

# Campaigning for five assembly seats ends • People's eye on Samaguri, Behali Fate of 34 candidates to be sealed tomorrow

HT Bureau GUWAHATI, Nov 11: The high voltage campaign for the five assembly seats going for by-elections ended on Monday. This time, the Samaguri assembly constituency has witnessed sporadic pre-poll violence with frequent clashes between the BJP and Congress

supporters. By-elections in five assembly constituencies-Dholai, Samaguri, Behali, Bongaigaon, and Sidli became due following the elections of five legislators in the lower house of the parliament in this years' Lok Sabha polls.

The voting will take place on November 13 and the counting of votes will happen on November 23. Except in Samaguri, where Congress heavyweight Rakibul Hussain has been winning since 2001, the rest of the four seats are with the BJP-led alliance. According to pollsters, due to the dominance of Muslim voters in the

2 Police officers

transferred after

bypoll violence

NAGAON, Nov 11: The Election

Commission (EC) has ordered the

transfer of two police officers in

Assam's Nagaon district following

incidents of violence in the Sam-

aguri Assembly constituency area

of the district, where bypoll is

scheduled this week, official

The additional superintendent of

police (Crime), Nagaon, Partha

Pratim Saikia and Kaliabar sub-di-

visional police officer (SDPO)

Rupjyoti Dutta has been moved out

Jayanta Baruah and Shyamanta

Sarma have been named the new

ASP (Crime) and SDPO respec-

tively with immediate effect, they

Meanwhile, the BJP has written

to the EC demanding bar on Dhubri MP Rakibul Hussain from

campaigning in Samaguri, while a

police complaint has also been

made against the Congress leader

by the (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

added.

of the district, the sources said.

sources said on Monday.

Samaguri seat, Congress has an edge over the BJP in this seat. The BJP fielded candidates for three seats-Dholai, Samaguri and Behali

Diplu Ranjan Sarma was given ticket in Samaguri, while Diganta Ghatowar and Nihar Ranjan Das are contesting for the BJP in the Behali and Dholai assembly segments respectively.

BJP's two allies-Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) and United People's Party Liberal (UPPL) are contesting polls in the Bongaigaon and Sidli assembly constituencies.

Meanwhile, Samaguri assembly constituency has witnessed sporadic pre-poll violence with supporters of BJP and Congress clashing with each other on several occasions

On late Saturday night when suspected armed criminals opened fire on a BJP march that included Barhampur MLA Jitu Goswami, injuring at least three people.

Attackers targeted BJP politicians taking part in the march, including MLA Goswami in the Moriputhi neighborhood of Sam-

aguri. According to witnesses, the attackers first pelted stones at the participants before striking them with sticks. Three people were then hurt when unidentified persons opened fire on the group. The attack also caused some damage to Goswami's car.

Reacting to the incident, chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma

Taking to X, Sarma wrote, "I strongly condemn the attack on Hon'ble MLA Shri Jitu Goswami in Samaguri by @INCAssam supporters. This is the same Congress that proudly holds up the Constitution for the cameras, yet resorts to violence under cover of darkness to intimidate our karvakartas."

The chief minister also claimed that Congress has resorted to violence not because of fearing the defeat in the elections rather its fundamental vote bank has made the opposition workers for doing such extreme things.

"The real question is, why has Congress stooped to such depths in this by-election? It's not just fear of defeat but the desperation to hold on to their core vote bank that drives them to such extremes. Justice will be served, and we will not allow anyone to sabotage or undermine our democratic process," he

### **Bandh disrupts** normal life in Tinsukia, Dibrugarh



HT Correspondent DIBRUGARH, Nov 11: The 12-hour dawn-to-dusk bandh called by the All Moran Students' Union (AMSU) and the All Assam Mottock Yuba Chatra

Sanmilan (AAMYCS) in Tinsukia and Dibrugarh districts on Monday brought normal life to a standstill.

The bandh was called to protest the delay in granting Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to the Moran and Mottock communities in Assam and saw widespread support from residents in both districts.

Despite prohibitory orders from Tinsukia District Commissioner (DC) Swapneel Paul and Dibrugarh District Commissioner (DC) Bikram Kairi against bandhs and demonstrations, supporters turned out in large numbers to enforce the shutdown. Shops and businesses remained closed, and vehicles stayed off the roads. Bandh supporters visited various marketplaces, where they reportedly forced shops to close and raised slogans demanding ST status for

their communities. Tyres were burned in multiple locations along National Highway-37, causing significant traffic disruptions.

In Dibrugarh, protesters vandalised a vehicle on the bypass, despite the presence of police protection. In Tinsukia district, police resorted to blank firing to disperse protesters, and there were minor skirmishes between the police and bandh supporters in Dibrugarh as well. Joykanta Moran, general secretary of AMSU, expressed satisfaction with the bandh's success and thanked the public for their support. "The bandh was a last resort to draw the attention of the Central and state governments to the longstanding demand for ST status for the Moran and Mottock communities," he said.

Moran also emphasised that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 2014 campaign promise to grant ST recognition to Assam's six indigenous communities remains unfulfilled.

Later, he criticised Union tribal affairs minister Jual Oram for inaction on the issue and urged the government to expedite the ST status process for the Moran and Mottock communities

IMPHAL, Nov 11: Eleven suspected militants were killed in a day, officials said.

gunfight with security forces in Diphu to host national seminar on 75 years of Sixth Schedule



Manipur's Jiribam district on Mon-

tained injuries during the heavy exlittle over an hour, officials said.

went missing, they said. It was not clear whether these civilians were kidnapped by the retreating militants or went into hiding after the attack began, they said, adding that a search was underway for them. The bodies of those killed were

Following the incident, proarea, according to a notification. widespread disturbance to peace and public (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)



Two youths arrested for making 'objectionable' painting

HT Bureau

Some anti-nationals trying to divide society: Modi

change of fire that happened at Jakurador Karong in the Borobekra sub-division. The condition of one of them was stated to be critical. Militants in camouflage uni-

forms, armed with sophisticated weapons, fired indiscriminately at the Borobekra police station, and the CRPF camp located alongside

it around 2.30 pm, officials said. A few of the militants broke out and went to the Jakurador Karong market, around 100 metres away, and torched several shops, besides attacking some houses, they said.

As the security forces retaliated, a heavy exchange of fire began and 11 suspected militants were killed, they added. The gunfight lasted a

A relief camp was also located within the premises of the police station, and five people living there

brought to the Borobekra police station, officials said. hibitory orders under Section 163 of the BNSS were imposed in the "There is the apprehension of

aimed at Congress party alleging that the opposition party which does photo-op with the Constitution is actually resorting to violence and attacking the BJP added. (CONTD. ON PAGE-2) **11 militants killed in gunfight with security forces in Manipur** 

### NEHU students demand removal of VC

SHILLONG, Nov 11: Agitating students of the North Eastern Hill University (NEHU) on Mondav petitioned the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, seeking the immediate removal of the incumbent Vice Chancellor (VC) Prof PS Shukla for allegedly failing to address the ongoing crisis in the university.

The complaint letter was jointly submitted by the Northeastern Hill University Students' Union (NE-HUSU) and the Khasi Students' Union (KSU – NEHU Unit), which are spearheading the ongoing hunger strike protest for the past seven days.

The letter stated that the VC was allegedly absent from his duties amidst the ongoing indefinite hunger strike protest at the university. "It has been seven days since the commencement of the hunger strike, and despite this prolonged period of (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

DIPHU, Nov 11: The Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council, in collaboration with the Centre for Karbi Studies, Diphu, and the Department of Political Science, Assam University Diphu Campus, will host a National Seminar on 75 Years of the Sixth Schedule' on November 12 and 13, 2024.

The seminar will be held at the Arboretum-cum-Craft Centre, Diphu, with the inauguration scheduled at Langkung Habe Memorial Town Hall from 9:30 am to 12 pm on Tuesday.

Renowned climate activist and Ramon Magsaysay Awardee Sonam Wangchuk from Ladakh will grace the event as the chief guest, alongside Chief Executive Member (CEM) of the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC) Tuliram Ronghang and MP Lok Sabha Amarsing Tisso.

Professor Mahendra P Lama, a prominent development economist and Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) to the Government of Sikkim, who is attending the seminar, said, "I am always delighted to visit Karbi Anglong to meet well-known leaders, academics, and the local community. This is a special occasion for all of us, as the institution of the Autonomous Council is now 75 years old. We will discuss its history, heritage, and development trajectory, and I believe this is a pivotal moment for the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC) to evolve as a model in the country regarding the Sixth Schedule. The Sixth Schedule is a crucial component of our Constitution, designed to address the needs of specific geographies, ethnic groups, and, to a large extent, their unique political context." Professor Vulli Dhanaraju, the seminar coordinator, added, "This seminar is timely, as KAAC will also celebrate Karbi Anglong Day on November 17. We have guests from various parts of the country who have been working on Sixth Schedule provisions. Sonam Wangchuk, among those advocating for the Sixth Schedule, will join us, and Professor Mahendra P. Lama will deliver the keynote address."Dr Vulli also mentioned that all arrangements have been completed, with over 50 guests expected to attend the seminar.

Justice Sanjiv Khanna takes oath as 51<sup>st</sup> CJI; PM, others wish him

NEW DELHI, Nov 11: Justice Sanjiv Khanna on Monday took oath as the 51st Chief Justice of India with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other prominent persons wishing him well.

President Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of office to him at a brief swearing-in ceremony held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

The CJI took the oath in English in the name of god. Justice Khanna, who was born on May 14, 1960, would have a tenure of a little over six months and demit office on May 13, 2025, at the age of 65 years. He succeeded former CJI D Y Chandrachud, who demitted

office on November 10. "Attended the oath-taking ceremony of Justice Sanjiv Khanna, who has been sworn in as the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of



India. My best wishes for his tenure," PM Modi posted on X.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge also extended his wishes to CJI Khanna and noted the position would entail (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

ness of their intentions and unite to defeat them.

Unity and integrity were important to make India a developed nation by 2047, Modi said while virtually addressing a gathering of devotees at Vadtal in Gujarat's Kheda district on the 200th anniversary of Shree Swaminarayan Temple in the town.

"Unity among citizens and integrity of the nation is important to make India a developed nation by 2047. But, unfortunately, some people are trying to divide our society into caste, religious, linguistic, menwomen, village-city lines due to their vested interests or due to their narrow-mindedness," the PM said.

"We have to understand the seriousness of the intentions of these anti-nationals and will have to unite to defeat them," he said in his address via video conferencing.

Modi said the first key step to make India a developed nation is "atmanaribharta" (self-dependence). He requested all saints of the Swaminarayan sect to join each and every citizen of the country in the pledge to make India a developed nation.

On the occasion, Modi informed the devotees that his association with the Vadtal Swaminarayan Temple dates back to his days as the chief minister of Gujarat. The Centre recently issued a coin to commemorate 200 years of the Swaminarayan Temple in Vadtal, he

said. "Lord Swaminaravan came before us at a time when our country was weakened due to slavery and people used to blame themselves for the situation. At such a time, Lord Swaminarayan and other saints



awakened our self-respect, gave us a new spiritual energy and rejuvenated our original identity," Modi said. The Prime Minister also said the demand for skilled

Indian youth will increase manifold in the future. "Today, majority of the world leaders whom I meet

express a desire that Indian youth should come and work in their countries. Our youth are capable of fulfilling the needs of India as well as the world," he said.

Stressing the need to preserve the cultural heritage of India, Modi said his government believes in the mantra of "Vikas Bhi Virasat Bhi" (development along with preservation of heritage).

Referring to the Kumbh Mela declared as an Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO some years back, Modi urged the Swaminarayan sect to make the people of other countries understand the importance of the religious congregation (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

2024 on track to be hottest year on record amid climate alarm

State of the Climate 2024 report at COP29

BAKU, Nov 11: The year 2024 is on course to become the hottest year ever recorded, with global temperatures reaching unprecedented levels, the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) warned.

According to a report released on the opening day of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP29) here, the January-September global mean surface temperature was 1.54 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

This alarming surge, driven by an intense El Nino event and rising greenhouse gas concentrations,

marks a critical threshold for climate change impacts worldwide. The report titled "State of the Climate 2024" highlights the accelerating risks posed by global warming, particularly for vulnera-



ble communities. "Climate catassised the urgent need for climate action to protect those most affected by these changes. A major finding of the report is

crease. The average global temperature for the first nine months of 2024 exceeded the pre-industrial level by 1.54 degrees Celsius, temporarily surpassing the 1.5 degrees Celsius goal set in the Paris Agreement.

Though long-term warming remains around 1.3 degrees Celsius, experts caution that every fraction of a degree compounds the intensity of extreme weather events and exacerbates climate risks. Another key observation is the

surge in ocean heat content, which reached a historic high in 2023 and shows no signs of abating in 2024.

Oceans have absorbed over 90 per cent of the extra energy from global warming, a trend that will have long-term implications for marine life and coastal communities. (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

GUWAHATI, Nov 11: Two youths, who were detained by the police for allegedly making an 'objectionable" painting as part of the protests to stop the felling of trees for the construction of a railway overbridge in Guwahati's Bharalumukh area, were arrested on Monday.

Another youth, Kamal Kumar, who was also detained along with them was released from Bharalumukh police station, their lawyer said.

"Marshal Baruah and Angkuman Bordoloi were arrested under various sections of BNS, pertaining to unlawful assembly and criminal intimidation, among others, which are all bailable. However, Section 3 of the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act has also been imposed, and it is nonbailable," the lawyer said.

"When they were produced before the court today, our appeal for bail was denied. Both have been sent to judicial custody," he said.

The lawyer had earlier claimed that the three youths were detained in the early hours of Sunday in connection with the painting they had made in the Bharalamukh area.

It was part of a protest against the decision to cut about 80 trees for the construction of the overbridge.

Locals had formed a human chain on Saturday against the decision and a night-long sit-in was also staged.

"There was a word in the painting initially which might have been objectionable, but it was replaced immediately," the lawyer maintained. The final painting had the slogan 'Please Himanta Save Nature', which was later removed from the spot.

Baruah is an environmental activist and artist, while Bordoloi is the publicity secretary of Jatiya Yuba Bahini, the youth wing of Raijor Dal. Police have been tightlipped about the entire episode.

The city has witnessed two people-led movements since last month against the felling of trees for the construction of bridges.

Similar protests had taken place in Dighalipukhuri in October after it was reported that about 25 trees would be felled for constructing an arm of the (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

trophe is hammering health, widening inequalities, harming sustainable development, and rocking the foundations of peace," said UN Secretary-General Anthe unprecedented temperature in-

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### BUSINESS

#### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024**

# Sensex, Nifty settle flat in see-saw trade on FII selling, weak Q2 results

MUMBAI, Nov 11: Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty closed flat in highly volatile trade on Monday as continuous FII selling, disappointing quarterly earnings and weak trends from Asian markets dented investor sentiment.

After gyrating between highs and lows, benchmark Sensex eked out gains of 9.83 points or 0.01 per cent to settle at 79,496.15. The barometer gyrated 1,100.8 points between the day's high of 80,102.14 and a low of 79,001.34. The NSE Nifty dipped marginally by 6.90 points or 0.03 per cent to 24,141.30.

From the 30-share Sensex pack, Asian Paints tumbled over 8 per cent after the company on Saturdav reported a 43.71 per cent decline in consolidated net profit to ₹ 693.66 crore for the September quarter, impacted by soft-demand conditions, material price inflation and a decline in decorative and coatings business in the domestic market. Tata Steel, Bajaj Finance, Mahindra & Mahindra, JSW Steel, NTPC, Adani Ports, Bajaj Finserv and Larsen & Toubro were also among the laggards.

### **Fino Bank launches** 'Gullak' account HT Bureau

GUWAHATI, Nov 11: Having made banking easy, simple and convenient, Fino Payments Bank is now focusing on making customers save more. Continuing its efforts towards creating value for customers, Fino Bank has on Monday announced the launch of a new savings account "Gullak" aimed at improving savings by offering a range of benefits designed to meet the unique needs of customers.

the state

the fiscal, Keshav said the esti-

mated revenue deficit is around ₹

34,743 crore (2.12 per cent of the

GSDP) and the fiscal deficit is es-

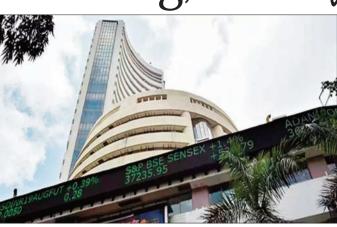
timated at around ₹ 68,743 crore

(4.19 per cent of the GSDP) for the

financial year.

One can open Gullak account at any of Fino Bank's 15594 (16000) merchant points spread across the state of Assam and enjoy the benefits. With a minimal account balance of ₹ 1000, Gullak account holders need not pay any annual plan fee, get to make cash deposits without any charges, avail 7 free ATM transactions in non-metro locations and enjoy offers on Rupay debit card. An exciting proposition is the waiver of the minimum account balance on meeting certain criteria.

These include, five UPI transactions through FinoPay mobile app in a month valued at ₹ 500 or booking a one-year Fixed Deposit of at least ₹ 5000 issued by Fino's partner bank or credit of any government welfare scheme benefit in the account. If customers meet any one of the three criteria, then even



However, Power Grid, HCL Technologies, Infosys, Tech Mahindra, Tata Consultancy Services and ICICI Bank were among the gainers. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth ₹ 3,404.04 crore on Friday,

according to exchange data. "The actions of FIIs are dominating the current market momentum, which is backed by a weak set of earnings and expectations from Trump policy. The risk of further downgrades in Nifty earnings casts clouds over investor sentiment.

while the IT sector continued to outperform due to the strong US dollar and in anticipation of a revamp in US IT spending," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services said.

India is also looking forward to the CPI data with a muted view as food prices are likely to be higher on monthly basis, essentially forging RBI to hold interest rates in the short term, Nair added. The BSE smallcap gauge declined 1.14 per cent and midcap index dipped 0.79 per cent. Among sectoral indices,

Andhra Pradesh govt presents ₹

commodities fell by 1.25 per cent, metal by 0.97 per cent, FMCG by 0.90 per cent, oil & gas by 0.79 per cent and auto by 0.67 per cent. Financial Services, IT, bankex,

power and teck were the gainers. "Key benchmark indices gyrated between positive and negative zones in a highly volatile intra-day session and finally ended on a lacklustre note. However, gains in select banking and IT stocks shielded the markets from yet another fall as the falling rupee and FII fund outflows continue to keep investors on the edge,' Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd, said. In Asian markets, Seoul and

Hong Kong settled lower while Tokyo and Shanghai ended higher. European markets were trading

on a firm note. Wall Street ended in positive territory on Friday. Global oil benchmark Brent

crude declined 0.83 per cent to USD 73.26 a barrel

On Friday, the BSE benchmark gauge declined by 55.47 points or 0.07 per cent to settle at 79,486.32. The Nifty dipped 51.15 points or 0.21 per cent to 24,148.20. (PTI)

# Maruti Suzuki launches All-New Dzire

### HT Bureau GUWAHATI, Nov 11: Creating a

new benchmark in the compact sedan segment, Maruti Suzuki India Limited (MSIL), on Monday today, introduced the Dazzling New Dzire with petrol and S-CNG models. As one of the most successful and iconic brands in Maruti Suzuki's portfolio, the Dzire has earned the trust of over 27 Lakh customers across the country. The Dazzling New Dzire has been reimagined to build on the strong foundation of its legacy and unmatched style, comfort and relia-

bility With its progressive design,

plush two-tone interiors and a host

of segment-first features, the Dazzling New Dzire offers a distinguished and premium experience. Crafted for young, accomplished individuals who view cars as a reflection of their personality, the new Dzire aims to be a gamechanger by effortlessly integrating style with performance, sophistication and comfort. With the Next-Gen Z-Series engine at the heart, theAll-New Maruti Suzuki Dzire promises incredible value as India's Most Fuel-Efficient Sedan\* Introducing the All-New Dzire,

Hisashi Takeuchi, managing director & CEO. Maruti Suzuki India Limited, said, "The Maruti Suzuki

Dzire has long stood as a hallmark of excellence in the sedan segment and chosen by customers to become India's highest-selling sedan3\* year-after-year. With each generation, it has revolutionised the market and redefined customer expectations. The Dazzling New Dzire exemplifies this enduring legacy with emphasis on styling, performance, features and safety. Sporting a progressive sleek design and plush interiors, the allnew Dzire resonates with the aspirations of today's ambitious and successful individuals. Furthermore, the advanced Z-Series engine makes it India's most fuelefficient sedan."

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### 11 militants killed in gunfight

tranquility or a riot or any affray in the area and grave danger to human lives and properties because of unlawful activities of some anti social elements," said the notification, prohibiting assembly of five or more persons. Borobekra sub-division has witnessed multiple incidents of violence since June. It is one of the worst-affected areas of the district.

Last week, a 31-year-old woman was killed during an attack on the Zairon Hmar village by armed militants. At least six houses were reduced to ashes in the attack, according to the police. More than 200 people have been killed and thousands rendered homeless in ethnic violence between Imphal Valley-based Meiteis and adjoining hills-based Kuki-Zo groups since May last year.

Ethnically diverse Jiribam, which was largely untouched by the clashes in Imphal Valley and the adjoining hills, witnessed violence after the mutilated body of a farmer was found in a field in June this year. Thousands had to leave their homes and take shelter in relief camps due to incidents of arson. A CRPF jawan was also killed in an ambush by militants during patrolling in mid-July. (PTI) 2 Police officers transferred

ruling party. Hussain had been representing Samaguri in the state Assembly for the past 23 years. He vacated it following his election to the Lok Sabha earlier this year. His son Tanzil is the Congress candidate in the byelection. The BJP has fielded Diplu Ranjan Sharma, the party's state general secretary and a former president of the party's state youth wing. In the letter to the EC, sent through the Returning Officer, Nagaon, on Sunday, the BJP has maintained that Hussain's presence has incited violence in the area and wanted a bar on the MP from campaigning in the constituency. "The by-election in Samaguri has turned violent due to the conspiracy of this one person, Rakibul Hussain. We want that Hussain should not be allowed to campaign here any further. The by-election will not be fair and transparent if he is allowed to move around here," Assam minister Bimal Bora had said after submitting the letter.

A complaint was filed by BJP MLA Jitu Goswami, whose vehicle was purportedly fired upon, at Rupahihat police station on Sunday against Hussain and other Congress workers for allegedly pelting of stones, firing with illegal firearms, attempting to murder and inciting violence.

Goswami claimed that stones were pelted at him and BJP supporters during the campaign in the Muriputhi Kheti area on Saturday evening from a Congress election office, with gunshots also fired at them later.

He further claimed that Hussain was present at the spot during the incident and instigated a criminal and other Congress workers to attack the BJP leaders and workers.

The MLA, who said two BJP workers were injured in the incident, named 15 persons, including Hussain, in the complaint. Violence has rocked the Samaguri constituency with both the ruling BJP and opposition Congress alleging that gunshots were fired targeting each other's supporters, besides workers of the two parties being engaged in verbal spats and scuffles. Journalists covering the poll campaign have also been injured in the spats.

On Sunday, Tanzil's SUV was allegedly attacked by BJP supporters at Udmari village and he was forced to return from campaigning at a tea garden, with the Congress filing complaints with the EC and police over the matter, a local party leader had said. The BJP is making an all-out effort to snatch the seat in the demographically sensitive Nagaon district, while Congress is in no mood to leave its stronghold under any circumstances. (PTI)

### Some anti-nationals trying

and why it is celebrated. He said the upcoming Kumbh Mela, to be held between January and February next year in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh is "Purna Kumbh" as it will be celebrated after a gap of 12 years.

"Your temples are situated across the world. I urge you to spread awareness about this Kumbh Mela through your temples. You should also make foreigners understand the importance of Kumbh Mela and why it is being celebrated. Each temple in the world should try to bring at least 100 foreigners to the Kumbh Mela. I know that you can do it," Modi said. (PTI)

### Justice Sanjiv Khanna takes oath

a great burden on his shoulders owing to extensive scrutiny and expectations.

In a post on X, the Congress chief said, "Extending best wishes to Justice Sanjiv Khanna for taking oath as the 51st Chief Justice of India. The position of the chief justice of India would undoubtedly place a lot of weight on his shoulders due to the extensive scrutiny and expectations that the office brings with it." Kharge added, "I am sure with his long and distinguished experience, he will be able to bear the weight of this responsibility

NEW DELHI, Nov 11: Star India will make a web operations and policies, it said in the document. The RBI had invited proposals from production

crore for the year 2024-25 with Fia budget of ₹ 2.94 lakh crore for nance Minister Payyavula Keshav FY25 with a revenue expenditure asserting that it was aimed at estimated at ₹ 2.36 lakh crore and "restarting the financial wheels of capital expenditure at ₹ 32.713 crore. Observing that the ambition The budget allotted ₹ 16,739 of the NDA government of BJP, crore for Panchayat Raj and Rural Janasena and TDP is to eradicate

Development, a portfolio held by poverty and extend welfare for the Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, ₹ marginalised, the finance minister allocated ₹ 18,497 crore SC com-29.909 crore for school education and ₹ 18,421 crore for Healthcare ponent, ₹ 7,557 crore ST compoand Family Welfare. Presenting the nent, ₹ 39,007 crore BC budget in the Assembly, when only component and ₹ 4,376 crore mia little over four months are left in

norities welfare component. Allocating ₹ 11,490 crore to the Department of Municipal Admin-

istration & Urban Development, Keshav said the government is committed towards planned and sustainable urban development. Further, Keshav highlighted that the 'dream capital city of Amara-

"The budget proposals which I am presenting today were made by vati' is taking shape after being keeping the state's financial posiabandoned for five years. tion in consideration and to revive Allocating ₹ 16,705 crore to the the (state) financially by creating Water Resources Department, he

wealth. This is aimed at restarting said the N Chandrababu Naidu-led the financial wheels of the state," said Keshav, addressing the second

government places highest priority on the irrigation sector and is de-Star India to make web series on Reserve Bank

series on the Reserve Bank of India's 90-year-long

Similarly, Keshav allocated an amount of ₹ 8,207 crore for the Energy Department.

