 1994 immediately after the men were detained - that now seek compensation. The bench noted that when the copy was first sought by a petitioner's lawyer, KN Choudhury, the central government counsel told the court that "perhaps the provisions of 147A of the Army Rules, 1954 may not permit giving any copy of such proceedings of the court martial". Section 147A sets certain conditions and expressly states that a copy will not be shared "if the Central Government certifies that it is against the interests of the security of the State or friendly relations with foreign States" to do so. The High Court deferred the petitions until a decision on providing the copy is taken. "The competent authorities will decide expeditiously," it said. The fake encounter was part of a chain of events starting with the murder of a tea estate manager in Dangari area of Assam by ULFA terrorists in February 1994. Army personnel from 18 Punjab Regiment of the army detained nine men, one of whom was a prominent activist of the All Assam Students' Union (AASU), from Tinsukia district as suspects. On a habeas corpus petition by the then AASU leader Jagadish Bhuyan seeking their whereabouts, the Gauhati High Court ordered the army to produce the men at the nearest police station. The army produced five bodies. It was eventually found that these men were branded ULFA terrorists and killed in cold blood by army personnel, while the four others were released in a jungle after the court order. Investigation was carried out by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which chargesheeted seven army personnel. The matter reached the Supreme Court, which led to army conducting its own inquiry and the court martial.

## Rajya Sabha polls : Congress

MLAs. The Congress leader said this confidence in claiming the support of other party's MLAs comes from the BJP and its central leadership. "We are confident. We are more than confident. We have our numbers in Rajasthan and Haryana. We have no doubt whatsoever," Khera said in response to a question on the upcoming election to the Upper House of Parliament. Taking on the BJP, he said it has a strange hobby of displacing governments and trying to subvert mandates, adding that one has seen what has happened in Madhya Pradesh, Goa and Uttarakhand, "where we win the elections and they try to form the governments". The Congress leader alleged that there are several examples of the BJP doing this, including during late Ahmed Patel's election to the Rajya Sabha. "So if they don't have the numbers, why don't they wait for their turn the next time if they get the numbers. Why do they indulge in horse-trading and create an atmosphere where everybody then has to try and protect their turf?" "This should not be the priority of a party which is in power, its priority should be governance," he said. The Congress is pitted in a close contest for the fourth seat in the Rajya Sabha from Rajasthan and one seat from Haryana where the entry of two independents -- media barons Chandra and Kartikeya Sharma -- has made the battle interesting. Chandra and Sharma are supported by the BJP and claim that they also have the support of Independent MLAs. Fearing poaching of its MLAs and cross-voting in Rajasthan and Haryana, the Congress has holed up its legislators from the two states in Udaipur and Raipur respectively. The Rajya Sabha election will be held on June 10 and cross-voting is likely to take place for the two seats from Rajasthan and Haryana.

## Violence broke On Voting Day

in return for votes last night ahead of today's voting for KAAC elections. Some unidentified people allegedly distributed money on behalf of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate Kache Rongpipi. Meanwhile, one person was injured in the ensuing scuffle. He has been identified as Dorsing Kramso. It may be noted that voting for KAAC elections in Assam began at 7.30 am today and will take place till 4.30 pm. Voting will take place today for a total of 26 council constituencies and will be undertaken across 906 polling stations. As many as 7,40,060 voters will decide the fate of 154 candidates who stood for the elections. Meanwhile, by-elections are also taking place today for the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC). Voting for Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC) elections in Assam began at 7.30 am on Wednesday. Voting will take place today for a total of 26 council constituencies and will be undertaken across 906 polling stations. As many as 7,40,060 voters will decide the fate of 154 candidates who stood for the elections. Meanwhile, by-elections are also taking place today for the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC). It may be noted that voting took place till 4.30 pm today. Campaigning for the KAAC elections concluded on June 6 in which many Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders were seen campaigning for the candidates who are contesting in the elections. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and cabinet minister Pijush Hazarika was also seen campaigning for the upcoming polls. On June 5, CM Sarma participated in four election rallies in Karbi Anglong. He also exuded confidence that the BJP will smoothly win in the elections.

