



The Assam Rising

Projecting the best of Northeast India everyday

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Inter-state car theft

Assam Rising
Guwahati, July 26 :

Guwahati police on Tuesday busted an inter-state car theft racket and recovered six vehicles from Assam and Manipur. During the operation, the prime accused involved in the racket, namely Bikash Talukdar, was arrested from Guwahati's Geetanagar area. According to sources, the accused allegedly bought vehicles on lease and illegally sold them to other states. In Guwahati, police recovered three 'Tata Di' pickup vans from Basistha area. Police also recovered two Boloro pickup vans and one Tata vehicle from Manipur. Two more accused involved in the racket are currently on the run, police said, adding that efforts are on to nab them.

WWF Championship

Assam Rising
Guwahati, July 26 :

India's representative at the WWF Pro-Am Universe Championship, Kushal Kalita from Assam won the gold medal in men's bodybuilding. The championship was organised at Bangkok in Thailand. Kalita bagged the gold in the men's category on July 16. The accolades already attached to his name include Mr. Kamrup overall champion in 2021, Mr. Assam overall champion in the same year, Mr. East India Gold in 2022 and Mr. Guwahati overall champion in 2022. In addition, he also won Mr. Universe Gold this year in the 70 kilograms category in Thailand.

Smuggling cattle

Assam Rising
Guwahati, July 26 :

Assam police seized a cattle laden pick up van at National Highway no 39 in Rangia under Kamrup rural district. Three persons, believed to be involved in cattle smuggling, were arrested in connection to it. As many as 12 cattle heads were seized from the Magic pick up van they were travelling in. According to police, the van was en route Barpeta from Balukuchi when it was intercepted based on specific information. Earlier this month, Guwahati police seized two vehicles and arrested four people on suspicions of illegally smuggling cattle.

Trinamool Congress MPs Protest Outside Parliament for Repeal of Assam-Meghalaya Border Pact



Assam Rising
Guwahati, July 26 :

Trinamool Congress MPs and party MLAs from Meghalaya on Tuesday protested outside Parliament to demand a repeal of the border pact between the state and Assam. The two states had in March decided to end their five-de-

cade-old border dispute in six of the 12 contested locations along the 884.9-km boundary that often raised tensions between them. Participating in the protest march at Vijay Chowk, All India Trinamool Congress (Meghalaya) leader Dr Mukul Sangma said, "We are trying to draw the attention of the Govern-

ment of India to take cognizance of the sentiments of people of the state and scrap the Assam-Meghalaya border agreement." Assam shares a 2743 km boundary with Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and West Bengal. It is locked in border disputes with Nagaland, Mizoram, Meghalaya and

Arunachal Pradesh. In July 2021, Assam's Cachar district had witnessed a fierce armed clash between the police personnel of Assam and Mizoram. Six Assam police personnel were killed in an armed confrontation with their Mizoram counterparts, forcing the Centre to intervene. The pact between Assam and Meghalaya is aimed at eliminating the possibility any such violence in the border areas of the two states. There are 36 villages in the six places, covering an area of 36.79 sq km, with regard to which the agreement has

been reached. Sangma said the boundary issue is a long-pending one that needs to be resolved, "but then, resolution for any issue is intended to create an enabling environment for the future; a conducive environment to enable people to live in a mutual coexistence... The agreement which has been arrived at is against the sentiment, wishes and acceptance of the people of Meghalaya." The Trinamool Congress leaders also demanded the inclusion of Khasi and Garo languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

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Decision taken with 'heavy heart': BJP on suspension of 19 Opposition MPs from Rajya Sabha



New Delhi, July 26 :

The ruling BJP on Tuesday said the decision to suspend 19 opposition MPs from the Rajya Sabha was taken with a "heavy heart" as they repeatedly ignored the Chair's appeals to let the House function

and infringed on other members' rights. Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha Piyush Goyal asserted that it is not the government but the Opposition that is running away from a debate in Parliament.

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Rahul Gandhi among Congress MPs detained during protest over Sonia's ED grilling

New Delhi, July 26 :

Congress interim president Sonia Gandhi on Tuesday went to the office of the Enforcement Directorate in Delhi for the second round of questioning in connection with the National Herald-money laundering case. As part of the planned protest, Congress MPs marched from the Gandhi Statue on the Parliament premises towards Vijay Chowk. Several of them, including Rahul Gandhi,



Mallikarjun Kharge, Ranjeet Ranjan, KC Venugopal, Manickam Tagore, Imran Pratapgarhi and K Suresh were detained during the march. Before being detained, Rahul said discussions are not allowed inside Parliament, while MPs are arrested out for protesting. "All (Congress) MPs came here. They

talked about inflation, unemployment. They (Police) are not allowing us to sit here. Discussions are not allowed inside (the Parliament) and here they are arresting us," the Wayanad MP was quoted. The Congress leadership has planned a 'satyagrah' (peaceful protests) across the national capital and

elsewhere in protest against the interrogation. The Delhi Police has denied the party permission to agitate at the Raj Ghat and imposed Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code in the area. Earlier, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra accompanied their mother to the ED office. Rahul Gandhi has been questioned extensively in the same case recently. Congress MPs met at the office of Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge on Parliament premises and are likely to stage a march towards the ED office to protest against the questioning. Workers of the All India Mahila Congress have begun their stir outside the party headquarters in Delhi. Karnataka Congress

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Assam reports 760 new COVID-19 cases



Assam Rising
Guwahati, July 26 :

Assam reported 760 new

COVID-19 cases, pushing the tally to 7,35,621, according to the National Health Mission (NHM) bulletin. The 760 new cases were detected out of 8,499 samples tested on Monday, with the

positivity rate declining to 8.94 per cent as against the previous day's 10.29 per cent. The total number of active cases in the state has increased to 5,605 as against the previous day's 5,527. The new cases were reported from Dibrugarh (64), Goalpara (57), Baksa (51), Dhemaji (47) and

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Lovlina Borgohain's coach Sandhya Gurung gets accreditation for CWG 2022 after boxer makes 'harassment' claims

New Delhi, July 26 :

Olympic medalist boxer Lovlina Borgohain's coach Sandhya Gurung got the accreditation for the Commonwealth Games 2022 on Tuesday. "I have received the accreditation for Commonwealth Games 2022," Coach Sandhya Gurung told. Lovlina had taken to Twitter to say that she was mentally harassed due to the absence of her coaches including Sandhya Gurung at the Commonwealth village. On Monday, Sandhya had expressed her grievance about not being able to enter the Commonwealth Games Village as she does not have an accreditation card. "Our preparation is going well. Four women boxers are participating in the Commonwealth Games. I think we will win four gold medals," Lovlina told. "We do not pay attention to all this, our entire focus remains on the coaching of the players that their perfor-



mance is good and they get trained well. Players want to train with whom they have trained before the event. Since we have come for the Commonwealth, good practice is going on. There is only one problem which is the accreditation card. Because of this, I am not able to go inside. We are trying to get the accreditation card as soon as possible," the coach said. "Today with great sorrow I want to confess that I am facing a lot of harass-

ment. The coaches who helped me secure a medal in the Olympics are being removed again and again, affecting my training and competition preparation. One of

the coaches is Sandhya Gurungji and she is a Dronacharya awardee. Both of my coaches have to plead to be included in the training camp and they are added quite late," she said in a tweet. "This has caused me a lot of problems in my training and this causes mental harassment as well. Right now, my coach Sandhya Gurungji is not getting entry into the Commonwealth Village and she is outside. Due to this, my training has stopped eight days ahead of the competition. My second

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Mutual transfer orders issued to 7,716 teachers in first phase: Ranoj Pegu

Assam Rising
Guwahati, July 26 :

Assam education minister Ranoj Pegu on Tuesday said that mutual transfer orders have been issued through the online mode to as many as 7,716 teachers in the first phase in just two days. The transfer orders have been issued to the teachers through the state

government's teacher transfer portal through our teacher transfer portal (<https://hrmsassam.in>). The second phase will begin from Wednesday, the minister informed. Speaking at a programme here, Pegu clarified that the process of transfer of teachers has not been delayed. "There have

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Governor Mukhi attends Lecture Session on Anti-Drug Awareness Campaign

Assam Rising
Guwahati, July 26 :

"As youths are the future ambassadors of the nation, you have the authority to make your life beautiful or make your life miserable. Be a responsible citizen and stay away from the harmful substances to lead a happy and healthy life", said by Hon'ble Governor of Assam Prof. Jagdish Mukhi. Marking the "60 Days Anti-Drug, Tobacco and Liquor Awareness Campaign", Byatikram MASDO organized a distin-

guished lecture session addressed by Prof. Jagdish Mukhi with the students and recovery addicts on July 26 at IIT Machkhowa, Guwahati with an aim to educate and spread awareness about the substance abuse among the youths. Students from various educational institutions took part in the distinguished lecture session. The program was graced by many esteemed dignitaries

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Karbi Anglong Villagers Forced To Carry Patient On Shoulder To Reach Hospital



Assam Rising
Guwahati, July 26 :

Due to the lack of a bridge or proper road connectivity, the villagers of Assam's Karbi Anglong district have been forced to carry patients on their shoulders to

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A kid takes a photo with a cow sculpture displayed during the CowParade event in Mexico City

EasyJet boss criticises UK stance on visas for EU staff amid cancelled flights

Berlin, July 26 : The boss of easyJet has criticised the government's refusal to permit more visas for EU cabin crew and ground handling staff, arguing that easing restrictions would "relieve pressure" on



aviation after weeks of travel chaos. Despite widespread worker shortages and recruitment difficulties for roles including airport security staff and ground handlers, industry requests to allow

in more EU citizens to fill the gaps is "not something that they have responded positively to", Johan Lundgren said. "We know that there are exemptions being made to allow other groups of workers that are

coming in, ballet dancers, circus artists, bakers and so on, but not for aviation staff," the easyJet chief executive told reporters. However, he said it did not look like ministers planned to change visa rules for the

aviation sector. "That is not something that we have seen that they feel inclined to do at this moment in time." EasyJet added it was challenging to find enough domestic staff to fill vacancies, amid chronic worker shortages across the economy, and as unemployment remained steady at 3.8% in June. "The level of people that all of the industry is recruiting from has become smaller, partly also because we don't have the same amount of EU nationals available," Lundgren said. "In terms of the government we will continue to work with them to make sure the

sector remains an attractive place to work and to make sure there remains enough people that we can recruit from." EasyJet said it was also facing problems on the continent amid the rebound in demand for foreign travel after pandemic restrictions were lifted, but added "the issues here are bigger than they are across Europe". Lundgren's comments came as the airline reported a £133m financial hit from disruption to air travel between April and June, leading to pre-tax loss of £114m for the second

quarter of the year. EasyJet has been one of the airlines worst affected by recent travel turmoil, and cancelled about 10,000 flights from its summer schedule in June. Its chief operating officer departed last month after weeks of disruption and further last-minute flight cancellations, which have dented the airline's reputation for reliability and customer service. Lundgren said the airline's day-to-day operations had "normalised" in recent weeks, adding that easyJet had operated more than 3,100 flights on Saturday and Sunday, the beginning of the summer getaway for many families, and had not had to cancel any UK flights on the day.

China's long-running heatwave raises electricity usage and causes blackouts

Taipei, July 26 : A long-running heatwave in China has pushed electricity usage to record levels in some areas and led to blackouts, with warnings that the high temperatures are expected to continue for at least another week. More than 300 cities were forecast to reach temperatures above 35C on Tuesday. China Southern Power Grid

Company said Monday's usage had surpassed last year's peak load by 3%. The Guangdong province power grid also hit a record high, reaching 142m kilowatts, an increase of 4.89% over last year's peak load. Blackouts were reported in the capital city, Guangzhou, which has recorded a full week of maximum temperatures above 37C, including highs of 40C on Sunday and Monday. Yang Lin, the manager of the company's dispatching office, said once temperatures in Guangzhou surpassed 35C, every extra degree meant a corresponding load increase of 3m-5m kilowatts. The company said it was inspecting equipment to avoid overheating and



rising demand for electricity and shortages in coal, which is still the main source of China's power. China is among several countries to have moved back towards a coal-focused energy supply, despite ambitious emissions reduction pledges, amid a global crisis exacerbated by the Ukraine conflict. On Friday the ministry of emergency management warned safe operation of the power grid faced "severe tests". Last week China's electricity council reported national power consumption had increased 2.9% year-on-year in the first half of 2022. In June there was a year-on-year increase of 4.7%, which the council attributed to an easing of the pandemic, high

temperatures and the impact of economic stabilisation policies. On Monday, 21 red warnings and 140 orange warnings were issued for high temperatures, predominately across the south-east and in the far west, including Xinjiang. The national meteorological agency warned on Tuesday the high temperatures would continue for about 10 days mostly in the south-east, with temperatures above

40C forecast for Zhejiang, Fujian, Jiangxi and Hunan. It also forecast "significant" rainfall in some central and western regions. China has reported above normal heat since June amid global heatwaves that meteorologists say are linked to human-induced climate change. State media reported the current heatwave was expected to be worse than one earlier this month. More than a dozen local temperature records were broken on Sunday alone. Xinjiang's heatwaves have been particularly long and widespread, Chen Chunyan, the chief expert at the Xinjiang meteorological observatory, told state media. "Continued high temperature has accelerated glacial melting in mountainous areas and caused natural disasters such as flash floods, mudslides and landslides in many places," Chen said.