He said a new comprehensive AP (Andhra Pradesh) Integrated Clean Energy Policy 2024 has been notified for promoting sustainability, energy transition and clean energy technologies in the state

Further, he allotted ₹ 9,554 crore to the Department of Transport, Roads and Buildings, which also includes allocations to the State Disaster Mitigation Fund and State Disaster Response Fund.

Highlighting the alleged gross negligence by the erstwhile YSRCP government led by YS Jagan Mohan Reddy in maintaining and repairing roads for five long years, Keshav said reconstruction efforts are underway.

The minister said by the time the previous regime (YSRCP) was out of power, the state's financial position was on the verge of collapse. Opposition YSRCP boycotted the session today. (PTI)

#### 2.94 lakh cr budget for FY25 AMARAVATI, Nov 11: Andhra session of the Assembly in the new signing a comprehensive new Pradesh government on Monday presented a budget of ₹ 2.94 lakh NDA government. Water Policy to take water to every possible field. The state government presented

If the account balance is less than ₹ 1000 there will not be any charges for non-maintenance of minimum balance.

Gullak (Piggy Bank) assumes significance in today's context where majority of people withdraw all or most of the money from their bank accounts, thereby losing the opportunity to save and invest.

Announcing the launch of Gullak savings account Sachin Joglekar, Zonal Head Fino Payments Bank said, "Customers need to aim towards higher savings to create a corpus for future expenses as well as any emergency requirements, avoiding the need to take loans. Our endeavor with Gullak is to help account holders develop a savings first mindset, with focus on safety and growth. Higher deposits allow customers to earn attractive interest rates going up to 7.75% annually.

journey to help people have a better understanding about the central bank's vital role in the country's fastgrowing economy.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which was set up in 1935, completed 90 years in April this year. Star India Private Limited, Viacom 18, Zee Entertainment Network Limited and Discovery Communications India were in the fray for "Production and distribution of Web Series Commemorating 90 years of RBI" after the central bank floated a Request for Proposal (RFP) in July. While Zee Entertainment Network and Discovery Communications India did not qualify beyond the technical evaluation round, Star India Pvt Ltd and Viacom 18 made it to the final round.

According to the RBI, Star India has been awarded the tender for ₹ 6.5 crore to make the web series.

As per the RFP document, the RBI had desired the creation of a web series of five episodes of approximately 25-30 minutes each, which can be aired on national TV channels and/or OTT platforms, commemorating 90 years journey of the RBI.

The five-episode series will serve as a valuable resource for enhancing public understanding of the central bank's vital role in the economy, fostering greater engagement, and building trust and confidence in its eracy. (PTI)

houses, TV channels, and OTT platforms.

The primary objective of the project, according to the RBI, is to create a comprehensive and engaging series to provide an in-depth exploration of the RBI functions and operations over its 90-year journey.

"By achieving these objectives, the series with a total of 5 episodes with a duration of approx. 25-30 minutes each will serve as a valuable resource for enhancing public understanding of the central bank's vital role in the economy, fostering greater engagement, and building trust and confidence in its operations and policies," said the RBI's Request for Proposal (RFP) issued in July.

The series aims to highlight the central bank's vision and mission, showcase its significant achievements and initiatives, and provide insights into ongoing developments and collaborations.

'Through compelling storytelling, expert interviews, and high-quality visuals, the web series seeks to enhance transparency and build trust in the central bank's operations and policies," the RBI has said while inviting the bids. The series aims to make complex financial concepts accessible and interesting to a broad audience, thereby, contributing to financial lit-

Axis Bank partners with Adda247 for talent development

#### HT Bureau

GUWAHATI, Nov 11: Axis Bank has entered into a strategic partnership with Adda247 to develop a talent pipeline through skill-building initiatives. This collaboration aims to secure high-quality and job-ready talent for Axis Bank across sales, relationship management, and other customer-facing roles. Through this partnership, Axis Bank and Adda247 will introduce multiple initiatives to recruit, nurture, and build the next generation of skilled bankers. These initiatives will provide a co-curated and purpose-built learning experience focusing on domain knowledge and skillsets essential for young professionals to build successful careers at Axis Bank.

The learning journeys have been collaboratively designed to develop necessary skills through deep practice of various customer sales and service scenarios in banking, and simulations aimed at accelerating the learning and experience curve to excel in the realworld environment.

Rajkamal Vempati, president & head of human resources at Axis



Bank, said, "At Axis Bank, we bet Adda247 said, "Adda247 started on young people. The landscape of as Bank Power in 2010 when the talent is changing, and we are comfounders started training public mitted to reaching out to young sector bank job aspirants. Over employees, wherever they may be. the last 14+ Years, Adda247 has Adda247 has made several strides made significant investments in in developing talent through its building a very vast and contemporary digital footprint and condominant digital presence. By tapping into the demographic divitent driven ecosystem. Our dend of the country, with banking focused digital assets including bankersadda.com and the Adda247's reach, we can harness the potential of a young and viwhole ecosystem have helped us build a strong community of over brant workforce.3 9mn+ young banking job aspi-

Anil Nagar, Founder & CEO,

rants and a daily active user base of over 1.5 lakh job aspirants preparing on our App for banking careers. These job aspirants are trained by a very young faculty (average age: 32 years, 50%) women faculty) who are exceptionally talented in engaging job aspirants through live classes on our learning App. We are confident that will be able to leverage our decades of experience, digital assets and our learning App to deliver impactful learning interventions for Axis Bank.

Bimaljeet Singh Bhasin, CEO, skilling & higher education, Adda247 said, "We are excited to partner with Axis Bank in building job ready workforce across sales, relationship management and customer service roles. This collaboration will combine Axis Bank's strong talent building practices with Adda's expertise in providing job readiness offerings to job aspirants. Axis Bank. Through this joint initiative, we aim to reach a wider geographical audience across India to learn in-demand skills and gain employment with Axis Bank

and serve the judiciary with distinction.

Apart from the PM and former CJI Chandrachud, Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar, defence minister Rajnath Singh, Union law minister Arjun Ram Meghwal and former CJI J S Khehar were among the notable faces in attendance. Justice Khanna, who commenced courtroom proceedings in the apex court this afternoon as the CJI, thanked lawyers for wishing him well.

Thank you," said CJI Khanna, who was present on the bench along with Justice Sanjay Kumar. "I wish you a fruitful tenure as the CJI," said senior advocate and former Attorney General Mukul Rohatgi at the outset of the proceedings. Other lawyers too wished him well.

CJI Khanna, who has served as a Supreme Court judge since January 2019, was a part of several landmark judgments such as upholding the sanctity of EVMs, scrapping of the electoral bonds scheme, upholding the brogation of Article 370 and grant of interim bail to former Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal.

He belongs to an illustrious Delhi-based family and is the son of former Delhi High Court judge Justice Dev Raj Khanna and the nephew of prominent former apex court judge H R Khanna.

The CJI, who was elevated in the Supreme Court on January 18, 2019, was third-generation legal professional who initially practiced as a lawyer before being appointed as a judge of the Delhi high court. He is believed to be driven by the zeal to reduce pendency and speed up justice delivery. (PTI)

### 2024 on track to be hottest

Rising ocean temperatures also fuel extreme weather patterns, further intensifying climate challenges. Sea levels, driven by thermal expansion and glacier melt, continue to rise at a rate more than double that observed between 1993 and 2002. Although the rate of increase slightly slowed in 2024, the WMO warns that sea level rise remains a grave concern for coastal regions worldwide. This trend underscores the need for coastal communities to strengthen resilience against rising waters. The WMO report also draws attention to unprecedented glacier loss, with a record 1.2 metres of water equivalent lost in 2023.

Glaciers in Switzerland, for example, lost approximately 10 per cent of their remaining volume over just two years. Such rapid glacier retreat impacts mountainous and polar regions, highlighting the urgency for climate adaptation measures in these vulnerable areas. Extreme weather events have also intensified globally, with WMO attributing deadly heatwaves, severe floods, tropical cyclones, and persistent droughts to climate change. These events have led to economic losses, food insecurity, and forced migration, hindering sustainable development and causing significant human suffering. (PTI)

### Two youths arrested for making

four-lane 5.05-km-long flyover, the longest in the city. The issue had reached the Gauhati High Court which issued notices to the state government last week. Chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma also visited Dighalipukhuri and claimed that a section of people created "unnecessary controversy" to target the developmental works of his government. (PTI)

### Fate of 34 candidates to be

However, the Congress MP Rakibul Hussain claimed that the opposition party workers came under attack from the BJP supporters in different places and the ruling orchestrated violence to derail the campaign of Congress candidate Tanzil Hussain.

Meanwhile, All India United Democratic Front (AIUDF) decided to stay out of the polls and they did not give ticket for the by-elections. Ajmal said, "We are not contesting the by-elections and our party will concentrate on the panchayat polls which is due for a long time in Assam. In this scenario, I appeal to voters of five assembly constituencies where bypolls will take place to cast their vote in favour of a secular candidate."

The AIUDF leader also mentioned that he did not field any candidate in the Samaguri assembly seat to help 'nephew' Tanzil Hussain. Notably, Tanzil Hussain is the son of Congress MP and former minister Rakibul Hussain. Ajmal was defeated by Rakibul Hussain by more than 10 lakh votes in AIUDF bastion Dhubri-a seat he represented in the lower house of the parliament for 15 years.

### NEHU students demand removal

student protest, the VC has failed to fulfil his responsibilities. The absence of the VC, without any prior notice or information, is a serious concern and reflects poorly on his leadership and his ability to address the ongoing crisis," the student bodies said while adding "Instead of actively engaging in resolving the issues related to the hunger strike, the VC's failure to respond or even be present on campus highlights his inability to effectively manage the situation." "In light of these serious issues, the students' community no longer feels that the VC is fit to lead the university. His incompetence, lack of responsiveness, and apparent disregard for the welfare of the students have severely impacted the credibility of the institution. The unions therefore, request that the VC be removed from his position immediately, as he has demonstrated an inability to carry out the responsibilities required of the office," they demanded. (NNN)

#### TUESDAY. NOVEMBER 12. 2024

### REGION

### Chutia community holds rally in Jorhat

### Victory assured for UPPL's Nirmal Kumar HT Correspondent JORHAT, Nov 11: A huge rally was organised at the IT Field, Ra-

jabari here on Monday to reiterate the demand for the inclusion of the Chutia community in the ST list. The rally, organised by the Jorhat district committee of the All Assam Chutia Students' Union and its sister organisations, also renewed another long standing demand of the community—to set up a Chutia autonomous council.

The meeting, which was attended by leaders of the Central Committee of the Students' Union—Mohen Borah, president; Raju Chutia, general secretary; Khirod Saikia, chief advisor; Madhu Madhob, advisor; and Abon Borah, assistant general secretary-criticised the state and central governments for failing to keep their pre-poll promises.

Cautioning the governments, the leaders stated that they would pursue democratic means of agitation if their demands were not met at the earliest.

Stating that for a long time successive governments have failed to deliver on assurances to fulfill their longstanding demands, they added that the Chutia is one of the oldest indigenous tribes of Assam but has remained neglected and backward.

### Fire breaks out at Ledo Bazaar



HT Correspondent MARGHERITA, Nov 11: A fire broke out at Ledo Bazaar under Margherita sub-division in Tinsukia district on Monday afternoon amidst protests and strikes in the district called by the All Moran Students' Union and All Assam Motok Yuba Chatra Sanmelan.

The fire, which erupted at approximately 11:40 am on Monday, engulfed a building owned by Guvin Chetry, a noted businessman of the Ledo region.

The structure was reportedly under construction at the time of the incident.

DB Chetry, a local resident of the Ledo area, said that while the exact cause of the fire remains unclear, preliminary suspicions suggest it could have stemmed from an electrical short circuit, flammable construction materials like tires, or shuttering equipment. He CCTV cameras for the convenience of pas-

Brahma, says CEM Pramod Boro HT Correspondent KOKRAJHAR, Nov 11: The election campaign for the by-elections across five assembly constituencies, including the 31 Sidli LAC, concluded on Monday at 5

The campaign saw various political parties rallying in support of their respective candidates, drawing considerable attention from voters with their programs and outreach strategies.

On the final day of campaigning in Sidli LAC, Pramod Boro, the chief executive member (CEM) of the Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR), along with state cabinet ministers Ashok Singhal, Urkhao Gwra Brahma, MPs Jovanta Basumatary, Rwngwra Narzary, and other leaders of the NDA alliance (BJP, AGP, and UPPL) addressed the public in multiple locations under Sidli LAC. They appealed to voters to support UPPL candidate Nirmal Kumar Brahma, backed by

the NDA alliance. During a press conference held at the Kashikotra Election Steering Office in Chirang, CEM Boro and minister Ashok Singhal stated that people from various communities are supporting and voting for the NDA alliance in these by-elections. They highlighted that since the BTR Peace Accord in 2020, peace and tranquility have pre-

vailed in the region. CEM Boro emphasised the UPPL-led government's relentless efforts in the Bodoland region to



CEM credits BTR's peace, development & youth empowerment

for growing support across communities

improve welfare and uplift the people, achieving substantial developmental progress. He remarked on the peace, harmony, and development fostered in BTR after the signing of the Bodo Peace Accord in 2020.

"Under the previous BTC ad-ministration led by Hagrama Mohilary, the region was known globally for ethnic clashes, violence, fratricidal killings, and forced displacements. Today, with the UPPL-BJP alliance in power, there is no potential for ethnic conflict," Boro stated.

"Many were displaced during the conflict and had to live in relief camps under the previous BPF rule. Now, there is no political killing or conflict in BTR under the UPPL-led government," he added

Boro highlighted that the peaceful environment in BTR has enabled the successful hosting of national and local events like the Durand Cup, Santosh Trophy, Asian Kho Kho Championship, and the International Knowledge Festival. During the BPF regime, a significant cache of arms and ammunition, previously used to terrorise the public, was recovered, contributing to a drastic reduction in crime rates according to NCRB data.

He noted that the UPPL-BJP government has instilled an unprecedented sense of confidence among the youth: 50 young people cleared the APSC in 2024, compared to 25 in 2023. Under the UN Bodofa Super 50 Mission, 382 young people from underprivileged families received elite coaching to enter top engineering

and medical colleges and to prepare for APSC and UPSC exams. Boro also mentioned that the government has made strides in sustainable development, focusing on peace, progress, and prosperity across the region. "The BTR government has initiated strong measures to protect women and children, with no crimes reported against women," he stated. 'The women of BTR enjoy a

congenial environment under the UPPL-led government," he added. 'Young people have more opportunities for higher education, while women's empowerment programs, such as the Lakhpati Mohila Achoni, Nijut Moina Achoni, and women's market facilities, have uplifted the status of women in the region.

Boro highlighted that all communities now enjoy peace, security, and dignity, while the administration promotes effective communication skills among the youth

CEM Boro affirmed the UPPL and BTR government's commitment to holistic development and service for society, contrasting it with the Opposition BPF, which he claimed lacks focus on human welfare. He noted that the Opposition is losing popularity, with many leaders defecting from the BPF.

Boro declared that Nirmal Kumar Brahma's victory in the Sidli LAC by-election is assured, as citizens from diverse communities have extended full support.

# **Raijor Dal kicks off** 2026 election campaign

Akhil Gogoi unveils vision to empower Assamese youth, revitalise agriculture & reshape state's political landscape



**<u>HT</u>** Correspondent

SIVASAGAR, Nov 11: Raijor Dal virtually launched its campaign for the 2026 state elections with a massive party workers' convention held on Monday at Tai Ahom Sanskrity Bikash Kendra. Addressing the party workers, Akhil Gogoi, the party president, stated that Raijor Dal will contest as many as 20 assembly seats in 2026. When Raijor Dal captures all 20 assembly seats, he asserted, it will become the kingmaker in

Assam, and no party will be able to form a government without Raijor Dal's support. Further elaborating on the ultimate vision, the Raijor Dal supremo expressed that the party aims to come to power in the 2031 elections and oust the BJP, AGP, and UPPF, figuratively "throwing them into the Brahmaputra River"

He also outlined a tentative agenda for his party if it comes to power, including making As-

samese people professional farmers, providing irrigation facilities to all agricultural fields, engaging Assamese youth in the wholesale and retail trade of all essential commodities in the state by reducing the involvement of other communities, addressing unemployment by establishing cottage industries in all villages, and ultimately making Assam the top tourism destination in the country

Referring to Opposition unity, Akhil Gogoi remarked that the Congress party must abandon deceptive politics if it truly wants to end BJP rule. Munindra Lahan, the district president of the party, along with senior leaders Bhaben Mohan, Kabindra Chetia Phukan, Dharjya Konwar, Ranjit Tamuly, and Bijit Dutta, attended the meeting. Over 500 members from different political parties joined Raijor Dal during the event

NFR's initiatives for Chhath festival travel widely appreciated

#### H<u>T Bureau</u>

GUWAHATI, Nov 11: Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has taken wide-ranging initiatives in an organised manner across its various stations to ensure the smooth handling of passengers during and after the Chhath festival. NF Railway ensured safe and smooth travel for families to reunite during this festive season and a safe return within its jurisdiction. To accommodate the ongoing rush of passengers, a total of 52 pairs of special trains comprising more than 600 trips were operated to and from the jurisdiction of NFR. Passengers appreciated the measures taken to handle the rush at stations during the Chhath festival. Extensive arrangements were made at stations for the convenience of passengers. Main stations had designated waiting areas and were equipped with public announcement systems, train display boards, seating areas, and

were also made to provide ease of boarding and de-boarding from trains at originating and destination stations.

To facilitate the return of devotees, NFR will operate special trains on November 12, 2024. Train No 05832 (Prayagraj – Rangapara North) special will depart from Prayagraj at 17:40 hours on November 11, 2024, to reach Rangapara North at 22:50 hours on November 12, 2024. Train No 07541 (Katihar - Dauram Madhepura) special will depart from Katihar at 19:00 hours to reach Dauram Madhepura at 22:00 hours on the same day. Train No 07540 (Katihar - Manihari) special will depart from Katihar at 20:30 hours to reach Manihari at 21:30 hours. Train No 05741 (Gomti Nagar - New Jalpaiguri) special will depart from Gomti Nagar at 09:20 hours on November 11, 2024, to reach New Jalpaiguri at 10:45 hours on November 12, 2024. Train No 05638 (Silchar - Naharlagun) special will

# Aaeematri Samaroh concludes in Bakalia

HT Correspondent BAKALIA, Nov 11: The threeday 31st Edition of Shishu, Yuva and Aaeematri Samaroh concluded here on Sunday, with an open session. The open session was presided over by the Padadhikar of Srimanta Shankardev Sangha (SSS), Bhabendra Nath Deka.

The general secretary of SSS, Kushal Thakuria, inaugurated the open session. He appreciated the organisers who worked hard for the success of the Samaroh. Various competitions were held mong Shishu. Yuva and

# 31st Shishu, Yuva and Kuki language textbooks launched at Bhasha Gaurav Utsav in Haflong

#### HT Correspondent

HAFLONG, Nov 11: The Kuki Literature Society Assam (KLSA) hosted the Bhasha Gaurav Utsav under the theme 'Our Language, Our Identity, Our Pride' at the SYC Hall in Songpijang, Haflong. The celebration highlighted the cultural pride of the Kuki community, with the key event being the release of Kuki language textbooks for classes 6 and 7, published by KLSA.

The event was attended by Donpainon Thaosen, executive member in charge of Education for the NC Hills Autonomous Council, as the chief guest. Distinguished guests included Ngulminlal (Amin) Lienthang, deputy chairman of NCHAC, and Samuel Changsan, executive member in charge of Medical Affairs, NCHAC. KLSA chairman Thanglun Changsan and secretary Lalkam Hengna were also present on stage.

The program began with a prayer led by Rev H Haolai, with assistant professor Roslyn Changsan

pared, publication is pending due to financial constraints, which KLSA hopes to resolve soon.

Hengna explained that the celebration coincided with Bhasha Gaurav Saptah, commemorating Assamese recognition as a classical language, and that the Kuki community was also encouraged to honour their language and heritage.

Kuki Inpi Assam (KIA) president Tn Changsan, also the KLSA chairman, delivered a presidential address emphasising the importance of language preservation. EM Samuel Changsan and deputy chairman Amin Lienthang commended KLSA for its accomplishments, including securing governmental support for the textbook publication. They conveyed their appreciation for the central and state governments' commitment to promoting Kuki language education and pledged to seek further assistance from CEM Debolal Gorlosa and EM Education to support future Kuki language initia-

stated, "Guvin Chetry is the proprietor of the building, and since construction work was ongoing, we believe any of these factors could have triggered the blaze, though we cannot confirm the exact cause."

Emergency responders, including fire brigade units from Ledo and police personnel from the Ledo outpost, quickly arrived at the scene and succeeded in containing and extinguishing the fire, preventing further damage or spread.

sengers. Additionally, security measures were arranged in a planned manner at all major stations and trains. Elaborate crowd control arrangements were made at all major and important railway stations, where a large footfall of devotees was predicted. Senior officials of the Commercial Department were stationed at these stations to monitor all activities to regulate the crowd systematically. Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police were deployed at platforms, foot-over bridges, and circulating areas to regulate the crowd smoothly to avoid stampede-like situations during the heavy rush period. Arrangements

depart from Silchar at 13:50 hours on November 11, 2024, to reach Naharlagun at 08:40 hours on November 12, 2024. Train No 05637 (Naharlagun - Silchar) special will depart from Naharlagun at 10:00 hours to reach Silchar at 05:20 hours the next day. Train No 05635 (Shri Ganga Nagar - Guwahati) special departed from Shri Ganga Nagar at 13:20 hours on November 10, 2024, to reach Katihar at 10:20 hours on November 12, 2024, and Guwahati at 00:25 hours on November 13, 2024. Train No 05698 (Guwahati - New Jalpaiguri) special will depart from Guwahati at 23:55 hours to reach New Jalpaiguri at 08:15 hours the next day.

Aaeematri during the event.

The president of the Literary Branch of SSS, Dr Jagat Chandra Kalita, attended as the appointed speaker. He highlighted the life and work of Mahapurush Srimanta Sankardev.

General secretary (caretaker) of the All Assam Students Union, Sorjun Hanse; president of Axom Jatiyatabadi Yuva Chhatra Parishad, Palash Sangmai; and many others attended the open session

serving as the host. During the event, chief guest Thaosen, along with the honoured guests and KLSA leaders, released the new Kuki language textbooks, marking a significant milestone for Kuki education in the region.

In his opening address, KLSA secretary Lalkam Hengna expressed gratitude to the dignitaries and credited the Assam government's supportive policies for enabling the development of these textbooks. He acknowledged contributions from Assam's chief minister, the Education minister, CEM Debolal Gorlosa, and various departmental officials who aided in KLSA's efforts. Hengna noted that while textbooks for another class are pre-

Chief guest EM Thaosen, in his address, recognised the linguistic diversity of the Dima Hasao district, which includes the Dimasa, Hmar, and Kuki languages. He reiterated the Council's commitment to elevating the status of all tribal languages in the district, appreciating KLSA's dedication to Kuki language development and expressing willingness to support their ongoing efforts.

The event also showcased Kuki cultural expressions, with a traditional folk song and dance performed by Hoisuaching Lunkim in traditional attire and a recitation of a traditional Kuki poem (Lagol) by Seijaidam Keivom, adding a vibrant cultural touch to the celebration.

# National Education Day celebrated in Margherita and Tezpur

Events highlight the importance of knowledge, integrity & lifelong learning in shaping future generations

#### HT Correspondent

MARGHERITA, Nov 11: Spear Corps Warriors on Monday organised a special event at Hassak LP School in Lekhapani under the Margherita codistrict of Tinsukia district to commemorate National Education Day.

This initiative aimed to promote the importance of education in fostering a brighter and more empowered society. The event saw participation from over 100 students and 10 teachers, featuring an insightful discussion between the attendees and the company commander.

The dialogue focused on the transformative role of education in engaging young minds and emphasised its significance as a cornerstone for personal and community advancement.

Throughout the session, speakers highlighted the essential role of education in shaping responsible citizens and creating pathways for socio-economic progress. Key themes included skill development, critical thinking, and equality, motivating youth to actively participate in nation-building through their educational pursuits.