## BJP Draws The Line

for it and find out the party's line on it before appearing on any channel. "Spokespersons and panelists of the party should stay on the agenda. They should not fall into any trap," sources said. The BJP also wants its spokespersons to focus on the government's social welfare work. The government continues to firefight after the comments of two leaders provoked condemnation from at least 15 countries. Nupur Sharma, who has since been suspended, made the comments during a TV debate around 10 days ago. She said on Twitter that her comments had been in response to "insults" made against Lord Shiva. Another party leader, Naveen Jindal, was expelled for posting a tweet about the Prophet that he later deleted. The government sought to distance itself from the comments by describing them as "views of fringe elements". The BJP on Sunday said it is "strongly against any ideology which insults or demeans any sect or religion" and "does not promote such people or philosophy". Despite the attempts at damage control, several Muslim nations have summoned India's envoys and demanded apologies for the comments.

## Assam Science Society (ASS) has

enthusiasm but also came forward quickly to support the formation of this branch in a record one month's time to ensure that the society has now a chapter in our capital city Delhi. Talking about its immediate and long-term priorities, the newly elected President of the Branch, Dr Patar mentioned, that they are committed to working in sync with the broad objectives of the society i.e. promotion of science, scientific research and temperament, and development of scientific knowledge repository and that the Delhi NCR branch aims at undertaking participatory activities around three thematic areas - Agriculture, Health, and Environment looking at Climate Change as a cross-cutting issue. While highlighting the growing gap between science and technology due to the lack of awareness among people at large, the secretary of the newly formed branch and senior climate change mitigation and sustainability expert Tridip Kumar Goswami mentioned that the branch will work closely with the young population including the Assamese diaspora of Delhi NCR and will strive to contribute toward the issues of national interest/priorities besides the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Extending his best wishes to the ASS Delhi-NCR Branch, Shri Romen Dutta, President, Assam People's Welfare Association, Trans-Yamuna, Delhi-NCR, mentioned that the progress of human civilization and the development of science and technology are inextricably linked and we cannot imagine a civilized society without the progress of science and technology. He hopes, the ASS Delhi-NCR branch will play a vital role in promoting a science-based approach in pursuit of a civilized and sustainable society.

## Face mask mandatory for air passengers at airports, inside flights: DGCA

NEW DELHI, June 08 : Amid rising cases of coronavirus in the country, the civil aviation regulator DGCA on Wednesday issued new guidelines for air passengers and made face masks mandatory at all airports and inside the flights. In its new guidelines, the DGCA said that those passengers who do not wear masks on the flight can be treated as 'unruly'. In line with Delhi HC order, aviation regulator DGCA issues new Covid norms for airports, aircraft making masks mandatory throughout the journey, and permits mask removal only under exceptional circumstances. Violators may be treated as 'unruly passengers'. The civil aviation regulator further warned that such passengers will be removed from the aircraft before departure if they are found without a face mask and not following COVID-appropriate behaviour. Giving details, the civil aviation regulator DGCA said the CIFS personnel will be in charge of enforcing mask guidelines at the airports. The new DGCA guidelines came days after the Delhi High Court ordered it to take a tough line against passengers who refuse to comply with Covid safety norms. In its order of June 3, the high court called for strict action, observing that the pandemic is not over yet. "If the passenger refuses to follow protocol despite reminders, action should be taken under health ministry or DGCA guidelines," it said. They can be physically removed, put on a "no-fly" list or be handed over to security agencies for further action, the court said. "The issuance of said order, in our view, is the right step since the pandemic has not abated and keeps springing up its ugly head," the court observed.