Maharashtra Politics: Now Setback for Sharad Pawar

Mumbai, July 26 : BJP MP Ramdas Tadas has cleared the way to become the president of the Maharashtra State Wrestling Council. Election for the post of President of Maharashtra State Wrestling Council will be held in Nagpur on 31st July. But as Kakasaheb Pawar and Dhaval Singh Mohite Patil withdrew their

candidature, this election has gone uncontested. Ramdas Tadas is an MP from Wardha Lok Sabha Constituency. Tadas himself has been 'Vidarbha Kesari' four times. The Maharashtra State Wrestling Council headed by NCP chief Sharad Pawar was disbanded a few days ago. At that time it was also discussed that this

decision was made for political reasons after the Shinde-BJP government came to power. BJP's attempt to take control of Maharashtra State Wrestling Council dominated by Sharad Pawar is a picture of success. Kakasaheb Pawar will be the secretary, while Vaibhav Landge will be the vice president. Ramdas Tadas holds the post of Vice President of Maharashtra State Wrestling Council.

Myanmar executions

US presses China to rein in junta, saying it cannot be 'business as usual'

London, July 26 : A senior US official has urged China to do more to rein in Myanmar's military after its execution of four people, saying that "it cannot be business as usual with the junta", as the killings drew widespread international condemnation. State department spokesperson Ned Price told a briefing: "Arguably, no country has the potential to influence the trajectory of Burma's next steps more so than the PRC [People's Republic of China]", noting that the junta "has not faced the level of economic and in some cases diplomatic pressure that we

would like to see". Price noted in-depth discussions had already been held with China and India on how to put Myanmar back on the path to democracy. US secretary of state Antony Blinken, who met activists from Myanmar in Bangkok this month, voiced confidence the killings would not hinder the country's democracy movement. "The regime's sham trials and these executions are blatant attempts to extinguish democracy; these actions will never suppress the spirit of the brave people of Burma," Blinken said in a statement, using Myanmar's former name. The remarks came after China, a longtime ally of Myanmar's military, refused to comment on the executions. Foreign ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said Beijing "always upholds the principle of non-interference in other countries' internal affairs". The execution on Monday of four prisoners including a former lawmaker from



Aung San Suu Kyi's party and a prominent democracy activist, was Myanmar's first use of capital punishment in decades, and has heightened concerns that more death sentences will follow. Since the coup in February last year, 76 prisoners have been sentenced to death, including two children, according to advocacy group Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) Burma. A further 41 people have been sentenced to death in absentia. Global condemnation has followed, with attention turning to what can be done to prevent further atrocities. A joint statement from the European Union, Australia,

Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea, Britain and the United States called the killings "reprehensible acts of violence that further exemplify the regime's disregard for human rights and the rule of law". The UN special rapporteur Thomas Andrews said he was "outraged and devastated" by the executions and called for a strong international response. "The widespread and systematic murders of protesters, indiscriminate attacks against entire villages, and now the execution of opposition leaders, demands an immediate and firm response by member states of the United Nations," he said.

Jared Kushner says he had thyroid cancer while aide to Trump in 2019



Washington, July 26 : Jared Kushner, a former senior aide to then-president Donald Trump who is married to Trump's daughter, Ivanka, wrote in a memoir to be published next month that he had a bout with thyroid cancer in 2019 that was previously undisclosed. According to excerpts of the book seen by Reuters, Kushner wrote that White House physician Sean Conley pulled him aside on Air Force One as Trump

flew to Texas to tell him his test results from Walter Reed Medical Center showed he had cancer and "we need to schedule a surgery right away". Kushner had the surgery right before Thanksgiving that year and managed to keep his cancer diagnosis secret despite working in a White House where news leaks were rampant. The book excerpts were first reported by the New York Times. Unbeknownst to Kushner, Trump was aware of the cancer diagnosis, Kushner wrote: "The day before the surgery, Trump called me into the Oval Office and motioned for his team to close the door. 'Are you nervous about the surgery?' he asked." Kushner asked how Trump knew, to which he replied: "I'm the president. I know

everything. I understand that you want to keep these things quiet. I like to keep things like this to myself as well. You'll be just fine. Don't worry about anything with work. We have everything covered here." Kushner reveals the cancer diagnosis in his memoir Breaking History: A White House Memoir, to be published on 23 August. Kushner said a substantial part of his thyroid was removed during the surgery, which came during tense negotiations with China about a trade deal. Kushner was a lead negotiator in a US-brokered normalisation deal between Israel and several Arab countries in 2020. He now runs global investment firm Affinity Partners, and has stepped away from politics for the time being.

Melting glacier in Alps shifts border between Switzerland and Italy

Liechtenstein, July 26 : A melting glacier in the Alps has shifted the border between Switzerland and Italy, putting the location of an Italian mountain lodge in dispute. The borderline runs along a drainage divide - the point at which meltwater will run down either side of the mountain towards one country or the other. But the Theodul Glacier's retreat means the watershed has crept towards the Rifugio Guide del Cervino, a refuge

for visitors near the 3,480-metre (11,417ft) Testa Grigia peak - and it is gradually sweeping underneath the building. On a recent visit to the refuge's restaurant, Frederic, a 59-year-old tourist, asked: "So - are we in Switzerland?" It was a question worth asking. The answer has been the subject of diplomatic negotiations that started in 2018 and concluded with a compromise last year, but the details remain secret. When the refuge was built on a

rocky outcrop in 1984, its 40 beds and long wooden tables were entirely in Italian territory. But now two-thirds of the lodge, including most of the beds and the restaurant, is technically perched in southern Switzerland. The issue has come to the fore because the area, which relies on tourism, is located at the top of one of the world's largest ski resorts, with a major new development including a cable car station being constructed a few metres away.



Tibetan macaques are pictured in the Wuyishan National Park, southeast China's Fujian Province

Guest House

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Name Correction

I Dilwar Hussain. S/O- Abdul Jalil, Vill- Kacharipara. P/O- Doboka. P/S- Doboka. Dist- Hojai (Assam) do hereby solemnly declare that I am a permanent resident of the above mentioned address and a citizen of India by birth. My actual and correct name is Dilwar Hussain But my name has been wrongly recorded in my passport as Muhammad Dilwar Hussain in place of Dilwar Hussain respectively. That from today, I shall be known as Dilwar Hussain for all future purpose.

Sd/-
Dilwar Hussain
Vill- Kacharipara
Dist. Hojai (Assam).

AFFIDAVIT

I, A. Sanahanbi Devi wife of A. Bojendra Singha by religion Hindu and resident of Icharpur, kaptanpur, P.S. lakhipur of Cachar, Assam has declared by an affidavit at Notary Public at Kamrup [M] today on July 26, 2022 that my actual name is A. Sanahanbi Devi instead of A. Sanahanbi Singha and my Son's actual name is A. Kamaljeet Singha instead of A. Kamaljeet as recorded in the school documents.

All India Vice Chancellors' Conference held at USTM



Assam Rising
Guwahati, July 26: It is a proud moment for the entire higher education fraternity of India as the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi has selected the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya to host the 97th Annual General Body Meeting as well as the National Conference of the Vice Chancellors of AIU scheduled to be held in March 2023. Dr (Mrs) Pankaj Mittal, Secretary General of AIU has visited USTM re-

cently to take stalk of the feasibility of the venue and was very satisfied with the state-of-the-art infrastructure, progress of the university and its teaching learning facilities. More than 900 Vice Chancellors of Universities are coming to join this most prestigious academic event of the country. The AIU Secretary General Dr Pankaj Mittal has expressed her wish that the Conference at USTM will be one of the best conferences

organised so far. It is the first of its kind to be held in the region in the beginning of 2023. During her visit to USTM from July 21 to 23, Dr Mittal also inaugurated the Advanced Research Centre cum Central Instrumentation Facility at USTM in the presence of Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM and Prof G. D. Sharma, Vice Chancellor of USTM. It could be mentioned here that Prof GD Sharma, Vice Chancellor of USTM, has recently taken over the

charge of the Vice President, AIU with effect from the 1st of July this year for a period of one year, as stated in a notification signed by Dr Pankaj Mittal, Secretary General of AIU. AIU is the highest body which gives equivalence to foreign university degrees in India. AIU is the revised nomenclature of the Inter-University Board (IUB) of India—the Apex Inter-University Organization constituted on March 23, 1925, in a meeting of Vice Chancellors/their representatives at Bombay University. It was the culmination of the need to bring together all the universities in India on a common platform through a coordinating body, to protect the interest of the students as well as the universities. The Inter-University Board acquired a legal status with its registration as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, on September

29, 1967 and was renamed as Association of Indian Universities (AIU) in 1973. Since its inception, AIU has been actively engaged in the growth and development of Higher Education. The membership of AIU includes all types of universities, e.g., Conventional Universities, Open Universities, deemed to be Universities, State Universities, Central Universities, Private Universities and Institutes of National Importance. In addition to Indian Universities, 13 Universities/Institutes from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Republic of Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mauritius, Nepal, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and United Kingdom are its Associate Members.aa



AKHIL BHARATIYA GRAHAK PANCHAYAT, Guwahati Mahanagar Committee organized Abhash Barga at Keshab Dham.

STBA facility introduced at 75 NFR stations

Assam Rising,
Guwahati, July 26: The Northeast Frontier Railway has provided the facility of STBA (Station Ticket Booking Agent) at 75 stations spreading over all the five divisions. This facility has been provided considering safety related responsibilities of train operation staff and at stations where shortage of ticket booking staff prevails. STBAs are engaged to sell unreserved train tickets through the Computerized Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS). At present, out of 75 functioning STBA within N. F.

Railway, 11 are at Katihar division, 14 are at Alipurduar division, 18 are at Rangiya division, 20 are at Lumding division and 12 are at Tinsukia division. Engagement work of STBA at more stations across this zone, where ASMs/booking clerks/reservation staff are issuing tickets presently, is in various stages of progress. The STBAs are authorized to issue all types of non-concessional unreserved tickets issued through UTS including platform tickets and season tickets, on cash basis only. These agents get commission on a monthly

basis on the sale of tickets made by them. The initial contract period for STBA varies from one to three years depending on the categories of stations. Introduction of STBA has proven to be of great help to facilitate passengers of small, remote stations to purchase authorized journey tickets at ease from these agents. Engagement of such agents will help employment generation for local youths. The system also helps concerned Station Master to devote more time to train operation, thus improving safety and punctuality.

TMPK, MMK, officials meet with MLA Bhuban Gam



Assam Rising,
Majuli, July 26: TMPK, MMK, Central, District and Regional Committee office bearers held an important meeting with newly elected MLA of Majuli, Bhuban Gam at MEPO OKUM, Garmur, Majuli on Monday. The meeting was attended by the Presidents and Secretaries of each of the districts. Also he said the government has already informed the government departmental authorities about the burning issues of Majuli.

Erosion in Brahmaputra river. Like floods the interest of geographical security of Majuli. He also said that the government has been looking into whether the poor and eligible people are getting the government schemes properly. The meeting was attended by Mising Autonomous Council Executive Member Uma Pathari, General Member Trailokya Pame Gam, TMPK Central Com-

mittee Assistant Secretary Ramgobind Doley, MMK Central Committee Vice-President Premadhar Doley, Member Chappal Doley, TMPK District Committee of Majuli, President Tutu Panging and MMK District Committee President Rajib Pegu and Reporter Pranjal Gare is present in the meeting.

Three cyber criminals arrested in Bhuragaon



Assam Rising, Bhuragaon, July 26: Three cyber criminals arrested in Bhuragaon police raid. The victims were identified as Rafiqul Islam, Mehdi Alam and Sekab Uddin. The arrested cyber traffickers have been running a cyber crime base in the area for a long time. There are many young people involved in cyber crime who have become millionaires from street beggars by collecting loans of lakhs, lakhs of rupees in the name of various people without the knowledge of the owners. Police have arrested three youths but the masterminds of several other cyber crimes in the area are still at large.