The event concluded with a collective pledge from students, teachers, and community members to uphold the principles of education and support government initiatives aimed at enhancing educational access.

This initiative not only reinforced



IGNOU. the bond between the security forces and the local community but also showcased the Indian Army's commitment to social and educational welfare. Our Tezpur correspondent adds: The department of Education at Tezpur University (TU) observed National Education Day on Monday to honour the legacy of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first Education minister of independent India. The event featured a series of insightful discussions, thought-provoking presentations, and cultural performances.

The highlight of the event was a lecture on the topic, 'Idea of a University in the Digital Age', by Prof CB Sharma, former chairperson of the National Institute of Open Schooling and currently serving as professor of Education at the School of Education,

Delivering the keynote address, Prof Sharma stated that universities are custodians of knowledge, creators of new ideas, and disseminators of truth.

"Throughout history, these institutions have often been viewed with suspicion by those in power, as they possess the capacity to question the established order," Prof Sharma remarked in his address. "Great institutions are not merely structures of brick and mortar; they are the products of brilliant minds. At the heart of these institutions lie exceptional teachers who inspire and nurture future generations," Prof Sharma further added.

Prof RR Hoque, vice-chancellor (incharge) of the university, in his address, said that education is the cornerstone of progress. He high-

lighted issues of plagiarism that hinder academic integrity. Prof Hoque advocated for a flexible curriculum to ensure creativity. Prof Farheena Danta, dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, reminded everyone that in an era of artificial intelligence, it is crucial to move beyond shortcuts and embrace a mindset of lifelong learning.

Prof Kailash Chandra Biswal, registrar of TU, advocated for empowering educators to shape the minds of future generations and drive societal advancement. Dr Sashapra Chakravarti, head of the department of Education, along with event coordinators Dr Mohammad Asif and Dr Antara Dey of the department of Education, expressed their gratitude to all participants for the successful observance of National Ed-

ucation Day.

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3.	Advanced Cybersecurity Techniques	40 Hours	Inspectors, Addl. SP, IT Nodal Officers Maste encryption, network traffic analysis, IDS/IP VPNs, OSINT, Cyber Threat Intelligence, an ethical hacking.			
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### THE HILLS TIMES VOL.XXV, ISSUE 300, DIPHU, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024

#### QUOTE OF THE DAY

In war the heroes always outnumber the soldiers ten to one. -H. L. Mencken

### **Trump win fallout** on B'desh politics

hree months after the installation of the interim government in Bangladesh headed by chief adviser Dr. Muhammad Yunus, the politics of the 18 crore-nation has landed in fresh turmoil after the win of the Republican candidate Donald Trump in the just concluded November 5 presidential elections. Only six days have passed since the victory of Trump, but it has stirred the Bangladesh political establishment so much that talks are on in Dhaka's diplomatic circles that Dr. Yunus may resign. The question is only when? It is known to everyone dealing with the with the South Asian advisers of Trump that the President-elect has a distaste for Dr. Yunus who is known in Washington DC as Hillary Clinton's man. Already, in his Diwali message, just a few days before the polls. Trump made his position clear by mentioning that Bangladesh is in chaos and there are attacks on the Hindus which he would not have allowed if he were the President. This was a sufficient signal to Dr. Yunus to understand what Trump meant.

The immediate fallout of the Trump victory on the Awami League is that the organization, which till recently was lying low as the important leaders were hiding and many of the offices were burnt after August 5, as also functionaries and former MPs killed, suddenly started organising and the cryptic messages went to the core base of supporters that the turnaround was near. On November 10, the Awami League's student wing gave a call for a public meeting in memory of the students movement martvr Noor Hussain at 3 PM at the central place in Dhaka. This was an instance of courage and resistance, as it was known that they would not be allowed to hold the rally. Sure, the rally could not take place after large number of arrests and beating of the workers who dared to come. But this got the Yunus-led establishment worried since they did not expect even token emergence of Awami League after the student movement fury against them before or after August 5. More than the consolidation within Bangladesh, the Awami League has made some headway overseas. Awami League's overseas base is still strongest in UK and USA, and they are flush with funds also. Senior AL leaders are lobbying in US with the South Asia advisers of Trump and they are getting good response. The BNP overseas body is also lobbying in Washington, but so far, they are much behind the Awami League. Things will take definite shape on Bangladesh policy of the Trump government shortly after Trump officially takes over on January 20 next year.

As regards India, the scenario is at last looking better after a low dip in India-Bangladesh relations after August 5. In the emerging political scenario in Bangladesh following Trump's win, even if Dr. Yunus stays in his position, he will be more amenable to India's position. Dr. Yunus desperately wants to meet the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the BIMSTEC meet later this month. Whatever be the final shape of Trump's Bangladesh policy, Trump will keep Narendra Modi in the loop and that will be a big relief for India at the moment.

# Matri Pitri Vandana: A step towards parental care or a reflection of modern irony?

**By: Dipak Kurmi** The Department of General

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uncomfortable truth. Some parents even face neglect and maltreatment with their childrer

# Trump 2.0 administration will have varying impact on Muslim nations of the world

onald Trump's re-entry in the White House is seen with a bated breath all over the world, especially the Muslim nations across the globe, as the world waits to see in which manner his current presidency will run. Will it be "America First" like the previous one or a rather tolerant one while dealing with the Muslim nations in particular.

Donald Trump has reclaimed the US presidency after a four-year absence, becoming the 47th American president and signalling a return to his approach of prioritising US interests and assessing alliances based on the strength and alignment of other nations. Leaders such as Prime Minister

Narendra Modi and Saudi Arabia's Mohammed bin Salman may anticipate smoother negotiations with reduced scrutiny, while Israel's Benjamin Netanyahu is expected to welcome a supportive, familiar ally in Donald Trump.

However, Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelensky may face challenges, as Donald Trump tends to prioritise countries that align with US policies or show strength. The same rule may apply to his future dealings with China's Xi Jinping.

Besides the world leaders who will be seen as either friends or foes in Trump's world, India and several other countries are likely to be viewed as winners with his return to the White House, but the biggest test of his presidency will be resetting the ties with Muslim nations, most of whom have grown more anti-America during

the past four years Among the Muslim nations, the most obvious and an old-time ally of the US is Saudi Arabia. But under the stewardship of Crown Prince Saudi Mohammed bin Salman, the kingdom's de facto ruler, Trump would definitely like to revive efforts for a long-awaited

security pact with the US. Trump, who played a key role in the Abraham Accords that established diplomatic ties between Israel and several Arab nations, is expected to focus on expanding this framework to include Saudi

Arabia, also. If Trump succeeds in brokering a peace deal between Israel and

the kingdom, it could pave the way for the US to extend its security support to Saudi Arabia. This would allow the kingdom to shift its focus to economic development and reduce concerns over potential threats from Iran.

Another Muslim nation to watch for an upswing in bilateral ties would be Turkey. Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan may look forward to improved relations under a Trump presidency. Erdogan and Trump have maintained a friendly rapport, often communicating by phone, with Erdogan even calling him "my friend."

Unlike the Biden administration, Trump's return could provide Erdogan with more direct access to Washington. Trump's anti-war stance and focus on trade could benefit Erdogan, but his criticism of Israel may create tensions. Additionally. Turkey's recent moves to strengthen ties with China might present challenges in balancing its relations with the US. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan congratulated his "friend"

Trump after "a great battle". "I believe ... more efforts will be given for a fairer world in this new era that began with the election by American people," Erdogan said in a post on X, adding he hoped regional wars would come to an end. Iran, another dominant player in

the Middle Eastern politics has so far downplayed the impact of Trump's return, but his presidency closes the door to diplomacy on its nuclear program, which Tehran had hoped could ease its sanctions-stricken economy.

A strong supporter of Israel, Trump applied a "maximum pressure" policy towards Iran during his first term. He may further isolate Iran by tightening the US sanctions he previously imposed. However, Trump will face a changed region, as Iran has recently strengthened ties with Saudi Arabia and the UAE, both of which had backed the "maximum pressure" approach.

The livelihoods of Iranians will not be affected by the US election, government spokeswoman Fatemeh Mohajerani told reporters after a cabinet meeting in the capital, Tehran.

"The U.S. elections are not really our business. Our policies are steady and don't change based on individuals. We made the necessary predictions before and there will not be change in people's livelihoods," she said.

As far as the Palestine issue is concerned, it is less clear how Trump would deal with the West Asian war. His steadfast support for Benjamin Netanyahu would certainly give him better leverage over him than a wavering Biden



administration has had. Exploiting this to further an initiative that he commenced with the Abraham Accords will be a formi-

dable test of his deal-making abilities He has backed Israel in its fight against Hamas ir

Gaza but has urged it to wrap up its offensive. Trump can be ex-

pected to continue the Biden administration's policy of arming Israel.

Trump has claimed he will bring peace to Ukraine, curb China's unfair trade practices, force allies to pay up, and prevent further shocks like the October 7 attacks in Israel - all because decision-makers around the world fear what he will do if they defy him.

About other Muslim countries are, the US is assured of its continued relationship with other regional powers like Egypt, Jordan, Oman, Qatar, and the UAE. Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi congratulated Trump on his electoral victory, stressing that he looks forward to achieving peace and stability in the region, and to work together in achieving the interests of the Egyptian and American peoples.

Jordanian King Abdullah II also extended his congratulations to President-elect Trump, according to a post on his X account. The monarch said he looks forward to working with Trump "again to bolster Jordan's longstanding partnership with the United States, in service of regional and global peace and stability for all."

President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al-Nahyan sent a congratulatory message to Trump on his victory in the U.S. presidential elections. Bin Zayed said his country looks forward "to continuing to work with our partners in the U.S. towards a future of opportunity,

prosperity, and stability for all." Other Muslim nations like Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Malaysia also played the usual bonhomie tune while congratulating the new American president-

that there would

elect. DEGREE OF THOUGHT Afghanistan expressed hope Asad Mirza

> concrete be progress in relations between the two countries and that both countries would be able to open a new chapter of relations in light of mutual interaction

"It is expected that Mr. Trump will play a constructive role in ending the current war in the region and the world, especially in Gaza and Lebanon.

Noting the 2020 Doha peace deal signed during the previous Trump administration, which ended the 20-year-long "occupation" of Afghanistan, spokesman Abdul Qahar Balkhi said Kabul hopes the future administration in Washington will take "realistic" steps in the light of a "balanced" foreign policy so that there could be a "solid" development, vis-avis relations, between the two countries.

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif urged a "further" strengthening of the US-Pakistan partnership. "Congratulations to President-elect Donald Trump on his historic victory for a second term! I look forward to working closely with the incoming Administration to further strengthen and broaden the Pakistan-US partnership," Sharif wrote on X.

Bangladesh's transitional government chief Muhammad Yunus also congratulated Trump on his victory. "The peace-loving people of Bangladesh look forward to partner and collaborate in your efforts in addressing the global challenges in the pursuit of peace, harmony, stability, and prosperity for all," said Yunus

Calling Trump's win a "remarkable political comeback,' Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim said: "This new chapter brings renewed opportunities, and we're ready to move forward with optimism, collaboration and shared purpose.'

Anwar said the US remains Malaysia's largest source of foreign investment and a "vital player" in the Asia-Pacific region and Malaysia hopes that America 'will reinvigorate its engagement with Southeast Asian region.

"We also urge the US to use its considerable influence to help end the devastating violence and loss of life in Palestine and Ukraine. We look forward to working closely with the incoming president to foster mutual benefits for the people of both our nations," said the Malaysian prime minister. However, most of these congrat-

ulatory messages are routine messages and no one could exactly predict the future course of the American foreign policy, because for another four years it would be led by a maverick, who is usually not bogged down by the real politik or issues but by his own sense of profit.

He may impose a travel ban on travellers from Muslim nations, as promised during his campaign or ust like a statement made during the campaign while addressing the Arab-American Muslims in Michigan he may stop arms supply to Israel, an unfathomable promise to keep, but with Trump you really do not know, until after it has happened, just like his re-election.

It is less clear how Trump would deal with the West Asian war. His steadfast support for Benjamin Netanyahu would certainly give him better leverage over him than a wavering Biden administration has had. Exploiting this to further an initiative that he commenced with the Abraham Accords will be a formidable test of his deal-making abilities.

He has backed Israel in its fight against Hamas in Gaza but has urged it to wrap up its offensive. Trump can be expected to continue the Biden administration's policy of arming Israel. Trump has claimed he'll bring peace to Ukraine, curb China's unfair trade practices, force allies to pay up, and prevent further shocks like the Oct. 7 attacks in Israel - all because decision-makers around the world fear what he'll do if they defy him. (IPA Service)

### India's inflation surge and its impact on and daily Sensex, Nifty lite

Administration, Assam, has

developed the "Matri Pitri Vandana" portal to enable government employees in Assam to apply for casual leave online. Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma has urged state employees to use this special leave to spend quality time with their parents, in-laws, and other family members. This initiative is part of a broader effort by the Assam cabinet to support family bonds by approving parental leave.

At first glance, such a policy seems commendable, reflecting the deeply rooted values of Indian Sanatani society where parents are revered and considered the highest form of blessing. In a country where the feet of the father are described as the gateway to heaven and the mother's feet as encompassing all pilgrimages, allocating special leave for government employees to spend time with their parents is indeed a well-intentioned step

However, while acknowledging the merit of this policy, it also raises questions about the state of modern society. The fact that a policy is needed to remind children to care for their parents is a sobering reminder of how today's complex lifestyle has distanced many from their families. The pressures of livelihood often force individuals to live apart from their parents, leaving them unable to care for their elders properly. This situation highlights a failure in fulfilling one of the most fundamental responsibilities—caring for one's parents in their old age.

The irony is clear: in a society that places immense value on familial ties, modern life has created a reality where many family members are separated, unable to live under one roof or share their parents' company. But is it fair to blame only external circumstances? Have human selfishness and changing priorities also played a role? Instances of children voluntarily distancing themselves from their parents for personal reasons abound. The number of elderly parents left in care homes, not due to necessity but because of an unwillingness to shoulder their care, is an

Such incidents are not just individual failings but have become common enough to be recognized as societal issues. While policies and government regulations can incentivize certain behaviors, they cannot instill a genuine sense of duty or love for one's parents. These qualities stem from an individual's character, upbringing, and moral values. A devoted child will strive to be there for their parents in times of need, overcoming any challenges without waiting for an officially sanctioned day off.

This perspective raises questions about the real value of the "Matri Pitri Vandana" policy. Does the requirement to submit photographs of the parents as proof of fulfilling one's duty imply a lack of trustworthiness among employees? The government's expectation that some employees might misuse these leaves for unrelated purposes further underscores this concern. Can a photograph with parents genuinely serve as evidence of caring service? The policy risks becoming a superficial measure if not supported by broader initiatives aimed at the well-being of the elderly. Practical changes, such as granting special permissions for employees to work closer to home or offering immediate leave for medical emergencies involving elderly parents, could provide more meaningful support. For employees who are the sole caregivers, flexible arrangements during critical periods would be far more beneficial than a day or

two of pre-scheduled leave. Ultimately, while the idea behind this initiative is noble, it also high-

lights the disconnection between modern work-life demands and traditional family responsibilities. True service to one's parents is not dictated by government policies but by personal dedication. Without this, any regulation, no matter how well-intentioned, risks becoming little more than a bureaucratic formality. A comprehensive approach that addresses the real challenges faced by both employees and their aging parents would better align with the values this policy seeks to uphold. (The writer can be reached dipakkurmiglpltd@gmail.com)

#### **By: Satyabrat Borah**

ndia has been facing significant inflation challenges recently, and this has affected not only everyday expenses for people but also the performance of major stock indices, like the Sensex and Nifty. Inflation refers to the rise in prices over time, which reduces the purchasing power of money, meaning that people can buy less with the same amount. This problem has been more noticeable recently due to a number of contributing factors. Food prices, in particular, have surged.

Essentials such as vegetables, grains, and other staples have become more expensive, partly due to adverse weather patterns. Monsoon rains have been unpredictable, affecting crop production and driving prices up. This has had a direct impact on the cost of living for many families, as they now spend more of their income on food, which leaves less for other necessities.

Apart from food prices, energy costs have also risen sharply. Crude oil prices in international markets have increased, and since India imports a large portion of its oil, this affects local fuel prices. The rise in fuel prices then affects the cost of transportation and production for almost every other industry, leading to a ripple effect throughout the economy. This combination of rising food and fuel costs has pushed inflation to levels that are starting to impact the daily lives of Indians and the economy at large. As inflation continues to rise, the effects

are also felt in the financial markets. The Sensex and Nifty, India's major stock market indices have experienced downward trends, partly due to the inflationary pressures and partly due to global factors. Stock markets

locally and internationally. When inflation rises, it often causes uncertainty among investors. Inflation erodes the value of money, so investors tend to be cautious about putting their money into stocks. The performance of the Sensex and Nifty has also been impacted by rising inflation in other major economies, particularly the United States.

are sensitive to changes in the economy, both

The United States reported higher-than-expected inflation, which led to expectations that the Federal Reserve (the central bank of the U.S.) would raise interest rates or keep them high for a longer period. Higher U.S. interest rates can make investments in the U.S. more attractive, leading some investors to move their funds from emerging markets like India to the U.S. markets. This can cause a decrease in foreign investments in Indian stocks, which can further impact the Sensex and Nifty, as foreign investment is a major component of India's stock market.

Certain sectors in India, like technology and financial services, have been more affected by these changes than others. The technology sector, for example, often relies on exports to countries like the United States and Europe. When global growth slows down or inflation rises abroad, it can reduce the demand for these exports. This impacts the revenue of Indian technology companies, which in turn affects their stock prices. The financial sector has also been impacted as inflation affects interest rates and the cost of borrowing. Banks and other financial institutions have to manage these factors, which can influence their profitability and, therefore, their stock performance.

Companies like Paytm, a prominent digital payment and financial services company in India, have faced specific challenges. Regu-

latory issues, as well as the general economic environment, have affected Paytm's stock performance. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced new regulations that impact digital payments and financial services, and this has affected companies like Paytm, leading to volatility in their stock prices

The RBI has a critical role in managing inflation. One of its main tools is the repo rate, which is the interest rate at which it lends to commercial banks. By adjusting this rate, the RBI can influence borrowing costs throughout the economy. When inflation rises, central banks like the RBI typically raise interest rates to make borrowing more expensive, which can help slow down spending and reduce inflation.

However, the RBI has kept interest rates steady recently to support economic growth. which has been a priority following the economic challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Balancing inflation control with economic growth is always challenging for central banks. In this case, the RBI's decision to maintain rates is meant to support recovery, but it may also mean that inflation could continue to rise if prices do not stabilize.

For ordinary people, inflation means that household budgets are under pressure. With higher food and fuel costs, people are finding that their monthly expenses have increased. This situation can be especially difficult for low- and middle-income families, who spend a larger portion of their income on essentials like food and fuel. As these costs rise, families may need to cut back on discretionary spending, such as dining out, entertainment, or even some healthcare expenses. This reduction in spending can impact various sectors of the economy, as consumer demand for non-essential goods and services decreases. Inflation also affects savings. For those with savings in cash or low-interest accounts, the purchasing power of their money decreases over time. This means that while they may have saved a certain amount, that amount buys less than it did before. To combat this, some people might consider investing in assets like stocks, which have the potential for higher returns. However, the current market volatility, with the Sensex and Nifty showing signs of instability, can make it difficult for individual investors to decide where to put their money.

The impact of inflation on the Indian economy and stock markets also reflects global trends. Many countries are dealing with similar issues, including high energy prices and food inflation. The interconnectedness of global economies means that when major economies like the United States experience inflation, it can have ripple effects on other economies. In this case, inflation in the U.S. has led to expectations of higher interest rates, which in turn has impacted markets around the world, including India.

The recent rise in inflation in India is driven by a combination of factors, including higher food and energy prices. This has led to challenges for households as everyday costs rise, impacting their ability to save and spend. The financial markets, represented by the Sensex and Nifty, have been affected as well, with sectors like technology and finance facing pressure due to global and domestic economic conditions. The RBI's efforts to balance inflation control with economic growth will be crucial in the coming months, as it decides how to address these inflationary pressures without slowing down economic recovery.

### **POST BAG**

### Addressing illegal parking on Kaliram Chowdhury Road, Kumarpara

#### Sir/Ma'am

I would like to express my gratitude to the Government of Assam for successfully completing the construction of Kaliram Chowdhury Road and Bypass in Kumarpara. This much-needed development has

enhanced the infrastructure in our area, benefiting residents and commuters alike.

parked illegally along this road

from other areas, adding to traf-However, an issue remains fic congestion and making it that undermines the effectivechallenging for pedestrians and motorists to navigate safely. ness of this improvement. Many vehicles, which are often not

Even the contractor's workers face difficulties during nighttime construction activities due

hicles are left by individuals

for extended periods. These veto these vehicles.

I request that the Assam Police and the municipal authorities take strict action to prevent unauthorized and prolonged parking on this newly constructed road. Addressing this problem will ensure that the intended benefits of the road con-

struction reach the community. Thank you for considering this appeal, and I hope it encourages prompt action from the relevant authorities.

> Mowsam Hazarika Kumarpara, Guwahati mowsam2000@yahoo.co.in

owned by local residents, are

#### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024**

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

# Inferiority - A deadly Generative AI: Will it replace jobs or disease become your co-worker? become your co-worker?

By: Diti Kashyap

enerative AI, a subset of

can create text, images,

generation

Tartificial intelligence that

and even code, has taken the world by storm. From language

generation models that craft nat-

ural-sounding responses to ad-

systems, the capabilities of gen-

erative AI have grown remark-

ably. As this technology

integrates into various industries,

an ongoing debate has emerged:

Will generative AI replace jobs,

or will it become a valuable co-

worker, enhancing productivity

sential to understand that gener-

ative AI is primarily a tool

designed to assist, not take over.

For professionals across sectors,

generative AI holds the potential

to streamline workflows, auto-

mate repetitive tasks, and facili-

Paired with productivity en-

hancers like time management

apps, generative AI can empower

individuals to maximize their

productivity and contribute more

Generative AI and Its Im-

To grasp the potential of gen-

erative AI, we need to examine

how it's already impacting jobs.

From marketing and customer

service to software development

and finance, generative AI tools

are finding their way into various

roles. However, this doesn't

mean AI is here to replace work-

ers. Rather, generative AI is be-

coming a collaborative tool that

helps employees work faster,

**1. Automation of Repetitive** 

One of the greatest strengths of

generative AI is its ability to au-

tomate repetitive and time-con-

suming tasks. In roles that

involve data entry, document

processing, or routine reporting,

generative AI can handle the

grunt work, leaving profession-

als free to focus on more critical

responsibilities. For instance, a

financial analyst might use AI to

automate the generation of

weekly reports, saving hours that

could be invested in strategic

analysis or identifying market

side time management apps to

track the time saved through au-

tomation, offering insights into

productivity gains. When repeti-

tive tasks are offloaded to AI,

employees can concentrate on

Generative AI can work along-

smarter, and more effectively.

Tasks

trends.

tate innovative solutions.

strategically to their roles.

pact on the Workforce

image

vanced

and creativity?



#### By: Himangshu Ranjan Bhuyan

It is impossible to become a human being without inferiority complex. Inferiority complex keeps pushing people to overcome inferiority complex. Life has thousands of ways of winning. Every route is different from one another. In the same way, there can be many different ways to reach the goal of excellence. Every person chooses his own path according to his thoughts. The greater the inferiority of man, the stronger the determination to conquer it. There is also more emotional movement going on inside the mind." (Alfred Adler, world-renowned psychologist)

Inferiority considered as a deadly disease. In the world many people fall prey to this disease. The determination of a bad mindset that people take about themselves is inferiority complex we have seen this condition lead to death. On the other hand, it can eat everyone who is affected by the disease even if it does not kill. As a result, people do not know how to integrate into society and want to isolate themselves from others and end up becoming frustrated and confused themselves falls.

The main cause of this psychological condition is lack of self-respect, lack of self-confidence, disrespect for one's work, lack of any higher concept of ability, aspirations and aspirations The disease is a curse especially for students. These poisonous gases create such a terrible situation in the society that no one, whether elderly, middle-aged, teenagers, youth, children, can escape it. However, children are relatively less affected.

It is usually seen that mental instability is the result of that state of affairs. This instability not only makes life miserable but also interferes with the preservation of our mem-

In addition to the main causes mentioned above, other factors seem to contribute to the disease

1. Ambition, which separates people from animals, causes unrest in the minds of humans. According to the world famous psychologist Dr. Sigmund Freud, what you and I do has two purposes. (a) Sexual passion (b) Ambition

Aspiration grows into ambition and this ambition grows into anxiety. Eventually, this anxiety causes people to feel inferior when they feel that they are lagging behind com-

this disease due to betrayal or failure of love during adolescence and youth, fear and unexpressed attitudes.

As parents, we should teach our children these things from an early age - You always remember that no one in this world is all-pervasive. Everyone has something wrong with them. That is the law of nature. Nature does not create anyone perfectly. In that sense, the rest of the world is equal, that is, all are incompletely fragmented.