Baksa- BTC by-election 22 No Koklabari Constituency

## WDC celebrated World Environment Day in Lakhimpur



Assam Rising, North Lakhimpur, June 8: Women Development Centre (WDC), a prominent NGO of the state, in involvement with Divisional Forest Office, Lakhimpur organized the World Environment Day on Monday (June 6) at Akorabasti village under Kadam Revenue Circle in Lakhimpur district, with a call to raise awareness about the degrading environment and encourage students and community to take positive actions and help to create a better future. Bhagyawati Bhuyan, the Project Director, WDC, initiated the program on behalf of the WDC Director Sr. Betsy. The students from Dirgha Majgaon High School, Bhabari LP School, Anantapur LP School and the women and youths from 10 villages of WDC project areas supported by ARISE Foundation participated actively in the Day's program. Emphasizing on the theme--"Only One Earth", the speakers focused on the world's togetherness in the direction of creating the environment conducive for peace, harmony, prosperity and healthier by saving Nature and Life. Pahari Hazarika, the Range Officer, Lakhimpur said, "We often ignore or overlook our own environment and destroy it. It is time we promised to keep our own environment clean and plant more trees." She urged the students to realize the need of saving the environment. "If I don't do it, who will protect my environment?", she commented. The PP of Lakhimpur Parish Fr. Philip Baria, Fr. Niraj Turkey, president of Thowthowani Gaon Panchayat Dipanjali Doloi Sonowal, Headmaster of Anantapur LP School Bhadreswar Saikia, Assistant Teachers of Dirgha Majgaon High School Robin Dutta and Bhabakanta Mili, Headmaster of Bhabari LP School Jatini Borah, and Program Coordinator of WDC Sr. Rita Baghwar was present in the Day's program. Two hundred saplings were distributed among the people during the celebration. On the other hand, song, dance and drama competitions were held among the students and women on the topic "Save the Environment" and the winners were awarded. The celebration of the Day concluded with a plantation program in the premises of Birsa Munda Bhawan situated at Akorabasti village.



Arunachal Pradesh- Sarbananda Sonowal with CM Pema Khandu

## India looks forward to joining the NSG, says External Affairs Minister Jaishankar

New Delhi, June 08 : External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar was speaking on the foreign policy achievements of the government in a message aimed at China blocking India's membership at the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on June 7, 2022 said that India looks forward to joining the NSG, overcoming "political impediments". Mr. Jaishankar was addressing foreign diplomats in Delhi, on the foreign policy achievements of the Modi government in the last eight years. "We want to make in India, but make with the world. India has a deep belief of the world being a family and expresses it through greater development. Last eight years has seen a tripling of our lines of credit commitments," Mr. Jaishankar said. Stating that "India is proof that democracies can deliver", Mr. Jaishankar said the country's neighbourhood first policy is "clearly associated with a generous and non reciprocal approach to our immediate proximities". Mr. Jaishankar remarked that the Indian foreign policy has been displaying greater conceptual and operational clarity. "There has been a spike in our activities for the global south," he said. "FTAs that India has concluded and negotiations on the way with others have picked up momentum," Mr. Jaishankar added. Regarding COVID-19, the Union minister said that the pandemic has brought out "the overcentralised model of globalisation."

# Boris Johnson's comments led to threats against me, says Emily Bridges

London, June 08 : The transgender cyclist Emily Bridges feels comments made by Boris Johnson over whether she should race women were the catalyst for a wave of violent threats and has also revealed she wanted to compete at the Commonwealth Games this summer. The 21-year-old Welsh athlete made headlines in March when her attempts to race at the British National Omnium Championships in the women's category were thwarted at the 11th hour by the world governing body UCI. It sparked a debate that spread further than just the sport, with the prime minister weighing in when he stated: "I don't think biological males should be competing in female sporting events" at a time when Bridges was



already receiving plenty of criticism on social media and from fellow competitors. During an interview with ITV, Bridges said: "It's really strange to see probably the most famous man in Britain talking about you and having an opinion on something that he doesn't know anything about." The response after that was as expected, I had threats of

physical violence made against me by complete strangers online. People are entitled to hold an opinion about it, but there's a way to go about voicing that opinion - and threatening to kneecap me is not that way. "I'm scared a lot of the time about being who I am in public. Is someone going to recognise me? They were real concerns and it was a real fear that I had after the comments were made, and it was scary. I was scared." Some of those most vocal against Bridges' potential inclusion in the March event pointed to the fact she had competed in the men's points race of the British Universities' Championships a month earlier. The cyclist accepts in hindsight it was

maybe the wrong decision but insisted it was made to ensure she remained competitive, especially ahead of appearing at the championships in Derby, which initial British Cycling rules on transgender participation ensured she could enter. "It probably wasn't the right thing to do," Bridges admitted. "I wanted to do it because I wanted to keep my skills sharp. Immediately after I came off the track, I was like 'I kind of wish I hadn't done that' because I knew what was coming."