Bijli Mahotsav held in Hojai

Assam Rising,
Hojai July 26: As part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' – to celebrate 75 years of India's Independence, the Ministry of Power in association with Government of Assam organized a 'Bijli Mahotsav' at Thikadar Basti, in Hojai district of Assam on Monday, a press release by District Administration stated here. As per the release, the Bijli Mahotsav was used as a platform to celebrate the collaboration between the state and the Central Governments and highlight the key achievements of the power sector. Some of the key highlights of the bijli mahotsav have been – Increase in generation capacity from 2,48,554 MW in 2014 to 4,00,000 MW today which is 1,85,000 MW more than our demand, India is exporting electricity to its neighboring countries now, 1,63,000 ckm of transmission lines added, connecting entire country into one grid running on one frequency. From Ladakh to

Kanyakumari and from Kutch to Myanmar border it has emerged as the largest integrated grid in the world, We can transmit 1,12,000 MW of electricity from one corner of the country to the other using this grid, We had committed in COP21 that by 2030 40% of our generation capacity would be from Renewable Energy sources. We have achieved this target by November 2021, 9 years ahead of schedule, today we generate 1,63,000 MW through Renewable Energy sources, We are installing Renewable Energy capacity at the fastest pace in the world, With a total outlay of Rs.2,01,722 Crore we have strengthened the distribution infrastructure in past five years to provide better facilities to the consumers, In 2015 the average hours of supply in Rural areas was 12.5 Hrs which has now increased to an average 22.5 Hrs, the government has introduced

Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 under which the time limit for new connections, Billing and addressing of consumer complaints are specified, achieved 100% village electrification (18,374) in 2018 in 987 days, achieved 100% household electrification (2.86 Cr) in 18 months. Identified as the world's largest electrification drive and Scheme introduced for adoption of solar pumps under which – central government will give 30% subsidy and state government will give 30% subsidy. In addition, 30% loan facility will be available. Notably, the Bijli Mahotsav is being celebrated all over the country under the umbrella of Ujjwal Bharat Ujjwal Bhavishya –

Power @2047 for more public participation and getting across the developments in the power sector to the citizens at large. Dignitaries Ram Krishna Ghosh, MLA, Hojai LAC and Anupam Choudhury, DC, Hojai graced the occasion, which saw large turnouts of crowds from nearby villages and districts. The dignitaries highlighted the benefits of electricity and the unprecedented growth shown in the power sector over the past few years. The events also witnessed several beneficiaries sharing their experiences. On the other hand, in order to engage with the visitors and guests, various cultural programmes, nukkad natak/Street Plays and screening of short films on the power sector were organized.

SMSS submits memorandum to Margherita SDO

Assam Rising,
Margherita, July 26: Satra Mukti Sangram Samity (SMSS) an umbrella organization of Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti on Monday submitted a memorandum to Palash Rajkumar Ahom, ADC (i/c) Margherita Administration (Civil) regarding Ledo ITI where in the name of admission excess fees is taken from the students who come from far flung areas of Margherita sub division and other place to study at Ledo ITI. Prasad Bhattacharjee Assistant Secretary of Satra Mukti Sangram Samiti Tinsukia district Committee, Nipon Gogoi president of and Paragiyoti Baruah member of Satra Mukti Sangram Samity Margherita regional committee were present during the submission of memorandum. Pappu Dutta working president of Satra Mukti Sangram Samity central committee said that after several agitation by SMSS Ledo ITI has been established but now in the name of admission excess fees is taken from the students which is very unfortunate and shameful as in development education is the first priority and without education a nation cannot get developed. Pappu Dutta said that at Ledo ITI admission should be free of cost and 15% reservation for local students of poverty level to get free education and if our demand gets delay than in the coming Satra Mukti Sangram Samity shall organized a democratic agitation programme with the cooperation of students at Margherita region.



Siksha-Mala held in Udalguri

Assam Rising,
Udalguri, July 26: An educational week named Siksha-Mala, which was conducted from July 17 to 23 by Helping Hands Society in collaboration with Immanuel Coaching Academy was concluded successfully. On the last day of educational week a guardian counseling program was conducted. In the program retired vice-principal of Udalguri college, Tanka Bahadur Gautam Chetry attended as chief guest and as resource person Dr. Jayanta Pathak, Asst Professor of Jorhat CKB college, Abha Bharali, specialist of Jorhat Journalist and Pushpanjali Shivam Sharma, distinguished writer and teacher were present. All the invited guests explained the role of

guardians for the development of extensive knowledge of the students. The program was attended by Rahul Dev Brahma, Principal of AFA Senior Secondary School, Bidyut Ranjan Kalita, Principal of Premiere Senior Secondary School and teachers. On the other hand, owners of Immanuel Coaching Academy, Sumant Barma and Rajat Chetry were also present on the occasion. In the second program of the last day, all the teachers of Udalguri area were felicitated. The program was attended by distinguished teachers Dilip Dutta, Narahari

Pathak, Mohan Chetry, Montu Kalita, Anup Sharma and many teachers. In addition to the program, in the memory of Jeevan Geeta Devi Bajgai felicitated Atlanta Hazarika and Pratima Sharma who secured the highest mark in the entire Udalguri area in HS and

HSLC examination. In the third program of the day, prize of debate, drawing, story telling, poem recitation, poem writing on the spot, extempore speech and quiz competition which was conducted among the students was distributed. On the basis of all results Popitora Deka, student of Premiere

Senior Secondary School was awarded with the title Student of the Year. The whole program was led successfully by Lakshman Upadhaya, chief advisor of Helping Hands Society. Locals of Udalguri administration and socialists appreciated the initiative of Helping Hands Society.



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THE ASSAM RISING

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Water crisis in India

Fetching water in India has been perceived as a women's job for centuries, especially in the rural areas. As groundwater resources come under increasing pressure due to over-reliance and unsustainable consumption, wells, ponds and tanks dry up. This has escalated the water crisis and placed an even greater burden of accessing water on women. Several girls are denied education purely because they are thrust with the responsibility of fetching water. India constitutes 16 per cent of the world's population, but the country has only four per cent of the world's freshwater resources. With the changing weather patterns and recurring droughts, India is water stressed. As many as 256 of 700 districts have reported 'critical' or 'over-exploited' groundwater levels, according to the latest data from the Central Ground Water Board (2017). This means that fetching water in these districts has become harder as the water table has fallen. A rural woman in Rajasthan walks over 2.5 kilometres to reach a water source, according to a report by the National Commission for Women. This is probably an under-estimation, but the bottom-line is that our women and girls spend a significant proportion of their time fetching water. India has been consistently working towards improving access to water. The Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) guidelines released in 2019 provide provision of tap water connections to households, which hold promise for the women in the country. If implemented to the last mile, women and girls will not have to go through the arduous job of fetching water. JJM stresses the need to involve women in leading the scheme's activities, especially at the village level. Women are required to constitute 50 per cent of the village water and sanitation committees in villages. The 'Swajal' programme under JJM comprises a women's development initiative, designed to upskill them, improve their income-earning capabilities, and connect them to the market with help from support organisations. However, habitations with less than 25 per cent of its population with access to safe drinking water were granted lower priority in coverage. This indicates that water-stressed regions continue to suffer, and so do women and girls. Though water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) policies are gender-sensitive in their design and planning, they fail to measure the gendered impact of the policy.

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

Letter to The Editor

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

Editor,
The Assam Rising
Guwahati, Assam

Letter to the Editor
Chennai chess Olympiad

Sir

The capital and gateway of the South, the chess capital of India, Chennai is all set for the 44th edition of the international chess olympiad. The state government and CM Stalin has made this opportunity to showcase the greatness of the city and the state. Within a short period of time the authority and the Chess federation has successfully turned the image of the beautiful city making it more beautiful. By playing the host of such a prestigious tournament Tamilnadu has excellently shown how hard work and meticulous planning can bring about so much global attention. Thambi the mascot has already become a household name. Special buses, autos, metro transportation and 24x7 medical facilities, food and water supply, excellent accommodation, police monitoring are all set for the great tournament. From the land mark Napier bridge getting decorated as a chess board to A R Rehman coming out with his midas touch with a grand musical extravaganza and mesmerizing Mahabalipuram getting the final touches to host the Olympiad. It has to be noted that the opportunity of conducting such an event came as host Russia found it difficult due to its war with Ukraine. Chennai had less time but the challenge was taken. All this done within just four months, for players coming from 187 nations, goes to show that we are ready to host any global event and stands to show our nation's progress and commitment in hosting such mega events.

M PRADYU
KANNUR

Truss v Sunak: a sorry spectacle of playground bragging from a party without a purpose

The two candidates in the race to succeed Boris Johnson represent two parties, although the distinction between them is not acknowledged. Rishi Sunak is the candidate of conservatism as it was until 2019, when Theresa May's government was still trying to reconcile Brexit ideology with the demands of economic and diplomatic reality. Liz Truss appeals to the successor movement, the "Boris" party, which resolved the tension by denying its existence. That conflict is buried in a contest that purports to be about other things. Tax policy is the measurable difference between the two candidates and so it dominated Monday night's TV debate. The lines are by now well-heard: Truss wants immediate cuts; Sunak wants to wait. He says fiscal loosening will stoke inflation; she says it will unleash growth. He frets that lost revenues will mean less money for the NHS; she would borrow the shortfall. But those positions are proxies for different notions of what it now means to be a Conservative. Sunak embraced the label of "bean counter" when Truss used it as a pejorative. He is styling himself as a frugal Tory of the old school. Truss accused him of sounding like Gordon



Rafael Behr

Brown, wedded to outmoded Treasury rules. She would "take on the orthodoxy" - an appeal to the Johnsonian maverick spirit. Beyond budget specifics, the battle consists of lunges and postures that are meant to project strength and determination. Sunak would get tough on China. Truss boasts of her toughness on Putin. (Both would be toughest of all on refugees seeking sanctuary in Britain, but there was no mention of that in this debate.) There is no ballast of gravitas to level out the swagger, so it comes across as playground bragging, or the over-compensating neurosis of careerist nerds, fast-tracked too young into high-ranking ministerial offices. They might have steely cores, but the needy ways they try to prove it show only their plastic shells. The pettiness of the whole spectacle is exacerbated by vicious skirmishing between unidentified "friends" of the candi-

dates, belittling the other side's record in government and casting aspersions on their integrity. Team Sunak has poured scorn on Truss's claims to have endured a hardscrabble education in a tough comprehensive. Truss's allies hit back at her rival's posh grooming as an alumnus of Winchester school and his gilded employment by Goldman Sachs. The former chancellor's wealth has also been the focus of attacks by the Daily Mail. One feature, cited in the TV debate, dwelled on Sunak's taste for pricey bespoke tailoring and fancy footwear. He steered the topic into a parable of Conservative immigrant aspiration. But it is a bruise that is still tender from ear-

lier in the year when it was revealed that Sunak's wife used non-domicile status to minimise her tax bill. That was not a good look for any chancellor, and his peevish reaction misread the national mood. Around the same time, it emerged that he had a green card, bestowing a right to settle in the US in case his ambitions to conquer British politics should falter. It isn't news that Tory cabinet ministers are rich.

The party members who will elect a new leader are not traditionally hostile to the idea that moneyed people have nice stuff. But Sunak's political vulnerability on this front is more subtle. The attack is more insidious. The implied offence is not being rich, but belonging to an elite - and not just any elite: a global financial elite; an intercontinental first-class lounge elite; a Davos-man elite; a remainder elite - a "citizen of nowhere", to borrow a poisonous phrase from Theresa May. The fact that Sunak voted to leave the EU is irrelevant to this insinuation, just as it matters not an iota that Truss campaigned for remain. (He was eager to remind the audience of both facts at every opportunity.) As my colleague Jonathan Freedland noted last week, Brexit is a mood, not a policy now, and Truss has captured it to the exclusion of her rival. That was the unsuitable subtext when she dismissed Sunak's warnings about interest rate rises as "project fear" - the leaver's favourite jibe against pro-EU scaremongering. But it is Truss's refusal to speak ill of Johnson that most eloquently describes the schism in the party. Pressed on the reasons for the incumbent prime minister's resignation, she voiced almost as much sorrow about it as he plainly feels for himself. That is a tactical appeal to those Johnson loyalists who

see Sunak's resignation as the most treacherous of all the ministerial blows that felled their champion. In Eurosceptic theology, the spirit of Brexit is incarnate in the leader who got it done. Sunak's betrayal of the man is also a sin against the faith. By extension, what is left of the old Tory party, the one that made a virtue of managerial pragmatism, is backing the assassin. Sunak appealed directly to that faction by lamenting Truss's departure from prudence as a misguided promise that "we can have our cake and eat it" - Johnson's favourite boosterish idiom. But the kernel of these disputes is shrouded in euphemism, which renders the whole contest absurd. It is suffused with the spirit of Brexit culture wars and yet Brexit itself is not up for debate. Not the terms of the deal, its economic impact or the wisdom of the Northern Ireland protocol bill that threatens to trigger a trade war with Brussels as the cost of living crisis bites deeper. (On that, the conversation skated glibly over causes and remedies.) There was only one direct question on the practical consequences of leaving the EU in Monday's discussion. The candidates were asked whether the current tailbacks of traffic at Kentish ports are a consequence of Brexit. The correct answer is yes. They both said no. It is self-evidently one of the most pressing issues for the nation and the Tories can only engage with it by way of emotional repression, displacement and denial. "We are having a really serious discussion," Truss said at one point, which is the sort of thing that only needs asserting when the opposite is true. It was not a real debate. This is not a safe way to choose a prime minister. It is not a healthy way to run a country.