So it turns out, as a human being, you are equal to the entire human race. You are no inferior to anyone in the world. You are as powerful as anyone else in this world. Social values are equal to yours and others. Remember often that you are an integral part of the whole human race.

If you are able to think of yourself as part of the human race in this way, you will also be able to understand that you may not be able to do what another person can say: on the other hand, many others may not be able to do what you can. No one is made better or worse by being able or unable to do a particular thing. The only difference is that in some cases they are slightly ahead of each other.

Most importantly, never compare yourself to anyone. It is often seen that many of us are jealous of others' living conditions, their wealth, their hobbies, and blame our own fate for not having those things with us. One thing to remember is that in any field, whether it is education or wealth, business or literature and culture, everyone has to work hard to achieve these things or to achieve success in any field And if someone has more of these than you do, it means they've worked harder than you to get there. So never compare yourself with anyone and keep working hard with positive thoughts to achieve that job. And be content with what you have now. Our lives are precious. So don't let this precious life become a victim of disappointment.

Famous psychologist William James once said, "One of the deepest desires of human character is the desire to be praised." Similarly, Professor Dew said, "The deepest feeling in the human mind is the desire to be famous Sometimes people hope in this thought. Then belief is created. It is a natural process for people to be praised. When they have to distance themselves from this belief or normal process, they become restless it becomes abnormal.

Therefore, the parents of adolescent children should take precautions to prevent it o considering the reasons mentioned above. Especially if they do not refrain from comparing their children with others, showing fear, obstructing them in all areas, etc., this epidemic will spread to future generations. In a society surrounded by modernity, the younger generation is easily attracted to western civilizational culture. So if the house and society cannot be run in line with the era then all will blame the parents for the inferiority complex of today's youth and child. (The writer is CRCC of Nalbari Cluster, Biswanath Education Block, Education Department, Assam)

rections, while content creators can rely on AI-driven tools to draft initial ideas or create outlines. This kind of collaboration allows professionals to be more innovative and responsive to market trends.

When paired with time management apps, AI-enabled workflows can track how much time is spent on ideation and refinement rather than routine content creation. These productivity insights enable creative teams to allocate resources more effectively, giving professionals more time to focus on polishing and perfecting their work. 3. Supporting Complex Deci-

While there are valid concerns sion-Making about job displacement, it's es-

AI can process massive amounts of data to uncover patterns and trends that might be missed by human analysis. For roles in business development, finance, and operations, generative AI can be used to provide data-driven insights and forecasts that inform decision-making. In essence, AI becomes a decision-support tool, offering recommendations based on historical data and predictive analytics.

By integrating generative AI with time management apps or other task management software, professionals can streamline the decision-making process, ensuring that high-priority tasks are addressed based on data insights. This reduces time spent on manual data analysis and allows emplovees to focus on interpreting AI-generated reports, making strategic decisions, and addressing critical business needs.

Jobs at Risk and Jobs Enhanced by Generative AI

It's clear that some job roles will be impacted more than others by generative AI. While entry-level positions involving repetitive or low-complexity tasks might face automation, other jobs will be enhanced, with AI acting as a valuable tool for employees.

Jobs Most Likely to Be Impacted

Some of the roles that could be impacted by AI automation include:

• Data Entry and Administrative Support: Routine tasks like data input and document formatting can be easily automated by AI, reducing the need for extensive human intervention.

• Customer Support: AI-driven chatbots and virtual assistants are already handling basic customer inquiries, although complex cases still require human support.



support brainstorming, drafting, and campaign planning, enabling marketers and content creators to focus on strategy and innovation.

• Project Management: By analyzing timelines, resources, and potential roadblocks, AI can assist project managers in forecasting and planning more accurately

• Healthcare: AI can support physicians by analyzing medical records, suggesting treatment plans, and even generating preliminary diagnostics, leaving doctors more time to consult and engage with patients directly.

**Benefits of Using Generative** AI as a Co-Worker

If we view generative AI as a co-worker rather than a replacement, we can better appreciate how it can help individuals and teams maximize their effectiveness. Here are some key advantages of this collaborative approach:

#### **1.** Enhanced Efficiency and **Productivity**

When AI takes on repetitive tasks, employees have more time to focus on high-impact work. Tools like time management apps can track and measure productivity gains, showing clear evidence of how generative AI can boost overall efficiency. Employees can spend less time on busywork and more time on work that drives results, from client meetings to strategy sessions.

2. Skill Development and **Role Evolution** 

Generative AI opens new possibilities for skill development. As AI handles the routine aspects of a job, employees can take on tasks that require advanced skills, such as critical thinking, creativity, and strategic planning. Companies can offer upskilling programs to ensure their workforce adapts and evolves alongside AI, creating a symbiotic relationship between humans and technology.

By using time tracking and task management apps, employmuch time is dedicated to new skill development, leading to more targeted training programs that help professionals grow into new roles.

time management tools, companies can optimize work distribution, reduce overtime hours, and create healthier work environments.

#### 4. Innovation Through Collaboration

Generative AI can act as a brainstorming partner, helping employees come up with new ideas and approaches. In fields like marketing, product development, and research, AI can generate creative solutions that employees may not have considered. By combining AI-generated insights with human intuition, companies can innovate faster and respond more effectively to market changes.

Preparing for the Future: Adopting AI While Valuing Human Skills

As we continue to integrate generative AI into the workplace, it's essential to focus on developing a hybrid workforce that balances technology and human expertise. The future of work will depend on employees who can harness AI effectively, communicate insights, and work collaboratively in AI-augmented environments.

For businesses, fostering a culture of continuous learning is crucial. Employees need opportunities to upskill and reskill, adapting to a future where AI will be a key component of the workplace. Using time management apps and productivity trackers, businesses can monitor these shifts and ensure that employees continue to find value in their roles.

#### Conclusion

Generative AI is not here to replace jobs but to support and empower the workforce. By automating mundane tasks, enhancing creativity, and supporting decision-making, AI has the potential to become an invaluable co-worker. Paired with time management apps and task management tools, AI can help emoptimize ployees their productivity and focus on strate-

2. When parents compare their children with others and the comparator is advanced in all aspects of sports, reading, literature, health, etc., the child suffers from inferiority complex.

3. If a person is an uncle, brother, parent The disease is slowly developed by the person who considers himself unworthy if he is cheated by questioning who is better.

4. The financially weak can suffer from the disease due to depression themselves.

5. People can become depressed if they do not see the hope of recognition or position. 6. People are also more likely to develop

high-impact tasks that require human intuition, creativity, and problem-solving

2. Enhancing Creativity and **Problem-Solving** 

Generative AI has the potential to enhance human creativity rather than replace it. For instance, in creative industries like design, marketing, and content creation, AI tools can serve as brainstorming partners. Graphic designers can use generative AI to produce various design options or explore new creative di-

Content G Low-Complexity Copywriting: For standard content such as product descriptions or social media posts. AI can produce quick drafts, which might reduce demand for entry-level writers. **Roles Enhanced by Genera-**

tive AI Rather than being replaced, many jobs will see an enhancement in their scope and efficiency thanks to generative AI: • Marketing and Content Creation: Generative AI can

#### 3. Improving Job Satisfaction and Reducing Burnout

Repetitive tasks often lead to burnout and low job satisfaction. Generative AI can take on these tasks, giving employees a chance to engage in more meaningful work that requires human insight and interaction. With the help of

work that ful difference.

In the evolving world of work, AI should be embraced as a partner that complements human capabilities, not a replacement for them. Businesses and employees alike must focus on adaptability, viewing AI as a tool for growth and collaboration. In doing so, we can create a future where AI and human talent work hand in hand to drive success and innovation. (Courtesy: Youth Ki Awaaz)

# Medical myths: All about diabetes

#### **By: Tim Newman**

urrently, around 1 in 10 people in the United States have diabetes. Globally, more than 422 million people are living with the dis-

Although diabetes is a familiar word, symptoms vary, and the biological mechanisms involved are complex. Because it is both common and complicated, half-truths abound.

Unfortunately, some of the myths we cover in this article increase the stigma attached to diabetes. For this reason alone, it is essential to challenge these falsehoods.

Firstly, we will briefly explain what diabetes is and highlight the differences between the three most common forms of diabetes: type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes.

Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease in which the immune system attacks the pancreas cells that create insulin. It tends to occur earlier in life than type 2 diabetes. In type 2 diabetes, the body does not make enough insulin, does not respond well to insulin, or both. Ât least 90% of people with

diabetes in the U.S. have type 2. Gestational diabetes, as the name suggests, occurs during pregnancy. During pregnancy, the body needs more insulin. Gestational diabetes occurs

when the body cannot meet these new requirements. Although gestational diabetes usually goes away after birth.

there is a risk of developing it again during future pregnancies and developing type 2 diabetes later in life

#### 1. Eating sugar causes diabetes

Eating sugar does not directly cause diabetes. However, consuming a sugary diet can lead to overweight and obesity, which are risk factors for type 2 diabetes.

This is a common myth, perhaps understandably - blood sugar levels play an essential role in diabetes. Sugar itself,

though, is not a causal factor. As ever, the story is complex: there does appear to be a link between regularly drinking soda and risk for type 2 diabetes.

One large study published in 2013 found that, even after controlling for energy intake and body mass index (BMI), drinking soda has links with an increased risk of developing the disease. The study did not find this association in relation to other drinks, such as artificiallysweetened beverages and fruit juices.

Scientists still do not understand why some people develop type 1 diabetes, and others do not. However, nutrition is not a risk factor.

2. Diabetes is not serious

Perhaps because diabetes is so but 13% have diabetes. common, some people believe that it is not a serious disease. This is incorrect. There is no cure for diabetes, and there are a host of complications that can occur if a person does not man-

age the condition well. Complications include cardiovascular disease, nerve damage. kidney damage, blindness, skin

conditions, and hearing impairment In 2018, diabetes was the underlying cause of 84,946 deaths in the U.S. The World Health Organization estimate that dia-

betes caused the death of 1.6 million people in 2016. 3. Diabetes only affects people with obesity

Overweight and obesity are risk factors for type 2 diabetes and gestational diabetes, but the condition can occur in people of any weight. According to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Diabetes Statistic Report, 2020, 11% of people with

type 2 diabetes in the U.S. are neither overweight nor obese. Type 1 diabetes has no associations with body weight.

4. Obesity always leads to diabetes Although obesity increases

the risk of diabetes, it does not inevitably lead to the disease. According to the CDC, an estimated 39.8% Trusted Source of adults in the U.S. have obesity, 5. People with diabetes can-

not eat sugar People with diabetes certainly do need to manage their diets carefully: monitoring carbohydrate intake is important. However, they can still incorporate treats.

The American Diabetes Association explain:

"The key to sweets is to have a very small portion and save them for special occasions, so you focus your meals on healthier foods.

Individuals with diabetes need to carefully plan what and when they will eat to ensure that their blood sugar levels remain balanced.

A related myth is that people with diabetes need to eat special "diabetes-friendly" foods. These products are often more expensive, and some can still raise glucose levels.

6. Diabetes always leads to blindness and amputation

Thankfully, this is a myth. While it is true that diabetes can lead to blindness and amputations in some cases, it is not inevitable. And for individuals who manage their condition carefully, these outcomes are rare

The CDC estimate that 11.7% of adults with diabetes have some level of vision impairment. Lower-extremity amputation occurs in around 0.56% of

people with diabetes in the U.S. Experts have identified several risk factors that increase the likelihood of experiencing diabetes-related complications. These include obesity and overweight, smoking, physical inactivity, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol.

7. People with diabetes should not drive

A diabetes diagnosis does not automatically mean that someone needs to stop driving. In a position statement on diabetes and driving, the American Diabetes Association explain:

"[M]ost people with diabetes safely operate motor vehicles without creating any meaningful risk of injury to themselves or others.'

However, they also explain that, if concerns arise, people should undergo assessment on an individual basis. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation:

"[P]eople with diabetes are able to drive unless they are limited by certain complications of diabetes. These include severely low blood glucose levels or vision problems. If you are experiencing diabetes-related complications, you should work closely with your diabetes healthcare team to find out if diabetes affects your ability to drive.'

8. Prediabetes always leads to diabetes

In the U.S., an estimated 88 million, or 1 in 3, adults have guide any necessary changes in prediabetes. Prediabetes is a condition where blood sugar levels are higher than normal but not quite high enough to classify as diabetes. If left unchecked, prediabetes can develop into type 2 diabetes.

However, it is not a given. Lifestyle changes can turn the tide. Regular physical activity and a more healthful diet can stop diabetes in its tracks. 9. People with diabetes cannot be active

Once again, this is untrue. In fact, exercise is an important component in the management of diabetes. Among other things, exercise helps drive weight loss and reduces blood pressure, both of which are risk factors for complications. It can also help the body use insulin better.

However, exercise can impact blood sugar levels in various ways, sometimes increasing it and, at other times, decreasing

According to Diabetes U.K., Some days, you'll do exactly the same type of activity and eat the same foods, but your blood sugar levels may act differently to what you'd expect.'

They also offer tips for managing blood sugar during activity:

Check your blood sugar while exercising and keep a record of how it behaves to

show your doctor. This can help insulin.

• For people who are at risk of hypos, keep fast-acting carbohydrates close to hand.

• Wear diabetes identification so that people can help if needed.

10. You can 'catch' diabetes This is a myth. Pathogens do not cause diabetes, so a person cannot pass it to someone else. Doctors classify it as a noncommunicable disease.

**11. Some natural products** cure diabetes

Currently, there is no cure for diabetes. Any claims that a product can cure diabetes are false. Many herbal or natural products will do little or nothing and, in some cases, they can potentially cause harm; diabetes.co.uk explain:

"[B]ecause certain herbs, vitamins, and supplements may interact with diabetes medications (including insulin) and increase their hypoglycemic effects, it is often argued that [using] natural therapies could reduce blood sugars to dangerously low levels and raise the risk of other diabetes complications.

Diabetes is a complex but common disease. As its prevalence increases, it is essential to overturn myths as we find them. (Courtesy: Medical News Today)

### World

# Traumatised by war, hundreds of Lebanon's children struggle with wounds both physical and emotional

BEIRUT, Nov 11: Curled up in his father's lap, clinging to his chest, Hussein Mikdad cried his heart out. The 4-year-old kicked his doctor with his intact foot and pushed him away with the arm that was not in a cast. "My Dad! My Dad!" Hussein said. "Make him leave me alone!" With eyes tearing up in relief and pain, the father reassured his son and pulled him closer.

Hussein and his father, Hassan, are the only survivors of their family after an Israeli airstrike last month on their Beirut neighbourhood. The strike killed 18 people, including his mother, three siblings and six relatives.

"Can he now shower?" the father asked the doctor.

Ten days after surgery, doctors examining Hussein's wounds said the boy is healing properly. He has rods in his fractured right thigh and stitches that assembled his torn tendons back in place on the right arm. The pain has subsided, and Hussein should be able to walk again in two months - albeit with a lingering limp.

A prognosis for Hussein's invisible wounds is much harder to give. He is back in diapers and has begun wetting his bed. He hardly speaks and has not said a word about his mother, two sisters and brother.

"The trauma is not just on the muscular skeletal aspect. But he is also mentally hurt," Imad Nahle, one of Hussein's orthopedic surgeons, said.

Israel said, without elaborating, that the strike on the Mikdad neighbourhood struck a Hezbollah target. In the war that has escalated since September, Israeli airstrikes have increasingly hit residential

areas around Lebanon. Israel accuses the Lebanese militant group of hiding its capabilities and fighters among civilians. It vows to cripple Hezbollah, which began firing into northern Israel after Hamas' Oct 7 attack triggered the

war in Gaza. But children have been caught in the midst. With more strikes on homes and in residential areas, doctors are seeing more children affected by the violence. More than 100 children have been killed in Lebanon in the past six weeks and hundreds injured. And of the 14,000 wounded since last year, around 10% are children. Many have been left with severed limbs, burned bodies, and broken families scars that could last for a lifetime.

Ghassan Abu Sittah, a renowned British-Palestinian surgeon who is also treating Hussein, sees that long road ahead. This is his worry: "It leaves us with a generation of physically wounded children, children who are psychologically and emotionally wounded.

'What do they want from us?' At the American University of Beirut Medical Center, which is receiving limited cases of war casualties. Nahle said he operated on five children in the past five weeks - up from no cases before. Most were referred from south and eastern Lebanon

A few miles away, at the Lebanese Hospital Geitaoui, one of the country's largest burns centres increased its capacity by nearly 180% since September so it could accommodate more war wounded, its medical director Naji Abirached said. About a fifth of the newly admitted patients are children.

In one of the burn centre's ICU units lies Ivana Skakye. She turned 2 in the hospital ward last week. Ivana has been healing from burns she sustained following an Israeli airstrike outside their home in southern Lebanon on Sept 23. Israel launched hundreds of airstrikes that day in different parts of Lebanon, making it the deadliest day of the war so far. More than 500 people were killed.

Six weeks later, the tiny Ivana remains wrapped in white gauze from head to toe except her torso. She sustained third-degree burns over 40 per cent of her body. Her hair and head, her left side all the way to her legs, both her arms and her chest were burned. Her family home was damaged, its ceiling set afire. The family's valuables, packed in their car as they prepared to leave, were also torched. Ivana's

older sister, Rahaf, 7, has recovered faster from burns to her face and hands. Fatima Zayoun, their mother, was in the kitchen when the explosion hit. Zavoun jumped up to grab the girls, who were playing on the terrace.

It was, Zayoun said, "as if something lifted me up so that I can grab my kids. I have no idea how I managed to pull them in and throw them out of the window. She spoke from the ICU burns unit. "They were not on fire, but they were Black ash covered burned. them...(Ivana) was without any hair. I told myself, 'That is not her'." Now, Ivana's wound dressings are changed every two days. Her doctor, Ziad Sleiman, said she could be discharged in a few days. She's back again to saying "Mama" and "Bye" - shorthand for wanting to go out.

Like Hussein, though, Ivana has no home to return to. Her parents fear collective shelters could cause an infection to return.

After seeing her kids "sizzling on the floor," Zayoun, 35, said that even if their home is repaired, she wouldn't want to return. "I saw death with my own eyes," she said. Zayoun was 17 last time Israel and Hezbollah were at war, in 2006. Displaced with her family then, she said she almost enjoyed the experience, riding out of their village in a truck full of their belongings, mixing with new people, learning new things. They returned home when the war was over.

"But this war is hard. They are hitting everywhere," she said. "What do they want from us? Do they want to hurt our children? We are not what they are looking for." (AP)

The attacks, carried out on September 17 and 18, targeted thousands of handheld pagers and hundreds of walkie-talkies used by Hezbollah members across Lebanon and Syria

### Israeli PM Netanyahu admits Israel's role leader Ishiba as PM in pager, walkie-talkie attacks on Hezbollah

JERUSALEM, Nov Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for the first time admitted that Israel was behind the pager and walkie-talkie attacks on Hezbollah in September that left at least 39 people dead and more than 3,000 injured, local media reports have said.

'The pager operation and the elimination of (Hezbollah leader Hassan) Nasrallah were carried out despite the opposition of senior officials in the defence establishment and those responsible for them in the political echelon," The Times of Israel newspaper quoted Netanyahu as saying. Netanyahu's remarks came during Sunday's weekly Cabi-

11: net meeting, according to Hebrew media reports.

Israel had so far not taken responsibility publicly for the attacks, but it was widely speculated that it was behind the complex successfully orchestrated attacks that took the world by surprise.

Thousands of pagers containing explosives exploded on their Hezbollah owners across Lebanon and parts of Syria on September 16 against the Lebanese Shia mili-While the world was still ab-

tia. sorbing the news of pager ex-Netanyahu's statement is plosions, walkie-talkies met the being interpreted in the context same fate a day later on Sepof his firing of Defence Ministember 17, shocking the world ter Yoav Gallant and efforts to at the level of Israeli intellishore up personal popularity by taking credit for war successes. gence's preparation in its war

rid of him in March 2023 as well, a day after Gallant called for pausing the legislation process of the government's contentious judicial overhaul plan arguing that it caused divisions that posed a threat to national security, but had to reinstate him due to massive public protests. He was the defence minister

when Hamas committed its deadly terror assault in southern Israel on October 7 last year and had so far carried out his duties in the subsequent war in the Gaza Strip, the fighting on the northern border, and the ground operation in southern Lebanon

20, 2025. Ukraine has been in-

"During the call, which

Trump took from his resort in

Florida, he advised the Russian

president not to escalate the

war in Ukraine and reminded

However,

Tuesday, Gallant said that he was fired because of differences on the issue of the need to draft ultra-orthodox men in the Israel Defence Forces, the imperative to bring back the hostages from Gaza, and the need for establishing a state commission of inquiry to look into the October 7 Hamas terror

attack and the ensuing war. Netanyahu has resisted taking responsibility for the country's security oversights, blaming Israel's security forces for the failure to foresee

Hamas' October 7 massacre. He has also ducked calls for a public commission of inquiry to be constituted into events



Japan's parliament

reelects struggling

TOKYO, Nov 11: Japan's parliament reelected Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba on Monday after his governing coalition suffered the worst election loss in more than a decade.

Ishiba's ruling Liberal Democratic Party and its junior partner Komeito together lost their majority in the 465-seat Lower House, the more powerful of Japan's two-house parliament, in the Oct 27 election due to continued voter outrage over financial misconduct by his party and its lukewarm response.

A special parliamentary session convened Monday to pick a new leader in a vote required within 30 days of a general election. In the past, these votes did not attract as much attention because an LDP leader was virtually assured to be prime minister. Ishiba beat top opposition leader Yoshihiko Noda 221-160 in the first runoff in 30 vears

Most of his previous Cabinet members will be reappointed, but Ishiba will have to replace three who lost their seats or were affected by the election results.

Since the election loss, Ishiba has refused to step down, saying is willing to cooperate with additional coalition partners to boost stability and help him pursue his party's policies. Noda, head of the centrist opposition Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan, has sought to form an opposition coalition - but so far unsuccess-

### Pakistan suspends railway services in the country's southwest after deadly train station bombing

QUETTA, Nov 11: Pakistan's railways suspended all train services on Monday to and from a restive southwestern province where a suicide bombing at a train station over the weekend killed 26 people, including soldiers and railway staff.

The train services would be suspended for four days for security reasons, according to a statement from Pakistan Railways.

The attack, claimed by the separatist Baloch Liberation Army struck the station in the city of Quetta, the capital of

passengers were waiting for a train to leave the Quetta station for the garrison city of Rawalpindi, police had said. In its claim of responsibility, the separatist BLA said it targeted Pakistani troops. The attack was the deadliest since August,

when separatists killed more than 50 people in multiple coordinated attacks on passengers buses, police and security forces across Balochistan.

The oil- and mineral-rich Balochistan is Pakistan's largest but also least populated province. It is a hub for the country's ethnic Baloch minority whose members say

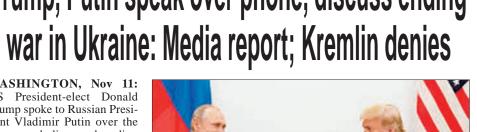
WASHINGTON, Nov 11: US President-elect Donald Trump spoke to Russian President Vladimir Putin over the phone and discussed ending the war in Ukraine amongst many other important topics, according to a media report.

Gallant was fired from the

November 5.

Kremlin However. spokesperson Dmitry Peskov denied the media report of the phone call between Putin and Trump.

After winning the recent



ment together. Netanyahu also tried to get In a press conference on Trump, Putin speak over phone, discuss ending

defence minister's position on Netanyahu and Gallant have clashed repeatedly over the course of their time in governleading up to it. (PTI)

Balochistan province, on Saturday. At lest 62 people were also wounded in the bombing, officials said.

The provincial government also declared a threeday mourning period in solidarity with the families of the victims and said that security has been stepped up and vowed to hit back "with full force" against the separatists, according to Bugti, Sarfraz the province's chief minister.

Bugti spoke after meeting with Interior Minister Mohsin Nagyi, who traveled to Quetta on Sunday to be briefed about the situation. Naqvi's office said in a statement that authorities would "take decisive steps to crush the terrorists" and support the local Balochistan government in dealing with the "scourge of terrorism."

Train services are a major part of Balochistan's economy - hundreds of people travel to and from Quetta to other parts of the country every day. Trains also transport food and other items. Saturday's attack took place when about 100



The separatists also target Chinese nationals working in Pakistan as part of Beijing's multibillion-dollar Belt and Road Initiative, an initiative that has built power plants, roads, railroads and ports around the world and is a major part of China's push to play a larger role in global affairs

Last month, a suicide bomber dispatched by BLA targeted a convoy with Chinese nationals outside the country's largest airport in the port city of Karachi, killing two Chinese workers and wounding eight people. Authorities claim they have arrested the mastermind of that attack in a raid in Balochistan. (AP)

presidential elections, Trump has spoken to over 70 world leaders. Prime Minister Naren-Balochistan has for dra Modi and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu were among the firsts.

formed about the Trump-Putin "The two men discussed the goal of peace on the European call. continent and Trump expressed an interest in follow-up conversations to discuss 'the resolution of Ukraine's war soon," one of the people said," The him of Washington's sizable Washington Post said in an exmilitary presence in Europe, clusive report published on Sunday.