## Assam bagged three more medals in the Khelo India Youth Games



Guwahati, June 08 : Assam bagged three more medals in the Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG) at Panchkula today. Among the three medals one is silver and other two are bronze. The silver medal was won by Tridip Baruah in the 81 kg

category of weightlifting. Tridip on way to ensure silver lifted 81kg in clean and jerk and 132kg in snatch. Weightlifting

also gave one bronze today and it was won by Probal Protim Gogoi in the 73kg weight category. He picked up 116 kg in snatch and 145 kg in clean and Jerk. Meanwhile Upasha Talukdar today won a bronze medal in Rhythmic gymnastics.

## Dustin Johnson hopes for Ryder Cup rethink after calling time on PGA Tour

London, June 08 : The golf world was still reeling from the shock of Sergio Garcia's resignation from the PGA Tour as Dustin Johnson used a sunny morning on the outskirts of Hemel Hempstead on Tuesday to calmly announce he had done likewise. The impact of the Saudi Arabia-backed LIV Golf Series, which begins with a \$25m (£19.85m) event here on Thursday, continues to reverberate. Nothing is happening in isolation. Hot discussion now surrounds whether Garcia and Johnson, synonymous with the Ryder Cup for their teams, can remain as a part of the biennial event. "It's hard to speak on what the consequences will be but for right now, I resigned my membership from the Tour," said Johnson, the world No 15. "What the consequences are going to be... I can't comment on how

the Tour is going to handle it." Johnson won five matches out of five when the US trounced Europe in September. Last year, the PGA of America's chief executive, Seth Waugh, was unequivocal. He said: "If someone wants to play on a Ryder Cup for the US, they're going to need to be a member of the PGA of America and they get that membership through being a member of the tour." Johnson, who has about 100 million reasons to support the LIV Series, said he hoped Waugh would rethink his position. Last week, the PGA of America said it was "premature to speculate on any Ryder Cup implications". But the PGA Tour, which is expected to outline its stance on exiting members over the next 48 hours, is absolute in its opposition to the Saudi scheme. Johnson had



pledged allegiance to the PGA Tour, where he has accumulated \$74m in on-course earnings, as recently as February. "I don't want to play golf for the rest of my life, which I've felt like I was probably going to have to do," the 37-year-old said. You have to wonder about the scale of his monthly outgoings. The position of Garcia, a Ryder Cup hero in European

context, is different. He has not resigned from the DP World, formerly European, Tour. While that body also stands against the LIV Series, nothing has been said by them in public or to players regarding the scale of sanctions or Ryder Cup cost for those who tee up at Centurion. Garcia will bide his time before making any call on Europe.

# Uefa safety consultant quit and expressed concerns in February



London, June 08 : Serious concerns were raised about Uefa's safety and security department earlier this year when an English safety expert with decades of experience quit his role as a consultant for European football's governing body. Steve Frosdick, originally a Metropolitan police officer, has dedicated his career to stadium safety in British and European football since the 1990s and has multiple advanced professional qualifications.

He resigned from his Uefa consultancy in February, after 11 years in which he was employed to enhance its expertise, incident monitoring, and development and training programmes. He is said to have become seriously unhappy with the direction of the department which since last year has been headed by Zeljko Pavlica, a close friend of the Uefa president, Aleksandr Ceferin. Frosdick is said to have believed that Uefa's professionalism, expertise and development were being undermined, and he rejected a proposal to revise his contract, that would have downgraded his role. Frosdick's resignation and criticisms came less than four months before serious safety problems beset Uefa's two end-of-season