For modern mothers, the toxic pull of the 'momfluencer' feels inescapable

I recently overheard a conversation between some older women about photographs taken early in motherhood. Several expressed regret that they didn't have more pictures from that time, even though they weren't, they said, looking "their best". One woman lamented how she destroyed the photographs of her holding her new baby because she hated her appearance, and said she profoundly regrets this now. It made me sad, speaking as it did to the fact that women feel subject to the external, scrutinising gaze of others, even at such momentous events in our lives. At least these photos were usually only shared

with friends and family; now images like these have a potential audience of millions. I can't imagine anything more exposing than putting such intimate photographs online, but the perfect postpartum photo has become as fetishised on social media as the perfect "golden hour" between mother and baby (meaning skin to skin contact immediately after the birth) is idealised. Social media has transformed the way my generation views parenthood, just as women's magazines and TV advertising did for older generations. "Momfluencer" Instagram accounts - most of them run by white, slim, attractive women with immaculate houses and perfectly dressed children - are in your feed even if you don't follow them. In many ways they hark back to the 1950s, projecting an image of domestic contentment, where mothers and daughters dress the same (called "twinning") and, having dispensed with work outside the home, embody a "trad wife" aesthetic (internet trend speak for "traditional wife"). Other posts instruct you to breastfeed at all cost, promise you the secret to postpartum weight loss, or tell you they can solve your babies' sleep problems. (I set my age to 112, so for a long time the ads I got were for wills and hair dye, but the algorithm seems to have sussed it, either believing me to be a miracle of modern science, or an unusually engaged great-grandparent.) Other mothers tell me that Instagram has been incredibly destructive to their mental health, and in some cases their physical health. Some

influencers scaremonger about medical intervention to the point where women are refusing the care they need (the same influencers were cited again and again as examples of irresponsible, unscientific, unmediated birth lobbying). One woman tells me she became obsessed with "wake windows", an unscientific, rigid approach to baby sleep that is popular on social media, and spent hundreds of pounds on sleep courses. Another tells me "milestones" became a preoccupation, and she would lie in bed at night comparing her child's motor skills with others'. Fitness is another area rife with toxicity, from babies being used as dumbbells during

Rhiannon Lucy Cosslett

couples' workouts ("I feel guilty, ashamed of the fourth biscuit and ultimately flick Instagram off in a huff - resolved to be a spherical unfit mess for the foreseeable," one mother, Jen Mitchell, tells me), to "bleak" captions about strengthening babies' abdominal muscles. Another woman tells me she takes issue with the ubiquitous phrase #makingmemories, and how it "calls into question all the parents who are screaming into pillows or, like me, vaping in the locked toilet at 10am just for five minutes of alone time". The hashtag seems to demand that mothers enjoy this precious time. The same woman tells me that a friend with postnatal depression once spent all night scrolling through motherhood-related posts, "wishing she had that life, the life where your house was clean and your baby slept. I couldn't believe what she was saying, how could she believe that that was all real?" As well as carrying the weight of a baby, any mother with a smartphone carries with her a portal into the #blessed lives of others, which serves to highlight - especially in a cost of living crisis where parents are struggling to feed their children - what we do not have. It can be so hard to remember that it's all fake, that we never see the photographs of the cupboard full of junk or the child reprimanded for sticky fingers. The bottle of formula and the antidepressants in the nightstand remain hidden; no one is recording the hours of hair and makeup, the lack of spontaneous joy in a life consisting of curated "moments". My own mother boggles at the sheer amount of information available to us now, in contrast to her era, where you usually had a few secondhand books, at least one of which would end up thrown across the room. How are

you supposed to learn to trust your own instincts, she wonders, when you are surrounded by so many opinions? Of course, social media can provide crucial support, as in the case of groups for those who have experienced baby loss, or accounts that document parenting children with special educational needs. One woman tells me how Instagram helped her identify her postnatal anxiety, when midwives and health visitors spoke only of postnatal depression. Lots love @bitttlefeelings for toddler behaviour tips, the nurse and lactation consultant Lyndsey Hookway, the author Sydney Piercey, and the nutrition and weaning expert Charlotte Stirling-Reed. Many women tell me they've unfollowed some accounts, or deleted the app altogether. A useful question to ask is: "Does this make me feel better, or worse?" If the answer is worse, unfollow or uninstall. Earlier this year, a New Yorker article looked at the phenomenon of the "hidden mother" in photographs, from women in the Victorian era covering their faces with fabric to appear inconspicuous in infant portraits, to the modern phenomenon of the mother always being the one behind the camera, absent from the visual narrative of family life, because nobody takes her photo, or she fears she will look ugly. You could argue that "momfluencers" are taking control of the way motherhood is represented, but that doesn't take into account how backwards the iconography of so many of these images are. Weren't we supposed to resist becoming the angel in the house, rather than smugly show off the wings we've been #gifted? And then, at the risk of sounding hand-wringing, what of the children whose entire lives are documented without consent? Whose parents spend hours posing, editing, uploading, monitoring responses? What will be the mental health impact of making a child a "public figure" from the moment they are born? The first "Mommie Dearest" memoir for the Instagram era cannot be far off.

Letter to the Editor
Congratulation, Hon'ble Madam Draupadi Murmuji

God has created our India in such a way that one cannot be deprived of his/her position if one has required qualifications and is truly nice hearted. Newly appointed president Draupadi Murmu is an example. It is my personal feeling that she has deep knowledge of politics as she had been from grassroots level ward councillor to governor of state. Now Murmu madam has succeeded to India's highest constitutional post. I could make an idea having seen her body language on the day of the swearing ceremony that she possesses a truly nice heart under her simple attire. Also I could make an idea that many girls and women from poorer sections are inspired to become like her. It is truly good for the nation. When Madam Draupadi was sworn in for the post of President my tears were rolling down because her son, daughter and husband were no more to witness that greatest moment. Now she has become the mother of crores of Indian people. Though we can't but mourn, it is at the hands of the Almighty. Madam, try to bear those past events within your mind, we the crores of Indians are with you. Your appointment indicates that democracy in India is still surviving. The preamble of our constitution. We the people of India come true and show the critics that India is a land of every walks of life.

Finally I wish madam Draupadi Murmuji a sound health and spirit.

Sanjib Kumar Ray

Downsizing Pay, Perks, and Palaces of public Representatives

Dear Editor,

Huge amounts are paid as salary and large mansions are allotted to the President and Governors. Huge Expenses are incurred for maintaining these Mansions. The Mansions have hundreds of Rooms and hundreds of Staff. We forget ours is socialist Democratic Republic and also a poor country. (number of people do not have shelter and square meals). The Public Representatives are not Employees, they are Public Servants. They may be paid reasonable Honorarium and allotted reasonably sized Quarters. The huge campuses may be used as star hotels and we will earn a huge amount of money. Thus the Budget may be changed from deficit to balanced one. We cannot afford to borrow and incur huge amounts of interest every year. The existing policy may be changed by introducing an appropriate Bill in the Parliament.

KLRao

MNF ally BJP says ready to topple Zoramthagagovt in 2023

Mizoram, July 26 : With Mizoram assembly polls due next year, the BharatiyaJanata Party (BJP), which opened its account in 2018, is making massive efforts to topple Chief Minister Zoramthanga-ledMizo National Front (MNF), the saffron party's ally at the Centre, from power. State BJP president Vanlalhmuaaka on Tuesday said his party is preparing for the first BJP-led government in the state and has been actively involved in campaigns to strengthen the party ahead of assembly polls due in the latter part of 2023. A day earlier, Zoramthanga had said that his party was making efforts to retain power and increase its tally from 28 to 30. "We have been preparing to form the next government. We have enough time to strengthen our party and we are confident of faring better in the upcoming assembly polls," Vanlalhmuaaka said. The BJP chief's statement came amid speculations about the possibility of the BJP's image being tarnished after its lone legislator was convicted in a graft case. Buddha DhanChakma, who was elected on the BJP ticket from Chakma-dominated Tuichawng constituency in south Mizoram's Lawngtlai district in 2018



assembly polls, was convicted and sentenced to one-year imprisonment along with 12 people for misappropriating development fund in the erstwhile Congress-led Chakma council by a special court on Monday. Reacting to Chakma's conviction, Vanlalhmuaaka said it would not affect the party's prospects. "There are some loopholes in the judicial process. Everything will be cleared when the judgement is challenged in a higher court," he said. Chakma, who was released on bail along with 12 others on Tuesday after the verdict, said they would challenge the judgement in the Gauhati High Court. Vanlalhmuaaka claimed their party is gaining ground in the state. "People are putting faith in the BJP as there are no other parties in Mizoram, including the MNF, to form the next government," he said. He said

that the BJP would go solo and contest all the 40 seats in the upcoming assembly polls. Highly-placed sources told this reporter that some MLAs from the ruling MNF and opposition parties are likely to join the BJP ahead of assembly elections. Meanwhile, a senior BJP leader said that the party is specifically concentrating on ethnic minorities areas- two assembly constituencies in Siaha district, three in Lawngtlai district and a Chakma-dominated West Tuipui constituency in Lunglei district in the southern part of the state. Besides, the party is also eyeing three constituencies in Brus concentrated in western Mizoram's Mamit district and a Hmar-dominated Tuivawl constituency in the northeastern part of the state bordering Manipur, she said. However, political analysts believed that the BJP would

not have much impact in state politics but might increase its tally to 3 if it garners influence in the ethnic minorities areas. Lalthakima, who teaches political science at Pachhunga University College (PUC), said that the BJP might win the Mamit seat, which is predominantly inhabited by the Brutribals and West Tuipui besides retaining Chakma-dominated Tuichawng seat. The associate professor believed that the saffron is unlikely to garner support from the majority of Mizos, who see the party as 'communal.' DrLallianchunga, an associate professor at the political science department at Mizoram University

(MZU), shared the view of Lalthakima as regards the BJP's political surge among indigenous Mizos. He said that majority of Mizos did not endorse the BJP as it is seen largely as communal and anti-Christian due to its Hindutva policy. He further said that BJP is unlikely to raise its tally unless it ties up with the MNF, which is the party's ally at the Centre. The BJP, whose foray into Mizoram assembly polls dates back to 1993, opened its account after winning the Tuichawng seat in 2018. The party had contested 39 seats and got a vote share of 8 per cent against the ruling MNF's 37.7 per cent in the last assembly polls.

Meghalaya Assembly women's group seeks report on rescued minors

Shillong, July 26 : The Meghalaya Legislative Assembly Committee on Women Empowerment on Monday asked the Social Welfare Department to submit the status report of the five minors rescued by the police on Friday during a raid in Tura in West Garo Hills district. The committee has also asked to submit the status report by August 8. MLA and chairperson of the committee AmpareenLyngdoh, said, "We have requested the Department of Social Welfare to present a report concerning the status of the minors, who were the victims of the alleged illegalities at the farmhouse." Notably, the five minors, including four boys and one girl, were rescued by the West Garo Hills Tura police during a raid on July 22 at RimpuBagan Farmhouse, which is owned by Meghalaya's BJP Vice President Bernard Marak. Meanwhile, the Superintendent of Police (SP) of East Jaintia Hills (EJH) informed the committee that since January 26, cases of crimes against women and children, including POCSO,



have been registered. The chairperson has asked the SP to get back to them and give all the details of the 26 cases by August 8. Expressing concern about teenage pregnancy, Lyngdoh said, "We have requested the police department, social welfare department, Women's Commission, Child Protection commission to work together aggressively in tackling the rising numbers of teenage pregnancies in several parts of the state." MLA HM Shangpliang said that they have asked the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR) to also look into the

issue of the drug menace across the state. The Social Welfare Department also informed the committee of the murder of the two infants that took place on May 30. Shangpliang said,

"The Department of Social Welfare needs to take care of the mental health of the mother of the infants who were killed. Also, the department has to go into detail and submit a report

within one week's time to this committee as to what steps the government and the department have taken in ensuring better mental health for the mother." Both Lyngdoh and Shangpliang expressed gratitude that the department has been able to process the ex-gratia payment to the family. The twin murder was one of the incidents that left citizens shocked. The father of the two infants, Joefreeon Jana (28), had taken his children for an evening walk and never returned. Later, the bodies of the two infants were found the next day with their throats slit. The father, who was absconding, was later arrested on May 31 and confessed to the crime.