One former US official who call, who, like others interwas familiar with the Putin call said that Trump likely does not want to enter office with a Washington Post reported. fresh crisis in Ukraine prompted by Russian escalation, "giving him the incentive said the Western media reports to want to keep the war from worsening," the daily said. Trump is scheduled to be Putin and Trump are "untrue", state-run TASS news agency sworn in as the 47th President



of the United States on January reported

"There was no conversation...This is completely untrue; it's pure fiction," Peskov said.

Meanwhile, Steven Cheung, Trump's communications director, told PTI he would not comment on the private calls between President-elect Trump and other world leaders.

said a person familiar with the "President Trump won a historic election decisively and viewed for this story, spoke on leaders from around the world the condition of anonymity to know America will return to discuss a sensitive matter," The prominence on the world stage. That is why leaders have Kremlin begun the process of developspokesman Peskov in Moscow ing stronger relationships with the 45th and 47th President beof the phone call between cause he represents global peace and stability," Cheung said. (PTI)

Ishiba will struggle in the coming months as he must gain consent from the opposition on policies including the budget and other legisla-

He is eyeing a rising smaller, conservative opposition, the Democratic Party for the People, whose seats quadrupled to 28 under its popular leader Yuichiro Tamaki.

A Harvard-educated former Finance Ministry bureaucrat, Tamaki has proposed raising the basic tax-free income allowance and increasing take-home wages, ideas that attracted low-income earners and younger voters in the election. He only wants to cooperate with Ishiba's party on policy — not as part of a coalition — since he wants to use his leverage to increase his party's standing ahead of the next election.

Tamaki was recently stung by a magazine article exposing an extramarital affair, which he admitted to on Monday, adding to political uncertainty.

Ishiba's government is preparing for his trip later this month to Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation and Group of 20 summits, as well as a possible meeting with US President-elect Donald Trump on his way home. (AP)

### UN climate talks to focus on money to help poor nations cut carbon pollution

several separatist

BAKU (AZERBAIJAN), Nov 11: A complex international two-week-long game of climate change poker is convening. The stakes? Just the fate of an ever-warming world.

Curbing and coping with climate change's worsening heat, floods, droughts and storms will cost trillions of dollars and poor nations just don't have it, numerous reports and experts calculate. As United Nations climate negotiations started Monday in Baku, Azerbaijan, the chief issue is who must ante up to help poor nations and especially how much.

The numbers are enormous. The floor in negotiations is the \$100 billion a year that poor nations — based on a categorization made in the 1990s — now get as part of a 2009 agreement that was barely met. Several experts and poorer nations say the need is \$1 trillion a year or more.

"It's a game with high stakes," said Climate Analytics CEO Bill Hare, a physicist. "Right now the fate of the planet depends very much on what we're able to pull off in the next five or 10 years.'

But this year's talks, known as COP29, won't be as high-profile as last year's, with 48 fewer heads of state scheduled to speak. The leaders of the top two carbon polluting countries — China and the United States — will be



absent. But if money negotiations fail in Baku, it will handicap 2025's make-or-break climate negotiations, experts say.

Not only is dealing with money always a touchy subject, but two of the rich countries that are expected to donate money to poor nations — the United States and Germany — are in the midst of dramatic government changes. Even though the United States delegation will be from Biden Administration, the reelection of Donald Trump, who downplays climate change and dislikes foreign aid, makes U.S. pledges unlikely to be fulfilled.

The overarching issue is climate finance. Without it, experts say the world can't get a handle on fighting warming, nor can most of

the nations achieve their current carbon pollution-cutting goals or the new ones they will submit next year.

"If we don't solve the finance problem, then definitely we will not solve the climate problem," said former Colombian deputy climate minister Pablo Vieira, who heads the support unit at NDC Partnership, which helps nations with emissions-cutting goals.

Nations can't cut carbon pollution if they can't afford to eliminate coal, oil and gas, Vieira and several other experts said. Poor nations are frustrated that they are being told to do more to fight climate change when they cannot afford it, he said. And the 47 poorest nations only created 4% of the heat-trapping gases in the air, according to the UN.

About 77% of the heat-trapping gas in the atmosphere now comes from the G20 rich nations, many of whom are now cutting back on their pollution, something that is not happening in most poor nations or China.

"The countries that are rich today have become rich by polluting the Earth," said Ani Dasgupta, president of World Resources Institute.

The money being discussed is for three things: Helping poor nations switch from dirty fossil fuels to clean energy; helping them adapt

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to the impacts of a warming world such as sea level rise and worsening storms; and compensating vulnerable poor nations for climate change damage.

"Should the global community fail to reach a (finance) goal, this is really just signing the death warrant of many developing countries," said Chukwumerije Okereke, director of the Center for Climate Change and Development in Nigeria.

Michael Wilkins, a business professor who heads Imperial College's Centre for Climate Finance and Investment in the UK, said since 2022 total climate finance has been nearly USD 1.5 trillion. But only 3% of that is actually geared toward the least developed countries, he said.

"The Global South has been repeatedly let down by unmet pledges and commitments," said Sunita Narain, director general of New Delhi-based Centre for Science and Environment

"Finance is really the key component that compels all types of climate action," said Bahamian climate scientist Adelle Thomas, adaptation director at the Natural Resources Defense Council. "Without that finance, there's simply not much that developing countries in particular can do." (AP)

### 17 Chadian soldiers, 96 rebels killed in Boko Haram attack, army says

N'DJAMENA (CHAD), Nov ident Mahamat Deby Itno to 11: Boko Haram insurgents killed 17 Chadian soldiers in a weekend attack on a military post that also left 96 of the assailants dead in the country's west, Chad's army said. The attack in the Lake Chad

provide details.

tremist groups' bases.

launch an operation to dislodge Boko Haram militants from Lake Chad. In March, an attack the government blamed on Boko Haram killed seven soldiers. Boko Haram, which

launched an insurgency more region happened on Saturday, army spokesperson Gen Issakh than a decade ago against Acheikh said on national tele-Western education, seeks to esvision Sunday night. He did not tablish Islamic law in Nigeria's northeast. The insurgency has The Lake Chad region has spread to West African neighbeen plagued this year by frebours including Cameroon,

quent attacks from insurgents, Niger and Chad. Chad, a country of nearly 18 including Boko Haram and the Islamic State in West Africa. It million people, has been reelhas revived fears of violence ing from political turmoil beafter a period of peace followfore and after a controversial ing a successful operation presidential election that relaunched in 2020 by the Chasulted in Deby Itno's victory. dian army to destroy the ex-He had led the country as interim president during the pe-Last month, 40 soldiers were riod of military rule that killed during an attack on a followed the death of his father

military base, prompting Presin 2021. (AP)

#### NORTHEAST

# 'Centre has placed Tripura in the Zone B category, enabling it to receive incentives' Tripura secures over 200 investments, ₹1,000 crore in pipeline: CM Manik Saha

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024** 

HT Correspondent AGARTALA, Nov 11: Tripura chief minister Manik Saha on Monday said that the present state government is making all efforts to attract investors to the state, with over 200 investments already made and more investments worth over ₹ 1,000 crore in the pipeline. Saha said this while addressing the inaugural program of the statelevel workshop on UNNATI at Pragna Bhavan, Agartala.

We know how Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been working for the Northeast. He has always said that without developing the Northeast, the country's development is incomplete. PM Modi introduced this UNNATI program to further industrial development in the Northeast region and attract investors. Over the next 10 years, more than 83,000 jobs will be generated, with a budget of ₹ 10,037 crore sanctioned for the Northeast, which will benefit the people of Tripura and other northeastern states." he said.

Saha noted that the Centre has placed Tripura in the Zone B category, enabling it to receive incentives, which will help locally produced goods compete in the market.

"The main objective of this program is to raise awareness. As people become informed about this scheme, they will be more interested in investing. Apart from UNNATI, the Tripura Industry Department offers multiple schemes and incentives. Tripura, surrounded by Bangladesh on three sides, has seen improved connectivity through the HIRA model-Highways, Internet, Railways, and Airways-introduced by PM Modi. Communication has improved, and many small industries are coming to Tripura," he said.



Saha added that the state government has established the Tripura Investment Promotion Agency to assist those interested in investing or opening industries in the state, along with an online Single Window portal to eliminate the need for physical visits to depart-

ments. "Our key sectors are Bamboo, Rubber, Agar, Hospitality, Education, and Health, which we aim to develop further. In the MSME sector, our focus is on rubber, bamboo, agriculture, horticulture, and tea. MSMEs contribute signifi-

cantly to our GDP, transforming the state's economic landscape and generating employment. Micro-enterprises account for 98% of businesses in Tripura, and we must emphasize micro-industries. Around 2.95 lakh jobs have been generated, with 66,443 enterprises registered in the last three years, including 65,583 micro, 803 small, and 57 medium enterprises. If investors come, Tripura's development will be accelerated. Initiatives like Destination Tripura, the State Round Table 2023, the Northeastern Global Investor Summit 2023, the Tripura Rubber Conclave 2024 and many other events were organized to attract investors. These events saw the participation of 212 investors, and MoUs were signed worth over ₹ 5,900 crore will be invest, with 200-plus investments already made and ₹ 1,000 crore in the pipeline," he added

# Security forces seize arms, ammunition in Manipur

IMPHAL, Nov 11: Security two SBBL guns, two 0.22 pistols, forces seized several arms, ammunition and IEDs during search operations in hill and valley districts of Manipur during the last three days, a statement issued by Assam

Rifles said on Monday. On Saturday, a joint team of Assam Rifles and Manipur police during an operation at L Khonomphai village jungle in Churachandpur district, seized one .303 rifle, two 9 mm pistols, six 12 single barrel rifle, one .22 rifle, ammunition and other war-like stores, it said. In another operation by the joint team between S Choungoubung and the Maohing of Kangpokpi district, one 5.56mm INSAS Rifle, one point 303 rifle, forcement agencies." (PTI)

two improvised projectile launchers, grenades, ammunition were also seized. On Sunday, a joint team of Assam Rifles, Manipur Police and BSF launched an intelligence-based operation to recover arms and ammunition in general area of Utangpokpi in Kakching district during which one 0.22 rifle, ammunition and other war-like stores were seized.

The seized items have been handed over to Manipur Police, it said, adding "The successful recovery of these warlike stores highlights the seamless cooperation between the Indian Army, Assam Rifles and other law en-

### Cigarettes worth ₹1.27 cr seized

#### HT Correspondent

AGARTALA, Nov 11: Assam Rifles along with the Customs Department seized 10.4 Lakh foreign cigarettes worth ₹ 1.27 crore and apprehended two individuals and seized one Bolero pickup from the general area, Teliamuara, under Khowai district of Tripura on Monday.

As per Assam Rifles, based on credible information, an operation was launched by Assam Rifles and they were able to seize the contrband and apprehend the individuals which were further handed over to the customs department for further investigation and legal proceedings.

### Tripura District Council introduces first public bus service

#### HT Correspondent

AGARTALA, Nov 11: The Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) has launched its first public bus service for its district council areas. marking a significant step toward enhanced connectivity in the region. The bus service was inaugurated by Pradyot Kishore Manikya Debbarma, founder of Tipra

Motha and member of the District Council, in a ceremony at TTAADC headquarters in Khumulwng. He highlighted that while the state government handed over the transport department to the TTAADC around 25 years ago, there had not been any councilowned buses for public use until now. "Although we already had a transport shed, we lacked buses to serve the community,"

Pradyot explained. "To improve accessibility within TTAADC, we collaborated with TATA and procured three CNG buses. With support from the Government of India and the state government, we hope to acquire more buses, which would greatly benefit students, women, and the community as a whole. Development is our priority, and progress is possible without conflict."

### Heroes of Battle of Kohima remembered

#### HT Correspondent

DIMAPUR, Nov 11: The Remembrance Day was observed at Kohima War Cemetery on Monday to remember those fallen heroes who sacrificed their lives in the Battle of Kohima, which was fought between the Japanese and British/Indian forces from April 4 to June 10, 1944.

Seventy-nine years ago, the people witnessed one of the fiercest battles of World War II the Battle of Kohima. It was here that Allied and Indian forces joined hands in a courageous stand, halting the advance of enemy forces and shifting the tides of war.

British deputy high commissioner Dr Andrew Fleming attended the orgramme as the special guest.

In his address, Fleming said: "We are gathered here today not only to remember those who had fallen but also those who partici-

### **NOTICE INVITING FOR SALE OF REMA (PHULJHARU), CANE & FISHERY MAHAL UNDER KARBI ANGLONG EAST DIVISION DIPHU FOR THE YEAR 2025**

Sealed Tender are invited for Sale of Rema, Cane & Fishery Mahal under Karbi Anglong East Division, Diphu. Details of Tender Paper will be available in the Office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Karbi Anglong East Division, Diphu in any working days within working hours.

Intending Tenderers are requested to collect the Tender Form etc, by paying Rs. 100/-for each Form and the Tender will be received up to 3:00 P.M. (1ST) on 25/11/2024 in the office of the undersigned.

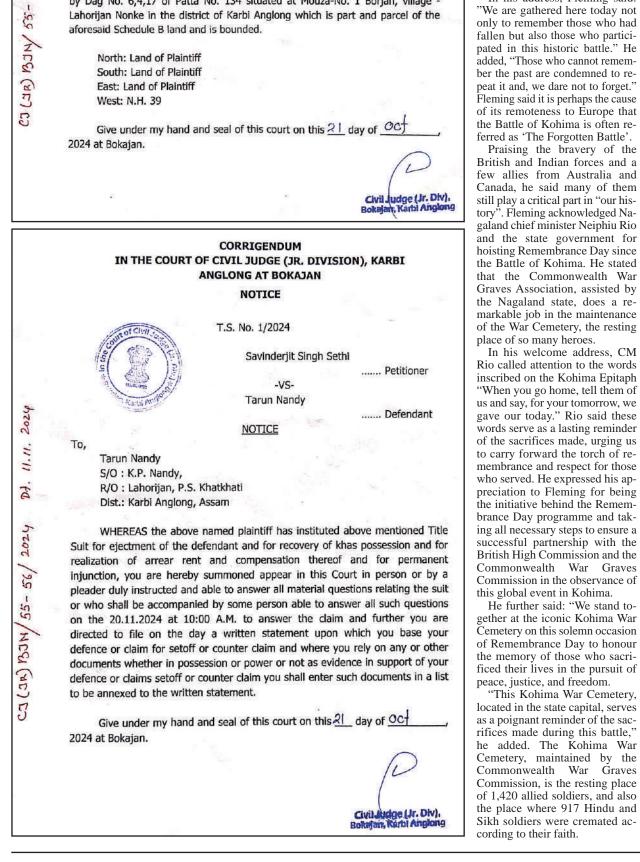
#### SCHEDULE

#### Period of Operation (01-01-2025 to 31-12-2025)

SI. No.	Name of Mahals	Name of Range	Probable Quantity	Govt. Value	Earnest Money	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	Rema Mahal No 7 (B)	North Western Range, Parkup Pahar	50 M on	Rs. 2,50,000/-	2% general, 5.000/- 1% ST(H) 2,500/-	
2	Cane Mahal No 2	-do-	3,500 BdI	Rs 70,000/-	2% general, 1,400/- 1% ST(H) 700/-	
3	Rema Mahal No.7 (C)	W. Range, Dokmoka	90 M/Ton	Rs. 4,50,000/-	2% general, 9,000/- 1% ST(H) 4,500/-	
4	Rema Mahal No. 5	-do-	65 Ton	Rs.3,50,000/-	2% general, 7,000/-1% ST(H) 3,500/-	
5	Cane Mahal No 4	-do-	Sond - 4,000 Bdls Lizai - 3,000 Bdls Raidang -1.000 Bdls		2% general, 1,840/-1% ST(H) 920/-	
6	Rema Mahal No. 8	Central Range, Manja	75.000 Kg	Rs. 3,75,000/-	2% general, 7,500/- 1% ST(H) 3,750/-	
7	Cane Mahal No.3	-do-	Sond- 14,000 Nos Lizai-2,000Bdls Raidang- 6,000 Bdls	Rs. 96,000/-	2% general, 7,680/- 1% ST(H) 3,840/-	
8	Rema Mahal No.3	NE/Range, Silonijan	75,000 Kg.	Rs. 3,75,000/-	2% general, 7,500/-1% ST(H) 3,750/-	
9	Rema Mahal No 11	-do-	65,000 Kg.	Rs.3,25,000/-	2% general, 6,500/1% ST(H) 3,250/-	
10	Cane Mahal No. 5	-do-	30,000 BdIs	Rs.4,80,000/-	2% general, 9,600/- 1% ST(H) 4,800/-	
11	Dhansin Fishery	-do-	-	Rs. 42,500/-	2% general, 850/- 1% ST(H) 425/-	
12	Rema Mahal No. 4	E/Range, Bokajan	10,000 Kg	Rs. 50,000/-	2% general, 1,000/-1% ST(H) 500/-	
13	Dhansiri Fishery Mahal No. 2	-do-	-	Rs. 1,05,000/-	2% general, 2,100/- 1% ST(H) 1,050/-	
14	Rema Mahal No. 7 (A)	N/Range Dolamara	80 M.Ton	Rs. 4,00,000/-	2% general, 8,000/- 1% ST(H) 4,000/-	
15	Cane Mahal No. 1	-do-	8,500 Bundles	Rs. 1,70,000/-	2% general, 3,400/- 1% ST(H) 1,700/-	
				Divisional Karbi Angloi	Sd/- Forest Officer ng East Division Þiphu	

CORRIGENDUM IN THE COURT OF CIVIL JUDGE (JR. DIVISION), KARBI ANGLONG AT BOKAJAN NOTICE Misc (J) Case No. 1/24 In T.S. No. 1/2024 Savinderjit Singh Sethi ..... Petitioner -VS-Tarun Nandy 2024 ....Defendant NOTICE 11.11 Upon motion made by the Advocate for the petitioners/plaintiffs and on perusal of the plaint, Injunction application and the documents relied upon, this Court doth direct the opposite parties to show cause as to why a temporary .1d injunction should not be granted as prayed for. Fixing, 20.11.2024 for show cause, failing which the matter will be decided 2024 in your absence according to law. SCHEDULE "B" PLOT OF LAND 195

An area measuring 2000 sq. Ft including a room standing thereon covered by Dag No. 6,4,17 of Patta No. 134 situated at Mouza-No. 1 Borjan, village -Lahorijan Nonke in the district of Karbi Anglong which is part and parcel of the aforesaid Schedule B land and is bounded.



### NATION

versity of this country, the

AIMIM leader said, adding

the Maratha community

reservation.

asked

won't be tolerated.

India," he added.

elections. (PTI)

Owaisi addressed a pub-

Chhatrapati Sambhajina-

candidates Imtiaz Jaleel

(Aurangabad East) and

Naser Siddiqui (Au-

rangabad Central) for the

#### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024**

# Our ancestors did jihad against Britishers, but yours penned 'love letters': Owaisi to Fadnavis Owaisi claimed the 'dharmayuddha-jihad' remarks amounted to poll code violation

CHHATRAPATI SAMB-HAJINAGAR, Nov 11: AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi has targeted Maharashtra Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis over his "vote jihad" remarks, claiming the BJP leader's (ideological) ancestors wrote "love letters" to Britishers instead of fighting against them. During a public meeting here on Sunday, Owaisi also alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Ek Hai to Safe Hai" slogan goes against the diversity ethos. Fadnavis on Saturday claimed "vote jihad" had begun in poll-bound Maharashtra, which should be countered by "Dharma vuddha" of vote. He had mentioned the BJP's nar-

row loss in Dhule Lok Sabha constituency. Countering him, Owaisi said. "Our ancestors did jihad against Britishers and

Fadnavis is now teaching us about jihad. (PM) Narendra Modi, (Union minister) Amit Shah, and Devendra Fadnavis to-



was writing "love letters"

gether cannot defeat me in a debate.' Owaisi

claimed the "dharmayuddha-jihad" remarks amounted to poll code violation.

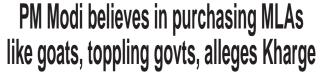
negotiate with the foreign rulers," he said. "We gave the method of

fighting against the British. "From where did 'vote jihad and dharmayuddha' He (Fadnavis) said 'vote come in democracy? You jihad' after they (BJP) didpurchased MLAs; should n't get votes in Malegaon we call you a thief?" the (during Lok Sabha election). When they fail to get Hyderabad MP questioned. While Fadnavis talks votes, they call it jihad. about (vote) jihad, his hero They lost in Ayodhya.

How did that happen"? Owaisi questioned.

to Britishers, whereas "our "Our ancestors did jihad freedom fighters did not against Britishers, not yours. Fadnavis, whose ancestors were writing love letters to the British, will teach us jihad?" he added in a veiled attack on Hindutva ideologues revered by the BJP. Modi says 'Ek Hai to

Safe Hai' because they (BJP) want to end the di-



RANCHI, Nov 11: In a noholds-barred attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Congress Chief Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday accused him of oppressing the opposition, toppling elected governments and purchasing legislators "like goats to feed was betrayed by rulers and feast on them later".

who failed to give them He also charged Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah of running the central Owaisi claimed many industrial projects went to government with "Adani and Gujarat but Fadnavis Ambani".

showed no courage to stop Kharge attacked Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi them. "Was he afraid of Narendra Modi?" he Adityanath alleging that he believes in 'Mukh me Ram, bagal Referring to a controme chhuri' (A wolf in lamb's versy over Hindutva seer clothing).

Ramgiri Maharaj's state-"Modi-ji believes in toppling ments, Owaisi said regovernments. He purchases MLA. Unka kaam MLAs ko marks against the Prophet bakri ke jaise apne pas rakh lena, palna aur fir baad me kaat He appealed to people to come out to vote on Nokar khana hai...(Modi keeps vember 20. "Our victory in MLAs like goats, feeds them and later feasts on them). This Aurangabad will be saluted by the people of is Modi," Kharge alleged.

Modi and Shah have unleashed ED, CBI and other central agencies against oppolic meeting in Jinsi area of sition leaders but "we are not gar in support of AIMIM afraid. We fought for Independence, sacrificed our lives," Kharge claimed.

He alleged that four people are running India.

"Modi, Shah, Adani and November 20 assembly Ambani are running the coun-



try, while Rahul Gandhi and I trying to save the Constitution and democracy," he alleged.

Kharge took a jibe at the PM saying "Modi believes he is not biological" and alleged: "He is a habitual liar who never fulfils his promises... Did any Golden era come to Gujarat?"

"We have been tolerating Modi for 25 years as CM and PM. He supports those who exploit backward people and women... PM Modi is afraid to visit Manipur, I dare him to go there," the Congress president claimed.

Attacking the UP CM, Kharge said, "A true Yogi cannot use language like 'batenge toh katenge' (if divided, we will be wiped out). This language is used by terrorists. Yogi is head of a mutt, wears saffron robes, but believes in 'mukh me Ram bagal me chhuri'.'

Sonia Gandhi forgave one of Rajiv Gandhi's killers while Priyanka Gandhi embraced the killer, he said adding that this is compassion. (PTI)

# 'Will retire if...': Siddaramaiah

HAVERI (KARNATAKA), Nov 11: Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has said that he would retire from politics if Prime Minister Narendra Modi proves that the Congress government has mobilised ₹ 700 crore for poll-bound states. Siddaramaiah also challenged Modi that he should resign if he fails to prove his allegations made at Akola in Maharashtra.

"I am surprised to see the prime minister of this country lies so much. While campaigning somewhere in Maharashtra, the prime minister said that the Congress in Karnataka has collected ₹ 700 crore through the excise department to send to Maharashtra, Jharkhand, and to spend on the bypolls," Siddaramaiah said at an election rally in Shiggaon in Haveri district on Sunday night.

"Today I challenge Narendra Modi that if he can prove these allegations, I will retire from politics. If you cannot, then you should retire." the chief minister said.

He said when a prime minister makes such allegations, it should be nearer to the truth, but these claims are far from it. The country has never seen a prime minister in the history of independence India who lies so much, he added.

During a public meeting at Akola in Maharashtra, the prime minister said, "In the name of election in Maharashtra, the extortion in Karnataka has doubled. While elections are in Maharashtra, extortions are happening in Karnataka and Maharashtra. There are allegations that in Karnataka these people (Congress) have extorted ₹ 700 crore from the liquor shops," (PTI)

### Change in government necessary in Maharashtra to improve living conditions: Sharad Pawar

JALGAON, Nov 11: Hitting out at the Shiv Sena-BJP-NCP government in Maharashtra, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP-SP) supremo Sharad Pawar on Monday asserted that there was "utmost need for change" in the state if the condition of farmers, women and youth were to improve for better.

Addressing a poll rally at Parola in North Maharashtra's Jalgaon district in support of the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), he raised the issues of farmer suicides, atrocities against women, rising joblessness and said a change in the government was necessary to ensure better living conditions for people.

"In Badlapur, atrocities were committed against school-going girls. How many examples should I give of atrocities against women? Instead of providing security to women, they announced we will give money to our dear sisters (Ladki Bahin)," the Rajya Sabha MP said.