## Jack Grealish's cameo in Munich reminds England of their better selves

Munich, June 08 : For all the minor chords around this current run of close-season internationals, the sense of something frazzled and desiccated at the end of a gruelling year, there was a light, fun quality to this 1-1 draw in Munich. This was a breezy game that meant nothing, that ended all square, but which still threw up its own subplots in the shape of Harry and Jack, two England players who are currently auditioning for their own parts in England's plan of attack. Germany in Munich is always going to be fist-pumping alpha-dog stuff, and the Allianz Arena



was a lovely spectacle at kick-off, an eggshell sky peering in through the oval space portal in the roof of this vast alien doughnut ditched on the outskirts of Munich. These England breaks can work as a tonic too, something restorative. For Harry Maguire in particular this England camp has been cast by some as a kind of retreat, a find-yourself-again camp. The noises will fade. The lights will guide you home. And I, Gareth, will try, to fix you. It was a big night in other ways for Jack Grealish, another player in need of a little love, who came on for the final 20 minutes with England trailing and changed the game just enough. And they were poor here in patches, resembling at times a team that have become a little stuck. Gareth Southgate went for a back four here, the classic early noughties 4-2-3-1 which has been a little overlooked by him as he fiddles with the details of his defensive formations. It seemed to drain some of England's ease in possession, not helped by the speed and fury of Germany's early pressing. The back five played 30 long passes in the first half. It didn't feel like the future.

# Women's Tour cycling: Lorena Wiebes dusts down to take stage two victory

London, June 08 : Lorena Wiebes bounced back from an opening-day crash to take victory on stage two of the Women's Tour. The Dutch rider underlined why she had been the hot favourite 24 hours earlier as she easily powered clear to win a sprint finish with room to spare at the end of the 92km stage that started and finished in Harlow. Barbara Guarischi edged out Shari Bossuyt in a battle for second place, while stage one winner Clara Copponi rolled home in sixth to retain the overall lead. Wiebes, who came into this race on the back of her victory in the RideLondon Classique at the end of last month, finished 85th on Monday after a late crash, but had



no such troubles a day later. That was despite her DSM teammates being left

out of position by a crash in the final 10km, leaving Wiebes to ride the wheels

herself before launching her attack. "If you smell the finish line, I guess you

have more motivation," the 23-year-old said. Wiebes's victory moved her up to third overall, four seconds off Copponi in yellow and one second behind Maïke van der Duin in second place - although Wednesday's rolling stage from Tewkesbury to Gloucester could produce more significant gaps. This stage had been animated by Sammie Stuart, the 31-year-old firefighter making her debut in the race, as she attacked midway through the day to go solo. But after the Cams-Basso rider was caught with 20km to go, Lily Williams and Gladys Verhulst tried a counterattack, holding

only a slim advantage over the peloton even as a crash split the chasing group, putting some of the DSM riders out of position. Meanwhile, Mark Cavendish will return to the British national road championships later this month as part of a line-up in Dumfries and Galloway that includes all five defending champions from last year's races in Lincoln. Thirty-four time Tour de France stage winner Cavendish is on the start list of the men's race alongside two-time defending champion Ben Swift, as well as riders including Fred Wright, Owain Doull, Jake Stewart, Ethan Hayter and Olympic track champion Matt Walls.

## Wales's qualification for the World Cup was a glorious, hysterical occasion



London, June 08 : As the full-time whistle blew during our scruffy 1-0 win over Northern Ireland at Euro 2016, the older man behind me was weeping at the prospect of watching Wales in the quarter-final of a major championship. I performatively puffed out my cheeks and raised an eyebrow, in that way people do after reading a BuzzFeed article about how many egg whites Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson eats in a day. Feeling we had sufficiently bonded over Gareth McAuley's own goal, and as he seemed to be in his 60s, I asked if he remembered Wales reaching the quarter-finals of our only World Cup appearance in 1958. "No," he replied. "I was three." It's hard to cling on to sporting history when even the old people you know are too young to remember it. But Sunday gave this Wales team a chance to create history of their own. As I walked to the pub to meet my friends before kick-off, door after door of the terrace houses in Canton, Cardiff, opened one after another, with identically dressed Welsh fans in red shirts and bucket hats leaving to do the same as me.