BJP MLA, 12 others get 1-yr jail in graft case

Aizawl, July 26 : The court of the Special Judge (Prevention of Corruption Act) in Mizoram on Monday sentenced former state minister and lone BJP legislator Dr. Buddha DhanChakma and 12 other Chakma leaders to one year rigorous imprisonment over a five-year-old graft case. However, the 13 leaders were released on bail the same day. Earlier on July 22, the court had convicted the leaders under section 13(1)(d) read with 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 for abusing their official powers and withdrawing Rs 137.10 lakh of special assistance fund allocated for implementation of development works in the Chakma Autonomous District Council during 2013-2018. The convicts withdrew the amount as advance salaries without permission from the state governor or statement government. Apart from Buddha DhanChakma, the convicts included incumbent Chief Executive Member (CEM) of CADC, Buddha Lila Chakma, two executive members (EM), two sitting mem-

bers (MDC) of CADC and 3 former CEMs of the council. The remaining four are former EMs of the CADC. All the convicts were then members of the CADC at the time of committing offences. The court announced sentences against the convicts on Monday. According to the sentence order pronounced by the special judge Vanlalhmuaaka, a fine of Rs 10,000 each was slapped against the 13 convicts, apart from sentencing to undergo rigorous imprisonment for 1 year. They would undergo simple imprisonment for another 30 days if they fail to pay the fines, the order said. Soon after the sentence hearing, the court of the special judge also released the convicts on bail following a plea by the convicts counsel that they (convicts) will challenge the court verdicts at a higher court. Earlier, Buddha DhanChakma had told reporters that they would challenge the judgements at the Gauhati High Court. In 2017, current state BJP president Vanlalhmuaaka, who was then

the party general secretary, raised complaints over irregularities in the Chakma council asking the state governor to dissolve it. Subsequently, the governor constituted a one-man inquiry commissionDr A Muthamma, the then deputy commissioner of Lawngtlaidistrict. After the commission submitted its report to the governor, an undersecretary of the state district council and minority affairs filed an FIR with the state Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) in 2018. The political party in power at the CADC in 2013 then was Congress headed by Dr. Buddha DhanChakma as CEM. Chakma was later elected as MLA on a Congress ticket and became a minister of state in LalThanhawla's cabinet till his resignation in 2017 in protest against the denial of medical seats to four Chakma students by the state government. Soon after his resignation, he joined BJP and was elected as a legislator in the last assembly polls in 2018 to become the first ever BJP MLA in the state.

IMD predicts light rain in Assam and Meghalaya

Meghalaya, July 26 : The IMD predicted light to moderate rainfall in several regions within the two states, with isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall between July 25 and 29. The weather department issued a yellow alert in these two states during the period. The department stated that visibility may become poor due to the intense rain and warned of disruption in traffic due to the possibility of water logging and flooding in low-lying areas. The department also warned of possible landslides and mudslides in vulnerable areas. The department has advised people to avoid going to areas that face water logging problems and avoid straying into vulnerable structures and landslide-prone areas.

Southern Angami youth to take up road repairs along Manipur

Kohima, July 26 : The pathetic road conditions along NH-2 connecting Nagaland with Manipur have prompted the Southern Angami Youth Organization, the apex youth body of the Southern Angami Naga tribe, to take up voluntary repair work from Phesama village to Viswema village. SAYO president Metekhrhrielie Mejura said that the youth body took up the task vol-

untarily with the hope to make it easier for the commuters, especially the students and the office goers, to play along the stretch. "We have been very concerned about the roads since NH-2 is a historic road-the second World War road. The commuters, especially students and office goers, get delayed to their destinations. So to ease the hardships that the youth body were facing, we took

up the initiative," Mejura said. Along with the local youth, four trucks and four excavators were engaged to complete the repair work at strategic locations. "There are criticisms about the bad roads but now it's time to look beyond criticism and extend support to the assigned working company, contractors, and the NHIDCL," he said. The incessant rain throughout the monsoon season has only added to the deteriorating road. "The heavy rains led to more landslides and blocked culverts, only escalating more damages to the roads. So, we have taken up the works at strategic loca-

tions to surface the level of the roads and clear the drainages," he added. Besides being a link road to 13 Angami Naga villages, the road also connects to major districts in Nagaland and Manipur. Besides the famed Kisama heritage village, the route also leads to the famous Dzükou valley, which is an international tourist trekking destination. "We are happy to help in whatever possible way we can. We also request the authority concerned to expedite the road construction work. We expect the best quality road and timely accomplishment of the work. Once the work begins in full swing, we are ever ready to provide our assistance," Mejura said. SDO (Civil) Jakhama Ruppükouotuo said that the bad road condition is a concern for all. "We thank the SAYO for expressing their concerns and griev-

ances through a constructive gesture like this. We look forward to their participation in ensuring that all works are carried out without any hindrances," the officer said. According to the magistrate, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Kohima and the Revenue Officer (RO) are doing everything to impress upon the NHIDCL and the fortune group (construction firm) to expedite the road construction works. While he thanked SAYO for taking up the initiative in temporarily repairing the roads, he hoped that the permanent road construction by the firm will be completed on time. "Till now, the progress is not satisfactory. From time to time, we are carrying out the inspection. Our headquarter office is also doing everything we can to see that the work is completed within the stipulated time," he assured.

Manipur govt bars sand-loaded trucks from Nagaland without documents

Imphal, July 26 : In a bid to address the illegal entry of sand-loaded trucks from neighbouring Nagaland into the state, the Manipur government has warned that trucks carrying sand from Dimapur will either be seized or made to pay a fine under the Indian Forest Act (Amendment), 2018, and Manipur Forest Rules, 2021, if the vehicles do not possess relevant documents. A notification issued by Kangpokpi divisional forest officer (DFO) N Ganesh stated that a lot of trucks carrying sand from Dimapur to Manipur are transiting without requisite transit pass, bypassing the



forest beat offices along the Imphal-Dimapur Highway, resulting in revenue loss to the state exchequer to the tune of Rs 3 lakh per day. The notice further directed the authority concerned to pay the requisite royalty and transit fee to avoid any legal actions in the jurisdiction of Kangpokpi Forest Di-

vision. Any vehicle found entering the jurisdiction of Kangpokpi Forest Division without valid documents will be seized and compounded/confiscated as per the extant provision of the Indian Forest Act (Amendment), 2018, and Manipur Forest Rules, 2021, warned DFO Ganesh.

No.FAAMCH/eT_WBOTD/1822/2022/1507

TENDER NOTICE (e-Tender)

e-Tenders are invited online through e-procurement system i.e. through website www.assamtenders.gov.in from the **intending Supplier/Manufacturer/Accredited Dealers/Sub-Dealers/ Accredited Stockiest/ Accredited Distributors are invited for supply of COLOUR CODED BIO MEDICAL WASTE COLLECTION BAGS, BINS & O.T. DISINFECTANT ITEMS** at Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Medical College & Hospital, Barpeta, Assam.

The e-Tender is Two-Bid System, to be submitted with affixed Court Fee Stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight point two five paise) only (for local bidders) or IPO of Rs. 10/- (Rupees ten) (in case of bidders from outside of the State of Assam) in favour of Superintendent, F.A.A. Medical College & Hospital, Barpeta, Assam, India. **The Tender Fee and EMD** are to be paid through online portal i.e. www.assamtenders.gov.in

IMPORTANT DATES OF THE E-TENDER

Important Particulars :					
Brief Description of Goods		Cost of Bidding Document Fee		EMD (Bid Security)	
Supply of COLOUR CODED BIO MEDICAL WASTE COLLECTION BAGS, BINS & O.T. DISINFECTANT items at F.A.A. Medical College & Hospital, Barpeta, Assam		Rs. 2,500/-, Pay Online		Rs.50,000/-, Pay Online	
Key Dates :					
Sl. No.	Scheduled	Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time
1	e-Tender Publishing	29/07/2022	10:30 am	-	-
2	e-Tender Download	30/07/2022	12:00 noon	16/08/2022	4:30 pm
3	Bid Submission	01/08/2022	4:30 pm	19/08/2022	4:30 pm
4	Bid Opening	20/08/2022	12:30 pm	-	-

a) Bidding documents are available online and bids are to be submitted online through e-procurement system i.e. through website www.assamtenders.gov.in only on or before 19/08/2022 upto 4:30 pm. The bidders would be required to register in the website for submission of the bids. The bidders are required to have Digital Signature (DSC) from any of the Certifying Authorities. Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user Id and password for participating in e-procurement may obtain the same by registering in the www.assamtenders.gov.in. The requirements to register with the e-procurement portal are available on the website indicated above.

b) A hard copy of Technical Bid to be submitted/dropped along-with the online payment receipts of Bid Documents (non-refundable) and Bids Security (EMD) in the tender box in this office i.e. Office of the Superintendent, F.A.A. Medical College Hospital, Barpeta, Assam during the office hours on or before the last date of submission of the e-tender. Softcopy of Technical & Financial bid must not be sent to the institute.

c) All other relevant information and the detailed Bid Documents are available on the website www.assamtenders.gov.in and can be viewed from 30/07/2022. The undersigned shall not be held liable for any delays for submission of the tender to e-procurement system failure beyond our control. Even though the e-procurement system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the undersigned shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidder's responsibility to verify with the website for the latest information related to the bid.

d) The bid documents are not transferable.

I. The EMD validity must be of one year.

II. The prospective bidders might not put ZERO (0:00) data in the price BID (BOQ) format in any circumstances which is uploaded by the tendering authority.

Sd/-
Superintendent
F.A.A. Medical College Hospital
Barpeta, Assam.

Janasanyog/C/7063/22

Contd. From Page 1

Decision taken with 'heavy heart'

The Union Minister reiterated that the government is ready for a discussion on price rise once Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman fully recovers from COVID-19 and returns to Parliament. India has tackled inflation and price rise better than many countries, and the government is keen to inform Parliament about the important steps it has taken to handle price rise, Goyal told reporters. He also hit out at Opposition parties for protesting against the imposition of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on several pre-labelled food items. The opposition members, including from the Congress, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) and the Left, were part of the GST council that took the decision unanimously on introducing the fresh levy, he said. Nineteen opposition MPs were earlier suspended from Rajya Sabha for the rest of the week for disrupting the session today. The latest round of suspension comes a day after four Congress MPs in Lok Sabha were dealt with similar action for the entire monsoon session, ending August 12, for holding placards inside the house despite warnings by Speaker Om Birla to behave. The action against the 19 Rajya Sabha MPs is likely to escalate the Opposition's fury against the government over what they claim was an attempt to shut voices that question the ruling alliance's economic and social policies. Here's the full list of suspended Rajya Sabha MPs: -Sushmita Dev, Trinamool Congress, Mausam Noor, Trinamool Congress, Shanta Chhetri, Trinamool Congress, Dola Sen, Trinamool Congress, Santanu Sen, Trinamool Congress, Abhi Ranjan Biswar, Trinamool Congress, Md. Nadimul Haque, Trinamool Congress, M Hammed Abdulla, DMK, B Lingaiah Yadav, Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS), A.A. Rahim, CPI(M), Ravihandra Vaddiraju, TRS, S Kalyanasundaram, DMK, R Girranjan, DMK, NR Elango, DMK, V Sivadasan, CPI(M), M Shanmugam, DMK, Damodar Rao Divakonda, TRS, Sandosh Kumar P, CPI, Kanimozhi NVN Somu, DMK. Opposition MPs in Rajya Sabha have been demanding an urgent discussion on issues like price rise and goods and services tax, or GST, hike for the past many days, leading to disruptions in the house.

Trinamool Congress MPs Protest

Having done all the necessary due diligence to qualify for the inclusion in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution of India, we don't understand the reason for the delay by the Government of India," the Leader of Opposition said. The demand for inclusion and recognition of Khasi and Garo languages in the Eighth Schedule has done the rounds for several years, but a protest of this scale in Delhi is a first.

Rahul Gandhi among Congress

chief DK Shivakumar said the central is trying to harass Opposition leaders and his party will fight against it. "They're trying to harass Opposition leaders, we'll fight it. We're with Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi. You can't harass us anymore." Gandhi was earlier questioned for a few hours on Thursday last week and Congress leaders had staged a protest across the country. Party MPs had also courted arrest in Delhi against her questioning. The ED probe relates to alleged financial irregularities in the Congress-promoted Young Indian Private Limited, which owns the National Herald newspaper.