He was referring to alleged sexual assault of two kindergarten girls at a school in Badlapur town of Thane district in August by a cleaning staffer, who was later shot dead by police.

"We are not opposed to it (Ladki Bahin Yojana targeted at poor women). You gave them money, but what is the condition of your dear sisters? According to data shared by the central government, 9,000 girls have disappeared," the MVA's star campaigner noted.

#### TMC claims EC gave appointment to hear 'LIE': TMC refutes EC's claim grievances just before campaign ends of acting 'within 20 hours'

NEW DELHI, Nov 11: The Trinamool Congress, which had approached the Election Commission voicing concern over alleged misuse of central forces in West Bengal, claimed the panel gave it appointment for Monday afternoon, 90 minutes before the bypoll campaign ends in the state.

A delegation of TMC leaders, including TMC Parliamentary Party Leader of Lok Sabha Sudip Bandopadhyay, Rajya Sabha Parliamentary Party Leader Derek O'Brien, and MPs Kirti Azad, Saket Gokhale and Sushmita Dev, had visited the poll panel on Saturday and submitted two memoranda related to the ongoing bypoll campaign. In a letter to the poll panel on Monday, the TMC said it is "dismayed" that they have been given an appointment at 3:30 PM on Monday, a mere 90 minutes before the campaigning period concludes at 5 PM and the beginning of the silent period.

They also said it appears that these delays serve to benefit the BJP, thereby compromising the fairness of the elections and eroding public confidence in the impartiality of democratic institutions.

"This effectively negates the purpose of raising these concerns, as no substantive action can be taken during this critical window," the TMC said in its letter to the EC

"We write to express our deep disappointment and concern over the Election Commission of India's handling of two serious complaints we submitted on 9th November 2024, regarding violations of electoral integrity," they said. The TMC alleged "illegal activities by CAPF Personnel" in the state. "We reported that CAPF personnel, operating without the mandated presence of State Police, were allegedly entering private residences to intimidate voters and influence them in favour of the

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)," the party charged.

The TMC also flagged comments made by BJP state president and Union MoS Sukanta Majumdar during an election rally in pollbound Taldangra, accusing him of making derogatory statements against the state police and insulting the state emblem of India by suggesting it be replaced with symbols resembling footwear". "These issues, which directly

undermine the sanctity of the electoral process, required urgent intervention. Despite the gravity of the situation. the Commission has failed to take immediate corrective action or issue clear directives to BJP and its leaders, and CAPF to desist from such unlawful and defamatory conduct," they said.

The TMC said the Commission's "inaction and delayed response raise serious questions about its role as a neutral arbiter in the electoral process". (PTI)

**NEW DELHI, Nov 11:** After the Election Commission said it acted "within 20 hours' of receiving the TMC's complaints on West Bengal bypolls, the ruling party in the state Monday termed the poll authority's claim as "lie" and accused it of becoming a "wing of

the BJP" The Trinamool Congress (TMC) had approached the EC on Saturday with a complaint against West Bengal BJP chief and Union minister Sukanta Majumdar, and another one on the role of central forces in the state where bypolls are being held on six assembly seats.

The EC on Monday rejected allegations made by the TMC of delay or inaction on its complaints, saying it acted within 20 hours of receiving the party's complaints on bypolls

The EC also issued a show cause notice to West Bengal BJP president Majumdar on Monday for his alleged remarks on the national emblem and the state police.

TMC MP Saket Gokhale, however, said that the poll body did not respond to them. "This is a LIE. The ECI has NOT "acted within 20 hours" like they're claiming in the

RAMANAGARA

Kumaraswamy.

NATAKA), Nov 11: Karnataka

Minister B Z Zameer Ahmed Khan

has courted a controversy by call-

ing Union Minister H D Ku-

maraswamy 'Kaaliya', a racist slur

Retorting strongly, the JD(S) on

Monday demanded that the Congress government should sack

Khan said he never intended to hurt

the state minister said he has been

addressing the union minister as

At an election rally addressing

the minorities in Ramanagara on

Sunday, Khan said the Channap-

atna Congress candidate C P Yo-

geeshwara had no other option but

party (Congress), he contested as

an independent. He had no option

but to join the BJP. He was not

ready to join the JD(S) because

dangerous than the BJP. Now he

(Yogeeshwara) has come back

in the Channapatna assembly by-

poll against Kumaraswamy's son

Nikhil Kumaraswamy who is con-

testing as an NDA candidate on the

maraswamy had said he did not

of the purported statement of Ku-

maraswamy where he is heard say-

ing, "My politics is not dependent

on Muslim votes. I am making this

clear. I don't need Hijab or Pajaab.'

The minister told the audience,

"Kumaraswamy says he does not

Khan also alleged that Ku-

Khan also played out the audio

Yogeeshwara has a direct contest

home," the minister said.

JD(S) ticket.

need Muslim votes.

'Kaaliya Kumaraswamy' was more

"Due to some differences in our

'Kariyanna' (black brother).

to join the BJP earlier.

for being dark complexioned.

media," Gokhale said in a post on X.

"Complaint was submitted personally by 5-MP delegation led by our Floor Leaders in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 9th Nov (Saturday)," he said.

The EC didn't even bother to meet or even respond, Gokhale alleged.

"And now - when campaigning ends at 5pm today - they're doing this drama of a "notice". Shame that the Election Commission has openly become a wing of the BJP," the TMC MP added.

Earlier, the TMC, which had approached the Election Commission voicing concern over alleged misuse of central forces in West Bengal on Saturday, had slammed the poll body for giving it appointment for Monday afternoon over the issue, 90 minutes before the bypoll campaign ends in the state.

In a response to the complaint addressed to TMC's Rajya Sabha Parliamentary Party leader Derek O'Brien on Monday afternoon, the EC said it is "surprising" that even after the prompt action by the Commission "within 20 hours" of receipt of representation on November 9 afternoon, there has been "unwarranted comments of delay" (PTI)

#### Congress, AAP 'khotay sikke', people of Punjab fed up with them: Anurag Thakur K'taka minister Zameer Ahmed Khan calls Union Minister Vermener (Veelie)

The former Union agriculture minister urged farming families to take up jobs instead of relying solely on cultivation as a source of regular income.

"There can be no change in your living conditions" till such time there is a change of government. There is utmost need for a change in government. We are working towards that," the NCP-SP chief said.

He declared the opposition MVA, of which NCP-SP is a key constituent, has decided to do "whatever it takes" to change the government in Maharashtra.

"We have decided that we will do whatever it takes. We will work hard, travel to every nook and corner of Maharashtra and tell the people that there is a need to change the government," Pawar told the crowd.

The veteran leader said MVA allies Shiv Sena (UBT), Congress and NCP-SP have decided to join hands to usher in political change in Maharashtra. (PTI)

CHANDIGARH, Nov 11: BJP leader Anurag Thakur Monday dubbed the Congress and Aam Aadmi Party as "bad coins," saying the people of Punjab were fed up with their "corruption."

Thakur made the remarks while canvassing for BJP candidate from Barnala assembly segment Kewal Singh Dhillon for the upcoming bypolls.

The bypolls to the four assembly seats --Gidderbaha, Dera Baba Nanak, Chabbewal and Barnala -- will take place on November 20 and counting of votes will be held on November 23.

"Both parties try to defraud people by making "false" promises to people," Thakur said in Barnala

He also said the BJP's vote share in-

creased in Punjab in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

"People of Punjab are fed up with the corrupt AAP and the Congress. Both these parties are 'khotay sikke'. People are looking at an alternative. People see a golden chance in the BJP and if it comes (to power) in Punjab will move ahead," the former Union minister said.

Thakur accused the Bhagwant Mann government of not honouring its poll promises and failing to give ₹ 1,000 per month to women, like it said it would.

He said the Punjab government sent the fuel prices up by hiking the VAT and forced the industrialists to move out with its poor hold on the law and order.

"Neither the AAP government has any

policy nor any clean intention. There has been daily news of crime, extortion and murder in Punjab. It matters little whether the state has a chief minister," said the Hamirpur MP.

"Neither 'jawan', 'kisan' nor 'naujawan' is happy with the AAP." he said.

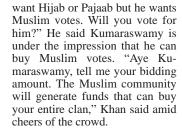
Thakur also claimed that the paddy procurement issue arose because of the Mann government's mismanagement.

The Punjab government has been blaming the Centre for "slow" paddy lifting and DAP fertiliser shortage.

"The government here went to sleep after being drubbed in the Lok Sabha polls. I feel Bhagwant Mann went on a leave for three months. No meeting was held," Thakur said. (PTI)

### Union Minister Kumaraswamy 'Kaalla

(KAR-



The JD(S) in a post on 'X' on Monday called Khan a 'racist'.

"Your power and greed that you will buy the family of Deve Gowda who brought you up politically will not last long," the JD(S) said.

The party sought to know the colour of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, ministers H C Khan from the Cabinet for his Mahadevappa, Satish Jarakiholi, racist slur. Clarifying his remarks, Priyank Kharge and K H Muniyappa. "Dismiss such a low mentality person from the Cabinet Khan said Kumaraswamy used immediately," the party demanded. to call him 'Kulla' (dwarf). Further, Union Minister for Parliamen-

tary Affairs, Kiren Rijiju too condemned Khan's slur.

"I strongly deplore Congress Minister Zameer Ahmed calling Union Minister & Ex CM of Karnataka Sh. Kumaraswamy as 'Kaalia Kumaraswamy'. This is a racist remark, same as Rahul Gandhi's adviser calling South Indians look like Africans, North East as Chinese, North Indians as Arabs," Rijiju said in a post on 'X'. Meanwhile, speaking to reporters in Channapatna on Monday, Khan said he never intended to hurt Kumaraswamy. He even called Kumaraswamy's father and former Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda his 'political guru.'

"I never uttered any derogatory thing. I always called Kumaraswamy as Kariyanna (black brother). The same thing I said in Urdu. That's it," he said.

Khan said, "Kumaraswamy used to call me 'Kulla' (dwarf) and I have been calling him 'Kariyanna' since those days.

According to Khan, he has been calling Kumaraswamy 'Kariyanna' out of love.

"I may be in a different party, but we are old friends. I called him Kariyanna. What's wrong in that?" he sought to know. (PTI)

# Wrong to seek votes along religious lines, says Goyal

MUMBAI. Nov 11: Seeking votes along religious lines goes against Constitutional values, Union minister and BJP leader Piyush Goyal said on Monday.

He appealed to people to choose the BJP-led Mahayuti, which he said is committed to development and progress in the November 20 Maharashtra assembly elections.

Stressing that the Mahayuti has been promoting inclusive policies and avoiding divisive tactics, the Mumbai North MP appealed to voters to move beyond religious lines and choose development and progress.

He slammed Congress for allegedly not keeping the pre-poll promises in the party-ruled states and Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Uddhav Thackeray for joining hands with the parties that "spread fear and misinformation".

"It is wrong to urge people to vote or not to vote for a particular party based on religion and not to vote BJP. This attitude is against the Constitutional values we stand for," Goyal told reporters in Mumbai.

He said voting based on religious lines goes against the very foundation of the Constitution.



"Voting is an individual's right, and we must respect individual freedom," the Union minister said. Goyal said the Mahayuti al-

liance of BJP, Shiv Sena led by Eknath Shinde, and Ajit Pawar-led NCP, would gain significantly compared to the 2019 assembly

According to Goyal, the Mahayuti has earned the people's trust by promoting inclusive policies and avoiding divisive tactics.

elections results.

"Our priority is that no one is left out of our programmes focused on the development and upliftment of the people," he said.

Goyal targeted the Congress and Sharad Pawar-led NCP (SP). He said the Congress' record in

Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, and Karnataka demonstrates a history of "false promises" made to farmers and youth.

"People have witnessed the promises made by Congress in other states. They have let down people, including farmers and youths. On the contrary, our coalition offers a clearer path forward for Maharashtra," the Union minister added.

In a pointed attack on Uddhav Thackeray, Goyal said, "Thackeray has joined hands with those parties which spread fear and misinformation among people".

Thackeray needs to demonstrate his leadership, Goyal added. "Does Thackeray have any re-

spect left for (Hindutva icon VD) Savarkar? Can't he at least request Congress leaders to say a few positive words about Savarkar," Goyal asked.

The Mahayuti aims to develop a society sans divisions based on caste, religion, or any other factor, he said.

The campaign for the November 20 Maharashtra polls has gained momentum with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and BJP president J.P. Nadda addressing rallies.

Goyal asserted that the presence of these leaders would boost the Mahayuti's prospects of victory "as their message of unity and growth resonates with voters across the state".

The BJP MP urged voters to think critically about the future.

"Let us cast our votes for a better Maharashtra, where progress and inclusivity come before divisions. Mahayuti is for growth and harmony where the people of Maharashtra get top priority," he added.

Responding to a query on Conpresident Mallikarjun gress Kharge's veiled attack on Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi

Adityanath, Goyal said it was unfortunate that a person who has dedicated his life to serving society is facing criticism. childhood, he "Since

(Adityanath) renounced materialism and entered politics to help people. I have seen people from various religions at Gorakhpur Mutt (of which Adityanath is 'peethadhishwar')," Goyal pointed out

has been in politics for many years, ment about someone's clothing before. This country values the freedom to dress as one chooses.

said "many leaders live in the guise of sadhus and have now become politicians" in a veiled attack on Adityanath.

"On the one hand, you wear 'gerua' (saffron) clothes, and on the other hand, you say 'batoge to katoge'. I would say to the BJP, either wear white clothes or if you are a sanyasi, wear 'gerua' clothes, but then get out of politics,' Kharge had said. (PTI)

"I believe he (CM Adityanath) and I have not seen Kharge com-

Clothing is always an individual's choice, just like freedom of speech," the Union minister added. During a poll rally, Kharge had

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024

### NATION

## 1984 riots: Delhi HC says murder trial to continue against Jagdish Tytler

**NEW DELHI, Nov 11:** The Delhi High Court on Monday made it clear that the murder trial in a 1984 anti-Sikh riots case against Congress leader Jagdish Tytler would continue.

Justice Manoj Kumar Ohri was hearing a plea filed by Tytler seeking a stay on the trial proceedings taking place against him in a Delhi court. The court would continue with the hearing on November 29.

"It is made clear the trial will continue. Same will be subject to the outcome of the present proceedings," the judge ordered.

Tytler's counsel submitted the case was listed for the recording of evidence of a prosecution witness before the trial court on November 12 and the trial court

be asked to not proceed till the high court decided his plea against the framing of charges order.

Tytler's plea challenging the framing of murder and other charges against him is listed on November 29 but he moved court with the plea to stay the trial.

His plea said the evidence of the prosecution witness was recorded by the trial court and her cross-examination by the defence counsel was scheduled for November 12.

"The criminal revision petition (of Tytler) raised substantial questions upon the motivation of the prosecution and the investigation conducted by the CBI. Therefore, an order/direction from this court for the trial court to not proceed with the captioned matter till the pen-

dency of the revision petition is expedient in the interest of justice," his plea read

Senior advocate H S Phoolka, representing the victims, opposed the plea arguing the witness was old and suffered from various ailments and being sub-

jected to multiple court appearances. She would be appearing in court for the fourth time, he said.

Tytler has claimed being a victim of a "witch-hunt" and contended the trial court's order framing charges against him was "perverse, illegal and lacked application of mind".

'Trial court has erroneously framed charges against the petitioner overlooking the settled principles of law on the point of charge," his petition stated.

While Tytler's counsel raised the plea of alibi, claiming his absence at the time of the incident, the counsel for the CBI and victims argued the plea of alibi had already been decided and rejected by the high court.

Tytler said there was no credible evi-

dence to corroborate the allegations against him and the trial court's order was "misconceived" passed "mechani-

cally" and liable to be set aside. He alleged it was a case of harassment wherein he was made to face the trial for alleged crimes committed more than four decades ago, and referred to being 80-years old and suffering from several ailments, including heart disease and diabetes.

The trial court on September 13 framed charges against him after he pleaded not guilty.

Besides murder, the trial court ordered the framing of charges pertaining to unlawful assembly, provocation, rioting, murder, promoting enmity between different groups, house trespass, and theft,

**J&K GUNFIGHT** 

Army pays tribute to JCO Rakesh

The CBI on May 20, 2023, filed a chargesheet against Tytler in the case saying he "incited, instigated and provoked the mob assembled at Pul Bangash Gurdwara Azad Market" on November 1, 1984. The mob, the agency claimed, provoked by Tytler, set a gurdwara ablaze and killed three men --Thakur Singh, Badal Singh, and Gurcharan Singh.

THE HILLS TIMES 9

Anti-sikh riots erupted in several parts of the country in the aftermath of the assassination of then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by her sikh bodyguards on October 31, 1984.

A sessions court had in August, 2023, granted anticipatory bail to Tytler in the case. (PTI)

# Bombay HC quashes Centre's press release categorising hand sanitisers as disinfectants attracting 18 pc GST

MUMBAI, Nov 11: The Bombay High Court on Monday quashed the Centre's 2020 press release classifying hand sanitisers as disinfectants attracting 18 per cent GST, noting that the issue of classification lies with the judicial and quasi-judicial adjudicatory authorities.

A division bench of Justices M S Sonak and Jitendra Jain said the press release virtually expresses a firm view on the classification of alcohol-based hand sanitisers as "disinfectants" and not "medicaments"

The court, in its judgment, said the Ministry of Finance, by issuing the press release, "virtually issued a fiat to the adjudicatory judicial and quasi-judicial authority to classify all alcohol-based hand sanitisers as disinfectants attracting a GST rate of 18 per cent".

The bench held that the issue of whether a product falls within a particular class or category falls within the province of the judicial and quasi-judicial authorities created under the provisions of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act.

Such powers must be exercised by the judicial and quasi-judicial



authorities independently and without any goading from any party, including the executive, it said

"Any press release or executive instruction meant to influence or, worse still, require the judicial or quasi-judicial authorities to exercise their functions in a particular manner would interfere with their functions. This cannot be allowed. The executive powers of the Union do not extend to this," the high court said.

It said, "The executive cannot transgress on the functions within the exclusive province of the judicial or even quasi-judicial author-

ities. The court was hearing a petition filed by a city-based company, Schulke India Pvt. Ltd, manufacturing hand rubs/sanitisers, challenging the press release and pursuant demand notice.

The company claimed that sanitisers and antiseptics have been sold as a "medicament", which has a lesser GST rate. However, in July 2020, the Union Ministry of Finance issued a press release purporting to classify alcohol-based hand sanitisers as "disinfectants", attracting a GST rate of 18 per cent.

Pursuant to this release, the Directorate General of GST Intelligence issued a show cause notice to the petitioner company in April 2023 as to why the differential tax/duties with interest and penalties should not be recovered from

The company, in its plea in the high court, sought that the press release and the notice be quashed. As per the plea, the issue of

whether the products being dealt with by the company constituted medicaments or disinfectants can be adjudicated by judicial and quasi-judicial authorities and not by the government.

The bench questioned if in the purported exercise of executive power, the Union government was competent to direct judicial and quasi-judicial authorities to decide the classification of products in a particular manner.

"We cannot lightly accept that the Union, in the exercise of executive power, has such authority, as the issue of classification, which is essentially an issue of interpretation, must be undertaken by the judicial and quasi-judicial adjudicatory authorities," the court said.

It held that though there may not be a very distinct line separating legislative and executive functions, the line separating the judicial functions from the executive and legislative functions is clear. (PTI)(

Kumar killed in Kishtwar encounter

JAMMU, Nov 11: Army on Monday laid wreaths on the mortal remains of a Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO) who laid down his life in a gunfight with the terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district

Naib Subedar Rakesh Kumar of the Army's 2 Para, was killed and three more soldiers were injured in

the gunfight on Sunday. The encounter broke out when joint search parties of the Army and police intercepted the terrorists around 11 am in the Keshwan forest area. The exchange of fire went on for more than four hours. Naib Subedar Rakesh Kumar

laid down his life on Sunday, while three other soldiers were injured in the gunfight with terrorists in a remote forest area in Keshwan.

The operation comes amid an intensified hunt that has been underway since the recent killing of two Village Defence Guards (VDGs).

The General Officer Commanding (GoC) of the White Knight Corps, Lieutenant General Navin Sachdeva, led the wreath-laying ceremony at the IAF station in Jammu, where the Naib Subedar's mortal remains were brought from Kishtwar.

The bugle sounded at the last post and an Army contingent presented a salute to honour the fallen soldier.

"In a solemn wreath-laying ceremony, GoC White Knight Corps laid a wreath in Jammu to pay homage to the braveheart Naib Subedar Rakesh Kumar, who made the supreme sacrifice while undertaking a counter-terrorist operation in Kishtwar," the White Knight Corps posted on X.

The mortal remains of Naib Subedar Kumar have been airlifted by a chopper to his native place in Himachal Pradesh's Mandi.

Following deadly attacks in the twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch over the past three years, terror activities have expanded to six other districts in the Jammu region this year. leading to the deaths of 44 people, including 18 security personnel and 13 terrorists, security officials said. (PTI)

### **Gwalior murder: Foreign pistols, phones seized** SC notice to Centre on plea for robust from two aides of Khalistani terrorist Arsh Dalla policy for age check at liquor sale points

sought a response from the Centre on a petition seeking direction for an effective protocol and robust policy for the enforcement of mandatory age checks at liquor sales points.

The plea said that the excise policy of different states has age legislation making it illegal to consume or possess alcohol below a certain age but a robust mechanism to check the age of consumers or buyers at alcohol points of sale or consumption is absent.

The petition, which also opposed doorstep delivery of liquor

NEW DELHI, Nov 11: The Supreme Court on Monday of India)," the bench said and posted the matter for hearing after three weeks.

> The plea has sought a direction for formulating and implementing a policy for mandatory age checks at all outlets serving liquor. It has said all outlets serving alcohol be directed to Gill's two aides who allegedly shot dead verify, check and maintain a record of those to whom liquor was served.

The plea has sought a direction "to establish an effective protocol and mechanism for the enforcement of mandatory age

liquor shops, pubs, bars, restaurants etc via biometrics age

cent of road accidents, resulting in more than 1,00,000 road

between 2010 to 2017 from about 2.4 litres per adult to about

The plea said as per data collected from several de-addiction

"The effects of underage drinking include drunken driving,

The plea has also referred to policies in place in different

countries for checking underage drinking and its legal conse-

centres pan India, one out of every five patients is aged be-

aggressive behaviour, brawls, property damage, injuries, vio-

It said data collected by the petitioner in 2017 revealed that

match using government issued identity card".

deaths annually across India," the petition said.

driving

increasing in India.

5.8 litres per adult.

quences. (PTI)

tween 16 and 19 years.

lence, and even death," it said.

GWALIOR, Nov 11: Two firearms made in Australia and China as well as mobile phones with foreign EMEI numbers have been seized from Canadabased Khalistani terrorist Arshdeep Singh a man in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior last week, a police official said on Monday.

The two accused, identified as Navjot Singh alias Neetu and Anmolpreet Singh check of underage drinking at alcohol sales points namely alias Vishal, were arrested in Punjab on Sunday in connection with the murder of a Youtuber there, as per police.



house in Dabra area in Gwalior, the official said. Gill was sentenced to life imprisonment for killing his wife's cousin cilitate the November 7 killing.

"The two firearms, an Australian Glock and Chinese-made pistol, are worth ₹ 15 lakh each. One of these pistols and the high-end mobile phones were used in the November 7 murder here. Our probe has found Navjot and Anmolpreet, after the killing, fled from here late Thursday night to Chandigarh in a taxi booked by Satpal," the official said.

service contending it would hasten the formation of the habit of alcohol consumption among underage persons, came up for hearing before a bench of Justices B R Gavai and K V Viswanathan.

The counsel appearing for petitioner NGO 'Community Against Drunken Driving' argued that there was no regime in place to check the age of consumers or buyers at liquor vends, bars, pubs, etc. It said a robust policy in this regard would help in reducing and preventing the menace of drunken driving and also in curbing underage consumption of alcohol.

The petitioner has suggested that any person selling, serving or providing alcohol to minors should be fined Rs 50,000 or three months in jail or both.

The plea has arrayed the Centre, all states and Union Territories as party respondents.

"The petitioner understands that many of the respondents herein are considering proposals to allow doorstep delivery of alcohol. If doorstep delivery is allowed it would facilitate easy access to alcohol for young people and will hasten the formation of the habit of alcohol consumption among underage persons," the plea, filed through advocate Vipin Nair, said.

The bench said it would issue notice to the Centre seeking its response to the plea.

"Issue notice, restricted to respondent number one (Union

### Potato production in Una district set to fall on lower yield; prices firm up

wheat

UNA (HP), Nov 11: Potato production in the Una district of Himachal Pradesh is likely to fall this vear due to a 30 per cent drop in crop yield hit by severe heat in summer and a delay in the onset of winter, say farmers.

Potato is the third main crop in the district after wheat and maize and is considered a big support for the economic improvement of farmers.

The area under potato cultivation in Una has remained steady at around 1,200 hectare. However, about 30 per cent decline in vield would affect production this year, according to farmers.

Around 20,000-25,000 tonne of potatoes are produced in the district annually.