# Liverpool told they must pay record £85m to land Benfica's Darwin Núñez

Liverpool, June 08 : Liverpool have been told it will take a club record £85m to sign Darwin Núñez from Benfica as Jürgen Klopp considers rebuilding his attack. The forward is a leading target for Klopp should Sadio Mané get his wish to join Bayern Munich after six highly successful seasons at Anfield. Liverpool have rejected an opening bid worth up to £25m from Bayern for the influential Mané but the German champions are expected to return with improved terms. Liverpool will not allow Mané to leave without receiving more than £30m and having a replacement lined up. Núñez, who was the top scorer in Portugal last season with 26 league goals and scored 34 in total, is high on Liverpool's wishlist although



Benfica want about £85m for the 22-year-old. Almeria are due 20% of any profit that Benfica make under the terms of his £24m transfer to the Lisbon club in 2020. Manchester United have also been linked with Núñez as they rebuild under Erik ten Hag but cannot

offer Champions League football. Núñez was hugely impressive in Benfica's Champions League quarter-final defeat by Liverpool in April, scoring in both legs, and was publicly praised by Klopp afterwards. Liverpool will have to break their transfer record - the £75m

paid for Virgil van Dijk - to meet Benfica's valuation and secure the in-demand striker. The club have signed Fulham's 19-year-old midfielder Fabio Carvalho from Fulham and hope to finalise a deal for Aberdeen's right-back Calvin Ramsay this week.

## Activity levels among disabled people have failed to return to pre-Covid levels

London, June 08 : Activity levels among disabled people have continued to fall away, new research has found, threatening a physical recovery from the pandemic that is "just for the few". Now in its third year, the Disability and Activity Survey attempts to capture not only levels of activity among people with disabilities but also their attitudes towards it and the barriers they face. Run by the disability advocacy charity, Activity Alliance, it has recorded the effect of Covid-19 on one of the most vulnerable groups in society. The headline findings show that four million disabled people in the UK would have been classified as "inactive" over the past year, taking part in less than 30 minutes of physical activity a week. According to the report, this amounts to 42.4% of all disabled people, an increase of 2.6 percentage points from before the pandemic, and compares with 22.6% of non-disabled people as recorded in Sport England's Active Lives survey. Activity Alliance's Kirsty Clark, author of the report, said: "If we look back to the pre-pandemic statistics, we were seeing change in a positive direction. What we've seen in the last two years is that this has really ebbed away, and the question now is: how do we get that back quickly?" Increasing activity levels again will be tough, but we need to make it happen.

# First openly trans NFL cheerleader to make her debut in 2022 season



**London, June 08 :** The first openly transgender cheerleader in the National Football League will make her debut in the 2022 season starting in September. Justine Lindsay, a 29-year-old Black trans woman, will cheer for the Carolina Panthers "TopCats", becoming the first openly trans cheerleader of the NFL, BuzzFeed News first reported. While there is not an official record for NFL cheerleaders hired throughout the league's history, Lindsay appears to be the first openly transgender person. Lindsay announced her hiring in an Instagram post from March, thanking the Top Cats team, other dancers who supported her, and their director, Chandala

Lanouette: "This is a moment I will never forget and I cannot wait to show you all what this girl has to bring. Thank you [Topcats] a dream come true." In her first interview since joining the team, Lindsay spoke to BuzzFeed about anxiety she felt when posting on social media about her historic hire. "I was so scared," she said. "There's just some things you can't post." Lindsay's announcement has gone viral since then, with fans commenting messages of support and congratulations to the new cheerleader. But Lindsay has had to deal with transphobia, harassment she addressed in a recent Instagram post: "Thank you to all my haters who think I'm

bringing the organization down, clearly I don't," wrote Lindsay on Monday. She continued: "The Carolina Panthers Organization is an excellent one, one that supports all people white, black, yellow trans, straight etc. at the end of the day myself and the other 29 members [Topcats] made the squad fair and square." Lanouette and the Panthers also emphasized that Lindsay made the team due to her talent as a dancer. "My goal is to create a team of individuals that are absolute fire on the field but are incredible human beings in the locker room, good friends, good people, and at the end of the day, you have to walk through the door first to get to that