Assam reports 760 new COVID-19

Biswanath (42), it said. There were no deaths reported in the state due to COVID during the last 24 hours, according to the bulletin. The death toll remained at 6,667 while 1,347 COVID-19 positive patients have died due to other reasons since April, 2020. A total of 7,22,002 patients have recovered from COVID-19 so far, including 682 on Monday. The COVID-19 recovery rate in the state is now 98 per cent. A total of 2,84,94,264 samples have been tested so far in the state, according to the bulletin. Altogether 4,80,33,830 doses of vaccines, including 2,46,10,351 first doses, 2,16,73,915 second doses and 17,49,564 precaution doses have been administered so far, according to the bulletin.

Mutual transfer orders

been complaints in the past about our portal being slow, which is not the case. We had announced earlier that the teacher recruitment process would precede the transfer orders. Besides, the teacher eligibility test (TET) had to be conducted again so as to avoid any litigation that might arise in connection with the recruitment process," the minister said. The objective of the mutual teacher transfers is to reduce corruption and speed up the process through digitisation. Notably, in this new digital process, the desired teachers would be able to submit their transfer requests in the form of an application on the official portal without visiting any office of the department. The state education department of Assam had already verified the online application for mutual transfer TET and online teacher transfer applications (2021) district-wise. Subsequently, the online mutual transfer lists have been uploaded in the teacher transfer management system portal. Meanwhile, the minister officially launched two mobile applications for school students on Tuesday. The mobile applications of Spoken English and legacy result data of HSLC/Assam High Madrasa examinations were launched at a programme organised under the aegis of the Board of Secondary Education Assam (SEBA) here. On the occasion, Pegu said that with the help of the mobile applications students would be able to download their mark sheets and pass certificates digitally from any location without having to go to the SEBA office. The minister further mentioned that SEBA has been working for the development of an educational app for the students which would be launched soon. "In order to fulfill the needs of the students in the days ahead, the education department has been working for the upgrade of infrastructure and connectivity in regard to implementation of digital education," he said.

Governor Mukhi attends Lecture

such as Hiren Chandra Nath, IPS, Additional Director General of Police (Special Branch); Ghanashyam Dhanuka, Industrialist and Social Activist; Ankur Jain, IPS, Mission Director, Assam Skill Development Mission; Shiladitya Dev, Chairman, Assam Linguistics Minority Development Board, Govt. of Assam; Dr. Sangeeta Tripathi, Director, NERIM Group of Institutions; Eminent Singer Manisha Hazarika and many others. Dr. Saumen Bharatiya, President of Byatikram MASDO said that "We are doing our best to support our Hon'ble Chief Minister's plan to build a drug-free Assam. The campaign has been conducted for the last 53 days and will be successfully completed in 60 days. The campaign has already been conducted in various educational institutions, central jails and various organizations in Assam. We urge everyone to come forward and cooperate in this great cause in the near future." The program was then proceeded with a music therapy session by Anubhuti Kakoty Goswami followed with a counseling session with the students by Jahnabi Sharma and Dixeeta Garg, Counseling Psychologist and Founder of Gentle Blooming. It was then forwarded with lightening off the ceremonial lamp by Prof. Mukhi and the esteemed dignitaries. Further, the program was taken ahead with a signature painting done by Renowned Artist Rabin Bar, signed by Mukhi Ji in the canvas. A small felicitation was done by Prof. Mukhi to the supporters who have been a constant support throughout the campaign such as Dr. Diganta Halder, Principal, Sarala Birla Gyan Jyoti; Sanjay Aditya Singh, Chairman, Jettwings Group of Institutions; Alakananda Das, Social Entrepreneur, President of WICCI India Bangladesh Business Council; Dr. Karabi Bezbaruah, Astro Vastu & Numero Consultant; Dr. Kripesh Ranjan Sarmah, Senior Consultant Pulmonologist; Dr. Mainu Devi, Professor & Writer; Naresh Jain, Entrepreneur & Social Activist; Rajiv Kumar Choudhary, Entrepreneur; Siddhartha Pratim Dutta, Motivational Speaker and Smt. Ranjita Pegu, Entrepreneur. The program was then enlightened with the valuable words shared by our few esteemed guests. The session was then taken over by Key Speaker Prof. Mukhi, Hon'ble Governor of Assam addressing the students about the harmful impacts of drugs and other harmful substances that has threatened the lives of many people especially the youths. He also advised the students to focus on their goals and come out with flying colors and make the nation proud.

Lovlina Borgohain's coach

coach has also been sent back to India," she added. Lovlina will be representing India in the 70kg category at the Commonwealth Games 2022, which will start from July 28. Last year at Tokyo Olympics 2020, Lovlina had won a bronze medal in the women's welterweight category (64-69 kg). The Birmingham Commonwealth Games are being held from July 28 to August 8.

Karbi Anglong Villagers Forced

cross the river in a bid to reach a hospital. According to the reports, the villagers of Binhup village of Singhasan area in the hill district are facing massive problems due to the non-availability of bridges and proper road connectivity in their locality. Not only Binhup village, but the villagers of Dhansing Ronghang and Upper Deikrung are also facing similar problems. The villagers of the remote area have been forced to carry patients on their shoulders by crossing the river to reach the nearest hospital located in the Manja area which is located about 18-20 km from their locality. Locals alleged that there is no proper road connectivity or bridge in their area. Dr. Numal Momin, Deputy Speaker of Assam Legislative Assembly and local MLA of Bokajan constituency of Karbi Anglong district said that the Congress regime who ruled the hill district for the last seven decades is primarily responsible for this pathetic condition. Momin said, "Being a doctor it pains me a lot because during the Congress regime, in the last seven decades they did not do anything for development. After Narendra Modi became the Prime Minister in 2014 and forming of the BJP-led government in Assam in 2016, we started development. Construction of roads and bridges are going on very rapidly." "Seven decades of deficit cannot be compensated with seven years of our regime. That is why people are still suffering. We have covered 60-70 per cent, but 30-40 per cent we have needed to develop. That is why few incidents like people carrying patients in the trolleys crossing a river without bridge or road connectivity are happening and that incidents are very much true," he said. He alleged that the Hill areas and people from backward sections were completely ignored by the Congress government. "The Congress regime is mainly responsible for this pathetic condition and they had ruled for seven decades. They did not think anything, particularly for the hill area, backward people - no infrastructure, no educational institutions, no health sector," Momin said. Mentioning the development works of the BJP government, he said a new medical college has been established in Diphu, a 100-bed hospital in Bokajan and 200-bed hospital has been made in Haflong. "In the last BJP government tenure when current the Chief Minister was the Finance and PWD minister, he had sanctioned 50 bridges in my constituency Bokajan and those bridges are already completed. This time also he promised to sanction 20-30 more bridges alone in my constituency. I think this problem will be resolved in the next 10 years and the people of Karbi Anglong will get well-communicated areas in hill district," added Momin.



Biswanath players bring laurels

Assam Rising, Biswanath Chhariali, July 26: Tang Soo Do players bring laurels to Biswanath by winning two bronze medals in the Assam Youth Olympic that was held at Assam Don Bosco University, Sonapur on July 23. According to information a team of six Tang Soo Do players participated in the Olympics out of them two players Rishi Sonari and Rahul Fangshu managed to win bronze medals in 46 and 55 kg categories. The team was led by Surajit Barua as team manager and Nihar Saikia as coach. The Biswanath district Tang Soo Do association extended warm wishes to the entire team and medal winners.

Nari Sashaktikaran 10 day football League in Lokra

Assam Rising, Biswanath Chhariali, July 26: Lokra Battalion of Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ 21 Sector and Inspector General Assam Rifles (East) in continuation with Nari Sashaktikaran 10 day football League organised 2nd football match between Dhekiajuli Women Football Academy and Rangapara College Women Football Team in collaboration with Tezpur District Sports Association on July 26. Dhekiajuli women football academy won by 1-0 goals. The greater aim of the match was to promote women empowerment and motivate the women fraternity to take up football as a career. The match was enthusiastically witnessed by the locals of Lokra town and the Lokra Battalion.



One day training on APART held at Golaghat

Assam Rising, Golaghat, July 26 : A

one-day training on Sali paddy under Assam Agri-Business and Rural Transformation Project (APART) was organized jointly today by District Agriculture Office, Golaghat and CSS ATMA Golaghat in collaboration with International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) at the Conference Hall of District Agriculture Office. At the outset of the training programme, the Assistant Chemist (AGMARK) cum DNO APART - Golaghat Ranjan Baruah, welcomed the invitees and farmers on the occasion and briefed about the ongoing activities of IRRI within Golaghat district. The officer expressed his happiness over the performance of demonstrations and advised the farmers to reduce cost of cultivation for maximizing profit in rice. Chairing the training programme, the District Agricultural Officer Ranjit Kr. Sarmah outlined all interventions like, Selection of appropriate variety, Seed treatment, Soil test, IPM, Post-harvest processing practices to reduce cost of cultivation etc. Ankita Sahu, Jr. Researcher, IRRI, acted as a resource person for the training programme and thoroughly discussed the missions and visions of IRRI. IRRI is one of the key partners of the World Bank-funded APART Project. IRRI provides technical support for improving rice production systems and management practices by promoting Climate resilient technologies, Encouraging adoption on field and Facilitating market linkages. IRRI's mission is to improve livelihoods and nutrition, abolish poverty, hunger, and malnutrition for those depending on rice-based agri-food systems. The Jr. Researcher of IRRI, elaborated about the modern rice management practices right from nursery management to storage. She also spoke in the one-day training programme about Improved flood and drought-tolerant rice varieties, Mat nursery method to raise paddy seedlings, Mechanical transplanting, Different methods of integrated weed management, Various modern machineries related to rice cultivation, Advantages of farm-mechanization, Proper timings and Doses of fertilizer applications and Harvesting techniques. During the programme, farmers interacted with the DNO APART Golaghat, Jr. Researcher of IRRI and Dy. PD of ATMA Golaghat and clarified their queries. The farmers assured that they will have continuous contact with the officers and officials of APART Project, IRRI and ATMA for adoption of improved rice production technologies. The farmers and FPC members were satisfied with the day-long training programme and shared their valuable feedback at the end. The training programme was ended by vote of thanks proposed by Tapan Kr. Mahanta, Dy. PD of ATMA - Golaghat.



Tiranga sale points inaugurated at Jamugurihat

Assam Rising, Biswanath Chhariali, July 26:

As per the nationwide call for 'Har Ghar Tiranga', to commemorate the upcoming independence day, three sell points one at Jamuguri commercial centre and two at Karchantala were officially inaugurated by Bipul Bora, BDO Naduar development block today for the sale of national tricolour. It is to be noted here that a section of women from various self-help groups have been engaged for preparation of tricolour by the PNDR department of Naduar development block in collaboration with Assam State Gramin Jivika Abhiyan. A total of 12000 tricolours were prepared by different self-help groups and are ready for sale so far. The inaugural session was attended by Jayanta Bora, president of Naduar mandal BJP along with local panchayat representatives. The sale will begin from August 13 onwards.



Kargil Vijay Diwas observed at Nagaon

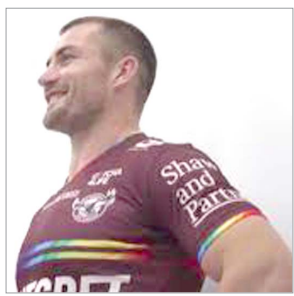
Assam Rising, Nagaon, July 26: Hundreds of activists of the district unit of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha observed Kargil Vijay Diwas today here at Nagaon and also took out a rally on occasion of the country's Azadi ki Amrit Mahotsav from Nagaon Nehrubali field. Over 300 activists from the youth wing of the ruling BJP remembered the sacrifices of the Indian soldiers who laid down their lives for the nation as well as for the motherland in Kargil war and also paid tribute to those martyrs



for their gallant efforts and sacrifices towards the nation. During the rally, taking the Indian tricolour, the participants walked out across the small town and saluted the glorious efforts and sacrifices that were shown off by the Indian soldiers in the Kargil battle. Besides, the cadets of 8 Assam Battalion, NCC as well as the NCC cadets of Nagaon Govt Boys' Higher Secondary School also observed the day with a day long programme. The cadets from 8 Assam Battalion, NCC observed the day with a title as 'To my countrymen, I am shield, To my enemies, I am a sword' and saluted all the brave soldiers who laid down their lives for the nation and its people. Significantly, to mark the occasion, the cadets from the NCC battalion, also cleaned up the statue of the father of nation - Mahatma Gandhi and paid floral tribute to him. Besides, the cadets organized a wreath laying ceremony to honour and remember the gallant efforts and sacrifices of the Indian armed forces. Similarly, the NCC cadets of Nagaon Govt Boys' Higher Secondary School also paid tribute to those martyrs who laid down their lives in Kargil war for the nation as well as for its people. The programme was initiated with a brief lecture on the sacrifices of the martyrs to protect the nation, delivered by Dipika Laskar, principal of the school while NCC officer of the school - Saiful Islam anchored the entire programme, a release added.