The potato crop is fetching good prices of ₹ 3,000-3,600 per quintal but the crop yield in the first week of September was very low due to high temperature, said farmers Ravindra Saini, Ajay Kumar, Desraj and Sukhwinder.

Crop production has dropped to one to two quintals per kanal in many fields against usual seven to eight quintals of output per kanal,

farmers said. The crop is affected by fluctuations of the weather. This time, summer lasted long and untimely

rains later hit the crop, said Agriculture Deputy Director Kulbhushan Dhiman referring to the potato yield in the district. Potato ploughing has started in the district, he added.

In areas where potatoes are not copter. grown, farmers sow wheat in the beginning of November while sowing is done late in potato growing areas but due to lack of rain in the district for the last one for the winter and Badriand half months, the farmers are facing difficulty in sowing on November 17.

"In rainfed areas, sowing is not possible due to lack of sufficient moisture in the soil. We have bought seeds and fertilizers for sowing wheat and are waiting for grims. rains to sow the crop," said

farmer Shyam Lal. Wheat is sown on more than 35.000 hectare of land in the district. Out of this, 28,000 hectare does not have irrigation facilities. Rain is required from time to time in non-irrigated areas. (PTI)

DEHRADUN, Nov 11: Kedarnath, 16 in Gan-More than 240 pilgrims gotri and 40 in Yamunotri have died this year due to besides 10 at the Sikh health-related issues durshrine of Hemkund ing the Chardham pil-Sahih

246 pilgrims died during

Chardham Yatra this year

grimage in Uttarakhand, There has been a slight with the fatality rate increase in the number of being the highest among deaths of pilgrims due to devotees visiting the Hihealth reasons this year malayan temples by helias the figure last year stood at 242, the Uttarak-

The Yatra this year has hand State Disaster Manreached its fag end with Authority agement Kedarnath, Gangotri and (USDMA) said. Yamunotri already closed Pilgrims die due to

health factors every year nath scheduled to close during the Chardham yatra but the number of such deaths has gone up High altitude sickness,

in recent years. The death rate is the highest among yatris who

reach the high altitude temples in helicopters as they directly come into contact with the harsh weather conditions at here, a total of 246 deaths those heights without have occurred so far durgoing through an accliing the Chardham yatra matisation process, CEO this year out of which 65 of Six Sigma Dr Pradeep died in Badrinath, 115 in Bhardwaj said. (PTI)

They had allegedly shot dead Jaswant there was a rise of 20 per cent in accidents caused by drunken Singh Gill on November 7 outside his

#### "As per research and statistics collected by the petitioner or-Odisha decides to change dress code ganisation, drunken driving is the cause for more than 70 per of nurses serving in public hospitals The plea, which referred to a study by the World Health Organisation (WHO), said alcohol consumption has been steadily

BHUBANESWAR, Nov 11: The Odisha government has de-It said WHO's study revealed that it increased by 38 per cent cided to change the dress code of both female and male employees of the nursing service cadre in the state, a health department official said on Monday. The BJP government has finalised six different dress patterns for the nursing employees with different colour codes. At present, the female nursing staffers wear white sarees or dresses with white aprons, officials said.

According to a letter issued recently by the Health and Family Welfare Department to the Nursing Director, nursing officers and senior nursing officers (female) will wear light lavender dresses while the assistant nursing superintendents (ANS) will now wear cyan blue dresses.

Similarly, the dress colour for deputy nursing superintendents (DNS) and nursing superintendents (NS) will be white with the collar neck portion of the white apron bordered in deep purple. As per the decision, all the nursing employees (both men and women) will now have to wear scrub suits to perform indoor duty such as ICU, operation theatre and labour room.

However, all the male nursing officers engaged in general wards and casualty services will wear deep navy blue colour formal trousers along with the allotted dress code (shirt).

Further, the female nursing officers, senior nursing officers and assistant nursing superintendent can wear saree or salwarkameez for general wards and casualty services while the DNS and NS cadres have been asked to wear only saree for such duty. A full sleeve apron will be provided for all ANSes, DNSes and NSes in general wards while all officers of the cadre irrespective of the rank will have their name and designation inscribed on their uniform, according to the letter. (PTI)

Sukhvinder in 2016 and was out on pa role since October 28. The official said Sukhvinder's brother Satpal possibly transferred ₹ 2.50 lakh from Canada to his cousin Jitu Singh alias Jita here to fa-

After MP police got information about the duo through an identity card used at the hotel they had stayed in Gwalior, Punjab police was contacted, he said. (PTI)

#### ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় লোক আদালত

সমগ্ৰ দেশজুৰি অহা ইংৰাজী ১৪-১২-২০২৪ তাৰিখে **ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় লোক** আদালতৰ নায়োজন কৰা হৈছে। ইয়াৰ লগত সংগতি ৰাখি সমগ্ৰ অসম তথা মৰিগাঁও জিলাতো ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় লোক আদালত অনুষ্ঠিত কৰা হ'ব৷

মৰিগাঁও জিলা আইন সেৱা প্ৰাধিকৰণৰ উদ্যোগত মৰিগাঁও জিলাৰ জিল ন্যায়াধীশ আৰু বাকীকেইখন আদালতত নিষ্পত্তি নোহোৱাকৈ থকা বিভিন্ন প্ৰকাৰৰ গোচৰ সমূহৰ খৰতকীয়া আপোচ মীমাংসাৰ ব্যৱস্থা গ্ৰহণ কৰা হৈছে। উক্ত লোক মাদালতত মীমাংসা কৰিব লগীয়া গোচৰ সমহৰ তালিকা প্ৰস্তুত কৰি সংশ্লিষ্ট ক্ষসমূহলৈ ইতিমধ্যে জাননী প্ৰেৰণ কৰা হৈছে। এই লোক আদালতত দুৰ্ঘট ম্পৰ্কীয় (MAC), সম্পত্তি, টকা-পইচা সম্পৰ্কীয়, ব্যৱসায় সম্পৰ্কীয়, পাৰিবাৰিৰ গোচৰ, যান-বাহন আইন সম্পৰ্কীয় (M.V. Act), বিজুলী আৰু টেলিফোনৰ বিৰু পৰিশোধ নকৰাৰ গোচৰৰ লগতে বেংক সমূহৰ পৰা অহা প্ৰি-লিটিগেশনে (Pre litigation) গোচৰ অৰ্থাৎ বেংকৰ ঋণ পৰিশোধ কৰিব নোৱাৰাৰ বাবে ৰুজ্ঞ হ'বলগীয় গোচৰ সমূহ মীমাংসাৰ বাবে ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে৷ আদালতত গোচৰ ৰুজু হোৱাৰ পূৰ্বে বেংক কৰ্তৃপক্ষ আৰু গ্ৰাহকৰ মাজত বুজাবুজিৰ মাজেৰে গোচৰবোৰ মীমাংসা কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে।

সদৌ শেষত জিলা আইন সেৱা প্ৰাধিকৰণৰ সচিবে জাননী প্ৰাপ্ত জনসাধাৰণ মাগন্তুক ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় লোক আদালতত অংশগ্ৰহণ তথা সহযোগিতা আগবঢ়াবলৈ অনুৰো জনাইছে৷

Sd/-সচিব জিলা আইন সেৱা প্ৰাধিকৰণ, মৰিগাঁও Janasanyog /D/8552/24/12-Nov-24

DDB-205/15th FC/Tied/2024/899 Date 06/11/2024 NOTICE INVITING TENDER										
SL No.	Name of Activity	Estimated value (in. Rs.)	EMD/Bid Security (in Rs.1% ST, SC & 2% Oth)	Tender fees (in Rs.)	Pre-bid Date & Time	Last Date & Time of Bid submission	Date & Time of Bid Opening			
1	Const. of Community Toilet at Ramfalbil Anchalik ABSU Office	11,00,000/-	1% for reserve category & 2% for unreserved	350.00	11/11/2024 10:30 A.M.	28/11/2024 02:00 P.M.	28/11/2024 02:30 P.M.			
2	Const. of Community Toilet at Gwmkhangpuri Bathou Siv Mandir	11,00,000/-	1% for reserve category & 2% for unreserved	350.00	11/11/2024 10:30 A.M.	28/11/2024 02:00 P.M.	28/11/2024 02:30 P.M.			
3	Const. of Community Toilet at Gelaguri Deol Puja Mandir	11,00,000/-	1% for reserve category & 2% for unreserved	350.00	11/11/2024 10:30 A.M.	28/11/2024 02:00 P.M.	28/11/2024 02:30 P.M.			

The Tender document can be seen/obtained from the undersigned during Office hours a pre-bid meeting will be held as mentioned above.

The address for the meeting is BDO's Chamber Dotma Dev. Block Dotma. The bid will be opened in the Office of the undersigned as per the schedule mentioned above.

The TIA reserves the right to accepts or reject any bid/tender and to cancel/annual the bidding process and reject all bids at any time prior to contract award.

IPR(BTC)/C/2024-25/842

Sd/- Block Development Officer, Dotma Dev. Block, Dotma

oxygen deficiency and cardiac arrest are the most common reasons behind the deaths of pil-According to data released by the State Emergency Operation Centre

### ENTERTAINMENT

# **SHEKHAR KAPUR TO START SHOOTING** FOR 'MASOOM' SEQUEL IN 2025

NEW DELHI, Nov 11: Filmmaker Shekhar Kapur on Monday said he will start shooting for the follow-up to his 1983 film "Masoom" early next year, with original stars Shabana Azmi and Naseeruddin Shah set to return.

The two actors will be joined by Manoj Bajpayee, who worked with Kapur in "Bandit Queen" (1994), and the director's daughter Kaveri.

Kapur shared the film update on the sidelines of the curtain raiser press conference of the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in New Delhi. "I will start shooting for 'Ma-

soom 2' in February-March 2025. The script is ready. In fact, I was flying in from Dubai yesterday and I left the script ('Masoom 2') behind on my seat.

"I was very scared but it came back to me. The flight attendant wrote a note saying 'Masoom'

was such a nice film, this one too would be as nice'. A script that was lost comes back, it's something predestined. It will be a different storyline but will have the same values," he told reporters.

At the press conference, Kapur also expressed interest in re-releasing "Masoom" in theatres. Also starring Tanuja, Supriya Pathak and Saeed Jaffrey, the film follows a family which starts to crumble when the wife discovers that her husband had an affair and child from that relationship has come looking for his father. It featured Jugal Hansraj, Aradhana and Urmila Matondkar as child actors.

The filmmaker, who serves as the festival director at the upcoming IFFI, said he agreed to be part of the movie gala in Goa without thinking much.

"I became a part of the festival so that we could celebrate Indian

festival. It belongs to the creative economy of the country."

Kapur, 78, also addressed constant comparisons of IFFI with the Cannes Film Festival, one of the most prestigious film galas around the world.

"If we regard our films as Indian and listen to what our audiences have to say and not just listen to what the filmmakers have to say, then we will become much bigger than Cannes. It's not that difficult to become bigger than Cannes. We must try and one day, we will become bigger than Cannes," he added.

The director, also known for sci-fi hit "Mr India" and international period films like "Elizabeth", "Elizabeth: The Golden Age", urged that streamers be celebrated as a different medium

"Manoj Bajpayee has become

cinema and cinemagoers. It's not an OTT star and has become so influential. OTT is a different medium that's bringing different actors, writers and talent from around the world. So, we must

celebrate OTT." Asked if he was in favour of censorship on OTT by the government, Kapur cited the example of Iranian filmmakers battling rules and regulations through creativity.

"Censorship sometimes sharp-ens the skills of a filmmaker... You have to fight for something you believe in," he added. The filmmaker also reflected on the challenges posed by artificial intelligence (AI) to cin-

ema. "If you start depending on it, you'll become lazy. You have to feel emotions to make a great film, AI can't do that. AI provokes you to be better," he said. IFFI will be held in Goa between November 20 and November 28. (PTI)

# 'Kalki 2898 AD' to release in Japan in 2025



NEW DELHI, Nov 11: Pan-India blockbuster film "Kalki 2898 AD" is set to release in Japan on January 3, 2025 on the festive occasion of Shogatsu, the Japanese New Year, the makers said on Monday. Starring Amitabh Bachchan, Prabhas, Kamal

Haasan and Deepika Padukone, the film will be distributed by Twin in Japan.

Billed as the most expensive feature film in Indian cinema history at a reported Rs 600 crore, "Kalki 2898 AD" is directed by Nag Ashwin and produced by Vyjayanthi Movies.

"#Kalki2898AD is all set to amaze audiences in Ianan, hitting screens on Ianuary 3, 2025 " the off



# Ajay Devgn and Aamir Khan tease sequel to their 1997 hit 'lshq'

MUMBAI, Nov 11: Bollywood superstars Ajay Devgn and Aamir Khan have expressed their desire to collaborate again, potentially for a follow-up to their hit 1997 romantic comedy "Ishq".

The two actors on Saturday evening attend the mahurat launch of the upcoming movie "Tera Yaar Hoon Main", which marks the acting debut of filmmaker Indra Kumar's son Aman

"I feel very happy whenever I meet Ajay. We don't meet that often but whenever we do meet it's with a lot of warmth and love, I like the guy he is," Khan said.

Devgn said he had a great time working with the "Dangal" actor on "Ishq", which was directed by Indra Kumar, and also featured Kajol and Juhi Chawla as the female leads

"We had so much fun on the sets of 'Ishq', we should do another one," said Devgn, who is basking in the glory of his latest release, "Singham Again".

'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3', 'Singham Again' cross ₹ 200 crore mark at box office



NEW DELHI, Nov 11: Cop action drama "Sing-

cial X page of the film posted on Monday.

Set in a post-apocalyptic city of Kasi in the year 2898 AD, "Kalki 2898 AD" follows a select group of people who are on a mission to save Kalki, the unborn child of a lab subject SUM-80 (Padukone).

Previously titled as "Project K", the film released on June 27 after multiple delays and earned over Rs 1,200 crore worldwide. It was praised for blending mythology and futuristic elements, including visual effects and performances of its lead cast. (PTI)



To this, Khan added, "Yes, we should." Kumar said he is now considering the possibility of a sequel with both actors.

"Now that Ajay and Aamir both have said they want to work together on 'Ishq 2', I'm going to speak to them again in detail about this. We should make the second part but not until we have the right script for it," the filmmaker told PTI. During the event, Khan recounted how Devgn, 55, saved him when a chimpanzee attacked him during the filming of "Ishq." (PTI)

# IFFI 2024: 'Better Man' to open gala, **Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award to filmmaker Phillip Noyce**

NEW DELHI, Nov 11: "Better Man", a semiautobiographical film about British pop singer Robbie Williams, will open the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), where Australian filmmaker Phillip Noyce will be presented the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award.

The annual film gala, which will run through November 20-November 28 in Goa, will present over 180 international films from 81 countries, including 15 world premieres, three international premieres, 40 Asian premieres and 106 Indian premieres.

The curtain raiser press conference for IFFI 2024 was held on Monday at the National Media Centre here. The event was attended by L Murugan, Union Minister of State for I&B; Sanjay Jaju, Secretary I&B; Shekhar Kapur, Festival Director; and Prasoon Joshi, Chairman, CBFC.

The IFFI is "not less than the Cannes Film Festival", said Murugan.

"You can compare our IFFI with Cannes and some of the other festivals... We are giving the same festivals in IFFI. The response that we are getting from the international audience and delegates is great... There are roadshows about the festival in Mumbai and Chennai. Another roadshow will happen in Hyderabad. We are seeing how the industry is owning the festival, taking responsibility," the minister told reporters.

The festival will open with the Asia premiere of Michael Gracey's "Better Man", an Australian film that offers a captivating glimpse

into the life of popstar Robbie Williams, portrayed as a chimpanzee by Jonno Davies in a groundbreaking motion-capture performance.

Noyce, known for films such as the Angelina Jolie-starrer "Salt", "Patriot Game" starring Harrison Ford, and "The Bone Collector" featuring Denzel Washington and Jolie, will receive the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at IFFF 2024

The upcoming gala will have 47 films directed by women and 66 works by young and debut filmmakers, reflecting "the festival's commitment to amplifying underrepresented voices".

Jaju said the team behind IFFI is excited to be charting a new path.

"This is the first time in the history of the film festival that we have started this tradition of handing over the festival to the industry. Now, Shekhar Kapur has taken over as the festival director. This is the festival of the industry being completely led and run by the industry.

"We look at the festival as the biggest because we are the world's biggest filmmaking nation. The content we make in our country is made at one-millionth of the cost at which the content is made outside," he added.

The theme of this year's festival is 'Young Filmmakers - The Future is Now', following which the Creative Minds of Tomorrow initiative has been enhanced to support 100 young talents from 75 in the previous editions.

Kapur said that theatrical films are becoming less and less important.

"But we need to nurture this idea of theatricals without saying that it's the only important medium. Because storytelling can be anything. I can give you a 30-second video and tell you a story. If I can't tell you a story in 30 seconds, 1 minute or 5 minutes, then nobody is going to remember vou. We took a Western technology from 'Raja Harishchandra' and we made the biggest film industry in the world," the filmmaker said.

A new award of Best Debut Indian Director has been instituted to recognise the young filmmaking talent across India. The winner will be awarded a certificate and cash prize of Rs 5 lakh at the closing ceremony

India is a country of "restless dreams and storytellers", added Joshi.

"If we want our stories to be diverse, we need the courage to tell stories that come from our roots. Filmmaking has become more about courage than talent. It's become a property of those who are courageous. Now, why should that be? Many stories face story infanticide because they don't have resources. In such a case, IFFI is a national stage that platforms those who don't have sufficient funds or facilities," he

said.

Australia will be the Country of Focus for IFFI 2024, with a dedicated package of Australian films and a strong presence at the festival.

The film festival will mark the centenary of four icons of Indian cinema Raj Kapoor, Tapan Sinha, Akkineni Nageswara Rao (ANR), and Mohammed Rafi at its upcoming 55th edition, honouring them with inconversation series, exhibitions, and screenings of the restored versions of their timeless classics.

The International Competition Section boasts of 15 feature films (12 International + three Indian) have been shortlisted to compete for the Best Film Award, a Golden Peacock and Rs 40 lakh. Apart from the Best Film, the jury will also award winners in the best director, best actor (male), best actor (female), and special jury prize categories.

Five international and two Indian films are vying for the Best Feature Film Debut Director award. The winner will receive the Silver Peacock, Rs 10 lakh as cash prize and a certificate.

Filmmaker-actor Ashutosh Gowariker serves as chairperson of International Jury. Also on the panel are Singaporean multihyphenate Anthony Chen, UK producer Elizabeth Karlsen, Asia-based producer Fran Borgia and Australian film editor Jill Bilcock. (PTI)

ham Again" and horror comedy "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3" have earned over ₹ 200 crore at the box office in 10 davs of their release. Both Hindi films, headlined by top stars of the industry, hit the screens on November 1 on the festival occasion of Diwali. "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3", the third film in the horror comedy franchise, was directed by Anees Bazmee. Produced by T-Series, the movie stars Kartik Aaryan,

Vidya Balan, Madhuri Dixit Nene, and Triptii Dimri.

Aaryan, who turns 34 on November 22, thanked the audience for an advance birthday gift.

"Rooh Baba Tomar Forever !! Its 11/11 and dreams do come true, First double century of my career .. Your love has brought me this far.

"Thank you for this Bday Gift in advance #Gratitude '#BhoolBhulaiyaa3'," the actor captioned his post, which stated that "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3" had raised Rs 216.76 crore (net) since November 1.

Rohit Shetty's "Singham Again", the third installment in the "Singham" franchise, features Ajay Devgn, Kareena Kapoor Khan, Ranveer Singh, Akshay Kumar, Deepika Padukone, Tiger Shroff, and Arjun Kapoor.

According to trade website Sacnilk, the movie has collected ₹ 206.75 crore (India net collection) by its second Sunday.

"Singham Again" is presented by Jio Studios in association with Rohit Shetty Picturez and Devgn Films. It is the fifth film in Shetty's ambitious cop universe, also populated by characters Veer Sooryavanshi (Kumar) and Sangram 'Simmba' Bhalerao (Singh). (PTI)

#### TUESDAY. NOVEMBER 12. 2024

### SPORTS

### THE HILLS TIMES 11

# Arsenal's winless run goes on after 1-1 draw with Chelsea

MANCHESTER, Nov 11: these performances into victo-Arsenal's Premier League title challenge took another hit after a 1-1 draw with Chelsea.

It's now four games without a win in the league for Mikel Arteta's team, which is nine points behind leader Liverpool. While a point saw Arsenal climb up to fourth in the standings, its winless run has seen a gap open up at the top. Chelsea is third, ahead of Arsenal on goal difference.

Gabriel Martinelli had fired Arsenal in front in the 60th minute at Stamford Bridge, but Pedro Neto equalized 10 minutes later.

"It's about transforming

ries," Arteta said afterward. Arsenal was runner-up to Manchester City in each of the last two seasons and expected to be the closest rival to the defending champion again. Instead it is Liverpool,

under new manager Arne Slot, that has powered ahead at the start of the campaign and taken advantage of the faltering form of both City and Arsenal. City is five points back in second after two-straight losses in the league.

"It is a long season — long way to go. We had a tough period in December last season and came back," Arsenal cap-

tain Martin Odegaard told Sky Sports, as reported by the BBC. Odegaard was making his first start since sustaining ankle ligament damage in September. "We know the quality and mentality we have and we just have to keep going." Behind the top two the league is bunching up.

Just four points separate Chelsea and 13th-place Manchester United after 11 rounds of the season. Declan Rice went into the match with a broken toe and

was taken off in the 71st, while Bukavo Saka was substituted 10 minutes later, placing doubts over whether they

will be available for England's Nation League games against Greece and the Republic of Ireland.

"I don't know whether to expect them to be fit, because if not they don't come off," Arteta said.

United's incoming head coach will take over a team on the up after a 3-0 win against Leicester made it four games unbeaten in all competitions under interim boss Ruud van Nistelrooy. Amorim officially starts on Monday after serving out his notice period at Sporting Lisbon — where his last game in charge Sunday was a 4-2 win at Braga in the Por-

tuguese league — and comes into a club that looks to be in a much healthier position than

it was when Erik ten Hag was fired at the end of last month. "We said Let's make the most of these four games, get the maximum out of it,' and I think we did an okay job," Van Nistelrooy said. "I really enjoyed it, it's been a short but amazing period."

Van Nistelrooy, Ten Hag's former assistant and an iconic striker for the club in his playing days, has secured three wins and a draw during his four-game temporary reign. Now he is seeking clarity from United's hierarchy about

his own future once Amorim takes over.

"I expect to hear today or tomorrow from them," he said. On his 250th appearance for the club Bruno Fernandes scored with a brilliant curling shot from the edge of the area in the 17th minute at Old Trafford. His effort in the 38th then saw Victor Kristiansen accidentally divert the ball past Leicester goalkeeper Mads Hermansen to double

United's lead before the break. Substitute Alejandro Garnacho scored an even more spec-

tacular goal than Fernandes' in the 82nd when sweeping the ball into the top corner from outside the box. Fernandes said later that the Argentina international didn't fully celebrate the goal because he believes some fans have lost faith in him.

Nottingham Forest's rise has been one of the stories of the season, but it missed the chance to close the gap on Manchester City in second after falling 3-1 to Newcastle. City's 2-1 loss against Brighton on Saturday meant Forest could have moved to within a point of Pep Guardiola's team and it got off to an ideal start through Murillo's goal in the 21st at the City Ground. (AP)

# **Barcelona lose to Sociedad** in Spanish league Barcelona had won seven



MADRID, Nov 11: Missing injured Lamine Yamal, Barcelona saw its sevengame winning run come to an end with a 1-0 loss at Real Sociedad in the Spanish league.

Yamal, one of the team's key players this season under new coach Hansi Flick, was ruled out before the game because of a right ankle injury. He was replaced by Fermín López and the team's attack by far the best in the league with 40 goals scored in 13 matches — struggled in the Basque Country, unable to get a single attempt on target against Sociedad.

Sheraldo Becker scored a 33rd-minute winner to move Sociedad, which had lost two of its last three games in all competitions, to eighth place. Barcelona has a six-point

lead over second-place Real Madrid, which routed Osasuna 4-0 at home on Saturday with a hat trick from Vinícius Júnior. Madrid has a game in hand after its visit to Valencia was postponed because of the deadly floods in the Valencia region.

"We have to analyze what happened and keep working after the international break,' Barcelona midfielder Pedri said. "We have been playing well and we are still in first place.

in a row in all competitions since a 4-2 loss at Osasuna in the league in September. Its only other loss this season had been at Monaco in the Champions League. All of its other 14 matches were victories. Barcelona striker Robert

Lewandowski, the league's leading scorer with 14 goals, had a first-half goal disallowed for offside. Barcelona said Yamal sus-

tained a "severe right ankle contusion" in last Wednesday's game against Red Star in the Champions League. "Over the past few days, he

has undergone treatment, but the discomfort has yet to subside. His recovery will determine his availability," the club said.

Flick said the club tested Yamal on Sunday to see if he could play "but it was not possible

Julián Álvarez scored a second-half winner as Atletico Madrid moved back into third place with a 1-0 victory at Mallorca.