spot," Lanouette said to BuzzFeed. "Members of the TopCats are hired based on their qualifications and abilities," the Panthers said in a statement shared with NPR. "Our organization is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate because of age, race, religion, color, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or national origin. We wish all the TopCats, including Justine Lindsay, an incredible season." Lindsay's recent hire comes as conservative lawmakers across several states are passing legislation that criminalizes trans athletes. Republican legislators in Ohio on Wednesday passed legislation in the House that would ban trans girls and women from participating in high school and college athletics. The bill

would also mandate a genital inspection "verification process" for athletes suspected of being trans. In March, the Iowa governor, Kim Reynolds, signed a bill into law that banned trans girls and women from participating in high school and college sports. Louisiana's governor, John Bel Edwards, allowed a similar legislative ban to become law by not vetoing it despite also not signing it. Black cheerleaders also remain a minority in the NFL, with Eurocentric beauty expectations, like straighter hair, remaining the norm for dancers. Lindsay, though, will be allowed to keep her bald look, which she adds is another opportunity to "inspire other young girls who may be insecure rocking their bald look".

## Virat Kohli becomes the first Indian to cross 200 million followers on Instagram

**New Delhi, June 08 :** Former India and Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) captain, Virat Kohli on Tuesday became the first Indian to have 200 million followers on Instagram. A number that affirms the popularity of the cricketer across the planet. Kohli had breached the 100 million mark only last summer. "200 mil strong, thanks for all your support insta fam," wrote Kohli on his latest Instagram post. The 33-year-old is only the third athlete to touch the 200 million followers mark on Instagram after Lionel Messi (334 million) and Cristiano Ronaldo (451 million), who has the most followers on the app. Last year, Kohli had given up his T20 captaincy for India and RCB after the T20 World Cup and the IPL season respectively. A month later Rohit Sharma was named as India's new ODI captain after already being named as the T20I skipper. Post the three-Test series against South Africa earlier this year, Kohli also stepped down from his role as India's red ball captain. The former RCB skipper had a forgettable IPL 2022 having scored 341 runs in 16 innings at a strike rate of just 115.98. He has currently been rested for the five-match T20I series against South Africa.



200M INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

## Mithali Raj announces retirement from all forms of International cricket



**New Delhi, June 08 :** Mithali Raj retires: Veteran Indian women's cricketer Mithali Raj has announced her retirement from all forms of international cricket. It will bring down the curtain on a glittering career since making her debut for India in 1999. Mithali has played 12 Tests, 232 ODIS and 89 T20Is for India in her 23-year-old career. Mithali Raj released a statement on social media on Wednesday, saying: "Thank you for all your love & support over the years! I look forward to my 2nd innings with your blessing and support." "I set out as a little girl on the journey to wear the India blues as representing your

country is the highest honour. The journey was full of highs and some lows. Each event taught me something unique and the last 23 years have been the most fulfilling, challenging and enjoyable years of my life," said Mithali. "Like all journeys, this one too must come to an end. Today is the day I retire from all forms of international cricket," said Mithali. "Mithali, a right-handed batter, will go down in history for her incredible run-scoring feats, including a record 7,805 runs to date in ODI matches, almost over 2,000 more than her closest rival, former England captain Charlotte Edwards. She has scored seven centuries and a record 64 fifties in her ODI career. "Each time I stepped on the girls, I gave my very best with the intent to help India win. I will always cherish the opportunity given to me to represent the tricolour," she said. "I feel now is the perfect time to call

curtains on my playing career as the team is in the capable hands of some very talented young players and the future of Indian cricket is very bright," she added. By proceeding, you are agreeing to our Terms and Conditions. To find out what personal data we collect and how we use it, please visit our Privacy Policy. In Tests, Mithali amassed 699 runs, in 12 matches, including a century and four half-centuries. And in T20Is, Raj scored 2364 runs at an average of 37.52 with 17 half-centuries and a high score of 97 not out. "I'd like to thank the BCCI & Shri Jay Shah Sir (Honorary Secretary, BCCI) for all the support I have received - first as a player and then as the Captain of the Indian Women's Cricket Team." "It was an honour to have led the team for so many years. It definitely shaped me as a person & hopefully helped shape Indian Women's Cricket as well," she said.