Manly apologise for mishandling pride jersey initiative as players boycott NRL match

London, July 26 : Manly coach Des Hasler has apologised on behalf of the club for the "poor" execution in unveiling a pride jersey as part of an inclusivity initiative which has resulted in a boycott by seven players. The day after news broke that almost half the Sea Eagles team said they would not play in Thursday night's clash against the Roosters, Hasler fronted the media and confirmed religious and cultural differences were behind the stance. In a contrite press conference alongside club captain Daly Cherry-Evans, he said none of the coaching staff nor the players had been made aware of the jersey before it was launched and lamented that, while the one-off rainbow design was intended to "represent diversity and inclusion for all", the



decision was made with "little consultation or collaboration with key stakeholders". "They [the players] are not wearing the jersey as it conflicts with their cultural and religious beliefs, and I am concerned for their welfare," Hasler said. "Their spirituality is a central part of their wellbeing. The club has made an error from which it will learn. The players will not play on Thursday and we accept their decision." These young men are strong in their beliefs and convictions. We'll give them space and the

support they require. The playing group are solid and understanding of each other's views. "Despite this, Hasler confirmed the team would press ahead and wear the 'Everyone in League' jersey, which reportedly sold out in men's and women's sizes by Monday night, with Cherry-Evans stating he would "proudly wearing the jersey to try to endorse inclusiveness and diversity". The divisive issue has overshadowed the NRL's Women in League round, which was launched in Sydney on Tuesday morning. During the breakfast, ARL Commission chairman Peter V'landys made clear his views by declaring "we don't live in Russia" and saying he was open to launching a game-wide Pride round as soon as 2023.

In the modern NFL, \$2.2bn won't stop the Chicago Bears' flight to the suburbs

London, July 26 : The city of Chicago has thrown its considerable weight this week behind an attempt to keep the Bears at Soldier Field, the NFL team's base since 1971. The historic stadium, the oldest in the NFL, may very well be in its final days as the Bears' home. Last fall, the team's ownership reached a purchase agreement on a sprawling 326-acre site in the Chicago suburbs. The Bears' purchase is essentially pending although before it becomes final, there are a litany of logistical, financial, and legal loops both sides will need to shore up. If the purchase is indeed finalized, Bears fans will be in for a massive change. While fans can rely on their team's quarterback struggles continuing until the end of time, switching homes from a relic steeped in NFL history to a modern facility far from the city's heart will be an emotional adjustment. For Chicago

residents, it presents logistical challenges as well. The Bears' proposed new home is 30 miles from Soldier Field in Arlington Heights, near O'Hare airport. It may only be 26 miles from downtown, but as anyone who has braved the perennially clogged I-90 can attest, the ride is often over an hour. But, perhaps crucially, the new location presents a goldmine of financial opportunity for Bears ownership, who do not own the area around Soldier Field. For all their bluster and bravado, the Dallas Cowboys have won a scant four postseason games and haven't advanced beyond the second round since their last Super Bowl-winning campaign in 1995. Every statement from the Bears reiterates their intention to purchase Arlington Park, but the city of Chicago isn't giving up without a fight. The city's mayor, Lori Lightfoot, is determined to keep the



Bears playing at Soldier Field beyond 2033, when their lease expires (the team could break their lease early if they pay the city an \$84m release clause). This week Lightfoot unveiled three proposals to improve Soldier Field, focused on giving the stadium the option to be domed for year-round use - a useful feature amid Chicago's brutal winters and sweltering summers. The plans also include revitalizing the surrounding area and adding "floating pavilions" to enhance parking options at a stadium that can be tough to reach by car. The organization may also be allowed to earn revenue from a naming rights deal. "Not surprisingly, we are doing what we believe is making a compelling case for the Chicago Bears to stay in Chicago. They want a tier-one stadium

environment to maximize revenues, and we agree that we are going to keep making the case to the Bears, the NFL and public that a revitalized Soldier Field makes the most economic sense for that storied franchise," Lightfoot said. But Lightfoot's efforts appear to be nothing more than a very desperate Hail Mary. Simply put, Soldier Field has little to offer in the modern NFL, where streams of revenue are considered, by many owners, more of a measure of success than wins and losses. With a capacity of 61,500, Soldier Field is the smallest stadium in the league - so small, in fact, that it's not eligible to host major events like the World Cup or Super Bowl (Lightfoot's plans could increase capacity to 70,000). It also received a \$600m botched facelift in 2003, which led

to the Chicago Tribune's architecture critic dubbing the stadium "The Eyesore On The Lake Shore". Taxpayers' appetite for funding further renovations - Lightfoot's plans would cost anywhere between \$900m and \$2.2bn - may also be understandably questionable as the cost of living skyrockets and the threat of recession looms. The mayor did not say who would fund the plans, but selling naming rights for the stadium is one possibility. Despite Lightfoot's public fight, the Bears continue to move forward with their plans to ditch Soldier Field for Arlington Heights. In March, the Bears hired an architecture firm to help design the potential new stadium. On Monday, they released a statement they had put out earlier this month expressing their determination to move.

Marianne Vos takes yellow jersey on second stage of Tour de France Femmes

London, July 26 : The evergreen Marianne Vos, a multiple world champion, crowned her illustrious career by taking her first yellow jersey in the Tour de France Femmes after emphatically winning stage two of the week-long race in Provins. Vos, who was beaten to the line on the Champs Élysées in the opening stage by Lorena Wiebes on Sunday, made no mistake on the uphill sprint into the medieval town. "We were aiming to take a stage win and we knew that was going to be hard but we wanted to take the opportunity when it came," she said. The 35-year-old, winner of the first La Course, the one-day precursor to the revived Tour de France Femmes, has been one of the influential figures campaigning for its rebirth. "When nine years ago we were talking with ASO [Amaury Sport Organisation] about an opportunity to get a race, it went really fast to get La Course going," Vos recalled. "When we raced La Course for the first time on the Champs Élysées, it felt like a milestone. Now to be here for a real Tour de France, with all the emotion of a stage race, that's



another milestone. "But in a torrid finale to the 136km stage, several of the major contenders fell by the wayside in a series of crashes. The worst of these put paid to the hopes of Marta Cavalli (FDJ Suez Futuroscope), who gingerly remounted but was unable to finish the stage. The Italian had slowed as she approached a group of fallen riders but was hit from behind at speed, and with great force, by the pursuing Australian rider Nicole Frain of the Parkhotel

Valkenburg team. "She's suffering from a concussion," Cavalli's team manager, Stephen Delcourt, said. "She wanted to continue but we said: 'No.' We didn't want to play with her health. Cycling's part of life but not the priority. She's gone to hospital for a scan." "I think that she didn't see," Delcourt said when asked if Frain was at fault. "When you see crashes like that it makes you worried for the safety of the riders. It's like when one of your family has an

accident. Above all it's a sad day for Marta." As an edgy peloton negotiated traffic calming, crosswinds and

narrow back roads in the Seine-et-Marne region east of Paris, Vos stayed at the front and expertly threaded her way through the crashes in the final 30km of racing. Other fallers included Amanda Spratt, leader of Team BikeExchange Jayco and her teammate, the Slovenian Urška Zigart, who was being watched by her partner Tadej Pogacar, from the roadside. After Maïke van der Duin led a group of six, including Vos, clear of the mayhem, the break built a lead on the finishing circuit that guaranteed they would decide the stage victory. But the unexpected time gaps between Vos and the favourites and the multiple crashes throughout the peloton, will have ramifications for the days to come.

LIV golfers criticised by 9/11 survivors' group over staging of New Jersey event

London, July 26 : The head of a group representing families affected by the 9/11 terror attacks has castigated the Saudi Arabia-backed LIV Golf Series for staging the tournament at Bedminster in New Jersey this week. Terry Strada, the national chair of 9/11 Families United, believes the venue is the "worst place on the planet" for event three of the lucrative rebel tour. On Tuesday morning Strada will front a media conference close to Bedminster, owned by the former US president Donald Trump. There, 9/11 Families United will publicise documents they believe prove Saudi involvement in the attacks on the World Trade Center. Saudi Arabia has always categorically denied being complicit in 9/11. "The players need to see this and the White House needs to pay attention as well," said Strada, whose husband Tom was among the almost 3,000 people killed in the 2001 atrocity. New Jersey lost 750 residents in 9/11. Strada said of golfers including Phil Mickelson who have converted to the LIV Series: "They might have all thought about what it would feel like for the families if they came to



Bedminster and New Jersey. Of all the courses in the world, this is literally the worst they could hold a tournament in. It was extremely insulting and hurtful to think that, six weeks prior to the latest anniversary, families were not going to feel the pain of a Saudi backed league in their back yard." The families suffered the most but these towns suffered, too. There were schools with broken-hearted children coming back into classrooms. New York City cannot host a tournament so Bedminster, New Jersey is the worst place on the planet this could be taking place. Trump's involvement as essentially the tournament host adds another layer of controversy. Last week he actively advised golfers to side with LIV against the traditional model of the PGA Tour. "He should

know better than anyone, as a former president, the level of depravity the kingdom is capable of," Strada said. "He turned a blind eye to it when he was president. He is a New Yorker, he claims to have empathy for the families but clearly he does not. If he had a sensitive bone in his body he would understand the level of angst this causes." These people don't understand how devastating September 11 was. My husband was dismembered. We don't know where all his body parts landed. He has never been identified. There was a psychological cruelty that people do not realise. These players have flippantly forgotten how awful the attacks were but former president Trump is especially egregious in his behaviour towards us. There are no words for it."

Quickfire Sophie Ecclestone helps England cruise past South Africa

Paris, July 26 : England subjected South Africa to a 38-run hammering in the final Twenty20 of the series, hitting 176 runs from their full allocation of overs before restricting the tourists to 138 for six. In what will be a confidence-booster



for the Commonwealth Games, Amy Jones (28 off 18) and Maia Bouchier (18 off 17) both found some form, while Alice Capsey - batting for the first time in international cricket - smashed 25 from 17 balls in the No 3 position. Capsey was eventually caught at mid-off trying to go over the top, while Nat Sciver (24 off 24) and Danni Wyatt (30 off 25) were bowled by successive deliveries in the 11th and 12th overs, as Nonkululeko Mlaba finished with career-best figures of three for 22. But England saved the best for last as - despite wickets falling at regular intervals - Sophie Ecclestone showcased the depth in the lineup with a 12-ball 33-run cameo at the death. The final over, bowled by a thoroughly demoralised Masabata Klaas, went for a mammoth 26 runs - including two sixes which cleared the leg-side boundary rope by a mile. "It's the most fun I remember having on the pitch in a long time," Sciver said. "When you're enjoying cricket you're playing well, and it's infectious. This series has been a brilliant practice for us - we're in the best position to beat Australia [at the Commonwealth Games]." In reply Tazmin Brits - brought into the

XI in the absence of Suné Luus through illness - hit a run-a-ball half-century; but with 66 runs still needed from the final 17 balls she holed out to deep midwicket and South Africa fell well short. Earlier, the in-form Sophia Dunkley had slashed the first ball of the day straight to backward point, bringing Capsey to the crease with the score none for one. But the 17-year-old was unfazed, sending four of Klaas's first five balls sailing over the boundary rope, each to a different corner of the ground. Two of England's young seamers also claimed maiden T20 international wickets - Issy Wong bowling Lara Goodall with an inswinging yorker, before the left-arm debutant Freya Kemp, also only 17, broke the 54-run partnership between Anneke Bosch and Brits with a bit of help from Jones, who whipped off Bosch's bails. With England having racked up six wins from six white-ball matches this series, their only concern will be the repeated absence of Heather Knight, who continues to receive treatment on a hip injury in the hope of being fit for England's Commonwealth Games opener against Sri Lanka on Saturday.