That left Atletico one point behind Madrid. It moved two points ahead of Villarreal, which defeated visiting Alaves 3-0 on Saturday. Álvarez scored Atletico's winner in the 61st minute

sist. Simeone, the son of Atletico coach Diego Simeone, beat a defender to a long pass and set Álvarez for an easy strike from close range. Goalkeeper Jan Oblak had another solid performance for Atletico, which earned its seventh clean sheet in the league this season, the most by any club.

Atletico was coming off a 2-1 midweek win at Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League.

Marc Bartra scored a stoppage-time equalizer as seventh-place Real Betis salvaged a 2-2 home draw against 11th-place Celta Vigo.

Čelta had moved ahead with Anastasios Douvikas' goal in the 82nd.

The visitors earlier took the place in the French league. lead through Javi Rodríguez in the 13th before Vitor close range with his knee in the 29th Roque equalized for Betis in minute after midfielder Corentin the 40th

Midtable Girona won 1-0 at 17th-place Getafe with a first-half goal by Yangel Herrera, while sixth-place Athletic Bilbao was held at second-to-last-place Valladolid, with the Basque Country club earning the equalizer with Gorka Guruzeta in stoppage time after the hosts had taken the lead with Raúl Moro in the 79th.





PARIS, Nov 11: Alexandre Laforward Matias Fernandez-Pardo cazette scored the only goal as host broke free down the left and scored Lyon beat bitter local rival Saintpast goalkeeper Marcin Bulka. Etienne 1-0 to move up to fifth

Midfielder Sofiane Diop equalized in the 56th with a smart backheel from close range but Dutch defender Mitchel Bakker restored Lille's advantage 10 minutes later. with the lively Fernandez-Pardo involved in the build up. With seconds remaining, Bulka joined the Nice attack for a free kick and Louchet pounced with a low shot.

Japan forwards score for Reims Keito Nakumara and Junya Ito had a goal each as Reims won 3-0 at struggling Le Havre to go seventh and level on points with Nice, which is sixth on goal difference. Striker Oumar Diakité got the other goal.

The match was briefly interstopped Saint-Etienne's only gen- rupted after Ito's goal in the 57th when some Le Havre fans made ho-

after Giuliano Simeone's as-(AP)

# Sharma finishes 32<sup>nd</sup> as Warring grabs title in Abu Dhabi

of the week, a superb seven-under 65, in the final round to sign off at tied 32nd position at the HSBC Abu Dhabi Championships.

After 71-73 on the first two days, Sharma had a great weekend as his final two rounds of 66 and 65 had an eagle each. On the final day, Sharma, who retained his DP World card, had seven birdies, an eagle and two bogeys. Paul Waring held off a stellar chasing pack to win the Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship and claim his first Rolex Se-

**ABU DHABI, Nov 11:** Indian golfer Shubhankar Sharma produced his best card ries title. The Englishman displayed nerves of steel in his bogey-free closing 66 as he got to 24 under par and two shots ahead of four-time Rolex Series winner Tyrrell Hatton, with Race to Dubai leader Rory McIlroy, England's Matt Wallace and Dane Thorbiørn Olesen a shot further back.

Waring had taken control of the first event of the new DP World Tour Play-Offs with a course-record 61 at Yas Links on Friday but saw his five-shot halfway lead reduced to one as he posted a 73 a day later.

The 39-year-old, whose only previous DP

World Tour title came at the Nordea Masters more than six years ago, made a fast start with two opening birdies and added two more at the seventh and 10th. He responded to being caught by Hatton with a moment of magic as he converted from 40 feet at the 17th, before hitting a perfect drive at the last. running a three-wood through the back of the green and getting up and down to seal

McIlroy had the chance to make his lead in the Race to Dubai Rankings in Partnership with Rolex unassailable and was first to make an early charge as the four-time injuries. Major winner birdied four of his first six holes

Transition or no transition, seniors in

team are incredibly hungry: Gambhir

He bogied the fifth and added five more gains to sign for a 64, but the Race continues into the season-ending DP World Tour Championship after closest challenger Thriston Lawrence recorded two eagles and four birdies in his round of 64 to get to 20 under and a tie for sixth alongside two-time Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship winner Tommy Fleetwood, and French pair Ugo Coussaud and Antoine Rozner. (PTI)

Âfter the stadium announcer said one.

Lacazette turned the ball in from

Tolisso set up the former Arsenal

forward with an overhead kick.

Seven-time French champion Lyon

moved one place and point above

Nice, and one point behind Lille in

The match was interrupted after

just two minutes by referee Willy

Delajod because the amount of

smoke lit from flares by the home

fans made it too difficult to see the

It resumed several minutes later.

Lyon goalkeeper Lucas Perri

uine chance in the 76th, foiling

Although Lille extended its un-

beaten run to 10 games overall, the

northern side wasted the chance to

overtake southern team Marseille

and move into third place. Lille is

Lille took the lead in the 17th

minute when 19-year-old Belgian

one point behind Marseille.

striker Ibrahim Sissoko in a one-

fourth spot.

ball

There were no visiting fans althe game would be abandoned if the lowed because of the risk of chants continued, they quickly clashes. A brutal fight in the center stopped. of Lyon four years ago involving Elsewhere, rock-bottom Montaround 150 rival fans led to several pellier won 3-1 at home against

Brest, which is in fourth place in the Earlier Sunday, midfielder Tom new-look Champions League. Arnaud Nordin and Wahbi Louchet scored six minutes into second-half stoppage time to earn Khazri scored inside the first 12 Nice a 2-2 home draw with Lille. minutes.

After Jonas Martin pulled a goal back early in the second half, Nordin's penalty was saved by Marco Bizot, but substitute Tanguy Coulibaly ensured victory with a late goal.

Also Sunday, Rennes lost 2-0 at home to midtable Toulouse. (AP)

### Bernhard Langer wins for 18<sup>th</sup> straight year on the PGA Tour Champions, taking season finale

Langer won for the 18th straight year on the PGA Tour Champions, holing a 30-foot birdie putt on the final hole to hold off Steven Alker in the season-ending Charles Schwab Cup Championship at Phoenix Country Club.

The 67-year-old Langer closed with a 5-under 66 — shooting his age or better for the third straight day and 23rd time on the tour for a one-stroke victory over defending champion Alker — who won the season points title and a \$1 million bonus — and Richard Green. "It's unbelievable, I can't describe it," Langer said. "To win this big tournament after what I've been through and to make it 18 years in a row out here."

Langer pushed his tour victory record to 47, just over eight months after tearing his left Achilles playing pickelball. The German star won the season-ending event for the first time and extended his record as the tour's oldest winner.

"This was the least likely one to win because I've just never done very well here for some reason." Langer said. "But I had one of the best putting weeks of my life.

PHOENIX. Nov 11: Bernhard Greenkeeping staff, I owe you

one, well done, great job." Five strokes ahead of Alker after a front-nine 30, Langer found himself tied for the lead with Alker and Green on the final hole after a two-stroke swing on the 17th when Alker hit to inches for birdie and Langer scrambled for bogey. On the par-5 18th, Langer drove left into trees, reached the green in three and holed the long birdie putt. Alker hit his second shot over the green and left his chip short, then left a 12-footer to force a playoff short.

"Played good and then got a little unraveled there on the back nine and Steven Alker got going," Langer said. I didn't see any of Richard Green's. Obviously, he must have played fantastic on the back nine, too.'

Alker shot 66. Also the 2022 season champion, the New Zealander began the week second behind Ernie Els in the points race. "It would have been nice to win

it all today, the whole lot, but hey, I've got the Schwab Cup and that's important to me," Alker said.

Els tied for 13th at 7 under after a 67, leaving him second in the standings. (AP)

Gautam Gambhir is not overtly worried about the transition Indian team has to face in near future as he put up a stout defence of underpressure skipper Rohit Sharma and star batter Virat Kohli, saying they are still "incredibly hungry" to perform and will bounce back in Australia. India have a few aging stars in the side and it won't be a surprise if Kohli, Rohit, Ravichandran Ashwin, and Ravindra Jadeja do not feature in a home Test again

together. Gambhir can't be blamed if he feels a sense of deja vu as he boards the flight to Australia. He was a witness to how a team full of seniors crumbled after 2011 World Cup euphoria with a new coach Duncan Fletcher in charge. Asked if he feels pressure like Fletcher, he replied: "I am not thinking about transition but the five Test matches. Transition or no transition, if that has to happen, will happen but I see some incredibly tough characters in that dressing room who are hungry to do well." Gambhir said in pre-departure press conference.

"I am not even thinking that the team is in transition and all that

MUMBAI, Nov 11: Head coach kind of stuff. The only thing in my mind is, we are going to Australia to play five Test matches and there are some incredibly tough people in that dressing room who are going to achieve a lot of good things in future as well," he said.

The first Test against Australia starts in Perth on November 22. In his typical straight-shooter manner, Gambhir said it was media's obsession to talk about transition.

"You guys can keep talking about the transition and all that stuff. For me, they are still very hungry. I am sure they have got a lot of fire to achieve a lot of success for the nation and you should never doubt their passion for the country," the former India opener said, batting for senior pros Kohli and Sharma.

Gambhir also dismissed theories that he is under pressure after India's 0-3 whitewash at home against New Zealand. There has been a review, reports of him not being on same page with selection committee. Social media frenzy has been on overdrive on these issues

"What difference does it make? Tell me, social media, what difference does it make in my life and



for that matter, anyone's life?," Gambhir stepped out just like he would against any top spinner during his playing days.

'When I took up this job, I always thought that it is going to be a highly difficult job and highly prestigious job as well. "I don't think as if I am feeling the heat because my job is to be absolutely honest and there are some incred-

ibly tough people in that dressing room who have achieved some great things for the country and will continue to achieve some

great things for the country. "It is an absolute honour to be coaching them and coaching India." However Gambhir understands the criticism that his team faced after New Zealand debacle and he is "ready to accept it with

both hands.

He also made it clear that if Rohit is not available for the opening Test due to personal reasons, KL Rahul could open. Abhimanyu Easwaran is another option. "There are times when you go with the experienced players as well, and that is the quality of a man that he (Rahul) can actually bat at the top of the order, he can bat at number 3 and he can actually bat at number 6 as well.

"So you need quite a lot of talent to be doing these kind of jobs as well and he has kept wickets in one day format as well. So imagine how many countries have players like KL who can actually open the batting and can bat at number 6 as well?

"So I feel that if needed be, I think he can do the job for us, especially if Rohit is not available for the first Test match," Gambhir reasoned.

With so many first timers in the squad, what kind of conversations did he have with juniors, who are travelling to Australia for the first time?

"I have just told them to put team first before personal milestones," Gambhir said. (PTI)

### SPORTS

# Bumrah to lead, Rahul likely to open in Perth if Rohit does not make it: Gambhir

MUMBAI, Nov 11: Head coach Gautam Gambhir on Monday said Jasprit Bumrah, as designated vice-captain, will lead India in the opening Test against Australia in Perth if regular skipper Rohit Sharma is unavailable for the game due to personal reasons.

The straight-talking former opener also indicated that KL Rahul could be asked to open the innings in place of Rohit.

The second batch of the Indian players is leaving for Perth, but Rohit has stayed back. Uncertainty remains if Rohit will compete in the series-opener.

"At the moment, there is no confirmation. We will let you know exactly what the situation will be. Hopefully, he is going to be available, but everything you want to know, you will get to know before the start of the series," Gambhir said.

"Bumrah is the vice-captain, so obviously If Rohit is not available, he is going to lead in Perth," the coach added.

Rohit's possible absence also leaves a spot vacant at the top of the batting order and Gambhir said one among the uncapped Abhimanyu Easwaran and KL Rahul, who both played in the unofficial Tests against Australia A for India A, will be picked.

"Obviously, there is Easwaran, there is KL there. We will take a call closer to the first Test match if Rohit is not available.

"There are options. There are quite a lot of options in this spot. Once it gets closer to the first Test match, we will try and play the best playing XI who is going to do the job for us," he added.

However he gave enough indications that Rahul's experience might prevail over rookie Easwaran's current form.

'There are times when you go with the experienced players as well and that is the quality of the man. He (Rahul) can actually



bat at the top of the order, he can bat at number 3 and at number 6 as well," said the for-Thakur. mer southpaw.

"So you need quite a lot of talent to be doing these kind of jobs as well and he has kept wickets in One-day format as well. So imagine how many countries have players like KL who can actually open the batting and can bat at number 6 as well?

"So I feel that if needed be, I think he (Rahul) can do the job for us, especially if Rohit is not available for the first Test match," Gambhir said.

The coach backed uncapped all-rounder Nitish Rana, who has a batting average of 21 in first-class cricket, and was picked ahead

Rana was not sent with the India A squad for the unofficial 'Tests' in Australia to be ready for the BGT series but Gambhir said the management did not want to add to his workload by getting him to play First-Class games

"He had played a first-class game against Assam and he did reasonably well (took five-for and scored half-century). We all thought that he has had enough bowling under his belt rather than just sending and playing him another first-class game," Gambhir said.

"For us, it is important for a fast bowler to be fresh as well. It is going to be a long tour, it is going to be a five-Test match series. The bowling coach, the physios and the trainers thought that he has had enough under his belt and that was one of the reasons," he added.

While there is no Mohammed Shami and tremendous pressure on Jasprit Bumrah to carry the pace bowling load, Gambhir feels that the attack is potent even with three inexperienced speedsters in Rana, Prasidh Krishna and Akash Deep.

"We have got quality. We have got tall guys who can hit the deck like Prasidh and Harshit. All five guys have different skill sets. That makes our fast bowling attack very very potent."

Gambhir, who will be travelling with the second batch of Indian squad on Monday, said adjusting to conditions in Australia over the next 10 days will be vital for the team. "We have got a lot of experienced players who have been to Australia a lot of times. Their experience will come in handy for the young players as well. These 10 days are going to be very crucial but come 22nd morning, we should be absolutely ready to fire from ball one," he said. (PTI)

*PCB to seek clarity from ICC* on India's refusal to send team for Champions Trophy

KARACHI. Nov 11: The Pakistan Cricket Board will seek clarity from the ICC on hosting of the Champions Trophy since they have only been intimated that India will not travel for the tournament but there was no word on hybrid model being proposed. The PCB was told by the ICC that BCCI won't send its team to Pakistan after the decision was communicated to the world governing body.

"There is no talk about having the Champions Trophy on a Hybrid Model system as of now," a reliable PCB source said. A hybrid model was followed

during the Asia Cup last year, when India's matches were held in Sri Lanka while other matches

were played in Pakistan. It is being speculated that Dubai can host India's matches in the tournament, which is scheduled to be held in February next year.

"An email is to be sent to the ICC with the advice of its legal department in which the Board wanted clarifications from the ICC on the Indian decision." the source said.

"As of now the entire situation is being gauged by the PCB. No decision has been taken on the next step. Yes the PCB is in touch with the government for consultation and directives if required," the



source added.

The source said the PCB was awaiting policy guidelines from the government regarding India, which will be cited to seek clarification from the ICC about India's refusal to participate.

He also pointed out that there could be legal implications for the ICC if the Pakistan government decides to take a tough call on cricket relations with India.

"There would be legal implications from commercial partners as the ICC has provided undertakings to the broadcasters, sponsors that all top cricket playing nations will participate in its tournaments," the source.

India have not travelled to Pakistan since the 2008 Mumbai terror strikes. The two teams compete against each other only in ICC tournaments. (PTI)

NE Zone Inter University Football Tourney begins at Nagaland University

### Keep him away from media, he doesn't have right demeanour: Manjrekar blasts Gambhir

NEW DELHI, Nov 11: Launching an unexpected scathing attack on Gautam Gambhir, former India cricketer Sanjay Manjrekar on Monday said the India head coach lacks the "right demeanour and words" while interacting with the press and urged the BCCI to keep him away from the media duties

Manjrekar's comments came hours after Gambhir addressed media in pre-departure press conference ahead of the five-Test Border Gavaskar Trophy against Australia.

Gambhir, known to be blunt, responded to questions on struggle of Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma in run up to the Border Gavaskar Trophy, Ricky n Kohli' form, Indian's team's impending transition and the team combination for the Australia tour. "Just watched Gambhir in the press conference. May be wise for @BCCI to keep him away from such duties, let him work behind the scenes," Manjrekar wrote on 'X'. Manjrekar suggested that either captain Rohit Sharma and chairman of selectors Aiit Agarkar would be better suited to handle the media. "He does not have the right demeanour nor the words when interacting with them. Rohit & Agarkar, much better guys to front up for the media," he added (PTI)

# Won't be surprised if Anderson ends up at Chennai Super Kings: Vaughan

"It is also about moving forward and I feel

that this is the best set of players that we

have selected to do the job for the country,"

Gambhir said. indicating that doors are

Shardul was one of India's heroes at the

Gabba with handful of wickets and a half-

century. He has been seamer all-rounder in

"We have picked the best squad who can

do the job for us. Nitish Reddy, we all know

that how incredibly talented he is and if

given an option, he will deliver for us,"

closed on Shardul for the time being.

SENA countries.

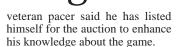
Gambhir said.

NEW DELHI, Nov 11: Former England captain Michael Vaughan says he "won't be surprised" if retired pacer Jimmy Anderson ends up at Chennai Super Kings as the former champions prefer a fast bowler who can swing the ball.

The 42-year-old Anderson, who retired from Test cricket earlier this year, surprised everyone by registering himself for the IPL for the first time.

"You mention James Anderson, I would not be surprised if Jimmy Anderson ends up at Chennai Super Kings," Vaughan said on the Club Prairie Fire Podcast' which also featured former Australian great Adam Gilchrist.

"They are a team that like someone who can swing it inside the first few overs. They have always had a swinger, whether it is Shardul Thakur or someone else. It would not surprise me if Jimmy Anderson ends up at Chennai,' Vaughan added.



"There is still definitely something in me that thinks like I can still play. I have never done the IPL; I have never experienced it and I think for a number of reasons I feel like I have more to give as a player," Anderson had said on a BBC Radio podcast last week.

"I have done a little bit of coaching since I have finished in the summer. I have been around the England team doing a bit of mentoring or whatever you like to call it," he said.

"I just think opening my eyes to something like that and experiencing it, sort of might help me grow my knowledge of the game and

help further down the line," Anderson had said.

HT Correspondent

DIMAPUR, Nov 11: The North East Zone Inter University (Men) Football Tournament kicked off at Nagaland University's Lumami campus on Monday

The five-day tournament, featuring university teams from the eight northeastern states, commenced with an impressive inaugural ceremony at the Dr. T. Ao Football Ground. Nagaland University is hosting a northeast football tournament for the first time.

The chief guest of the inaugural programme, Prof. JK Patnaik, vice chancellor, Nagaland University, extended a warm welcome to the teams from across the Northeast.

Noting the logistical challenges faced by the region due to its diverse terrain, Patnaik, who declared the tournament open, mentioned the growluence of Northeast players in the Indian Super League (IS making notable contributions to other sports at the national level. In a tribute to Dr. T. Ao, who captained India's first football team in the 1948 London Olympics, Patnaik shared an anecdote in which Ao explained his decision to play barefoot: "You play football with foot, not boot.'





### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024**

The veteran pacer, who last played a T20 10 years ago in 2014, has never competed in a global franchise T20 league, prioritising

red-ball cricket. He has a base price of ₹ 1.25 crore for the mega auction.

Asked about the decision, the

Over 1500 players have registered for the IPL mega auction, slated to take place on November 24 and 25 in Jeddah. (PTI)

Three Karbi Anglong players to participate in State Taekwondo C'ship

#### HT Bureau

DIPHU, Nov 11: Three players from Deithor Taekwondo Club of Karbi Anglong district are participating in the 39th State Taekwondo Championship, 2024, in sub junior and below 8 years categories from November 11 to 13 at Deshbhakta Tarun Ram Phookan Indoor Stadium, RG Baruah Sports Complex, Nehru Stadium, Guwahati

The competition is organised by All Assam Taekwondo Association, which is affiliated to Taekwondo Federation of India and India Olympic Association and recognised by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt. of India.

The players are Klartin Terang (11); Thirthip Ronghang (9) and Sarchinghon Terang (9). Deithor Taekwondo Association, general secretary, Amoron Terang

informed that the three children got selected in the trial camp held recently at Bokaghat

Terang also further stated that Deithor Taekwondo Club was set-up very recently by the Deithor Taekwondo Association. Though it is new, there are a good number of students. The three players will be the first from Deithor Taekwondo Club to participate in the state level competition.

Patnaik urged the players to demonstrate sportsmanship and give their best in the tournament

The tournament, held under the aegis of the Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi, follows a knockout format in its initial stages. The four best-performing teams will advance to play league matches.

Nineteen university teams have registered for the tournament, representing all eight northeastern states. The matches will be held at two venues - Dr. T. Ao football ground in Lumami and Mokokchung local ground.

The first match of the tournament was held between Manipur University and Tripura University. The match ended in a thrilling penalty shootout, with Tripura emerging victorious 5-4 after a 1-1 draw in regular time

In the second match, Gauhati University defeated Tezpur University

### Sindhu, Lakshya hope to regain form at **Kumamoto Masters Japan**

KUMAMOTO (JAPAN), Nov 11: Star shuttlers PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen will be eager to regain form when they lead the Indian challenge at the Kumamoto Masters Japan Super 500 tournament beginning here on Tuesday. Both players have struggled to find their best form since disappointing performances at the Paris Olympics. While Sindhu reached the quarterfinals at the Denmark Open Super 750, Lakshya Sen suffered early exits at both Arctic Open Super 500 and Denmark Open.

The two players have struggled to close out deciders after staying competitive in their matches.

Sindhu, after a shock first-round exit to Canada's Michelle Li in Finland, made it to the quarterfinals in Odense but lost to Paris bronze medallist Gregoria Mariska Tunjung of Indonesia in a tense deciding game.

Lakshya, on the other hand, fell short against Chinese Taipei's Chou Tien Chen and China's Lu Guang Zu in Finland and Odense.

Despite these setbacks, Sindhu has expressed confidence in her preparations, having worked closely with new coaches Anup Sridhar and Korean legend Lee Syun Il.

"I'm in good shape, physically and mentally fit," said Sindhu, who will open her campaign against eighth-seeded Thai Busanan Ongbamrungphan.

"We've been working on different aspects, like speed and defence. I hope to perform well in Japan and China with their guidance.

In the men's singles, Lakshya possesses the game to challenge the world's best, but his mental resilience has been questioned following his near-miss at the Tokyo Olympics, where he slipped from a medal position in a heartbreaking

The 23-year-old will open against Malaysia's Leong Jun Hao, with a potential showdown against eighth seed Anthony Ginting of Indonesia in the next round.

The only other Indian pair in action will be the women's doubles team of Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand, who will face Taipei's Hsu Yin-Hui and Lin Jhih Yun in their opening match. (PTI)

**GQEBERHA**, Nov 11: Mystery spinner Varun Chakaravarthy has described the three-year gap from international cricket as "tough," but credited the intense domestic grind and the role clarity provided by new head coach Gautam Gambhir for helping him to regain his lost form.

The 33-year-old spinner recorded his career-best figures of 5 for 17 in Sunday's second T20I against South Africa, though his efforts could not prevent India from losing by three wickets. "Definitely, the last three years

were a little tough," Chakaravarthy said. "The only thing I could do was

play lots of cricket. And I started playing a lot of the domestic league (TNPL) in India. And that definitely helped me understand my game better. And that's what helped me." Chakaravarthy was part of the

Kolkata Knight Riders' IPL-winning team this year under Gambhir, who recently took over as the coach of the Indian team. Reflecting on his return to the



Domestic grind, role clarity from Gambhir helped

regain game after tough phase: Chakaravarthy

national side, Chakaravarthy said that Gambhir's guidance had been pivotal

"Yes, we played the Bangladesh tour and he was coaching the team. And definitely we spoke a lot and he gave me a lot of role clarity

"He told me, even if you go for target of 125, but a gritty partner-

30-40 runs, it doesn't matter. All vou have to look is to pick wickets. So that's your role in the team. And yeah, the clarity which they

gave definitely helped me." Chakaravarthy's match-chang-Surva ing spell reduced South Africa to 66 for 6 while chasing a modest

ship between Tristan Stubbs (47) and Gerald Coetzee (19) saw the hosts home in 19 overs, ending India's 11-match winning streak.

"During the innings break, (skipper Suryakumar Yadav) came and told us that let's not think about the result and let's just go all out. And that's what we tried to do. We did our best and we could have pulled it off.

"Obviously, the mindset has to be aggressive when the score is low. You have to pick wickets and that's when we can win the match. That has to be my approach in the next two games also because it's going to be a do-or-die match for us," he said.

The spinner added that performing against a formidable team like South Africa would serve as a confidence booster heading into the remaining matches.

"Definitely, when we came to South Africa, we knew that it's going to be a challenging tour because the Proteas, they are one of the best teams right now and they have a powerful batting lineup.

"Doing well against them definitely gives me motivation to do more better and definitely I can. Hopefully I can do well in the upcoming games.'

India will face South Africa in the third and final T20Is on Wednesday and Friday at Centurion and Johannesburg, respectively. (PTI)

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