## Centre unveils India's first National Air Sports Policy

**NEW DELHI, June 08 :** Taking another step in the direction of making India one of the top air sports nations by 2030, the Union ministry of civil aviation (MoCA) on Tuesday announced the country's first national air sports policy (NASP 2022), paving the way for a new era in aero sports for India. The NASP, in its present form, will cover air sports such as aerobatics, aeromodelling, model rocketry, amateur-built and experimental aircraft, ballooning, drones, gliding and powered gliding, hang-gliding and powered hang-gliding, parachuting (including skydiving, BASE jumping and wingsuit flying), paragliding and paramotoring (including powered parachute trikes), powered aircraft and rotorcraft. "The youth of India represent the future of aero sports. Programmes aimed at

raising interest in aerial sports will be encouraged. Schools, colleges, and universities will be encouraged to have air sports included in the curriculum," Union civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said. The Air Sports Federation of India (ASFI) will be the apex governing body for this initiative. "The ASFI will publish its draft guidelines within six months of the date of publication of NASP 2022 after consulting with stakeholders. This federation will be chaired by civil aviation ministry secretary Rajiv Bansal," the policy read. "The ASFI will be an autonomous body, and will present India at the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) and other global platforms related to air sports. It will provide governance over all aspects of air sports, including regulation, certification, competitions, awards, and penalties,"

MoCA said. The national air sports associations will be accountable to ASFI to ensure safe, affordable, accessible, and sustainable conduct of their respective sporting activities. The MoCA further said that sports associations will handle all regulatory issues related to safety, training, licensing, and airworthiness. They will have to coordinate with the air traffic control authorities for safe operations, alongside other manned or unmanned flights. "The long-term funding for development of air sports in India shall come from corporate investors, sponsors, membership fees, events, and media rights... All air sports competitions in India will be conducted as per guidelines laid down by FAI, wherever applicable," the policy read.

## Emma Raducanu has 'no idea' if she will play at Wimbledon after freak injury

**Nottingham, June 08 :** Emma Raducanu said on Tuesday that she has "no idea" whether she will be fit in time for Wimbledon this month after a "freak injury" forced her to retire from the Rothmans Open at Nottingham after just 36 minutes of her first-round match against Viktorija Golubic. Raducanu took a three-minute injury timeout after the third game, in which she held her serve to take a 2-1 lead. The early signs were that her problem had been resolved, as she immediately broke the Golubic serve for a second time, but her opponent reeled off the next three games while Raducanu received further attention



from the physio at every change. Great Britain's team of (from left) Harriet Dart, Sonay Kartal, captain Anne Keothavong, Emma Raducanu and Katie Swan, pictured during April's play-off against Czech Republic. She scarcely moved towards Golubic's return at the start of her fourth service game, lost it

with a weak forehand into the net and told the umpire that she would not be able to continue a few moments later. "First game, absolute freak," Raducanu said afterwards. "I think I pulled something. I'm not really sure exactly what happened, I don't know what I could have done about it. I have to get a scan, prob-

ably, I'll get it checked out and we'll see from there. It's on the side of my body, it feels maybe around my ribs." One shot in the first game, I was just like, this just doesn't feel right at all. Then I was thinking, first game, if you do something in the first game, people are going to be like, why did you walk out on to the court?" So I definitely tried to get through it, but in the second game I called the physio on at the first changeover to try to do some work, but from there, even she was like, this is going to be really difficult for you to continue. "Raducanu does not believe her latest injury is related in any way to a

problem with her back earlier in the year, but said that it meant she "just couldn't do anything" on the court. "You don't want to stop after one or two games and I tried to battle through it, and I found myself 3-1 up as well," she said. "At that point, I knew it was just a matter of time to be honest. I clearly couldn't serve and because of where the location [of the injury] is, I had to move it for everything, to turn, to move, to serve, to breathe in and out." It was a miserable conclusion to Raducanu's return to Nottingham, the tournament in which she launched her professional career 12 months ago.

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