Laura Kenny: I almost quit cycling at start of year due to ectopic pregnancy



London, July 26 : Laura Kenny, Britain's five-time Olympic gold medallist, has revealed she contemplated walking away from cycling at the start of this year after a miscarriage and ectopic pregnancy left her at "breaking point". Kenny said in April that she had miscarried at nine weeks in November and had a fallopian tube removed in January due to an ectopic pregnancy - when a fertilised egg implants itself outside the womb. The 30-year-old won the madison at last year's Tokyo Games, where her husband, Jason,

became Britain's most decorated Olympian, with seven golds in cycling. "I felt like nothing was going our way at all," said Kenny. "January was a tipping point, I was at breaking point. Without Jason, I think I'd have just copped everything and just gone, 'You know what, I can't even cope with doing any of this [cycling]'. But I grabbed for my safety blanket and decided I needed to ride my bike again. That's what I've done for the last 13 years. It feels like a safe place." "It put lots of things into perspective," she added. "It

really did make me think, 'Why am I doing this?' It's because I enjoy it, that's why, and it made me realise that more than ever." Kenny will represent England in the team pursuit, scratch race and points race at the Commonwealth Games from Friday, returning to the London velodrome track where she delighted the home crowd with her first two Olympic successes a decade ago. Kenny, who won the points race gold at the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games, said she would head into this year's event with low expectations and a relaxed mindset. "I don't know whether it is because I never really thought the Commonwealth Games was going to be a target, because we were planning on having another little one by now," added Kenny, whose son Albie was born in 2017. "I feel more relaxed than ever... I'm so excited just to get out in front of a home crowd again."

The Sydney Project: how elite athletics traps McLaughlin but also sets her free

London, July 26 : It's 2022. Sydney McLaughlin is 22. She crosses the line and sits down on the track. There are no wild celebrations or overt displays of emotion. Maybe she's simply stunned at the fact that she's just run a world 400m hurdles final in a time that would have earned seventh place in the final of the 400m flat. Maybe she's reflecting on the mathematical improbability of lowering the world record from 52.16 to 50.68 in the space of 13 months. Maybe she's just thinking about the lactic acid still burning inside her legs. At the press conference, the focus is not on what she has just achieved but what she might yet achieve. More world records? The 50-second barrier? A switch of events? The world has seen a miracle, and all it wants to know about is her next trick. "The sky's the limit, for sure," she says. "I need to ask my coach about our next goal. He calls the shots." She doesn't say what she wants for herself. McLaughlin looks compact, reserved, constrained. They call her a robot, a machine. They roll their eyes when she talks about her faith and dedicates her triumphs to the glory of God. And you remember an interview she gave a long time ago, when she was still a teenager, still a schoolgirl, the point at which her inner and outer worlds were beginning to collapse in on each other. "Whenever I got frustrated," she said, "I'd go to practice and run it out. Get the stress out on



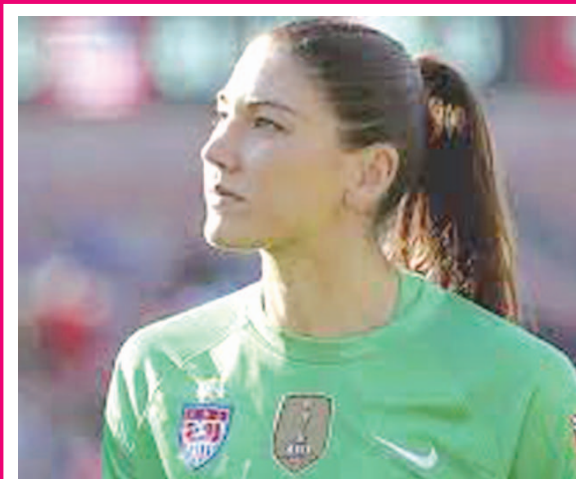
the track. I make it look easier than it is. People don't see the struggle." It's 2016. Sydney is 16. From the moment she could run, running was the fate chosen for her. Her parents were star athletes. So were her brother and sister. She was sent to Union Catholic, where the school fees are \$18,000 a year and the expectations are stratospheric. She broke school records and state records, won a place at the prestigious US trials. Now, as she paces gingerly around the warm-up track, something stops her. She doesn't want to run. She's having a panic attack. She wants to go home. "I don't want to do this," she pleads with her coaches. "I don't belong here." Earlier in the year, Sydney had fallen ill with mononucleosis and missed the first six weeks of the season. In April, her mother Mary suffered a heart attack. She worried about what athletics was doing to

her social life, that it was becoming less of a hobby and more of a job. And as she crosses the line in third place, having been persuaded to run by her father, all she can feel is relief that it's all over and fear at what is to come. Afterwards, a reporter asks about her future plans. "Sleep," she says. "And sleep again." It's 2021. Sydney is 21. Three days ago she broke the world record at the Olympic trials. Now she's sitting in her car, outside the shops, trying to fight back tears. "I don't know what's happening," she says into her phone camera. "I achieved one of my life's dreams. And the people who I thought would be most excited didn't even care." The rolling tears collect into sobs. "You can do everything right, and it'll never be enough. There's always a problem with you." She pushes her hair out of her face. "It's a sick world," she spits into the lens, partly in disdain, partly in despair. It's

2006. Sydney is six. She's about to run the 100 metre dash for the first time. Her father Willie tells her that she can have an almond chocolate bar if she wins. She wins. Afterwards she feels emptied, unsatisfied, unsure what the point of it all was. Then her father hands her the chocolate bar. She swirls and crunches the sweet nutty candy around her mouth, and decides there and then to carry on running. The chocolate disappears down her throat, never to be tasted again. The thing that traps you also sets you free. The thing that sets you free also traps you. The path that led Sydney to

the start line at Eugene was not entirely of her choosing. Her talent she owes to God. Her athletic genes she owes to her parents. Her technique and consistency she owes to her coaches. Her career and mission she owes to all of them. This is what she wants. This is what makes her happy. But she knows too that she is a project, a plan, a figment of the ambition of others. So she runs. She runs faster and more perfectly than anyone who has ever run before her. It's 2022. Sydney is 22. This is the most brutal of all the sprint events, a quarter of a mile of pure pain, where every

step is a potential disaster. Femke Bol's blond ponytail flaps against her back. Dalilah Muhammad's hair dances and weaves in the wind. But Sydney's hair is trussed so tightly that not a single strand falls out of place. This is what she knows. This is what she does. The hurdles disappear smoothly under her. Bol and Muhammad are nowhere to be seen. The crowd are already loosening their jaws in disbelief. And yet as she nears the tape she seems to slow a little. She's won, but there's a reluctance. It's almost as if she can see the thing she was running from, right there, waiting for her exactly where she started.



Former USA goalkeeper Hope Solo pleads guilty to driving while impaired

London, July 26 : The former United States goalkeeper Hope Solo has pleaded guilty to driving while impaired and said she was "slowly coming back" after receiving care at an in-patient alcohol treatment programme after her arrest in late March. Solo was found passed out behind the wheel of her car in a parking lot in North Carolina on 31 March and charged with impaired driving, resisting arrest and misdemeanour child abuse. Her two children were in the car at the time of the arrest. The charges of misdemeanour child abuse and resisting arrest were voluntarily dismissed, her attorney Chris Clifton said, according to the Winston-Salem Journal. Forsyth District judge Victoria Roemer gave Solo a suspended sentence of 24 months and an active sentence of 30 days, the paper reported. She was given 30 days credit for time she spent at an in-patient rehabilitation facility. "I pride myself in motherhood and what my husband and I have done day in and day out for over two years throughout the pandemic with two-year old twins," she wrote in a social media post. "While I'm proud of us, it was incredibly hard and I made a huge mistake. Easily the worst mistake of my life. I understand what a destructive part of my life alcohol had become." The upside of making a mistake this big is that the hard lessons are learned quickly, and at times, very painfully. "Solo, 40, went on to thank her family, friends, fans, legal team and workers at the treatment facility. "I continue to be a student of the greatest school called life and I will continue to learn and grow from these experiences," she said. "I will continue to gain empathy, knowledge, and stories to share. I consider this a gift to pass it on to others because pain shared is pain lessened." Solo, widely considered one of the greatest female goalkeeper's to play the game, helped the US win two Olympic gold medals and a World Cup. She was scheduled to be inducted into the Hall of Fame in late April but asked for the ceremony to be postponed.

Browns' Watson reports to camp amid uncertainty as team signs Josh Rosen

Washington, July 26 : As he awaits word on whether he'll be suspended by the NFL for off-field behavior, the three-time Pro Bowler arrived at Cleveland's training facility in Berea along with the team's other QBs and rookies. Watson was scheduled to undergo a physical followed by meetings. The 26-year-old is facing a likely league suspension for violating its personal conduct policy following allegations by two dozen massage therapists in Texas that he was sexually inappropriate with them during sessions while he played for Houston. Watson's fate is being decided by league disciplinary officer Sue L. Robinson, a retired federal judge in Delaware who has



spent the past few weeks reviewing his case following a hearing and briefs submitted by the quarterback's legal team, the NFL Players Association and league. The NFL pushed for an indefinite suspension for Watson, who was never criminally charged and has maintained his innocence. Grand juries in two Texas counties declined to indict him. There's no definitive timeline for Robinson's ruling. The Browns have been hopeful

they'd know before veterans report next week. Cleveland's first full-squad practice is Wednesday. Depending on how Robinson rules, Watson, who waived his no-trade clause and signed a five-year, \$230m contract with Cleveland in March despite his legal entanglements, could miss multiple games in 2022. The Browns have made plans in case they're without Watson for an extended period. Veteran Jacoby Brissett will slide into his starting spot, and Cleveland signed Josh Rosen on Friday to a one-year contract. The 25-year-old Rosen is an extra layer of security and has more experience than Josh Dobbs, who is also on the roster.

Amusan shatters 100m hurdles world record to revive super shoes debate

Eugene, July 26 : Nigeria's Tobi Amusan reignited the debate about track and field's new super shoes as she unexpectedly shattered the 100m hurdles world record in Eugene. On a night when Mondo Duplantis also broke his own pole vault world record, Amusan ran a staggering 12.12 seconds in her semi-final to beat Kendra Harrison's old best by 0.08 sec - smashing her personal best time by nearly three-tenths of a second. Immediately after the race, the former world 200m and 400m record holder, Michael Johnson, wondered whether the timing system at Hayward Field was off. He was far from alone. However it tran-

spired that Amusan had been given a boost by using Adidas Adizero Avanti shoes, which are designed for 5km and 10km runners, rather than track spikes. After running even faster to win gold in the final nearly two hours later, Amusan revealed she had accidentally stumbled on the idea of using the shoes, which have extra bouncy foam, after injuring her foot. Adidas bill the Adizero Avanti as "like hitting fast-forward" and promise the shoes "provide a snappy, propulsive ride with high traction and reduce fatigue, so you finish 5km and 10km races with a kick". There is nothing illegal about the shoes, with current World Athletics rules dictating that sprint spikes cannot have



soles thicker than 20mm - the same as the Adizero Avanti. Until now these shoes have always been used for long races, but the benefits for Amusan were

obvious as she flew high over the hurdles and into the record books. "My abilities are not centred around spikes," said the Nigerian, who ran 12.06 in the final,

only for the wind speed of +2.5m/s to make it ineligible for record purposes. "I had patella fasciitis at the beginning of the season so that set me back for a while," Amusan added. "I spoke to Adidas and requested if I could get spikes with a softer sole. They recommended a lot of stuff and I feel comfortable in [the shoes], so I was using them basically the entire time." The new breed of super shoes do appear to particularly help hurdling events, with Sydney McLaughlin also breaking the women's 400m hurdles record wearing New Balance's latest model earlier this week. There was another world record at the finale of these championships as Duplantis cleared 6.21m. The Swedish vaulter won

another gold medal - and, like Amusan, left Eugene with a bonus cheque of \$100,000. "I've gotta save the best for last," said Duplantis, who beat his nearest rival Christopher Nielsen by an astonishing 27cm. "You get quite a bit of pressure on you when you're the only person competing in the entire track. It's an honour when people stay in their seats when it's literally only me on the track. It was quite a pleasure jumping out there, honestly." Asked how he would celebrate, the Olympic and world champion smiled. "I'll probably stay up kinda late," he said. "Those kinda performances probably call for something fun." Earlier in the day, Jakob Ingebrigtsen made up for his

1500m defeat to Jake Wightman with a dominant performance in the 5,000m. The race was never fast enough to blunt the Norwegian's finishing speed, and he was able to take the lead with 900m to go and gradually ramp up the pace before kicking for home. Such was his dominance he was even able to celebrate by pointing his finger at the crowd and easing down before crossing the line. "I didn't want a sprint finish because I wanted to prove I am the better guy," said Ingebrigtsen, who beat the Kenyan Jacob Krop into silver by 0.74 sec. "It was a great race but I wanted and I needed that. It felt really amazing." Elsewhere the German Olympic champion, Malaika Mihambo, contin-

ued her dominance in the women's long jump by soaring to a second successive world gold with a final leap of 7.12 metres. Mihambo was on the brink of exiting the competition after faulting on her first and second jumps but recovered well to register a valid third attempt of 6.98m. Eise Brume of Nigeria claimed silver with 7.02m, while Brazil's Leticia Oro Melo took bronze with 6.89m, a personal best. Afterwards, World Athletics revealed that the record for the number of countries winning gold medals at one championships had been broken, with 29 countries taking turns on the top step of the podium, compared with 26 in 2017.

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